

RESEARCH OF STUDENT DORMITORIES IN REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA

Fitore Uzairi¹

¹Department of Architecture, Faculty of Applied Sciences, RNM

*Corresponding author e-mail: fitore.uzairi@unite.edu.mk

Abstract

As a teaching assistant at the University of Tetova - Faculty of Architecture, based on my experience in the study process, as potential research work and very important during the study process in the Republic of North Macedonia, I decided to offer the research work under the working title |*"Contemporary tendencies, exploring the significance of the architectural connection of student dormitories"*.

In the designing process, as architects, we need to have a serious and careful approach in designing this type of facility, in order to create more efficient and more functional facilities with modern conditions, which will make learning and studying as easy as possible. Achieving this goal, as well as achieving the basic goal-students to be in access and near the easier learning, educational and cultural upgrading, as well as creating more comfortable methods for studying, represents a big step for every architect, and then for the quality of the whole society.

The functional principles of modern architecture are based on the use of new materials and building design technologies to create a new architectural spaciousness. These principles are needed for a more flexible and open structure of space, promoting an active methodology in the process of learning, education, a more quality and healthier way of life and connecting with nature. In addition to the new educational requirements, also for the economic situation, the new architectural solution of student dorms must be based on design, which is based on the development of new technical, constructive and rational functional solutions.

Keywords: The needs of study, student preferences, contemporary architectural tendencies, student cities.

1. Introduction

In the context of higher education, one key and contemporary factor is student accommodation during studies, which factor has a direct impact on the effectiveness of the educated aspect of students. When we are young generations, we need to be especially attentive because they represent the future and development of a society. One major factor in the development of society is education, which requires specific dedication at each stage.

1.1 Study needs in Republic of North Macedonia

Student housing has the opportunity to offer students more benefits and risks. Living in a home specialized for students can facilitate the student's adaptation to the faculty. From a broader point of the university, student dwelling is a very important factor for recruiting new students. In some researches, many universities have reported that student dorms are effective in increasing student engagement and retention. In larger university communities, built facilities for student housing can improve neighborhood life and provide increased partnerships between universities and the community, as well as expanding the opportunities

for student learning services. However, with these benefits, there are challenges, potentially high financial costs.

1.1.1 Student preferences of student dormitories in Republic of North Macedonia

To attract and retain students, today's universities face increasing demand to provide new housing options that meet the new expectations of the millennium generation. Recent trends and parameters in housing have been examined. Research results about how universities are trying to address these requirements are still being analyzed. Unlike previous generations, who had basic requirements in student housing, today's students have higher expectations. The space inside and outside the area in which they live must be integrated, therefore student dorms are trying to foster a common space where they try to minimize the division between academic and non-academic spaces. The new trends are offering rooms where they can learn and eat at the same time. Student preferences and architectural requirements for student dormitories are very important for a further stage of architectural design.

Following is presented a graph of a survey of 100 students in Skopje and Tetovo, about their preferences and architectural requirements that should be fulfilled by student dormitories.

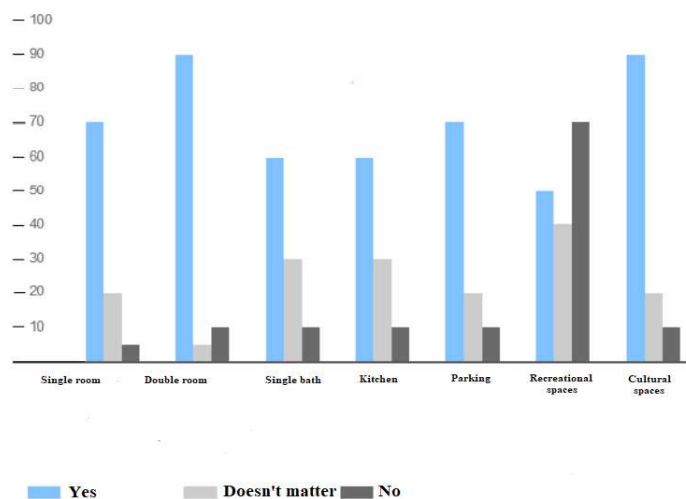


Figure 1. The questionnaire done by 200 students, March 2016

2. The actual data of student dormitories in Republic of North Macedonia

In the study year 2015/2016, in the student dormitories and other suitable accommodation facilities in the Republic of North Macedonia, regular students enrolled in undergraduate studies in the first cycle of public and private universities and higher education institutions in the Republic of North Macedonia will be admitted to:

Реден број	СТУДЕНТСКИ ДОМ	МЕСТО	Број на легла за студенти од И година	Број на легла за студенти од II, III, IV, V и VI год. и апсолвенти	ВКУПЕН БРОЈ НА ЛЕГЛА
1	ДСД "СКОПЈЕ"	Скопје			
	-ГОЦЕ ДЕЛЧЕВ		202	808	1010
	-КУЗМАН ЈОСИФОВСКИ ПИТУ		99	397	496
	-СТИВ НАУМОВ – прва и втора зграда		140	561	701
	-СТИВ НАУМОВ – трета зграда		128	514	642
	-СТИВ НАУМОВ – нови бараки		28	110	138
2	ДСД "ПЕЛАГОНИЈА"	Скопје	195	778	973
3	ДСД "ТОМЕ СТЕФАНОВСКИ СЕНИК"	Скопје	115	462	577
4	ДСД "КОЧО РАЦИН"	Битола	77	308	385
5	ДСД "НИКОЛА КАРЕВ"	Охрид	46	185	231
6	ДСД "ДОНЕ БОЖИНОВ"	Пробиштип	26	104	130
7	ДСД "ОРДЕ ЧОПЕЛА"	Прилеп	67	268	335
8	ДСД "БРАКА МИЛАДИНОВЦИ"	Штип	43	173	216
9	ПСД "ОАЗА"	Штип	22	90	112
10	ПСД "ХИЛАДНИКОВ"	Штип	12	48	60
11	ПСД "ЛОГОС"	Штип	10	42	52
	ВКУПНО:		1210	4848	6058

Figure 2. The number of students enrolled in student dormitories

The distribution of the total number of available places in homes is done as follows:

1. First group - 40% of the total number of available places in the homes are for students for which the total income in the family is up to the net minimum wage determined in the Republic of North Macedonia, as follows:

- Students of children without parents and parental care,
- Students of children with special needs,
- Students children of beneficiaries of social financial assistance and permanent financial assistance,
- Students of single parent children,
- Students children of unemployed parents and students children of users of compensation based on termination of employment for business reasons.

The first group includes students of single parents, children students of unemployed parents, children without parents and parental care, children with special needs and children students of users of compensation based on termination of employment for business reasons for which the total income in the family is above the net minimum wage established in the Republic of North Macedonia.

2. The second group - 25% of the total number of available places in the homes is for students who have achieved particularly high learning success.

3. Third group - 35% of the total number of available places in the homes are for regular students enrolled in the first cycle of public and private universities and higher education institutions in the Republic of North Macedonia that do not belong to the groups from items a), b) and c) this article.

3. Student cities in the Republic of North Macedonia

Higher education in the Republic of North Macedonia is dedicated to the development and improvement of the knowledge and the consolidation of the culture of living among young people and adults. Higher education produces high-quality staff and responsible citizens capable of meeting the needs of the existential, social and individual sphere of human manifestation. Regarding this, it is possible to nurture the traditional features and values of all communities in the Republic of North Macedonia affirming them in international dimensions and promoting them as a common cultural treasure and tradition of the Macedonian people.

Citizens of the Republic of North Macedonia have an equal right to education at higher education institutions in the Republic of North Macedonia. Foreign citizens may be educated at higher education institutions in the Republic of North Macedonia under equal conditions as nationals of the Republic of North Macedonia.

The role and tasks of higher education institutions are the creation, protection, and transfer of knowledge for securing social and economic well-being and advancement of the society, preparing students for occupations requiring the use of scientific discoveries and professional knowledge, cultural and linguistic diversity, encouraging technological development, development of arts, technical culture, and sports.

In the Republic of North Macedonia, higher education is developed in many cities, at their universities where the process of studying is efficiently conducted for students who are citizens of Macedonia, as well as students from abroad. Most visited cities by the student are Skopje with 7 Universities, 1 State and 6 private, Tetovo with 2 Universities, 1 State 1 Private, Shtip, Ohrid and Bitola with one State University.

3.1 Universities and student dormitories in the city of Skopje

Skopje contains a very high degree of education with top universities:

- Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje
- Fon University
- University American College, Skopje
- MIT University
- European University
- International Balkan University
- University for Tourism and Management, Skopje

The number of enrolled students simultaneously increases the need for student accommodation where some of the state and private homes for accommodating students are applied. In Skopje, the most famous student dormitories are: Goce Delchev with a capacity of 1010 students each year, Kuzman Josifovski Tito with 496, Stiv Naumov 701, Pelagonija 973 and the latest private student dormitory with accommodation for 500 students.

3.2 Universities and student dormitories in the city of Tetovo

Tetovo is also called a student city, which contains a large number of students at both its universities. The universities in Tetovo are:

- University of Tetova
- South East European University

Although there are a large number of students, Tetovo does not have a sufficient place for their accommodation, there is an obvious lack of investment in the student dormitory sector. The only student home is the home within the campus of the South East European University with a capacity for accommodating 450 students.

3.3 Universities and student dormitories in the city of Stip

The city of Stip, although it owns only one University, which was founded only a few years ago in 2007, still has a large number of students. The only university is "Goce Delchev", which is a state university and is ranked second in the list of state universities in the country. With the Decision of the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia in Stip four student dormitories have been established, offering accommodation facilities for many students at the University "Goce Delchev".

The student dormitories in Stip are: The State Dormitory Brothers Miladinovci, Hilyadynikov, Oaza and Logos.

4. Skopje as the largest University City

Skopje as the capital of the Republic of North Macedonia is the only city of 33 cities in the Republic that is divided into separate municipalities. The capital of the Republic of North Macedonia has 7 universities and a larger number of student dormitories, and the mobility of students is most often carried out from smaller towns and cities to the City of Skopje. The tendency of increasing the number of students enrolled in universities, high schools, undergraduate and postgraduate programs increases in parallel the need for their accommodation in student dormitories.

4.1 Universities in the city of Skopje

The education policy of each country aims to provide opportunities for acquiring an appropriate educational level for everyone and all age groups and to ensure that they possess knowledge, skills, and attitudes that are in line with the demands of society. Therefore, education must be accessible to every person, regardless of age, gender, religious affiliation, ethnicity, health status, and social and financial standing. Also, education and training must

have all the conditions for efficiency and effectiveness to be able to provide them with sufficient general and vocational education. Education must be characterized by a dynamically and flexibly structured structure that will enable smooth horizontal and vertical mobility for students, students, and teaching staff to function in clearly defined mechanisms that will enable its adaptability and readiness to meet the changing needs of individuals and society in its entirety. Also, education must overcome the problems and eliminate the factors that cause educational abstinence and the drop out of the users of educational services. The city of Skopje is the main cultural, university and scientific center, where educational and cultural investments have recently become a high degree of application. Especially in the institutions of higher education, there is a great deal of attendance from domestic and international students. The main fault of these universities in Skopje, both at the state and private universities is the lack of anticipation of the stay of their students. Thus, students are forced to provide themselves with private accommodation at the time of study. For some students, this part may not have such a strong influence on a decision to study, but for some other lack of integrated student housing at university campuses can be a major obstacle. The students need to be able to perceive the continuity in the development of European civilization through awareness of its roots, the interdependence of linguistic and cultural - civilization processes and phenomena, and in that way encourage a wider interest and comparison with national and wider cultural and developmental flows.

Skopje is the main cultural, university and scientific center, and in terms of other municipalities in the Republic, the largest number of persons with completed higher education.

In accordance with the Law on Higher Education, higher education institutions are: university, faculty, and higher vocational school. The faculties of arts that carry out artistic activity can also carry the name Art Academy. Higher vocational school is a higher education institution that performs higher education activities for vocational studies and high-school work in one or more professional fields.

Skopje is distinguished by a high degree of education with top Universities such as:

- Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje
- Fon University
- University American College, Skopje
- MIT University
- European University
- International Balkan University



Figure 3. Location of Universities in the city of Skopje

4.2 Student dormitories in Skopje

4.2.1 Student dormitory Goce Delchev

The Goce Delchev House is located in the Skopje settlement Karpos 4. It was built in 1973 and for the first time its reconstruction started in 2014. Goce Delchev is made up of 4 building blocks with a total capacity of 1324 beds divided into single, double and couple rooms. The rooms in the building blocks A and B are with shared bathrooms, while building blocks B and D each room has its own bathroom. The renovation of the building block A ended in 2015 and it is equipped with a modern inventory that meets all the needs of the students.

4.2.2 Student dormitory Steve Naumov

This settlement consists of 3 buildings and 8 pavilions with a total capacity of 1,226 beds. The first two buildings were built in 1964, while the third building was built in 1992. In 2014, the new pavilions were built in place of former student barracks.

Buildings 1 and 2 have single rooms, double and triple rooms with their own bathrooms. Building 3 has single rooms, double rooms, triple rooms and wedding rooms with shared bathrooms, while pavilions with double rooms and private bathrooms, 6 of which are designed for people with disabilities. The neighborhood has a restaurant and a buffet where students can exercise their right to a warm meal and a reading room where they can learn effectively.

4.2.3 Student dormitory Pelagonija

The student dormitory Pelagonija has a total capacity of 230 rooms divided into two building blocks: male and female building blocks. The capacity of the female building block is 80 four-bed rooms or 320 beds. The male building block has 150 four-bed rooms or 570 beds. Each room features a private bathroom. The House has a total of 17 absolute rooms, of which 10 are newly built and will be put into use in the academic year 2009/2010. Each room has an Internet connection with the possibility of using free Internet services according to the government's decision for free internet in the student dormitories.

4.2.4 FON International student dormitory

FON dormitory has an area of 20,000 square meters with a capacity for 500 students. The student dormitory at FON University includes the most modern trends in the architectural design of student dormitories. The dormitory has a capacity of 150 apartments, dedicated common space, libraries, reading rooms, fitness centers and its own special restaurant for students' nutrition.

5. Conclusion

This research work explores the Universities' potentials of the Republic of North Macedonia, where they are given data from the Statistical Office of the Republic of North Macedonia for the number of students, Universities and student dormitories in the Republic of North Macedonia. The research also included a survey of students from Skopje and Tetovo for student preferences and architectural requirements in student dorms, then for student dorms in the most dynamic student cities in the Republic of North Macedonia, the City of Skopje in order to come to a better architectural solution for applying more integrated activities in the student dormitories.

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