

# **Right to the City and Participation**

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# Intensification of participatory expectations

- Heritage of antidemocratic governing, not overcome
- Multitude of projects and publications on public consultations and participation

## **Weaknesses:**

- Hidden assumption DIY (do it yourself)
- Nobody can guarantee a success. The factors non-removable through consultation often exist
- Dialogue can lead to the rejection of good solution

## **Thus:**

- How to leave behind the trial and experiment period?

# Participation challenges arise in the heart of City

- Density of the population
- Heterogeneity at different levels of social organization: personal and family, neighborhood and collectivity – up to crowds and structured communities.
- Intensity of occurrences, contacts and relations, informations and stimuli
- Hence induced potential of creativity and innovativeness

# New trends

- Growing urbanization,
- Growing role of the external, distant factors of growth (globalization)
- Changes of individual and community patterns and lifestyles
- Growing differences and contradictions of needs and interests
- Emerging new concept of individual and group or populations' rights
- City's model (archetype) becomes less and less obvious (self-evident)

# Multidimensional societal expectations towards participation

- Defending individual rights and interests (NIMBY)
- Reservations or emotions as to the given urban shape (justified more or less)
- Concern about endangered values (environment, noise, heritage, etc.)
- Realization of one's need to act, achieve, initiate)

**Synthesis**: perception of the inhabitant's right to space

**Right to the space (place)**

# Property and use in the legal order

- Concepts of property rights and of common good
- Authority and Władza i własność publiczna służą realizacji zadań publicznych
- Doktryna legalizmu – czy jest miejsce dla dobrej woli?

## **Strona operacyjna – działanie administracji publicznej (kadencja):**

- Planowanie, programowanie – strategię i polityki
- wykonywanie swoich praw właścicielskich;
- nadzorowanie zachowania innych gestorów w zakresie przestrzegania prawa i norm ogólnych;
- podejmowanie działań partnerskich z innymi, wywieranie wpływu;
- budzenie świadomości, edukacja, debaty publiczne, udział w budowaniu konsensu.

# Property and use in the legal order

- Concepts of property rights and of common good
- Authority and public ownership are to fulfill the public tasks?
- Legalism doctrine – is there a space for good will or adjustment?

**Operational point of view – Activity of public administration** (cadence / cadenza):

- Planning, programming – strategies and policies
- Implementing property rights;
- Supervision of the other bodies as to the general law obedience;
- Influencing behaviour of other bodies, initiating, partnering;
- Awareness rising, education, public debates, consensus building.



# Mechanics of public administration

- Silos structures
- Branch regulations (I have my legislation)
- Inability to step beyond the minimum
- Unwillingness towards transparency, declaring values and interests („common” and „particular”)
- Limited readiness to accomodate sponatneous initiatives or organic type of development

# Property and use in the science of economy

- Commons (Elinor Ostrom) Patrick McNutt: Public Goods and Club Goods

	Excludable	Non-excludable
Rival	Private good	Dobra (zasoby)wspólne
Non-rival	Local public good (club good)	Pure Public good

Institutional footprint:

- Commons, Urbar's, serwitut's
- Selfgovernmental local units (neighborhood committees, cooperatives, parishes – parish councils)

# Collective use

- Ownership as a basic title to use the land. Unlimited?;
- Public space; semipublic; central; local; in the language of Urban planning. What is it for? Backyard and public square;
- Collective use by the territorial group – not accessible to all;
- Heritage – symbolic ownership, connected with architectural, historic, material culture values;
  - Public Authority roles:
  - Fulfilling public tasks:
  - Safety and norms;
  - Harmonising interests.

**Right to the City?**

# **„Urban Age”: 10% of urban population in 1900, 50% in 2007 and 75%. in 2050**

- Urban sprawl: Cities grow beyond administrative borders and merge with other cities. Urbanized regions and parts of the continents emerge. It becomes difficult being sole citizen of single one
- Dependence upon distant and anonymous centres of capital and management, quick changes of unexpected character and scale
- Chaotic investment location. „Leap frog development”
- Urbanized space becomes not city-like: „Low Density Urbanism”, suburbanizm and „Informal Urbanism”
- Rapid changes : replacement of firms, city centers depopulation, owing to suburbs, gentrification
- Gated communities develop, lack of social housing , public services quality reinforces segregation. City becomes a consumption scheme, not the community
- Urban geography is shaped by electronic networks. Global import of patterns and styles, global exchange of products and services
- Multitude of „economies”, co-creates symbiotic systems, informal economy reinforces
- Growing value of education brings more opportunities for selffulfillment;
- With inflow of international companies, international cadres in-migrate. There is work for specialists and for low - paid service personnel

# Big City: new rules of cohabitation, new demand for urban space

## Nomadic life style proliferates

- Metropolitan classes gentrify selected city districts części and suburban territories. They differ by another mobility and other communication channels. Other are chances of participation.
- Neutralized is role of physical distances – hipermobility creates new life styles
- People, numerous and different are becoming subjects and actors. They want to be identified and recognized, even if they are not privileged.

## Urban movements:

- Right to the city
- Demand for spaces and buildings for free. Unused, unkept, new, unexploited, technological spaces. Squatting develops

## Role of artistic project in public space

- Momentary art, commenting here and now happenings. Projects integrate, attract, focus activities. They construct identity and communion of values
- Spontaneous art draws attention, provokes action. Art can be usable
- Sometimes art surprises and amuses. Encourages new ideas
- Artistic happening on the immigrant market brought more knowledge and sympathy than any training or film introducing problems of foreign migrants
- Spontaneous art results from urban explosion, reacts against anonymous, total urban fabric and total – anonymous management

# David Harvey (Wikipedia)

The right to the city is far more than the individual liberty to access urban resources: it is a right to change ourselves by changing the city. It is, moreover, a common rather than an individual right since this transformation inevitably depends upon the exercise of a collective power to reshape the processes of urbanization. The freedom to make and remake our cities and ourselves is, I want to argue, one of the most precious yet most neglected of our human rights.<sup>1</sup>

# Participation



# Preconditions of fruitful participation

- Touching important (key) issues, not marginal, not leaving aside painful problems;
- Proper moment. Avoiding discussion of the final versions;
- Making possible and allowing for speaking all interested parties;
- Providing participants with full information on rationale and possible solutions;
- Readiness to accept and adopt the result of debate, even if it requires some changes in scheduling and costs;
- Transparency in the debate. Explaining the rules governing the domain of the projects;
- Pursuance to achieving a partner solution envisaging needs, rights and also the roles of partners in the project implementation;
- Assisting participants with the professional advice. Allowing for alternative planning or advocacy planning;
- Civic education to deliver knowledge about the rules governing the domain, not general „enlightenment“;

# **In March 1983 the Berlin Senate formally adopted the 12 Principles of Careful Urban Renewal:**

1. Renewal has to be planned in conjunction with the community and local businesses to ensure sustainability.
2. Planners, the community and local businesses shall reach agreement over renewal projects. Technical as well as social planning shall be coordinated.
3. The individual character of Kreuzberg shall be sustained by re-establishing trust and confidence. Damage threatening the structure of buildings must be repaired immediately.
4. New forms of living shall be made possible by carefully changing the outline of buildings.
5. The renewal of flats and buildings shall be made 'step by step' and gradually extended.
6. The built environment shall be improved by keeping demolition to a minimum and by greening of courtyards as well as designing facades.
7. Amenities as well as streets, public spaces and parks have to be renewed and extended according to the needs of the community.
8. Social planning must also work out stakeholder rights and property rights of the people concerned (i.e.solve the problem of squatting).
9. Decisions concerning urban renewal must be reached publicly and should possibly be discussed on the spot. Community involvement has to be encouraged.
10. For urban renewal to gain confidence strong financial support is necessary. Funds need to be made available quickly.
11. New forms of administration are to be developed. Administration and construction shall be kept apart.
12. Urban renewal following these principles must be ensured to go on after 1984 (the year of the IBA).

# Participation is a kind of the game

- Administration. Usually organises, by the Law, entire process. Law sets minimum conditions : what should be discussed, who should be invited, how to proceed. Administration is responsible for implementing the result of participation;
  - Typically administration knows what is the desired result. Their interest is the shortest possible proceeding and lowest possible cost of the procedure.;
- Professionals, who prepared the blueprint which goes under discussion, intruduce the project to the public, answer all questions and implement the resulting conclusions;
  - They have influence on the quality of communication. May use difficult professional language. Their interest in the game is minimising workload on implementation of the discussion results;
- Inhabitants, public. Mostoften they have different views on projects, goals, solutions and details.
  - They may have different professional background. Thair interest in the game is avoiding what they perceive as danger and gaining what they recognise as benefit.