Personal Information

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**chapter9**

**Europe’s World City Contenders: Paris, Berlin, Frankfurt and Barcelona**

**Background of different countries**

A further complicating factor in looking for world cities in Europe is history.

London and Paris have headed the European list since the eighteenth century.

Other historic world cities such as Vienna and Berlin challenged in the nineteenth century and early twentieth centuries and then faded.

**Paris: the petit quatrieme.**

Paris dominates the French urban hierarchy. It is by far the largest metropolitan area in France with about 20 per cent of the national population and a GDP per head 43per cent higher than the national average. Over the past two decades the city region has restructured. A decline in employment in the centre has been matched by growth in parts of the inner suburban ring.

The other great challenge is the persisting east west imbalance and problems of social exclusion in the eastern suburbs. It is the large housing estates of the inner suburbs that have accommodated immigrants, in particular form former French colonies, and where social tensions are exposed. National regional and local policies focus on these issues.

Part of our discussion of the Paris city region we see how new institutions are adding further complexity to the scales of governance.

**A changing planning style in the city of Paris.**

The Paris Rive Gauche development is the last of a series of large scale projects that signaled the international ambitions of the city. In the north and the west the Parc de la villette and Parc Andre Citroen carved new amenity and business spaces out of former industrial sites.

Despite its new planning principles the regime of Mayor Tiberi ended in 2001 with the election of the city’s first socialist mayor.

The new mayor reviewed Paris Rive Gauche again in 2002. This time the office element was effectively reduced to 700,000 square metres.

Paris made bids for the 1992 and 2009 Olympic Games. At one time the recently attention has focused on sites in the north of the city, overlapping the northern suburb of Saint Denis.

**Revitalising the suburbs.**

The new socialist regime in the city opened up new possibilities for intercommunal planning but we need to see this initiative in a much wider context of institutional reform. At both regional and communal scale the governance of the city region is changing.

The success of redevelopment in La Plaine Saint Denis flows from the success of the Stade de France project and the improvements to public transport. But it also depended on a change in regional policy.

The agenda of the city of Paris has changed there is a stronger social orientation and a desire make better links between city and suburb, though suburbs may be wary of annexation by a dominant city.

**Berlin: reviving a world city.**

The population of the built up area that sprawls out into the surrounding Land of Brandenburg is about 6miillion. But the city was cut in two for most of the second half of the twentieth century and the central city separated from its hinterland. Formerly, Berlin was the German capital and an imperial city. The issue concerns the relationships between city and suburbs and how these are managed between the two Land governments surrounding the city. The city regional scale of planning has proved problematic, and difficulties at this scal weaken the ability of Berlin to compete with its rivals.

**Rebuilding the central city.**

The reunification of the city in 1989 the economy needed rebuilding. Significant opportunities to expand the service sector were available in the city centre and if the city was to become an important European metropolis this central area needed replant.

Berlin’s local economy on both sides of the wall developed in an usual way during the Cold war period and East, West difference continues to have ramifications. Building on this base, the new politics of the united Berlin has impacted strongly on the planning process. In addition to planning the large scale, more incremental processes also demonstrate tensions in the new ambitions for the city. The historic central area was neglected when under the control of the GDR as it was at the geographic edge of its territory.

In part, Berlin’s competitiveness depends on the internationalization of its centre and the creation of a new economy around its capital city and the complex relationships between the city of Berlin and the surrounding Land of Brandenburg.

**City region Berlin.**

The new Berliners could access services across formal boundaries. Planners in Berlin and in Brandenburg recognized the inevitability of city suburban interactions and from the beginning of the 1990s sought a common planning framework for this cross border zone.

At the Land level cooperation is limited around soft issues such as marketing and tourism development. The cooperation of the joint regional plan is not reflected in cooperation between other functional departments across the two lander. A persisting disincentive to cooperation is the lack of means of sharing revenue from new development. The expensive failure of many business parks may encourage local governments no to follow the go it alone policy but once again constitutional structures may lock the Land and local governments into competition.

**Germany’s financial capital: Frankfurt.**

In rankings of Europe’s cities Frankfurt often appears in third place, reflecting an important concentration of financial and other services. The German Stock Exchange located in Frankfurt exceeds the London Stock Exchange in value but Frankfurt comes a poor third in Europe on other indices. London has ten times the employment in financial services.

London’s attraction is not so much to customers but to staff drawn to the city’s other world city assets. However important the complementarity between the centres, boosterist agencies have a role in Frankfurt. The chambers of Commerce created a city region scale body metropolitan Frankfurt, RheinMain in 2001 to promote the city’s assets and support bids for cultural project in cluding the Olympics.

Germany’s financial capital has an important European role but rather than being a rival to London we can see the city’s economic functions as complementary in a network of European cities. The now capital in Berlin has an economic role extending only across the eastern lander, and an uncertain role in an expanding European Union. Planning in both cities is contentious, in particular in the management of city regional growth.

**The Barcelona model.**

The 1992 Olympic Games substantially enhanced Barcelona’s international image.

Having secured a reputation of successfully hosting the Olympics and as a tourist city in the early 1990s, ten years on there are doubts about Barcelona’s future role. In the 1990s Barcelona exported a powerful image of successful mayoral government and a Barcelona model of revitalization through urban design and comsumption. The success of the Barcelona model is based upon the way that the city government is seen to have been successful in transforming the image of the city and managing its new tourism and cultural role.

The success of the Olympics, good strategic planning and a new approach to public management boosted the reputation of the city and mayor. Mayor Maragall led the city from 1982 to 1997.

Barcelona’s mayor is indirectly elected, chosen from within the city council, but once appointed the mayor takes full form within the city council, but once appointed the mayor takes full formal authority over city government.

Thus the Barcelona model has been widely viewed as a success, but more recently it has also attracted criticism. The success of the Barcelona model is important element in the debate about the international orientation of European cities. This was not acceptable in the earlier period of Olympic euphoria and city pride. Aside from the institutional dimensions of the model the development process that characterized the city, and in particular the impact of private development capital in fashioning new housing and new districts, is familiar to many European cities. It might perhaps be argued that there is not a great deal that now distinguishes the Barcelona model form that adopted in many other cities. And the search for European world cities finds few contenders.

**Feel Point**

Thus, while passing through Paris, Berlin, Frankfurt and Barcelona in a variety of today’s development of the revolution was to achieve. Because of this development effort is needed by many people to keep their country was fighting different people won. These cities from the beginning until now, I have thought it was a big city, but while writing it andaneun try once again found that interpretation. Courses and four of the historic city has to know a variety of issues, but many challenges remain committed to pass proud like a good station.