



University of Miskolc

ECONOMICAL AND SOCIAL PROCESSES OF DUNAÚJVÁROS AFTER 1990

Theses of PhD dissertation

by

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Choice of subject, antecedents of special literature

There are few curious people to know about Dunaújváros. The town was born in the time of „socialist” urbanization. It leaves one’s mark on the image and judgement of cities what were born in that period. Who haven’t been in Dunaújváros think that they can imagine the town on the basis of descriptions and by hearing. In the mass communication are published some stereotype about Dunaújváros (socialist-, steel-, dirty-, concrete-, sample city). On the basis of these attributes the city is monotonous and ordinary. Such opinions aren’t favourable to interest of a denunciation city.

However „make cities” isn’t socialist occurrence. End of 19th century it drew up the claim to create new district of a town for the sake the unfavourable social occurrence of town explosion in West-Europe and in North-America.

The create of „new”, on drafting table borned towns – independent of geographical place and political system - have got similar peculiarity: they influenced the settlement-network with central planed, political instruments. But there are some different between „west” and „east” tendency. The main different between of them, that in East-Europe the city building followed by the industrial need. But these cities were the sample-settlements of socialist politic. There is city development based on industry without Hungary for example in Eisenhüttenstadt (ex German Democratic Republic), in Nowa Huta (Poland), in Dimitrovgrad (Bulgaria).

The new cities call in East-Central Europe ex-„socialist” city, recently new city. Many researchers were employed with these cities researches. The researchers have got common point of view, that Dunaújváros is one of the ex-„socialist” cities.

The population speedy grew in the new cities – parallel with the extensive industrialization. The cities offered almost all what weren’t attainable in the villages, first of all job and home. So it began mass move off wave from the villages to the cities because of this pull-effect.

The extensive development came to an end in the 70’s years, the rate of progress slackened in the new cities. The occurrence coincided with the crisis of world-economy. The economic hardness of political change and the new methods of regional development followed after 1990. The dangers of one-sided economic structure were expressed after 1990 in the new cities in East-Central Europe. These cities were be transformed into slump cities and areas. It finds like symptom in Eisenhüttenstadt (Germany) that was the biggest heavy industry investment in the 50’s years in its country. Its population is decreasing steadily after the political change (in 1990: 50.216 persons, in 2005: 35.106 persons).

In Hungary the state crisis programs gave financial assistance to certain new cities, where they caused „slided”-change. In these settlements the general

hardness of political-change (unemployment and existence problems) were reduced than altogether in Hungary. Eisenhüttenstadt in Germany in spite of ironworks privatisation (1994) didn't succeed to get over the crisis.

The purpose of the research

In spite of stereotypes connected with Dunaújváros, the citizens of Dunaújváros are proud of their dwelling-place. But a lot of people don't form an opinion on the basis of the fact, however on the basis of the feeling. I live in Dunaújváros since my birth, so the objective appreciation is more painful in case of „vulnerable point”.

The purpose is to give a real aspect about economic- and social-geographical development of Dunaújváros in the last one and half decade. An independent chapter-part deals with the infrastructural background of the settlement (technical-, cultural-infrastructure, education, health-care provision), because it is very important for the habitable of the settlements.

It helps my research, which I work for Research group for Regional Development at College of Dunaújváros. I constantly had a part in the writing and editing of studies about Dunaújváros and its region. These studies give instant reports about the area of Dunaújváros year by year. Within its framework I made numerous appreciations about short-long time processes of Dunaújváros and its region. The complex analysis since 1990 wasn't yet his turn, so present dissertation retrieves this defectiveness.

The purpose isn't proof of hypothesis but answer of next questions:

1. What changes happened in Dunaújváros's economic- and employment structure after 1990?
2. How changed the demographical index of Dunaújváros in the 90's years and how changed the composition of population?
3. How changed the spatial proportion of population in Dunaújváros between 1990 and 2001?
4. How is characterised the sub urbanization around Dunaújváros?
5. What is Dunaújváros's position – among cities they have got similar history past (ex socialist cities) – in mirror of main social-economical-infrastructure index?
6. What change causes the Danube-bridge in surround of Dunaújváros?

The method of research

The dissertation is composed on basic of data and data publications of Hungarian Central Statistical Office. By compile of dissertation I of course used the results and experiences of my job by Research group for Regional Development. The important methods of research were the study of special literature end press-watch too. The press-information serve also two aims: in one respect they helped by outline of economical and industrial history, partly they gave recent data which are missed in the statistical publications.

After the collection of data succeeded the valuation according to description-statistic:

- **dynamical researches:** they present the change of social-economical processes between 1990-2005 in Dunaújváros.
- **staticall research:** it presents in knowledge of statistical data the state of development in 1995 and 2005, how set Dunaújváros into the Hungarian towns. The members of this research-group have got similar historical past, they are the ex-socialist cities: Ajka, Dunaújváros, Kazincbarcika, Oroszlány, Ózd, Tatabánya, Tiszaújváros and Várpalota.

On the strength of previous questions the research work gives the next theses:

1. question

What changes happened in Dunaújváros's economic- and employment structure after 1990?

1. thesis

The political change after 1990, Dunaújváros preserved the one-sided economic-structure, the most people are employed by Dunaferr (steel works). This state company came into private ownership just two years ago, so the general problems of the life after the political change were lighter than in Hungary.

Because of the political change accompanying economical transformation, some local factories were constrained to reduction of staff or to close down. Dunaújváros was still lucky, because the region's biggest factory (Dunaferr steelworks) survived the hardness. The privatisation dragged on, it resulted „slided“-economic-change, the enterprise ready stayed reduced. Not happened important investments in Dunaújváros and it gave little new employment. The biggest part of investments served to development of existing companies.

Because of above in the years after the political change it didn't come mass unemployment and employment-index, and it was more favourable than in Hungary. We can experience the unfavourable change since 2001. The unemployment rata reached in the Dunaújváros microregion, the average of Fejér county and the different grow year by year. The rate of unemployed over 180 days shared of school-leavers in unemployment is great.

2. question

How changed the demographical index of Dunaújváros in the 90's years and how changed the composition of population?

2. thesis

The population of Dunaújváros is decreasing steadily in the last one and half decades because of migration from Dunaújváros. The age-composition of population is also unfavourable, the data shows intensive ageing.

Unfavourable demographical process began in the middle of 80's in Dunaújváros. The decrease of population continued also in the 90's in Dunaújváros because of migration from the town. The number of departures was 15x (!) greater than the natural decrease.

The data show intensive ageing and the age-composition is also unfavourable. The ratio of people over 65 years old increased from 7,1% to 15,0% between 1990 and 2004. The participation of people under 15 years old from the total population decreased from 22,6% to 13,7%. The intensive ageing is connected first of all with the high unfavourable migration. Namely the participants of migration are the young age group, so the older age group stay in the town.

3. question

How changed the spatial proportion of population in Dunaújváros between 1990 and 2001?

3. thesis

After the political change the earnings different came higher between the social stratification. The earnings different generated a new symptom in Dunaújváros too, so it was the beginning of the spatial of the population. In the town began the spatial proportion of population. A result of segregation is the similar characterised citizen knit in a specific part of the town.

The most extremist examples of the social segregation are the panel-quarters and the new garden quarter. The negative examples are the panel-quarters. Theirs population reduce are the most intensive in Dunaújváros between 1990 and 2001. In spite of this fact the majority of Dunaújváros's population live in panel-quarters. Over the vast move-off the child-pledge stopped shortly. The average-age and the ratio of divorced parents rised powerful. We can experience the different of segregation with the regard of qualification. People with the highest qualification are fewer than the average of Dunaújváros.

It finds the opposite of the above processes in the garden-quarter where people can build houses. Mainly family with child(ren) and people with high qualification settle in this quarter. So in 2001 proportional the main people with high qualification lived there.

4. question

How can be characterised the sub urbanization around Dunaújváros?

4. thesis

Without proper transport connections the settlements of the left bank of Danube are not attractive for people who like to live outside Dunaújváros however want to keep their workplace in Dunaújváros. The most people who move off from Dunaújváros take up new residence in the villages south and east part of Dunaújváros sub region.

The majority of people who move off from Dunaújváros settle in the closer settlements. Without proper transport connections the settlements of the left bank of Danube aren't attractive for people who like to live outside Dunaújváros however want to keep their workplace in Dunaújváros. So Dunaújváros has got an one-sided sub region. The most people who move off from Dunaújváros take up new residence in the villages south and east part of Dunaújváros sub region. The Dunaújváros's sub urbanization-surround isn't identical with the „past” statistical micro region of Dunaújváros. The „recent”, since 1 January 2004 valid micro region-system is already similar to the sub urbanization-surround because the leaved area didn't connect close to Dunaújváros.

59 per cent of the move off people from Dunaújváros arrived at the settlements of sub urbanization-surround between 1990 and 2001, 41% leaved the area of Dunaújváros.

5. question

What is Dunaújváros's position – among cities they have got similar history past (ex socialist cities) – in mirror of main social-economical-infrastructural index?

5. thesis

Dunaújváros's position – among the Hungarian ex-socialist cities (new cities) – shows positive trend between 1995-2005. Dunaújváros has got a real chance to be the most advanced new city in Hungary on the active economic-developer process.

The order of rank of ex-socialist cities based on an index group is made from 13 social-economical-infrastructural factors. The summarize of all factors gave the complex-index of the last city-rank. It is established on the basic of this, that the biggest losers of socialist ideologies are Ózd and Kazincbarcika. In the middle of field there are Oroszlány, Várpalota and Ajka. The most well developed new city is Tiszaújváros but its first position is endangered from Dunaújváros and Tatabánya.

Dunaújváros's position was the fifth in 1995, the second in 2005 out of 8 ex-socialist cities. The change of divorces per 100 marriages shows positive trend in Dunaújváros (1995: last position, 2005: second position). It is a very important rise, because of the social strained relations results are the disintegrated families. The enterprise-activity rises in Dunaújváros from the field but this index (enterprises per 1000 inhabitants) is worse in the new cities then the average of Hungarian cities.

What are the unfavourable trends in Dunaújváros? The value of retail trade units per 1000 inhabitants and bed-places in public accommodation establishments per 1000 inhabitants are peculiarly low in Dunaújváros. Also the number of dwellings built is low. The ratio of 4 or more room dwellings is high. It comes to the conclusion that the home conditions of well-to-do families improved in Dunaújváros.

6. question

What changed causes the Danube-bridge in surround of Dunaújváros?

6. thesis

Dunaújváros has got a one-sided surround because transport connections are not equalized between the banks of Danube. Some village on the left bank can connect to close surround of Dunaújváros after building the Danube-bridge.

The future of Dunaújváros is determined from the transport-network investments. One of them is the Danube-bridge. The bridge will have got first only local role, because some village on the left bank can connect to close surround of Dunaújváros after building the bridge. But it concerns fewer villages what we expect from the new bridge. Namely there is an another bridge in Dunaföldvár (10-12 km from the new Danube-bridge). This bridge is assuring now connection between the banks of river.

Still the new Danube-bridge can equalize the one-sided surround of Dunaújváros to a certain extent. For example the manpower-surround can change because inhabitants of Szalkszentmárton, Dunavecse, Apostag and Dunaegyháza arrive to Dunaújváros in shorter time. It corroborates the suppose that unemployment rata of these villages are essential unfavourable than the average of Hungary. There are many places of work only in Budapest and Kecskemét but these cities are far from the above-mentioned villages. The recently one-sided education-surround of Dunaújváros can be better with the new transport-network too.

If Dunaújváros offers varied instruction, new settlements can connect to intensive education-surround of Dunaújváros.

Exploit of issues, further research works:

The dissertation presents in complex way the economical-social development of Dunaújváros after 1990. The dissertation offers useful background-informations to bring in a verdict about Dunaújváros.

The dissertation offers many further possibilities for research:

- Possibility of the surround-expansion in Dunaújváros,
- Analyse how to keep the population in Dunaújváros,
- Deep search of segregation process for alleviation of the social problems.

Important published studies are connect with the theme:

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Havellant O. – Kiss A. (2001): Dunaújváros és térsége '98. In: Dunaújvárosi Főiskola Térségfejlesztési Kutatócsoport (szerk. Kiss A.), Dunaújváros, 5 p.

Havellant O. (2003): Lakáshelyzet és szuburbanizáció Dunaújvárosban. In: Munkástörténet-Munkásantropológia, Napvilág Kiadó, Budapest, 189 p.

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Havellant O. (2004): Dunaújváros migrációs folyamatai (1990-2001). In: A Dunaújvárosi Főiskola Közleményei XXV., Dunaújváros, 103 p.

Havellant O. – Kiss A. (2003): Dunaújváros és térségének gazdasági és társadalmi adottságai. In: Dunaferr Műszaki Gazdasági Közlemények, 173 p.

Havellant O. – Huszti Zs. – Kárpáti G. (2004): Dunaújváros, mint interregionális humánerőforrás-fejlesztési központ. In: Határon átnyúló kapcsolatok, humán erőforrások, Nemzetközi tudományos konferencia-2003, Debrecen, 87 p.

Havellant O. – Huszti Zs. – Rohonczi S. (2004): Dunaújváros vonzáskörzetének és városi szerepének feltételezett változásai a Duna-híd megépülése után. In: A településföldrajz helyzete és főbb kutatási irányjai az ezredforduló után, Szombathely, 101 p.

O. Havellant – Zs. Huszti – S. Rohonczi (2004): Urban functions of Dunaújváros after building the bridge over Danube. In: Cross-border Co-operations, Schengen Challenges, Debrecen, 260 p.

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- Havellant O. – Bán A. (2005):** Dunaújváros és térségének társadalmi-gazdasági állapota (1999-2002). In: Dunaújvárosi Főiskola Térségfejlesztési Kutatócsoport 5. kötet (szerk. Kiss A.), Dunaújváros, 15 p.
- Havellant O. (2005):** Dunaújváros térbeni társadalmi szerkezetének változásai az 1990-es évtizedben. In: Dunaújvárosi Főiskola Térségfejlesztési Kutatócsoport 5. kötet (szerk. Kiss A.), Dunaújváros, 33 p.
- Havellant O. (2006):** A „rég” és „új” Dunaújvárosi kistérség a 2001. évi népszámláláskor. In: Dunaújvárosi Főiskola Térségfejlesztési Kutatócsoport 6. kötet (szerk. Kiss A.), Dunaújváros, 25 p.
- Havellant O. (2006):** Ipartelepítés Dunaújvárosban pro és kontra. In: Tiszteletkötet Hahn György 70. születésnapjára, A Miskolci Egyetem Közleménye, Egyetemi Kiadó, Miskolc, 173. p.
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