

City walks

Exploring public spaces related to youth engagement



Rrita, Florent and Trina from the University of Prishtina are walking together with Rasmus from the KADK codesign team, showing him spots of engagement and disengagements in Prishtina.

We went on explorative walks throughout Prishtinë/Priština, Podujevë/Podujevo and Gjilan/Gnjilane, and together we captured concerns and aspirations about public space in Kosovo.

The codesigners from KADK invited the students from University of Prishtina and young people from both Podujevë/Podujevo and Gjilan/Gnjilane for a series of three-hour walks in their cities to talk about public places. Throughout the walks we shared the process of documenting the places and conversations with each other by taking turns holding the camera.

In some cases, the walks led to places of recreation, some being hidden or secret from the rest of the public. In other cases, the highlighted places represented a missing link or a concern, e.g. an empty library, high-fenced public buildings etc. We later used the material from the Prishtinë/Priština city walks as the basis for the “Everyday stories as a game of Domino” workshop.

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“When we walked through the city we were inspired by what we saw, and got a new perspective on the real problems.”

– Florent, University of Prishtina

Why is this valuable?

Going for a walk together through public spaces, or other places of interest for that matter, can be seen as a method to let a conversation emerge from issues in the surrounding environment. Suddenly, public places are not only a common ground for people to meet and engage in different activities together, but also a starting point for discussions relating to concrete societal concerns or aspirations. Sharing the camera during city walks let us record multiple angles on a subject and lessens the “tunnel vision” that a single viewpoint can create, and the filmed material can subsequently be the foundation for new discussions.