



Wrocław University of Technology



# Interdisciplinarity and Planning in Eastern European Countries

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**Not so different....**

**INTERDISCIPLINARITY**  
is  
our main advantage  
and  
our main disadvantage  
=  
our main challenge

# Not so different....

**‘edge position’ at universities**

**tendency to cooperate with other universities rather than building the ‘core units’ within university**

**not clearly defined career path**

**involvement in the practice**

**relationship with professional bodies**

## ...but different enough

- fast(er) changes (social, economic, political, legal) Go
- increasing number of students Go
- public/private sector in higher education
- institutional framework Go
- TEI's structure (*new wine in old glass*)
- 'technical' approach to planning
- centralization vs liberalisation Go





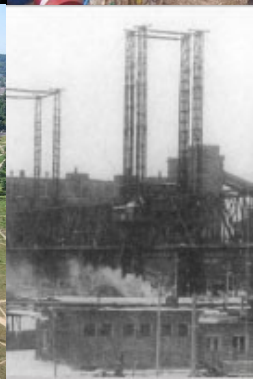
# Massive changes



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ba





# Students population in Poland, Czech Republic and Estonia

1990/91  
1991/92  
1993/94

- Poland: 403.800
- Czech Rep.: 111.900
- Estonia: 25.064

2005/06  
2004/05  
2004/05

- Poland: 1.953.800
- Czech Rep.: 298.200
- Estonia: 67.760

2007/08  
2007/08  
2007/08

- Poland: 1.937.400
- Czech Rep.: 344.000
- Estonia: 68.168



# Post-communist landscape of TEIs:

- **universities** for the humanities, natural sciences or formal sciences
- **technical universities** (or ‘polytechnics’) for enineering
- **medical universities**
- **agricultural universities** (life sciences)
- **universities of economics**
- **pedagogical universities**
- **universities of physical education**
- **art academies...** [back](#)



# Official titles for TEIs in Poland

- **UNIVERSITY** for institutions which are legally entitled to confer PhD degrees in no less than 12 scientific disciplines;
- **UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY** for institutions which are legally entitled to confer PhD degrees in no less than 12 scientific disciplines, including no less than 8 technical disciplines;
- **UNIVERSITY** followed by a specified area of study ('university of economics', 'university of life sciences', 'medical university') for institutions which are legally entitled to confer PhD degrees in no less than 6 scientific disciplines;
- **TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY** or **POLYTECHNIC** for institutions which are legally entitled to confer PhD degrees in no less than 6 scientific disciplines, including at least 4 technical disciplines.





# General degree structures in higher education in Poland (Higher Education Act 2005)

**Doctoral's degree programme (third cycle)**

**Master's**  
degree programme  
(second cycle) **3-4**  
semesters

**Licentiate**  
(licencjat) **6-8**  
semesters

**Engineer**  
(inżynier) **7-8**  
semesters

**Bachelor's degree programme (first cycle)**

**Master's**  
degree programme  
(continous cycle)

**9-12**  
semesters



# Guidelines for Planning Education define:

- the number of semesters and hours of study,
- a graduate's profile in terms of skills and competencies,
- required course content and learning outcomes,
- minimum number of hours and ECTS for specified groups of courses,
- additional requirements,
- recommendations.



# State Accreditation Committee

body for quality assurance in tertiary education in Poland

Committee is charged with two major roles:

- to assess the quality of education in individual areas of study,
- to provide advice to the minister responsible for higher education on applications to establish new tertiary education institutions, to establish new external organizational units, or to establish new study areas.

Committee consist of eleven sections, each having at least five members and **representing a group of fields of study** (e.g., humanities, natural sciences, economics, engineering, fine arts).



# Tradition....

- **1913** - *Department of Town Building* was established at **Lvov Technical University** (Ignacy Drexler)
- **1915** - Tadeusz Tołwiński (graduated in town planning from the University of Karlsruhe, Germany) became one of the founders of **Warsaw University of Technology** (formerly Warsaw Technical University)
- **1923** - Society of Polish Town Planners were established

1911 - Société Française des Urbanistes;

1913 - The International Federation for Housing and Planning;

1914 - Royal Town Planning Institute;

1917 - American Institute of Planners;

1922 - Freie Akademie des Städtebaus



## ...and research

- **1958** - Polish Academy of Science (a state run science institution) established the **Committee on Spatial Economy and Regional Planning** with the objective to inspire and define new studies in spatial economy and planning in Poland.
- The committee, by drawing on **academics from different universities and professions**, not only established a **multidisciplinary approach to planning**, but also fostered discussions of planning-related research, and initiated the development of planning researchers and institutions.



# AESOP Members in Eastern Europe

**Bulgaria**

**1**

**Czech Rep**

**3**

**Estonia**

**1**

**Hungary**

**1**

**Kosovo**

**1**

**Latvia**

**1**

**Macedonia**

**1**

**Poland**

**7 (17)**

**Romania**

**2**

**Serbia**

**1**

**Slovakia**

**1**

**Slovenia**

**2**





# Our task is...

To join  
essence  
and  
form



in  
European context