

ESSAY SUMMARIZING THE SCHOLARSHIP PERIOD

The study visit “Post-war modernistic (socmodernistic) legacy in Hungary. Architectural resource analysis”, which was the aim of this application for scholarship, began 03.10.2021 and continued to 17.10.2021. Due to 2 weeks of my presence in Hungary I had a pleasure to make an important part of my phd thesis. The visit assumed study research of Hungarian socialistic modernistic architecture and urbanism. The main purpose of research was to find the differences and similarities between perceiving these goods in Poland and Hungary. To find out and to verify intended purpose of the visit I decided to divide in to the work to 2 stages.

Stage one consisted on exploration of city of Pécs and also in general- the region of southwestern part of Hungary. To find and catch the differences in perceiving socialist modernistic (and also socialist realistic), so called “dissonant heritage” I decided to visit the most representative examples of these goods in the nearest region. To make that possible I consulted the main points of interest with professors from University of Pécs (prof. Zoltan Gal who was my study-visit patron and made it possible to consult it with professors from different fields of research related to my topic). Professor Gal and other professors suggested by him the, recommended me to visit firstly the main “socialistic” districts of Pécs (Uránváros, Kertváros, which was strictly connected to the industrial past of the city). They also suggested visiting the Pécs Tv-tower from the 70’s, which is a the same time a dominant of the city, and it also is a great example of the non-modernized (or in fact little modernized), original socialist modernistic asset. After city exploration and collecting the data, there was an idea to explore suburbs of the city which also have socialistic overtone. To catch the differences in perceiving in a different (given by the city-town-village dependance) assets, they recommended to visit the city of Baja, the town of Komló, the town of Mohács, and also the village of Kővágószőlős. Selection of these places of course was not accidental. Seeing this places helped me to feel the differences in scale and the range of importance of these goods. After seeing the nearest area of Pécs, there was a time to move to the Dunaújváros -the city made from the beginning in the 50’s and successively expanded in the socialistic period of Hungarian history. That city was really interesting from the point of view of my phd topic,

because at your fingertips we can see the main idea of socialist modernist (the concept of life, the paradigms of urbanism and architecture, etc.) After visiting these places, I wanted to see an example of the one of the main recognizable (in Poland) symbols of Hungarian socialist modernistic architecture -The Hotel Ezüstpart, which is located in Siófok in immediate vicinity of Lake Balaton. That building is interesting for my scientific research, because it shows how ex-symbols of the modern architecture (in that case, recreational good – hotel) can get old, and also how it can adapt to the changing word and new free market socio-economical reality.

Stage two relied to discussion with professors from University of Pécs. I had an opportunity to meet professor Zoltan Gal, prof. András Trócsányi (Faculty of Sciences, Institute of Geography), prof. Tamás Molnár (Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology), and prof. Monika Pilkhoffer (Faculty of Arts, Institute of History). The topics of our meeting were different. I learned the contemporary history of Hungary and about the region of Pécs as well. I also found out about systems of protecting the monuments in Hungary, known about interesting characteristics of Hungarian socialist modernistic architecture and urbanism. In addition, professor Gal made it possible for me to use a library in Magyar Tudományos Akadémia Regionális Kutatások Központja Dunántúli Tudományos Intézete Könyvtára Pécs where I used the literature available there. The stage two allowed me to diagnose state of preservation of Hungarian socialist modernistic architecture resource, the quality and popularity of possible renovation, modernization, or revitalization of these peculiar goods.

To sum up, my study visit, I can completely positively evaluate my stay in Hungary. I discerned in differences in perception and treating of socialist modernist legacy, established contacts necessary for the proper development of my scientific career, strengthened competences in the field of communication and hope, I promoted my own research and ideas. The people I had a pleasure to meet (both on the part of academic teachers which I mentioned before as well as on the part of TPF- Mr. Tibor Keresztesi) were very kind and helpful. All of them allowed me to have a pleasant, full of new inspiration and diagnosis stay in Hungary.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ignacy Wierosi". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal line extending to the left.