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Essay on the film *Vista*

## ABSTRACT

This paper is about the current situation the movie *Vista* shows in Kosovo. It examines two opposite topics such as trash and electrical cables in the streets. Showing it as a societal and political concern, while people concerned or not concerned cohabit with the situation, they live in. Apart from that, the movie explicitly shows the effects they both have on the environment and the quality of life in this region.

## Trash and electricity

The economic activities of humans have degraded the environment each year more and more throughout the world. However, environmental challenges are especially evident in developing countries which are generally known to be dealing with plenty of other problems at the same time. For instance, they face problems with poverty, gender and social inequality, corruption, and nepotism, political instability, financial insecurities, etc. Kosovo, as well, is currently exposed to all of these problems. However, in recent years some of the most pressing problems were those that jeopardized environmental sustainability and strongly threatened the health of Kosovars and the environment surrounding them. When considering environmental challenges, an everlasting and worrisome problem remains that of waste management and electricity which is a result of many combined factors. In regards to environmental damage, destruction of aesthetics, presence of bad odors, potential contamination of life sources like water, air, and productive land are just some of the bad outcomes that the waste management is associated with. In Kosovo, unsanitary disposal sites and incineration of waste remain big environmental challenges that degrade the nature's setting. Waste dumping is known to produce gases and leachate which happen as a result of the decomposition of microbial organisms..<sup>1</sup>

The Kosovo Energy Corporation (KEK) is responsible for coal production and power generation in the territory of Kosovo, being thus responsible for the coal mines and the coalfired power plants. Around the world, energy supply conditions vary, and each country determines how best to meet its own energy aspirations. Kosovo's electricity supply options are highly constrained due to modest availability of feasible renewable resources, aging and unreliable lignite-fired generation plants, supply shortages in neighboring countries (especially during peak demand, which limits Kosovo's ability to import electricity), and an absence of any natural gas resources or infrastructure to import gas..<sup>2</sup> However, electricity infrastructure is not underground, but it is transmitted through electrical cables on the streets.

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<sup>1</sup> Rushton, L. (2003). 'Health hazards and waste management'. Pg. 187. British Medical Bulletin. The British Council. Leicester, United Kingdom.

[https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/d3df/cf0933b001fa7ef01ce057df038f1d577ba5.pdf?\\_ga=2.76343260.856575842.1509357761-933535303.1509357761](https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/d3df/cf0933b001fa7ef01ce057df038f1d577ba5.pdf?_ga=2.76343260.856575842.1509357761-933535303.1509357761)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/kosovo/brief/energy-in-kosovo>

Nevertheless, the first noticeable thing one can see in Kosovo streets are garbage and electrical cables. Which to the people living there is a “normal” routine view every day. Although, considering all other issues Kosovo is facing as a new country, I personally happen to think that these two topics are the least talked about.

The video “Vista” shows the actual view you would have to see walking on those streets in Kosovo. Moreover, it shows the connection they have with people walking by. It represents how trash on the street and electrical cables are part of our daily life. An overhead power line is a structure used in electric power transmission and distribution to transmit electrical energy across large distances. It consists of one or more conductors (common multiples of three) suspended by towers or poles. Since most of the insulation is provided by air, overhead power lines are generally the lowest-cost method of power transmission for large quantities of electric energy. With overhead power lines, people have to keep a safe distance, check carefully for overhead lines, and to never assume that a power line is insulated. It’s a lot to keep in mind when you walk through them. But somehow, in Kosovo, those cables are just another accessory of the city. “Vista” tries to show that in a very neutral way.