Exploring the role of cartography in modern urban planning

With Fraunhofer Institute (Stuttgart)

Thanks to the increasing amounts of geo-referenced data produced by cities, all sorts of phenomena can now be mapped, from environmental parameters to the state of vehicular traffic. The aim of this thesis is to explore the role of cartography in modern urban planning. How new modes of analysis and visualisation can help to understand cities' dynamics better and help urban stakeholders to make better data-driven decisions. Moreover, the research is going to focus also on how cartography can promote a more collaborative urban planning and urban life. On the one hand, how can geo-data visualisation, maps and their storytelling be an entry door for citizens to take part in decision making processes. On the other hand, how can all of this help in making real "open data" with free access to every citizen.

The thesis is going to be based on a case study (topic to be defined) in Stuttgart. The objective is to carry out a geo-data analysis with the data provided by the Urban Data and Resilience team at Fraunhofer Institute in Stuttgart. This is going to be followed by data visualisation strategies and methods and finalised with an activity/workshop/exhibition with the topic of open data.

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