

Plenary Session 4

New Socio-spatial Residential Formations in Post-socialist Cities

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segregation in post-socialist city

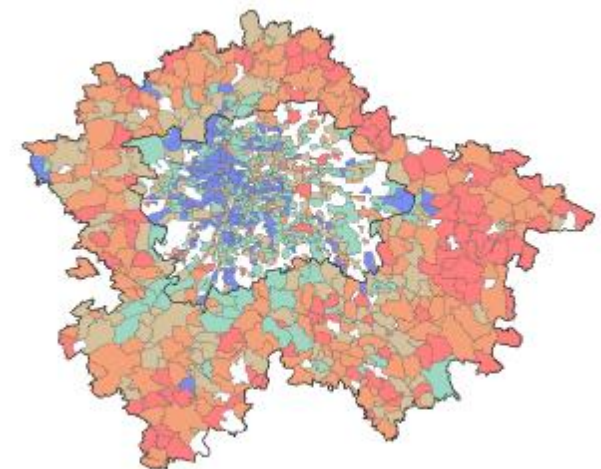
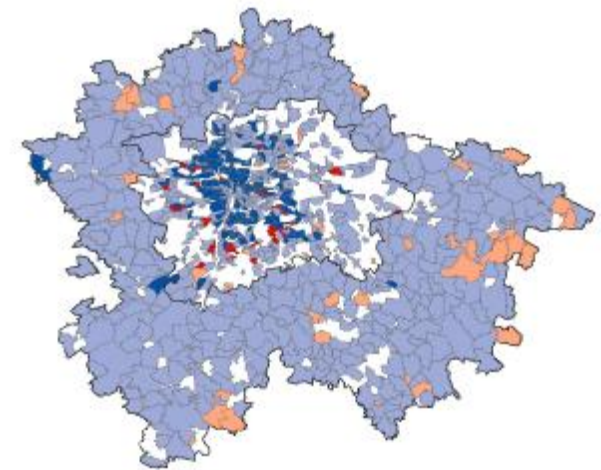
- segregation reshapes residential landscapes in post-socialist countries
 - the growth of income inequalities
 - differentiated housing supply
 - liberal approach to housing system transformations



measurement of segregation

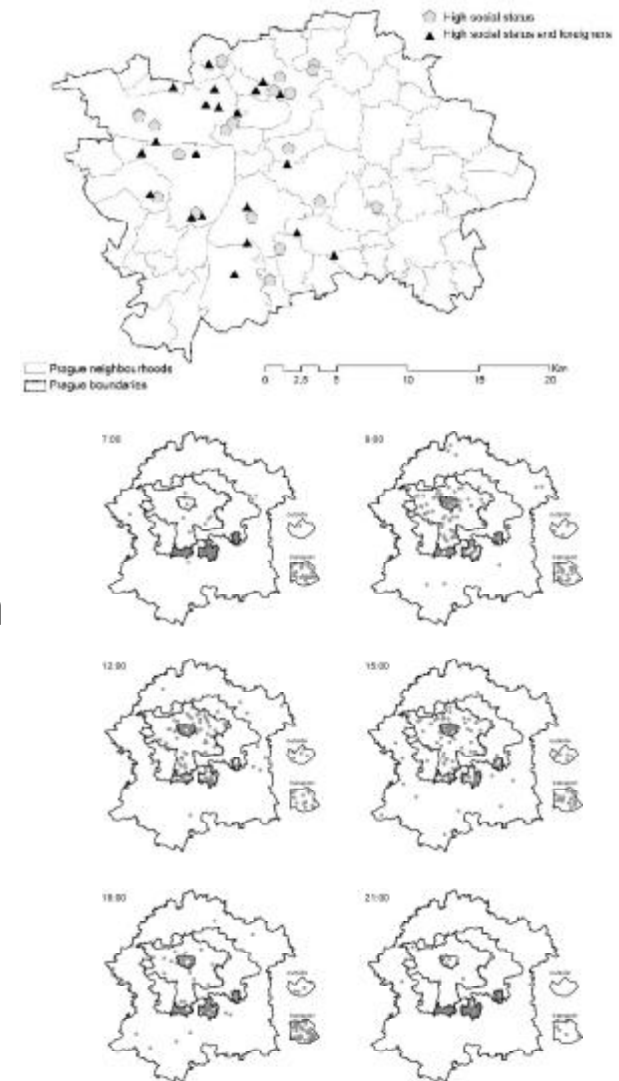
failure of standard methods

- **segregation processes lead to decreasing level of socio-spatial inequality**
- **the standard methods have limited relevance**
- **methods suppose a relation between patterns and principles and mechanisms that produce these patterns**
- **conditions changed - patterns persist - spatial recombinations - new formations**
- **alternative approach maps new socio-spatial formations**
- *urban change in Western cities - **new socio-spatial formations emerge as the consequence of globalization** (Marcuse and Van Kempen 2002)*



residential socio-spatial formation

- a relatively **homogenous social group** concentrated in a **specific locality**
- economic, social and cultural **characteristics** of segregated population may differ
 - **types** of socio-spatial formations
- the **common attribute** of all formations is
 - the **internal similarity, coherence** or even **social integration** of inhabitants
 - the **external difference, distance** and **distinction** from nearby populations
- functional **socio-spatial unit** within metropolitan system



tradition and **novelty**

- traditional socio-spatial formations
 - neighbourhoods of social elites
 - areas of physically declined districts with socially deprived population
 - the share of inhabitants living in them was **rather marginal**
- a fast **growth** of new socio-spatial formations and an **increase of the share (percentage)** of population living within them after since 1990s



new localities of segregation

new socio-spatial formations

- gentrifying neighbourhoods
- new upmarket residential complexes
- gated communities
- new suburban areas
- areas of socially vulnerable and deprived populations
- ethnic enclaves of foreign immigrants



conditions and causes

- **neoliberal character** of post-communist transformations
- economic **globalization** and social **polarization**
- international **migration**
- political priorities of **non-intervention** and practices of active **production of segregation**

- new socio-spatial formations are shaped by transforming class and ethnocultural structures, which are strongly influenced by globalization, increasing social and spatial mobility and growing social polarization and neglect by public policies

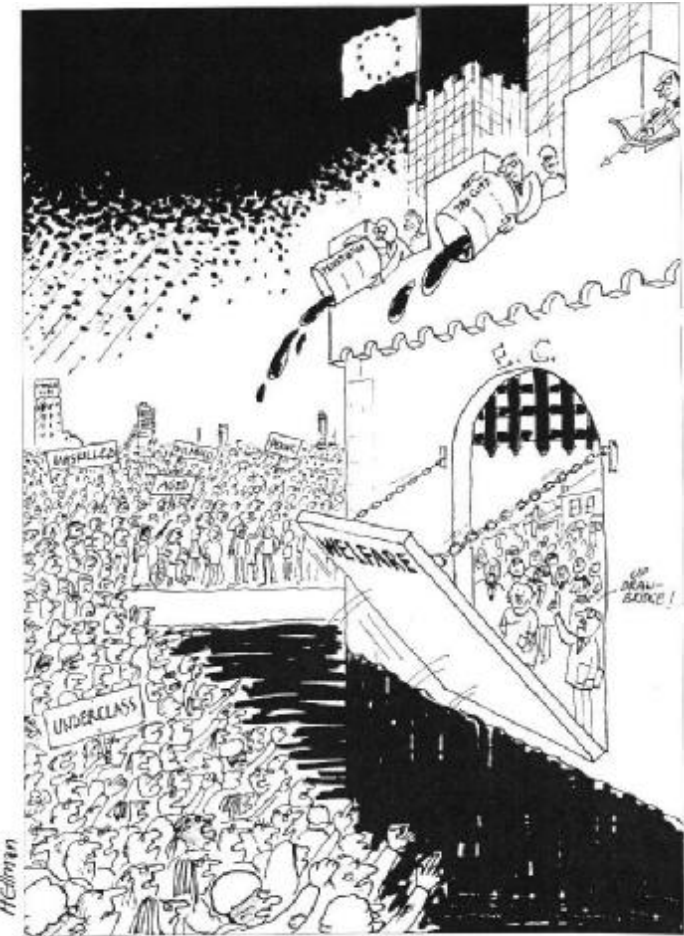
symbols of **future** state of segregation

- **symbols** of new post-communist landscapes
- clear **signs** of the future state of segregation



social agenda

- threat to social cohesion
- structural conditions that impact coming generations
- critical junctures in which **new post-communist path-dependencies** can be initiated
- critically assess the future impacts (mechanisms of their production, relations with the rest of society)
- suggest how to **mitigate** their **negative consequences** and avoid **potential future social conflicts**



questions ?

- **What are the new residential socio-spatial formations** which have emerged in post-socialist countries since the radical political and economic reforms of the early 1990s?
- **How these new socio-spatial formations are created**, how they **evolve**, do they **grow** and **strengthen** or can be **dissolved** after the ignition stage of separation?
- What are the **mechanisms of aggregation**, what is the role of voluntary separation and involuntary segregation?
- How do current **local** and **national policies** influence segregation processes and creation of new socio-spatial formation in particular?
- What are the **relations within socio-spatial formations** and what are **relations with the other social groups** external to the formation itself?
- How do the **social processes influence the formation** of such social concentrations and how does **their existence impact society**, especially with respect to its internal cohesion?