

## ENGLISH ABSTRACTS OF KEY ARTICLES

### **Results of a Questionnaire Survey on Changes in Selected Municipal Housing Stock (1999, 2000)**

**by Dana Chlupová & Marie Polešáková**

The privatization of municipal housing units is a very important process these days, affecting the life of many a citizen. The procedure should take into consideration the social conditions of the population as well as the prospective concepts of housing in Municipalities. The privatization being an essential element of the housing policy, the Czech Ministry of Regional Development issued an assignment to monitor the process and examine some relevant questions. For the result to be representative, our survey has observed the cities with most municipal housing units. Yet, readers would probably appreciate data from smaller Municipalities as well, so any contribution is welcome and will be published in one of the following issues of UPSD.

### **An Interview with the Mayor of Zlín**

The series of interviews with Mayors is going on by an interview with the Mayor of the statutory town of Zlín, now capital of the newly established Zlín Region. The town has always been associated with outstanding architecture, good urban design, and progressive physical planning. How much continuation there is in such tradition, was what Zdeněk Dostál, Zlín's Mayor, was asked. Mr Dostál studied history at the Brno Masaryk University. In 1972, after 12 years of teaching, he had to leave the Univerzita Palackého of Olomouc. In 1990 – 1998 he was Head of the Zlín District Office, to became Mayor of Zlín in 1998.

### **Can the East German Population Development Indicate Ours after EU Entry?**

**by Milan Körner**

The publication of the preliminary results of the 2001 Census, opening a view of the last decade's development, has restarted the discussion on the progress of Czech cities, the sub-urbanization, and related topics. For the first time in post-war history, the evolution of the last ten years has shown a substantial shift in trends with large urban areas. The article is a reflection on whether the population development of Czech cities, or even regions, can soon get to stagnation, if not to serious depression. We have been inspired by the recently published data of a dramatic population decrease in the „new federal lands“ of Germany, the ex-GDR. The cutback mainly involves big cities (being, in most cases, larger than our regional centres) though most federal lands are afflicted as a whole. The only exception, indicating a somewhat positive development, is Brandenburg, taking advantage of the migration from Berlin.