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Urban Conflicts of the Belgorod Regional Settlement System and its Elements *

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The relevance of the research. The relevance of this study is due to the growth of urbanized areas, which has caused numerous social, technical and environmental problems. The concentration of material, energy, human resources, as well as waste in the limited territories in combination with the problems of the organization of the environment of life activity causes environmental and urban conflicts. Research in this direction has already begun, but the classification of urban conflicts has not yet been formed. A methodological description of the application of the conflictological approach in town planning studies with a view to spatial interpretation of urban conflicts is needed. The purpose of this article is to develop a classification of urban conflicts.

Methods of research: a leading approach to the study of the problem is conflictological, using the method of graphical analysis of the territory and its description. The research is based on a systematic analysis of the interrelations and interactions between the elements of a regional settlement system. Areas of urban conflicts of different types can be interpreted as a kind of planning restrictions of the territory, which must be taken into account in the territorial planning in order to harmonize the interaction of society, the urbanization of the territory and the environment.

The results of the research: The conflictological approach in town-planning is considered. Urban conflict is one of the conditions of the urban development situation, namely, the state of imbalance, in which it cannot perform its basic function. There are several groups of participants in the urban conflict: authorities and residents of populated areas, investors, spatial environment (territory). It is revealed that at present there is no formulated classification of urban conflicts. The authors propose a classification of urban conflicts by groups: on interacting elements, on the level of territorial planning, on the types of spaces and their role in the conflict, on the resolution strategy, by the type of localization. Based on the example of Belgorod region, urban conflicts of regional and local levels were identified, for example, Yakovlevsky district and Stroitel town, in areas with different types of land use and development among themselves and in relation to valuable landscapes.

1. Introduction

The main task of urban development is sustainable development of settlements, ensuring the ecological safety of society and its social and economic development. The rapid growth of cities could not but cause numerous social, technical and environmental problems. The high concentration of material, energy, human resources and wastes in a limited area, combined with inadequate organization of the habitat, gave rise to environmental conflicts and contradictions that were reflected



in the deteriorating health of the population and a decrease in the economic efficiency of production. The solution of ecological problems of cities assumes to use of the complex, interdisciplinary, problem-oriented approach, called to solve problems of harmonization of interaction of a society and environment. Such approach, according to the authors view, is a conflictological approach. Urban conflict occurs where different groups of people with opposite interests claim the same territory. Participants in this conflict can be commercial structures, administration, city residents, professional communities and territorial units. The consistent overcoming of the current situation, the resolution of environmental conflicts and contradictions in the urbanized lands is one of the most important conditions for the sustainable development of the territory (Kononovich, 1999).

The field of urban conflict management lies at the intersection of town-planning and conflictology. At present, researchers note that conflictology can become an autonomous science. A number of works are devoted to the consideration of the conflict in sociology, psychology and political science. Eleven disciplines consider conflict today. The theory of urban development to resolve contradictions was addressed at the earliest stages: when choosing a place for new cities, forming a planning structure. Conflict topics in the theory of urban development were considered by researchers of the second half of the XX century. In the works of V. Glazychev, E. Eschina, A. Zinchenko, K. Lynch, V. Nikitin, A.G. Bol'shakov a conflict of interest is mentioned. They pay attention to the concept of the consumer, his participation in the project activity, the connection of the town-planning form and the social system, reveal a number of conflict situations in the town-planning activity. A. Krasheninnikov notes that "... the main causes of conflicts related to the use of the territory are: incompatibility of crowded and individual activities; insufficient parking space for cars, games, recreational activities; inefficiency of borders ". V. Glazychev [9] considers strife as an object of organizational activity within a matter of participatory technology, and one of the aims is to resolve conflicts of interests of a narrow circle of initiators of development projects and a wider community of residents. E. Yeshina [5] considers "NIMBY syndrome" in the context of the study of democratic procedures in urban planning, a specific form of socio-spatial conflict expressed in opposition to unwanted development (LULU). In foreign urban studies, spatial conflict was considered in the works of American city planners K. Lynch, J. Forester, Italian architect S. Boeri, as well as European city planners G. Edelman, B. DeMelder and others. However, the works of G. Edelman and J. Forester are devoted to the strategies for managing urban planning activities (in particular, the organization of the negotiation process in decision-making), K. Lynch [7] described conceptually the system of criteria of the town-planning form, linking its development with the conflict nature of the social system. All types of spatial conflicts are connected with town-planning activity. Studies of the spatial aspect of conflicts were conducted by American sociologists L. Wirth, E. Burdges (urban conflicts), M. Castells (conflict basis for the development of urban space). One of the types of socio-spatial conflict is one where the focus is on the fact of changing the environment and the intersection of the interests of different groups. The town-planning situation is considered as a part of the urban environment - the socio-spatial system. A systematic approach to the study of this system makes it possible to disclose its structure - spatial objects, social subjects, connections between them. On the one hand town-planning is a socio-spatial system and the subject of urban development; on the other hand it is a system that can be conflicting. Urban conflict is one of the states of the urban development situation, namely, the state of imbalance in which it cannot fulfill its function. The key difference between the urban planning conflict and other spatial ones is the inclusion of a spatial object as an element of the conflict system [11].

2. The main part

In terms of scale and degree of complexity, local and regional settlement systems are singled out in Russia. Regional system means a system of settlement on a regional scale, a local system means elements of a regional settlement system (municipal district, urban settlement). Settlement systems are developed both in time and in space. To some extent, the environment changes in the development of time. Let's consider these changes from the standpoint of the conflictological concept of urban

development [Freydin], which proposes strategies for the development of urban situations in a state of conflict, within a matter of territorial planning. Important fact for considering the relationship of space and the result of the conflict is the fact of changing the medium (urban development situation) in the process of interaction. Urban conflict is one of the states of the urban development situation, namely, the state of imbalance in which it cannot fulfill its function. A conflict in the use of natural resources is a situation caused by such a person's activity, which leads to a violation of the normatively established state or regime of the use of the environment, causes damage to some branches of the nature use or hinders its development as a whole [2]. Urban conflicts can be divided into two types: conflicts of interests and values. The first is a conflict of interest. This is a reaction to the fact that as a result of changes, the interests can be violated. Resolution of such conflicts occurs according to the most simplified scheme. It is necessary to organize negotiations and find a compromise by changing some parameters of the project. And the second one is a conflict of values, when the alleged changes in the urban environment threaten the values of citizens.

There are various classifications of conflicts. The sources for them can be the source of conflict, content, significance, type of resolution, form of expression, type of relationship structure, social formalization, socio-psychological effect, social outcome, etc. Conflicts can be hidden and explicit, intense and erased, short-term and protracted, vertical and horizontal. By value for the group and organization, conflicts are divided into constructive (creative, positive) and destructive (destructive, negative). The first bring benefits to business, the second brings harm. It is impossible to leave the first one, it is necessary to leave the second. By the nature of the causes, the conflict can be divided into objective and subjective. The first are generated by objective reasons, the latter are generated by subjective, personal. Objective conflict is more often resolved constructively, but subjective is resolved destructively. There are a lot of factors which cause the conflicts. They are economic, social, spatial, semantic and aesthetic.

The authors propose the following classification of urban conflicts in groups:

1. Types of conflicts over interacting elements are: social, socio-spatial, economic.
2. Types of conflicts of importance are: large, small.
3. Conflicts in terms of the level of territorial planning are: local, city, district, regional, federal level.
4. Urban conflicts by types of spaces and their role in the conflict are: the city, the natural environment, the territory.
5. Types of conflicts on the resolution strategy are: synergistic, antagonistic and regulatory.
6. By the type of localization (area, linear, point).

Area conflicts include: severely eroded lands as a result of agricultural use; contamination of the territory with pesticides; perspective recreational territories, allocated on the territory of forests of the first group; agricultural lands falling into the locality of perspective urban development. To linear conflicts include: pollution from mobile sources, discharge of untreated sewage into rivers, transfer of forests of the first group to non-forest areas [4].

The majority of urban conflicts are connected with contradictions regarding the attitude to space, because interaction takes place primarily between social subjects. The fact of changing the medium (urban development situation) in the process of interaction is important for considering the beginning of the conflict. It is obvious that, for example, military actions have a change in the administrative division of the territories between the enemies as a result, catastrophes and natural disasters are physical changes in the environment (both positive and negative), land users are the changes at the level of zoning and the potential of the land plot, its depletion, political, urban conflicts entail a change in the territorial aspect of the social system, in the form of the construction of borders, city walls, etc., environmental lead to a change in the operation mode area [11].

On the basis of an urban planning analysis of Belgorod region, urban conflicts of federal, regional, municipal and local levels were identified. Belgorod region is an agro-industrial and mining region. On the territory of a number of regions, exploitations of mineral deposits are being conducted. The most powerful mining and processing plants use explosive materials in the industrial quantities in the production cycle. In terms of shipped goods of own production and performed works and services by

own strength per head according to the type of economic activity "Extraction of minerals" Belgorod region ranks the 1st place among the regions of the Central Federal District. This list includes:

- 1) Iron ore, 80% of the reserves of rich iron ores of Kursk Magnetic Anomaly (KMA) and 40% of all the proven reserves of these ores in Russia are concentrated in Belgorod region, and many others.
- 2) Chalk, the largest deposits of high-quality chalk are in Belgorod region;
- 3) Granite, the quarry is located in Krasnenskii region between the villages of Gorki and Bogoslovka;
- 3) Sand, clay.

To conflicts of federal importance, one can attribute a permanent area conflict with the deterioration of the existing environment of the economic and natural subsystems near the town of Gubkin. The cores of the ecological frame (elements of the state biosphere reserve "Belogorye" are the reserves Lysye Mountains and Yamskaya heath) border with the zone of man-made landscapes (open-cast mining activity in Gubkin).

To the conflicts of ecology and economics of regional importance is the permanent "conflict between normative quality and the state of the environment" - it is the depleting activity of the agro-industrial complex. This type of conflict situations include: eroded as a result of agricultural land using; contamination of soil and groundwater; zone of integrated environmental disturbance; discharge of untreated sewage into rivers.

Technological (operational) land degradation refers to the most significant type of soil degradation. There are several types:

- 1) Physical (agricultural) degradation of soils –the processes of disturbance of soil composition, deterioration of the complex of their physical properties and leading to deterioration of water-air and other regimes, physical conditions for the existence of soil biota and plants.
- 2) agro depletion of lands is the loss of soil fertility as a result of soil depletion by elements of mineral nutrition, unfavorable changes in soil absorbing complex, reaction of the environment, depletion of mineralogical composition, excessive simplification or weighting of the textural composition, decrease in the content and deterioration of the quality of organic matter, development of an unfavorable soil biota complex.

Conflict of the territory of the largest in the area of the ecological corridor formed along the riverbed of Seversky Donets and the highly urbanized territory of Belgorod-Shebekino agglomeration, the crossing of federal highways, as well as high recreational loads and the development of mass tourism zones. The most important and significant conflicts are the close proximity of nature protection zones with the territories of the extractive industry, because the Belgorod region takes the leading place in the field of mining. This problem is clearly visible in Starooskolsky and Yakovlevsky district.

The linear spatial conflicts of regional importance include the crossing of the territory of reserves, ecological corridors, nature protection zones, natural and ecological skeletons and transport highways, which cause irreparable damage and harm to flora and fauna. This is clearly visible in the area of Volokonovka, where the highway passes through the ecological corridor, in Tomarovka and Borisovka districts, where the routes border with the territory of the Federal Reserve Belogorye, towards Shebekino the transport axis is in close proximity to reservoir of Belgorod.

Conflicts of local importance include the ongoing social and economic conflicts in the town of Stroitel - the lack of social infrastructure in new housing estates of individual housing construction: Krapivinsky, Krapivinsky 2, Krapivinsky 3, Zavodskoy, Glushinsky. Today, a large part of the area is inhabited, but there are no public centers of microdistricts, recreational facilities, and the structure of public transport.

The end of the study is spatial modeling of regional and local settlement systems by the example of Yakovlevsky district and the town of Stroitel with the identification of the main zones of conflict of functions on the territory.

The transition of the system from a conflict to a qualitatively new conflict-free is the development of the situation. The transition strategy, therefore, is a strategy of development that determines the content of a town-planning project. In the territorial planning, it is necessary to take into account the

participants of town planning activities, the strife nature of their interests, the inadequacy of social groups and individual positions, the orientation toward change, the social and spatial relationship and the correlation of the project with the dynamics of the conflict. The improvement of urban planning is closely related to the adequacy of the distribution of power authority, contributing to the harmonization of the urban environment and the democratization of the social order. The use of new technologies allows the authorities to work effectively in this direction. Therefore, the issues of assessing the associated risks in the system of urban planning and management should take the leading place in the policy documents that determine the strategic prospects for urban development [7]. It will allow:

- 1) to update the town planning documentation at the regional and local levels;
- 2) to form packages of strategies and programs of legal zoning documents;
- 3) to update the rules of land use and development of the territory of the elements of the regional system;
- 4) to develop project recommendations on territorial planning of the areas.

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