

The military landscape management of Latvian coastline military objects

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Latvian military landscape is divided in 28 military historical regions (Balodis, 2012). Military installations include some of the most historically significant properties in the Latvian cultural landscape. In Latvian perspective military landscape are military territorial structures which are affected from 1) military landfields, 2) military objects and 3) military institutional restrictions. Military landscape management in Latvian case mean spatial territorial management where is used Military Territories Monitoring (MTM) (Vinke – De Kruijf; Augustijn, & Bressers, 2012) and Landscape Management Plan. The Landscape Management Plan (LMP) and is a snap-shot of current standards and strategies for continuous improvement landscape and collections (Loechl; Batzli & Ensore, 2005). Implicit in this approach is an annual process of self-assessment and team review. There are two ways in which the military landscape of Latvia, and especially that of the last two thousand years, may be traced. One may delve into the contemporary historical documents looking for comments and descriptions of the landscape (Van Houtum, 2009), or one may examine the minute fossilized pollen grains which are preserved in the peat bogs which accumulated over the last two thousand years (Pužulis, 2012). The main aim of this research is to get to tieback between political restrictions and territorial planning. In this research Latvian coastline is divided into six segments 1) Baltic sea coastline segment from Rucava to Pavilosta, 2) Baltic sea coastline segment from Pavilosta to Ventspils, 3) Baltic sea coastline segment from Ventspils to Kolka, 4) Riga sea bay coastline from Kolka to Mērsrags, 5) Riga sea bay coastline from Mērsrags to Riga and 6) Riga sea bay coastline from Riga to Ainazi. Data is used from State Regional Development Agency and Latvian Statistical Bureau.

Key words: Latvian coastline, Military Territories Monitoring (MTM), military objects, regional development, Kurzeme planning region, military geography

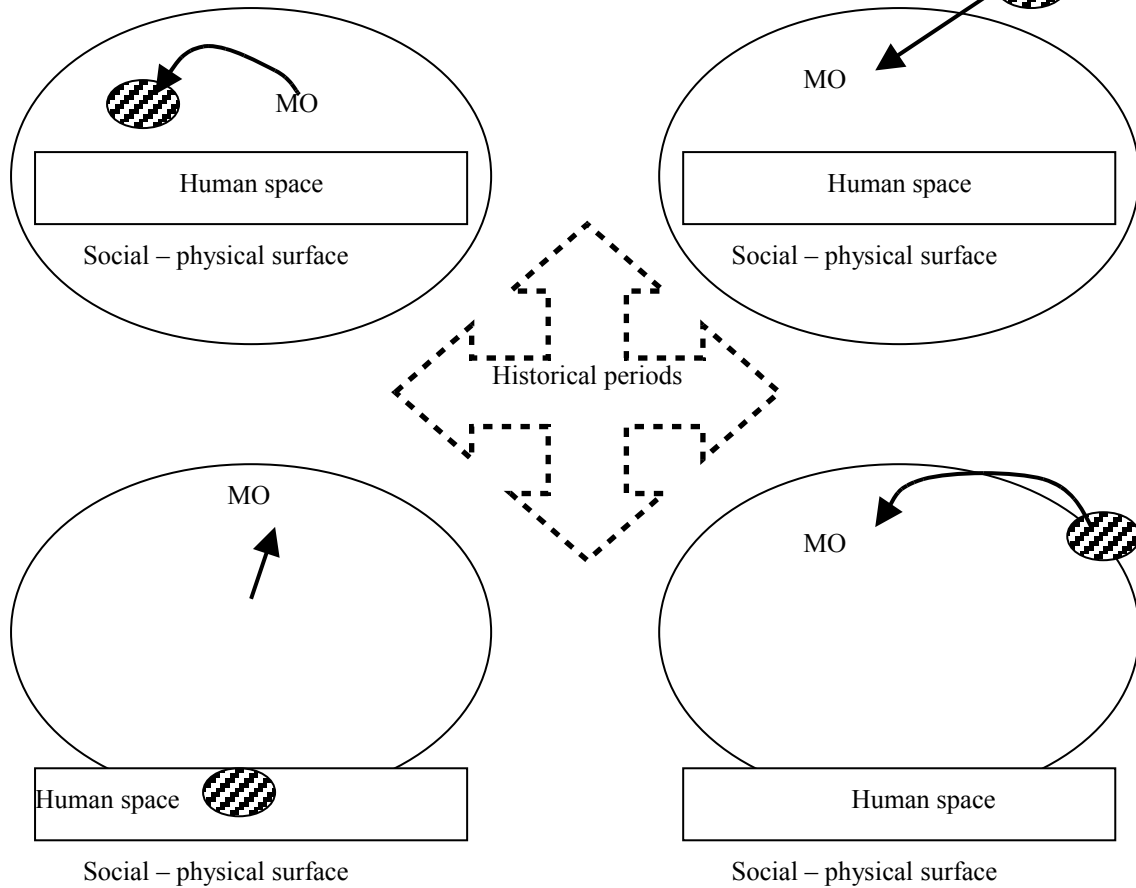
Methodology and data:

Methodology for this research is acquired from Michael Collins and Torsten Hagerstrand concepts. Geographers Michael Collins and Torsten Hagerstrand are declared that space, time and geo – dimension is related for transformatio territorial process. Periods of history and military conflicts are main military landscape creators from social ecology perspective. *Social ecology* is not a term in common use. It has been chosen to express an integrating and contextual focus. The use of the word *social* underlies the belief that it is people who make meaning. Meaning is not out there in nature, or in the events themselves that we participate in. Meaning is understood to be a social construction (Berger & Luckman, 1966). Data is taken from Ministry of Defence, Republic of Latvia

1. Theory of military landscape evolution

1. Middle ages, Swedish empire and Russian empire;

4. Contemporary situation and new NATO strategy.



2. 19. /20. turn of the century and Latvian independence time;

3. 20. century till joining in to the NATO

Figure 1. Interactions between historical periods and military object location (Loechl; Batzli, Enscoe, 2005 & Balodis, 2012)

There are four stages military evolutionary aspects. Military evolution and especially military object involvement in regions are the form where mostly in the Cold war period and time when military organizations were establish (see. Fig. 1.). This goes to show that the acceptance of an appropriate character is not tied to the existence of a corresponding belief state, which can be also established in the following way. For example, Military district in the USSR, a territorial combined arms command of units of various sizes, military educational institutions, and various local military institutions. The chief of a military district is the commander of the troops of the district, who is subordinate to the minister of defence. The division of the territory of a state into military districts ensures efficiency in the control of troops, in operational, combat, and political training, and in the implementation of measures toward the

preparation of the country for defence (Glebov, 1979). The main stimuli of military object as a space creator are 1) historical time 2) social – political relationships between society and memorial place.

1. Middle ages, Swedish empire and Russian empire;
2. 19. /20. turn of the century and Latvian independence time;
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2. Military regionalism and military objects management in Latvia

Military objects of regional development and creative rural areal development is mostly explained why peripheral infrastructure and clusters are depend by military objects.

This is topic which is related by place „understanding term” in military geography. Military objects in evolutionary aspects are recognized in the field of politics, history or international relations; border means the geographic line that divides two or more countries or groups. But in the field of social psychology, for example soviet missiles in the Western Latvian coast, focused on category, such as ethnicity, gender, race, and nationality as psychological „border”. The military landscape and militarism like a new space in the territory is to creator also for new geography establishment for international affairs.

Inequalities associated with the militarism – spatial science interaction with a geography as a human and physical geography term. Militarism in spatial science is founded upon two interlocking, but conceptually distinct, social processes. One is the allocation of rewards attaching to different positions in the social system, the other is the process of recruitment to these positions. The evolution as a aspect of evolutionary form for military geography (Latvian Tourism agency, 2012).

The testimonies of the many wars that have taken place on Latvia’s territory can be seen in various museums throughout the country. For example, the museum in Zante (western Latvia) dedicated to the battles of Kurzeme Province between 1944-1945 features real tanks and other weapons used at the time. The Latvian War Museum in Old Town Riga also has a wide range of items on exhibition. People interested in the events of World War I on Latvia’s territory can visit the Christmas Battles Museum near Riga. The Daugavpils Fort is one of Eastern Europe’s only remaining forts from the first half of the 19th century. The fort from the Czarism Russia period has been well preserved, and features many of the defensive objects and structures that were built at that time (Latvian Tourism agency, 2012).

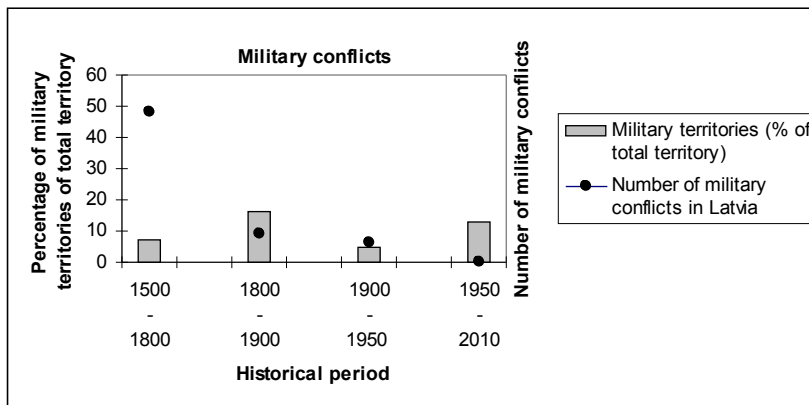


Figure 2. Relation between military conflicts and historical period in Latvia

For this conceptional framework which is adapted from American female geographer Susan Hanson's monography: "Ten Geographical Ideas that Changed the World" (1997). The four spatial characteristics for geographical ideas are involved in interdisciplinary research – "Military topographical data utilization in contemporary military geographical information systems (MGIS): example of Latvian case".

In second half of 20. century ~10% of territory of Latvia was taken by PSRS military objects (LCTA Lauku ceļotājs, 2010). In territory of Latvia military objects mostly are concentrated nearby Baltic Sea, all western Latvia – Kurzeme, Boarder with Lithuania, Estonia, nearby Gulf of Riga and on EU external boarder with Russia/Belarussia (see: Fig. 3.). Highest concentration is on Baltic Sea coastline in Liepājas, Ventspils and Kolkas counties, also in Daugavpils County close to border with Belarussia. 30% of total count of military objects in Latvia found in western part of Latvia - Kurzeme planning region (see fig. 3.). In Soviet regime Baltic Sea coastline (1, 25 km from coast) were so called "closed zone" - military structures were more developed in coast line (Balodis, Svane, Jakunovs 2012).

3. Military object geographical distribution in Latvia

Military objects in Latvia by count in local municipalities in 2012.

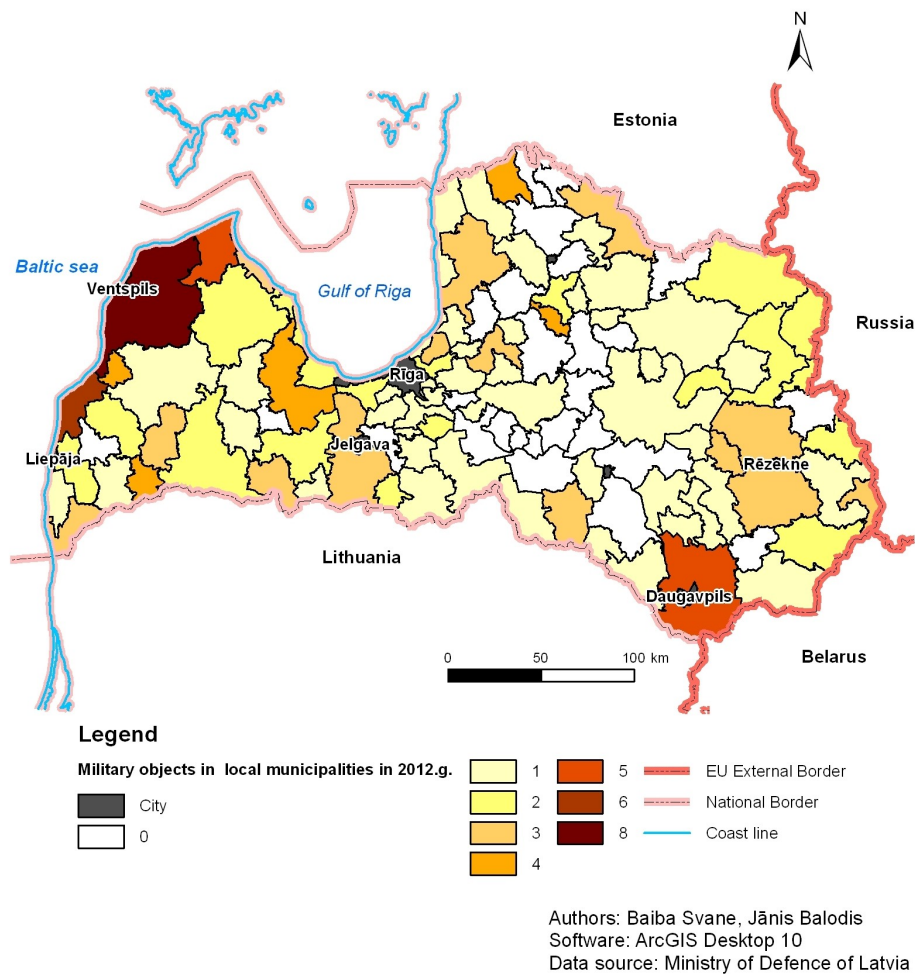


Figure 3. Military objects distribution in Latvian administrative counties (Balodis; Svane; Jakunovs, 2012)

In order to National Armed forces most of military institutions are placed in capital of Latvia. In Riga planning region are placed 25 military institutions, in city of Riga are found 20 different military institutions, in ‘Ādaži’ military polygon – 3 units (see: Fig. 3). Also nearby Baltic Sea in Kurzeme Planning region are placed 10 different National Armed Forces Units (institutions), 7 of them in Liepāja County., Nearby Lithuanian boarder in Zemgale planning regiona are found only 4 Units. In Vidzeme planning region are found 15 military objects, 7 are placed in Lielvārde County, 2 in Alūksne where are army towns. Nearby EU external boarder in Latgale are placed 4 military institutions (Nacionālie Bruņotie spēki, 2010). Nowadays military institutions are mostly placed in inland, especially in capital core where are placed many different institutions and in inland are found military training areas and army towns. Therefore most of PSRS military objects legacy of are not used by National Armed forces hence situation of National defence are changed – Baltic Sea coastline are inner EU boarder, also strategy are not concentrated of physical treats from boarders.

Conclusions:

For any given policy issue, we bring military evolutionary theory experts together with other experts for a respectful and constructive dialogue, resulting in a new agenda for basic scientific research, policy formulation, and policy implementation. Biological evolution is not simply a matter of change over time. Lots of things change over time: states lose their independence, mountain ranges rise and erode, but military territories aren't examples of military evolution because they don't involve descent through spatial inheritance.

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