THIRD OIKONET CONFERENCE
GLOBAL DWELLING: SUSTAINABILITY - DESIGN
Innovation in housing design and planning

REGENERATION IN THE EUROPEAN POST-SOCIALIST CITIES

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KEY WORDS

Subject  Public Spaces  Landscape  50-60s settlements

Object  Capitalist city vs. Socialist city  Politics of public spaces in post-socialist cities

Action  Retrofit  Urban Regeneration  Overhaul  Recycle  Urban Renewal
MODERN CITY + INDUSTRIALIZZAZIONE

1928, CIAM
- zoning;
- hierarchy and separation of mobility networks;
- building block;
- settlement’s integrated services;
- standardization of building typologies;

1933, “Athens Charter”
- repetition of housing units;
- prefabrication;
- fast realization;
- new neighborhoods isolation;
SOCIAL PERCEPTION

- low technological standards in residential construction;
- homogenisation of housing types;
- monofunctionality;
- distention of the public space;
- homogenisation of open spaces;
- anonymity of the neighborhood;
- erroneous use of open spaces;
"Political, economical and social systems based on socialism and capitalism functioned so differently that their spatial products - the socialist and the capitalist city - were autonomous constructs"  Sonia A. Hirt, 2012
CASE STUDIES
BIJLMERMEER - AMSTERDAM
BIJLMERMEER - AMSTERDAM

- Area 400 ha
- Inhabitants 50,000
- Buildings technology precast reinforced concrete
- Dwelling 13,000
- Ownership Municipality and private companies
BIJLMERMEER - AMSTERDAM

- 1965 started the construction of Bijlmermeer, the high-rise district in Amsterdam’s southeast suburbs;

- 1970s when most of the flats were finished, building blocks remained almost empty;

- 1980’s the housing units were completed far ahead with public facilities such as shops and the metro;

- 1992 the municipality of Amsterdam and the social housing corporations decided for a large scale renewing operation of the Bijlmermeer area;
THE CITY OF FUTURE

Living will be good in Bijlmer
...with spacious sound-proof flats, parks,
and four shopping centres

- radically functionalist settings;
- high percentage of immigration has led to the formation of a “ghetto”;
- the highest unemployment rate in the city;
- rigidity of the urban structure;
BIJLMERMEER - AMSTERDAM
OMA - BIJLMERMEER REDEVELOPMENT
DEMOLITION - RECONSTRUCTION

- demolition of 3,000 dwelling

- renewal of 10,000 dwelling

- construction of 5,000 new dwelling in the free areas from demolitions
BIJLMERMEER - AMSTERDAM
BIJLMERMEER - AMSTERDAM
- demolition of infrastructure considered as an obstacle;
- creation of green spaces and safe playground for children;
- involvement of population;
- buildings with public functions and shared spaces;
- creation of jobs in the neighborhood;
MÄRKISCHES VIERTEL-BERLIN
MÄRKISCHES VIERTEL-BERLIN

Märkisches-Viertel

View from Berlin east
MÄRKISCHES VIERTEL-BERLIN

Area 320 ettari
Inhabitants 35,000
Buildings technology precast reinforced concrete.
Dwelling 17,000
Ownership Municipality and private company
MÄRKISCHES VIERTEL-BERLIN

- From 1964 to 1973 neighbourhood construction by “GeSoBau Gesellschaft für sozialen Wohnungsbau” company;

- Late 90s significant decrease of inhabitants’ number (Shrinking phenomenon);

- 2004 neighbourhood has been included in the BundLänder Förderprogramm Stadtumbau West” a support federal program for urban regeneration in the former West Germany;
MÄRKISCHES VIERTEL-BERLIN

Since 2008, a pilot project for energy-efficient renovation and integrated urban development was started by the municipality of Berlin also thanks to the cooperation with the activities of “Gesobau” for the energetic modernization of flats.
Petržalka-Bratislava

Area 2,800 ettari
Inhabitants 115,000
Buildings technology precast reinforced concrete
Dwelling 49,830
Ownership State and Municipality
PETRŽALKÁ

XXIII century, the first settlement
1773 new park “Sternallee”
1866 594 inhabitants lived in 103 houses in Petržalka
1891 first railway bridge “Starý most” connection between Bratislava and Vienna
1946 Petržalka became part of Bratislava
1967 international competition for Petržalka, at that time lived 15,000 inhabitants in more than 4100 apartments.
BRATISLAVA URBAN EVOLUTION

1775  1805  1895  1929  1945
PETRŽALKA-BRATISLAVA
From the 1967 international competition to the realization and recent transformation
THE COMPETITION PROGRAM

-The whole area interested by the call for bids was 1800 ha

-The dwellings (350 to 450 ha) were forwarded for 100,000 inhabitants (60,000 inhabitants until 1980, and 40,000 inhabitants later)

- The entire area was supposed to be zoned for housing and industry enclosures, excluding agricultural uses.

- Research and technical university buildings had to be localized in the neighbourhood, for an amount of about 45 ha.

- Entertainment facilities were requested, including a park and building for a permanent circus and an exhibition hall with an area of about 30-40 ha.

- Sport equipments were supposed to be dedicated to the whole city: a complex sport stadium with playgrounds for 60-70,000 visitors; areas and equipments for water sports and swimming pools for more than 50,000 visitors; a horse-race track of international level.

- Other requested facilities were a motel with a capacity of 180 beds and auto-camping for 300 cars and a cemetery area of about 25 ha.

Registered to competition:
310 participants from 28 countries

49 CSSR
32 Japan
31 Poland
26 Austria
26 Great Britain
23 USSR
17 west Germany
15 Yugoslavia
14 USA
12 Hungary
...
...
4 Italy
...
...
THE COMPETITION PROJECTS: AN HYPOTHESIS OF DESIGN CONCEPTS

MONUMENTALITY

Project n°7 (Czechoslovakian Republic) - Third prize

Project n°25 (Poland)

Project n°80 (Soviet Union)
THE COMPETITION PROJECTS: AN HYPOTHESIS OF DESIGN CONCEPTS

CLUSTERS

Project n°74 (Austria) - Third price

Project n°61 (Great Britain)

Project n°82 (Great Britain)
THE COMPETITION PROJECTS: AN HYPOTHESIS OF DESIGN CONCEPTS

MEGASTRUCTURE

Project n°48 (Uruguay)

Project n°34 (Japan)

Project n°30 (Italy) - Mention
THE COMPETITION PROJECTS:
AN HYPOTHESIS OF DESIGN CONCEPTS

TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURES LAYOUT

Project n° 37 - (Germany) - Mention

Project n° 55 - (Japan)

Project n° 55 - (Czechoslovakian Republic)
THE COMPETITION PROJECTS: AN HYPOTHESIS OF DESIGN CONCEPTS

LANDSCAPE

Project n°46 (USA) - Third prize

Project n°42 (Czechoslovakian Rep.) - Third prize

Project n° 23 (German Democratic Republic)
MASTERPLAN
1969, applicazione delle idee del concorso e costruzione

Architetti: Stanislav Talas, Jozef Chovanec
Dipartimento: Stavoproject Bratislava
NOVI ZAGREB - ZAGREB
NOVI ZAGREB

Area 165.500 ettari
Inhabitants 60.000
Buildings technology precast reinforced concrete
Ownership Municipality and private
NOVI ZAGREB

Aleksandar Srnec, 1965
NOVI ZAGREB - THE NEW FAIR

Božidar Rašica: Urban planning concept of Zagreb trade fair from 1957.

Aereal view of the fair

Giuseppe Sambito
Italian Pavillon, 1961

Ivan Vtic
Pavillon N° 40, 1957
NOVI ZAGREB
NOVI ZAGREB

Urban planning concept of South Zagreb, 1962
NOVI ZAGREB
NOVI ZAGREB

Msu-Museum of contemporary art
NOVI ZAGREB
QUESTIONS

How do we activate policies of regeneration in the post-socialist cities?

What models should we follow?

Do we need to apply the Western cities’ experiences or do we have the opportunity to built new models?
METHODOLOGY

1. Residents’ participation in the regeneration processes of the public spaces

2. The activation of ecologic functions when transforming green areas.

3. The creation of social gardens for residents. This choice, aside from reducing management costs of the public spaces creates a new sense of community.

4. The incentivizing of new commercial activities and services on the ground floors of the buildings that face the main open spaces with potential to be central to the neighborhood.

5. Hierarchize the system of open spaces and of their crossing points.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION