

VILNIUS CONCERT AND SPORTS PALACE – TRANSFORMATION OF THE PRESERVATION APPROACH

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ABSTRACT

The text examines the dramatic transformation of evaluation and preservation approaches for one of Lithuania's most widely-known concrete heritage icons—Vilnius Concert and Sports Palace. In the last twenty years, the approach has led to a change from a concrete monster to an appreciated heritage object by the public. During these years, different scenarios for the Vilnius Concert and Sports Palace have been considered: demolition, adaptive reuse with extensions, and conservation as a monument. The latter scenario raises more questions than answers, especially considering the global climate crisis and the urgent need for responsible energy use. However, despite the public's and experts' attention and appreciation, the Palace remains abandoned in the city centre.

A multi-layered holistic value analysis, represented in a text, reveals arguments as to why it should be adopted rather than conserved as a monument and left to become a fenced concrete ruin in the middle of the city centre.