

WSPÓŁCZESNE TRENDY W PROCESACH URBANIZACJI W ZACHODNIM REGIONIE UKRAINY NA PRZEŁOMIE XX–XXI WIEKU

MODERN TRENDS IN URBANIZATION PROCESSES IN THE WESTERN REGION OF UKRAINE AT THE TURN OF XX–XI CENTURY

Yuliya Idak
Dr arch. docent

Lviv Polytechnic National University,
Institute of Architecture,
Department of Design

Iryna Rusanova
Dr arch. docent

Lviv Polytechnic National University,
Institute of Architecture,
Department of Urban Planning

STRESZCZENIE

W artykule opisano procesy urbanizacji w siedmiu obwodach zachodniego regionu Ukrainy i jego najbardziej znaczących miast. Określono strukturę istniejących i możliwych procesów urbanizacji.

Słowa kluczowe: kierunki rozwoju regionu, urbanizacja, Zachodni Region Ukrainy.

ABSTRACT

The article investigates the urbanization processes in the context of the seven regions of Western Ukraine and its main settlements. The structure of the existing and probable urbanization processes is defined.

Key words: directions in region development, urbanization, western region of Ukraine.

1. THE PROBLEM FORMULATION

Urbanization processes are closely connected with urban development and nature of settlement in different regions of Ukraine. Weak urbanization of the Western region is caused by its historical development and a low concentration of population in urban areas. These features and modern socio-economic situation in the country in general and in the region, in particular, influenced the urbanization processes that affect the solving spatial planning and the character development activities.

2. ANALYSIS OF RECENT RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

The study of urbanization based on the fundamental work of the following local researchers: Bilokon Yu., M. Habrel, M. Demin, H. Filvarov, I. Fomin, Shkodovsky Yu. etc, that revealed the theoretical and methodological foundations of this phenomenon. Current and future trends of urbanization are highlighted in publications M. Melik, Yu Palyuh, G. Pidhrushnyy. Process city formation in the Western region of Ukraine are dedicated to scientific work of Petryshyn G., B. Posatsky. In economic and geographical aspects these processes are considered in studies of L. Shevchuk I. Saliy, Y. Oliynyk.

3. THE PURPOSE OF THE RESEARCH

The purpose of the research is to identify existing and prospective areas of the urbanization process in the Western region of Ukraine on the basis of demographic and socio-economic situation in seven regions of Ukraine. Spatial organization of these processes is represented by constructed hypothetical model.

4. METHODS OF RESEARCH

The research is based on the study of literature and information sources for the development of urbanization in the western region against the backdrop of the flow of events in the world and in Ukraine. Methodological procedures of analysis and synthesis have been applied, comparative and factor analysis have been used on which basis distribution structure to scale urbanization processes in the region was built. The method of interpolation modern trends allowed the hypothesis of these processes.

5. THE MAIN MATERIAL

The differences between the regions of Ukraine are manifested in features of urbanization processes, which reflects the historical conditions of their formation, natural, demographic and socio-economic resources, political situation. Western region Ukraine, consisting of 7 regions and covering a land of Polissya, Galicia, Transcarpathia, is old and poorly urbanized region. This is shown by a combination of urbanization and suburbanization of rural settlement, a large number of settlements countryside, a significant part of the small towns and a limited number of medium-sized cities. In region Lviv is greater city, Ivano-Frankivsk, Rivne and Chernivtsi – large, Lutsk, Ternopil and Uzhhorod – average. These are regional centers. In addition there are medium-sized cities in regions: Lviv region – 3 (Chervonograd Stryi, Drohobych); Volyn region – 2 (Kovel, Novovolynsk); Ivano-Frankivsk region – 2 (Kalush Kolomyia); Transcarpathian region – 1 (Mukachevo). In three areas – Chernivtsi, Volyn and Ternopil the category of medium-sized cities is missing.

The overwhelming share of rural population leads to low levels of urbanization, which does not exceed 50% in 6 regions except for the Lviv region, where the rate is 60.9% lower than the national (67.2%).

Higher rates of urbanization than in Ukraine in general were observed in the second half of the twentieth century, in the period of the prevailing industry growth and slowed considerably at the beginning of the XXI century.

Patterns of urbanization processes are investigated by main directions:

- level of centralization and concentration of settlements (expressed by the distance);
- dynamics of quantitative and qualitative characteristics of urban and rural populations of migratory movements;
- development and distribution of productive forces - social and economic functions settlements;
- economic framework as compositional elements of settling territorial basis;
- labor markets and employment of labor;
- links between settlements (economic, labor, cultural and welfare);
- settlement system (demographic fields zones of influence).

Synthesizing direction of this research – the allocation limits and elements of the territorial structure of urbanization

The dynamics of the demographic situation, researched in the region shows fluctuations of urban and rural population growth to 1995–96. After a short period of stagnation the decline is observed to 2010, which was recently stopped and is sometimes distinguished by a slight growth. In Rivne and Volyn regions urban population was increased accordingly on 3.3% and 2.46%. In other areas it was declined most in the Transcarpathian region 9.09% while the growing rural population. The population density is higher than in Ukraine (75.6 persons / sq km), except for two areas – Volyn and Rivne.

Migration – permanent and seasonal caused population decline. There was increase in intensification of centrifugal migration especially during wartime by refugees from the eastern regions of Ukraine.

Since the beginning of the conflict in eastern Ukraine, there appeared a new concept such as **internal migrants**. In Ukraine there are about 1.5 million migrants. Most immigrants usually do not go far away from home. The number of migrants in the Donetsk region, which is controlled by the Ukrainian authorities, is about 430 thousand, Luhansk – 151 thousand.

The largest flow of migrants accounts on the eastern and south-eastern region, Kharkiv – 173 thousand, Dnipropetrovs'k – 83 thousand, Zaporizhya – 63 thousand. These numbers always fluctuate because of the changes in the military conflict area. Kyiv region has also significantly increased by the quantity of migrants (83.5 thousand).

There are relatively fewer immigrants in the western regions of Ukraine: in Transcarpathia – 3.1 thousand. In Ternopil, Chernivtsi – about 2.4 thousand, Ivano-Frankovsk – 3.5 thousand, Volyn' – about 4 thousand.

As a result of migration processes there is a surplus growth of urban population within the country. Migration strengthening processes in almost all regional centers of the Western Ukraine and especially in Lviv has increased the amount of capital construction. However, the part of migrants explores the rural areas. For example, in Lviv region is being formed Vorotsiv settlement in Yavoriv district on the initiative of public movement by immigrants from Donbas.

Depopulation affects on migration in the Western region. The most popular among the citizens of Ukraine, who asked for asylum abroad are Spain and Poland, which is the closest neighbor of Ukraine. In third place Czech Republic.

More than 2 thousand refugees are seeking an asylum in Poland. However, just a very small number of people receives a refugee status in comparison to the rest part of people, who receive Polish visas and permits to stay within standard procedures.

The last period is defined by low labor resource potential, high percentage of unemployment. In this regard, first unemployment holds Ternopil region, where employment in manufacturing is 1/10 of the population.

Economic factor – crucially determine the extent and pace of urbanization. Recently, in theory there is such a thing as urboklaster – optimization of business systems with advanced management, leading to specialization in certain areas. In the Lviv region prerequisites for the creation of such clusters in addition to the Central district, Drohobych and Sokal Chervonogradska-sintering is the industrial manufacturing groups: Zolochivska-Brody, Zhydachiv-Hodorivska. Here synergy effect appears – as the result of multiplying factors of mutual support clusters together. In all areas industry occupies a small part of the total production, Volyn region – 26.4; Rivne – 27.3. The lowest percentage of production – in Ternopil, Zakarpattia and Chernivtsi regions.

Ivano-Frankivsk region differs by the industrial potential and prospects of its development (among 5 regions of the Western region it takes the second place with 2.1% of the industry from the national. The most advanced centers Kalush, Nadvirna, Valley, Burshtyn TPP – the largest in western Ukraine. In this region open shale gas was discovered that will significantly increase the potential of the area.

On the basis of socio-economic factors it follows that the urbanization process in the Western region at present tied to the individual cells with a leading functional specialization – that are at the stage of formation of local clusters. This can be illustrated by the example of Volyn region, which forms the following clusters:

- V.Volynskyy – processing of fruit and vegetables;
- Shatsky – tourism and recreation (Fig. 1a, 1b);
- Lutsk – car (LUAZ), education (“Volyn Oxford”);
- Kovel – transport.

Taking into account the current state of economic activity with little investments and the finely dispersed industry network it is natural to define those industries that are the most effective for the region and the state. Natural resources, the availability of historical, cultural and architectural sights transform Western region of Ukraine into a modern tourist and recreation "Mecca" of state and international importance.

Structural-territorial organization of urbanization processes. Functional specialization of certain regions allows to predict the development of urbanization processes in them, and then – the scale of the region.

The poles generating urbanization processes are large cities and urboclusters with its diversified functional specialization. They contribute to the occurrence of existing and future processes of concentration of population and investment in areas of influence. In the process of urbanization uneven development of regions is appearing. At the present stage in the most developed areas there is a transition of the sintering process in urboclusters. In the Lviv region three clusters may be formed: areas of economic activity – areas of economic activity.

Areas of influence of regional centers, Chernivtsi, Ivano-Frankivsk and Ternopil regions cannot be considered as full agglomerations, but rather – demographic fields around these centers.



Fig. 1a. Shatsky National Natural Park: on its territory there are more than thirty lakes of varying sizes. Their total area is almost 70 square kilometers. They constitute one of the biggest European groupings of lakes. Source: [5]
Ryc. 1a. Szacki Park Narodowy. Źródło: [5]

Areas of urbanization processes – existing and future have the following structure: in Lviv region – radial-concentric, in Volyn region – triangular, in Ivano-Frankivsk, Rivne, Zakarpattya – linear.

Transport infrastructure also affects the urbanization processes, creating the frame of urbanization. The absence of a direct link between agglomeration Drohobych – Truskavets – Boryslav with Sambir is explained by natural factors.



Fig. 1b. Shatsky National Natural Park: on its territory there are more than thirty lakes of varying sizes. Their total area is almost 70 square kilometers. They constitute one of the biggest European groupings of lakes. Source: [5]

Ryc. 1b. Szacki Park Narodowy. Źródło: [5]

From the analysis of the above factors you can build hypothetical model of urbanization concept-of the Western region (Fig. 3).

6. CONCLUSIONS

So, as a result of the research one could argue that urbanization in Western Ukraine is in stagnation resulting from the decline of industrial production slowing down and in some cases, termination of growth of the urban population.

Generators of urban process are Lviv agglomeration and industrial manufacturing group of settlements, where are real prospects in their city forming factors.

The practical significance of the urbanization processes study is to improve regional territorial planning schemes and individual regions, cities and settlements in territorial systems, as well as in reforming the engineering and transport infrastructure in areas of perspective urbanization.

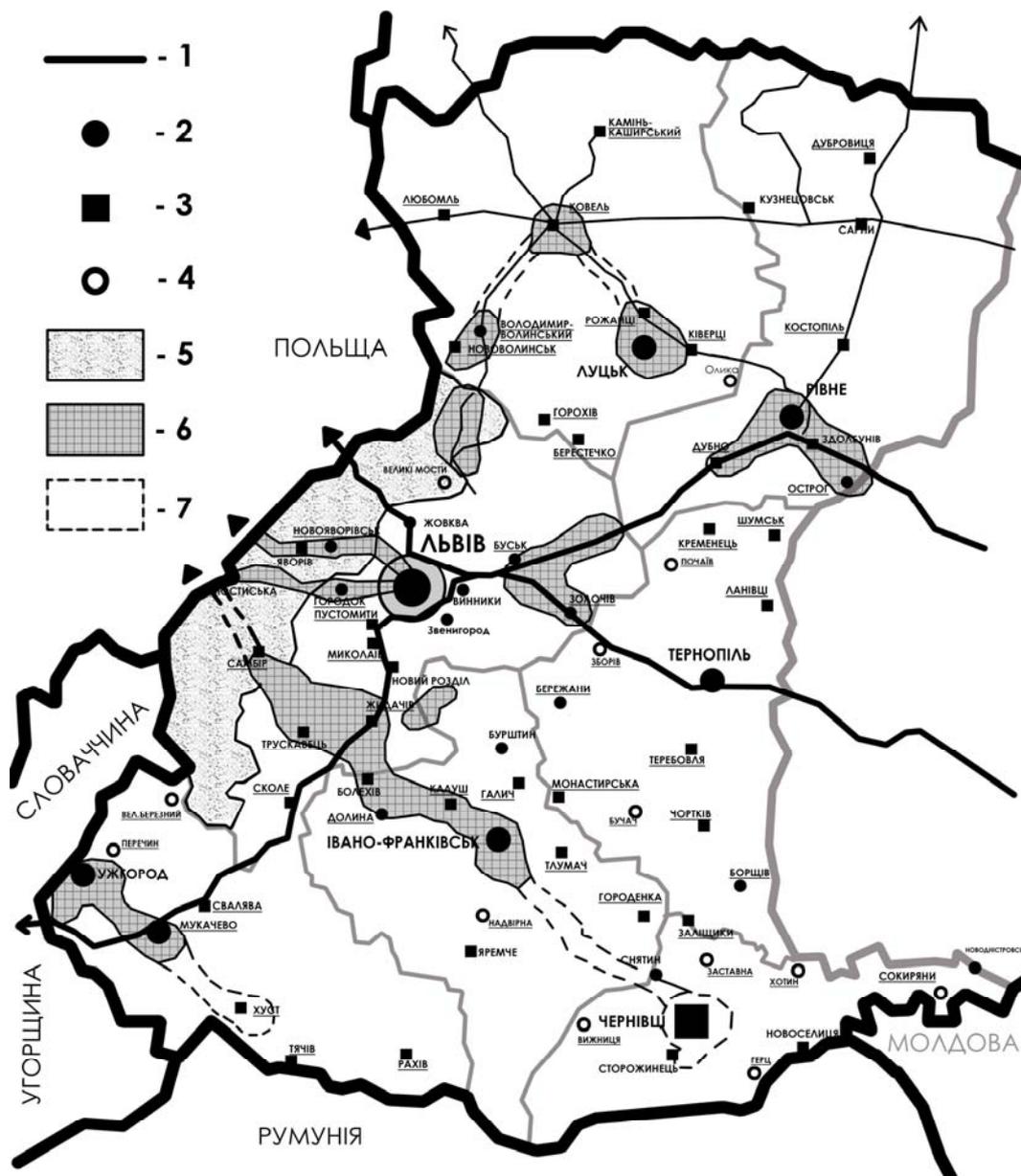


Fig. 2. Hypothetical model concept urbanization of the Western region: 1 – transport corridor, 2 – growth, 3 – stabilization, 4 – reduction, 5 – transboundary region, 6 – areas of urbanization processes, 7 – perspective directions of urbanization processes. Source: elaboration I. Rusanova, Y. Idak

Рис. 2. Hipotetyczna koncepcja modelu urbanizacji regionu Zachodniej Ukrainie. Źródło: opracowanie I. Rusanova, Y. Idak

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AUTHOR'S NOTE

The author Iryna Rusanova is an architect, urban planner, phd. Associate Proffessor of Lviv polytechnic National University, Institute of architecture, department of urban planning. Principal sphere of her scientific research is: contemporary problems of urban planning.

The author Yuliya Idak is an architect, urban planner, phd. Associate Professor of Lviv polytechnic National university, institute of architecture, department of urban planning. Principal sphere of her scientific interests is: the urban development and aesthetics of city.

Kontakt | Contact: rusanova_i@mail.ua; yuliya.idak@gmail.com.