

Call for Abstracts

MODERNISM REVISITED

**Typology –
Topography –
Strategy**

ETOM Milestone Conference 2026
Part of ECOC Trenčín 2026

modernismrevisited2026.com

Modernism Revisited 2026, held within the official programme of ECOC Trenčín 2026, invites scholars, architects, planners, educators, researchers, and policymakers to reflect on how **modern** architecture, landscape, and planning visions can be reinterpreted and reactivated in the twenty-first century. The conference seeks an interdisciplinary dialogue across time and scale—linking architectural form with territorial context, and historical experience with contemporary and future scenarios. This conference is organised by the Jaromír Krejcar Society and the ETOM NEB Lab partnered with DOCOMOMO Slovakia.

Modernism—both as a historical movement and as a continuous architectural, technological, and cultural layer—continues to shape how we build, inhabit, and imagine the world. Emerging from diverse political, climatic, and cultural contexts—from liberal democracies to state-planned economies—in the past century generated a wide spectrum of approaches to architecture, urbanism, and life.

Today, these multiple legacies face new realities: ecological transitions, demographic shifts, and the transformation of once-public infrastructures and institutions. While mere technocratic, aesthetically formalistic and ideologically dogmatic conceptions of Modernism did not survive. The theories, practices and ideologies of modern thinking continue to shape our realities, while being constantly challenged and questioned. In order to challenge the current multicrisis, the humanist, emancipatory and social aspects need to be considered. The legacy of Modernism lives on as a structural framework to be filled in with contemporary ideas.

Contributions are invited under three thematic lenses:

1. Typology — Repurposed

A critical notion of Typology explores Modernism through the lens of architectural form and organization. It revisits the models, concepts, and systems that once structured public, collective or private spheres of life and asks how they can be understood and reimagined across different cultural, climatic, and political settings, through shared and personal experiences. Typology is approached not only as a technical or historical notion, but as a conceptual framework that connects design thinking with broader questions of social organization and transformation.

Possible topics include:

- Architectural and spatial typologies of Modernism — social infrastructure, recreation, culture, administration, education and health
- Typology as a conceptual or methodological approach in design and planning
- Reinterpretations and transformations of collective living and standardised forms
- Typologies as “organizational models of life,” linking architecture to social and political structures
- (Dis)continuity, hybridisation and mutation of typological thinking across regions and periods

2. Topography — Remodeled

Topography considers Modernism within its landscape, climatic, social, environmental and territorial settings. It focuses on the modern environments and its (r)evolution within the ecological systems, infrastructures, and communities. This theme invites perspectives on how modern architecture and planning transformed, and continues to interact with, the physical and social geographies that surround them—in different scales and contexts.

Possible topics include:

- Modern landscapes, regions, and territorial structures
- Environmental and social ecologies of modern sites
- Stakeholders, communities, and the dynamics of intervention
- Changing visibility, accessibility, and representation of modern environments
- Interactions between built form, infrastructure, and natural systems
- Reaction to changing climatic conditions

3. Strategy — Reinvented

Strategy explores how modern legacies can be re-engaged through contemporary design practice, education, research, and policy-making. This theme invites forward-looking and interdisciplinary approaches that respond to today's ecological, technological, and social transformations. Strategy also welcomes historical and contemporary examples from practice and pedagogy that translate modern principles into contemporary conditions of experimentation, collaboration, and care.

Possible topics include:

- Adaptive reuse, revitalization, preservation and transformation of modern heritage
- Ecological and socio-economic frameworks for sustainable modernization
- Innovative methodologies in design, planning, and heritage management
- Governance, policy, and collaborative approaches to complex environments
- Education and practice as agents of transformation
- Speculative and critical scenarios for future forms of living, dwelling, and production

Cross-cutting Questions

- What does Modernism mean today? Is it still a living concept or a historical notion? Which legacies and interpretations of Modernism remain relevant?
- How can Modernism be **reinterpreted and reactivated** for contemporary and future challenges?
- How should we transform the methods of modern investigation in the face of current challenges?
- What new trajectories—architectural, speculative, experimental, ecological, social, ethical and political—can its legacies open?
- How do historical typologies engage with diverse climates and societal needs today?
- Which transformations, whether successful or contested, provide insight for future practice?

Submission Guidelines

- **Abstract length:** maximum 300 words
- Abstracts must be written in English.
- Use clear, formal academic language.
- Avoid citations unless absolutely necessary; if included, they must follow ISO 690 citation standards.
- Do not include images, tables, or footnotes.
- Provide 3–6 keywords following the abstract.
- Submit your abstract through the designated [Google Form](#).
- The abstract is subject to double-blind review; therefore:
 - Do not include author names, affiliations, or identifying references within the text.
- Author information: short bio (100 words)
- **Submission deadline: 09 February 2026**
- **Notification of acceptance:** 28 February 2026
- **Submit to:** www.modernismrevisited2026.com
- After receiving the notification of acceptance, the author/authors will be asked to provide the 1st version of the final paper. The submitted final manuscripts must not exceed 3000 words, including abstract, main text, citations, and footnotes. Figures, tables, captions, and appendices are excluded from the word count, unless otherwise noted.

Deadline Schedule

- **02 December 2025** — Open *Call for Abstracts*
- **09 February 2026** — *Call for Abstracts deadline*
- **30 April 2026** — *1st version of the final Paper submission deadline*
- **15 June 2026** — *2nd final version of the paper submission deadline*
- **21–23 October 2026** — *Conference, ODA Trenčín*

Formats

We welcome:

- Scholarly papers
- Practice-based presentations
- Case studies (successful or unsuccessful transformations)
- Comparative or cross-regional analyses
- Theoretical, conceptual or other relevant reflections

About the Conference

Modernism Revisited 2026 is organised as part of the *European Capital of Culture* programme taking place in Trenčín, Slovakia. The event is initiated by the **Jaromír Krejcar Society** in collaboration with **ETOM NEB Lab and Docomomo Slovakia**.

Bringing together diverse international perspectives, the conference aims to reassess the relevance of modernism today. By linking **typology, topography, and strategy**—as interconnected readings of architecture, landscape, and interdisciplinary practice—it explores how modernist ideals, infrastructures, and environments evolved under differing political systems and climatic conditions, and how they can inform the urgent challenges of our time.

We look forward to your contributions and to a shared exploration of how modernism may be **repurposed, remodeled, and reinvented**.

Costs: There is no conference participation fee. Travel, accommodation, and meal costs are the responsibility of each participant.

The Modernism Revisited Conference is an activity of the project Moderna 2.0, which is a part of the Trenčín 2026 project. The Trenčín 2026 project is financially supported by the City of Trenčín, the Trenčín Self-Governing Region and the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic. The partner is the European Union.

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