

2024 05 9-10

IMPERFECT MODERNISM
International Scientific Conference

Abstracts



Conference organized by

Vilnius Gediminas technical university (VILNIUS TECH) Faculty of Architecture



International Partner

DOCOMOMO International



Sponsors of the conference

The Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO, Department of Cultural Heritage under the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania, "Domus galerija"







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Leidinio bibliografinė informacija pateikiama Lietuvos nacionalinės Martyno Mažvydo bibliotekos Nacionalinės bibliografijos duomenų banke (NBDB)

eISBN 978-609-476-362-5 https://doi.org/10.20334/2024-040-K

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Scope of the conference

The conference considers modernist architecture as a multi-layered phenomenon and as the expression of a holistic architectural idea that was refracted according to the policies of the states on whose territory it was created. It is obvious that despite its internationality and the presence of common modernist features in the architecture of different countries, modernist architecture shows a diversity of civilizations without establishing a hierarchy of countries-cities-places. The conference aims to show examples of this diversity.

In today's society, there is an ambivalent attitude towards the architectural heritage of modernism. The perception as a "difficult heritage", as an "unappreciated heritage" and at the same time as a "beloved heritage", as an "esthetic heritage" makes it difficult to deal with the architecture of modernism and to adapt the lost objects to today's needs. These difficulties are particularly evident in countries where notions of modernist architecture have been politicized by the post-Soviet or post-colonial trauma of nations and the unfinished process of national identity formation. After all, on the one hand, the continuing foreign influence on established traditionality has created new identities and, on the other hand, the rejection of this heritage and the association with tragic events caused by the activities of political regimes has emerged. The question arises: is it right to equate political-social and cultural-artistic aspects of heritage? And what about the modernist architecture and urban landscapes that, even after the end of political contexts that enforced radical socialist ideas, from extreme nationalist to communist, continue to convey ideas that contradict the democratic-liberal orientation of today's society?

Since industrialization and typification eventually became an integral part of modernist era, producing many monotypical and typified buildings and large residential complexes, the question of research and methods for dealing with such legacies of modernist era arises. These problems are particularly relevant for the reconstruction of post-war Ukraine, where there are similar neighborhoods that were severely damaged by Russian mass shelling and missile attacks.

Examining the problems of modernist buildings falling into disrepair or being demolished due to the changing needs of society and examples of how to deal with this heritage will be one of the topics of the conference. The conference will discuss the sustainability and resilience of modernist sites and urban areas, as these issues are increasingly key to our view of the transformation of both urban landscapes and the modernist heritage that is an integral part of these land-scapes.



PROGRAMME

THURSDAY 9th of MAY 2024

8.30-9.00 Registration

9.00-9.30 Opening

Dalius Navakauskas, Vice-rector for Research, VILNIUS TECH

09.30-11.20 SESSION: CONSERVATION (AM I PROGRESSIVE?)

Moderator: Almantas Liudas Samalavičius (VILNIUS TECH, Lithuania)

9.30-10.00 Keynote lecture: **Oleksandr Buriak**

Foundation and activity of the Ukrainian DOCOMOMO Chapter

(Ukrainian DOCOMOMO Chapter, Ukraine)

Sigita Bugenienė

Managing the Conservation of Cultural Heritage Values: the Case of the Military Research Laboratory in Kaunas

(Cultural Heritage Policy Group at the Ministry of Culture; UNESCO National Focal Point for Culture, Lithuania)

Olena Remizova, Kyrylo Bozhko

Processes of Ruinisation and Revitalisation of Kharkiv Industrial Architecture in the Modern Era

(O.M. Beketov Kharkiv National University of Municipal Economy, Ukraine)

Nini Palavandishvili

Preservation of Late Modernist Architecture in Georgia. Case study: Tbilisi Chess Palace and Alpine Club

(Deutscher Künstlerbund E.V., Germany)

11.20-12.00 Break

12.00-13.50 SESSION: COMPLETED (AM I HEALTHY?)

Moderator: Oleksandr Buriak (Ukrainian DOCOMOMO Chapter, Ukraine)

12.00-12.30 Keynote lecture: Marija Drėmaitė

Modernist Kaunas (1919-1939) on the UNESCO World Heritage List:

Concept, Values and Attributes

(Vilnius University, Lithuania)

Medhanie Teklemariam Andom

Modern Urban Heritage Conservation in the Historic Centre of Asmara (DOCOMOMO and ICOMOS International, Eritrea)

Margarita Janušonienė, Viltė Janušauskaitė

Kurnėnai School: the Unique Object of Interwar Modernism and its Preservation (Department of Cultural Heritage under the Ministry of Culture; VILNIUS TECH, Lithuania)

Monika Ewa Adamska

Post-War Urban Transformation in Poland. Modernist Neointegration Approach: the Case of Silesia

(Opole University of Technology, Poland)

13.50-15.00 Lunch break



15.00-16.50 SESSION: CULTURE (AM I STORYTELLER?)

Moderator: Marija Drėmaitė (Vilnius University, Lithuania)

15.00-15.30 Keynote lecture: Svitlana Matviyenko

Chornobyl Prometheus: Soviet Atomgrads and the Colonial Legacies of Modernity

(School of Communication Simon Fraser University, Canada)

Maya Hmeidan

Oscar Niemeyer's Tripoli International Fairgrounds in Lebanon:

Embracing Modernism Then and Now

(UNESCO; ICOMOS, Lebanon)

Olga Mykhaylyshyn

Architectural Modernism and Ukrainian Village: Large Models for Small Spaces

(The National University of Water and Environmental Engineering, Ukraine)

Natalia Khoroian

Social Meanings of Ukrainian Modernism on the Example of Kharkiv in the 1920s-30s

(Kharkiv State Academy of Design and Arts, Ukraine)

FRIDAY 10th of MAY 2024

09.00-10.50 SESSION: TRENDS (AM I CHARMING?)

Moderator: Rūta Leitanaitė (Architects Association of Lithuania, Lithuania)

9.00-9.30 Keynote lecture: Uta Pottgiesser

Modern, Sustainable and Circular

(DOCOMOMO International, Netherlands; TH OWL, Germany)

Martynas Mankus

Postmodern Debate. Theory and Practice of Postmodern Architecture in Lithuania (Vilnius Academy of Arts, Lithuania)

Vaidas Petrulis

Imperfect Modernism - Perfect Monument: The Lithuanian Church in Marquette Park, Chicago (Lithuanian USA)

(Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania)

Svitlana Smolenska

Imperfect or Unknown Modernism? International Kharkiv Competition 1930

(Kherson State Agrarian and Economic University, Ukraine; TH OWL, Germany)

11.00-11.30 OPENING OF SVITLANA SMOLENSKA EXHIBITION

"Hans Poelzig's Project for the Ukraine"

Architekturmuseum der Technischen Universität Berlin VolkswagenStiftung

11.30-12.00 Break



12.00-13.50 SESSION: POLITICAL (AM I HUMAN?)

Moderator: Vaidas Petrulis (Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania)

12.00-12.30 Keynote lecture: Ana Tostões

How to be Modern and Don't Ignore the Roots: Portugal Modernist Heritage (CITUA_Instituto Superior Tecnico; DOCOMOMO International, Portugal)

Svitlana Linda, Renata Przewłocka-Sionek

The Concept of the Soviet Man and Its Realization in the Architecture of Mass Housing in Lviv in the 1960s-1980s

(Lviv Polytechnic National University, Ukraine; University of Technology in Lodz, Poland)

Emilia Siandou

Shared and Contested Modern Architectural Legacies: Turkish Cypriot Schools in Larnaka, Cyprus (1945-1974) (Department of Town Planning and Housing, Republic of Cyprus)

Daria Hetmanova

Infrastructures of Russian Occupation in Ukraine: Examining the "Reconstruction" of Mariupol (Simon Fraser University, Canada)

13.50-15.00 Lunch break

15.00-17.00 SESSION: CONTINUATION (AM I STILL YOUNG?)

Moderator: Uta Pottgiesser (DOCOMOMO International, Netherlands; TH OWL, Germany)

15.00-15.30 Keynote lecture: **Jeremie Hoffmann Unveiling Tel Aviv's Urban Brutalism: Conservation, Challenges and Dilemmas**(Negev School of Architecture; MoNC; UNESCO, Israel)

Justyna Borucka

Wandering around the City of Gdynia (Gdańsk University of Technology, Poland)

Nol Binakaj

Bridging Past and Present: The Kosovo's National Library in Prishtina (Kosovo Foundation for Cultural Heritage without Borders, Kosovo)

Nadiia Antonenko

Urban Resilience of Large-Scale Modernist Housing in Ukraine. Re-Thinking Spatiality

(Kyiv National University of Construction and Architecture, Ukraine; RPTU Department of Spatial and Environmental Planning, Germany)