

ENGLISH ABSTRACTS OF KEY ARTICLES

Karina M. Pallagst, Is Czech Physical Planning Going to Meet European Integration Requirements?

Karel Maier, Notes on K. M. Pallagst's Article

Two articles contribute to the current discussion on the readiness of the Czech Republic to enter the EU. The first is a "stranger's" view, a part of a German urban planner's thesis, enhanced with notes. The second is a commentary by an experienced Czech specialist, a university teacher.

A graduate of Kaiserslautern University, Karina M. Pallagst now works as a researcher for Dresden's Institut für Ökologische Raumentwicklung - IOR. Her main job is spatial and regional planning. She participates in a number of tasks both in Germany and within an international framework.

The text of her thesis was offered to the Institute for Spatial Development in 1998. Having discussed the matter with Professor Kistenmacher of Kaiserslautern University, she suggested two chapters to be presented in our magazine. In April 1998 she talked to the editors and agreed on shortening the contribution.

The article shows interesting opinions of a specialist who has got her experience with integrating the former East Germany into European structures. Though the writer presents a very detailed study of the system and conditions of physical planning in Czechia, also some misunderstandings appear in her thesis. This is, nevertheless, a proof that there is still a lack of apt and cogent information available in foreign languages. That is why, for the Ministry of Regional Development, the Institute has published Town and Country Planning in the Czech Republic, containing some basic but professional information in English.

These days, the Government is confronted with a variety of documents, naturally not mentioned in the thesis, to support regional development. However, this confirms the rapid changes physical planning in this country is undergoing. In view of the supposition that the article would rise polemics, the editors were asked to make remarks on it. Karel Maier, a member of the editorial board, has accepted the challenge, and his contribution follows Karina M. Pallagst's article.

Barbara Schejbalová & Kateřina Teperová, What Are Your Expectations about the D47 Motorway, Ostravians?

Ostrava, an industrial city, is nowadays facing many problems. Many of them should be solved or lessened, according to official statements, by the D47 motorway. The article presents what the area's inhabitants have to say to the project.