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*Vilnius: changing identity*

Vilnius theme – its objects' reflection in history's sources, fiction, poetry, social texts, paintings, sculptures is very extended; Vilnius as creative impulse awakened the writings of many authors from different nations and times. Every historical period has its pictorial and ideological image of Vilnius. Using such concepts as „risk“, „place“, „trauma“, „new identities“, the author is researching Vilnius space since olden times (and after such disasters as plague, war, fire); possibility of people to survive (or starve without food or from others factors) is analysed. Appealing to historical materials, some phenomenological, existential conclusions are made (about the conduct of people and their identities change with surrounding space).

The city was a target for a range of different struggles, as S. Graham noted: cities, warfare, and organized political violence have always been mutual constructions. During the wars or such disasters as plagues, the people were suffering from physical trauma, injury. Such emotions as deprivation, fear, suffering, hunger, despair related risk situations are presented from the social history's materials. The urban landscape (and such sites as governmental, historical, business and market, sacred and profane places) is a scene of people expression, experiences and discourses. The inhabitants are the users of space and the participants of the flow of social and cultural meanings. According to A. Giddens, the people in developed societies are more secure as before, but the climate of risk is not stable. In the second part of paper some identifications of people with old and new Vilnius city's places are revealed.

According to EU Project sociological research, from the answers of the people we can conclude, that the position of Vilnius centre (old city) is very important and strong – many respondents have in their consciousness this notion as the point of beginning, important symbol of stability and security for nation. It consolidates and joints all the nation, is as sacrum; other places, further of centre are as suburbia, margins. For the inhabitants of the city gathering in this place means possibility of reflection about the destiny of nation, its autonomy, liberty, and social, political order and other transcendental matters. Respondents said, that they are proud living in this city, because it is capital of country. For them is very important such peculiarities of Vilnius: representation of history, beautiful past architecture, surprising beauty of buildings and landscapes. The author analyses the results of the inhabitants attitude's research of the city space (important places, old buildings, new regions, sky - scrapers, a.s.o.).

The tastes are changing, they are becoming as symbols of multiculturalism. The choice of products is like the act of individualisation. In the answers of our respondents we can see very important interest for market places – Akropolis, Maxima, Gariunai. In post soviet times the discourses on consumption is the discourses on privacy – it was new direction in the post soviet people thinking and activity. „The private home“, „car“, „second home“ are very important objects of people seeking. The officials, politicians, top managers, owners of companies buy expensive, high-quality clothes in special shops with foreign goods. Self-expression through consumption (especially clothes) is characteristic for the young people which are the frequenters of large market places where they are looking for cheap fashionable goods.