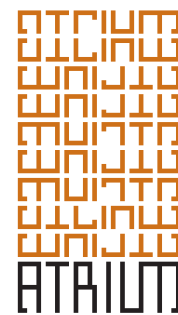


**SOUTH EAST
EUROPE**

Transnational Cooperation Programme



Programme co-funded by the
EUROPEAN UNION



**Architecture
of Totalitarian Regimes**
of the XX^o Century
in Urban Management

Transnational Survey



More on: www.atrium-see.eu

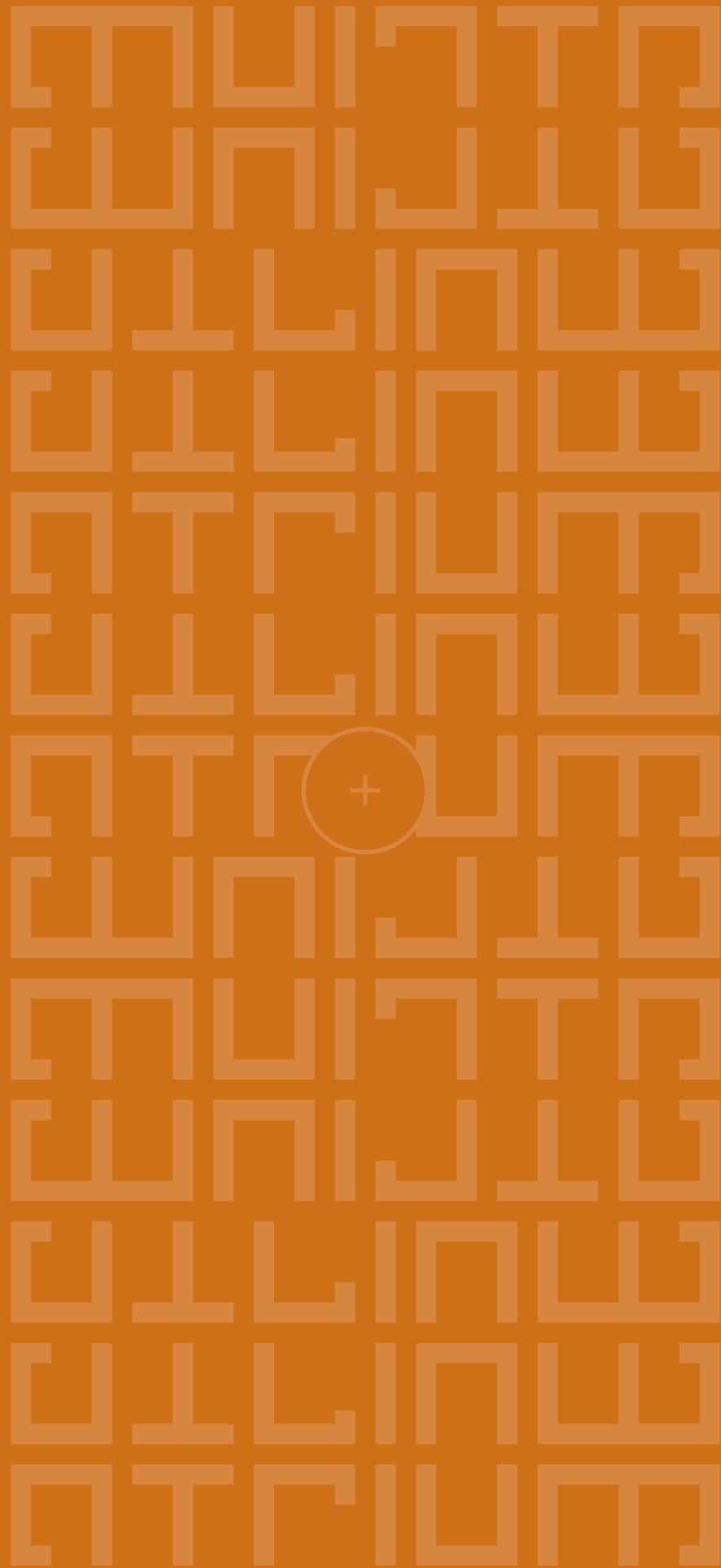
english



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Survey, brochure and CD produced by NIICH



NATIONAL INSTITUTE
OF IMMOVABLE CULTURAL HERITAGE



01. Comune di Forlì

Univerza v Ljubljani



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Partners for ATRIUM:



02. Provincia di
Forlì-Cesena



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Partners

ATRIUM – Architecture of Totalitarian Regimes of 20th century in Urban Management

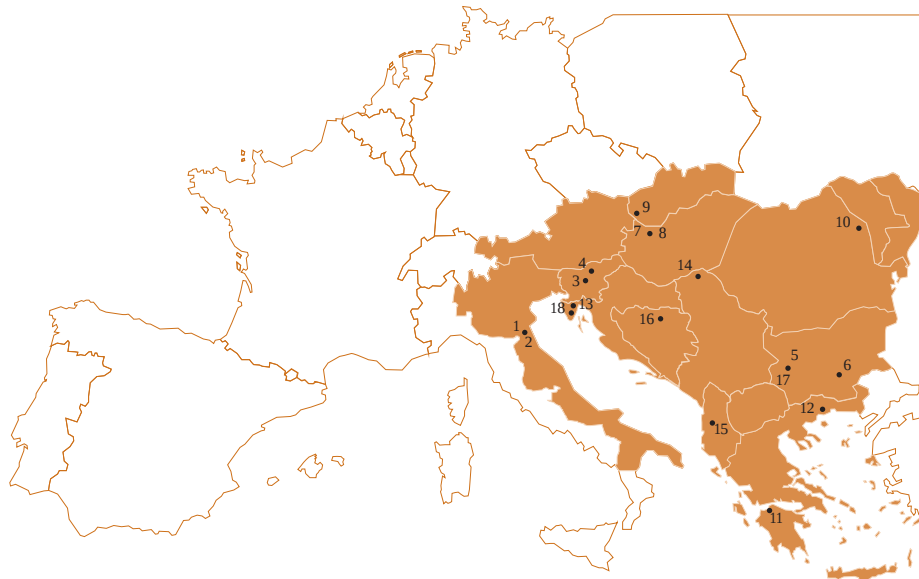


Illustration: Map with partners in the project

- 01. Municipality of Forlì / **Italy**
- 02. Province of Forlì-Cesena / **Italy**
- 03. University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Architecture, Ljubljana / **Slovenia**
- 04. Municipality of Velenje / **Slovenia**
- 05. The National Institute of Immovable Cultural Heritage, Sofia / **Bulgaria**
- 06. Municipality of Dimitrovgrad / **Bulgaria**
- 07. Szechenyi Istvan University, Gyor / **Hungary**
- 08. Local Government of Gyor with County Rank / **Hungary**
- 09. Institute of Construction and Architecture of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava / **Slovakia**
- 10. Metropolitanate of Moldavia and Bukovina – Archdiocese of Iasi / **Romania**
- 11. Institute for Innovation & Sustainable Development AEIPLOUS, Patras / **Greece**
- 12. Cultural & Educational Technology Institute, ATHENA - Research & Innovation Centre information, Communication and Knowledge Technologies, Xhanti / **Greece**
- 13. Town of Labin / **Croatia**
- 14. Fund of microregional tourism cluster Subotica-Palic / **Serbia**
- 15. Municipality of Tirana / **Albania**
- 16. Rotor – organization for development of tourism of region Doboj / **Bosnia-Herzegovina**
- 17. Ministry of Culture, Sofia / **Bulgaria**
- 18. Municipality of Rasa / **Croatia**



About ATRIUM

Architecture of Totalitarian Regimes of 20th century in Urban Management

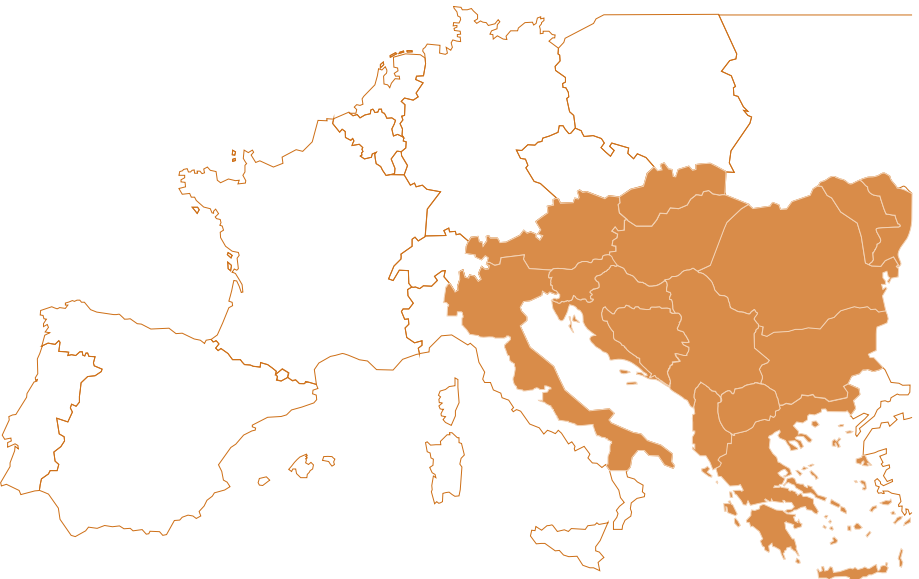
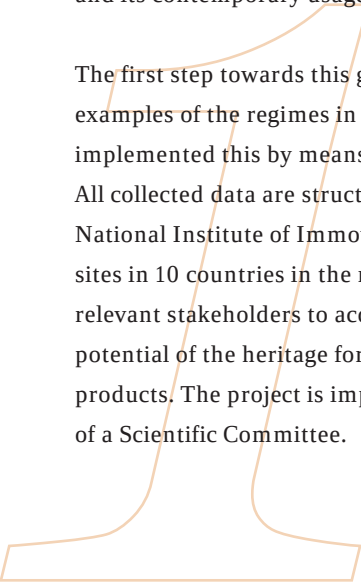


Illustration: Region Southeast Europe

ATRIUM – Architecture of Totalitarian Regimes of the 20th century in Urban Management is a pilot project which aims to put a key element of the twentieth-century European history, heritage and memory into greater focus. Its ultimate goal is to create a transnational cultural route in South East Europe to be granted the "**Cultural Route of the Council of Europe**" certification. Such recognition is a contemporary method of reconsideration of such heritage and its contemporary usage.

The first step towards this goal is the **identification** of emblematic architectural examples of the regimes in the territories of the project partners. Each partner implemented this by means of a template designed exclusively for the project. All collected data are structured and analyzed in a **transnational survey** by the National Institute of Immovable Cultural Heritage (NIICH) in Sofia, covering 71 sites in 10 countries in the region. The survey enables all partners and other relevant stakeholders to acquaint with the scope and cultural and historical potential of the heritage for the future cultural route and related cultural tourism products. The project is implemented under the supervision of a Scientific Committee.



More on: www.atrium-see.eu

Italy

Forlì, Cesenatico, Predappio, Castrocaro Terme
e Terra del Sole



Air Force College, Forlì, photo: Fotogiornale Giorgio Sabatini

Mussolini's totalitarian regime approached architecture as a material expression of fascist ideas. It aimed at turning buildings and squares into tools for the moulding and preservation of political consensus and expression of gratitude to the party-state. To this purpose the government built new cities, buildings - fascist homes, and many social and educational institutions - hospitals, sanatoriums, schools and institutes. Architecture presented by Italy in ATRIUM is dominated by the language, stylistic features and characteristics of the Italian rationalism adapted for the fascist purposes.

Case-studies presented in ATRIUM:

01. Monument to the Fallen, Forlì, 1932
02. House of the Crippled, Forlì, 1933
03. Fascist Youth Seat, Forlì, 1935
04. House of the Fascist Party, Predappio, 1937
05. Agip Summer Camp, Cesenatico, 1938
06. Valsalva Sanatorium Centre, Forlì, 1939
07. Air Force College, Forlì, 1941
08. Industrial and Technical Institute, Forlì, 1941
09. Grand Hotel, Castrocaro Terme e Terra del Sole, 1943

Serbia

Subotica



The residential complex Radijalac, Subotica, photo: Ivan Vojnic

The selected residential areas and public buildings are the most obvious expression of the dominant doctrine in Yugoslavia and Serbia in particular in the communist period. The totalitarian regime demonstrates social care and cultural policy, to cover up its autocracy. Lack of direct Soviet influence in the architecture is characteristic for the country that politically dominated the republics. The selected examples in ATRIUM show the power of the communist regime that demonstrably altered the welded historic environment, although throughout the years it gradually introduced more modern expressions.

Case-studies presented in ATRIUM:

01. Workers' University, Subotica, 1963
02. New Municipal Administration Building, Subotica, 1963
03. Municipal Court of Subotica
04. Residential Complex Radijalac, Subotica
05. Residential Complex Tokyo, Subotica
06. Residential Building Kifla, Subotica

Albania

Tirana



Ministries Square, Tirana, photo: Tirana Municipality

The Albanian architecture of the war and postwar period was marked by two totalitarian regimes. Mussolini's regime left its mark on the region with the Fascist House and the surrounding buildings – a sign of demonstration of ideological education. Rationalism is convincingly influenced by the fascist spirit. The cultural, museum-educational and the congress buildings of the communist period complement the educational theme of national history with an additional legitimization of party power. The selection presented below contains vivid examples of well designed and built spaces and buildings which demonstrate a complete integration between aesthetic and art and the convincing force of the one-party doctrine which produced them.

Case-studies presented in ATRIUM:

01. Ministries Square, Tirana, 1925
02. Bank of Albania, Tirana, 1930
03. Fascist Home, (University of Tirana), Tirana, 1938
04. Palace of Culture, Tirana, 1960
05. National Historical Museum, Tirana, 1978
06. Congress Palace, Tirana, 1982

Slovenia

Ljubljana, Velenje, Trbovlje, Nova Gorica, Maribor



House of culture, Velenje , photo: Rok Matjaz

The public buildings and squares presented in the project are selected for their surmounting of ideological context, for their continuous drive of social, political and cultural life to the present days. Although the regime and ideology changed throughout the years from centralistic, hard-line to moderate, autonomous and later to independent, democratic, the presented buildings and urban ensembles withstood the test of time with the strong, individual character, timelessness of the design, and solid, sometimes re-thought, role in the society. Once part of the expression of the predominant regime, overt social and cultural policy with the hidden autocratic control connotation, they soon became and arisen as the new symbols of growing autonomic aspirations.

Case-studies presented in ATRIUM:

01. Workers' Home, Trbovlje, 1953
02. Administrative building Nova Gorica, 1955
03. Administrative building of the coal mine, Velenje, 1957
04. House of Culture, Velenje, 1957
05. House of Sociopolitical Organizations Maribor, 1962
06. Revolution square, Ljubljana, 1983

Croatia

Rasa, Labin



Pozzo Littorio/Labin, Istrian region, photo: Sandro Lendler

Mining towns were built during the period of fascist rule in Istria (1936-1942), when the then government decided to establish “planned cities” based on new urbanism principles. The main features of regulation plans include careful implementation of the town square into the urban tissue, its relation to the industrial zone and structural zoning of the residential area. While the ideological principles are reflected on the architecture of the square in Labin in the classical form of Italian rationalism (monumental buildings without details), in Rasa they bear the distinctive mark of their author, which gives to the square a futuristic, almost surrealist atmosphere. Social structure of settlement and introduction of a new typology of buildings for political purposes show direct intervention of the regime in public life.

Case-studies presented in ATRIUM:

01. Arsia/Rasa, Istrian region, 1936
02. Square, Rasa, 1936
03. Fascist House, Rasa, 1936
04. Church of St. Barbara, Rasa, 1936
05. Pozzo Littorio/Labin, Istrian region, 1938
06. Square, Labin, 1938
07. Ceva with tower - Fascist House, Labin, 1938
08. Church of Saint Francis, Labin, 1938

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Greece

Patras, Thessaloniki, Rhodes



Thessaloniki Port Administration, Thessaloniki, photo courtesy of Thessaloniki Port Authority

The Greek sites are from the time of the Italian rule of Dodecanese islands (1912-1943) and two periods of national dictatorship, namely the Metaxas era (1936-1940) and the Colonels’ Regime (1967-1974). The period of Italian rule was dominated by the fascist architecture with elements of rationalism. The Metaxas period did also receive influences from rationalist architecture, using the combination of an aesthetic classical order and modern elements. Finally the military junta is characterized by the construction of large volumetric buildings, often oversized and beyond the scale of the surroundings. These examples of totalitarian architecture largely exemplify a hierarchic attitude of government and an authoritarian attitude. Buildings of this period with modern and simple structures and devoid of decoration lines serve as an example.

Case-studies presented in ATRIUM:

01. Fascist Administration, Rhodes, 1936
02. Railway Station, Thessaloniki, 1937
03. Thessaloniki Port High Direction, 1939
04. Customs, Patras, 1969
05. University of Patras, 1972
06. House of Literature and Art, Patras, 1973

09

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Bulgaria

Sofia, Dimitrovgrad, Buzludzha



The Largo of Sofia, photo: Nikola Mihov

At first, the totalitarian regime applied urban principles and architectural expressions of "Stalinism". The ideology is supported by monumental and highly decorated public architecture and monuments related to the party's history, processes, events and figures. The onset of certain liberalization after 1956 directed the architectural language towards functionalism. Representative public buildings continued to demonstrate the role of the autocratic party, but the means of expression acquired a hint of nationalism highlighting the historical tradition, whose successor is the party. Still, centralism and hierarchical system imposed conservatism on the contemporized appearance and detail.

Case-studies presented in ATRIUM:

01. Town Centre, Dimitrovgrad, 1947
02. Residential complex "3 March", Dimitrovgrad, 1947
03. The Largo ensemble, Sofia, 1949
04. Monument Soviet Army, Sofia, 1950
05. Penio Penev Park, Dimitrovgrad, 1958
06. Boyana Residence, Sofia, 1971
07. Memorial House of the Party, Buzludzha peak, 1971
08. National Palace of Culture Complex, Sofia, 1978
09. Monument Banner of Peace, Sofia, 1979

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Hungary

Gyor



Railway Station and post Office, Győr, photo: Tamas Horvath

The landmarks in Győr are mainly residential buildings and ensembles, but also service, educational and social facilities. They belong mainly to the first so-called "Stalinist period" designed and built between 1952 and 1959. This is the period of public disagreement with the ruling regime that culminated in the revolution of 1956. The workers' residential blocks make use of the decorative Stalinist Soviet model. The public buildings are an expression of the attitude of the government to the needs of the population and are not influenced by the Stalinism, carrying the spirit of traditional local architecture.

Case-studies presented in ATRIUM:

01. Lukacs Sandor Secondary School, Győr, 1950
02. "Nádorváros" Housing Project, Győr, 1953
03. Szent Istvan ut 14-18 Housing Estate, Győr, 1953
04. Szent Istvan ut 35-39 Housing Project, Győr, 1953
05. Bercsenyi Miklos Secondary School, Győr, 1954,
06. Railway Station and Post Office, Győr, 1956
07. Public Health and Epidemic Station, Győr, 1956
08. National Theatre, Győr, 1973

05

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Slovakia

Bratislava, Zilina, Nova Dubnica



Radio Broadcast Building, Bratislava , photo: Archive of Architecture, Slovak Academy of Sciences

Selected works reflect three flows in which totality was manifested in architecture of the 20th century in Slovakia. In 1938-45 the nationalistic Slovak State preferred architectural concepts closely deriving from German and Italian cultural models with the emphasis on representation of the power of national society. The totalitarian regime of postwar Czechoslovakia followed the Soviet Stalinist concept of art, in which architecture and urbanism tended to traditional historical forms. Under the influence of political warming in the beginning of sixties the post-totalitarian still authoritarian regime of socialist Czechoslovakia adopted expressions of abstract modernism with ideological contexts intrinsically present in architecture via monumentality.

Case-studies presented in ATRIUM:

01. National Bank Bratislava, 1937
02. Freedom Square, Bratislava, 1940
03. Ceremonial House, Zilina, 1940
04. Small Socialist Town, Nova Dubnica, 1952
05. Petralka, Bratislava, 1967
06. SNP Bridge, Bratislava, 1968
07. Radio Broadcast Building, Bratislava, 1970

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Romania

Bucharest, Iasi, Suceava



The Palace of Parliament, Bucharest, photo: www.originiromania.com

Romania's totalitarian regime adopted the design solutions and artistic expression of the Soviet Stalinism, perceiving architecture as "socialist in content and national in form". The rejection of "decorativism" allowed the restoration of the architectural expression of rationalism. The process of de-stalinization led to the consolidation of the communist regime, highlighting its power, but nevertheless respecting the tradition through the attempt to return to the form and language of the modernized functionalism. However, in the last period of Ceausescu's regime, this attempt was truncated and ended up with the embracement of a monumental architecture.

Case-studies presented in ATRIUM:

01. House of the Spark, Bucharest, 1949
02. Monument to the Heroes, Bucharest, 1959
03. Union Square, Iasi, 1959
04. National Theatre Ensemble, Bucharest, 1962
05. House of Culture, Suceava, 1963
06. New Civic Center, Bucharest, 1977

07

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