

Challenges of sociodemographic change for East Central European cities

Research experiences and expertise from international research

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Sociodemographic change

- sociodemographic change in Europe: issue of increasing importance
- four dimensions:
 - a) **population decline** (low birth rates and out-migration)
 - b) low birth rates and rising longevity = **ageing**
 - c) increasing impact of **migration**
 - d) changes in **household structures**: smaller, less stable and more diverse
- focus on ECE, embedded view



The urban scale

- big cities are hot spots of sociodemographic change (“forerunners”)
- ECE cities underwent considerable changes of their built structures as well as residential population
 - *postsocialist transition, European integration, globalisation*
- today contradictory developments in ECE cities:
 - *large part of postsocialist cities are shrinking*
 - *increasing importance of suburbanisation and urban sprawl*
 - *at the same time: signs of repopulation and reurbanisation*
- household change especially important on the housing market
- need of empirically-based research
 - *mixed methods, multidisciplinary, household-focused*



- **"Social and spatial consequences of demographic change for East Central European cities" (2006-2009)**
 - identification and assessment of the social and spatial consequences of residential change in ECE cities; identification of parallels and differences with "European" patterns
 - case studies: **Gdańsk, Łódź, Brno, Ostrava**, second-order cities
 - mixed method approach: **quantitative** (small-scale statistical data), **qualitative** (interviews, oral history etc.), area observation techniques
 - partner and funding project funded by the Volkswagenstiftung, coordinated at UFZ
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- **Demographic change and its impact on housing. Final report for the EUROCITIES network, Brussels and Leipzig (2008)**

- case studies: **Leipzig, Brno, Łódź, Bologna, Liverpool**



Population decline

- Polish big cities underwent a remarkable process of population decline during the last decades (started already before 1989)
- in Czech cities less pronounced processes, “irritations” (Brno)
- different reasons (death surpluses, suburbanisation, interregional and out-migration)
- future: GUS forecasts further losses between 20-30% for the most big Polish cities until 2030
- “shrinkage”? east German-focused debate and term, but of increasing importance at the international scale
 - *PL wyludnianie się, depresja demograficzna, ...*
 - *CZ stagnace, redukcje, ...*



- continuous process over the last decades
- quantitative: increasing share of elderly/decreasing share of younger people;
→ *example: ageing index*
- qualitative: cities have to adapt to specific demands of elderly people
→ *housing, infrastructure, amenities*
- ageing affects urban space selectively (= concentrations in space and housing stock)
- new phenomenon: rising share of “frail” elderly (80+)



Changes in households

- increase in household numbers due to downsizing
- rising share of small households (1-2 persons), decrease in 3+ households
- rising share of one-person households (30-40%)
 - *elderly (widowed people)*
 - *new phenomenon: young persons deliberately living alone*
- increasing importance of (other) non-traditional households
 - *cohabitation, flat shares, patchwork households, same sex couples etc.*
- increasing diversity and fluidity of living and housing arrangements
 - *influenced by societal change and housing market*



- Poland: out-migration as a major reason for population decline of big cities (old-industrial cities)
- Czech Republic: on-going importance of suburbanisation
- true dimension of migration not detectable by statistics
→ *labour migration, unregistered urban dwellers*
- new phenomenon: immigration, although still at a modest level
→ *labour migrants, asylum seekers*



The inner city: “new life in old houses”

▪ juxtaposition of different processes

→ *enormous speed, overlaps, “zones in transition”*

a) decline and ageing (on-going processes)

b) repopulation and rejuvenation (recent processes, partly “silent”)

c) diversification: rising segregation and fragmentation

→ *“pockets” of wealth and poverty; CZ: ethnic concentration (Roma)*

d) new discourses about gentrification & displacement, reurbanisation and exclusion

→ *evidence of such processes in the cities we analysed*



The inner city: “new life in old houses” (2)

- new phenomenon: “**transitory urbanites**”: mainly younger age classes
→ “*starter*”-households, *urban professionals*
- in most cases: cohabiting or living in flat shares
- city-mindedness as a current and possibly transitory stage
→ *future depending on many factors (family? professional career? resources?)*
- **Monika from Łódź** (authors’ research, 2007)

“As far as the flat in the inner city is concerned, I am close to those places I make use of [in my everyday life; the authors]. I am close to my place of work. I do not need to go to the inner city because I am already there. [...] This is very important at the moment. So far, I do not have any children and so I am not forced to think about things like the children not having a place to play. For the time being, living close to the city centre is important but it is not the most important thing in the world. Later, at some point in the future there could possibly be some changes.”



Large housing estates: diverse patterns

- second big type of housing stock of ECE cities, ca. 50% of the population lives here
- great variety of socio-demographic processes in large housing estates (LHE) across Europe (Restate project, 5 FP)
- demographic waves represent a special feature in LHE (e.g. Leipzig-Grünau); ageing is becoming an issue of increasing importance
- social strata in ECE estates show great variety
→ among others “academic estates”; up to present no concentration of poverty
- inhabitant from Brno (*estate Bystrec, authors’ research 2008*)

“When I, for example, compare my house with the one of N.N. who is living [inner city - AH], so maybe his flat is nicer and cheaper, but I am not able to imagine to live right in the centre of the city because I live at the outskirts of the town all my life and the big block of flats doesn't represent for me anything horrible. It's routine for me to live there all my life.”



Large housing estates: diverse patterns (2)

- challenge: adaptation to new household structures
→ *traditional, inflexible flat-layout, infrastructure*
- different consequences
→ *vacancies: demolitions and adaptation of the building stock (eastern Germany)*
→ *households adapt their living arrangements to the physical structures (ECE)*
- ECE: future development depends on context
→ *(housing market, renovation activities, governance)*
- LHE will not become "banlieues" of the future in ECE but some of them might become "homes for old people" or "retirement homes"



Methodological challenges

- statistical sources (census and population register data) with (partly) differing numbers (→ Brno)
- incomplete data on issues like household types, intra-urban migration, suburbanisation or unregistered migration
→ *at a regional scale: students; → across national borders: labour migrants*
- age of the data (last censuses date from 2001 [CZ] and 2002 [PL])
- limited comparability (eurostat; data compilations like Urban Audit)
- demographic change is more than just “numbers”:
need of qualitative research
- interpretation of processes
→ *shrinkage? gentrification? polarisation? pathways of LHE?*



Future research: many new questions ...

- Do we have to expect rising segregation, fragmentation or even polarisation in the future?
- inner city as “zone in transition” – how long will it last? what comes next?
- future of large housing estates: diversification? polarisation? decline?
- unveil the dimensions of newly found phenomena (e.g. transitory urbanites)
- focus on
 - a) the interplay of demographic and social factors
 - b) the interplay of residential change and housing market
- identify reasons and push factors of residential change
→ *emergent/planned, drivers, institutional framing*
- pay more attention to different spatial scales and time



Thank you for your attention!

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Population development of Polish and Czech cities

City	Population development 1988/91–2006*		Main causes for population losses** (ordered according to their present importance)
	Total	Per cent	
<i>Poland</i>			
Łódź	-94,000	-11	death surplus, out-migration , interregional migration
Katowice	-52,000	-14	out-migration, death surplus, interregional migration
Bytom	-41,000	-18	out-migration, death surplus, interregional migration
Sosnowiec	-34,000	-13	death surplus, interregional migration, out-migration
Gliwice	-25,000	-11	out-migration, death surplus, interregional migration
Poznań	-23,000	-4	death surplus, suburbanisation
Bydgoszcz	-14,000	-4	suburbanisation, death surplus
<i>Czech Republic</i>			
Brno	-22,000	-6	suburbanisation , death surplus
Plzeň	-9,000	-5	suburbanisation, death surplus
Ostrava	-18,000	-6	out-migration, death surplus
Olomouc	-6,000	-6	suburbanisation, death surplus

* Poland: 1988-2006; Czech Republic: 1991-2006

** The causes for population losses given in the third column represent the authors' current state of knowledge.

Source: Haase, A., Maas, A., Steinführer, A., Kabisch, S. (2008): *From long-term decline to new diversity: Socio-demographic change in Polish and Czech inner cities*, unpublished typescript, Leipzig.



Demographic change in Łódź and Brno

	Łódź				Brno			
	Entire city		Inner City		Entire city		Inner City	
	1988	2002	1988	2002	1991	2001	1991	2001
Population in 1,000	854,3	789,3	101,0	85,0	388,3	376,2	66,8	60,9
<i>Population change</i>	-7.6%		-15.8%		-3.1%		-8.8%	
Households in 1,000	342,2	352,0	41,1	37,5	166,0	167,7	31,0	29,0
<i>Change in households</i>	+2.9%		-8.8%		+1.0%		-6.5%	
1-person households in 1,000	88,8	124,6	13,0	15,1	51,6	55,8	11,3	11,2
<i>Change in 1-person households</i>	+40.3%		+16.2%		+8.1%		-0.9%	
Mean household size	2.45	2.34	2.33	2.14	2.34	2.24	2.15	2.10
Index of ageing	86.9	154.9	102.1	132.5	72.3	108.7	107.4	114.5

Source: Steinführer, A., Bierzyński, A., Großmann, K., Haase, A., Kabisch, S., Klusáček, P. (2008):
Population decline in Polish and Czech cities during post-socialism: Looking behind the official statistics,
unpublished typescript, Leipzig.



In-migration to Łódź (1989-2002)



GRUPY WIEKU	Ogółem	Zamieszkała od urodzenia	Przybyła do miejscowości aktualnego zamieszkania			Nie ustalono od kiedy mieszka	GRUPY WIEKU	Ogółem	Zamieszkała od urodzenia	Przybyła do miejscowości aktualnego zamieszkania			Nie ustalono od kiedy mieszka
			razem	w latach						razem	w latach		
				1988 i wcześniej	1989 - 2002						1988 i wcześniej	1989 - 2002	
OGÓLEM.....	789318	519412	245880	203930	41950	24026	OGÓLEM.....	85006	52884	28595	20239	8356	3527
w %.....	100	65,81	31,15	25,84	5,31	3,04	w %.....	100	62,21	33,64	23,81	9,83	4,15
0-14 lat.....	97825	91136	3399	248	3151	3290	0-14 lat.....	11369	10418	418	19	399	533
w %.....	100	93,16	3,47	0,25	3,22	3,36	w %.....	100	91,64	3,68	0,17	3,51	4,69
15-19.....	53973	47790	4748	1738	3010	1435	15-19.....	6492	5368	894	207	687	230
w %.....	100	88,54	8,80	3,22	5,58	2,66	w %.....	100	82,69	13,77	3,19	10,58	3,54
20-29.....	126895	95952	27047	7667	19380	3896	20-29.....	16324	9570	6184	795	5389	570
w %.....	100	75,62	21,31	6,04	15,27	3,07	w %.....	100	58,63	37,88	4,87	33,01	3,49
30-39.....	91711	63159	24735	15772	8963	3817	30-39.....	9842	6281	2962	1902	1060	599
w %.....	100	68,87	26,97	17,20	9,77	4,16	w %.....	100	63,82	30,10	19,33	10,77	6,09
40-49.....	133553	89430	39466	35905	3561	4657	40-49.....	14492	9604	4210	3823	387	678
w %.....	100	66,97	29,56	26,90	2,67	3,48	w %.....	100	66,27	29,05	26,38	2,67	4,68
50-59.....	133553	89430	39466	35905	3561	4657	50-59.....	10174	6023	3693	3484	209	458
w %.....	100	66,97	29,56	26,90	2,67	3,48	w %.....	100	59,20	36,30	34,24	2,05	4,50
60-64.....	133553	89430	39466	35905	3561	4657	60-64.....	2907	1221	1598	1542	56	88
w %.....	100	66,97	29,56	26,90	2,67	3,48	w %.....	100	41,45	53,11	53,11	19,23	3,03
65 lat i więcej.....	130092	46339	80962	79201	1761	2791	65 lat i więcej.....	2907	1221	1598	1542	56	371
w %.....	100	35,62	62,23	60,88	1,35	2,15	w %.....	100	41,45	53,11	53,11	19,23	2,77

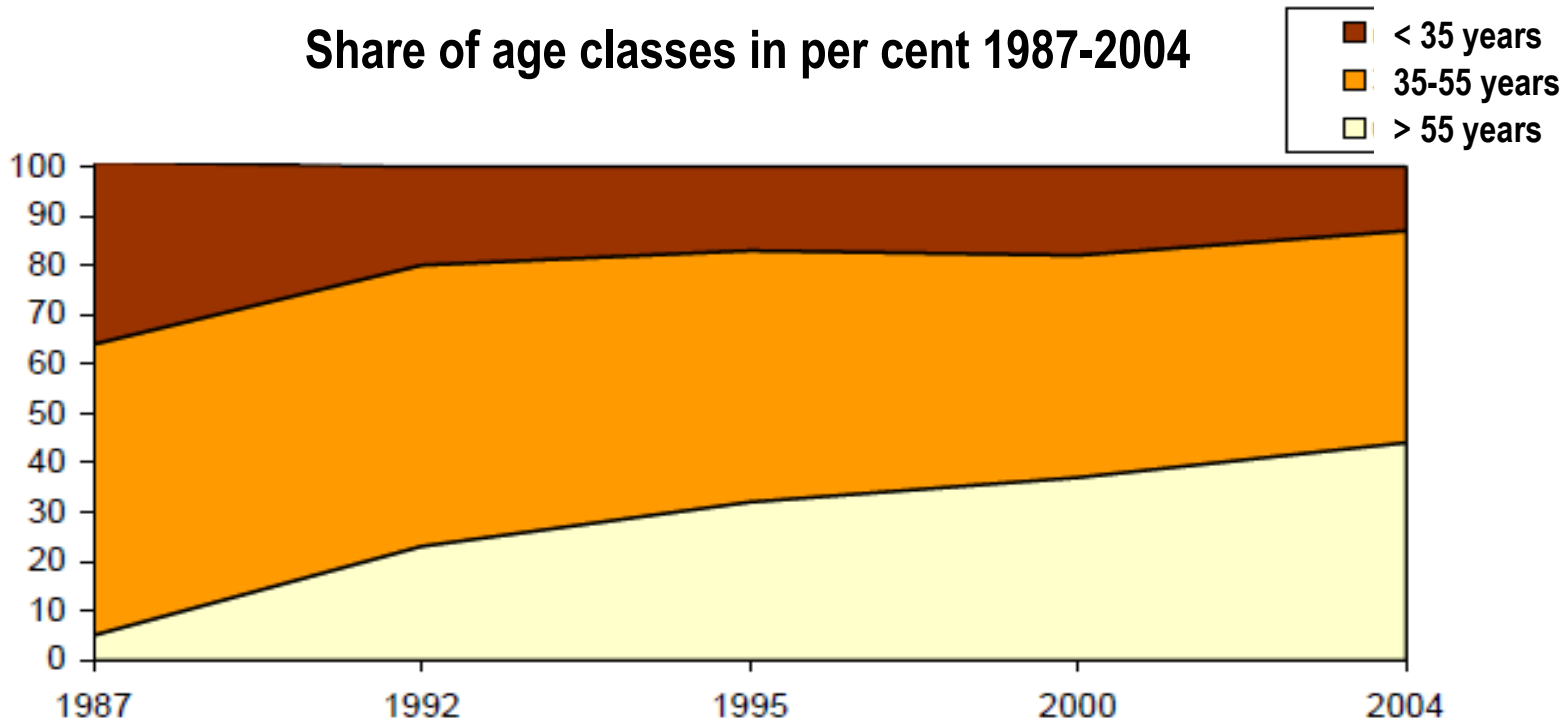
In-migration to Łódź 1989-2002 (age classes):

Whole city: aged 20-39 → 25%; inner-city: aged 20-39 → 44%

Source: Bierzyński, A. and Węclawowicz, G. (2008), 'Łódź Data Analysis Report', Unpubl. conDENSE project report, Polish Academy of Sciences, Institute of Geography and Spatial Organization, Warsaw.

Ageing in the estate Leipzig-Grünau

Share of age classes in per cent 1987-2004



Source: http://www.ufz.de/data/Intervallstudie_Leipzig-Gruenau26496633.pdf

