

Urban Centralities. Places of liability

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The evolution of Lisbon's urban structure has been associated with both morphological and functional factors. In fact, as the public life changes, so does the use of public space, as well as its urban functions. On the other hand, the city structure has been directly related to its urban fabric over the last 50 years, which sought to expand into areas with greater accessibility. Consequently, the areas close to the centre gradually lost importance and visibility, which led to their spatial and functional segregation, and to a further deterioration of the socio-economic fabric. The human flows generate a complex web of public space appropriation. The assessment of the human activity helped to construct the centrality model for the city of Lisbon.

This paper aims at contributing to a better understanding of Lisbon's functional structure evolution. The purpose of this study is the deepening of the knowledge about city planning as a process of dynamic growth, which is supported by land use management.

The current study concluded that there are new centralities emerging in Lisbon, where land use dynamics lead to preferential locations for central urban functions. Therefore, land uses and syntactic properties of urban space proved to be essential to find the possible location for public spaces with intense human activity.

Keywords: centrality, functional centre, urban dynamics, spatial analysis, Lisbon.