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The City of Ruda Śląska



*An Integrated Revitalization Plan in the Deprived Neighbourhoods:
„Orzegów” and „Kaufhaus”.*



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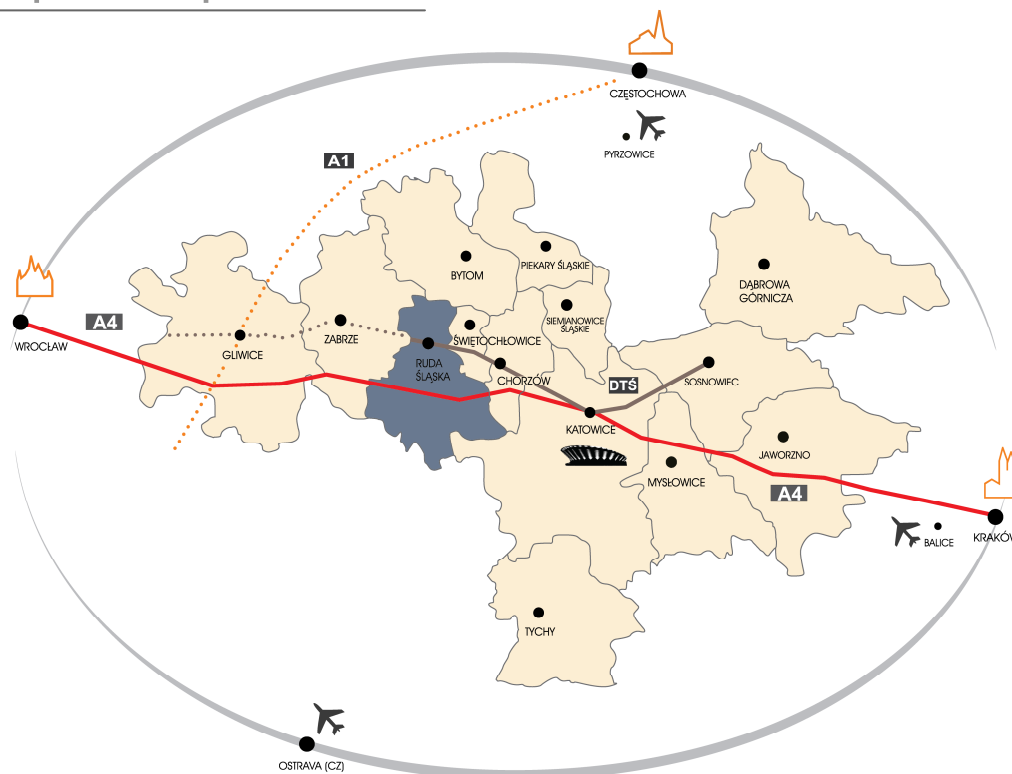
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The City: Some photographic impressions



The City: Social Key Figures

- 146,455 inhabitants
- **Unemployment Rate:** 6,6 % [Silesia 8,2%, Poland 11,1%]
- **Average age:** 34
- **Productive age:** 65,7%
- **Natural Increase:** -1.7
- **Population density:** 1.887 per km² (Silesia region – 380, Poland - 122)
- The populations is mono ethnic, the only minority is small group of Gipsy habitants
- The vast migration among young people toward Great Britain and Ireland

Within 2005 – 2010, due to a decrease in professional activity of people from 50 and above, an increase of the number of people in retirement age will be noticed, which signals the need for **broader activity** of the local authorities in the fields of health and social care.

The City: Economic Key Figures

Coal, energetic and steel sectors in the economic structure of the city.

- 5 coal mines and 1 steel work in operation that employs the majority of dwellers
- The most “mining city” in Europe
- The city has not any significant tourism potential although there are two monuments that belong to the Industrial Monuments Trail

Employment structure:

- 58.8% - industry
- 41.2% - services (public & commercial)

The **Ruda Slaska Business** Incubator & **The Upper Silesian Technological Incubator** – the facilities designated for the new set ups focused mostly on innovation technologies in their initial stage.

The **Silesian Industrial Park** – over 1000 hectare of the post-industrial area designated for new investments.

The City: Physical Key Figures

- Ruda Śląska occupies **24th** in Poland and **8th** in Silesia Region as for the population
- The city area is a part of Upper Silesia, lying near rivers Odra and Wisła watershed
- Ruda Śląska comprises **11 districts**
- The city spreads on **77,6 km²**.

Ruda Śląska belongs to the large metropolitan organism (The Upper Silesian Metropolitan Union), that is habited by **2,5 million** people. Ruda Śląska is located in the middle of this metropolis therefore it is privileged in transport layout – is crossed by the **A4 highway, Regional Expressway** and **the railway route Wrocław-Kraków**. In our city operates 3 **universities**, where one of them is department of AGH University of Science and Technology in Krakow – one of the most famous university in Poland.

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The Target Area: Strengths and Opportunities

- Great workforce potential
- Fields under investments
- The „Kaufhaus” settlement is privileged because it lies near by the city centre
- Identification of native inhabitants with city
- „Orzegów” is a rather quiet district
- District with traditions - small " homeland "
- Private University of Trade - in the district of Orzegów
- Heritage park museum of Silesian architecture
- The supportive activities of the Catholic Church

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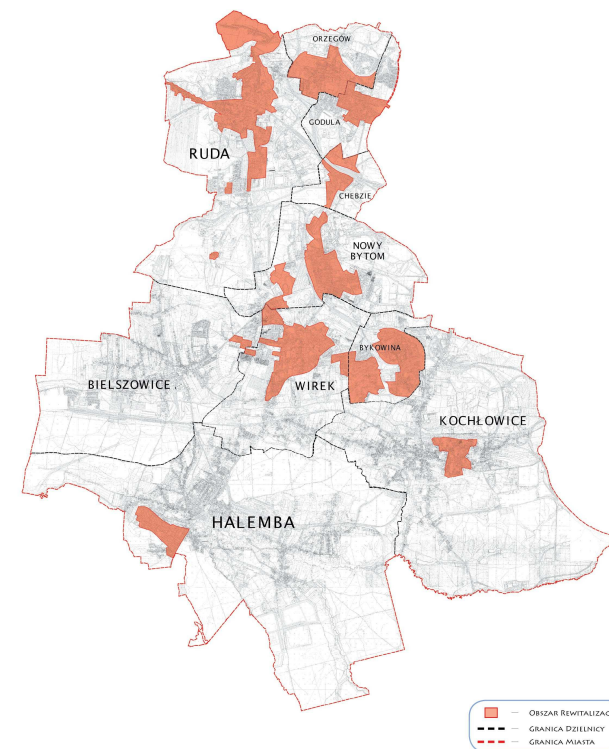
The Target Area: Weaknesses and deficits

- the large number of the parcels and buildings owners
- very close building brings **problems** to transport across the district (for the lorries)
- chaotic building the empty parcels with the **low attractiveness** for investors
- the low inhabitants education level (majority – professions educated)
- the accumulation of the **social dysfunctions** like: unemployment, alcoholism, perplexity in the guard and education also criminality (particular theft the infrastructure)
- the **air pollution** special in the winter because of the low emission (heating) also from the treatment and from the “Bobrek” steel work, which is located in City of Bytom
- the protective zone around the wastewater treatment on a border with housing area
- high **criminality** in neighbourhood “Kaufhaus”

The Target Area: Previous Strategies

Local Program for the Revitalization of Ruda Śląska in the years 2007-2015. Program contains the selected areas which need to revitalization and the list of projects to realize in these areas. The program was the first one to identify the most deprived areas that require urgent actions and emphasize the key issues that bother the local community. At Orzegów and „Kaufhaus” areas the feasibility part has only just begun.

The City of Ruda Śląska, together with 3 different cities, took part in the **URBACT I „Support for Cities”** initiative, that out came with creation of the report about the plan for the Orzegów district. The URBACT helped to create another project that from the UE funds will set up a **Local Initiative Centre** in Orzegów district.



The Target Area: Remaining Problems

The most important element of the Local Action Plan is finding out how to create the self-development need among the residents of deprived areas. We find that as the key factor in getting them into job trainings, **overtaking care** for their neighbourhoods, organizing initiatives for attracting new investors and becoming conscious about gaining funds opportunities (this element should be supported by the city authorities).

Due to the **limited financial resources** the Plan should point out elements that should receive an extra attention due to their strategic meaning.

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The Target Area: Local Support Group

- Tadeusz Kostoń - Department of Urban Architecture
- Henryk Mercik - Office of Conservator of City Monuments
- Bogusław Waćko - Department of housing
- Joanna Sochacka - Department of EU Policies and Structural Funds
- Marek Kobierski - Association of the Orzegów sympathizers
- Michał Pierończyk – a member of the City Council of Ruda Śląska
- Anna Małek - an architect
- Tomasz Malkowski – The “Gazeta Wyborcza” Newspaper
- Krystian Morys - Centre of Social Support
- Tomasz Bartniczak - “Association for the unusual initiatives” in Ruda Śląska
- to be completed...