

## Team 10 East and Several Other Useful Fictions

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## INTRODUCTION: TEAM 10 EAST AND SEVERAL OTHER USEFUL FICTIONS

**T**eam 10 East never existed. Team 10, the breakaway group of architects that disbanded the CIAM organization in the late 1950s in order to renew modern architecture, did not include separate regional branches nor a special group of architects from Central and Eastern Europe. In contrast to the short-lived CIAM-East, founded in the 1930s by architects from Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland and Yugoslavia, there was no similar attempt within Team 10. The participants of Team 10 meetings from Poland, including Oskar Hansen and Jerzy Sołtan, Charles Polónyi from Hungary and Radovan Nikšić from Zagreb in Yugoslavia, as well as other Yugoslav followers and those from Czechoslovakia, would have been reluctant to assume a unified identity that would serve to confirm the division imposed on the continent by the Iron Curtain.

What these architects shared with their Team 10 colleagues from Western Europe was the ambition to advance architecture and urban design in view of the technological and social development of Europe after the period of postwar reconstruction. Like Jaap Bakema, Georges Candilis, Giancarlo De Carlo, Aldo van Eyck, Alison and Peter Smithson and Shadrach Woods, architects from

socialist countries believed that the tenets of prewar modern architecture and functionalist urbanism did not offer a sufficient basis for responding to the challenges faced by postwar societies, including technological progress, personal mobility, the increasing importance of leisure, varying scales of human associations and multiple modes of belonging. In response, these architects, just like their colleagues from the West, searched for new architectural solutions: open relational systems that allowed for growth and change; supposedly nonhierarchical structures that lent themselves to appropriation by inhabitants; and spatial configurations that combined permanent and temporary elements that allowed for the expression of individual subjectivity and the coherence of larger collectives.

What distinguished most architects of the fictitious Team 10 East, a name in use throughout this volume, was their affiliation with Central European architectural culture and, above all, the experience of architectural practice in state socialism. In the conditions of the Cold War, this experience included working under politically authoritarian regimes and dealing with the consequences of the political economy of state socialism for the production of space, especially central planning and the (partial) de-commodification of land.

Rather than being a retroactive manifesto, Team 10 East is a generative conceptual tool that grasps at an understanding of what was shared by these fellow travellers of Team 10. It is not the intention of this book to suggest that the work of the architects under discussion is exhausted by their contribution to the Team 10 discourse; nor that their work is to be strictly judged according to the criteria of Team 10. The “East” in the title of the book refers to their specific position from which modernism was rethought, even if it did not always coincide with figures operating from “behind” the Iron Curtain. This is why the book includes texts on Jerzy Sołtan, Charles Polányi and Alexis Josic (Aljoša Josić) who traveled across Cold War divides that, besides making them drop the diacritical marks in their names, granted them particular awareness about the specificity of working in the sphere of real existing socialism. Likewise, architects from Yugoslavia held a very specific position as citizens of a social-

ist country which was one of the leaders of the non-aligned countries during the Cold War, and which tried to strike a strategic balance between the two blocs dominated by the United States and the Soviet Union. Similarly, we find a group of Finnish architects practicing within a non-socialist welfare state under the conditions of a “neutrality” carefully negotiated with the Soviet Union.

Contrary to the widespread perception that Team 10's discourse was limited to the Western European welfare state, with occasional excursions to former European colonies and the U.S., this book shows how the key themes and concepts of this discourse were given a differentiated understanding in European socialist countries and the countries included into “socialist globalization.”<sup>1</sup> State socialism is seen not only as a condition of oppression, but also as a challenge to and an affordance of architectural practice and imagination, with such contributions as Hansen's biotechnological urbanism for socialist Poland, Polányi's projects for the postcolonial countries linked to the socialist bloc, the projects for Liberec in Czechoslovakia by Miroslav Masák and SIAL Liberec and the rethinking of social standards in the work of the “Zagreb revisionists.”

At the same time, the concept of Team 10 East is a lens that allows for a more differentiated view on the Team 10 discourse as a whole, stretched between 1953, the year when the future members of Team 10 met for the first time at the ninth CIAM conference in Aix-en-Provence and when Stalin died, and 1981, when Team 10 ceased to exist due to the death of Jaap Bakema and when the Soviet Union was still the major rival of the U.S. and the West, even though by then this (second) superpower had become entangled in the Afghanistan war while its ossified *nomenklatura* was incapable of pre-

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*Team 10, 1953–81. In Search of a Utopia of the Present*, edited by Max Risselada, Dirk van den Heuvel, Rotterdam: NAI, 2005; Dirk van den Heuvel, “Jaap Bakema et l'exemple de Leeuwarden: un paysage artificiel dans l'infinité de l'espace,” in *Le Team X et le logement collectif à grande échelle en Europe: un retour critique des pratiques vers la théorie*, edited by Bruno Fayolle Lussac and Rémi Papillault, Pessac: Maison des sciences de l'homme d'Aquitaine, 2008, pp. 119–144; Tom Avermaete, *Another Modern: The Post-War Architecture and Urbanism of Candilis-Josic-Woods*, Rotterdam: NAI, 2005. On architecture and “socialist globalization” see: Lukasz Stanek, “Second World's Architecture and Planning in the Third World,” *The Journal of Architecture*, vol. 17, no. 3, 2012, pp. 299–307; Lukasz Stanek, *Postmodernism Is Almost All Right. Polish Architecture after Socialist Globalization*, Warszawa: Fundacja Bęc Zmiana, 2012.

venting the gradual collapse of state socialism. In light of the alternative welfare-distribution system competing within state socialism, it became possible to reassess the contributions by Team 10 to the welfare state system in general. Such a perspective also allows for the redefinition of the various modes of association and self-identification of the group members, including their political alignment and the international and regional networks in the context of the Cold War. Ultimately, this perspective highlights the various historical continuities at work between the socialist project and postwar architectural discourse.

### Mobility and Scales of Association

Most of the narratives in this book begin with the post-war congresses of CIAM. Many participants in the 1949 Bergamo congress recalled the young Oskar Hansen, who publicly criticized a speech by Le Corbusier. With the support of Jerzy Sołtan, this critical voice was integrated as a member of the renewed CIAM and its network. Hansen started with the CIAM Summer School in London in 1949 and then was invited to subsequent CIAM meetings.<sup>2</sup> Other members of CIAM from Central Europe acted as ferrymen for their younger compatriots: József Fischer, who had no chance of acquiring a passport from the socialist regime in Hungary himself, had Charles Polónyi invited to the meeting in Otterlo instead (1959).<sup>3</sup> [FIG. 1] Such intergenerational solidarities might explain why these architects were attached to the idea of continuing CIAM and some, like Jerzy Sołtan, shared their affiliation with both groups, which was facilitated by his contacts with Sigfried Giedion, Walter Gropius, Josep Lluís Sert and Jaqueline Tyrwhitt at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design, where he was a professor from 1961 onward. Hansen also crossed borders between architectural groups; besides his links to Team 10 and CIAM, he was associated with GEAM (*Groupe d'Etudes d'Architecture Mobile*) and claimed that his work developed the ideas of the "situationist movement."<sup>4</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Jerzy Sołtan, "The Future of CIAM," no date, gta Archive, ETH Zurich, 42-AR-17-46; Jose Luis Sert, Sigfried Giedion, "Letter to Oskar Hansen," March 6, 1956, gta Archive, ETH Zurich, 42-323-28-31.  
<sup>3</sup> Charles Polónyi, *An Architect-Planner on the Peripheries: Case Studies from the Less Developed World: The Retrospective Diary of Charles K. Polónyi*, Budapest: P & C, 1992, p. 42.  
<sup>4</sup> Oskar Hansen, *Towards Open Form / Ku Formie Otwartej*, edited by Jola Cola, Warszawa: Fundacja Galerii Foksal, Muzeum ASP w Warszawie, Frankfurt: Revolver, 2005, p. 203; Oskar Hansen, "Forma Otwarta," *Poliska*, no. 1, 1972, p. 48.



FIG. 1 OSKAR HANSEN DURING HIS PRESENTATION IN OTTERLO, 1959

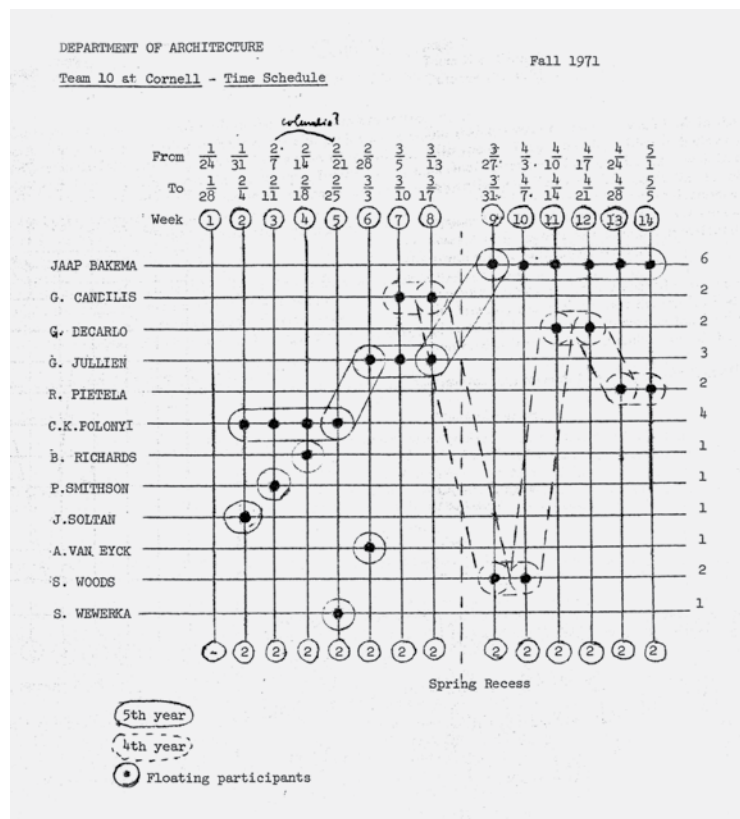


FIG. 2 "TEAM 10 AT CORNELL—TIME SCHEDULE," 1971

Much of this ecumenical approach stemmed from the desire of architects from socialist countries to be a part of debates in the West, while being less concerned about the ideological differences that emerged from these debates. Participating in them was a sufficiently difficult task, and if one compares the list of architects from the region who were present at the Otterlo meeting with the list of those who had agreed to attend, one sees the challenges they faced. Both Soltan and Hansen arrived from Poland; from Yugoslavia Nikšić and Zvornimir Radić agreed to come, but only the former arrived; the Hungarians Fischer and Pál Granasztói accepted the invitation, but did not come, while Polónyi attended instead; in spite of their intention to come, Václav Rajniš and Karel Stránik from Czechoslovakia never arrived.<sup>5</sup> In the years to come, Hansen and Polónyi would attend Team 10 gatherings until the 1966 meeting in Urbino, although invitations continued to be sent until the end of Team 10 in the early 1980s. Polónyi could still make it to the Team 10 seminars as organized by Oswald Mathias Ungers at Cornell University (1971–1972) [FIG. 2] and the 1973 conference in Berlin.

Several chapters in this book show that these "difficulties" in mobility can themselves be used to unpack the position of architects in the state socialist system. They faced financial shortages to pay for travel, lacked permission to leave state architectural offices, had to be delegated by their supervisors and receive endorsements from official institutions such as architects' organizations, not to mention these architects' political biographies, which were carefully vetted by regime institutions in charge of issuing passports. Sometimes, socialist countries' postcolonial allies offered alternative locations for professional exchanges with Western colleagues: such an opportunity was provided for Polónyi by the Kwame Nkrumah University in Kumasi, Ghana, where he was teaching in the 1960s.<sup>6</sup> Partners in the West were increasingly aware of these obstacles, and

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Polónyi, *An Architect-Planner on the Peripheries*, op. cit., p. 42; *Team 10, 1953–81*, edited by Risselada, van den Heuvel, op. cit.; see also: "Meeting in Otterlo—List of Participants and Projects," "Meeting in Otterlo—September 1959—List of Participants and Projects," Oskar Hansen Archive, ASP Warsaw; Oskar Hansen, "Zyciorys," Oskar Hansen Archive, ASP Warsaw; see also chapters by Maroje Mrduljaš, Tamara Bjažić Klarin and Marcela Hanáčková in this volume.

6

Ákos Moravánszky, "Peripheral Modernism: Charles Polónyi and the Lessons of the Village," *The Journal of Architecture*, vol. 17, no. 3, 2012, pp. 333–359.

the jokes about Softan and Hansen being communist spies or even double agents, as well as Bakema being called “the Tito of Team 10,” convey something of the Cold War atmosphere that defined the period. [FIG. 3] Unlike the *Union internationale des architectes* (UIA), organized as an “architectural United Nations” with careful balances across Cold War divides,<sup>7</sup> the contacts between architects from socialist countries and Team 10 were often mediated through short-term apprenticeships and “secondary” networks.<sup>8</sup> These were often more important than formal gatherings. The 1956 conference in Dubrovnik, for example, did not become a meeting place for CIAM and Yugoslav architects, as only the Zagreb architect Drago Ibler attended, since he was in charge of organizing the running of the meeting. Therefore, the planned “Yugoslav CIAM group” never materialized.<sup>9</sup>

These trajectories of circulation were reflected in preferences for architectural exchange models. The figure of Softan is a case in point: his increasing mobility between Poland and the U.S. in the 1950s, followed by his decision to stay in the U.S., was paralleled by the shift in his views on the “future of CIAM.” From being an advocate of architects from Eastern Europe, Softan moved to arguing that the “future CIAM” must be inclusive, open to “the average architect from all over the world.”<sup>10</sup> However, this advice contradicted the vision of Team 10 favored by the Dutch and English members—as an avant-garde group that defined the dismantling of the CIAM in two steps. First, as of 1953, younger architects were invited to become official members, and second, as of 1956, national representation at CIAM conferences was replaced by invitation on the basis of personal merit, as proposed by the CIAM Reorganization Committee, which included Team 10 members Bakema, Smithson and Woods. The regional and national CIAM branches were made “autonomous,” which meant that in practice they were dissolved.<sup>11</sup>

7 *L'Union internationale des architectes, 1948–1998*, Paris: Epure / Belles lettres, 1998.

8 See the paper by Marcela Hanáčková in this volume.

9 Also, see the chapter by Mrduljaš and Bjažić Klarin in this volume.

10 Jerzy Softan, “Some Ideas Concerning the Charte de l’Habitat,” June 3 / 8 1959, gta Archive, ETH Zurich, 42 JT 22 180–184; see the paper by Cornelia Escher in this volume.

11 See Eric Mumford, *The CIAM Discourse on Urbanism 1928–1960*, Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, p. 257.



FIG. 3 JOHANNES VAN DEN BROEK AND JAAP BAKEMA, MASTERPLAN OF THE CITY OF SKOPJE, COMPETITION ENTRY, 1965

The dismantling of national groups as the basis for the new CIAM did not mean that an effort was not made to secure a certain degree of regional representation: for the first large Team 10 meeting in Royaumont (1962), invitations were sent out to the U.S. (Christopher Alexander, Charles Eames, Louis Kahn), Japan (Kenzo Tange, Kiyonori Kikutake, Kisho Kurokawa, Fuhimiko Maki), India (Balkrishna Doshi) and Brazil (Lucio Costa). Amancio Cuedes would bring projects from Africa, there were Scandinavian and Mediterranean architects on the list (Geir Crung, Ciancarlo De Carlo, José Coderch, Fernando Távora, among others), as well as a range of architects from the U.K., Germany, France and the Netherlands, and last but not least, architects from Poland and Hungary (Hansen and Polónyi).<sup>12</sup> However, the general tendency within Team 10 was to integrate, and when in the 1968 edition of *Team 10 Primer*, Alison Smithson identified “Team Japan” as a special group, the reason was to contrast a separate cultural identity that differed from what Smithson called the “Team 10 way of thinking.” Team Japan was described with such shortcuts as “big thunder styles,” “noise-creating” and “Samurai’ architecture,” in contrast to the supposedly proper “Team 10 thinking” that was described as “stress-free” architecture and “reticent acts of quietude”<sup>13</sup> and understood as an attempt to arrive at a specifically European approach. Smithson only listed European architects as core members of the group and this included Polónyi and Soltan, whom she crucially insisted was a member from Poland, despite his new domicile in the U.S.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>12</sup> *Team 10, 1953–81*, edited by Risselada, van den Heuvel, p. 350; largely based on the Smithson papers as kept in the archive of the former NAI, Rotterdam, The New Institute as of 2013.

<sup>13</sup> *Team 10 Primer*, edited by Alison Smithson, 1968 edition, Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1968, p. 7; she even talks about a specific racial difference at this point. Clearly, Alison Smithson is referring to Japanese Metabolism whose members were present at various Team 10 meetings: Kenzo Tange at Otterlo in 1959, Fumihiko Maki at Bagnols-sur-Cèze in 1960, Kisho Kurokawa at Royaumont in 1962 and at Urbino in 1966.

<sup>14</sup> The Irish-American Shadrach Woods is listed as being from France, and the former Briton Ralph Erskine from Sweden. The first edition of the *Primer* (*Team 10 Primer*, edited by Alison Smithson, first re-edition; reprint of the two special issues of *Architectural Design* of 1962 and 1964, without colophon, undated, probably 1965) lists the following as Team 10 members: J.B. Bakema, Aldo van Eyck (both from Holland), C. Candilis, S. Woods (both from France), A.&P. Smithson, John Voelcker (England), J. Soltan (Poland), Gier [sic] Crung (Norway), Ralph Erskine (Sweden), J. Coderch (Spain). The 1968 edition has a slightly different list (*Team 10 Primer*, 1968 edition, op.cit.; second re-edition based on the first, undated re-edition with a new 20 page preface): John Voelcker is deleted, while Ciancarlo De Carlo (Italy), C. Pologni [sic] (Hungary) and S. Wewerka (Germany) are added.

### A European Tradition?

Architects from socialist countries, including Charles Polónyi, were inclined to embrace this vision of a shared European tradition as the foundation for the “Team 10 way of thought,” with Polónyi summarizing the contribution of the group as follows:

Jaap Bakema’s moral responsibility of the Great Number as well as his Dutch rational hopefulness; Alison and Peter Smithson’s worry about the loss of difference, nuances of scale, appropriateness, and the loss of the still wonderful idea of the working compactness of the village, town, city; and the Mediterranean self-evidence of the works of Candilis-Josic-Woods, accompanied by the writings of Shadrach Woods; Ralph Erskine’s dreams of a friendly society; Louis Kahn’s explorations of hierarchical organizations; the architectural quality reached in the buildings of Aldo van Eyck, Ciancarlo De Carlo, and Reima Pietila [sic].<sup>15</sup>

However, what comes to the fore in this melancholic list is less a unified European tradition and more a number of individual reinterpretations of particular regional sensitivities, that, with the obvious exception of Kahn, might be broadly classified as Mediterranean and northern. Architects from socialist countries would add the architectural tradition of Central Europe to this classification. [FIG. 4]

Bringing together fellow travelers of Team 10 from socialist countries revealed their alliance with the modernist architectural traditions of the region. This included attention to the national—and nationalist—dimension of modernism in Central Europe and the complex relationships between modernism, modernization and nation-building in this region during the early 20th century. Within the broader framework of modernization efforts, various lines of modern architecture, art and design were embraced by the governments of the new nation-states emerging between the



FIG. 4 STEFAN WEWERKA, GEORGES CANDILIS, OSKAR HANSEN AND ALISON SMITHSON IN BAGNOLS-SUR-CÈZE, 1960

Adriatic and the Baltic Seas in the wake of the First World War.<sup>16</sup> This included avant-garde architectures, and in the contested territories of Central Europe after the First World War, such as Moravia and Silesia, modern architecture was interpreted as a rupture with the past and an embodiment of the new nation-states. This national dimension is very present in the Linear Continuous System, the urbanization model proposed by Oskar Hansen for socialist Poland. The four strips of urbanization suggested by Hansen were intended to link up the country and integrate the territory of the new state, whose borders had shifted west following agreements between the victors of the Second World War. This relationship between modern architecture and nation-building became particularly relevant for those architects from Central Europe who, like Polónyi, were designing in postcolonial states faced with the challenge of nation-building in territories that were characterized by ethnic divisions and culturally dependent on their former colonizers.

When working on export contracts in Ghana, Nigeria, Algeria and Ethiopia, Polónyi made reference to his earlier resettlement projects in rural Hungary and his later scheme for the Balaton region there. This belief that Central European architects had specific tasks and obligations toward rural areas, villages and small towns, was another theme shared by the members of the Team 10 East group. Indeed, the recognition of this fact had been one of the reasons for creating CIAM-East, and it was at the center of the CIAM-East meetings in Budapest in 1937, Brno and Zlin in 1937, and on Mykonos in the Cyclades in 1938, which were attended by architects from Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland and Yugoslavia.<sup>17</sup> In particular, it was the Hungarian architect Virgil Bierbauer who addressed the question of the underdevelopment of rural territories. In Hungary, where the development of the countryside had been the focus of broad debates since the late 19th century, the decisive shift was to recognize villages as settlements where over half of the country's population lived in almost feudal conditions, which could

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Andrzej Szczerski, *Modernizacje: sztuka i architektura w nowych państwach Europy Środkowo-Wschodniej 1918–1939*, Łódź: Muzeum Sztuki, 2010.

17

Monika Platzer, "From CIAM to CIAM-Ost. CIAM and Central Europe," in *Shaping the Great City*, edited by Eve Blau and Monika Platzer, Prestel, Munich, 1999, pp. 227–231.



only be addressed through a nationwide modernization project.<sup>18</sup> This argument was spelled out in Bierbauer's paper "Les bases de la reconstruction rurale en Hongrie," where he argued that an architectural intervention was dependent on the architect's alliance with powerful players. These included the state, which, according to Bierbauer, needed to create a network of centers to concentrate the social, economic, cultural and technical facilities of the rural population, and cooperatives intending to pool smallholders' land and organize production and other aspects of life for those involved. Only then would urgent architectural interventions become possible, including plans of the collective buildings of each settlement, and type plans of housing for agricultural workers, both individual and collective.<sup>19</sup> It was this very challenge of providing equal living conditions for all that Hansen acknowledged to be at the root of his Linear Continuous System, which was meant to link villages and small towns with the general welfare-distribution network and thereby provide inhabitants with social standards that were previously limited to urban populations.<sup>20</sup>

#### Team 10 and the Socialist Project

Following Alison Smithson's focus on the European architectural tradition as the shared cultural basis of the Team 10 architects, one may detect a common system of references, as well as internal differences within the group. However, this perspective obscures the deep political divisions within Team 10. The 1968 edition of the *Primer* is a case in point. Edited by Smithson, the book carefully staged a polyphonic consensus among the members of the group by maintaining a unified level of generality in their lamentations on the state of affairs in housing, town planning and politics, and thereby abstracting from the specifics of Cold War oppositions.<sup>21</sup> [FIG. 5]

Nevertheless, looking at the Team 10 discourse through the lens of its fictitious Eastern group shows that, more

18 Moravánszky, "Peripheral Modernism," op.cit.

19 Virgil Bierbauer, "Les bases de la reconstruction rurale en Hongrie," gta Archive, ETH Zurich, "Dossier 5 Kongress: Andere Beiträge."

20 Hansen, *Towards Open Form*, op.cit.

21 *Team 10 Primer*, 1968 edition, op.cit., pp. 4–19.

often than not, what first appears as cultural differentiation actually points to fundamental political differences inscribed within the context of the Cold War. For instance, we might point to the postulate of "openness" shared by all members of Team 10, from Hansen's idea of Open Form to the Smithsons' designs of an "open city." Those versed in European art history might have linked the notion of "openness" to Heinrich Wölfflin's "open form"; those interested in British political philosophy might see a connection with Karl Popper's "open society"; those acquainted with French philosophy would look to Henri Bergson's "open totalities"; readers of post-structuralism would envisage "open structures"; yet others could relate this concept to the "opening" of Marxism after and against the Stalinist "closure," which itself can be taken in different directions, from Henri Lefebvre to Leszek Kołakowski, Adam Schaff, Geörg Lukács, Ágnes Heller and the Yugoslav Praxis group. These references, ranging from Popper's anti-Marxism to Marxist dissidents from within the Socialist Bloc, make it clear that the discourse on "openness," rather than being a shared concept, was actually a field of political dissensus that was covered by the conciliatory tone of Team 10 publications.

Likewise, the key Team 10 concept of the "greatest number" seems to make this dissensus even more evident. Those working in socialist countries could not have missed this concept's affinity with Marxist discourse on the "masses" as the progressive subject of history. Hence architects like Hansen argued there was essential proximity between the "problem of the greatest number" and the project of socialism.<sup>22</sup> However, the consequences of such a position would reach far beyond what the western members of Team 10 would have embraced, including an overarching program for the state expropriation of land, both in cities and in the countryside, which was one of the premises of Hansen's Linear Continuous System.<sup>23</sup> On the other hand, the "greatest number" meant something very different in the work of Candilis-Josic-Woods when applied

22 Czesław Bielecki, "The Pragmatism of Utopia / Pragmatyzm utopii," interview with Oskar Hansen, *Architektura*, 1977, no. 3–4, pp. 12–25.

23 Hubert Mąciak, "Utopia w służbie systemu?," in *Wobec Formy Otwartej Oskara Hansena: idea - utopia - reinterpretacja*, edited by Marcin Lachowski, Magdalena Linkowska, Zbigniew Sobczuk, Lublin: Towarzystwo Naukowe KUL, 2009, pp. 69–79.



FIG. 5 TEAM 10 MEMBERS DURING A VISIT TO TOULOUSE-LE MIRAIL, 1971

in France to migrants from the countryside and from the former French colonies—work that was based on Candilis' earlier experience with the colonial administration in North Africa.<sup>24</sup> Yet another elaboration of the term can be found in the work of the Smithsons, who referred to the rise of a new “middle-class society” where the norms and aspirations of the prewar society were seemingly leveled out and the limits to former social mobility between the classes were removed.<sup>25</sup> The Smithsons also quoted the concept of the “Great Society” as used by Aneurin Bevan, the Minister for Health who initiated the National Health Service and was also involved in drawing up the new Town and Country Planning Act of 1947, which enabled the implementation of large-scale housing programs for the next decades, including the planning of New Towns.<sup>26</sup>

The concept of “participation” can be taken as a third example. What architects in Zagreb and Belgrade deemed an architectural interpretation of the self-management system in socialist Yugoslavia, and Hansen saw as a consequence of socialism, took on an entirely different meaning in West Africa. There, Charles Polónyi saw residents' participation in the construction of their own houses to be an indispensable ingredient for tackling urbanization with insufficient resources. This can be contrasted with the Terni project by Ciancarlo De Carlo (1969–1974), which was commissioned by the Italian national steel corporation for its workers and their families. In the Byker Wall project by Ralph Erskine in Newcastle-upon-Tyne (1968–1981), participation by users aimed both to gain information about their preferences and to organize shared responsibility.<sup>27</sup> From the early 1960s, while the discourse in France or Britain regarding participation had been used by several architects to oppose the paternalism of the welfare state while announcing the emergence of a new system of governability, in socialist countries it was launched by those who wanted to dispose of the remnants of the Stalinist

24 *Colonial Modern: Aesthetics of the Past, Rebellions for the Future*, edited by Tom Avermaete, Serhat Karakayali, Marion von Osten, London: Blackdog Publishers, 2010.

25 Dirk van den Heuvel, “Alison and Peter Smithson: A Brutalist Story Involving the House, the City and the Everyday (Plus a Couple of Other Things),” PhD dissertation, TU Delft, 2013.

26 *Ibid.*

27 *Team 10, 1953–81*, edited by Risselada, van den Heuvel, op.cit.

regimes, taking either reformist or dissident positions. In spite of these differences, participation of inhabitants always required a program of their education and the rethinking of models of governance—all key topics for Team 10, which called for specific answers in response to local conditions.

These divergent paths to the concepts of “openness,” “greatest number” and “participation” make it clear that Team 10 discourse was essentially structured by what it almost always silenced: the socialist project. Herman Hertzberger addressed this intuition when he stated that “in architecture Team 10 and CIAM as well are the equivalent of socialism.” He immediately qualified this: “I’m not saying literally. Maybe Giancarlo De Carlo is the only one who directly linked politics and architecture. Bakema certainly did not and Aldo van Eyck did it in a more philosophical way.”<sup>28</sup> Hertzberger went as far as to suggest a connection between the breakdown of socialism and the end of Team 10. Even Alison Smithson, who was certainly not a Marxist, would testify that Sweden was to her the ultimate example of a society where everyone was “wonderfully equal, equal, equal....” The “Scandinavian invention of Social Democratic architecture,” she wrote, “with its clean blend of rational functionalism and response to use, related to climate worthiness that was rooted in a still memorable vernacular.”<sup>29</sup> To that representation she would add: “to my generation, the flags of Stockholm’s Exhibition of 1930 signaled a joyful promise of a friendly, trusting society that believed socialism meant a togetherness of one extended family.”<sup>30</sup>

This socialist imagination, itself heterogeneous and taking various directions, was the yardstick for Team 10 projects, and it constituted one of the main lines of continuity between modern architecture before and after the war. In the case of the prewar CIAM, it included admiration for architecture in the Soviet Union, not only during its initial avant-garde phase but also after the introduction of socialist realism, which led Hans Schmidt to argue for a more careful rethinking of the relationship between modern architecture

28 C. Tuscano, “I Am a Product of Team 10,” interview with Herman Hertzberger in *ibid.*, pp. 332–333.

29 Alison Smithson, “Heritage: Carré Bleu, Paris, May 1988,” *Spazio e Società*, no. 45, 1989, pp. 100–103.

30 *Ibid.*

and the past.<sup>31</sup> Particularly strong were alliances between modern architects and social-democratic municipalities or progressive housing corporations in Amsterdam, Berlin, Budapest, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Lyon, Prague, Rotterdam, Vienna and Warsaw, as well as the garden cities of the Paris suburbs. Many of these experiences reverberated in the welfare state project after the Second World War, and in a 1978 interview Peter Smithson qualified the immediate postwar period as follows: “At the time I would have said I was a socialist as well. It simply seemed like a good cause. I suppose everyone of my generation would say the same thing. If you would ask Bakema the same question you would get a similar answer, because a generation felt this way.”<sup>32</sup> The affiliation between the welfare-state project and the Team 10 architects was evident in the work of the Smithsons, as well as other members of Team 10 from France, Italy and the Netherlands, whose designs were largely based on state commissions. However, already by the late 1960s and early 1970s the Smithsons viewed the initial project of the postwar years as morally perverted and they would speak most disdainfully of the “Labour Union Society” and its all-pervasive materialism.<sup>33</sup> Disillusioned, they opposed the collective subjectivity that they felt the welfare state system had produced; instead, they preferred a society composed of individuals with a sense of obligation, responsibility, creativity and “reasoned choice.”

### Real Existing Modernism and Its Revisions

These qualities rather exactly coincided with what Oskar Hansen had in mind when imagining the socialist society for which he proposed the Linear Continuous System. If for Aldo van Eyck the crisis of modernist urbanism stemmed from the “failure to govern multiplicity creatively,”<sup>34</sup> Hansen argued that the Linear Con-

31 Hans Schmidt, “Wie können wir das Erbe der architektonischen Vergangenheit ausnutzen?” (1933) in *idem, Beiträge zur Architektur 1924–1964*, Zurich: gta Verlag, 1993, p. 95–97; see also *Ernst May 1886–1970*, edited by Claudia Quiring, Wolfgang Voigt, Peter Cachola Schmal and Eckhard Herrel, München: Prestel, 2011.

32 Hans van Dijk, “Wat is er nu helderder dan de taal van de moderne architectuur,” interview with Peter Smithson in *Wonen-TA/BK*, nos. 19–20, 1978, p. 31.

33 Van den Heuvel, “Alison and Peter Smithson,” *op.cit.*, pp. 79–80.

34 *Team 10 Primer*, 1968 edition, *op.cit.*, p. 100.

tinuous System responded to this crisis by proposing a model of governance for socialist Poland that offered maximal freedom and choice for every individual, and allowed them to be mobilized within the collective. In Hansen's words, "the classless, egalitarian, and non-hierarchical character of the housing form for society in the Linear Continuous System [...] should make it clear how everyone is dependent on the collective and the collective is dependent on the individual."<sup>35</sup>

For Hansen, the new socioeconomic regulation of socialist Poland—a centrally planned economy as well as a socialized land market and construction industry—was the necessary precondition for the implementing the Linear Continuous System. The socialist state was not only an indispensable agent for the execution of Hansen's project—it was also the object of that project. In other words, Hansen's architecture was not simply instrumental in the modernization processes as determined by the regime, but it was also conceptualized as a contribution to debates about the direction that modernization should take.<sup>36</sup>

This ambition to discuss alternative scenarios for socialist modernization, and hence alternative scenarios for modernization of socialism, was the objective of most of the protagonists of this book. As Łukasz Stanek shows, Hansen's Linear Continuous System was a contribution to debates concerning the reform of socialist governance in 1970s Poland. Yugoslav architects were also rethinking the capacity of architecture to mobilize the population toward participation in political decisions, economic activities and social exchange according to the principles of socialist self-management, and to develop it beyond its Fordist phase.<sup>37</sup> The language of Team 10 architecture was particularly suitable for this task, and Block No. 22 in New Belgrade, as described by Aleksandar Kušić, is a case in point: designed as an interplay of the free articulation of cells between strong points, this housing ensemble offers a snapshot of the ambitions, and disappointments, of an architecture

35 Oskar Hansen, "Linearny System Ciągły," *Architektura* nos. 4–5, 1970, p. 135; see also: Hansen, *Towards Open Form*, op.cit.

36 See the text by Łukasz Stanek in this volume.

37 See *Postfordism and Its Discontents*, edited by Cal Kirn, Maastricht /Ljubljana: Jan van Eyck Academie and Peace Institut, 2010.

designed to be appropriated by its inhabitants. Similarly, the spatial flexibility of the Workers' University in Zagreb aimed to have a pedagogical effect: to stimulate workers' intellectual and artistic capacities and their socialization processes, indispensable for advanced economic and political activities, as Renata Margaretić Urlič and Karin Šerman have shown. The Workers' University was one of many proposals through which Zagreb architects aimed to subvert ossified typological patterns and bureaucratic mainstream modernization procedures, as discussed by Maroje Mrduljaš and Tamara Bjažić Klarin. Their chapter shows that some buildings designed according to the Team 10 principles of additive structure and functional flexibility proved to be particularly suitable when the financial shortages of real existing socialism allowed only parts of these buildings to be completed.

This paradoxical commensurability between the socialist state and open morphologies was very different from what Sołtan and his team imagined in early post-Stalinist Poland for a Polish Pavilion at Expo 58 Brussels, described by Aleksandra Kędziorek. The search for an alternative to the housing neighborhoods, as they were built in socialist Czechoslovakia, resulted in urban structures that paralleled the work of Candilis-Josic-Woods. In particular, their reinterpretations of the traditional European city were guided by a renewed architectural language. An example of such an approach was the project for Liberec's lower-town center by Miroslav Masák and his team, analyzed here by Marcela Hanáčková, which integrated a new urban structure into the old fabric of the town by means of differentiated scales of urban experience, spatial complexity and a mixture of urban functions. Also for Polónyi, the Team 10 principle of "minimal intervention" seemed appropriate for urbanization schemes that respected and developed existing settlement patterns, social structures and local characteristics in the countryside of socialist Hungary, as discussed by Levente Polyák.

All these proposals were formulated within the specific institutional, economic, social and intellectual conditions of state socialism in Poland, Hungary, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia. They were often critical of the ways in which several tenets of mod-

ernism had been mobilized by socialist regimes within modernization programs since the 1950s. This “real existing modernism”<sup>38</sup> was the immediate context for the work of the protagonists of this book, who contested, challenged and revised these realizations, and suggested alternatives. Rather than postulating that modernism should be abandoned, they explored its potentiality within a shared and interlinked set of references concepts, images and experiences, and by this exploration they expanded the set in question. In these discussions, the lines between architecture, policy, and politics were almost immediately intersected, since political actors determined the production of space in socialist states. These intersections could have taken many forms, as Stanek shows in his study of how Hansen’s projects were perceived by the regime in Poland: from “productive” criticism introducing corrections to the course taken, through to “reformism” that did not fully grasp the possibilities of change provided by socialist states; irresponsible “utopianism” that might have led to state resources being squandered; stubborn “dogmatism” that misunderstood the logic of the historical moment; dangerous “revisionism” undermining the fundamentals of the Party, or political “dissidence” that sometimes took the form of an overidentification with the regime in order to take the Party at its word.

Interaction with the regimes required a constant adaptation of strategies, and in order to negotiate between these various modes of transgression, Hansen adopted a number of positions, including that of an experimenter, educator, polemicist and artist. Sometimes, architects were able to play with controversies between various sections of the Communist Party, and in this way present their own projects as “consensus”: this is how Ákos Moravánszky discusses the success of Charles Polónyi’s planning of the Balaton area. Polónyi, but also Hansen and Sołtan, challenged the position of architects within the division of labor in their respective countries, and this was reflected in their ideas about the organization of CIAM and Team 10, as Cornelia Escher shows. As Mrduljaš, Bjažić Klarin and Jelica Jovanović argue, one avenue for such a reappraisal of architectural labor was to define research as a core competence of archi-

tects, and a neutral field with regard to the political divisions in socialist states. Such “neutrality” would have been attractive in particular to architects who, like Polónyi and Hansen, were never card-holding party members. But neutrality in the Cold War needed to be expressed actively, since impartial nonengagement was insufficient, as Eeva-Liisa Pelkonen contends in her comparison of architectural culture in Finland and Poland during the 1960s.

It is this multifaceted relationship between political and architectural revisionism that is conveyed by the concept of Team 10 East, and points to intersections between intellectual trajectories and political choices that otherwise appear disparate. More generally, this book shows that the Cold War in European architecture was restricted neither to the familiar narrative of the “self-representation” of the two regimes (with East and West Berlin as favored examples), nor to proxy wars in architectural exports to the “Third World.” In fact, political dissensus surrounding socialist ideas continued to play a part in the reimagining of postwar modernism. While this book employs “Team 10 East” as a useful fiction to unpack the equally fictitious consensus within Team 10, it also begins to map the geometry of dissensus in postwar architectural culture, which was much more complex than the singular line of the Berlin Wall.