

The research problem of the study is to explain the role of the organisation of urban space in developing creative recreation, on the basis of Łódź. The cognitive aim of the project is identification of outdoor creative recreation in the urban space of Łódź, its distributions and ways of arrangement. As the study objectives the following need to be highlighted: testing and verifying the theory of the organisation of creative recreation in urban space and its usefulness on the basis of Łódź. Methodological objectives are primarily to create the model of an urban recreational space conducive to organising outdoor creative recreation through: analysing participants of outdoor creative recreation in Łódź, characterising the organisers of outdoor creative recreation in Łódź and determining the most significant elements in urban recreational space conducive to organising outdoor creative recreation. The project has also its applicable aim, which is to create recommendations for local authorities are regards utilising the potential of urban space for developing creative recreation.

The choice of the topic is also determined by the intention to continue the study initiated by the author within her MSc thesis, defended in 2011 at the Faculty of Educational Sciences of the University of Łódź, entitled "Łódź as a creative environment in opinions of the creators and the youths", under the guidance of prof. dr. hab. Krzysztof J. Schmidt. Currently, as a graduate student and employee and at the Faculty of Geographical Sciences, University of Lodz, I use my scientific experience in geographical research, and above all – in study of geographical spaces. The project is based on the topic chosen for my doctoral dissertation, developed at the Institute of Urban Geography and Tourism, University of Lodz, under the guidance of prof. nadzw. dr. hab Slawoj Tanaś.

Łódź seems to be an interesting example of a city which builds its brand within creative industries and the phrase – creative city. The analysis of Łódź as a laboratory is supposed to become a reference point for comparing possibilities of development of organising creative recreation in urban recreational space in other cities promoting themselves as creative cities. Thus, the results obtained are supposed to enrich the existing collection of studies on factors developing cities, on the basis of a Polish city.

The concept analysed in the study is interdisciplinary – within the scope of geography e.g. humanistic, urban, geography of tourism and geography of recreation, sociology of cities and psycho-pedagogical studies on creativity. The project connects experiences from social and geographical sciences which makes it possible to use the results in designing more complex and interdisciplinary studies over the problem analysed. The planned scientific process is expected to include more complex approach to the problem through using social research methods (qualitative and quantitative, including ethnographic studies) and also spatial visualisation of the material collected. Thus, the results are supposed to extend the scope of discussions on understanding, role and function of recreation within geographical studies. At the same time they are supposed to be an important part of the discussion over external (environmental) aspects of the development of creativity within psycho-pedagogy of creativity.

The main goal of the project is realized by:

- 1.The analysis of distribution of the outdoor creative recreational space in Łódź in 2019.
- 2.The survey study of participants of outdoor creative recreation.
- 3.Qualitative outdoor study – casual interviews with organisers of outdoor creative recreation in Łódź.
- 4.Ethnographic visual study with selected participants of the interviews: „photographing my creative places”

Thanks to undertaking these research actions it will be possible to create the model of urban recreational space which is conducive to organising creative recreation.

The studies over the role of arranging the urban recreational space in developing creative recreation might significantly contribute in planning utilisation urban recreational space, which is conducive to organising creative recreation. The conclusions from the studies and recommendations may be the beginning of discussions (on the local level) as regards opportunities and potential of using creative recreation as a valuable alternative for standard forms of spending free time across cities.