

IDENTIFICATION OF PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS VULNERABILITY AREAS AROUND THE SCHOOLS. CASE STUDY BUCHAREST CITY, ROMANIA

Kinga Temerdek-Ivan, Babeş-Bolyai University, Romania

Silviu Ciobanu, Babeş-Bolyai University, Romania

Jozsef Benedek, Babeş-Bolyai University, Romania

Road traffic safety is a topical issue worldwide. In the last decades, more and more attention has been paid to analyze the factors that contribute to traffic accidents disturbance or to identify the vulnerable or high-risk areas. Romania is currently among the countries with one of the highest road fatality rate from the EU. In the present paper we proposed to analyze the pedestrian traffic accidents, around the schools in Bucharest, in order to outline the areas exposed to road traffic accidents. Thus, we analyzed for the period 2012-2016 the frequency of pedestrian traffic accidents, around 473 schools in Bucharest. Hazard was identified by dividing the study area into 0.5 x 0.5 km areas uniformly distributed and within each area we calculated the frequency of pedestrian traffic accidents. Based on a series of socio-cultural indicators (number of schools, children, teachers) and infrastructure indicators (the number of pedestrian crossings, bus stops, traffic lights, traffic lanes) disaggregated at the level of 0.25 km² areas, we determined the transport and social vulnerable areas. After the combination of the hazard and the vulnerable areas, we outlined a map of traffic accidents around the schools in Bucharest. We consider that these results may be helpful for local authorities in implementing measures to mitigate pedestrian traffic accidents around the schools in Bucharest and also for students, teachers and parents to be more cautious when crossing the streets in these areas.

REVISITING THE THEORY ON THE 'PRODUCTION OF SPACE' IN ORDER TO BETTER UNDERSTAND AND CHALLENGE SOCIO-SPATIAL INEQUALITIES IN CEE

Judit Timar, HAS Centre for Economic and Regional Studies, Hungary

Lefebvre's theory on the production of space has been inspiring several discourses for decades. Scholars draw on his ideas on the triadic dialectic or the critique of everyday life, they apply his spatial concept in urban studies or in a threefold model of rural space, build on the issue of urban revolution or the idea of the 'right to the city' by using Marxist political economic, postmodern cultural or feminist perspectives.

It seems however, that Hungary (and CEE countries in general) stayed away from these international academic discourses for a long time, in spite of the fact that different modes of production got great emphasis in the Lefebvrian concept of space, thus the special historical experiences of post-socialist Europe might add new aspects to these debates.

Using some results of a research project on 'Contemporary theories of space and spatiality in the Central Eastern European context' (National Research, Development and Innovation Office – NKFIH K 115870) this paper aims to study: i) why there has been little engagement with Lefebvre among geographers in Hungary and ii) how geographical/regional studies in this country (and region) can use insights of the Lefebvrian concept of space to better understand socio-spatial inequalities at different scales. I will apply the example of the still-marked rural-urban dimension of Central and Eastern European uneven development and present how some new arguments based on this spatial peculiarity can broaden international theoretical debates such as the old one on the "right to the city" or a recent one on "planetary urbanization".