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J. Geogr. Inst. Cvijic. 65(1) (121–122)



Book review

ANALYSIS OF HOUSING PREFERENCES IN THE CONTEXT OF REURBANIZATION OF BELGRADE

Aleksandra Spalević^{*1}

* Geographical Institute "Jovan Cvijić" SASA, Belgrade, Serbia

Jovana Todorčić

Analysis of Housing Preferences in the Context of the Reurbanization of Belgrade

Geographical Institute "Jovan Cvijić" SASA, Special Edition, vol. 86, 2013

The monograph 'Analysis of the Housing Preferences in the Context of the Reurbanization of Belgrade' is the original scientific work written on the basis of theoretical knowledge, questionnaires and field research and domestic and foreign scientific and technical literature. Monographic work by Jovana Todorčić represents urban-geographic study for the area of Belgrade.

The book contains seven chapters presented on 144 pages. The work is completed by 30 tables and 2 cartographic, 3 schematic and 16 graphic illustrations.

In the introductory chapter, the author reviews the scientific studies of cities and their social structures of the early twentieth century to the present. The same chapter shows the structure of the work, with special emphasis on issues of urban dynamics and phases of urbanization. Also, the author provides explanations of terminology in the field of urban geography. Analysis of classical human ecology is the basis of the following theoretical and methodological chapter of the monograph. Thus the author gives an overview of the most important concepts in urban social geography. The basic stages of the process of urbanization are analysed in the third part of the monograph, with special emphasis on the reurbanization phase (back in town) and, closely related, the process of gentrification. In the chapter the author, in an original way, analyses the phenomenon of reurbanization in the context of change in the social structure of the neighbourhood and suggests a redefinition of the concept of

¹ Correspondence to: a.spalevic@gi.sanu.ac.rs

reurbanization. In the next chapter, the author points to the patterns and regularities of the socio-demographic composition of neighbourhood in the urban space. Social and physical structure of the inner core of Belgrade is seen through the prism of housing preferences of residents and their satisfaction with residential space. The fifth chapter presents the current demographic, social and political and economic problems in Belgrade. The author points out that the natural and mechanical movement of the population in Belgrade is associated with the emergence of the so-called 'new' middle class, as well as with the specific urban lifestyle and choice of housing with certain urban amenities. The analysis and results of an extensive survey research are presented in the sixth chapter of the monograph. The study of residential mobility and housing preferences is applied to the area of the city which is defined by Master Plan of Belgrade 2021, with the central and outer zones singled out. The survey is based on four groups of indicators: demographic and socio-economic characteristics of respondents, characteristics of households and families, the number of migrants in central and outer zones of the city, according to the area from which they are settled, and attitudes and residential preferences of the respondents. The research focuses on migrants settled in the central city zone who are the carriers of complex changes in the process of reurbanization and gentrification in the urban core of Belgrade. In terms of perception of urban space, lifestyle and housing preferences of residents, the author explored the factors and causal relations that define the directions and intensity of the migratory population movements, as well as the transformation of the city centre. The last chapter, in the form of a conclusion, contains a synthesis of contemporary transformation of socio-residential area of Belgrade. The questionnaire used in the survey is given in Appendix.

It can be concluded that the results of the research presented in the monograph 'Analysis of the Housing Preferences in the Context of the Reurbanization of Belgrade' by Jovana Todoric complete the knowledge of an inter-migration and compelling impact of urban core in the agglomeration of Belgrade on one hand, while on the other hand, represent a starting point for planning the balanced development and cohesion in the city of Belgrade.