



Workshop

## Export of Architecture in the Cold War Period: Projects, Actors and Cultural Transfers

### Programme

#### Session I: Architectural exports in the Cold War era - contexts and concepts

Moderation: Christoph Bernhardt

10:00-10:15 Christoph Bernhardt (IRS Erkner)  
Introduction

10:15-10:35 Kenny R. Cupers (Basel University)  
*Beyond Transfer: Questions for a Paradigm in Architectural History*

10:35-10:55 discussion

10:55-11:15 Tom Avermaete (TU Delft)  
*Saxony in the Bush: Neues Bauen in Africa as Contactzone between East and West*

11:15-11:35 discussion

11:35-11:50 coffee break

#### Session II: Forms of transnational cooperation and exchange

Moderation: Monika Motylińska

11:50-12:10 Alicja Gzowska (Warsaw University)  
*Against all odds: Polish Postgraduate Course on Town and Country Planning for Developing Countries (1965-1993)*

12:10-12:30 discussion

12:30-12:50 Łukasz Stanek  
(The University of Manchester)  
*Architecture and Petrobarter. Romanian and East Germans Construction Export to Oil Producing Countries, 1970s-1980s*

12:50-13:10 discussion

13:15-14:15 lunch break

#### Session III: Focus: GDR

Moderation: Łukasz Stanek

14:15-14:35 Andreas Butter, Monika Motylińska  
(IRS Erkner)  
*Seeking Recognition, Making Business. The Export of GDR Architecture*

14:35-14:55 discussion

14:55-15:05 Philipp Misselwitz (TU Berlin)  
*Architectural Education and the 'Third World'*

15:05-15:15 Rachel Lee  
(TU Berlin/ LMU München)  
*Hannah Schreckenbach's contributions to architectural education in Ghana.*

15:15-15:35 discussion

15:35-15:50 coffee break

15:50-16:10 Tanja Seeböck  
(monument conservator, Berlin)  
*Ulrich Müther's concrete shells abroad*

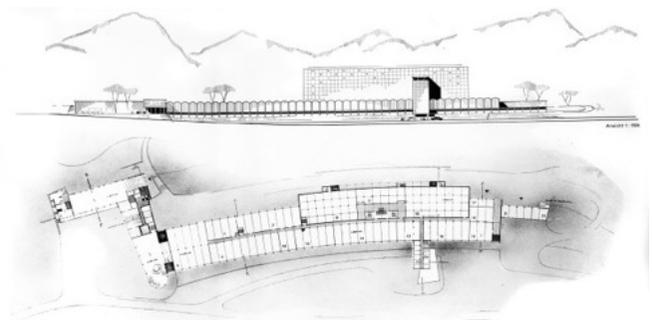
16:10-16:30 discussion

16:30-17:00 Résumé by Kenny Cupers  
and final discussion

### Rationale

Since antiquity, the spread of regional and later also national architectures has been a process of fundamental importance for cultural history. The global expansion of the 20th century Modernism can certainly be considered as one of its peaks. While more and more architects from Africa, Asia and Latin America came to study in Europe and the political divisions between East and West arose, multifarious transfer processes overlapped and intertwined. In this context, after World War II, architecture became an important signifier of competing concepts of modernisation and new national identities in the henceforth so called "Third World".

Until the end of the Cold War in 1990, architectural achievements played an extremely important part in the self-portrayal of competing systems. However, as the current research shows, this notion should be extended to include the analysis of the different forms of cooperation between the East and West.



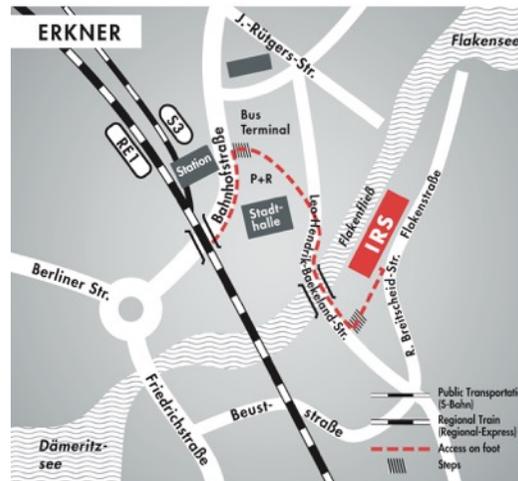
The one-day workshop focuses on diverse patterns of architectural “exports” during the Cold War period.

On the one hand, we are interested in the framework of postcolonial and global history, on the other hand, we would like to contextualise the economic aspects of the transfer processes and the concept of “multiple modernities”. Moreover, we would like to analyse the questions of chronology and local characteristics of the regions, in which cooperations and conflicts between different political systems and building practices took place.

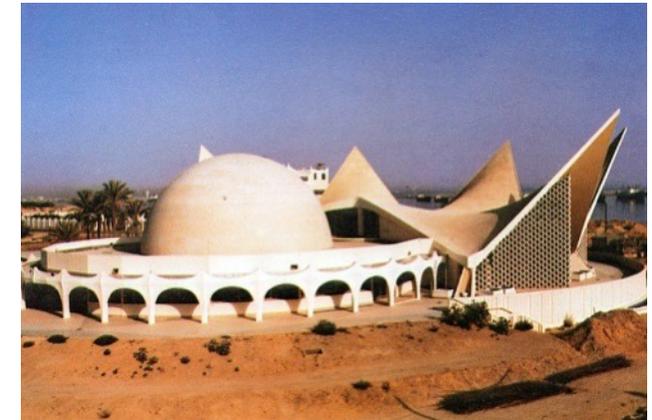
Particular attention will be given to the international presence of the East German architects. We aim to pose questions about the possible room for manoeuvre for the planners from the GDR in creative transfer and fusion processes as well as their entanglement in different transnational networks.

Doing so, we hope that a lively exchange of ideas in the course of the workshop will stimulate comparisons between different actors and practices and between numerous strategies of appropriation and adaptation of architecture.

The workshop is a part of an on-going research project *GDR Architecture Abroad. Projects, Actors and Cultural Transfer Processes* (October 2016 - September 2018), financed by the Gerda Henkel Foundation.



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Planetarium in Tripoli, Photo: © Peter Bundermann

7 July 2017, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
**IRS Erkner**

Leibniz Institute for Research on Society and Space (IRS), Erkner  
Flakenstr. 29-31  
15537 Erkner

Organisers:  
Dr. Andreas Butter  
Dr. des. Monika Motylińska

**The workshop is open to invited guests only.**

GERDA HENKEL STIFTUNG

