

Summary

The concept of National Spatial Development Concept 2030 recommends the implementation of 'green belts' around provincial cities. In the 2030 Spatial Development Plan of Poland, it is noted that the main changes in land use will be caused by the expansion of cities, and green areas will be combined in ecological corridors covered by functionally integrated forms of nature protection. One of the ways to limit this expansion and to connect these corridors is the obligatory introduction of a system of green belts around the functional areas of metropolitan and regional centers. The aim of the work is to analyse the possibilities of using the concept of the Upper Silesian Industrial District's Forest Protective Belt from 1969 in the current spatial and planning situation.

In this work the author carries out research and analyses a number of issues related to the possibility of introducing the Green Ring around the Silesian Agglomeration. The research began with an analysis of the problem of green rings established around selected cities around the world, along with drawing conclusions from successes and failures in their functioning. Then, the records in the planning documents at the national level were analysed in terms of recommendations of the introduction of green belts around the metropolitan areas. The next step was to analyse the greenery systems proposed in the plans and concepts for the development of the Upper Silesian Agglomeration and the presence of green belts around the metropolitan areas indicated in the National Spatial Development Concept 2030.

The Forest Protective Belt of the Upper Silesian Industrial District (abbreviated: LPO GOP) was a planning concept from 1969, introducing a forest area protection system and locating 81 recreational centers in the area of these forests (called the Forest Protective Belt) around the industrial heart of Upper Silesia. The genesis and history of the creation of LPO GOP and the implementation of recreational centers and forest stand reconstruction for 1973 are presented in detail. A review of how the current development of areas within the LPO GOP changed from 1969 gave an answer to the question whether there is still a possibility to make these areas available for recreation.

Subsequently, an attempt was made to delimit the contemporary Green Belt around the Upper Silesian Agglomeration on the basis of areas predestined to perform specific functions, including nature, tourism and landscape. The proposed shape of the new Green Belt of the Silesian Agglomeration was compared with the shape and objectives of LPO GOP, to finally answer the

previously asked question, if it is possible to adapt the LPO GOP concept from 1969 to the realities of 2018.

Keywords: Green Belt; Forest Protective Belt of the Upper Silesian Industrial District; LPO GOP; National Spatial Development Concept 2030; Silesian Voivodeship; greenery systems of the Silesian Voivodeship;