

Urban policies for a globalizing periphery: Insights from Eastern Russia

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1. Introduction: research problem

2. Aim and research questions

3. Methods

4. History and theory

5. Three cases of one process

6. Analysis

7. Conclusions



1. Introduction

Research problem: insufficient research on how policies for urban renewal reach secondary cities.

A case for urban studies and globalization research:

1. internationalization
2. the quest for attractiveness
3. urban policy regimes

A specific group of cities (that has not attracted interest):

- secondary, non-capital cities;
- in non-core world regions.

2. Aim and research questions

To untangle how ideas are conditioned into processes

To describe how these process are manifest (in normative change, actor configuration, realization)

Questions:

(a) the moments of normative change

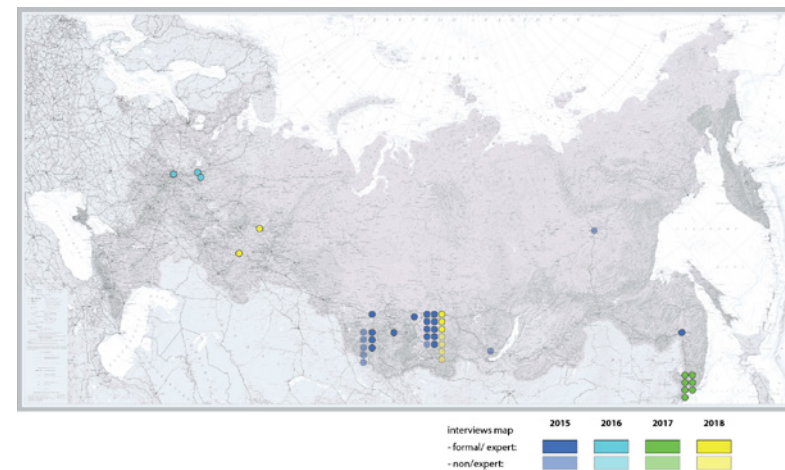
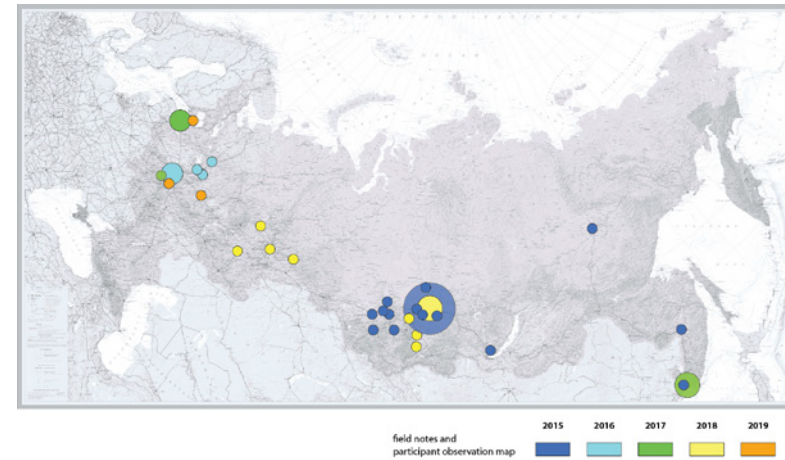
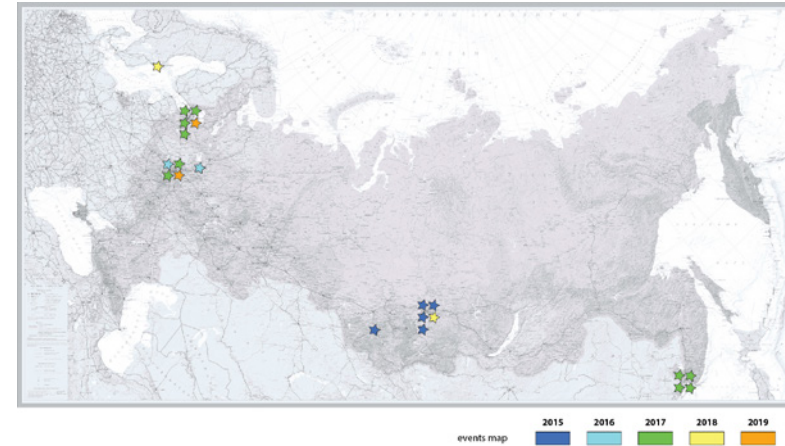
(b) the landscape of actors involved

(c) the resources that have been invested

(d) the physical output

3. Methods

- ethnographic fieldwork
- observations
- interviews
- thematic events
- state documents
- media discourse



4. History and theory

Constant features (in time and space):

- (1) a long-established centralized mechanism for urban development
- (2) a similarly centralized mechanism of knowledge transmission.



Specifically for Siberia/ Far East:

- (3) Rooted perception of Siberia as **Janus-faced** Elsewhere
- (4) Succession of **Sisyphean** attempts to articulate and integrate the territory



4. History & theory

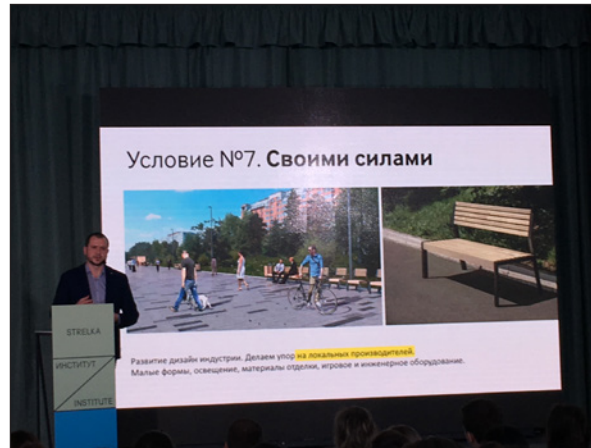
- The *post-socialist* city discourse and its shortcomings
- Beyond the global city: the *globalizing* city
- Cities beyond the Urals: a case study for the “*globalizing elsewhere*” city
- Policy mobilities literature

5. Three cases of a singular process?

APEC Summit



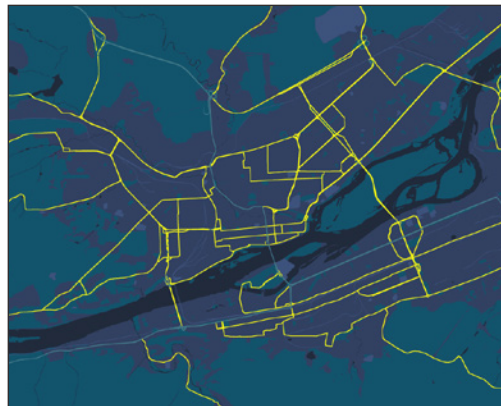
Strelka/ Federal rogram



Rusal CSR



Vladivostok



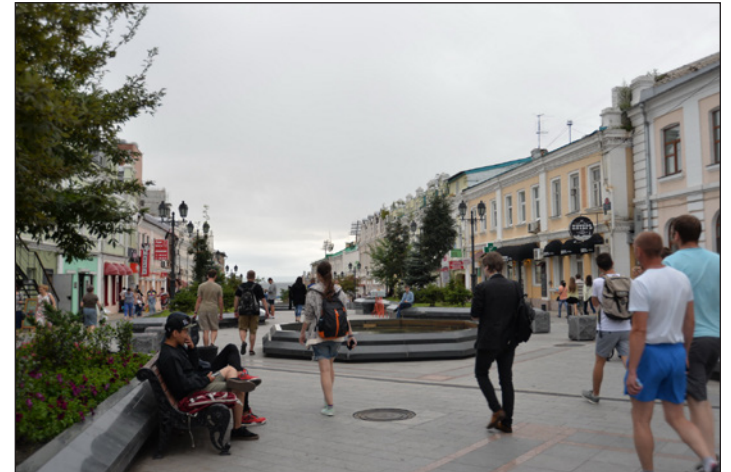
Krasnoyarsk



Achinsk

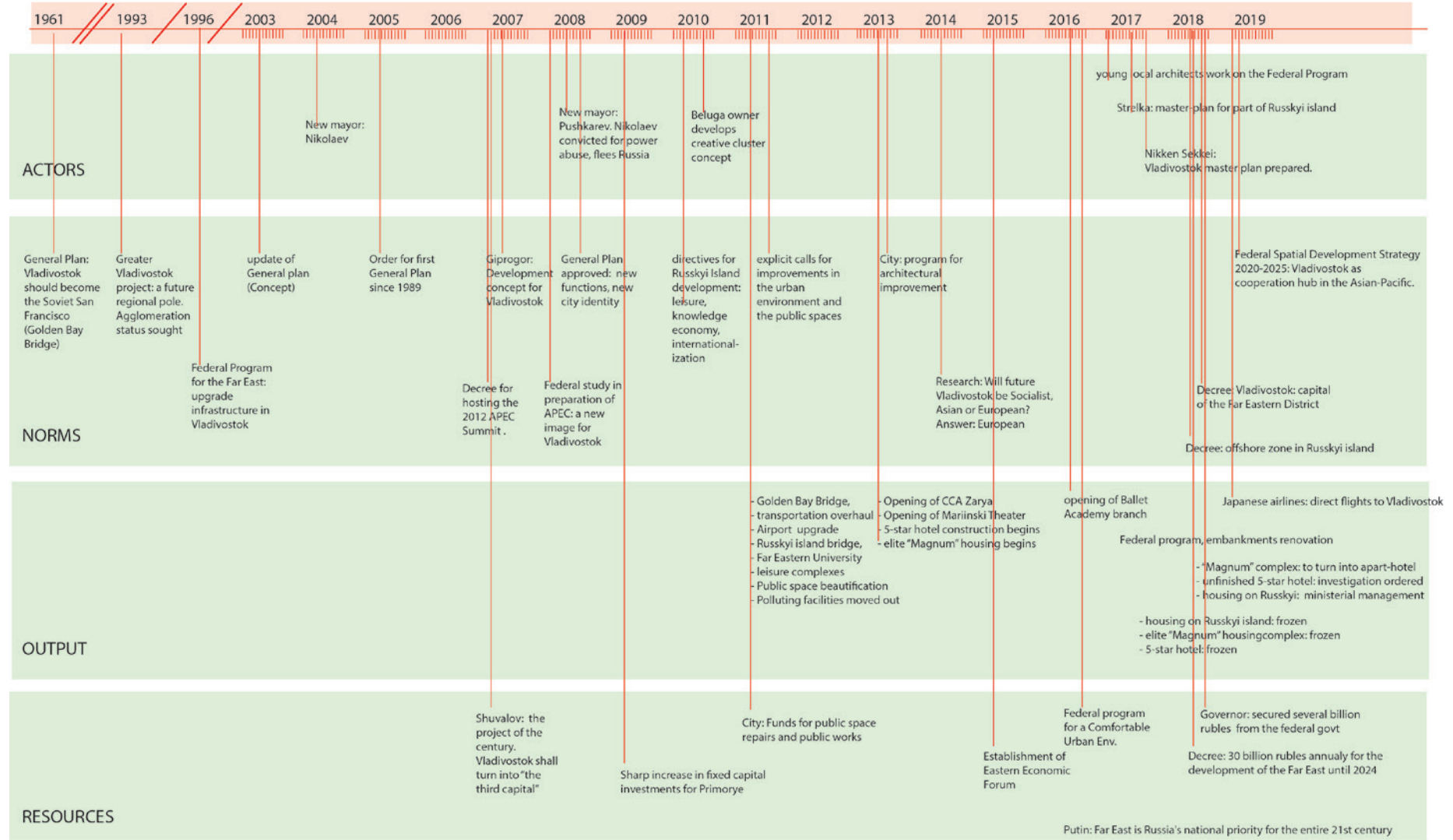
6. Analysis

Case 1: Policies for large-scale urban renewal in Vladivostok (milestone moment: APEC Summit 2012)



6. Analysis

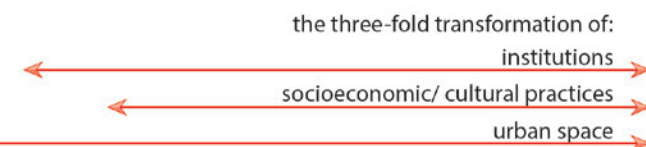
CASE 1: BOOSTING AND INTERNATIONALIZING THE URBAN SPACE IN VLADIVOSTOK



CASE 1 IN ONE SENTENCE:

A gradual normative change was followed by a fast and large inflow of resources which produced significant physical outcomes and a small landscape of actors. The spectacular role that has been assigned to this city ensures that this process is not over.

Spatial transformation has been fast and all-encompassing. Cultural and institutional follow now, happening equally fast.

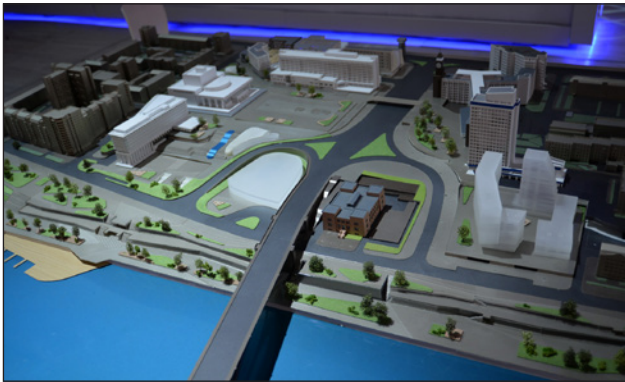


6. Analysis

- Normative change: long and gradual, preceding and following the APEC Summit.
- Resources: quick to arrive, abundant, continuous
- Physical output: significant, ongoing. Emphasis on spectacular infrastructural projects.
- Actor landscape: recent cracks between old/new actors. The first generation of creative professionals

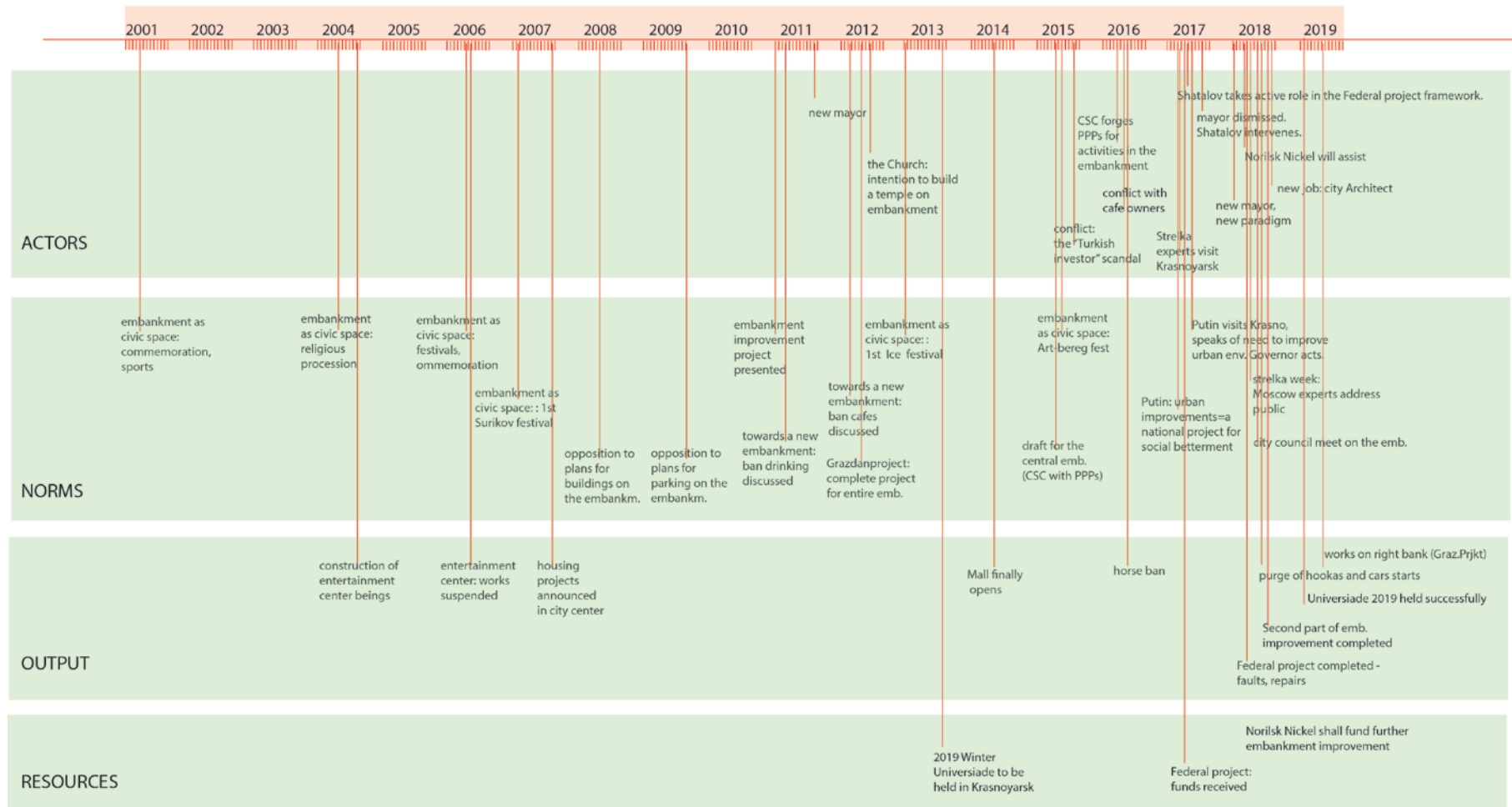
6. Analysis

Case 2: Policies for the embankment revitalization in Krasnoyarsk (milestone moment: Federal project for Comfortable Urban Environment 2016-18)



6. Analysis

CASE 2: URBAN RENEWAL IN KRASNOYARSK



CASE 2 IN ONE SENTENCE:

A dynamic and conflicting range of actors have been managing normative changes towards a neoliberalized central urban space utilizing relatively few resources.

Spatial transformation has preceded cultural, and both have preceded institutional.

the three-fold transformation of:



6. Analysis

- Normative change: Long-lasting frame. Deviations follow actors' agency
- Resources: Scarce. Mismatch with urban and regional regimes' aspirations.
- Physical output: Small but promising. High stakes.
- Actor landscape: Dense, interchangeable, dynamic.



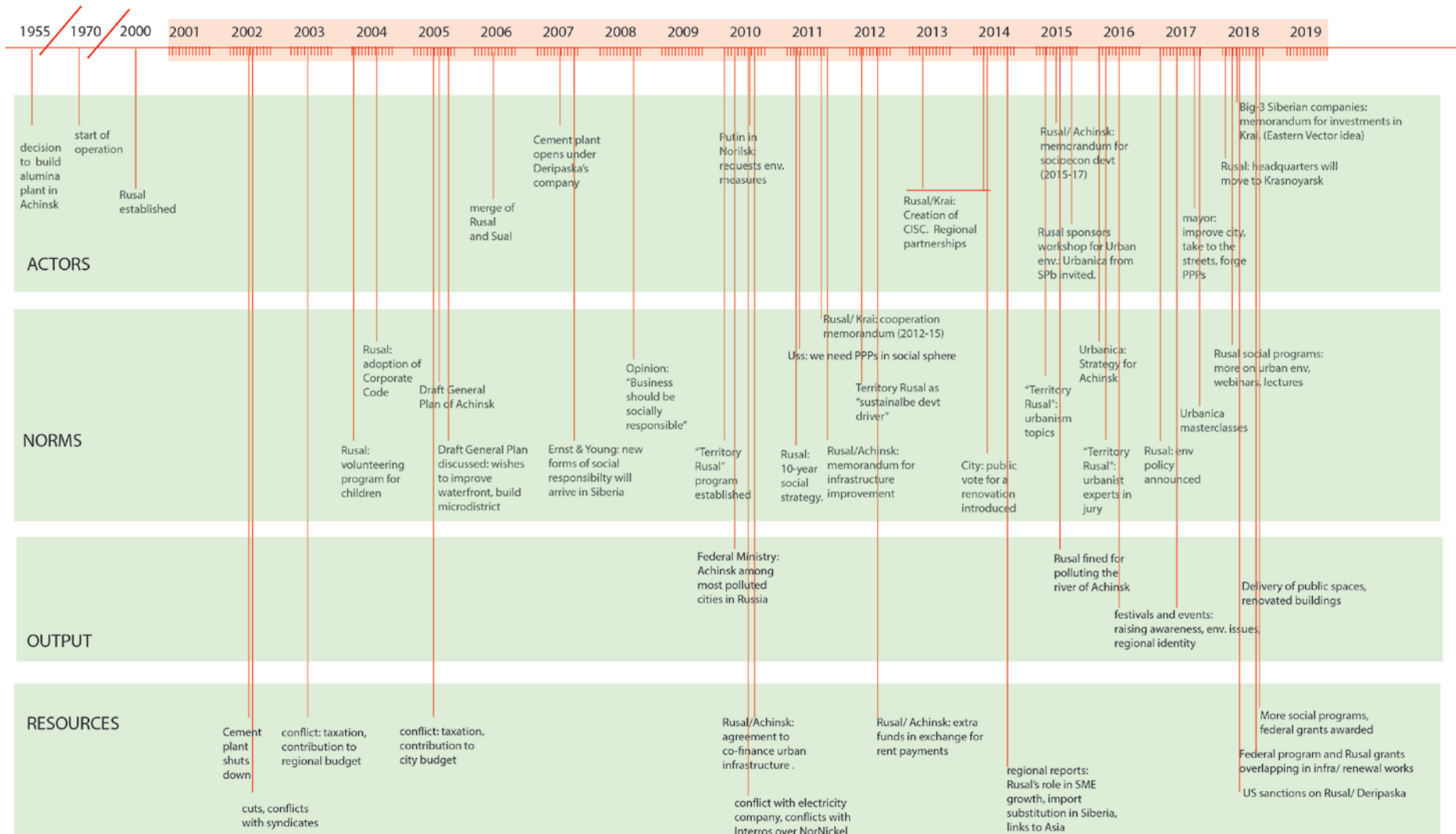
6. Analysis

Case 3: forms of participatory urban governance in Achinsk (milestone: “urban” component of RusAl’s Social Program 2015-18)



6. Analysis

CASE 3: PARTICIPATORY URBAN GOVERNANCE IN ACHINSK

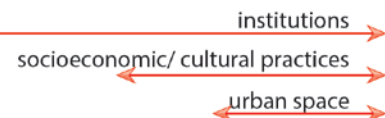


CASE 3 IN ONE SENTENCE:

Rapidly changing norms were imposed upon ill-equipped actors who sought to deliver the expected output, having access to limited resources. The entire process is taking place in a context of necessity.

Institutional transformation is ongoing, while cultural and spatial are marginal.

the three-fold transformation of:



6. Analysis

- Normative change: Significant. Rapidly internationalizing during all 2010s.
- Resources: Scarce, both materially and in terms of knowledge
- Physical output: Small. Quest to conform to objectives
- Actor landscape: thin, overwhelmed. Quest to conform to objectives

7. Conclusions

CASE 1: Large-scale transformation. Federal agenda pushes towards internationalization.

CASE 2: Partial renewal. Federal program has been conditioned by local and regional agendas.

CASE 3: Small participatory urbanism. RusAl's CSR conditioned by thin resources and actors.



7. Conclusions

From the global to the *globalizing elsewhere*:

The longue duree of Siberia/ Far East: Sisyphus and Janus.

Rather than urban renewal policies: processes of conditional adaptation.

Different degrees of localization of the international

Different degrees of internationalization of the local.



Thank you!

