



## ***Invitation***

Autumn school

### **Small town – big problems or experimental field for sustainable urban transformation: Quo vadis Ostritz?**

**As part of the 2023 ACC-Forum *From change to transformation***

The Academic Coordination Centre (ACC) in the Euroregion Neisse aims to identify and to connect umbrella topics of the euro-regional research and teaching landscape by performing the first ACC-Forum in October 2023

**Date:** Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023 to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023

**Location:** St. Marienthal in 02899 Ostritz (Germany)

**Language:** English

**Target groups:** Master students interested in urban development from the fields of regional sciences, geography, environmental sciences, urban planning

**Credits at TUD/IHI:** Module Ecological and revitalising urban transformation (UWMRN 2.7; ESS 2.17, TU Dresden, IHI Zittau & Faculty Environmental Sciences), **5 ECTS**



#### **Background and task**

Like in a burning glass, the challenges of peripherally located places come to light in the town of Ostritz: Out-migration, vacancies, thinning public and private service infrastructure, climate protection and adaptation as well as maintaining quality of life. On the other hand, smaller cities beyond the metropolises seem to be gaining in attractiveness at the moment. Families in particular are looking for alternatives to the increasingly congested big cities and agglomerations. Small towns promise cheaper living costs and a better environmental quality. An increasing share of remote and mobile work options allow for a higher flexibility in the choice of living places. These overlapping dynamics are confronted with limited capacities in administration and civil society. Quo vadis small town?

This interdisciplinary course seeks unconventional solutions for the sustainable development of smaller, peripherally located cities. As the town of Ostritz is located in the immediate vicinity of the venue of the autumn school, we will have the opportunity to work on site.

The task of the autumn school is to draft an integrative perspective for urban development in Ostritz – with a focus on acceptance and participation issues.

Guiding questions are:

- What can be built on from the past (e.g. Energy Ecological Model City within EXPO 2000)?
- How can environmental, climate and energy issues regain priority?
- How is the city regionally embedded? Which axes and pathways are important? What is the result of this?
- What role does tourism play in future development? How can the link to the monastery St. Marienthal and the International Educational Centre IBZ be strengthened?
- What role does local identity (still) play? How can local ties be (re)established?
- How can a participatory process look like in order to create acceptance for and commitment to the implementation of the ideas developed?

In order to address some of these questions, the task is to elaborate a comprehensive poster (A0 format) including 1) main idea/perspective, 2) background and analysis, 3) concept, 4) thematic and/or spatial details, with a focus on the development of an integrated concept.

### Schedule

Date	Topic	Lecturer
Mo. 11-13	Introduction into the module, formation of working groups	Robert Knippschild, TUD, IHI & Leibniz Institute of Ecological Urban and Regional Development
Mo. 14-18	Excursion to Ostritz	Gundel Mitter, municipality of Ostritz & Stephanie Rikl, mayor of Ostritz
Tu. 9-11	Clarification of exercise, tasks, expectations	Robert Knippschild
Tu. 11-13	Urban transformation I: Notions and main drivers	Robert Knippschild
Tu. 14-16	Urban transformation II: Policies, strategies, funding instruments	Robert Knippschild
Tu. 16-18	Urban transformation III: Examples	Robert Knippschild
We. 9-11	Migration and place-attachment	Ritu George Kaliaden, TUD, IHI
We. 11-14	Poster preparation & consultation	Students
We. 14-16	Urban shrinkage and vacancy - threat or opportunity for urban change?	Bettina Knoop, TUD, IHI
We. 16-evening	Poster preparation & consultation	Students
Th. Morning	Poster preparation & consultation	Students
Th. Afternoon	Conference incl. poster presentation	Students
Fr. Morning	Conference incl. poster presentation	Students

**Expected Deliveries:** Poster elaboration (A0) and presentation during the ACC forum

**Credits for TUD/IHI students:** For crediting 5 ECTS TUD/IHI students have to participate the autumn school, prepare and present a poster as a group work and - additionally - elaborate an accompanying booklet of 20 pages per group comprising the methodology and a description of the work process by 31/12/2023