

Abstract

The thesis is the result of qualitative field-research, based on semi-structured interviews and observations in the former Prague slums Pod Bohdalcem and Na Slatinách. The research reflects competing visions of various stakeholders with regards to the future development of these last almost fully preserved colonies, which were created for- and by the poor. The thesis also reconstructs and monitors the development of the conflict that arose between the inhabitants of the colonies and the urban planners in the course of the creation of the study "Bohdalec-Slatiny-Brownfield Strašnice", which proposes a new city-district in the area of the former colonies. It further captures the main reason for the dispute, namely the different perceptions of the colonies by its inhabitants and the institutions responsible for urban planning. For the first actor the area in question means 'home', as well as a place with rich history, while for the second it represents mainly a lucrative brownfield. The thesis also compares often incompatible visions of the stakeholders. It further describes signs or strategies of resistance that the inhabitants manifested from the beginnings of the colonies to the present day. The theoretical part of the thesis focuses on the concept of the right to the city and considers the possibilities and limitations of its application in practice. The thesis also looks at the possibility of creating an alternative model of civic participation in spatial planning processes, and highlights why is the current model in the case of these colonies insufficient. Given that the visions of the actors in the dispute also include preferences with regards to the natural character of the colonies, part of the thesis deals with the issue of different perceptions of 'nature'. It emphasizes that this is conditioned not only by the socio-economic characteristics of the individual or groups of people, but also by their social practices. It therefore argues that the word 'nature' should be used in the plural. Examples from the empirical research also illustrate how humans co-produces these 'natures'.

Key words: urban planning, urban development, brownfield, sustainable city, compact city, perceptions of nature, right to the city, spatial justice, socio-natures, postpolitics