

SPRAWOZDANIE

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR „CONFLICTS OF URBAN TRANSITION IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE” BUDAPEST, 5-6 MAY 2016

Post-socialist transition has brought about a wide range of conflicts in cities of Central and Eastern Europe. These conflicts can be clearly linked with the infiltration of global capital, the concomitant growing disparities among people, the rapidly changing land-use patterns, the sharpening contrasts of investment/disinvestment in urban space, the erosion of social cohesion and last but not least the lack of adequate policy responses by the neo-liberal state. Many of these challenges have been analysed and theorised in the literature, but some aspects have not yet been fully explored. To fill the gap the Institute of Geography, Research Centre for Astronomy and Earth Sciences, Hungarian Academy of Sciences organises a 2-day intensive seminar for invited speakers.

Main themes of the seminar:

1. Neighbourhood dynamics and related conflicts (urban regeneration and gentrification, slum formation and poverty, new patterns of segregation, weakening social cohesion and local identity, struggle for public spaces).
2. Conflicts of urban sprawl (e.g. growing socio-economic disparities in suburban communities, land-use changes, new flow of commuting, lack of planning and regulation in suburban areas).
3. Conflicts on the housing market (effects of the global financial crisis, new housing forms, imbalance between demand and supply, up-market housing compounds in cities).

The seminar will feature around 20 papers discussing both theoretical issues and empirical studies. Based on quality and content, we will make a selection from these papers to compile one or two special issues in high-quality journals. We aim to complete the final versions of these publications within one year after the seminar.

The organizers will cover local costs (2 nights hotel, dinner and lunch during the seminar). Travel costs have to be paid by the participants themselves.

Szymon Marcińczak
Instytut Geografii Miast i Turyzmu
Uniwersytet Łódzki
