

How the authors of the 1960-1979 Prague city planning documents viewed the negative impacts of automobile traffic on the quality of life in the city

Abstract

The thesis focuses on the spatial planning of the capital city of Prague in the 1960s and 1970s and aims to explore how the creators of these strategic documents thought about the negative impacts of increasing car traffic on the quality of life in the city. As this is a period of intensive urban interventions, the intention will also be to map what transport solutions were considered and whether they were also evaluated in terms of their impact on the environment, cultural and historical values and the appropriateness of their integration into the urban space. In the introductory chapters, the thesis examines the development of urban design concepts and spatial planning, with an emphasis on the relevant approaches and theories that have shaped the urban approach to car transport and determined the further development of this area. The next section will focus on the spatial planning of the capital city of Prague, identifying the key points of urban planning projects and strategic plans of the period under study. It will also focus on the political and social factors influencing the preparation of these projects and the role of scientific knowledge in the planning of socialist Prague. The aim of the next parts of the thesis will be to identify the impacts that were considered negative by the developers of the land use plans in relation to the development of automobile transport, and to try to answer the questions which of the identified impacts was most emphasized and whether a change in approach can be observed during the period under study. The research will be carried out by analysing relevant academic articles from the 1960s and 1970s.