

The main objective of this project is to present the transformations of Warsaw's social space in the era of metropolisation. The effect of the functioning of the metropolis in the global space of flows is - besides the dynamic economic development - also a significant transformation of the social fabric of the city. In particular, attention is drawn to the process of uneven urban development and the creation of a dual city, in which increasing social differentiation leads to socio-spatial polarisation. This is related, among other things, to the emergence of a metropolitan and creative class employed in the rapidly growing sector of advanced business services and creative industries, on the one hand, and to the development of a labour market for unskilled workers providing simple services, on the other. In the case of Warsaw, these changes are taking place in a specific context, which is characterised by a relatively low, although growing position in the global network of cities, which means a lower share of the above classes in the social structure than in the case of global cities, as well as a relatively low degree of socio-spatial segregation constituting a legacy from the period of socialist development. As a result, **the contemporary metropolisation of Warsaw's space encourages research on the socio-spatial dimension of globalisation processes in the specific context of the city's post-socialist legacy.**

The specific aims of the project are, on the one hand, to examine in the **macro dimension** how socio-economic changes associated with metropolisation influence the transformation of socio-spatial structures in Warsaw. On the other hand, in the **micro dimension**, the consequences of these changes for the functioning of neighbourhood units will be shown, in particular the relations between 'new'/incoming and 'old'/absent inhabitants. The project aims to answer three main research questions:

- The first of them concerns **whether an increase in socio-spatial differentiation can be observed in Warsaw as a result of the metropolisation process.**
- The second research question is **whether existing neighbourhood units will undergo homogenisation or social differentiation.**
- The third research question concerns **how social relations between oldtimers and newcomers residents will develop in different types of neighbourhood units**

The empirical analyses will cover the inter-census period 2002-2021 for Warsaw in its administrative boundaries. The results will be presented against the background of processes of social transformation of metropolises occurring in recent decades, both in highly developed and post-socialist countries.. **The spatial unit used in the research will be census districts, which should enable proper delimitation of research areas, i.e. neighbourhoods units within which field research will be conducted.**

Apart from contributing to the theory of socio-spatial structures in the city, the answers to the research questions posed may have great practical value for public authorities, especially those in Warsaw. The results of the research should enable a better understanding of contemporary transformations in the socio-spatial structure of the metropolis, thereby providing grounds for taking action to strengthen the positive and counteract the negative effects of metropolisation. **The verification of the hypotheses may have very important implications for the actions of public authorities, who should take the findings into account in their public policies, especially in housing, educational and spatial policies.**