Middle-Class Mass Housing: **European Stories**

Vol. 1: Urban renewal in Mass Housing: History, memories and urban strategies











For almost 3 years, more than a hundred researchers from more than 30 countries in Europe and beyond have been involved in the research project led by COST Action 18137 dealing with the issue of middle-class mass housing (MCMH) built in Europe since the 1950s from a multidisciplinary perspective. Through our different exchanges, we have been able to see the great diversity and scope of this theme within the different institutions that participate in the enrichment and construction of this project But what we can affirm today is that, in more than half a century of mass housing production, this built heritage has been greatly transformed. These evolutions are the result of different factors. They can be social through the change of populations (ageing populations, impoverishment, gentrification, ...) which implies changes of appropriation and use. They can be political and ideological, ... but also simply linked to time with the ageing of buildings. All this necessarily implies the implementation of urban renewal strategies. Thus, by the diversities of the countries represented in our GOST action, the idea of this collective book is to collect and gather the different experiences of the question of urban renewal related to this heritage of the modern movement and the identification of the different social processes that seek to maintain or attract the middle classes through the analysis of the architectural and urban strategies specific to each member country of our program. More broadly, we will be able to cross-reference the narrative strategies and narrative settings that feed the projects and debates around renovation, rehabilitation and heritage, in relation with the history and the collective memories.

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