



## OBSOLESCENCE and RENOVATION

### 20th Century Housing in the New Millennium

Conference: 14-15 December 2015

#### **Abstract / Initial Proposal Form:**

**1. Paper / Proposal Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

Ways of adoption. Preservation strategies for housing estates built in the 1950s-1980s in Western Europe.

**2. Format:** \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal presentation / Written paper

**3. Author(s) Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**5. University or Company Affiliation:** \_\_\_\_\_

Bauhaus-University Weimar (Germany), Research Project WDWM Welche Denkmale welcher Moderne? / Whose Heritage, which Modernism?

<http://welchedenkmale.info/welche-denkmale-welcher-moderne/info/english/>

## **6. Abstract (300 words):** \_\_\_\_\_

In the last years different European countries made efforts to improve public acceptance and the listing process of buildings from the 1950s to 1980s as cultural heritage. As buildings from the 1950s are in public discussion for a longer time, the current discussion mainly focusses on the 1960s and 1970s. Numerous has been published, and a number of buildings were listed. But which ones exactly? And under which circumstances? The research project analyses and compares existing and planned listing projects for housing estates in West European countries. It evaluates different methods and strategies for listing and preserving housing estates from the 1950s to the 1980s as well as the question, what impact the method of listing has for the conservation of these monuments.

The main problems of post-war housing estates are the possible obsolescence, changed demographics and the fact, that rapidly growing demands of energy efficiency and new living standards are threatening these estates to be demolished or modified before the society is even aware of their historic or artistic values. The selection of late modernist buildings is not only a question of management, but also of how to deal with discomfort and refusal, which can also be based on political or aesthetic matters.

While heritage surveys for buildings of the period 1950-1990 have already been carried out in some European countries, other countries are just beginning to turn their attention to the cultural heritage of this period. As a matter of fact, the circumstances for selection and evaluation differ in each country. Based on the national legislation and the structure of institutions, each country develops individual listing methods with different selection criteria. In some cases it is remarkable how non-government institutions, research-groups and initiatives are supporting the listing process.

## **7. Author(s) Biography (200 words maximum for all authors):** \_\_\_\_\_

Katja Hasche (\*1973) is an architect. She studied architecture in Karlsruhe, Braunschweig (DE) and London (GB). After working as an architect in Germany and Switzerland, Katja Hasche completed 2005 her specialization on preservation of monuments at ETH Zurich. Afterwards she worked in Switzerland with the focus on analyzing and inventorying post-war buildings. Since 2014 Katja Hasche is working on the research project WDWM (Welche Denkmale welcher Moderne? / Whose Heritage, which Modernism?) at the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar (Germany). The subject of her research and dissertation is the inventory and preservation of post-war housing estates in Western Europe. In addition, Katja Hasche is inventorying post-war housing estates in the western part of Germany (Rheinland) under the direction of the local monuments office LVR (Landschaftsverband Rheinland). Katja Hasche also lectures at FH Aachen – University of Applied Sciences the subject preservation of monuments.

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