

REVITALIZATION OF POST-INDUSTRIAL URBAN AREAS AND ITS IMPACT ON ORGANIZATION OF CENTRAL SPACE IN EUROPEAN CITIES. THE CASE OF MANCHESTER, LYON AND ŁÓDŹ

The paper presents integrated studies on the morphological and functional structures of contemporary European cities' central space. The crux of **the research problem** is to answer the question: how does revitalization of inner-city post-industrial urban areas change the organization of central space in European cities?

The adopted research assumption allows for constructing the following **hypothesis**: as a result of the process of inner-city post-industrial area revitalization, a new central space is created, whose relations to the old central space are based on:

1. cooperation of the old and the new central space;
2. cooperation between the old and the new central space;
3. conglomeration of several independent and non-integrated locations of central spaces.

In order to verify this research hypothesis, studies on Manchester, Lyon and Łódź have been conducted. On the basis of the central space development research in Manchester, Lyon and Łódź, it has been concluded that the development process proceeded in stages and it had its own individual nature in each of the cities. The number of central space development stages and their length was varied due to different economic, technological and geopolitical factors, which influenced the development of those cities. The central space formation was analyzed in the context of three phases in the history of the development of those cities: pre-industrial, industrial and post-industrial. This division is reflected in the structure of the empirical chapters of this paper.

In situ research has shown that the process of spatial and functional transformations had a high or intermediate level of intensity, which should be identified as revitalization in the broad sense – mainly a radical one. Revitalization initiated the secondary cycle of post-industrial areas land use, which resulted in creating new spatial and functional units. They are characterized by morphology adapted to the needs of modern urban space users.

As a result of inner-city post-industrial area revitalization, the organization of central space in Manchester, Lyon and Łódź has been changed. The consequences of morphological transformations differed in each of the cities. They depended on the old central space morphogenesis and its degree of development, meaning its size, complexity and intensity.

On the basis of the conducted research, in Manchester **competition** between old and new central space was identified, **cooperation** in Lyon and **conglomeration** in Łódź. Therefore, the adopted research hypothesis has been positively verified. The results of analytical research conducted in Manchester, Lyon and Łódź have led to the conclusion that relations based on cooperation or competition have a positive influence on the central space organization while relations based on conglomeration impact it negatively.

The conclusions drawn on the basis of theoretical and empirical parts of the paper are the starting point to create a recommendation for modern central space development in Łódź.