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The „European City“:
Ideal type and political catchword

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The „European City“ in academic discourse

- Geography
- Morphology
- Sociology/Social Policy
- (Cultural) History

The „European City“ in political discourse

- Context of „post-modern“ architecture and town-planning
- welcome notion (because nice and vague) for politicians and urbanists
 - > various re-interpretations, according to the needs at stake
- Still valid as an ideal type – and maybe as a regulatory idea?



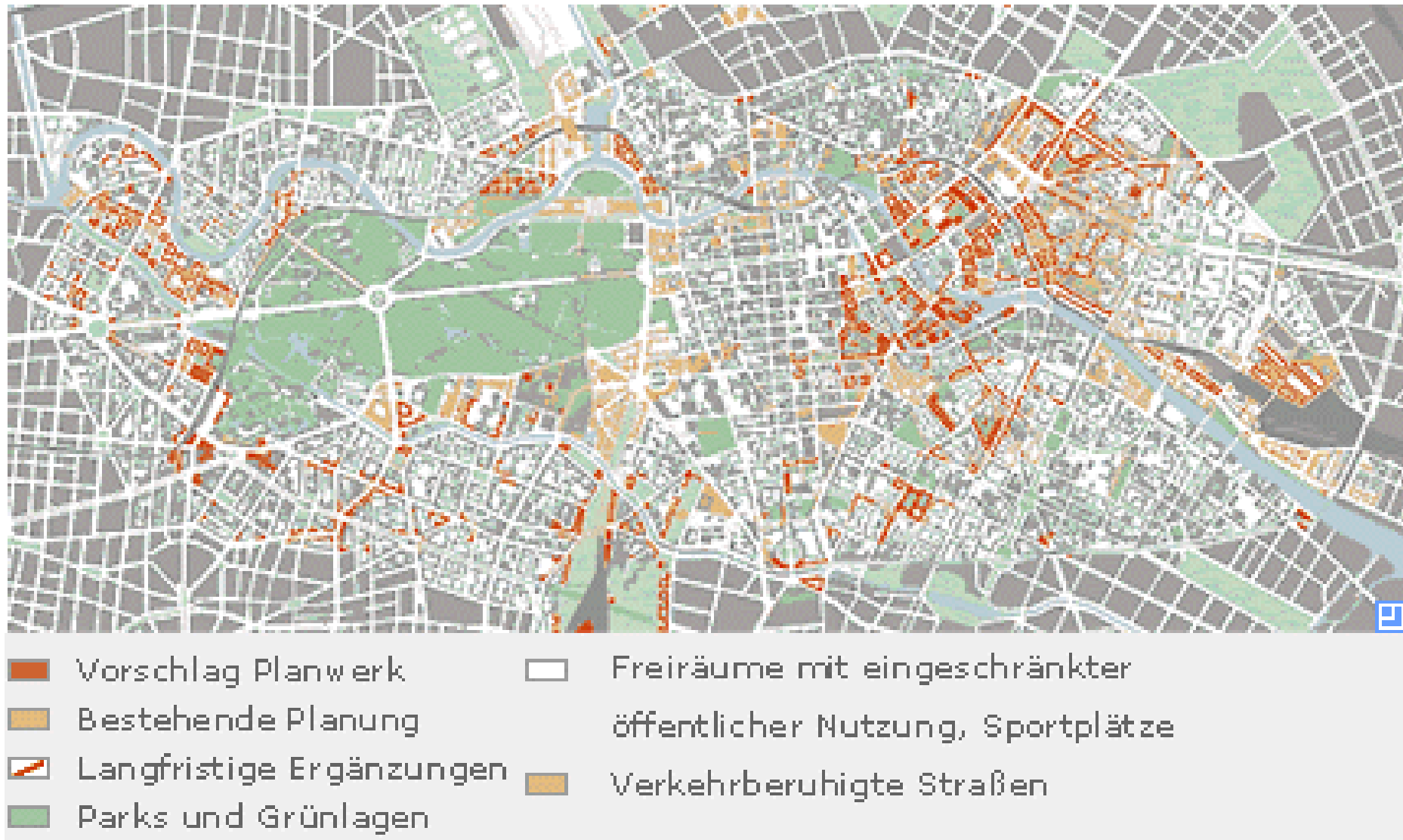
- Le Corbusier, Plan voisin de Paris (1925)



- Potsdam-Kirchsteigfeld (Krier/Kohl, 1990's)



The „European City“ re-designed: new building(s) in Berlin, Schützenstraße by Aldo Rossi, 1995-97



- Berlin, *Planwerk Innenstadt* (discussed since 1996, authorised by the Senate in 1999)

Two source texts:

- Max Weber, The City (1911-14)

<http://www.helsinki.fi/collegium/events/city.htm>

- Council of Europe, European Urban Charter II (2008)

<https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?id=1302971&Site=Congress&BackColorInternet=e0cee1&BackColorIntranet=e0cee1&BackColorLogged=FFC679>