

Der Autor betont, sich nur auf das polnische Schrifttum zu beschränken, und nimmt nur einige ergänzende Vergleiche mit deutschen Arbeiten vor. Dadurch wird eine nach wie vor bestehende Forschungslücke deutlich, die es verhindert, die Vertriebenenproblematik aus einer transnationalen Perspektive zu betrachten. Es wäre zu wünschen, dass eine ähnliche Übersicht in Bezug auf die deutsche wissenschaftliche Beschäftigung mit diesem kontroversen Thema in Angriff genommen wird, um die vor wenigen Jahren aufgestellte These von der Vertreibung der Vertriebenen aus der öffentlichen Erinnerungskultur Deutschlands² zu überprüfen. Auf Grundlage dieses von Klaus Zernack vor vier Dekaden propagierten beziehungsgeschichtlichen Ansatzes würde sich ein neuer, unvoreingenommener Blickwinkel eröffnen. Hierzu leistet K.s Studie zweifelsohne einen wichtigen Beitrag.

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² MANFRED KITTEL: *Vertreibung der Vertriebenen? Der historische deutsche Osten in der Erinnerungskultur der Bundesrepublik (1962-1982)*, München 2007.

Slavomíra Ferenčuhová: *Meno, mesto, vec*. Urbánne plánovanie v sociológii mesta prípad (post)socialistického Brna. [Name, City, Thing. Urban Planning in Urban Sociology – the case of (post)socialist Brno.] Masarykova univerzita, Mezinárodní politologický ústav. Brno 2011. 275 S. ISBN 978-80-210-5583-3.

The work of urban planners is of compelling interest to scholars because it is carried out at the cross currents of vision, utopia and political pragmatism. What ideas and social and historical contexts have influenced and still influence city planning? From what theoretical resources have their authors drawn? How has planning changed over time and how has it resisted change? These questions, which are often posed in the current international discourse of the specifically formulated field of ‘urban planning’, do not appear in either the Czech or the Slovak contexts quite so often.¹ Instead, these questions are most often brought forth by scholars whose work is best classified as ‘urban studies’, i.e. the domain of the social sciences and humanities.

Within the Czech-Slovak context, one of the most important research centres joining these various scholarly disciplines concerned with research of the city is in Brno, at the Faculty of Social Sciences at Masaryk University. A working team of young sociologists has managed over the past several years to create a series of publications and scholarly discussions enriching current theories and research on Czech and Slovak cities.² Hence it comes as no surprise that one of the first books reflecting current strategies of urban planning as well as its history has emerged from this team. The publication by Slavomíra Ferenčuhová, one of the main initiators of urban research in Brno, is an exceptional work, which features an unusually wide scope as well as deep research in its analysis of urban or city planning in both the Czech and wider Central European contexts. F. created this extensive work within the framework of her PhD dissertation.

¹ Study and research into urban and broader land-use planning is generally associated with faculties and institutions of a technical orientation, most traditionally with departments of architecture and civil engineering, as well as economics and geography.

² It is worth briefly mentioning the series of conferences which took place at the Masaryk University in Brno: “Třetí město” [Third City], 2011, “Československé město včera a dnes: každodennost, reprezentace, výzkum” [The Czechoslovak City Yesterday and Today], 2009, and “Město: proměnlivá ne/samozřejmost” [The City: Changing (Non) Self-Evidence], 2007, as well as several monothematic issues of scholarly journal *Sociální studia*.

Developments over the past six decades in the once socialist world are frequently viewed in terms of a revolutionary break, a radical shift associated with the sweeping changes following the fall of Communist rule in 1989. F.'s analysis of the discourses within urban studies reveals that "the approach grounded on the deliberate disregard of the framework imposed by the generally accepted historical interpretation of events and social changes allows us to follow both changes and continuities in the field, as well as to recognise how urban planning has continued across the schematically delineated historical periods" (p. 101). She decided to observe planning through the means of a clearly definable material basis – the five historic planning conceptions that individually depict a specific historic phase of postwar Czechoslovakia and the Czech Republic. The city planning concepts, in the author's words, are "direct testimony from the past" (p. 140), and as such are more suitable for direct comparison with one another, hence their role as the starting point of F.'s overview of the planning of Brno.

Similar to the title of the book – *Meno, mesto, vec*, the words of a children's game – the planning texts are analysed through the concepts, methods of use, and the changes in their meanings. These form the most captivating sections of the publication; through the use of languages and set linguistic formulations, their changes in meaning over time reveal each era's transformation of the social strategies behind urban planning.

In her research, F. writes of the efforts to uncover current trends in the ideas and planning of medium-sized cities in the post-socialist lands of Central Europe. On the basis of analysis and comparison of recurring concepts and thematic areas in plans – such as the ideal city, ideal citizen, or the relation to the future and the past or the city of Brno in the past 60 years – she has been able to reveal the complexity of the changes, the repetition and recycling of ideas, the continuities and the efforts towards a radical shift away from previous tendencies running through all of the examined plans.

Urban planning as an intellectual activity looks into the future, yet at the same time planners start from a concrete situation understood to be outcome of historical development. Hence, the references made by planners to changes implemented in the past form an important component of their texts. In the chapter "Planning as Coming to Terms with the Past" (p. 231), the author compellingly analyses this factor in all five texts of the Brno planning conceptions ("Brno Strategies").

She notes how the texts make negative evaluations of specific stages in the development of the city, whether as the "spontaneous and unplanned city of capitalism" (p. 232), or the inflexible central planning of socialism and the subsequent "childish mistakes of the new beginning" (p. 240) after 1989. This coming to terms with history is understood as a legitimisation strategy for the acceptance of new, even quite radical measures. "Expression of a distance from the past, which is evaluated negatively [...] is a strategy for promoting a plan as presented for the future" (p. 240). The rejection of history as a characteristic element of the Modernist era was manifested, in terms of the rhetoric of revolutionary innovation, primarily in the plan from the 1950s; in other words, typical of the era immediately after the political and social changes of Communist rule. Nonetheless the first plan created after 1989 did not seek its ideal in an entirely new conception, but rather a return to the traditions of the First Republic and even the Habsburg eras of the "golden age" (p. 239) of Brno.

Despite the clear shifts on the part of the planners with respect to the work of their predecessors, many of the actual plans maintain a connection in terms of individual strategies from early Stalinism up to the present day. F. reveals that these factors are primarily the plans concerning the functional articulation of the city and its expansion, largely linked to the solution of transportation or energy strategies. Thus the conceptions that have remained constant in all of the examined plans have been closely linked to the practical exercising of urban planning, ensuing from the data primarily gained from research of an engineering or scientific character.

The 'engineering' method of understanding urban planning, frequently associated with the strategies used under totalitarian rule, is thus the one that, to a certain extent still remains in the Brno Conceptions. "A significant idea that has persisted up into the 21st century is the conviction that the handling of space is the foundation of maintaining influence on social phenomena and the life that takes place in the city" (p. 229). At the root of the trust³ in expertise and science, we can see again the theoretical concepts of the ideas of Modernism, similar to the mentioned strategy of refusing or criticising previous urban plans and interventions within all of the investigated Brno urban plans.

Post-socialist means standing on the breaking point "of achieving a certain new situation" (p. 125), declares F. in her argumentation over the use of the term "(post)socialist city". In the period following the social and political changes in 1989, the idea of planning became something of a taboo in Central Europe, not only in society at large but also in city administration. This "silent" period of urban planning (p. 10) was associated with the revelation of the power-strategies and totalitarian overreach of the engineering-oriented process of decision making, which negatively influenced its reputation among the general public and experts throughout the 1990s, leading to a shift towards a more liberal and individualistic approach.

However, most recently there has emerged a growing wave of interest in planning, not only in terms of scholarly research but even from within post-socialist society. Frequently, the fragmentary and "unplanned" decisions of city administrations in questions of conceiving the environmental and other aspects of city development have activated the civic society in these cities. The number of citizens' initiatives and associations that have an interest in participating in and changing the construction, transport or social plans of cities formed to a large extent by the strategies of private investors is continually on the increase.

Even though she has strictly adhered to the study only of "historic" plans for the city of Brno, F. has also revealed and indicated these contemporary social changes. She has uncovered the changing form of the (post)socialist city as it gradually loses its specifically "socialist" features in comparison to other European cities and yet at the same time retains the continuity of a kind of revolutionary expectation of the "new situation", just as can now be seen in today's social processes running across the entire "Western" world.

Bratislava

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³ The concept of trust in systems of expertise is used by ANTHONY GIDDENS: *The Consequences of Modernity*, Palo Alto 1990, p. 11, as one of the characteristic elements of modernity as the "method or organisation of social life that emerged in Europe around the 17th century and became more or less worldwide".

Legitimation und Protest. Gesellschaftliche Unruhe in Polen, Ostdeutschland und anderen Transformationsländern nach 1989. Hrsg. von Dieter Bingen, Maria Jarosz und Peter Oliver Loew. (Veröffentlichungen des Deutschen Polen-Instituts Darmstadt, Bd. 31.) Harrassowitz, Wiesbaden 2012. 314 S. ISBN 978-3-447-06562-7. (€ 29,80.)

So hilfreich eine Dokumentation von Tagungsbeiträgen sein mag, so wenig folgen die daraus hervorgehenden Veröffentlichungen den herkömmlichen Regeln gezielt zusammengestellter Sammelbände – von Monografien ganz zu schweigen. Das vorliegende Buch ist aus einer Tagung hervorgegangen und trägt die entsprechenden Merkmale eines unvollständigen Mosaiks, dessen Teile weder auf einer Ebene liegen noch die gleiche Oberflächenstruktur haben und nur teilweise ineinandergreifen. Seine siebzehn Beiträge behandeln auf unterschiedliche Art und Weise verschiedene Aspekte eines zudem sehr breit gefassten Themas. Dennoch ist der Titel *Legitimation und Protest* mehr als eine Klammer, die den Beiträgen äußerlich bleibt, oder die Angabe eines kleinsten gemeinsamen Nenners. Er benennt vielmehr einen Zusammenhang, in den sich dieses Potpourri von Aufsätzen