

- **15400 | A Political and economical instrument: the post industrial city of Poblenou, Barcelona**

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Historically known as the Manchester Catalan, Poblenou stands out, since the 18th century, as one of the largest industrial districts in Europe. Marked by the large factories, the houses and the enormous seafront that represented the port area, Poblenou is defined as the largest source of income and growth in Barcelona, moving from a merely peripheral territory to one of the central points of this city. However, in a context of post-war fragilization, the improvement of methods for international industrialization and increasing speculation on industrial land, has made Poblenou a ghostly neighbourhood whose buildings and industries were abandoned and where workers and residents would not have the economical ability to remain.

Several strategies have been implemented, each with its dynamics and direction, offering new urbanities to the place. Key moments can be highlighted, such as the Olympic Games of 1992, the Forum of Cultures and the 22 @ - Knowledge District. The present research focuses on the study of the urban evolution of this district of Barcelona and how it was dictated by the political-financial circumstances of the capital of Catalonia. Through the impact of these events on the reformulation of the territory, the research intends to understand the effects of these events in a contemporary city where industrial memory is placed side by side with a generic city proclaimed by technological evolution, tourism and the needs of a society of the future.

In a city that lives in two completely different rhythms, it seems necessary to understand how architecture and urbanism can function as mediators of these two distinct realities that need to be articulated.

This study is part of the development for the integrated master thesis in architecture, at FAUP, 2018/2019, under the orientation of Helder Casal Ribeiro. Its main objective is to contribute to the urban study of one of the areas with the highest contemporary development in Barcelona and its recent history.