

**Intervention of urban renewal in Krakow: limits and future perspectives in four analyzed cases**

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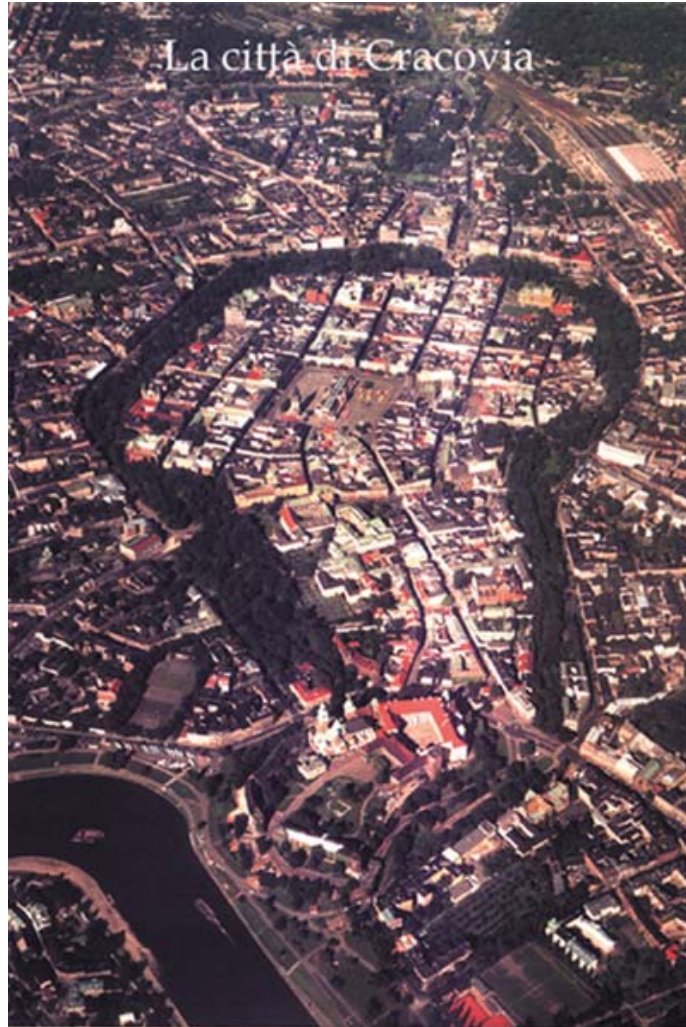
Urban renewal in Eastern Europe shows peculiarity created by the economical, territorial and social differences typical of nations developed under the sovietic economical politic.

The result of the conjugation between the happenings of that period and the situation that developed in Krakow during nine centuries of historical evolution, adding the crucial changes occurred after 1989, generated a very complicated and attractive situation.

The thesis tries to focalize which choises in economical, territorial and social politics produced this deep differences found out in countries of transition.

Polish situation is analyzed in a deeper way, describing the special connection between territorial planning and economical development.

The second part of the text take under examination the city of Krakow (picture1).



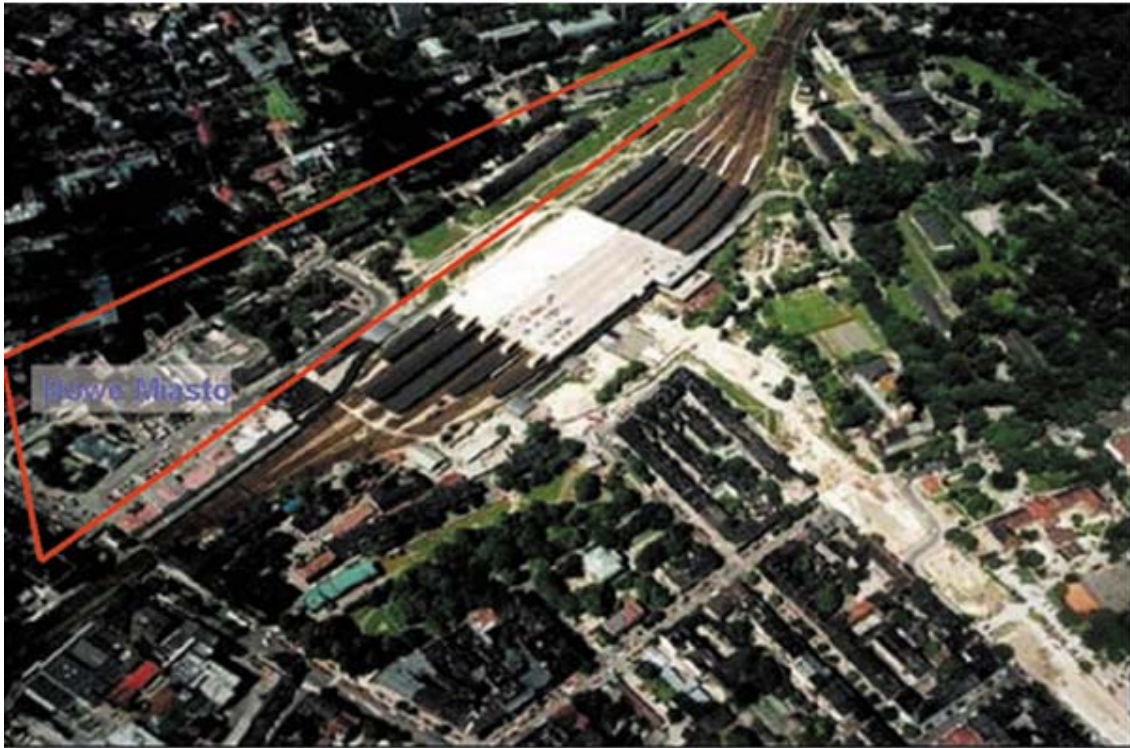
It analyses origins and evolution, till the birth of the socialist government and the strong influence that the siderurgical complex "Lenin" had over the development of the urban agglomeration.

If the recent definition of strategic areas promoting the development of the city and the participation of Krakow to several international happenings shows how the public administration is trying to valorize the historical and cultural heritage in order to attract potential investors, the intervention of several foreign subjects doesn't always end in a positive way. The lack of a working code of laws generated situations in which the most important values that affect urban transformations are economical profits of foreign societies.

The analysis of four examples is the third part of the work, and concludes it.

The first one is about the renewal of the old Jewish district of Kazimierz. It describes the path that led to the redaction of an action plan for the area, and the reasons why several of the previewed interventions were not realized.

The second case is the analysis of the transformation of the railway station area. It explains the point of view of all the subjects interested in the operations, from public administration to Tishman Speyer, that won the public competition for the intervention. It will be showed how, in the end, private interests prevailed over the possibility of a transformation that renewed the area in an effective way.



The third experience is about the dismissed soda factory Solvay. It presented the interesting hypothesis of the transformation of the area into a urban park, that was taken into consideration by the detailed plan of 1994. Follows the analysis of the reasons of a new plan, that led to the realization of the shopping mall Carrefour. The last situation taken into exam is the renewal of the strategic area Krakow East, that includes the enormous kombinat Lenin.



Here are described the evolution and the dismissal of the factory complex, and the hypothesis of creation of a multicentral urban model that could have included the kombinat area as a main node. In the end is explained why public administration eventually gave up with this idea.

In the final part is underlined why only very seldom renewal interventions in Krakow operate a really positive transformation of the urban tissue. The complicate situation that affects public administration of the city, the lack of urbanistic tools for acting over problematic areas, the lack of defenses against foreign company generated too often only punctual interventions.

If in western Europe is assumed the need of analyzing the situation of dismissed areas all in one, in Poland this assumption still didn't get priority, due to a situation generated by too fast changes of the economical and political system that created an economical and legislative gap hardly recoverable in the years to come.

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