

README File

1. Introductory information

Title of dataset: **Using public space in divided cities - a comparative study in Jerusalem, Belfast and Brussels Continued**

All these tables represent raw findings gathered through observation and interviews (qualitative methodology) and classified into different themes.

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2. Methodological Information

The methods used in this research relied on a comparative and qualitative approach, combining the use of observation, documentary analysis and semi-structured interviews. The conclusion of such a study has ultimately provided an informed opinion on the importance and relevance of shared public spaces as effective tools of urban conflict transformation in the specific context of ethnically divided and contested cities.

By selecting fewer case studies, the research is essentially qualitative rather than quantitative. Qualitative research enables a much more detailed and in-depth analysis of such issues as behaviour, attitudes and perceptions within a given society. This project was more focused on the study of a particular phenomenon or situation in detail (interaction in shared public spaces in Jerusalem, Belfast and Brussels and how this may influence intergroup relations), rather than on systematic and standardised comparisons, such as comparing intergroup relations in shared spaces in a wider range of divided cities.

The purpose of the study was not to validate one theory or another, nor to prove or disprove a previously developed hypothesis. Rather, the research intended to explore and interpret the dynamics of social interaction in shared public spaces. No hypothesis per se has been developed as it is believed that it would severely limit the scope and quality of the research. By taking an interpretative approach, the study has not attempted to prove anything, but rather has attempted to demonstrate that this particular interpretation of shared public spaces is academically relevant.

In other words, this research on the role of shared public spaces in divided cities has not focused on proving the validity of such spaces as conflict transformation tools, but intended to explore and provide a better understanding of what occurs in such spaces, and how this affects urban conflict transformation efforts.

3. Data specific information

As this research is essentially qualitative rather than quantitative, the details and results are mostly self-explanatory.