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Title: „Gated Communities as housing settlement in dependence to the infrastructure in Santiago de Chile“

Project: „Risk Habitat Megacities“ (Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ))

Person in charge: PD Dr. Sigrun Kabisch (Department for Urban and Environmental Sociology)

Period of time: December 2007 – July 2008

Objectives:

Gated Communities have been growing massively in Latin American Cities in the last decades. The relations between the spread of these new urban housing types and the factors of orientation in the urban space are still under representative in the academic field until now.

The thesis now takes up „infrastructure“ as one of the theoretical factor and tries to analyse empirically the relation to the spread of the Gated Communities in the Chilean capital Santiago de Chile.

Hypotheses:

1. The expansion of each gated community type in the urban space has a relation to the infrastructure connection.
2. There exist specific changing processes of the infrastructure, which occur before, during and after the settlement of the new housing types.

Methodology:

Based on an extensive data bank, which has been worked out by a Chilean Austrian cooperation project during 2000-2005, first I will do a split-up of the total number of complexes into basic types (according to spatial and living units).

Second, these types will be analysed by the distance (f.e. 250m or 500m) to the next basic road, by using communal (ArcView)-maps.

With count out, each type gets an (percent) value for the distance to the main street. To support the results, the thesis will focus out some significant areas (f.e. concentration of Gated Communities) to look for their chronologically development processes. This can display relations and dependences between the spatial structure and the settlement of the determinate housing types.