

Einladung zum Vortrag

Donnerstag, 11. April 2013, 14:15 Uhr

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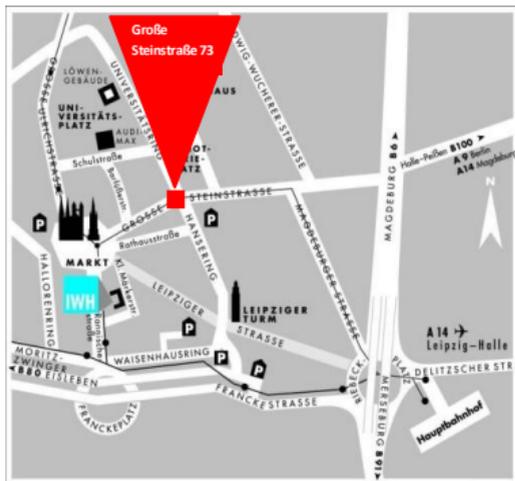


Trajectories in Post-socialist Cities:
Patterns of Divergence and Change

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The presentation explores the new planning regimes and planning processes in post-socialist countries and their ability to influence the spatial transformation of cities. It views planning institutions as culturally embedded in the overall process of economic, social and political transition, while recognising the power of specific local imperatives and market pressures to shape their response. The research draws on empirical evidence in four countries and their capital cities to highlight the links between the transition to democracy, markets and decentralised governance on the spatial transformation in post-socialist cities.

The main argument is that the new planning institutions have different ability to direct these processes of change, depending on the legal framework, the availability of plans and the institutionalisation of the plan-implementation process. Despite the diverse mosaic of urban experiences in Prague, Riga, Belgrade and Tirana, planning institutions are viewed as path dependent, influenced by a common socialist legacy. Further, changes in the exogenous environment – economic, social and institutional – are perceived to be important sources of convergence, but shape divergent planning responses and policy choices.

Central to the arguments in the presentation is that transition of this magnitude has created a complex urban world in which the patterns of divergence are going to become more explicit in the future, producing spatial and temporal differentiation among post-socialist cities.

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