

Abstract on “Inclusivity on public and urban spaces”

The fundamental elements of urban spaces are to be public. Their existence significantly enhances the quality of urban life. The ‘inclusivity’ through design of public spaces has been somehow threatened, especially in nowadays contemporary cities, primarily by the politics, globalization, migration/immigration etc. Besides, the declining ‘inclusivity’ of public spaces which is also resulted from the management policies, leading to places created from exclusionary design, rather than creating inclusive spaces for all. Therefore, public open spaces should be designed and managed in a manner that they do not comfort only a particular group, but they create safety and comfort for everybody. And for health and wellbeing places. Individual differences are bound to exist so proper architectural implementation is necessary to meet everyone’s psychological desires. Hence, there is a definite relationship between architecture and psychology. How a person is perceiving a place, depends on how it’s perceiving the design elements, the illumination, materials or if the place is similar to any previous ambiance we are well acquainted with.

As for the multicultural city in South-Eastern Europe, the capital of Republic of North Macedonia Skopje. Where ethnic diversity and cultural mixing is present, in a region where the processes of building and designing urban spaces, has been led to a simplification especially on the ethnic composition. The demonstration the process of how public spaces are being designed/created and the influence of society. Focusing on a dividing city such as Skopje offers insight into the mechanisms that lead to such divisions and may be suggestive for efforts to prevent them. The analysis draws attention to overlooked cities, where processes of division may not be as visible as a wall running through the city, as the ‘Berlin wall effect’, but nonetheless exist. Because it shows potentially ‘dividing’ processes, it provides insights on the dynamics of spatial politics in urban environments.

As to seek a way to intervene on these points to show the meaningful link between society, human behavior, urban space and usage of materials. To address an important gap while taking a different research approach as interdisciplinary research and make a contribution to the geographies of exclusion, social inclusion through public space planning, and the socio-cultural dimension. Therefore, public spaces shall be understood rather as an experience created by interaction between people and place, not just as predetermined physical space.

Silvija Shaleva M.arch