

# solidarnost je naša snaga

## Solidary visit to war refugees

### REPORT

October 31<sup>st</sup> 2016

#### ***Economics University Park (17:50)***

Tonight we noticed that there were two very young children under the age of 8 in the park with their families. There were also many young adolescent boys who were not yet in their teenage years, and the majority seemed unaccompanied, and though we cannot confirm this, it was our perception. We noticed that most people in the park had winter jackets but there were still a handful or more who had sweatshirts only. We decided that it would be a good idea to ask some of our friends and relatives for men's shoes (since there are no women in this park) and to have a pair or two in our backpacks when we visit. This is because we noticed two people at that time in the park did not have adequate shoes for autumn/winter and were wearing slippers. We noticed that at this time in the evening, there were no police, no security guards, no Jehovah's Witnesses, no humanitarian aid workers, and finally, the Médecins Sans Frontières van was no longer parked outside of the park. A few minutes into our visit, near the parking lot that is next to the park, we noticed a large crowd gathering. Someone had put on music we could see between all of the people cheerfully huddled in a circle that some people were dancing to the music in the middle of the crowd.

#### ***Abandoned Storage Facilities (Behind Bus Station) (18:20)***

As we walked around the abandoned buildings behind the bus and train stations, we noticed that this was the time in the evening that people were getting their fires ready. There were groups of people outside of all of the abandoned buildings and houses on the property. Inside of all of the buildings we could see the fires flickering. To our surprise, a stretch Hummer limo was parked directly outside of one of the abandoned buildings, and the juxtaposition of the decadency and abject poverty was difficult to bear. On the periphery of the buildings, we passed by people gathering sticks for their evening fires.

*Written by: Sofija & Mirko*

