

INTERNATIONAL  
SCIENTIFIC  
CONFERENCE  
POST-SOCIALIST  
TRANSFORMATION  
OF THE CITY

Book of abstracts

### **Organizers**

UNIVERSITY IN NOVI SAD  
FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY  
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International scientific conference:  
Post-socialist transformation of the city  
November 12 & 13, 2019  
University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Philosophy,  
Department of Sociology

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## PROGRAM

## DAY ONE: NOVEMBER 12

**Plenary lecture: Mina Petrović**, University of Belgrade, Faculty of Philosophy

*Reterritorialization of post-socialist Belgrade: globalization and/or glocalization*

**Session 1.1.** Urban movements and politics in post-socialist/post Yugoslav cities

**Session 2.1.** Urban culture and identity in post-socialism

**Session 3.** Urban morphology of socialism and urban tourism

**Session 4.** Urban ecology of post-socialism

## DAY TWO: NOVEMBER 13

Panel *Trajni doprinos Ljubinka Pušića urbanoj sociologiji: "Grad bez lica", 10 godina posle*

*(Ljubinko Pusic's Continuous Contribution to Urban Sociology: A City Without a Face, 10 years after)*

**Session 1. 2.** Urban movements and politics in post-socialist/post-Yugoslav cities

**Session 2.2** Urban culture and identity in post-socialism

**Session 5.** Population and gender in post-socialist urban societies

## FIRST DAY, November 12<sup>th</sup>

**9.00 – 10.15: Registration**

**10.15 – 10.30: Opening** (room 114)

**Ivana Živančević - Sekeruš**, Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy

**Dušan Ristić**, Head of the Department of Sociology

**Ana Pajvančić - Cizelj**, Organizing Committee

**10.30 – 11.30: Plenary lecture, Prof. Mina Petrović, University of Belgrade, Faculty of Philosophy** (room 114)

*Reterritorialization of post-socialist Belgrade: globalization and/or glocalization*

**11.30 – 12.00: Coffee break** (faculty canteen)

**12.00 – 13.30: Session 1.1. Urban movements and politics in post - socialist /post -Yugoslav cities** (room 340, Chair: Ana Pajvančić – Cizelj)

**1. Vera Backović and Jelisaveta Petrović**, Faculty of Philosophy, Belgrade

*The scope and validity of the concept “post-socialist city” in urban sociology*

**2. Valentina Gulin Zrnić**, Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Research, Zagreb, **Tihana Rubić**, Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb

*Zagreb city-making: civil initiatives and sustainable development*

**3. Chiara Milan**, Centre for South-East European Studies, University of Graz

*Contesting urban regeneration in post-socialist cities: Grassroots initiatives in the Western Balkans*

**4. Marica Šljukić**, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Novi Sad  
*Transformation of industrial space in Novi Sad: From factory to “factory”*

**12.00- 13.30: Session 2.1 Urban culture and identity in post-socialism** (room, 313, Chair: Anđelina Svirčić-Gotovac)

**1. Ranka Perić – Romić**, University of Banja Luka, Faculty of Political Sciences

*Post-socialist urban identity in function of the urban development: The case of Banja Luka*

**2. Dragan Stefanovski**, Skoplje, Makedonia

*Impact of globalization on changing the identity of the city of Skopje*

**3. Svetlana Batarilo**, Faculty of Transport and Traffic Engineering, University of Belgrade

**Milena Kordić**, Faculty of Architecture, University of Belgrade

**Ranka Gajić**, Faculty of Transport and Traffic Engineering, University of Belgrade

*City space as a means of differentiation: Symbolic importance of consumption spaces*

**4. Dragana Konstantinović, Slobodan Jović**, Faculty of Technical Sciences, University of Novi Sad, Serbia

*Metacode of Modernism: Novi Sad the Modern City*

**5. Nemanja Đukić**, Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Banja Luka

*Graffiti and urban identity (a negative value perception of graffiti as an indicator of urban identity crisis)*

**13.30 – 14.30:** Lunch break (faculty canteen)

**14.30 – 16.00: Session 3. Urban morphology of socialism and urban tourism** (room 313, Chair: Ranka Perić-Romić)

**1. Isidora Karan i Igor Kuvac**, Centre for Spatial Research, Banja Luka

*Urban identity transformation of open public spaces of Banja Luka in the post-socialist period*

**2. Slađana Nedeljković**, EPS, RB Kolubara, **Milena Nedeljković Knežević, Tatjana Pivac, Maja Mijatov**, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad, Department of Geography, Tourism and Hotel Management

*Industrial attractiveness created during socialism as a basis for the development of urban tourism*

**3. Violeta Stefanović, Dragana Kocić, Dragana Konstantinović**, Faculty of Technical Sciences, University of Novi Sad, Serbia

*Two modernistic buildings under the influence of double transition: Radnički dom and Sokolski dom in Novi Sad*

**4. Aleksandar M. Gajić**, Department of History, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Novi Sad

*The issue of financial sustainability of Yugoslav enterprises in post-socialist societies. Case study: SPENS, Novi Sad*

**14.30 – 15.30: Session 4. Urban ecology of post-socialism** (room 340, Chair: Dušan Ristić)

**1. Dušan Piksiades**, Faculty of European Legal and Political Studies, Novi Sad

*Progress in fulfilling the requirements of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change in the Western Balkans*

**2. Željka Kordej-De Villa, Irena Đokić**, The Institute of Economics, Zagreb

*The role of second-tier cities in providing green/blue infrastructure: The case of Croatia*

**3. Ana Pajvančić – Cizelj**, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Novi Sad

*The ecological consequences of post-socialist urban transformation: The green spaces of Novi Sad*

**19.30:** Social dinner, Restaurant “Veliki”, Nikole Pašića 24

**SECOND DAY, November 13<sup>th</sup>**

**9.00 – 10.00:** Registration

**10.00 – 11.30:** Panel (in Serbian): *Trajni doprinos Ljubinka Pušića urbanoj sociologiji: "Grad bez lica", 10 godina posle (Ljubinko Pusic's Continuous Contribution to Urban Sociology: A City Without a Face, 10 years after)* (Kino hall)

**Božo Milošević**, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Novi Sad

**Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac**, The Institute for Social Reserach, Zagreb

**Dragan Koković**, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Novi Sad

**Dušan Marinković**, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Novi Sad

**Ana Pajvančić – Cizelj**, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Novi Sad

Vladan Vidicki, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Novi Sad, moderator

**11.30 – 12.00:** Coffee break (faculty canteen)

**12.00 - 13.30: Session 1. 2. Urban movements and politics in post-socialist city** (Kino hall, Chair: Vera Backović)

**1. Ostrovsky, M. Ostrovskaya**, Russian State Social University, Russia, Moscow, National Research University, Higher School of Economics, Russia, Moscow

*Conflicts caused by urban innovations and modern mechanisms of their permissions (on the example of Moscow)*

**2. Tamara Stričević and Violeta Stefanović**, Faculty of Technical Sciences, University of Novi Sad, Serbia

*Post-socialist Novi Sad: A struggle for preserving identity*

**3. Konstantin Minoski**. Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje, Institute of Sociology  
*Ethnic concentration in the city of Skopje in the transition period*

**4. Antoanela Petkovska**, University Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, Faculty of Philosophy, Skoplje

*A city in interregnum; the post-socialist trauma of Skoplje*



**13.30 – 14.30:** Lunch break (faculty canteen)

**14.30-16.00: Session 2.2. Urban culture and identity in post-socialism** (Room 114, Chair: Dušan Ristić)

**1. Milena Toković**, Institute for Sociological Research, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade

*A Challenge for the post-socialist city: The Culture caught between the rock of humanism and the hard place of the market*

**2. Aleksandra Milovanović**, Chair of theory and history, Faculty of Dramatic arts, Belgrade

*Cinematic (de)territorialisation of cityscape in national film texts (1995-2015)*

**3. Anđelka Mirkov**, University of Belgrade, Faculty of Philosophy, Institute for Sociological Research

*The quality of life in medium-sized towns in the post-socialist period*

**4. Zoran Gudović**, Preschool Teacher Training and Business Informatics College of Applied Studies, Sirmium, Sremska Mitrovica

*The myth of the cultural location in the urban environment*

**14.30 – 16.00: Session 5. Population and gender in post-socialist urban societies** (Kino hall, Chair: Antoanela Petkovska)

**1. Ivana Milovanović**, Faculty of Sport and Physical Education, University of Novi Sad, Serbia

*Security of young women and post-war transformation of the city: Kosovska Mitrovica case*

**2. Jelena Božilović**, University of Niš, Faculty of Philosophy

*A sociological perspective on space-gender relations in the example of names of streets and squares*

**3. Lucian Marina, Vlad Millea, Claudiu Stefani**, University of Alba Iulia, Romania

*The gender gap for Romania in the context of integration into the European Union*

**4. Srđan Timotijević**, Department of Geography, Tourism and Hotel Management, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad, Serbia

*Socio-economic changes as a consequence of the origin and development of conurbation Sremska Mitrovica-Lačarak-Mačvanska Mitrovica*

**16.15-17.00: Closing remarks** (room 114)

**DAY ONE, 12<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER  
PLENARY LECTURE**

**Prof. Mina Petrović**

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**RETERRITORIALIZATION OF POST-SOCIALIST  
BELGRADE: GLOBALIZATION AND/OR  
GLOCALIZATION**

**Summary:** Relying on the concept of reterritorialization as a constant redefinition of the city identity, this paper aims at discussing certain aspects of Belgrade post-socialist transformation through confronting a sediment socio-culture experience within the city space, and socio-spatial changes generated by the process of contemporary globalization. The conceptual frame is developed by combining Lefebvre's ideas on production of space, Raffestin's concept of territorialisation, Castells' spaces of flows vs. spaces of place, Smith's notion of transnational urbanism, and Strassoldo's idea of glocalization, in order to confront challenges of globalization taken as standardization of space in both social and physical aspects, and those of glocalization considered as innovation in interpreting and preserving local values in a profiling distinctive city identity. Empirically, the analytical focus is on perspective of transnational actors in Belgrade as they generate an intensive exchange between local and global experiences and meanings. The analysis consists of 20 interviews with foreign experts who have worked and lived in Belgrade at least for one year. It was conducted by the Institute for Sociological Research, Faculty of Philosophy in Belgrade, from November 2018 to March 2019. The main hypothesis is that transnational actors are mostly attracted by places with local flavor in Belgrade, contrary to the prevailing urban policy tendencies to channel Belgrade post-socialist transformation towards emulation of globally standardized city development in order to increase its competitiveness. The find-

ings confirm the starting hypothesis and also reveal that practices of transnational actors are impeded by insufficiently developed globalized milieu as an important precondition of Belgrade development like globally recognized and attractive city.

**Key words:** post-socialist city transformation, globalization, globalization, territorialisation

**Mina Petrović** earned her BA, MA and PhD degrees in Sociology at the Faculty of Philosophy, in Belgrade. Between 1988 and 1997, she worked at the Center for Demographic Research of the Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade, studying fertility and nuptiality. Since 1997, she has been a part of the Faculty of Philosophy, working on the subjects in the field of urban sociology and rural and sustainable development. These are the topics of both her teaching in various courses at the Department of Sociology, and her research within projects of the Institute for Sociological Research, as well as academic and policy-related projects sponsored by the EU and other international organizations. Between 2003 and 2006, she held a postdoc grant at the London School of Economics. She is a member of the European Sociological Association, European Housing Studies Network, Sociological Association of Serbia and Montenegro, and Serbian Sociological Society.

**SESSION 1.1. URBAN MOVEMENTS AND POLITICS  
IN POST-SOCIALIST / POST-YUGOSLAV CITIES  
(Chair, Ana Pajvančić – Cizelj)**

**Vera Backović**

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**Jelisaveta Petrović**

Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade

**THE SCOPE AND VALIDITY OF THE CONCEPT  
“POST-SOCIALIST CITY”  
IN URBAN SOCIOLOGY**

**Abstract:** The paper examines the justification of further use of the term “post-socialist city” for study and explanation of phenomena and processes in the cities of the former socialist countries. The concept of the post-socialist city was introduced during the 1990s for the analysis of the urban changes that had occurred under the influence of the post-socialist transformation process. Three decades after the downfall of socialism in Europe, the question that arises is whether this concept is still appropriate for understanding the urban phenomena in the former socialist countries that now belong to the European (semi) periphery. The terms CAT, *Cities after Transition* and Post-communist cities (Sykora and Bouzarovski, 2012), have been introduced in urban theory for describing the common features of these cities. In this paper we suggest the term “*Cities after transformation*”, because the notion of transformation points to the complexity and comprehensiveness of social changes that have taken place within a relatively long period of time after the collapse of socialism, as well as to the path dependency, something that the concept of transition, as a linear and direct change from socialism to capital-

ism, does not consider. The concept “*Cities after transformation*” takes into account the significance of the socialist heritage and the specific path of transformation that is manifested in functioning of the institutional framework, values, practices of activism, and spatial structure of the former socialist cities. The applicability of this concept has been tested in the cases of urban movements and gentrification processes in Belgrade.

**Keywords:** post-socialist city, CAT, socialist heritage, European (semi)periphery

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**ZAGREB CITY-MAKING: CIVIL INITIATIVES AND  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

**Abstract:** “Small” civic initiatives, a direct action, and self-organizing have been brought to the fore in the new century as means to enact social and political changes. In 2012, a newly formed civic initiative in Zagreb (*Parktipicipacija*) together with existing branches of green activist groups began to advocate urban gardening as a necessary strategy for sustainable urban development. The initiative was a reaction to the actual local situation, a destruction of “wild” gardens in a Zagreb housing estate following a decision of the municipal authorities. However, it was also correlated with various practical European urban initiatives aimed

at changing the established consumerist consciousness and life habits, as well as with ideas of the global *Transition Movement* in promoting resilient and strong local communities with a minimal ecological footprint. The paper is based on ethnographic research on urban gardening in Zagreb, showing various types of organization of gardening communities, and the recent resemantization of urban gardening in the context of contemporary city. We argue that urban gardening has a strong potential in initiating and strengthening urban processes of community building (developing social capital, solidarity, inclusiveness), shaping governance (civil engagement, participation and influence on decision-making), and sustainable urban living (green spaces, transport etc.). However, the intensity of these processes is dependent on the ethos of particular gardening communities, as well as the power relations between them and the municipal authorities.

**Keywords:** Zagreb, urban transformations, urban gardening, governance, public space

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### **CONTESTING URBAN REGENERATION IN POST-SOCIALIST CITIES: GRASSROOTS INITIATIVES IN THE WESTERN BALKANS**

**Abstract:** In recent years, the privatization and commodification of natural resources, urban space, and public services has inspired social actions, political mobilizations and protests in many places around the world. Various forms of urban mobilizations under-

taken with the aim of constructing “cities for people and not for profit” have taken the name of a right to the city groups. This variety of citizen initiatives and grassroots groups have employed different tactics, and put in place a radical alternative model of space organization that goes beyond the dichotomy public/private, affirming spaces and services as “urban commons”, i.e. resources belonging to the collectivity that cannot be inserted in the commodification and privatization processes. Whereas scholars have examined urban commons and the right to the city groups in Western societies, little scholarly work has so far explored their recent emergence and development in former Yugoslav countries. This paper explores the grassroots initiatives (specifically *Jedan grad, jedna borba, Crvena, Slobodna Zona, Dobre kote* in Sarajevo; *Ne davimo Beograd* and *Krov nad glavom* in Belgrade; and *Zagreb je naš* in Zagreb), which have appeared in the last decades in the area, with a particular focus on the cities of Sarajevo, Belgrade, and Zagreb. Based on ethnographic work and a series of in-depth interviews with a dozen of activists, this paper investigates the diverse ways in which the right to the city groups have responded to the privatisation of space and services in recent years. Specifically, it reveals that while some groups have decided to focus their struggle at the local level, others opted for networking with similar initiatives outside the localized context, choosing to create citizens’ platforms and running for elections, thus moving from the contentious field to the electoral arena.

**Keywords:** right to the city, urban movements, social movements, mobilization, Western Balkans



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## **TRANSFORMATION OF INDUSTRIAL SPACE IN NOVI SAD: FROM FACTORY TO “FACTORY”**

**Abstract:** During the post-socialist transformation, the process of devastation of industry was intensified. It produced numerous social consequences, from unemployment to abandonment, inaction and decay of industrial buildings. The collapsed and neglected factory spaces (administrative buildings, halls, warehouses), which did not get a new owner in one of the numerous waves of privatization, became a part of post-socialist, most urban, décor. In the absence of a designed, practical or any state intervention with the aim to solve the problem, mostly cultural/art activities started to take place gradually in some of these objects, being initiated from the organizations of the non-governmental sector. In this way, the purpose of the yesterday industrial buildings was completely changed. The intention of this paper was to perceive the characteristics and consequences of this transformation that took place in Novi Sad. At the same time, the new “urban picture” was compared with the old one, from the times when today deserted factory buildings functioned in its primary and basic purpose. The part of empirical data, collected at the beginning of the transition, during the research in one of these (now non-existed) factories of Novi Sad were used, as well as many other relevant sources.

**Key words:** culture, devastation of industry, Novi Sad, factory, post-socialist transformation.

**SESSION 2.1.**  
**URBAN CULTURE AND IDENTITY IN**  
**POST-SOCIALISM**  
**(Chair: Anđelina Svirčić-Gotovac)**

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**POST-SOCIALIST URBAN IDENTITY IN SERVICE OF**  
**CITY DEVELOPMENT -**  
**THE CASE STUDY OF BANJA LUKA**

**Abstract:** The paper analyzes specific forms of urban transformation of Banja Luka, which has influenced the creation of a new urban identity in the period of post-socialism, which is in service of strengthening entrepreneurial initiatives and national awareness initiated by previous war events. The core hypothesis of the paper is that the conversion of the purpose of built objects, changes in the name of public institutions, space, surfaces, streets, etc., and revitalization of the urban center with accentuated historical components of national affiliation, has influenced the creation of a new urban identity that has suited economic, political, and cultural development of the city. The comparison of Banja Luka with certain cities of the former Yugoslav republics contributes to shaping or synthesizing the knowledge about the analyzed subject of research with the emphasis on certain specifics of its post-socialist development, which is also the goal of this paper. The post-socialist transformation of Banja Luka is supposed to respond to the needs of a new market-oriented neoliberal society in which the investment and development of economic activities are linked to the new urban identity of national characteristics. These pro-

cesses certainly include the dominance of economic and political actors in the creation of a new urban environment and space stimulated by the possibility of making profits, while neglecting the needs of citizens. This ultimately affects the quality of life of the population and the social sustainability of the city. Changes in urban space are accompanied by the functional changes of the city. In this sense, Banja Luka is transforming itself from the industrial into the city of dominant service activities and specific consumer habits of the citizens, which influences the creation of new status characteristics of the population.

**Keywords:** transformation, urban identity, national affiliation, conversion,

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## **THE IMPACT OF GLOBALIZATION ON CHANGING THE IDENTITY OF THE CITY OF SKOPJE**

**Abstract:** The process of globalization has led to intense social changes in every segment of social life in the postmodern society. Such changes are most easily detected in the sphere of the urban, especially in the post-socialist city, recognizable in the change of its identity (occurrence of residential zones, residential segregation, disappearance of green belts and “urban rampage”), opening the issue of unification of the urban space and the constant “present fear of losing the face of the city”. The paper captures the real perception of the impact of the globalization process on the transformation and modification of the identity of the city of Skopje, and how much the residents of Skopje accept and adapt

to contemporary social trends. The increase in the differences between social strata is detected in the society through residential segregation and social distance, recognizable in the urban mosaic of residential zones in the city both in the central city area and on the outskirts of the city. By using the method of interview conducted through the questionnaire in this theoretical empirical study, we get to know the attitude of the citizens of Skopje, more precisely their opinion about the changes in the urban living in the city, the “urban rampage” and elitism, which contribute to the image and identity of the city.

**Keywords:** globalization, identity, post-socialist city, residential areas, Skopje.

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## **CITY SPACE AS A MEANS OF DIFFERENTIATION**

### **Symbolic importance of consumption spaces**

**Abstract:** The paper deals with changes that have occurred in the contemporary city as a result of the influence of certain aspects of consumerism. The changes occur in the physical structure of the city as well as in its social space in the context of numerous

features of the consumer society, such as material progress and mass production of goods, development of the mass entertainment industry that manipulates consumers by promoting symbolic values, establishing importance of building self-identity and lifestyle mainly through consumption, the inconstancy of fashion and trends as a result of marking lifestyles, imposing various modes of consumption through advertising, branding and the media. We band together Debord's premise that everything in the modern consumer society has become a commodity which usability is seen only in terms of exchange, and Bourdieu's idea of consuming symbolic values of goods as a means of differentiation: the city space is identified with the commodity that becomes the subject of consumption. A particular focus is on the change in the meaning of goods in the consumer society, and the parallel processes that have led to the fact that the city as a commodity is important due to symbols in identity building, which becomes a means of differentiation. A postmodern city is described, which ensures profit through symbolic consumption in the context of the dominance of the symbolic and exchange value of goods over its use value. The paper raises the following questions: How are the symbolic values of the city consumed and what are the consequences of such consumption? How does the prevalence of symbolic aspects of consumption in relation to its usefulness manifest in the city itself, if the unstable symbolic value of goods plays a crucial role in the social realization of an individual who is in the continuous search for new values? Does the city provide constantly new symbolic values of its space? What changes are taking place in the design and use of urban spaces as a result of this process?

**Key words:** city, goods, differentiation, consumerism, symbolic consumption

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**METACODE OF MODERNISM:  
NOVI SAD THE MODERN CITY**

**Abstract:** Reading the identity of Novi Sad through architectural heritage prevails the position of Novi Sad in the group of mid-European cities, which built-up area is mainly connected with the stylistic determinants characteristic for the period of the 18th and 19th centuries in the Austro-Hungarian monarchy. The basics of this view in spatial terms could be easily found in the historical core of the city, as well as in the individual landmark points, such as the Petrovaradin fortress with a suburb, the Town Hall or the Name of Mary church. Even though Novi Sad experienced its largest expansion in spatial and demographic terms with modernization after the Second World War, when it was planned and infrastructurally established as a city known today, in terms of identity, the key references remain in already mentioned spatial determinants. We can find the reasons for this view in the unfinished and not absorbed modernization of the city and society, the radical rejection of the political and social system that was the carrier of this process, but also a short time distance compared the framework of the history of the city. Considering the period of the post-socialist city, negative consequences of transition are noticeable in the aspects of the generic, not thought-out and non-contextual development of the city. While using the exact data, statistical parameters, as well as reading the textual function of the city, this paper has the ambition to position the city's modernist code in the identity "genetic sequence" of Novi Sad. The consideration of Novi Sad as a city that is significantly identified with the modernist building heritage in the contemporary context has the intention to help in correct valorization of this heritage, pres-

ervation and future transformations, as well as to establish another fundamental determinant which future strategic planning can rely to, as well as to overcome the problems of the post-socialist city in transition.

**Keywords:** Novi Sad, identity, modern cod, modern city

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**GRAFFITI AND URBAN IDENTITY  
(A NEGATIVE VALUE PERCEPTION OF GRAPHITE AS AN  
INDICATOR OF URBAN IDENTITY CRISIS)**

**Abstract:** In the sociological terms, graffiti as an expression of free and critical intellectual rebellion against politically and technologically colonized aesthetics, represent the visual base of urban identity. Hence, the negative perception of graphite in the public opinion is an indicator of the collective crisis of urban identity. In the article that follows, we try to determine the degree of erosion of urban identity of the Banja Luka city by quantitative research of the value of citizens' attitudes towards graffiti.

**Keywords:** Graffiti, urban identity, Banja Luka

**SESSION 3.**  
**URBAN MORPHOLOGY OF SOCIALISM AND UR-**  
**BAN TOURISM**  
**(Chair: Ranka Perić-Romić)**

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**URBAN IDENTITY TRANSFORMATION OF OPEN PUBLIC  
SPACES OF BANJA LUKA IN THE POST-SOCIALIST  
PERIOD**

**Abstract:** Public space has been a fundamental component for the organization of a collective life and the representation of the city from the emergence of the first urban agglomerations to the nowadays big metropolis. Public space is a starting point for an urban growth and citizens' development, but at the same time, it may be considered as an indicator of major urban and social changes. The transition from socialism to neoliberal capitalism has influenced the public space in Bosnia and Herzegovina, its image, the use of patterns and meanings, as well as the urban identity of the city in a broader sense. The possibility of construction of new public spaces has significantly decreased over the last two decades of transition, while the existing public spaces have become exposed to private interests, different processes of commercialization and expropriation. This paper deals with the transformation of the city of Banja Luka's open public spaces built in the period of socialism (1945-1990), in relation to market-oriented economy trends and urban development trends from the 1990s onwards. The paper goes from the position that urban identity of the post-socialist city can be most clearly identified through public space. It studies the examples of three public spaces in Banja Luka through the



analysis of their (i) built structure features, (ii) usage and urban activities patterns, and (iii) memories and meanings people create through daily practice. In addition to the basic features of the urban identity of post-socialist Banja Luka, the paper aims to explore the favorable directions of its further transformation in relation to the current social [local] context and [global\] trends, and lifestyles forthcoming.

**Keywords:** public space, urban transformation, identity, Banja Luka

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## **INDUSTRIAL ATTRACTIVENESS CREATED DURING SOCIALISM AS A BASIS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF URBAN TOURISM**

**Abstract:** Industrial tourism in the economically developed countries of Europe is a form of cultural tourism that brings very high incomes. Representative examples of the development of indus-

trial tourism are the industrial cities of Manchester and Glasgow, as well as the multimedia museum of mining in Velenje. In Serbia, industrial tourism is not sufficiently developed, although it has a potential to develop this selective form of tourism. Focus of the work is the industrial and entire cultural heritage of Lazarevac and its surroundings, that is, RB “Kolubara” as the largest active surface coal mine in the Balkans. Expansion of the development of RB “Kolubara” happened during the time of socialism. Subject: Determination of the degree of attractiveness of industrial and cultural heritage as important factors for the development of urban tourism in Lazarevac. Hypotheses: Industrial heritage and attractiveness created during the period of socialism are an important factor in the development of urban tourism in Lazarevac. Tourists’ motives for visiting Lazarevac city are significantly related to the industrial heritage and attractions located close to this city. The methodology is adjusted to the complexity of the topic, so a combination of quantitative (socio-demographic characteristics of tourists and their distribution by gender, age, degree of education, occupation) and qualitative methods (the analysis of the content of free responses of visitors on travel motives) is applied. Two groups of tourists’ responses have been singled out, according to the motives: the first category is the motive of the recommendation, and the second category is the strongest impressions from the destination. The obtained results show that there are statistically significant correlations between the socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents and the indicated categories of the motives.

**Key words:** Urban tourism, cultural heritage, industrial attractiveness, tourist motives

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## **TWO MODERNISTIC BUILDINGS UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF DOUBLE TRANSITION: RADNIČKI DOM AND SOKOLSKI DOM IN NOVI SAD**

**Abstract:** During the period between the two world wars, after Vojvodina joined the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, the beginning of Novi Sad's modernisation was initiated with the city being the capital of the Danube Banate. It was characterised by a strong urban development, with the construction of numerous public, cultural, and residential buildings amongst which there were the first examples of modernistic architecture in Novi Sad. The specific appearance of today's Mihajlo Pupin Boulevard was created as a series of modernistic buildings with different functions, along with the Building of the Danube Banate (1940) and Radnički dom (1931) designed by the architect Dragiša Brašovan, as well as the Home of the Novi Sad Trade Youth (1931) designed by Đorđe Tabaković, along with his other project, the building of Sokolski dom (1935) near the Boulevard standing out. However, two buildings from this group, which stand out due to their specific programmes, Radnički dom and Sokolski dom have undergone a series of different physical, ownership, and organisational changes while going through two transitional periods (transitioning from the Kingdom to socialist Yugoslavia, and entering the post-socialist transition afterwards). Radnički dom „Svetozar Marković“, the building used by the Alliance of Independent

Trade Unions of Novi Sad, is mostly empty nowadays due to the fact that its primary function has become “out-of-date”. Although it is protected on a certain level as heritage, the lack of investment is leading to its continued devastation. On the other hand, the building of Sokolski dom is still functioning and fulfilling its original sporting function, even though the concept of “sokolstvo” (a Czech system of gymnastics practice, with the Society based on the ideas behind the French Revolution: freedom, equality and fraternity) is outside the focus in this day and age. Nevertheless, the building itself has been divided, whereby a part of it houses the Novi Sad Youth Theatre, with problems in communication between these two institutions. The aim of this paper is to examine the individual processes of changes that these two icons of the beginning of Novi Sad’s modernisation underwent during the transitional periods, through researching their architectural, ownership, and organisational (re)configurations. Both buildings belong to the valuable modernistic heritage of Novi Sad, which is why it is important to raise awareness of their current condition and encourage a discussion about their future.

**Key words:** transition, modernism, Novi Sad, Sokolski dom, Radnički dom

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**THE PROBLEM OF FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY OF  
YUGOSLAV COMPANIES IN POST-SOCIALIST SOCIETIES  
CASE STUDY: SPENS, NOVI SAD**

**Abstract:** This paper represents an attempt at a recreation of the construction of the Sports and Business Centre Vojvodina in Novi Sad (SPENS), as well of its functioning and business operations from 1979 until today. The aim of the paper is to point out all the issues, from the time of the centrally-planned economy and the transition to its existence in the post-socialistic society, which one of the numerous business giants, as well as a symbol of Novi Sad and the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina at the same time, had to face. The transition of socialistic societies in Eastern Europe turned out to be a very painful process, both personally and for the whole system as well. Relatively easy transition processes existed, which could be seen in the example of the incorporation of Eastern Germany into the common state with Western Germany, and the so-called "overnight entry into the EU". The events in the post-Yugoslav area during the 1990s had a negative impact on economic transformation. The process of privatization of state-owned enterprises was spontaneous, without a proper plan and program. Numerous privatizations have remained very controversial from a legal point of view. A number of companies, which have remained under the state control over the past years, have proven to be unnecessary and overweight ballast for the Republic of Serbia. SPENS represents an unresolved problem in terms of financial and economic sustainability for the City of Novi Sad. The analysis of the case study is related to the consideration of the current state of this Centre, the consideration of its spatial capacity, comparison with similar examples in the country and the region, processing of data pertaining to business, the review of energy capacities, and of course human resources.

**Keywords:** *SPENS, Novi Sad, SFRY, economy, post-socialism.*

SESSION 4. URBAN ECOLOGY OF  
POST- SOCIALISM  
(Chair: Dušan Ristić)

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PROGRESS IN FULFILLING THE REQUIREMENTS OF  
THE PARIS AGREEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE  
WESTERN BALKANS

**Abstract:** *The Paris Agreement on Climate Change* is one of the most important active acts on limiting the overall effect of global warming, but also reducing it to the lowest possible levels. The idea was launched by the United Nations Convention on Climate Change, and the agreement was signed by 197 countries, which have committed themselves to reducing the level of global warming to below 2 degrees Celsius by 2030, and by the end of the century to a fullest reduction. The subject of the study is an overview of the extent to which the countries of the Western Balkans (Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Albania, and North Macedonia) have managed to achieve the conditions they obligated to when signing the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. The achievement of the countries in the Western Balkans is compared with the results achieved by the countries of the European Union located in the region close to the Western Balkans (Croatia, Slovenia, Greece, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary). The methods used in the paper are comparative and analytical. The assumption from the research is that the gap exists in the projected goals, but there is a significant backlog in the results achieved by the countries of the European Union in the region. The paper presents possible solutions to this problem, as well as the process through which these countries should pass in order to achieve the planned goals in the shortest possible time.

**Key words:** Paris Agreement, European Union, Western Balkans, climate change.

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## **THE ROLE OF SECOND-TIER CITIES IN PROVIDING GREEN/BLUE INFRASTRUCTURE: THE CASE OF CROATIA**

**Abstract:** Recently, second-tier cities have been gained a considerable interest within the policy and research perspective. Second-tier city is defined as a city with a high development potential, including the potential for territorial development impact, as well as international competitiveness. In this paper we compare second-tier Croatian cities and their role in providing green and/or blue infrastructure, transforming the cities into vibrant and attractive places to live. There are different conceptual approaches and numerous classifications of green infrastructure, while the concept is still evolving. One of the most operational definitions of green infrastructure states that it is “a network of ecosystem structures with other environmental features which are designed and managed to deliver a wide range of ecosystem services”<sup>1</sup>. Benefits of green infrastructure are multiple and usually seen as one of the major determinants of the quality of life. Since 2013 and EU’s Green Infrastructure Strategy, protection, creation and enhancement of green infrastructure has become an integral part of spatial planning, including urban planning as well. Therefore, we are focused on so-called flagship categories such as parks, forests, gardens, cemeteries, and street greenery which are managed by urban authorities and located on the public land. The paper is structured as follows: After the definitions of second-tier cities and green infrastructure, specificities of second-tier Croatian cit-

1 Green Infrastructure – Enhancing Europe’s Natural Capital (EU’s Green Infrastructure Strategy, EC, 2013).

ies are presented. The third section discusses the green infrastructure as the component of urban spatial planning and management. Major barriers of green infrastructure development, with the emphasis on institutional barriers are elaborated in the fourth section. The final section presents some policy implications and some proposals for the future research agenda.

**Key-words:** second-tier cities, green/blue infrastructure, urban planning, Croatia

**JEL codes:** R11, R52, R58

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**THE ECOLOGICAL CONSEQUENCES OF POST-  
SOCIALIST URBAN TRANSFORMATION:  
THE GREEN SPACES OF NOVI SAD**

**Abstract:** The post-socialist transformation of cities is marked by a series of social changes that are specifically reflected in their architectural form. While the previous research was mainly focused on the transformation of the built environment, the natural environment and the ecological dimension have been largely missing from the discussion. We aim to fill this gap and start from the idea that the ecological consequences of post-socialist transformation of cities present a key challenge for their further (sustainable) development. We concretize this idea by focusing on the transformation of green spaces in Novi Sad. First, we analyze the role of green spaces in the planning documents between 1950 and



2019. Then we present and compare the results of two surveys which aim is to identify citizens satisfaction with the green spaces in Novi Sad. In conclusion, we point to the suppression of green spaces in the planning documentation at the expense of other urban forms and functions, and show how opinions of citizens reflect these changes. Finally, we argue for the deeper integration of the ecological dimension into the studies of post-socialist urban transformation.

**Key words:** Post- socialist urban transformation; City; Green spaces; Novi Sad

**DAY TWO, 13<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER**

**PANEL<sup>2</sup>**

***TRAJNI DOPRINOS LJUBINKA PUŠIĆA  
URBANOJ SOCIOLOGIJI:  
“GRAD BEZ LICA”, 10 GODINA POSLE  
(LJUBINKO PUSIC’S CONTINUOUS CONTRIBUTION TO  
URBAN SOCIOLOGY: A CITY WITHOUT A FACE,  
10 YEARS AFTER)***

**Participants:**

**Božo Milošević**, Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad

**Dragan Koković**, Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad

**Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac**, Institute for Social Research in Zagreb

**Dušan Marinković**, Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad

**Ana Pajvančić – Cizelj**, Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad

**Vladan Vidicki**, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Novi Sad,  
moderator

2 On Serbian language

**SESSION 1. 2. URBAN MOVEMENTS AND POLITICS  
IN THE POST-SOCIALIST CITY  
(Chair: Vera Backović)**

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**CONFLICTS CAUSED BY URBAN INNOVATIONS AND  
MODERN MECHANISMS OF THEIR PERMISSIONS  
(on the example of Moscow)**

**Abstract:** Subject of study: Changes in neighborhood relations in the context of urban innovation as a factor in the creation of conflicts, and a resource for the application of mediation in order to resolve them. Hypotheses: The basis for solidarization (identification) of residents of modern Moscow has become a positive or negative attitude of citizens towards urban innovations (renovation of housing, improvement of the territory, introduction of paid parking, improvement of modern-style parks, construction of new churches). The formation of such interest groups of Moscow residents has been the basis for the emergence of conflicts in these local communities. The optimal mechanism for resolving such conflicts is to harmonize the interests of conflicting groups through the social mediation. Research methods: Sociological survey, in-depth interviews, included observation. The results of the study: A culture of neighborhood communications based on close communication and neighbor mutual assistance has been formed in the old squares of the USSR cities. Post-socialist social transformations have led to the separation of the inhabitants. In the period of the second decade of our century, the first new wave

of rallying active citizens has been the growth of political activity of the Moscow inhabitants (election observation and anti-power protests). The results of our survey show that the closer consolidation of citizens has occurred in response to the innovations of the Moscow mayor's office. Depending on the reaction to urbanization, citizens rally into groups that are different in their convictions and often conflict with each other. Our interviews with city activists demonstrate the features of the consolidation of such groups and the range of interests they advocate. In a situation of low public confidence, the issue of finding mechanisms for resolving disputes among such groups has become topical. The report presents the experience of using the social mediation to resolve conflicts in the communities of the city.

**Keywords:** Conflict, mediation, urbanization

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### **POST-SOCIALIST NOVI SAD: A STRUGGLE FOR PRESERVING IDENTITY**

**Abstract:** Urban policies that place capital before the well-being of citizens, and which nourish the concept of demolition and instant results, are some of the characteristics of the post-socialist management of cities. At the moment in which private investors are given the right to the building land that may or may not have buildings on it (those buildings may be under the protection of the *Provincial Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments* or the *Republic Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments*

as well), *genius loci* and its significance for the local community are reduced to numbers and figures. In most cases, these numbers show that it is cheaper to demolish rather than adapt the existing architectural heritage, withstand the short term critique of the public, and build something new that represents only the investor's identity. By doing so, the citizens no longer find themselves in a city that represents their history, culture, and memories, but in a sea of buildings which represent solely the (financial) power of the investor. This is the case of Novi Sad as well, with reactions of citizens becoming more and more turbulent in regards to the demolition of local contexts created not only in the time of the occurrence of the city, but also the ones created in the spirit of modernism. Is the culture of post-socialist cities seen in following the trend of trading "the old for the new"? The aim of this paper is to research the cases which include the annulment of local contexts and raise awareness of the consequences of this kind of urban planning, through the deliberation of the current spatial policy of Novi Sad, which is characterized by mass complaints made by citizens at public plan viewings, as well as their bypassing. By researching and documenting these processes, we wish to show the inadequacy of the current model. Throughout this research and the encouragement of others, the citizens gain affirmation from the professional public, which is necessary for creating potential models within which the city would develop in a way that includes nurturing the existing local contexts, but also creating the new ones in accordance with the current and future needs of the citizens?

**Key words:** post-socialism, Novi Sad, architectural heritage preservation, spatial policies

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## **ETHNIC CONCENTRATION IN THE CITY OF SKOPJE IN THE TRANSITION PERIOD**

**Abstract:** The transformation of the Macedonian society from the “socialist regime” to a “democratic society” has begun after 1991, when the Republic of Macedonia declared independence, and it is still ongoing. Main consequences of the political transformation of the Macedonian society were latent and open ethnic conflicts that resulted in the famous Ohrid Framework Agreement in 2001. The Macedonian State, the Constitution, and its territorial division were in fact redefined by this Agreement in order to fulfill, among other things, demands of ethnic Albanians for bilingualism. This paper refers to how these processes reflect in the context of the city of Skopje. The territory of the city of Skopje has been changed in order to increase ethnic concentration of the ethnic Albanians and declare bilingualism. It is followed by the process of symbolic ethnic demarcation of the territory of the city of Skopje. Moreover, the process of ethnic concentration of citizens on the territory of the city of Skopje is functionally linked to another process characteristic for the transition period, and that is the process of ethno-political mobilization.

**Key words:** ethnic concentration, ethno-political mobilization, social transition, Skopje.

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**A CITY IN INTERREGNUM:  
THE POST-SOCIALIST TRAUMA OF SKOPJE**

**Abstract:** Skopje is one of those cities that are being (re)defined historically and socially within the fluidly defined frames of post-socialist, Balkan, Mediterranean, and European traumatic discourse. The deconstruction of the cultural matrix of the city in the contemporary age is a fundamental interest of this research. It concerns the examination of several aspects of the processes that have an immediate influence on the transformation of the cultural characteristics of Skopje: 1. Changes of the overall social context (transition from socialism to capitalism); 2. Inherited patterns of civilization codes; 3. Traumatic experiences of the economic, political, social, and cultural changes that have implications on the normative and value matrices, and thus on the existential situations of the citizens of Skopje; 4. Identity conflicts which have an immediate effect on the urban ethos of the city; 5. The transformation of old and the creation of new urban subcultures; 6. The synthesis of the rural, urban, and global in the habitus of the city; 7. Creation of a new “urban aesthetics” between populism and neoliberalism and 8. The metamorphosis of the “small town” into a megalopolis that has no capacity for sustainability, but moves towards entropy and dystrophy. The research is based on:

- theoretical concepts in the field of sociology of culture and urban sociology;
- historical analyses and chronicles, sociological research, archive materials, cultural analyses related to Skopje;
- analysis of recent social movements directed towards the urban and social transformation (“resistance culture”).

The analyses show that the socio-cultural matrix of Skopje represents a constant interregnum from traditionalism to postmodernism in an emphasized local variant. This refers to an undefined, chaotic, and conflicting environment which post-socialist discourse is characterized by the disruption of the quality and the culture of living.

**Keywords:** Skopje, urban culture, traditionalism, postmodernism

**SESSION 2.2. URBAN CULTURE AND IDENTITY IN  
POST-SOCIALISM  
(Chair: Dušan Ristić)**

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**A CHALLENGE FOR THE POST-SOCIALIST CITY:  
THE CULTURE CAUGHT BETWEEN THE ROCK OF  
HUMANISM AND THE HARD PLACE OF THE MARKET<sup>3</sup>**

**Abstract:** Globalisation and post-socialist transformation carry the consequences that go beyond the economic and political ones, i.e. those which affect the cultural life of the city. In its shaping of cultural policy, the post-socialist city faces numerous challenges. The principal challenge is the one that indeed defines a specific model of the cultural policy of the city, representing the relationship between the state and the culture. Does the state/public sector continue to be the main bearer of responsibility, or is there a dialogue among the sectors (public/private/civic)? On the one hand, societies in transition continue to depend on the old cultural model and institutional arrangement, while on the other hand, they face demands for new normative orientations and integration into the emergent system. With the dissipation of state control, the cultural institutions of the city are consigned to the market that does not exist yet. The overall aim of this paper is to show that different socio-historical processes have shaped various cultural policy models at the macro (global), mezzo (Balkan), and micro (Belgrade) levels. One of the specific aims of the paper is to determine whether cultural policy of Belgrade is inclined toward the humanist or the market model, as an ideal model type. These questions are examined through the prism of the cultural

3 This paper is a part of the project: Challenges of Serbia's New Social Integration: Concepts and Actors (reg.no. 179035)



infrastructure of two festivals, FEST and BEMUS. They are additionally approached from the perspective of the cultural actors with whom in-depth interviews have been conducted, and also the perspective of the festival audiences (survey data).

**Key words:** Post-socialist city, cultural identity of the city, cultural policy, FEST, BEMUS

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### **CINEMATIC (DE)TERRITORIALISATION OF CITYSCAPE IN NATIONAL FILM TEXTS (1995-2015)**

**Abstract:** The concern of this paper is to map out densely intertwined intersections of urbanism (architecture) and cinema (aesthetics) in the contemporary national film texts. As an interdisciplinary topic, reading of the cinematic cityscape in this paper is based upon the principles of the “cinematic city” (Clarke 1997, Lefebvre 2006, Mennel 2008) and “(de)territorialisation” (Deleuze/Guattari 1980, Agnew 1994, Castells, 2001, May 2005, Eriksson 2005, Brenner 2009, Matznetter and Musil 2012), as well as the traces of “the changing cinematic cityscape of New Belgrade as the site of the changes brought about by socialist/post-socialist transition” (Daković 2008). The film *Practical Guide to Belgrade with Singing and Crying* (*Praktični vodič kroz Beograd sa pevanjem i plakanjem*, Bojan Vuletić, 2011) offers skilfully inscribed between the lines stance toward (de)territorialisation of the panoramic views of (New) Belgrade. In this paper it will be contextualised within the wider film production (1995-2015), which has mostly represented dynamic of socioeconomic transi-

tion and de-urbanization of metropolis with devastating consequences and effects. As counterforce, *Practical Guide to Belgrade* is a metaphorical reading of Belgrade as a place of love, romance, and melodrama, as well as of identity games and plots between the (socialist/Yugoslav) past and the (post-socialist/European ascension) present, while highlighting the complex connections among the culture, cinema, and the city.

**Key words:** cinematic city, (de)territorialisation, film text, post-socialist transition

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## THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN MEDIUM-SIZED TOWNS IN THE POST-SOCIALIST PERIOD<sup>4</sup>

**Abstract:** This paper examines satisfaction with the quality of life in medium-sized towns in Serbia in the context of accelerated post-socialist transformation. The subjective experiences of the quality of life in urban environments, based on the possibilities to meet the different needs of the inhabitants, provide a relatively reliable assessment of the living conditions in specific towns. The period of blocked post-socialist transformation was characterized by deterioration in the standard of living of the overall population, while the phase of the unblocking of the transformation processes brought about an improvement in living conditions, but also an increase in social (and socio-spatial) inequalities. During

4 The paper is a part of the project "Challenges of New Social Integration in Serbia: Concepts and Actors" (Reg. no. 179035), funded by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia.

the whole post-socialist period, medium-sized towns were not attractive enough for investments, so the local economy and infrastructure continued to decay, which was reflected in the quality of life of the local population. The analysis in this paper is based on the data from the research on territorial capital conducted by the Institute for Sociological Research of the University of Belgrade, Faculty of Philosophy. The towns of Sombor, Zrenjanin, Zaječar, and Leskovac were analyzed as case studies, where during 2014 and 2015 both quantitative and qualitative data were collected related to the satisfaction with the standard of living and the overall quality of life, the possibility to achieve life goals and meet different needs in the towns themselves, as well as the perception of important local problems and the eventual improvement of the quality of life in several important areas. The hypothesis was that the inhabitants of the analyzed towns were dissatisfied with the economic conditions, as well as with all of the aspects of the quality of life which were conditioned by material investments, while unsatisfied higher-order needs were suppressed due to unresolved existential issues. The research findings indicate that in all four analyzed towns there is dissatisfaction with the standard of living and the local infrastructure, although there are also locally specific problems in the domain of ecology, the use of public space, the work of local institutions and so on.

**Key words:** quality of life, standard of living, infrastructure, town, post-socialist transformation

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## **THE MYTH OF THE CULTURAL LOCATION IN THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT**

**Abstract:** By utilizing the historical method and the ethno-methodological paradigm, the author has defined and provided a view of the evolutionary formation and specificity of the cultural location throughout history and in the present days. This paper stems from the general concept of geo-epistemological consideration and the localization of space in the urban environment. The collapse of the traditional spatial structure by the communist architecture has not erased the traces of old memories; instead it has established a duality regarding naming of the old location. This is in spite of frequent devastation of the old dedicated structure, and a sign of democratization of the culture in which architectural designs provide a potential outlet for freedom of expression towards political and sensual affinity. The dialectics, imitation (copying), planning, and discovery of new spaces are the marks of globalization which collapse the routine and experience of the cultural location. Spaces and events are becoming the highest interest of the city authorities. The creation of an image and the accumulation of profit supersede the importance of cultural locations. The importance of the location becomes less and less sacralized and more and more hedonistically routinized and calculated in its motivation. Physical structures and buildings have become literally physically and statically perceived in the thought recollection processes of everyday life. As opposed to the theory of polycentric chaos in which disorder robs cultural locations of their significance, the theory of emotional transmission puts an emphasis on the social components of the past, preserving the structures from oblivion. The localization of space and its geo-epistemology is primarily a cultural phenomenon. It profiles buildings through

discourse and interaction. The significance of leisure time and its cultivation in the developed cities brings forth feelings of spatial recognition and motivates various needs. The fight for the existential minimum of the citizens living in numerous cities of the developing countries robs cult places of their significance, while myths can only be found in the religious shrines.

**Key words:** cultural location, devastation of space, spatial orientation landmarks, globalization, cities

## **SESSION 5. POPULATION AND GENDER IN THE POST-SOCIALIST URBAN SOCIETIES (Chair: Antoanela Petkovska)**

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### **SECURITY OF YOUNG WOMEN AND POSTWAR TRANSFORMATION OF THE CITY: KOSOVSKA MITROVICA CASE**

**Abstract:** The paper is a result of the theoretical and methodological research of everyday life of women in the post-war city of Kosovska Mitrovica. From the theoretical perspective, the author applies theories of everyday life, ethnic conflict, gender, and the theories of a modern city. Field research (using an in-depth interview) was conducted on two occasions (2011 and 2018), and

the sample consisted of thirty women/members of four ethnic groups (Serbian, Albanian, Bosniak and Roma). Starting from the premise that urban culture was an important feature of the city, the author assumed that in the period after signing the “Brussels Agreement” in 2013, the security situation was getting worse for young women (and other members of the local community), which caused transformation of urban culture and everyday life of women. The results of the research indicate an obvious security transformation, which results in the re-traditionalization of young women life, particularly in the northern (mostly Serbian) part of the city. Young women have developed strategies of spatial behavior/movement throughout the city, especially in the evening/night hours, because verbal violence and intimidation they experience from men/members of other ethnic groups is more and more frequent. The interlocutors report the cases of intimidation to members of their families, which is why an increasing number of them, accompanied by brothers, fathers, partners and friends, move throughout the city in the evening hours. Such a finding is a clear indication of re-traditionalization: men from the primary living environment take on the role which belongs to the state and/or various social organizations in civilized and peaceful societies. Consequently, re-traditionalization significantly reduces the chances of gender equality.

**Key words:** young women, everyday life, spatial strategies, security, Kosovska Mitrovica.

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**A SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE ON SPACE-GENDER  
RELATIONS IN THE EXAMPLE OF NAMES OF STREETS  
AND SQUARES**

**Abstract:** The paper deals with the gender dimension of the city through sociological analysis of the names of streets and squares which construct a specific kind of an urban symbolic system. The starting point is Lefebvre's assumption that space is never a neutral sphere, but on the contrary, it is shaped by interest, which reflects and reproduces relations of domination and subordination. This pattern is also present in the gender aspect of the city, where the city becomes a sort of a social frame of selective memory through organised politics of names of streets and squares, by which a patriarchal social matrix is sustained. A great absence of female persons from the names of streets and squares, as a kind of communicative infrastructure of the city, is just a reflection of the wider structurally grounded patriarchal memory culture, which makes the identities of cities patriarchally coloured as well. The focus of this paper is on presenting the names of the streets and squares in the city of Niš, on the basis of the data collected in the publication "Streets and squares of the city of Niš", from 2018. However, for the purpose of showing the universality of gender asymmetry of space, a comparative analysis is conducted with other cities in Serbia, the region, Europe, and the world. The aim is to point to the global urban gender pattern (regardless of the type of the political regime), but also to consider possible specificities of the post-socialist city and its politics of space.

**Key words:** city, memory culture, gender, space, post-socialism

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## **THE GENDER GAP FOR ROMANIA IN THE CONTEXT OF INTEGRATION INTO THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Abstract:** In the study, we examine several methodologies aimed at creating indexes that capture the evolution of gender gap in the context of broad policies and programs in the field. Both in the pre-accession period to the EU and after 2007, Romania has implemented several European strategies and directives aimed at reducing gender inequalities. The purpose of the study is to see to what extent EU membership brings with it, especially for Romania, a relative and absolute improvement of gender gap in society, on the main dimensions: income, education, political representation, health, and employment. In the first step, the validity of content of the main gender methodologies has been analysed. We have retained in the analysis only those dimensions for which data are available at EU and Romanian level. We have followed and compared the situation in Romania with other EU countries, especially with those new entrants after 1989. For some of the dimensions analysed for Romania over the period 2007-2014, gender gap was increasing. Thus, the dimensions of access to the labour market and education respectively decrease both in absolute and relative value. On the other hand, the dimensions reflecting the female political representation and the reduction in the inequality of pay rise slightly in both absolute and relative values. The conclusion is that new countries in the European Union fail



to recover most gender gaps, and this is even more pronounced in the case of Romania. The study proposes a methodology adapted to the gender gap analysis in the context of European integration, on the basis of which monitoring can be carried out in this area for the new entrants in particular.

**Keywords:** Gender, gaps, index, methodology, integration

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**SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHANGES AS A CONSEQUENCE OF  
THE ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF CONURBATION  
SREMSKA MITROVICA-LAĆARAK-MAČVANSKA  
MITROVICA**

**Abstract:** At the end of the 20th century, changes in the social and political sphere, manifested as a new social order, led to the transformation of cities and urban processes. At the time, urban (local) politics had a decisive impact on the success of the cities. The main focus was on the quality of life of citizens and the idea that local cities could be successful in parts of globalization. The idea of this paper is based on the network settlements with a planned conception of the development of the city on two coasts. Sremska Mitrovica, as an administrative and regional center of Srem, has been developed on the foundations of Sirmium, one of the four capitals of the Roman Empire. The city settlement is in fact a conurbation of three settlements: Sremska Mitrovica as the central urban area, Mačvanska Mitrovica, on the right bank of the Sava, and Laćarak in the west, the largest village in the number of in-

habitants in Serbia. One of the main factors for the origins of conurbation is the population increase, caused by the expansion of industrial development and the post-civil war migration, as well as the later breakdown of industry and the rural-urban migration. There is also a significant influence of illegal construction. The main subject of the paper is to present the factors that have led to the formation of conurbation, analyzing the socio-geographical characteristics, especially through demographic changes, as well as through the contents of urban studies and spatial plans, and looking back at socio-economic and demographic changes that followed later. Methodology is based on cartographic, statistical and comparative analysis, with the aim of looking at the further development of the conurbation with the focus on sustainable development as a need for a quality life in the city.

**Key words:** conurbation, network settlements, socio-economic changes, Sremska Mitrovica



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