

COMMISSION ON URBAN PLANNING

Review on September 2011 – September 2012



To the UBC Executive Board meeting in Koszalin, October 4th 2012

Aarhus, end of September 2012

Dear Madams and Sirs,

The Commission on Urban Planning carried out two seminars in the period from September 2011 until September 2012.

The first seminar took place in Tartu, Estonia, September 19th-21st 2011. The seminar was held under the head-line "Planning the history and future in consonance". The seminar followed the traditional CUP-template: relevant (mostly local) speakers, local field-studies, workshops and finally presentation of analysis and recommendations to the host city.

Beside the concrete recommendations to the host city, the aims of the seminars and the workshop-orientated process are to exchange knowledge across the Baltic Sea and to discuss both common and individual problems and solutions related to urban planning and urban development. The results of the workshop in Tartu are now being used in the comprehensive planning in Tartu.

There were 58 participants from Russia, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Finland Sweden, Poland, Denmark and Germany.

Please see the enclosed report about the seminar, made by the city of Tartu.

The second seminar took place in Halmstad, Sweden, May 9th-21st 2012. The seminar was a joint seminar with the commissions on Environment, Commission on Transport and Commission on Energy. The idea of a joint seminar originally came from the City of Halmstad based on a wish to make a more holistic approach to city development – and to the UBC work.

The title of the seminar was "Re-vitalize the city for sustainability".

The seminar followed the CUP-template and had 77 participants representing all four commissions and all UBC-countries.

Please see the enclosed report about the seminar, made by Eva Hjalmered, UBC Energy Commission. Eva Hjalmered also put the actual workshop results, as they were presented to the city of Halmstad, articles in the press etc on the home page of the Energy Commission:

<http://www.novaoskarshamn.se/UBC-Energy-Commission.aspx>.

Before the seminars the steering group held two preparation-meetings together with the respective host cities.

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Economy

The running budget of the Commission on Urban Planning is annual two times 5.000 Euro with are given to the host cities and 2.000 Euro to pay for accommodation and food during steering group meetings between the seminars, external speakers at the seminars etc.

The steering group members (their cities) pay all other cost and on the seminars the participants pay their own travel and accommodation.

The host cities pays between 5.000 and 10.000 Euro when they hold a seminar.

The home city of the Chairman pays for the secretary assistance, working hours and participation in other UBC-activities – such as the general conference.

In 2011 the total cost came to 13.425 Euro.

The grants from EU was 12.000 Euro.

3.751 Euro was transferred to 2012.

Coming seminars

Elblag, Polen, September 30th-October 3rd.

Umeå, Sweden, end of May 2013

Kolding, Denmark, September 15th-18th.

The seminars in Umeå and Kolding are probably going to be joint seminars with the Commission on Culture – at least Kolding is very long in this decision.

Other activities - Regarding the UBC Strategy for 2010-2015

In relation to the question on establishing common criteria for evaluation of the commission's work, the commissions on Energy, Transport, Environment and Urban Planning has written a common letter to the Executive Board, underlining that in our opinion the diversity is crucial and each commission has its own conditions and life, and therefore should be evaluated on individual criteria's. To increase the dialog between the commissions and the board, the board members are suggested to be contact persons and of cause invited to join our seminars, visit our offices etc.

Steering group

The members of the steering group are:

Marek Karzýnski, Gdynia

Isabella Forsgren, Umeå

Māra Liepa, Riga

Niels-Peter Mohr, Aarhus

Best regards

Niels-Peter Mohr

Chairman of the Commission on Urban Planning



RE-VITALIZE THE CITY FOR SUSTAINABILITY



Report from the joint UBC meeting for the commissions on energy, environment, transport and urban planning, held the 9-11th of May 2012 in Halmstad, Sweden

Theme and focus of the seminar:

The seminar involves social, economic, environmental and architectural aspects of sustainable city development and raises the question on how to overcome physical and mental barriers in the sustainable urban planning and how to create synergies in cities. All of these aspects are dealt with in the UBC Commission, who now jointly organize this seminar to enable its member cities to exchange on this highly interdisciplinary topic.

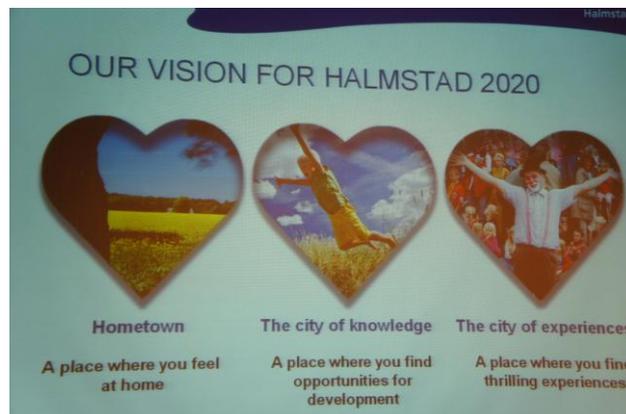
The seminar will facilitate discussions and practical work on how to create mixed-use areas, accessibility, challenges arising from traffic, industry and energy, how to approach climate change effects and how to decrease harmful environmental impacts. The focus is on how to create an attractive city!

Welcome to Halmstad, short presentation of Halmstad



Ann-Charlotte Westlund, Chairman of the city council

Mrs Westlund welcomes all participants to the city of Halmstad on the European day and presents the vision for Halmstad with the three hearts; hometown, the city of knowledge and the city of experience.





RE-VITALIZE THE CITY FOR SUSTAINABILITY



Welcome and practical information

The Chairman of Urban Planning; Niels-Peter Mohr, Energy; Stefan Windh, Environment; Dace Liepniece and Transport; Andrzej Bien welcomes everyone and gives an introduction to the holistic approach to the seminar.

Introduction to the UBC Action Programme and UBC Commissions and the purpose of the seminar

Björn Grönholm, Head of Secretariat of the Commission on Environment, and facilitator of the workshop



1991 the network of UBC started and now we are over 100 cities cooperating and developing. Today we have 13 commissions. Broad task of the UBC;

- Attractive living
- Economy & work
- Mobility
- Coexistence of generations and nations
- Energy
- Education & care
- Cultural Life
- Green Areas in Town
- Vital Town Districts
- Dynamic Town Centre
- A world of sports

Being a member in the UBC is voluntary and so is joining the UBC Sustainability Action Programme. The current one runs from 2010-2015. More than 200 persons were involved in preparing, discussing and writing the action programme.



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- 10 key tasks
- 4 SD process
- 36 goals & targets

Halmstad contacted the commission on environment in 2010 of how to involve the UBC network to gain influence, inspiration and input. We are focusing on two areas during the workshop, Tullkammarkajen and Larsfrid. Another focus will be the Covenant Club for the cities that have signed the Covenant of Mayors.

Welcoming words from *Karin Larsson, Sabina Andersson and Mattias Bjellvi* from the city of Halmstad who represent all four of the organizing commissions.



The Baltic Sea Region Covenant Club – UBC member cities networking towards and energy and climate friendly future



Jeppe Mikel Jensen and Kirsi-Marja Lonkila, UBC Commission on Environment

The concept of the Covenant of Mayors – a commitment towards Europe's energy and climate policy, the 20-20-20 goals. To go beyond the objectives set by the EU for 2020.

- ❖ Step 1 Signature of the CoM.
- ❖ Step 2 Submission of your Sustainable Energy Action Plan.
- ❖ Step 3 Submission of your Implementation Report.

32 of the UBC member cities have signed.



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Cities and climate change

B road task of the UBC;

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Local climate change response.

Should we see the climate change in the Baltic Sea Region as a threat or an opportunity? Adaptation and Mitigation → Adaptation (?)

Why should cities join?

- ❖ Cities are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. For ex often located in coastal areas which means a risk from rising sea levels.
 - ❖ The majority of Europeans live in urban areas → by 2020 75-80 %
 - ❖ Cities have authority for many climate relevant sectors
-
- Energy is one of the few municipal fields where significant financial savings can be made!
 - Lower energy bills for citizens, comfortable living conditions, pleasant environments, more jobs...
 - Increased opportunities for technical and economical support for the signatories



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Introducing the Baltic Sea Region Covenant Club

The BSR Covenant Club will join the forum of 12 covenant clubs.

Exchange of:

- Administrative experiences
- Project experiences
- Policy experiences
- Best practices
- Contacts

Sustainable Business Hub – holistic services for sustainable urban development



Eva Sjölin, SB HUB and Gunilla Kronvall, Sandell and Sandberg Architects, Malmö

Sustainable issues have been a natural part of urban development in Sweden for a long time. Not only when it comes to new technology but also in areas such as urban governance, urban strategies, urban resource management and urban planning and design. To make this experience available for a larger international population a non-profit organization Sustainable Business Hub, situated in Malmö, has gathered companies, city planners and universities to work out more holistic service offers in the area of sustainable urban development.





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The Sustainable Business Hub represent all the levels in the urban development process. Eva and Gunilla gives examples of their work; the former harbor area in Helsingborg that has been redesigned and revitalized, and the densification of the University of Lund while remembering the mobility. The Hub has governmental support for the development of sustainable cities 2012-2013. They export the model of sustainable urban development and offer support:

First idea	Second opinion
Crash course	Learning visits

Approach Social sustainability and an Attractive City



Viktoria Walldin, White Architects, Stockholm

Viktoria gave ideas of what to think about when planning a “soft” city, to lift up the social sustainability. What is then social sustainability? What are the social aspects? And how can we handle them?



Viktoria emphasized sustainable perspectives and social sustainability

Increased equality	Access to resources	Mixed use – mixed housing
Social capital	Participatory process	Dialogue
Social responsibility	Long-term thinking	Long term investments



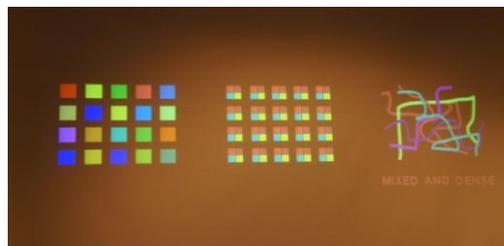
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Increased equality is the key to success.

Economic sustainability: vision, financing and process towards and inclusive city

Gunilla Kronvall, Sandell and Sandberg Architects, Malmö



Gunilla talked about the economical sustainability. We have gone from an industry society to an knowledge and service industry. We are creating “Spagetti cities”. An example is the city of Malmö who has diversity, openness, social integration and knowledge sharing. A practical example is the area Norra Sorgenfri. When planning for the area, which took many years and many participants, dialogue was very important, dialogue with the 35 land owners, the municipality, the residents etc. A vision for the area was developed. Almost all the meetings were held in the area in order to get to know people and to be visible. It was also important not only to focus on the area as secluded. How is it connected to the rest of the city? How do people move?

“No work all play!”

Sustainable planning in Halmstad – planning methods and anticipated goals for the areas and the future City of Halmstad





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Karin, Mattias and Sabina presented the current situation in Halmstad and gave an introduction to the two workshop areas Tullkammarkajen and Larsfrid.

Workshop 3: Covenant of Mayors Club

Jeppe told us about the platform of the Covenant club, launching the club and introducing different elements that can help and contribute to the work of the cities that have signed.

Malmö – the sustainable city 2025



Katarina Pelin, Head of the department of environment, City of Malmö

Malmö is a city in the South of Sweden that is changing very fast. The city of Malmö in Sweden was appointed the prime city managing the environment in Sweden 2010 in the newspaper “Miljöaktuellt”.

Katarina told us about how the city works with sustainability in a broader perspective and how they runs the works for the environment and sustainability within a municipal department. She gave several examples from different areas of Malmö and the work of refurbishing, renovating and new buildings and concepts. Malmö is a city with inhabitants from 174 nations!

The most important key is leadership! In Malmö the political parties have together set up long-term goals.





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Good practice of sustainable solutions

Eva Hjalmered, UBC Energy Commission



Eva gave a presentation of the lighting project “LED – Light in Public Space”. It is a project in the South Baltic Region Programme gathering municipalities, organizations and universities, highlighting the users’ needs of lighting. Who are we lighting for? Where are we lighting? How are we lighting etc. Major energy reductions can be made by being smart when planning for lighting.

www.ledlightproject.eu

Maija Rusanen, UBC Commission on Environment



New Bridges

Strengthening of Quality of Life through Improved Management!

Promotes more integrated approach to regional planning around the BSR. Gives a model of how cooperation processes can be followed through with a more structured way. A New Bridges toolkit is available on www.urbanrural.net

Maija also mentions ELTIS – The Urban Mobility Portal. This is Europe’s largest web portal with news, case studies (more than 1400 cases) etc. UBC member cities are warmly welcome to submit news or case studies. You can find more information on www.eltis.org





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Jan Westerberg, Mariehamn



Information about the PURE-project on urban reduction on eutrophication. The PURE project has a WWTP & Municipality Performance Database that can be found on www.purebenchmark.net. The PURE Benchmark On Lien Database has been created to

1. ...make it possible for municipalities and waste water treatment plants to compare their performance to other similar organizations,
2. ...establish reasonable goals for municipalities about waste water treatment performance,
3. ...gather reliable recipient load data into the Baltic Sea.

Presentations and conclusions of the working groups

1. Tullkammarkajen
2. Larsfrid
3. Covenant of Mayors Club

The presentations of the groups focusing on Tullkammarkajen and Larsfrid are enclosed.

Respos from Halmstad

Some comments from Sabina, Karin and Mattias were:

“Happy to have these proposals. Halmstad has a development plan for the east of Halmstad and recognize that it is important to have the university as part of the city. It is also interesting to think about small bridges to connect the sides of Nissan in the area of Tullkammarkajen.”

“Fruitful discussions. One issue is interesting in one city, but maybe not in another. How to use light was interesting – both safety and attractiveness.”

“Take with me +energy housing, waste collecting system, water, LED lighting, the public space and public greenhouses. “

Deputy mayor Henrik Oretorp

Regarding Tullkammarkajen;

- Events



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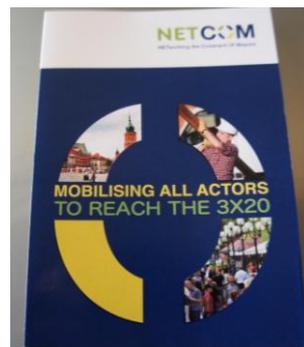
- River
- Green
- +energy houses

Regarding Larsfrid;

- Enlarged university
- Mixed functions – spaghetti
- Elevated areas over parking lots
- Small romantic paths

What will happen now is that the politicians and civil servants take everything with them and have it in mind when continuing the work.

NETCOM – The Baltic Sea Covenant of Mayors Club



Jeppe Mikel Jensen

- We can see an unprecedented growth of the interest to sign
- Among the UBC member cities there are 32 signatories
- There are 11 existing European Covenant clubs.
- To actually make CoM goal happen, cities often need support for their voluntary commitments
 - The how
 - The when
 - The what
- The way forward: Continue the participatory process. The Baltic Sea Region Covenant Club is made by you – and for you!



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Next meeting

The next meeting of the Commission on Urban Planning will be held the 30th of September to the 3rd of October in Elblag, Poland. Katarzyna Wisniewska, Head of Department of Urban Planning and Architecture welcome everybody.

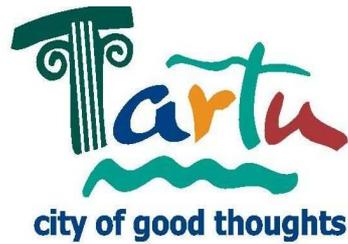


During the fall the commission on Environment, Energy and Transport will hold a joint seminar.

In between the meetings there is a possibility to have web meetings. UBC has a license for Adobe Connect, and everyone is encouraged to contact Eva Hjalmered if they would like to have a meeting.



Written down by Eva Hjalmered, UBC Energy Commission



**UNION OF THE BALTIC CITIES COMMISSION ON URBAN
PLANNING
SEMINAR
“PLANNING THE HISTORY AND FUTURE IN
CONSONANCE”
TARTU, ESTONIA, SEPTEMBER 19TH - 21ST 2011.**

**THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE COMMISSION OF
THE URBAN PLANNING:**

**Sirpa Kallio
Isabella Forsgren
Marek Karzynski
Niels –Peter Mohr
Mara Liepa**

**THE ORGANIZERS FROM TARTU CITY
GOVERNMENT:**

**Jaanika Koppel
Liisa Unt
Marju Laur
Ruth Kurss
Urmas Ahven
Mati Raamat
Indrek Ranniku
Peep Margus**

INVITATION TO THE UBC SEMINAR IN TARTU

Dear Madam / Sir,

You are cordially invited to participate the next Union of the Baltic Cities Commission on Urban Planning Seminar “Planning the History and Future in Consonance” in Tartu, Estonia, between September 19th and 21st. Tartu is the second largest city of [Estonia](#) that is often considered the intellectual and cultural hub of Estonia, especially since it is home to Estonia's oldest [university](#) from 1632. Tartu is situated 186 km southeast of the capital city Tallinn. You can find information about Tartu from the website: http://www.tartu.ee/?lang_id=2

We are waiting for You
with all our hospitality we have,
with the most modern conference rooms,
with our historical and modern city centres beside one another,
with the excursion visiting the Supilinn,
with the Mayor’s reception in the museum of our song festivals,
with Your ideas and problems about our city centre.

During the seminar we will get to know both the old and historical Tartu and the modern commercial city and on our behalf give our contribution to the future development of the city, combining the values of the old and bringing new ideas. The seminar workshops areas are presented in the enclosed file “introducing the areas.pdf” and “workshop areas.pdf”.

Together with the late 1700’s and 1800’s empiric style old town we will see large wooden housing areas like Supilinn. We will also have special lectures about how to support city centres’ commercial activities and keeping city centres the real, alive centres they should be. The seminar agenda is enclosed in this invitation.

It is recommended that the seminar participants arrive in Tartu already on Sunday, September 18th, as the seminar programme starts early on Monday morning (Sept. 19th) at 9.00 o’clock. The seminar organizers have negotiated a special price for the participants at hotel London (www.londonhotel.ee) for 69€/single room/night or 85€/double room/night. The seminar participants are expected to make the hotel reservations themselves by e-mailing or faxing the enclosed hotel registration form to london@londonhotel.ee or fax. +372 [730 5565](tel:7305565). The deadline for this special price offer is **September 2nd!**

Also, don’t forget to send in the filled in registration form to Marju Laur (marju.laur@raad.tartu.ee) by **August 26th.**

How to come to Tartu?

If by plane, You have the possibility to choose between Tallinn and Tartu airports. The Tartu airport is a new and little one, so there are still great changes going on, also in flight schedules. If the flight schedule suits You, a shuttle takes You from the airport straight to Your hotel after arriving.

If Your travel schedule suits more using Tallinn Airport, You have to travel to Tartu. The Tartu bus station, as seen from the scheme of Tartu, is straight in the centre.

Hoping to see You in Tartu and wishing you nice rest of the summer!

Urmas Ahven

Mati Raamat

Indrek Ranniku

Marju Laur

and Sirpa Kallio, Chairperson of the UBC Commission on Urban Planning

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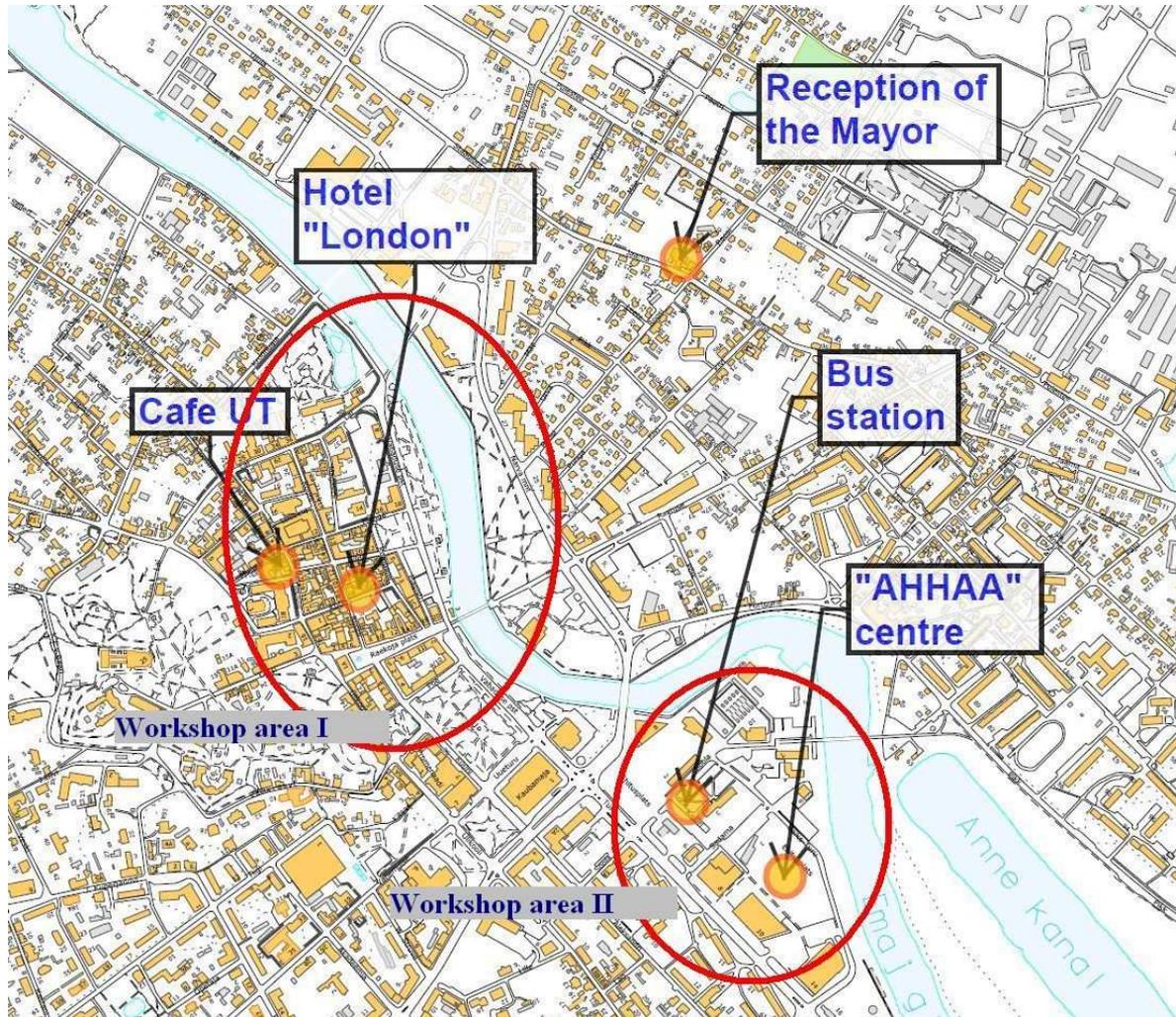
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THE PRESENTATIONS

The [opening](#) of the seminar by Sirpa Kallio and Raimond Tamm included the introduction of the [programme](#). To make acquainted the participants with the citycentre Tiit Sild, the city architect, made the presentation about [architectural visions of the riverbanks](#) which were complemented by the [overview of Tartu city centre plannings and future visions](#) given by Merilin Rosenberg. With [the development of universities in Tartu](#) by Pille Metspalu and [Development strategy of Tartu city centre](#) by Veiko Sepp all the main topics about Tartu city centre developments were covered. [The changes in residential conditions](#) by Kadri Leetmaa and ["Green City"](#) by Karin Bachmann widened the topics on the whole Tartu and even wider, speaking about human geographic and land architects point of view. For choosing the right size of the footprint in planning level good suggestions were made in [Olli Salmi's presentation Assessing CO2 emissions in urban planning](#). One of the biggest problems of the city centres- leaving the shops from it to the shopping centres in the outskirts of the cities was analysed by Matias Wärnhjelm from The Swedish Traffic Administration in the presentation ["The influence of shopping centres to traffic and social behaviour of the community"](#). Mrs. Britt Vorgod, Head of Planning Department in Gladsaxe Kommune made the presentation [" City development and retail planning in Denmark"](#) (with a focus on the ministerial considerations during the changing's of the Danish Planning Act's chapter on the retail area through-out the last 10-15 years and today's regulations). Best practise presentations were made on the example of Riga by [Aigars Kuskis](#) and [Andris Locmanis](#). Anna Katkhanova made a brief but expressive presentation about developments in [St. Petersburg](#). The closest [overview about the workshop areas](#) was made by Indrek Ranniku and Mati Raamat. Itroducing the next seminar of the planners of [Halmstad](#) was given by Mattias Bjellvi.

THE ACTIVITIE PLACES OF THE SEMINAR AND THE WORKSHOP AREAS



Area I The Common Development Of The City Of Tartu And Its Historical Centre.

The first area is situated in the district that is under the state protection of historical heritage. This area in World War II suffered heavy bombing due to what large blocs of houses were demolished on the riverbanks and were replaced by green areas.

During last years the area is losing its importance as a central area of business, service and state offices. That is due to the fast developing of the so-called "new city" besides and of course developing the new big shopping areas on the border of the city. Tartu University is as well planning to sell several buildings as they are not any more useful for the University.

Main questions: How to raise the role of the city centre as a centre of the region of the state?



How to bind up more tightly Tartu University with the rest functions of the city centre?



Which areas should be filled with buildings and in what function?

How to make more appetizing developing shopping and services in historical city centre?

How to connect city centre with the river in more efficient way?

How to link better Areas I and II between themselves?

Area II Development Visions For The New City Centre

Area II is essentially the new city centre where the main part of shopping and trade activities are functioning. To this area from the historical city centre have moved banks, bookshops etc. At the

same time in this area there are several public objects as spa/watersport- centre, childrens sports school, bus station, AHHA- centre (the centre of popularizing science). In the centre of the area is situated the open-air market place that means it must be well accessible for a large number of visitors as pedestrians and persons who use cars. As the area has been developing very rapidly and without the overall planning, the traffic scheme is very complicated for the car users and for the pedestrians as well; also there is a lack of public space in that area. Besides there are some plots in the area that have no buildings, as the right functions for them have not been found yet. In the close future the central boilerhouse and its facilities will be moved out and the buildings hopefully demolished. That plot needs a new plan of usage/plan of building to support the function of the new city centre.

Connecting the new city centre with the historical city centre in a more dynamic and attractive way we hope to get synergy in developing the functions of the two centres.

Main questions:

How to link better areas I and II between themselves?



With what should the open- air marketplace and central boiler station plot be replaced?



How should the riverbanks be used in more efficient way?



What changes should be done in traffic- and parking system?
How in the more better way canalize the pedestrian traffic and design public space?



THE OUTCOMINGS OF THE WORKSHOP

Workshop area 1

[Belka](#)

[Strelka](#)

Workshop area 2

[Laika](#)

[Gagarin](#)