



SCHWARZPLAN.EU

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The City, With Its Physical Forms

The city, with its physical forms and social relationships, forms a structure – a system that serves its inhabitants. It is a place that gives people the ability to create formal and informal spaces, further adjusts and re-develops based on the inhabitants' needs. It can be described as part of 'a social process' (Tonkiss, 2013, p. 1) in which the relationship between 'the past, present, and the possible cannot be separated.' (Lefebvre, 1996, p. 148).

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Cities can be a closed or an open system. In the closed city system people are unable to make changes, these cities are built with a top-down approach, pre-planned by authorities and professionals. Closed city system is standardized, regulated, divided into zones where 'everything fits properly', with the notion that the planning will ensure its cleanliness, safety, and efficiency. On the other hand, an open city system is a bottom-up approach to city planning, in which people have an opportunity to take part in the city formation processes by active interventions. Diversity and density, the interaction of different people, street life, and the way people dwell and change

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