Urbanity – Twenty Years Later

2009–2010

PRAGUE – BERLIN – BRATISLAVA – BUDAPEST – LJUBLJANA – WARSAW – VIENNA

RESEARCH – EXHIBITION – WORKSHOPS – FORUM – BOOK

ARCHITECTS – POLITICIANS – PHOTOGRAPHERS – ART THEORISTS – SOCIOLOGISTS – ARTISTS – INHABITANTS

During 20 years of Europe´s unification we witnessed the removing of state, national and other borders. Cultural, social, political meanings change to the new – global. Life without freedom under the dictate of political totalities alternated freedom under the dictate of market totalities, materialized into the urban space.

Project Urbanity – Twenty Years Later reacts to the radical changes in a city landscape during last twenty years. Architects, politicians, photographers, art theorists, sociologists and artists from seven European capitals – Berlin, Budapest, Bratislava, Ljubljana, Prague, Warsaw and Vienna – critically react to the globalization of urban space as a form of the new European totality.
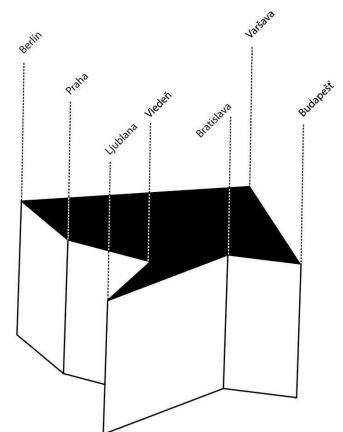
Budapest, Bratislava, Prague, Warsaw are representatives with a similar past and recent processes.
The four cities will be analyzed and related to **Vienna, Berlin**, **Ljubljana** and other Central European capitals, with different backgrounds and recent strategies.

➤ Critical view at cities through the media of art photography

➤ Mapping, comparing and evaluating qualities of seven cities on the background of political changes

➤ New visions of Central European cities and their role in the "new" Europe

Urbanity project is a platform on which illustrations, comments, comparisons of the current state and the seeking of a new identity of the Central European Region, as part of unified Europe, are made. Urbanity project sees and defines the Central European Region as a super-region with its own distinctive historical past and with a potential common approach in solving problems. Cooperation once carried out by political agreements and ratifications affected by ideology, has been rolled-over by a wave of globalization for 20 years.

Urbanity project finds neuralgic points of the new global environment of cities and puts them into revision and reflection.
Urbanity calls attention to negative social impacts of specific development strategies and tactics. Urbanity points out qualities, which characterize Central Europe.

� City Gallery

- Exhibitions in public spaces in each capital

- Exhibitions involve and activate the general public to reflect and discuss changes in urban spaces

- Photographers from each joined city are selected by an international jury; on the base of special impulses a critical photographic series about certain cities will be made

▘ Urbanity Guide

- An introduction about the project and the photographic exhibitions will be published; the brochure informs about all parts and programmes of the project

- The brochure contains a feedback, a questionnaire, activating the general public to join the project

▘ Workshops

- A Team of students of architectural schools works on the research in each Central European capital

- In a cycle of two workshops and final presentation in Prague, common or diverse experiences connect with urban spaces and propose new perspectives of future views; the workshops are meeting points, places for discussions and presentations of research results

▘ Book

- A special book maps the development and change of capitals as units; the book selects seven Central European capitals, their relations and perspectives

- Presents and resumes results of research, workshop and photographic cycles

- Approaches the CITY to the public and politicians

▘ Forum

- Discussions about a future image of the city and a new meaning of capitals in Europe with city representatives

Project benefits

▘ Definition of identity of European capitals by architectural and sociological analysis of urban space

▘ Seeking solutions to prevent repetition of past mistakes, such as – unlimited extensions of towns, fragmentation of town environment, implementation of purely commercial functions with minimal social evaluation (shopping zones, residential constructions without necessary civic facilities etc.)

▘ Contribution to a debate about the meaning of capitals in the "new" Europe

Project Time Table

Activity	When	Where	Duration
Preparation phase - of the photo exhibition - establishing teams of architect students and other specialists in cooperation with universities and local partners - communication with political representatives - preparation of Urbanity20 Years Later web page	*July–Dec. 2008* *1. 7.–31. 12. 2008*		*6 months*
City Gallery – exhibitions in urban space of seven European capitals (using large format photography as communication tool to wide public)	*May–Nov. 2009* *09. 4.–30. 11. 2009*	*Prague, Bratislava, Budapest, Ljubljana Warsaw, Berlin, Vienna*	*6 months* *In each city* *3 weeks*
Urbanity I – first workshop with all partners, architectural teams, local authorities and citizens. The topic: **Identity of the city and its representation**	*April–May 2009* *25. 4. –2. 5. 2009*	*Prague*	*8 days*
Urbanity II – second workshop with all partners, architectural teams, local authorities and citizens. The topic: **The city 20 years after** After the sequence of workshops, the work of all teams will continue in their home cities until January 2010	*October 2009* *17. 10.–24. 10. 2009*	*Prague*	*8 days*
Urbanity Forum - **7 teams present 7 European capitals** final presentation of results with all partners, architectural teams, local authorities and citizens. The topic: **Future of the capital cities – between the past and visions – City as a whole** - series of public events that will be organized on the basis of the innovative, critical vision as a result from workshops. - public debate **The Future of the European capitals** - **round table** between professionals and city representatives	*March 2010* *8. 3.–12. 3. 2010*	*Prague*	*5 days*
Book *Urbanity – 20 Years Later* - Editing, summarizing and Production of the book - Last phase of the project summarizing all researches, materials, texts, photos and reactions from the public, citizens, politicians, which will complete the Urbanity Book	*April–Sept. 2010* *1. 4.–30. 9. 2010*	*Prague Bratislava, Budapest, Ljubljana, Warsaw, Berlin, Vienna*	*6 moths*
Urbanity – 20 Years Later Book Lounge	*October 2010*		
Book presentation to the city representatives	*November 2010*		

The Time table can change accorinding to the program of invited universities.

Organization: Centre for Central European Architecture Prague, U Půjčovny 4, 110 00 Prague 1
www.ccea.cz

centre for central european architecture

Initiator: Moba is an architectural platform / www.moba.name

MOBA

Co-operation in Central European region (Prague, Bratislava, Berlin, Budapest, Ljubljana, Warsaw):

GOETHE-INSTITUT

Project Urbanity – Twenty Years Later is under the auspice of:

Mr. Pavel Bém, Mayor of the Capital City of **Prague**

Mr. Zoran Janković, Mayor of the Capital City of **Ljubljana**

Mr. Andrej Ďurkovský, Mayor of the Capital City of **Bratislava**

Mr. Michael Häupl, Mayor of the Capital City of **Vienna**

Mr. Klaus Wowereit, Mayor of the Capital City of **Berlin**

Research partners and team tutors:

Technische Universität Berlin / Technical University in Berlin – Jean-Philippe Vassal

Vysoká škola výtvarných umení v Bratislave / Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Bratislava – Imro Vaško

Budapesti Műszaki és Gazdaságtudományi Egyetem / Technical University of Budapest – György Alföldi,
Bálint Kádár

Univerza v Ljubljani / University of Ljubljana – Tadej Glažar, Maruša Zorec

České vysoké učení technické v Praze / Czech Technical University in Prague – Michal Kohout, David Tichý

Politechnika Warszawska / Warsaw University of Technology – Slawomir Gzell

Akademie der bildenden Künste Wien / Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna – Stefan Gruber

Local co- organization and local co-ordinator:

Centrum komunitného rozvoja / **Centre for Community Development** (Slovak Republic) – Monika Lacková,
Jan Gregor

KUD C3 (Slovenia) – Bostjan Bugarić

KÉK / **Hungarian Contemporary Architecture Centre** (Hungary) – Adrienn Kovács

Miastosfera and **OSSA** (Poland) – Marta Mlodozeniec, Tomasz Duda

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Cornelia Schwarte

SOHO in Ottakring (Austria) – Ula Schneider

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