

URBANISMUS A ÚZEMNÍ ROZVOJ (URBAN PLANNING AND SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT) 6/2003

ENGLISH ABSTRACTS OF KEY ARTICLES

Urban Planning at the Level of Regions, by Josef Markvart

The Act of the Regions brings a relatively large compendium of rights to regional administrative units. Their duties explicitly defined by the law, the Offices of the Region as „regional governments“ and the regional parliaments can employ a relatively large extent of autonomy in the arrangement of their activities. The editors of UPSD decided to map the urban planning activities of the Regions in order to systemize the varied names and structures of urban planning sections, the inconsistent relations to regional policy departments, the varied structures of development documents, and the differences among various committees of regional parliaments.

Geographical Data, Meta-data, and Urban Planning in the Context of International Integration, by Karel Maier, Jiří Čtyřoký & Jakub Vorel

This study is a digest of the outcome of *Metamorphoses of Urban Planning*, an institutional research of the Prague's Faculty of Architecture. In recent years, the world was witnessing a general transition from classic analogue treatment of geographical information, generating printed maps and cartograms, to digitalized processing. An activity essentially based on such documents, urban planning has been deeply influenced by such change. However, the digitalization of the basic geographical input (maps and data of the limits and intentions of urban planning) and of the urban planning output has had relatively little impact on the methods and procedures urban planning is using. In other words, the actual digitalization of urban planning has so far not implied its informatization. One of the explanations why we still use computers as merely a kind of sophisticated typewriter is the fact that there were not enough efforts to employ the potential of computer technologies in the elaboration of spatial information and its integration into Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

Facts and Reflections on the Development of Settlements in the Czech Republic, by Alois Andrie

The structure of the population in the territory of today's Czech Republic has always been shaped by geomorphologic conditions and economic developments. The aim of this contribution is to present some statistical data on the development of settlements and use them to contemplate prospective trends, including the quantification of the development up to the year 2020. Necessary to say, it is by far not certain that the author's reflections will come true but they may instigate polemics and discussions, which itself would be a positive development of the complex issue. Attached to the data in tables are diagrams and latest cartograms.