

Abstract

The thesis called *Crisis of public space and the attempts for its revitalisation* is trying to analyse public space from the perspective of urban anthropology and sociology and it introduces the role of semiotics in this issue. It presents the crisis of public space and tries to uncover the causes and possible solutions. It opposes the modernistic concepts of the city which looked away from the human aspect and focuses on everyday life of people in urban space. The thesis adverts to the necessity of blending various fields which deal with the issue of public space and perceiving the city as a whole. It takes notice of the mutual relationship of space and people, of creating individual's identity and character of the society based on the environment which surrounds it and at the same time the possibility for everyone to participate in changing their surroundings, mind patterns and perception.

At first, this thesis addresses the issue of the definition of public space, presents the fundamental theoretical publications dealing with its origin and crisis. Then it in detail describes the characteristics of the city, analyses the demand for good-quality space and takes notice of the tendencies that threaten public space. In terms of the attempts to revitalize public space, this thesis points out the essential civic and artistic areas of activism and the today's institutions' attempts to improve the quality of urban space.