



Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization,  
Polish Academy of Sciences



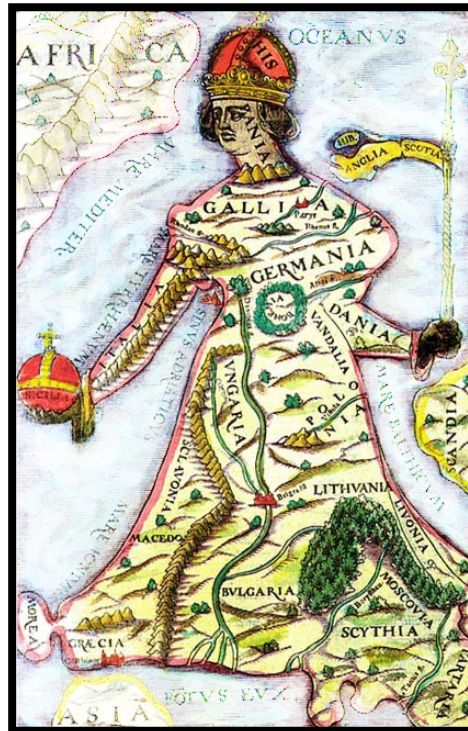
Ministry of Infrastructure and Development,  
Republic of Poland



Polish Geographical Society

## WARSAW REGIONAL FORUM 2015

# *Territorial uncertainty and vulnerability as a challenge for urban and regional policy*



Warsaw, 14-16 October 2015

## FIRST CIRCULAR & CALL FOR PAPERS

The Warsaw Regional Forum is organized on a regular basis once every two years (biennially) by the Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization Polish Academy of Sciences, together with the Ministry of Infrastructure and Development of the Republic of Poland and Polish Geographical Society. To date, there have been six meetings held under the common title **Warsaw Regional Forum: Central and Eastern Europe: Changing spatial patterns of human activity** (2004), *The core and peripheral regions in Central and Eastern Europe* (2005), *Contemporary dilemmas of spatial development in Europe* (2007), *Networking in the European, regional and local space* (2009), *Functional regions – towards a new paradigm of territorial and cohesion policy* (2011) and *Territorial Capital – concepts, indicators & policy* (2013). During the six meetings of the Warsaw Regional Forum more than 270 papers have been presented. The research studies dealt with a wide spectrum of themes and the analysis contained within them covered a wide spectrum of spatial scales – ranging from that of the European through the national and regional, to the local level. The participants of all six conferences came from 30 different countries.

The principal topic of the 2015 conference will be concentrated around such problems as vulnerability, uncertainty and resilience of territories. The subject of discussion will be threats of economic (global crisis), environmental, institutional and geopolitical nature. These issues will be analyzed from a perspective of multiple spatial scales at the European, transborder, national, regional, urban and local levels. The conference's topic fits well into the current ongoing debate over the spatial development that takes place in the EU, combining academic discussion with policies of territorial dimension presently carried out, including especially the cohesion policy (i.a. relating to the EU Sixth Cohesion Report as well as to the outcomes of ESPON findings).

The organizers invite submission of papers concerning different understanding in various countries of the **concept of territorial uncertainty – and vulnerability** based on a foundation of different sciences across multiple disciplines (geography, economy, sociology, regional studies, spatial planning, environmental studies, etc.) as well as on the basis of political documents of varied level. Certainly, as a complementary result of this discussion, articles will be particularly welcome referring to concrete and tangible cases regarding dynamics and structure of territorial capital of European regions, including the results of research projects touching upon the aforesaid subject matter.

In particular, the Forum 2015 sessions will be built upon the discussions on the following dilemmas and research questions:

- **Vulnerability and resilience of cities/towns.:**
  - Which of the cities/towns are especially susceptible to outer threats?
  - What threats are posed by further suburbanization?
  - How metropolises can take advantage of the current economic situation to enhance development and increase resilience of the settlement system?
  - How should the urban policy be implemented in the face of uncertain socio-economic circumstances?
  - Are metropolises and cities of Central Europe threatened by internal social divisions and whether revitalization could be helpful in this problem?
- **Resilience of natural environment to spatial and economic changes.**
  - Does the natural environment pose a threat to development?

- What are the environmental effects of suburbanization processes?
- What should be the development strategy for infrastructural and industrial investments in the context of environmental transformations?
- What is the resilience of environment, especially within the urbanized areas, to external factors, including global warming?
- Which of the adaptive processes regarding the environmental changes (including climate change) are important for quality of life?
- **The role of infrastructure in promoting the development and safety in the regions.**
  - In what way should the new linkages in space be created?
  - What is the impact of changes in transportation accessibility on a regional and local development?
  - Could it be that infrastructure contributes to increased resilience of regions to socio-economic and geopolitical threats?
- **Stability of local development vs. regional and European policy.**
  - In what way can the small and medium cities/towns increase the resilience of regions?
  - How to strengthen the polycentric systems?
  - Does the policy of territorial cohesion help to enhance resilience of local economies?
- **Social transformations vs. instability of development.**
  - What are the social, educational, professional behaviours of people under dynamically changing economic conditions?
  - How can you prevent risks arising from demographic processes (depopulation, aging, gender imbalance)?
  - What is a spatial dimension of social safety?
  - What is the role of services of general interest in territorial social safety?
  - Is it true that there should be territorially distinct social policies?
- **Public management under varied social and economic conditions.**
  - What approach should be adopted for risk management in the space?
  - What is the role of local planning in increasing the resilience of local self-government units to environmental and economic threats?
  - What are the institutional risks to spatial development?

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Field study trips have always been an inherent part of each of the Warsaw Regional Forum conference. During these trips there are usually meetings held with representatives of various institutions that play an important part in local development. Thanks to a diverse group of speakers, the participants have an opportunity to confront their own theoretical knowledge with the practicalities of regional and local development. Moreover, every time a route of field study trip is invariably planned in such a way so as to include interesting tourist sites. This year we decided to change a little the formula of the trip. It will be one day trip free of charge (all-inclusive packet covering transport, meals, reception, map and other excursion materials) for all participants of the Forum who confirm it in the Registration Form (attachment № 1).

A study trip before the this year Conference will provide a possibility to discuss rapid development of suburban zone on the south of Warsaw (dilemma: *Vulnerability and resilience of cities*), natural and agricultural landscape near Warsaw (dilemma: *Resilience of natural environment to spatial and economic changes*), new road investments near Warsaw (dilemma: *The role of infrastructure in promoting the*

*development and safety in the regions*), contemporary situation of fruit producers (dilemma: *Stability of local development vs. regional and European policy*), social disparities in the metropolitan area (dilemma: *Social transformations vs. instability of development*) and governance at the local level (dilemma: *Public management under varied social and economic conditions*).

The study trip will offer opportunity for seeing an exceptional character of the Polish landscape and beauty of its towns and villages.

Additionally we would like to invite all the participants to visit **The Museum of the History of Polish Jews on Saturday** ([www.polin.pl/en/](http://www.polin.pl/en/)). During the conference everyone who wants visit the museum will receive free ticket for main exhibitions.

### **Preliminary Program**

| <b>14.10.2015 (Wednesday)</b>      |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 8 <sup>00</sup>                    | Departure from Warsaw for one-day pre-conference excursion – <i>Territorial uncertainty and vulnerability in practice (optional)</i> |
| 19 <sup>00</sup>                   | Reception on the study tour  |
| 22 <sup>00</sup>                   | End of the study tour; arrival to Warsaw   |
| <b>15.10.2015 (Thursday)</b>       |  |
| 8 <sup>00</sup> –10 <sup>00</sup>  | Registration for the Conference  |
| 10 <sup>00</sup> –18 <sup>30</sup> | Plenary Sessions & Panel Discussion  |
| 19 <sup>00</sup>                   | Conference Reception   |
| <b>16.10.2015 (Friday)</b>         |  |
| 9 <sup>00</sup> –17 <sup>30</sup>  | Parallel Sessions  |
| 17 <sup>30</sup> –18 <sup>00</sup> | Closing of the Forum   |
| <b>17.10.2015 (Saturday)</b>       |  |
|                                    | Visit at The Museum of the History of Polish Jews<br>(optional)  |
|                                    | Departure of participants  |

### **Conference venue**

The Ministry of Infrastructure and Development  
The Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization PAS  
Warsaw, Poland

### **Cost of participation**

**Conference fee: 150 €** (for PhD students and members of the Polish Geographical Society **100 €**) – covers conference materials, lunches, tea / coffee, receptions, participation in the study tour, museum tickets and possibility to publish an article in Institute's journals.

**Accommodation: 30-150 €** (per night in Warsaw, single room, in hotels and hostels in the vicinity of the Institute).

*All participants* are expected to cover travel and accommodation cost.

### **Accommodation**

We recommend three hotels in the vicinity of the Institute (Towarowa 2, 00-811 Warsaw):

(\*) Hotel Premiere Classe – [www.premiereclasse.com/en/hotels/premiere-classe-varsovie-warszawa](http://www.premiereclasse.com/en/hotels/premiere-classe-varsovie-warszawa)

(\*\*) Hotel Campanile – [www.campanile-varsovie.pl/en/index.aspx](http://www.campanile-varsovie.pl/en/index.aspx)

(\*\*\*) Hotel Golden Tulip – [www.goldentulipwarsawcentre.com](http://www.goldentulipwarsawcentre.com)

But there are also other options – <http://www.warsawtour.pl/en/where-to-stay.html>. If You will have problems to find some accommodation, please contact with us.

### **Papers and posters**

Participants who wish to give a presentation or present the poster **should submit an abstract in the style**, layout and format of the pattern (**attachment № 2**) and in accordance to the options listed below. The abstract should clearly and concisely describe the material and results being proposed for presentation. Submitted abstracts will be available on the conference website from July 2015 and also will be published in a *Book of abstracts* (with ISBN).

There will be an opportunity to submit papers in scientific journals like *Geographia Polonica* or *Europe XXI*. Full texts should be delivered till **31 October 2015** due to publication process. In due time, we will inform you about editorial requirements. Posters will be exhibited on the second day of conference (16.10.2015).

### **Presentation & language**

After every 3-4 presentations scheduled in blocks, there will be some 15 minutes for discussion. In every conference room, the following technical equipment will be available: laptop, and beamer. The language of the Forum is English.

### **Deadlines**

Registration with presentation + **abstract** – 31.07.2015

Registration without presentation – 30.09.2015

### **Organizing Committee**

- Prof. Marek Degórski (**Chair**)
- Prof. Tomasz Komornicki
- Dr. Konrad Czapiewski
- Dr. Piotr Siłka

## **Registration & Contact**

Registration form (**attachment № 1**) should be send via:

- e-mail: [forum@igipz.pan.pl](mailto:forum@igipz.pan.pl)
- postal address:  
Piotr Siłka / Konrad Czapiewski  
The Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization PAS  
Twarda 51/55, 00-818 Warszawa, Poland
- fax: (+48 22) 620-62-21

## **Further information**

More information will be available on the conference website:  
[http://www.igipz.pan.pl/wrf\\_2015.html](http://www.igipz.pan.pl/wrf_2015.html) and in the Second Circular.

*Note: Picture on the first page from [www.unipv.it](http://www.unipv.it)*

