

## **Youth's Actions in the Ivorian Public Sphere: Youth from 'Spaces for Street Discussion' in the September 2002-crisis in Côte d'Ivoire.**

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Since some years, there is a widening of the Ivorian public sphere. The youth are becoming more and more active in the political sphere through the spaces for street discussion. Even if spaces for street discussions are considered 'unofficial' and stand in the periphery of the authorized and more official political spheres, their interaction with political parties and political organizations made them significant political actors. These alternative spaces are a means for the youth to integrate the political sphere that used to be a closed-space and from which they were excluded by their elders until the nineties. New political figureheads like Charles Blé Goudé, Soro Kigbafori Guillaume, Damanan Pickass, to name but a few, arose from these alternative spaces and played now firsthand roles in public sphere. This new generation of political actors uses different tools to get sure its message get through. In these spaces for street discussion, youth are using information technologies in all aspects of their activities: mobile phone, internet, Ipod, CD, DVD, all these devices are used in the 'political game'. Since 2002, since the debut of the ongoing militaro-political crisis, the spaces for street discussion have not stopped growing; this fact is an expression of youth's desire to participate in the political debate, to communicate their hopes and expectations to other components of the social body. Actually these spaces are also 'spaces of resistance', 'arenas' where youth groups in quest for new political and cultural identities confront one another. A new way of being, a new way of know-how, a have emerged from these spaces.