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## TRANSFORMATION OF URBAN SPACES OF LVIV IN 20<sup>th</sup>–21<sup>st</sup> CENTURIES

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**Abstract.** The historical aspects of urban spaces forming in Lviv are considered. The influence factors on the level and specifics of the processes of their transformation are characterized. The general features of the architectural and planning transformation of the spaces in the urban fabric development process are defined. The modern tendencies and directions of urban environment transformation are revealed.

**Key words:** urban space, transformation, urban environment, squares.

### 1. Introduction

The theme of this article refers to urban studies, which are aimed to discover the influence of cities transformation processes on its modern environment. Dynamic urban processes of different epochs create the specifics of historical cities, where the conflict between modern buildings and historical heritage exists. The efficient concept of this conflict solution is obviously hidden in the consideration of the concrete city's spatial change, in this case of Lviv.

### 2. Problem statement

The problem of urban spaces' transformation becomes more topical among researchers of different scientific fields, like sociologists, geographers, cultural scientists, urbanists. The spatial aspect of city analysis is determined by the necessity of the principles of society's vital activity in different historical periods comprehension, the factors affecting this process revealing and the tendencies and indicators of new social processes in their interaction with spatial reconstruction of the city forecasting.

The Lviv city is an example of such transformations, which were especially active during XX-XXI centuries, when new development factors of the city were superimposed with the old ones. In the same time this is an example of the old city spaces functioning in new conditions of social changes. Their studying and analysis form urban politics of spaces in urban environment forming, that should be favorable not only for city's residents daily life, but also for creative activities (mass events, concerts, festivals, tourism and so on), which form the image of the city, its specifics and uniqueness.

### 3. Analysis of recent research and publications

According to multidimensionality of the problem discussing in the article a lot of examples of investigations in the field of sociology, geography, culture and urbanism can be mentioned. The closest to the urbanistic field are the works of foreign scientists: D. Jacobs, whose works are dedicated to the development of

American cities; Danish urbanist J. Gayle, who analyzed spatial transformations of European cities; different approaches to the study of spatial typology are highlighted in the works of H. Lefevre. Different qualities of urban space are the subject of main studies, in particular the semiotic meaning of the spaces one can find in works of D. Vizhalov, D. Zamjatin. The city space in accordance with the development of urban culture is discussed by B. Posatskyi, culturological aspect – I. Tyshchenko, S. Shlipchenko.

The theoretical basics of architectural and urban planning principles were formed by the famous architects and urbanists of Lviv's School: I. Drexler, I. Levynskyi, J. and A. Zachariievychi, R. Felinskyi. Despite the wide spectrum of studies, the urban aspect of spatial transformation is not enough enlightened in dynamics of different historical periods.

#### 4. Drafting of the the goal of the article

The goal of the study is to consider the city spaces in the historical retrospective, which are in the process of permanent transformation, and also to analyze the factors as a base of their forming in different historical periods.

#### 5. Presentation of the research material

The city space is multidisciplinary notion that is why there is no single meaning of it. From the point of urbanistic the city space can be interpreted as a place of common communications, which in material and spatial dimensions corresponds to the system of social centers (squares), urban arteries-highways and streets, green spaces. The transformation of urban spaces is regular and continuous process, which stems from the dynamics of city development. The character of urban transformations is conditioned by the socio-economic processes and value criteria of the society, and also by the specifics of the city.

On the example of Lviv as a capital of Galicia province in the Austria Hungarian and Polish periods and a capital of Western region in Soviet period and modern Ukraine one can analyze the transformation of its spaces not only in the temporal aspect, but also with taking to the account the political state, which caused different factors of city development and ideological priorities. The urban development of Lviv with the architecture of its spaces, described in publications (Biryulyov Yu. 2008, Cherkes B. 1996), is considered according to the historical periods (table 1).

Table 1

Historical periods of urban spaces' transformation in Lviv

Period	Phase	Temporal scope	The characteristic of the period
<b>I</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	1900–1918	The period of political and socio-economic rise of Lviv as a capital of Galicia province in Austria Hungarian Empire
		1914–1918	Stagnation in the period of 1 <sup>st</sup> World War
<b>II</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	1919–1923	<u>Interwar period.</u> Lviv – a capital of Polish Eastern region. Development of the suburbs. Urban spaces are supplemented by public and sacral buildings. The architecture of functionalism.
	2	1923–1930	
	3	1930–1939	
<b>III</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>	1939–1941	<u>Soviet period.</u> The city is part of USSR
	2	1941–1944	The period of 2d World War. German occupation.
	3	1944–1956	The industrialization of the city. The spaces of industrial districts and new housing. Renewal of historically formed spaces. Totalitarian ideology of the spaces.
	4	1956–1991	
<b>IV</b>	-	1991–till today	<u>The city is a part of independent Ukraine.</u> Spreading of urban spaces in the suburbs. Destruction of the industrial spaces and their functional transformation. De-communization of the spaces.

Starting from the beginning of the XX century one should mention that the period 1900–1918 was the most active in the development of the city. This fact is associated with the Austria Hungarian Empire. According to the biggest European cities the radial beam structure of streets with style unity of 3–4-storage buildings and with proportional interrelations between height of the buildings and width of the streets, the accents – beacons of corner houses are made.

One of the basic factors of city development in that period was the technical progress, in particular the development of railway transport, which contributed the construction of new station (1904) with Dvirtsya Square. According to European traditions new representative squares appear – Solyarni (Kropyvnytskoho) with St. Elizabeth Church, Smolky (Hryhorenka), Striletska (D. Halytskoho), Mariiska (Mitskevycha), constructed around landmark buildings, monuments, on the crossing of main streets (in the future – urban nodes).

In urban spaces forming natural features played an important role: putting Poltva River into the collector and creating Karl Ludvig Avenue (today Svobody Avenue) on Hetmanski Valy created compositional axis, which stretched to the newly built city theatre and continued along the underground river Poltva (today Shevchenko Avenue) (Fig. 1). Hetmanski and Hubernatorski Valy became the planning basement for Boulevard Ring – “Lviv’s Corso” like in European cities – “Krakiv’s planty” or “Ring in Wien”.



**Fig. 1.** The view on Karl Ludvig Avenue (today – Svobody Avenue) on Hetmanski Valy in Lviv. Photo of early XX century

The architecture of spaces, which are still the landmarks of the city, was created by brilliant architects-constructors of Lviv’s School: I. Drexler, I. Levynskyi, R. Felinskyi and others. Theoretical comprehension of urban ideas in city construction was held by R. Felinskyi, who believed that the most important task of architecture – is forming spaces.

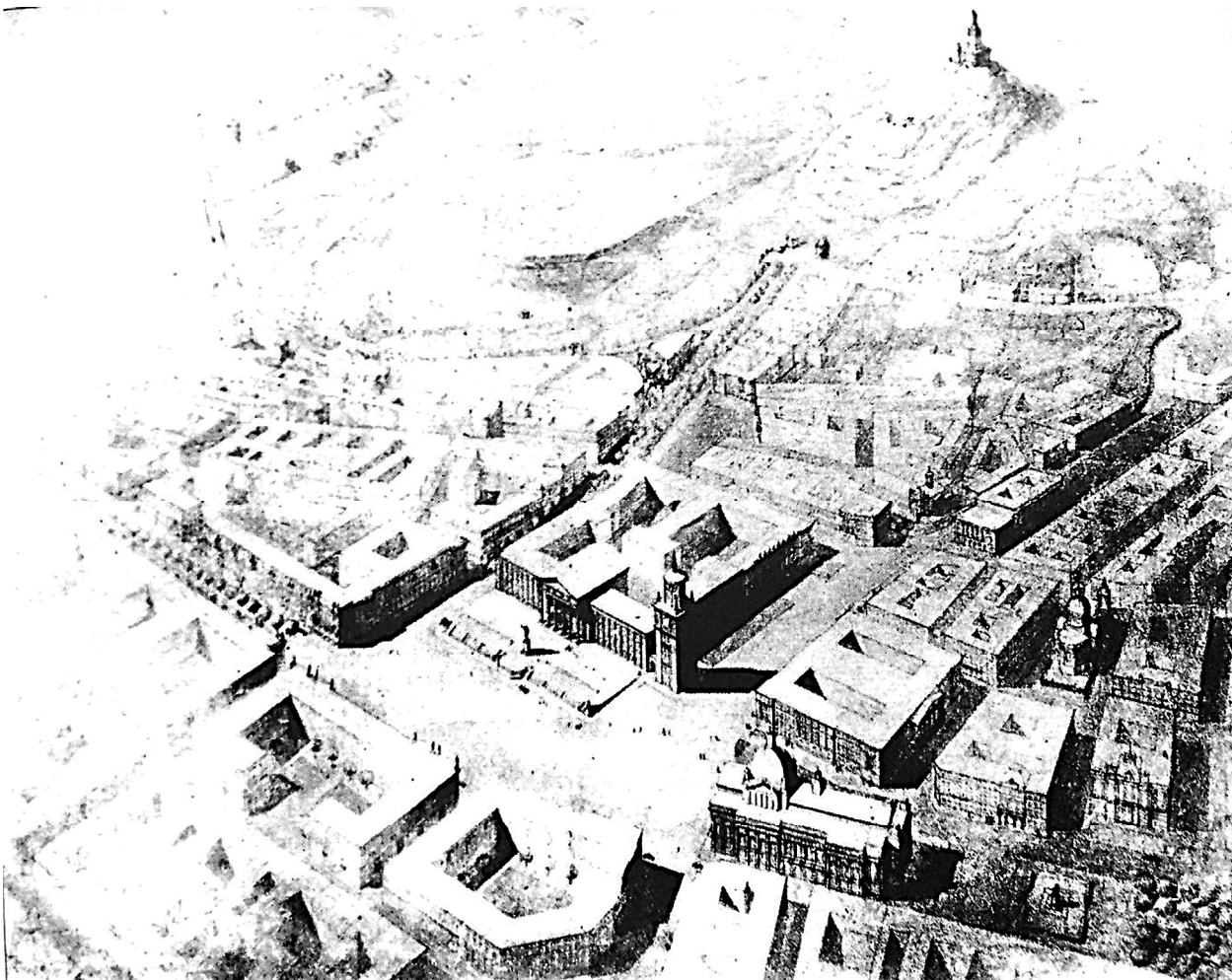
The period of 1918–1939 after the end of 1<sup>st</sup> World War, when Lviv became the capital of Polish voyevodsvo, is known as interwar period. Unlike the previous period the scale of city construction decreased and the suburbs have been built up – Novyi Lviv, Kastelivka, Sofiivka, Lychakiv. During the construction of picturesque villas and cottages in these districts the ideas of Garden City were implemented. On the whole this period did not essentially changed city spaces of the central part, but only complemented them with new buildings. Among them – the house of J. Shprecher in functionalism style, which ended the perspective of the street; the house of medical services on Zelena Street; the house of city electricity services on the corner of the Hvardiiska and Vitovskoho streets; the main post office. The modern Petrushevych Square with swimming pool and not finished public buildings are formed. Among sacral buildings – Church of the Mother of God Ostrobramska on the hill of Lychakivska Street was built.

In that period one can observe the differentiation of the spaces with prestige and comfortable districts mainly in southern part of Lviv, and with districts for poor residents in Klepariv and Zamarstyniv.

The character feature of that period was also creating plans of city construction starting from 1930, which were the forerunners of future masterplans of Lviv, and the regulative plans of living districts of the city required churches, schools construction. Until the beginning of 2 World War the image of Lviv consisted of the

spaces that could be named as historically formed on the contrary to new age, which were formed on other political, socio-economic and ideological factors.

In the soviet period, which lasted from 1939 till 1991 and was interrupted by 2 World War 1941–1945, Lviv was a center of the region and it didn't correspond to the standard of socialistic city. That's why the first attempts of its transformation were aimed to correspond the socialistic standards and Stalinism ideas embodiment that was reflected in before war and after war master plans (authors: O. Kasyanov, H. Shvetsko-Vinetskyi, A. Natalchenko). According to the tendencies and ideological resolutions of that period there were planned two perpendicular compositional axis, on the crossing of which behind the Opera house the Square (S=4 ha) was planned. And on the top of the Vysokyi Zamok a grand monument of Lenin was planned, which completed the west-east axis (Fig. 2). The realization of that plan was much more modest: the center was extended to the Sonyachna Street (today – Chornovola Avenue) and installation of the monument-bust of Lenin in front of Opera house.



**Fig. 2.** The project of new city center of Lviv (1946–1948) (Source: Biryulyov Yu. 2008)

The strategic plans of active industrialization of Lviv, which caused creation of three industrial zones in northern, south-eastern and western directions, changed dramatically the functional filling of urban fabric. Industry associations built their infrastructure inside the city: the palaces of culture, medical establishments, project institutions, and engineer-laboratory blocks (Trehubova T. et. al. 1989).

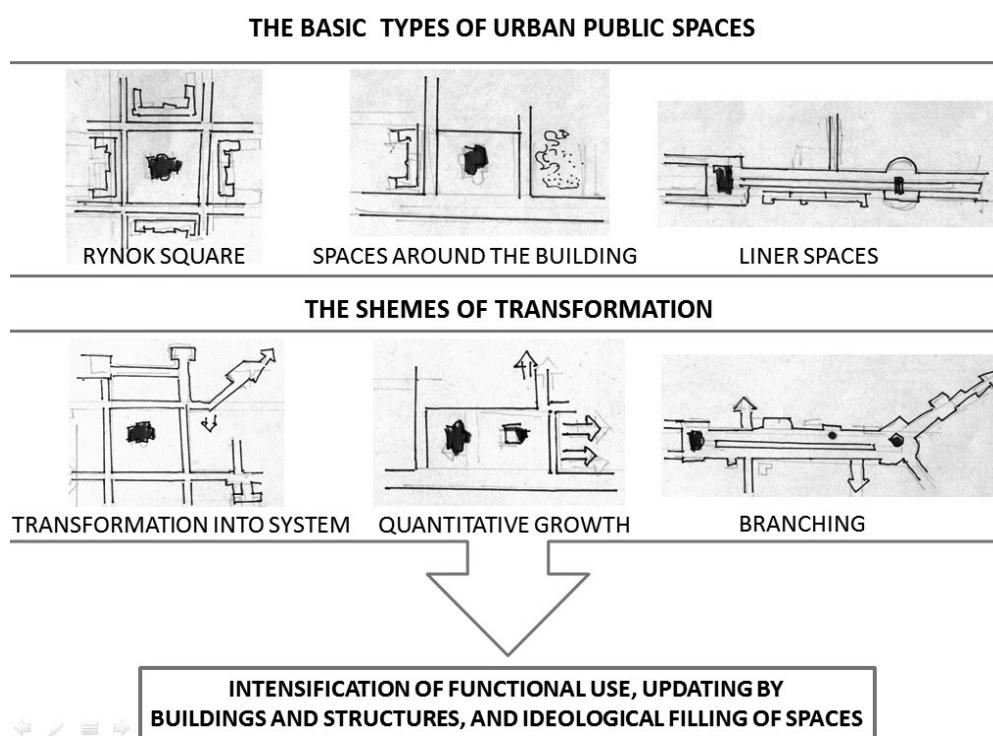
The huge volumes of industrial construction, that caused population growth from 441 000 in 1959 to 753 000 inhabitants in 1989, was accompanied by mass housing construction. Big housing districts, which were built with the typical houses, were the spaces of single generation without accumulation of experience of previous

generations (Kotukov O., 2015). The monotonous new spaces encourage looking for the aesthetics of the city in the environment, that became socially significant in the upbringing of a Soviet man (Ikonnikov A., 1972).

The period of Ukrainian independence after 1991 generated the tendencies, caused by the appearance of new factors, which influenced the character and the scale of the city on the whole and its separate elements. The first factor was lost of industry that had great social consequences, and in the urban aspect it caused the release of great postindustrial areas, which need to change the function.

One of the most important achievements of urban politics in Lviv was the conservation of its historical center, which belongs to the List of World Cultural Heritage. Modern change of image of the center was characterized by the construction of UkrSotsBank building on the Mitskevych Square and Opera hotel on the Svobody Avenue, which attract the ambiguous attitude of the citizens to the buildings. New ideological meaning was given to central spaces by the monuments of T. Shevchenko, M. Hrushevskiy, I. Honta, which are Ukrainian historical symbols.

The important factor of new city spaces became restoration of their spirituality that was implemented in renewed temples, which used to be a ruin or warehouses. New temples of different confessions were built mostly for all territorial communities. The commercial function of the spaces became the priority meaningful in the peripheral areas (Pivdennyi Market, hypermarket “Aushan”, commercial center “Forum”). Housing development, that in different times had different volumes and character of construction, adapted to new conditions of free market economy. Single buildings of houses or new housing districts are adapted to the interests of private developers. The basic types of urban public spaces and their transformation are shown in the Fig. 3.



**Fig. 3.** The basic types of urban public spaces and their transformation

As a result of urban transformations of Lviv one can state that its beauty, spirit and historicity are provided by stable functions and abilities of architectural and planning solutions of its spaces in the endless process of renewal.

## 6. Conclusions

So the compressed analysis of urban spaces transformation during XX–XXI centuries showed that the period before 2d World War was the most efficient, when the city was built according to European experience and traditions. The urban spaces formed in that time especially in its central part, which hasn't been influenced

by coming up generations, became nowadays a magnet for numerous tourists. In the same time Lviv's experience showed the co-existence of spaces of different ages and their modern use.

The architectural and urban planning principles of spaces transformation comprehension is important for all participants of this process: the citizens – consumers of “their” spaces, self-government bodies that make managerial decisions, investors, without whom any reconstruction is impossible, and architects, urban planners – direct performers of transformations, who bear responsibility for the unique environment of the city, where different epochs co-exist.

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## ТРАНСФОРМАЦІЯ МІСЬКИХ ПРОСТОРІВ ЛЬВОВА XX–XXI СТОЛІТТЯ

**Анотація.** Міський простір можна інтерпретувати як місце загальних комунікацій, яке в матеріальних та просторових вимірах відповідає системі соціальних центрів (квадратів), міських артерій – автомагістралі та вулиці, зелені простори. Перетворення міського простору – це регулярний і безперервний процес, що впливає з динаміки розвитку міста. Характер міських перетворень обумовлений соціально-економічними процесами та ціннісними критеріями суспільства, а також специфікою міста. Розглянуто історичні аспекти формування міських просторів Львова, охарактеризовано фактори впливу на рівень і особливості процесів їх трансформації, визначені загальні риси архітектурно-планувальної зміни просторів в процесі розвитку міської тканини. Виявлені сучасні тенденції і напрямки перетворень міського середовища. Важливим чинником нових міських просторів стало відновлення своєї духовності, яка була реалізована в оновлених храмах. Комерційна функція просторів стала пріоритетною у периферійних сферах. Розвиток житла, що в різний час мав різні обсяги та характер будівництва, адаптований до нових умов вільної ринкової економіки. Одинокі будівлі будинків або нових житлових районів адаптовані до інтересів приватних забудовників.

Стислий аналіз трансформації міських територій протягом XX–XXI століть показав, що період до 2-ї світової війни був найефективнішим, коли місто будувалося за європейським досвідом і традиціями. Міські простори, що склалися в той час, особливо в його центральній частині, на яке не вплинули майбутні покоління, стали сьогодні магнітом для численних туристів. У той же час досвід Львова продемонстрував співіснування просторів різного віку та їх сучасного використання.

Архітектурні та містобудівні принципи розуміння трансформації просторів важливі для всіх учасників цього процесу: громадян – споживачів “своїх” просторів, органів самоврядування, які приймають управлінські рішення, інвестори, без яких ніяка реконструкція неможливо, та архітектори, містобудівники – безпосередні виконавці перетворень, які несуть відповідальність за унікальне середовище міста, де існують різні епохи.

**Ключові слова:** міський простір, трансформація, міське середовище, площі.