



ISOCARP
Knowledge for better Cities

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BRIEF

ISOCARP Young Planning
Professionals Workshop
1st edition of the Gdynia Urban School
7th AESOP European Urban Summer
School

**“NEW APPROACH TO
URBAN HOUSING”**

**ORGANISED AS A PART OF
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
LIVING IN THE CITY –
PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES OF
SHAPING HOUSING POLICY**

GDYNIA | POLAND | 19TH – 22RD JUNE 2016

*In partnership with
City of Gdynia*

AESOP – Association of European Schools of Planning

Society of Polish Town Planners – TUP

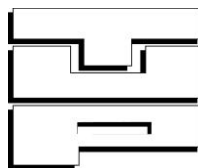
Committee for Spatial Economy and Regional Planning – Polish Academy of Sciences

Gdansk University of Technology – Department of Urban Design and Regional Planning



www.isocarp.org

**EUROPEAN
URBAN
SUMMER
SCHOOL**



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1. Introduction

The workshop is organized along with the INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE LIVING IN THE CITY – PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES OF SHAPING HOUSING POLICY, which is hosted by the City of Gdynia. Poland. It is intended to become a platform for Young Planning Professionals (YPPs) from various parts of the world to get associated with principles and emerging ways of thinking. At the same time, the international workshop delegates will be joined by a number of Polish YPPs. The workshop will provide all participants with the opportunity for exposure to different schools of thought and planning techniques used across the world. In result, the new type of the activity for the Young Planners will be organized, named as “**Gdynia School of Urbanism**”.

The topic of **YPP workshop** "NEW APPROACH TO URBAN HOUSING" was chosen by the Local Organizing Committee in agreement with the municipal planning services, and is of crucial importance for the future of the city development. At the same time the workshop is intended to become a point of reference for further discussions and advancement of planning research and practice within the field of housing. This is also justified by the fact that nowadays provision of various types of urban housing is a vital issue for many cities within Central and Eastern Europe and other parts of the globe. At the same time the Municipality of Gdynia is willing to take active role shaping the future of housing policy as well as to utilize the results in the process of re-planning the key development areas of the city.

In addition to the practical outcomes of the workshop exercise, its results may also contribute to the wider discussion on the topic. In order to achieve this, it is intended to present the workshop results during the conference on the same theme, organized in parallel to the workshop itself.

2. YPP workshop as a part of ISOCARP activities

The **Young Planning Professionals Program** was initiated in 1991 in order to provide unique opportunities to YPPs to share their knowledge, skills and experiences in an attempt to resolve complex and multi-dimensional planning issues. Since then, the YPP Program has become a crucial component of ISOCARP's dedication to the promotion and enhancement of the planning profession. The objective is to provide emerging professionals with an opportunity to work in a multi-cultural setting and share their experiences.



The first Young Planning Professionals' Workshop took place at the 26th ISOCARP Congress in Guadalajara, Mexico (1991). Since then, senior members of ISOCARP have happily – and at times perhaps a little enviously – observed the competition for admission to the workshop, the creative spirit of the workshop itself, and the enthusiastic response of the participants. The YPP workshop has become a source of meaningful debate, new ideas and rejuvenation for the Society. It is now not only a unique opportunity for young planning professionals and postgraduate students from around the world to meet and exchange technical and scientific knowledge, but also a basis for making life-long friends.

3. Nature of the YPP workshop

YPP Workshops bring together young planners from all parts of the world. The workshops are brief, but very intense, brainstorming planning and design exercises in which our young colleagues work on real-life planning problems in the host city in an area defined by the local authority or university departments.

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The YPP workshop has its own specific theme which is related to the main Congress theme. The theme relates to a specific area and/or project. The workshop is hands-on and seeks to establish solid working relationships between young professionals from all parts of the world who together seek final findings and results in a very short period of time. Over a concentrated period of four days, the YPPs will work in closely-knit international teams, exchanging ideas and learning from each other. The workshop, thus, provides a synergetic platform where new ideas and creative solutions to complex and multifaceted urban issues are produced. The tangible results are then presented at the main congress, are published in a Workshop Report, both on the ISOCARP website and on CD. The intangible ones, however, stay in the hearts and minds of the participant YPPs, who not only learn from each other but make life-long friends. Therefore, YPP Workshops are brief-but-intense brainstorming and design exercises that resemble what are commonly known as 'charrettes'.

Another benefit of the YPP Workshop is related to the quality of the new ideas, concepts or proposals that are prepared and presented. The Young Planning Professionals are required to defend their ideas in front of a critical jury, the participants of the annual congress. Thus, the working teams have to prepare a well-rehearsed presentation that frequently catches the special attention of the planning authorities. The host Local Authority or Planning Agency usually welcomes the fresh



ideas that arise from the Workshops. Sometimes these ideas and inputs have even been used as inputs in their own strategies for the study area.

We strongly recommend you read the past YPP workshop reports which are available at the ISOCARP website. This will provide further guidance as to the caliber of results to be achieved.

4. Information about city

Gdynia is often referred to as **“a city built of the sea and dreams.”** These words aptly describe the emotions and feelings that accompany the romantic legend of Gdynia from the Second Polish Republic. In the twenties of the 20 century City of Gdynia was transformed from a small fishing village into a modern seaport, pursuant to a resolution of the Polish national government, which decided about the creation of the Polish port on the Baltic Sea. This decision was influenced by the international situation, as Poland, due to customs conflict with Germany was in this time forced to depend on sea trade. Originally the main commodity which was shipped was coal. Demand became stronger with the long miners' strike in England. In this time railway leading to Gdynia was built. In the city itself 214 km of tracks and sidings were located. Wagons standing on these tracks served as granaries on wheels.

The first city plan of Gdynia was prepared in 1926. In this year City had 6 thousand residents. After a few years, the number had increased to 120 thousand and Gdynia became the most modern port of the Baltic Sea. Gdynia was designed according to a set of functional assumptions, with clearly determined urban zones, where the Downtown Area and the neighbouring port lie at the heart of the city. The layout of the main arteries was like that of a fan, based around the square for the railway station. One of the main roads led to the port, which was in accordance with the assumption that the city was to be merged with the port areas. The most elegant street of the city, the present 10 Lutego Street, was intended to expand into a Maritime Forum in order to emphasise the country's connection to the Baltic Sea and become the symbol of Gdynia as the window on the world for the Second Polish Republic.



Figure 1: Plan of Gdynia City from 1926 r.

During the development phase the original plan underwent many modifications. Faster than expected development of the Port area devoured plots where the northern quarters of Downtown were planned. The axis leading from the train station along the street Starowiejskiej was seized by port functions. Plan established in 1930 adjusts the structure of the city to this situation. Kościuszki Square leading to South Pier became main axis of the city.



Figure 2: View of Gdynia's marina with South Pier in the background



Figure 3: Aerial photo of Gdynia

Contemporary urban planners and architects draw inspiration from the pre-war traditions. In 2009, Gdynia received the main award at the prestigious Festival for Promoting Cities and Regions, in the Urban Space category, for a project that involved developing a part of Szwedzki Boulevard at the Downtown Beach and the marina. Within the project, some new but reflecting the city historic architectural tradition street furniture was created. Gdynia also looks after its historical architecture and space, consistently implementing initiatives like the programme to co-fund the renovation of houses situated in the historical, modernist Downtown Area. The city's location beside the sea is a great asset, visible in new, prestigious waterfront projects. According to the current spatial development plans, the designs to be implemented in these areas will be selected through architectural competitions. Another significant feature of the spatial development plans for this part of Gdynia is the friendly and open nature of the new spaces, which are accessible and appealing to inhabitants and visitors.

For more information, please see official city website: <http://www.gdynia.pl/eng/>

5. Workshop Theme

The theme of the workshop is “New approach to urban housing”. Participants will be working on developing an innovative approach to urban housing, based on various themes and cases. Each of the teams will be working on one of four preselected sites. Their distance to inner-city differ (from innercity urban regeneration areas up to new developing residential districts) but all of them are situated within already shaped urban structures. Not only their position with respect to city center varies but also they are located in very diverse urban context starting from blighted area through affordably but comfortable residential districts up to high-end waterfront apartments.

As discussed above, results of the workshop will become an important statement in discussion about development of housing policy in Gdynia. At the same time it is intended that the workshop becomes a source of ideas regarding the new approach to housing policy within the Central and Eastern European cities.

Further information on the workshop theme – including maps and photos – will be provided separately.

6. Definition of planning situation

City of Gdynia as all of the Polish Cities and communities is in possession of an urban masterplan called “Studium uwarunkowań i kierunków zagospodarowania przestrzennego Gdyni”. This document specifies the directions of spatial development in relation to all spheres of activity of the City. This plan also provides the general framework for further development of the concepts and ideas and specifies spatial policy of the City of Gdynia. For more information about the

municipal development plan, please see the full version available online: www.gdynia.pl/bip/zagospodarowanie/5528_48204.html

Besides this basic document, the Municipal Planning Office is also competing the so-called “local plans” serving as the basis for the day-to-day development regulation. These are defined according to the current needs and do not cover the entire area of the city.

As stated in these documents, housing is one of the most important issues that has to be dealt with when shaping the city structure. Therefore, the outcomes of the workshop can serve as the basis for the new type of the policy document for Gdynia, focused on definition of the goals and priorities for the different parts of the city.

7. Expected results

It is expected that the workshop will be concluded with:

- Presentation to local officials and other interested parties conducted during the conference
- Posters
- Final report, prepared using all gathered materials

For the purpose of this, Workshop Tutors along with 2-3 selected participants will collect all materials and prepare the first draft of the report.

The final version of the report may be published on the web or in the hard copy version.

8. Presentation at the Conference

The workshop results will be presented during the INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE on LIVING IN THE CITY – PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES OF SHAPING HOUSING POLICY The presentation will take place on the first day of the event, during the planetary session.

9. International and local tutors

According to the established practice and methodology, the workshop will be coordinated by the group of professionals, composed of the two selected ISOCARP members and two local tutors.

ISOCARP workshop coordinators (tutors):

Ric Stephens



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Shipra Narang Suri

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Local workshop coordinators (tutors):

Dorota Kamrowska-Zaluska

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Karolina Krośnicka

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Local YPP:

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Anna Rubczak

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Workshop preparation/technical coordination:

Piotr Lorens – Vice President for Young Planning Professionals, ISOCARP

plorens@pg.gda.pl

Milena Pawlak – Representative of the City and LOC, m.pawlak@gdynia.pl

10. Time-line of the workshop

The time-line of the workshop includes:

September 19th, Sunday:

Arrival of invited YPPs in Gdynia, Welcome Dinner

September 20th and 21st, Monday, Tuesday:

YPP Workshops, Field Work, Studio Work

September 22nd, Wednesday:

preparation of presentation and posters, Rehearsal

September 23^{ed} - 24th, Thursday, Friday

Presentation at conference, Participation in the conference

September 25th, Saturday

Departure

This agenda is subject to further discussion with workshop coordinators and organizers.

11. Workshop methodology

The workshop methodology will include:

- Introductory lectures
- Group discussions and elaboration of conclusions
- Plenary discussions of the selected topics
- Development of the proposals in a paper and .ppt format

In conclusion, both oral and written reports will be prepared.

12. Workshop materials

For the workshop participants there will be provided:

- maps 1:1000, 1:5000
- general plan of the city
- information on city and surrounding territory
- tracing-paper
- flipchart
- projector
- plotter

At the workshop venue there will be free access to internet.

All participants and tutors are kindly asked to bring their own laptop computers as well as digital cameras.

13. Workshop participants

The group of workshop participants will include two groups:

- the 13 international YPPs
- the 12 local YPPs from Poland



14. Workshop logistics

The workshop participants will travel to Gdynia at their own expense. Conference is free of charge and all **YPPs will be automatically pre-registered for conference.**

Both conference and workshop will be hosted by City of Gdynia and will take place in Gdynskie Centrum Filmowe (Gdynia Film Center), Plac Grunwaldzki 2, 81-372 Gdynia in Gallery.

The accommodation for the International YPPs will be provided from **19th till 25th of June** in the heart of the city – Mały Żagiel Hostel (Small Sail Hostel), ul. Franciszka Sędzickiego 19, 81-374 GDYNIA. Please do not hesitate to contact the Local Tutors or local YPP if you have any issues. Breakfasts (from 7.00 - 9.00 am) and (from 7.00 - 8.00 pm) will also be provided there.

The lunches will be provided in workshop venue as well as and during the conference.

On Sunday September 19th afternoon YPPs will come to Mały Żagiel Hostel where they will be met by local YPP to help with registration within hostel. Further information on this will follow.

The Workshop Program

Date: Sunday, 19.06.2016 - Introduction		
Time	Main activities	Venue
16.00	Introduction of the Local Organization Committee and Tutors by Piotr Lorens and Dorota Kamrowska-Zaluska Introduction lecture by Karolina Krosnicka	Mały Żagiel Hostel
19.00	Welcome Dinner	Gdynia Film Center

Date: Monday, 20.06.2016 – Defining the Strategy		
Time	Main activities	Venue
9.00	Bus tour and field visit	Meeting in front of Gdynia Museum
13.00	Lunch	Gdynia Film Center
14.00-14.30	Presentation by Iwona Markesic & Paulina Szewczyk representatives of City of Gdynia, City Planning Office	
14.30	Group working	Gdynia Film Center
18.00 -19.00	Presentation of the first ideas	Gdynia Film Center

Date: Tuesday, 21.06.2016 – Working on the Site		
Time	Main activities	Venue
9.30	Group working	Gdynia Film Center
13.00	Lunch	Gdynia Film Center
14.00	Group working	Gdynia Film Center
17.00	Concluding the results of the day by each group. Outlines by each group about their project. Presentation structure	Gdynia Film Center

Date: Wednesday, 22.06.2016 – last day, preparation the Presentation / Posters		
Time	Main activities	Venue
9.30	Pinning up and final touch	Gdynia Film Center
13.00	Lunch break	Gdynia Film Center
16.00	Rehearsal of the final group presentations (each group has max. 5 min for presenting)	Gdynia Film Center
19.00	Delivering final electronic versions of presentation to the tutors	Gdynia Film Center



Date: Thursday, 23.06.2016 – Final Presentation Day		
Time	Main activities	Venue
10.00-12.00	Beginning of the conference session. Presentation of workshop results	Gdynia Film Center
According to conference program	attending the Conference International Conference LIVING IN THE CITY – PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES OF SHAPING HOUSING POLICY	Gdynia Film Center

Date: Friday, 24.06.2014 – Conference		
Time	Main activities	Venue
According to conference program	Whole day attending the International Conference on LIVING IN THE CITY – PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES OF SHAPING HOUSING POLICY	Gdynia Film Center