

ARRIVAL CITY HAMBURG



SÖNMEZ MARKT



Implications of an
ethnic street



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The ethnic street has side effects, such as conflicts and other problems that manifest themselves in open spaces. As soon as these problems become visible to the residents, conflicts arise.

The following photos present problems that can be observed in everyday life on St. Georg. Important reasons for these problems are the rapid change in the district, the opposites that meet here and the accumulation of marginalized groups. Even if the ethnic street may not be the cause of all these problems, it is strongly associated with it in the general urban context.

All photos taken by author



Waste decorates the ethnic street, although the municipality tries to collect the waste regularly. Shops use the space that is available and often disrespect the guidelines.



The supermarket

The supermarkets establish a strong connection to the home country and the culture. Traditional products and foods allow newcomers to bring their culture to their new kitchen and develop a feeling of home in the country of arrival. At the same time, the shops are meeting places and offer jobs in logistics and service.



It is common to see drunk people lying around in front of supermarkets or bars.



Gambling halls

The gambling halls are messengers of the trading-down effect that has made the area so attractive for ethnic shops. Most of the betting offices function as bars and give privacy as they are completely covered from the street.



Supply stores

Household supplies, such as cleaning, interior and kitchen utilities can be found here. Due to the low prices, these shops are highly attractive for newcomers that want to arrange their home. The shisha shops are rather a new function on the high street.



Fashion and bridal wear

Especially the Indian and Pakistani shops offer traditional bridal wear and clothing. Interviews revealed that the shops are losing clients and that younger Indian woman tend to shop online.



Tiny ethnic shops offer everything a newcomers needs from food to information.

The Imbis

The fast and street food shops at the Steindamm stand for the high numbers of daily visitors. Fast food is cheap, works on limited space and allows the shop owners to handle more clients throughout the day.





Hansaplatz were groups of men gather for drinking and often end up shouting around.

Jehovah's Witnesses trying to recruite new members on a Saturday.



Hairdresser

The barber shops, open for around 12 hours each day, are places of networking and tradition. Most of the barber shops have a high customer volume and do not offer appointments. Clients, mostly male, can drop by sponatenously and spend a reasonable amount on a basic hair cut.



Kiosk

Kiosks allow shop owners to sell a large variety of products and to open their shop at the night.



Hansplatz were groups of men gather for drinking and often end up shouting around.

Police on a daily walk through the area to check passports and clear disturbances.





The Lampedusa tent, where African refugees fight for more rights concerning the EU asylum system.



