

ENGLISH ABSTRACTS OF KEY ARTICLES

Physical Planning in the Ombudsman's 2004 Report, by Marek Hanák & Jan Czajkowski

As is his legislative duty, the Public Defender of Rights, Mr Otakar Motejl, submitted his 2004 Report to the President of the Czech Republic and the Chairman of the Chamber of Deputies at the end of March 2005. This year's Report deals with some issues of physical planning.

OPINIONS & DISCUSSIONS**Creating the Urban Interior, by Miloslav Konvička**

The historic centre is usually the focus of the urban way of life. Also, in most cases, it is where the first steps of visitors lead to and where their first impressions are being made. So, the look and the tidiness of the centre is representing the whole city. Attention is now focused on the spatial management of cities, their symbolic values and historic monuments, and the overall image of the urban interior. The agreeable look of the environment can be enhanced by water elements, appropriate greenery, and practical street furniture. The general impression is then shaped by illumination, the signs of the orientation system, and suitable works of art which should correspond to the architectonic concept and expression of the city.

Černá louka – the First Postwar Brownfield of Ostrava, by Vítězslav Kuta & František Kuda & Jaroslav Sedlecký

The zone of Černá louka - the first of Ostrava's postwar brownfields in the city centre; the situation of the centre in the context of the industrial development of Ostrava; a review of the current specifics of Ostrava's city centre; the postwar development of the area of Černá louka and the gradual shaping and reshaping of its actual profile as the city's exhibition centre; Ostrava as a regional metropolis.