

Private/public

This workshop focuses on such questions as: where is the border between private space and public space in the city, what are the rules of usage of public spaces and who should decide how the public spaces could be used?

Through dynamic interaction with each other, the participants will explore the border between private space and public space. They will also discover for themselves where their own private space starts.

Amount of participants: 8-20 persons

Average time: 15 min. – 30 min.

STRUCTURE OF THE WORKSHOP

1. Introduce the workshop to the participants.
2. Divide the participants into two groups and line them up, one group facing the other group, 4-5 meters away from each other. The number of participants should be even, so the first person from the first group facing the first person from the second group and so on.
3. Ask each participant from first group to frame a semi-circle with their arms. The semi-circle outlines the private space of a participant.
4. Ask the participants from the second group to close their eyes.
5. By your command, the participants from the second group start to walk slowly in the direction of the participants from the first group.
6. Whilst they are walking, each participant from the first group could decide for him/herself, how close they will allow to the other participant to approach. For example, they could wait until the person enters their semi-circle, or they could keep them in the distance.
7. Ask participants from the first group to use the word "stop" if they want the person who is approaching to them to stop.
8. After each pair stop, ask the participant from the second group to open their eyes. Ask the pairs to look at each other for a minute without talking.
9. Then ask the second group to walk back slowly, whilst keeping the eye contact.
10. After each participant from the second group reaches the starting point, you could finish the exercise.
11. Do the same exercise, but ask the participants to switch the roles in pairs.
12. Reflect about the feeling during the exercise. These questions could help: How did you feel, when another person was approaching towards you? How close did you let him/her to approach? Did you let another person to enter your semi-circle? How would you feel, if you would ask person to stop, but he/she would not listen to you?



**URBAN SPACE
TOOLKIT**

SPACE THEATER

FEEDBACK

After the workshop you can draw a parallel between the semi-circle and public space of the city