## Title:

"Imaginary City. Educational Commons in Action: Students' Collaborative Efforts to Redesign their Neighborhood".

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## **Abstract:**

This paper discusses a collaborative project undertaken by students from the 30th High School of Thessaloniki in Greece, where they used photography to formulate proposals for redesigning their neighborhood, guided by the values of educational commons. The project was designed to foster a sense of community and to explore the extent to which the real needs and desires of children and adolescents are considered in educational and environmental strategies. The students collaborated equally with each other and their teachers, and their collective effort sets the basis for a broader discussion on the role of youth participation in education and the environment. They also demonstrate the students' creativity and their capacity to envision a better future for their community. The photographs and proposals provide a unique insight into the students' perspectives and priorities and help to highlight the importance of engaging young people in discussions around education and the environment. The project showcases the potential of educational commons, which emphasizes the importance of shared resources and knowledge, in promoting more equitable and participatory approaches to education. It also underscores the need to value and support youth voices and experiences in decision-making processes that affect their lives. This paper contributes to the growing body of literature on the role of youth participation in environmental and educational policy and practice.

**Keywords:** Educational commons, Student collaboration, Neighborhood redesign, Youth participation, Photography.