

Multicultural Integration Centers in Poland. Architectural Issue

Yaryna Posuniak *

Phd Student, Doctoral School, University of Technology, r. 408, WICA, st. Nadbystrzycka 40, Lublin

Dr. habil. Eng. Arch. Natalia Przesmycka

Professor, Department of Architecture and Urban Design, Lublin University of Technology, r. 339, WICA, st. Nadbystrzycka 40, Lublin

Abstract:

In the face of the growing influx of migrants and refugees to Poland, especially due to the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, the architectural design of multicultural integration centers has become essential for fostering inclusion and building social connections. Previously, Poland did not face such extensive migration flows, making the current demand for inclusive spaces more pressing. This article examines the architectural challenges and opportunities related to creating spaces adapted to diverse cultural needs, which simultaneously promote integration and intercultural interaction. Multicultural centers in Poland are often adapted from existing buildings, resulting in spatial limitations and a lack of cultural sensitivity. Research indicates that new design strategies are needed, focusing on inclusivity, spatial flexibility, and cultural symbolism to effectively meet the needs of multicultural communities. Based on an analysis of existing integration centers, the article identifies key architectural elements such as modular layouts, accessible community areas, and culturally sensitive details that enhance the centers' function as places of integration. The article also emphasizes the importance of participatory design, involving both local communities and migrants in the planning process to address their diverse cultural and social expectations. Finally, guidelines are proposed for architects and urban planners, suggesting innovative approaches to designing integration spaces in Poland.

Keywords:

Multicultural integration, architectural design, social inclusion, participatory planning, cultural sensitivity.