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| **Interviewee** | **Current Context in the City** | **Opinion on the Situation and Future** | **Other Relevant Information** |
| **Jerusalem Interviewees** | Tensions have hugely increased since the Gaza war and kidnap and murder of teenagers in July 2014  Shared spaces becoming less shared  Very volatile situation  Deprivation in East Jerusalem areas  City is segregated  Increasing Palestinian presence in the West  Increasing frustration on Palestinian side  Moving towards increasing confrontation | Mostly pessimistic  But some remain relatively optimistic but not for near future  Interaction between communities is bound to happen due to demographic changes  Hope of better relations between middle class categories such as in Mamilla  As long as rights are denied to one group the situation will remain explosive  More violence is currently inevitable  Situation will worsen if nothing is changed | Cooperation at academic level does occur although it isn’t encouraged on Palestinian side  Archaeology creates identity and discourse around finds plays a key role in creating the identity of the city; it can be shared  Israeli government is not interested in peace right now, it wants further territorial expansion first  There needs to be a shift in power for things to change |
| **Belfast Interviewees** | Still very much a segregated city  More peace walls since peace process started  Better than it was during the Troubles  But change remains superficial  Imperfect peace  Sectarian attitudes remain | Almost as if benign segregation is good enough  Many are rather cynical or disappointed  A few are optimistic  Belfast is on the right trajectory  But very long process  Issues of identity are still important  Still no truly shared society | Due to the violence in the past, people were trained to stay away from the city centre and therefore shared spaces  Physical separation leads to social segregation and the loss of curiosity in interacting with others  Space and territoriality and the perception of threat is really important in Belfast  Division is deeply internalised  When the abnormal becomes normal there’s a problem; the walls are becoming normal |
| **Brussels Interviewees** | Brussels is a very mixed city  Very little opportunity to speak Dutch  Dutch speaking community has become a small minority within the city  Over 30% of the population is non-Belgian  Most institutions remain separate such as education, culture, political parties and so on  Institutional organisation is a soft apartheid  Institutionally inhabitants need to have a linguistic gender, cannot be bilingual  Complexity of Belgian federalism  Only the arts sector and civil society are building bridges between linguistic communities  Brussels is becoming increasingly independent as a region, and this is a good thing  Communitarian logic of separation is strong  Institutional reality is causing extremely ambiguous situations on the ground | Improved especially for Dutch speakers  But federalisation is leading to further division and separation  Mostly optimistic in terms of intergroup relations  Linguistic conflict is becoming a thing of the past  Brussels region becoming more autonomous is seen as a good thing  More efforts are made on both sides to live together  But at the national level there is increasing separation  Focus is not on common decision making but on more autonomy  Most believe that Brussels needs to become a truly bilingual city, including bilingual parties and bilingual shared education  Not pessimist; things will change because they have to | Roots of the conflict are historical  Belgium is an artificially created country  Discrimination against Dutch dialects have caused the conflict  Brussels is like Jerusalem in that both communities cannot live without it and are therefore forced to live together  Joint decision making no longer comes automatically, what does is the reinforcement of sub-state identities  It is therefore important to keep a common identity as well  Political elites in Brussels and Belfast are not very keen on building bridges because they have elections to win in their community only  The division of political parties was highly symbolic as it meant that ethnic and linguistic belonging became more important than values such as Christian values  The Belgian situation is absurd, but maybe this absurdity has helped avoid bloodshed  When a group is a minority, it may be difficult to accept to mingle if there is a fear of losing its identity  Idea of shared space is far more in-depth, goes much further than public space – questions even democratic structure of the city by focusing on true co-production and participation |