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Österreichische Nationalagentur
Erasmus+ Jugend in Aktion & Europäisches Solidaritätskorps



BE PART – FEEL YOUR PART

Unit 2: Methods of Analysis of social spaces



Agenda

- Characteristics of social spaces of young people and social spaces of adults against the background of political participation
- Understand spatial and social analysis
- Methods of teaching analysis of social spaces
- Methods of testing social spatial analysis

Details

Purpose

... to stimulate the reflection and discussion of social issues as a method of involving young people in the society that surrounds them-



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SOCIAL SPACE

material and objective
conditions and frameworks
of life in a certain area

quantitative data
top down perspective

subjective perspective of
inhabitants
social space = life world
public rooms that can be
designed and acquired

qualitative data
bottom up perspective



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Source: <https://www.sozialraum.de/the-socio-spatial-paradigm-in-social-work.php>



APPROACHES FOR SOCIAL SPACE ORIENTATED WORK

Social space analysis consists of the following five principles:

- The focus lies on the will and the interests of the client (as opposed to her/his wishes or vaguely defined needs).
- Activating work always takes priority over supervising activities.
- Personal and socio-spatial resources play an essential role in the design of support measures.
- Activities are always created across target groups and divisions.
- Networking and integration of the various social services, both inside and outside the office space, are the basis for functioning individual assistance offers.



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Source: Research Report



SOCIAL SPACES OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN GENERAL AND YOUNG PEOPLE AT RISK OF SOCIAL EXCLUSION

think of types and dimensions of social spaces on local level

LIFE WORLD –every day life

work/school – free time – music & media – food culture – cloth – mental maps - friends -...

ORGANISATIONS – as a social space dimension

parties – NGO's – associations – sports club – companies - ...

INSTITUTIONS – as a space of established rules or practices

family – school – church

INTERACTIONS – individual and group based contexts



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EXPERIENCES

What do you know about the social space of the young people you are working with?

Create a map of dimensions



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SOCIAL SPACES OF ADULTS IN GENERAL

LIFE WORLD –every day life

work – free time – music & media –
food culture – cloth – mental maps
- friends -...

ORGANISATIONS – as a social
space dimension

parties – NGO's – associations –
sports club – companies - ...

INSTITUTIONS – as a space of
established rules or practices

family – school – church

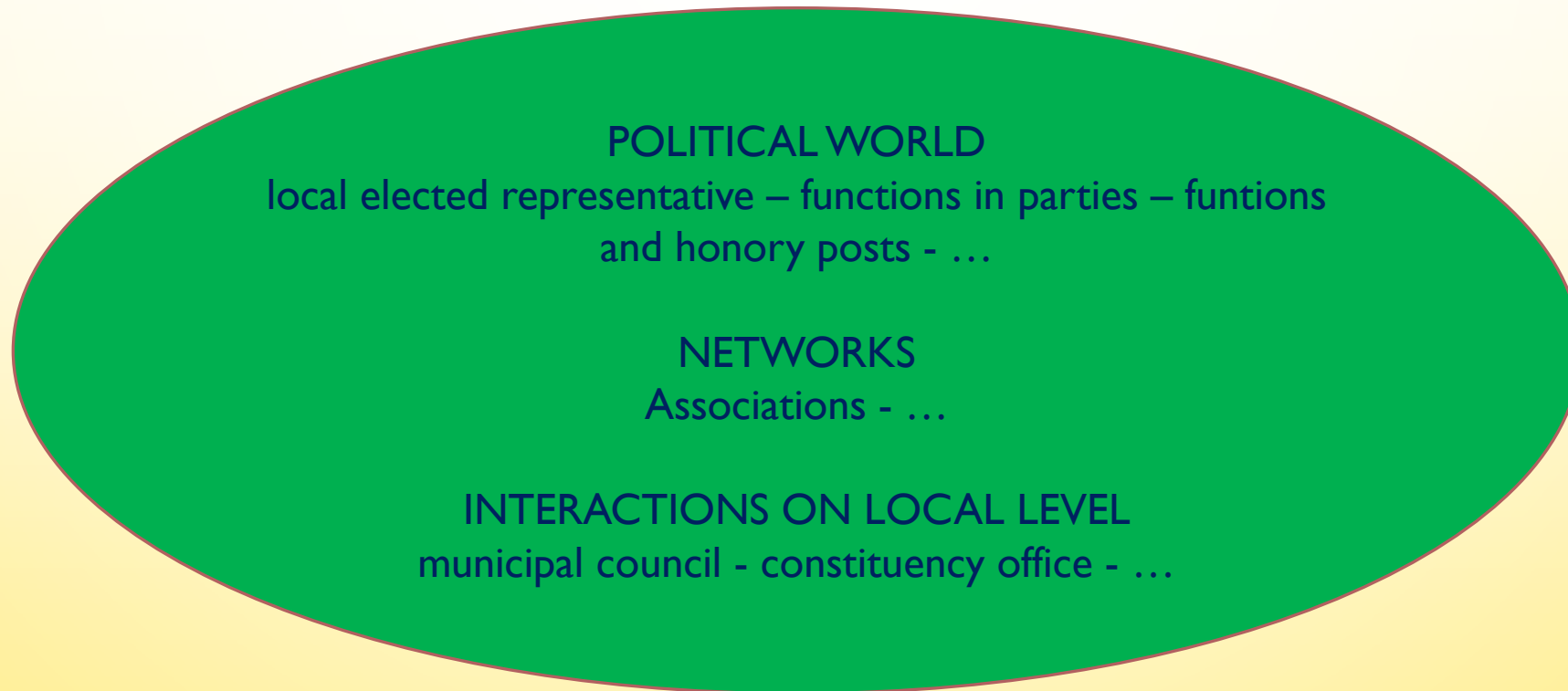
INTERACTIONS – individual and
group based contexts



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SOCIAL SPACES OF POLITICIANS AND DECISION MAKERS ON LOCAL LEVEL



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EXPERIENCES

What do you know about the social space of politicians and decision makers?

Create a map of dimensions.



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UNDERSTANDING SOCIAL SPACE ANALYSIS

1. The connection between space and social development
2. Identify and develop opportunities/ideas for social spaces
3. Common interest or consensus of social spaces
4. Arrangement, design and order of social spaces



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ANALYSIS OF SOCIAL SPACES

Methods to be introduced

- 1) Needle Method
- 2) Photovoice
- 3) Peer Group Grids



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NEEDLE METHOD

- image-based search tool
- gives a view of places that are frequented by participants and inhabitants
- show the meaning of certain places



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NEEDLE METHOD

Green needles

1. Why is this area a good place to be?
2. How could this place become even better? If you had the chance and no limits, what specific changes would you make for the better in this area?



Yellow needles

1. Why is this area not always a good place to be?
2. How could this place become better? If you had the chance and no limits, what specific changes would you make for the better in this area?



Red needles

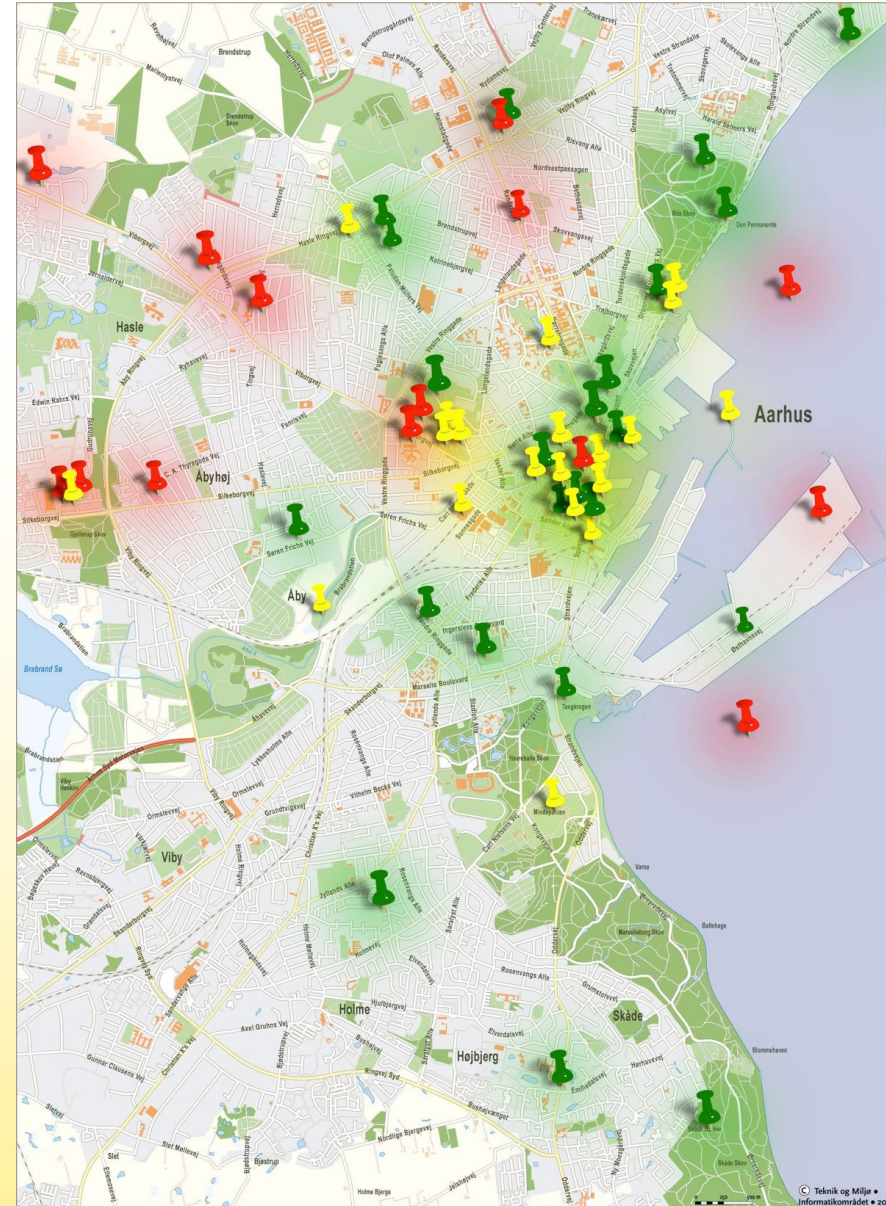
1. Why is this area not a good place to be?
2. How could this place become better? If you had the chance and no limits, what specific changes would you make for the better in this area?



NEEDLE METHOD

Example of testing in Aarhus (Denmark)
fall of 2018

Participants: 10 people
Age: 17-25 years old



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NEEDLE METHOD

Possible outcome

- reflections on what social environments means
- generate opinions and statements
- good basis for group discussions on the areas in the city that have problems
- gives a good basis for talks about how to address issues in different areas
- local activism and participation



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PHOTOVOICE

- a photography tool
- shooting photographs of your surrounding environment to share your perspectives

Types of photos:

1. Places where you feel comfortable
2. Places you would like to avoid
3. Places you wish to change



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PHOTOVOICE

Possible outcome

- helps participants to uncover, clarify and strengthen the voice that they already have.
- good basis for group discussions on the areas in the city that have problems.
- gives a good basis for talks about how to address issues in different areas.



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PEER GROUP GRIDS

- data based survey tool
- used to engage youth by asking them as expects of certain social spaces and the peer groups using these spaces.



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PEER GROUP GRIDS

Possible outcome

- helps participants to realize that they do have knowledge of high value and their observations can make change for the better to themselves and their peer groups
- good basis for group discussions on areas that would benefit from creative thinking and thereby improvement



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TESTING METHODS OF SOCIAL SPACE ANALYSIS

- Needle Method Testing
- Photovoice Testing
- Peer Group Grids Testing



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION

