

Funding:



European
Middle Class
Mass Housing
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Organiser:



Vilnius
University



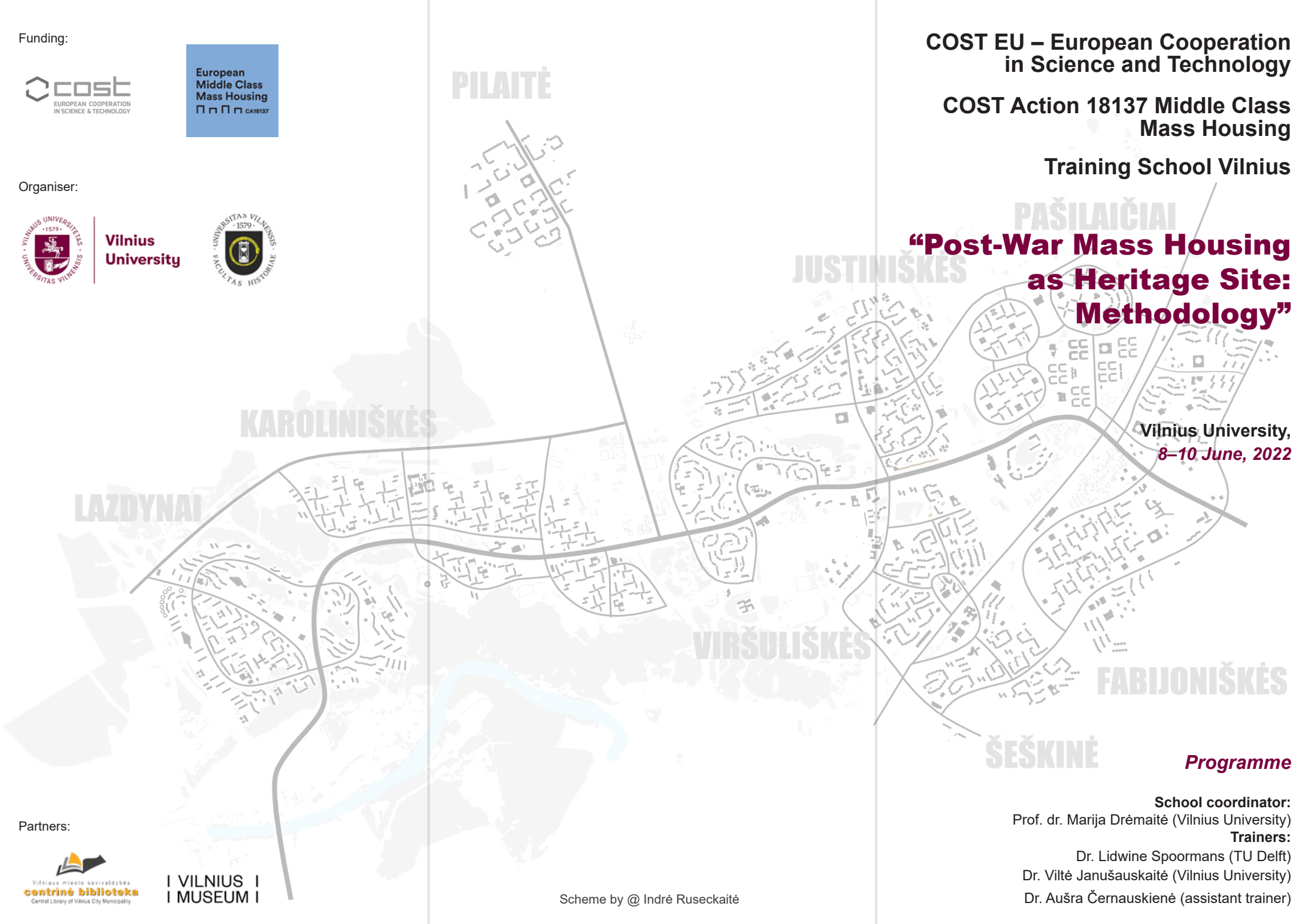
COST EU – European Cooperation
in Science and Technology

COST Action 18137 Middle Class
Mass Housing

Training School Vilnius

“Post-War Mass Housing as Heritage Site: Methodology”

Vilnius University,
8–10 June, 2022



Partners:



| VILNIUS |
| MUSEUM |

Scheme by @ Indrė Ruseckaitė

Programme

School coordinator:

Prof. dr. Marija Drėmaitė (Vilnius University)

Trainers:

Dr. Lidwine Spoomans (TU Delft)

Dr. Viltė Janušauskaitė (Vilnius University)

Dr. Aušra Černauskienė (assistant trainer)

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Programme

Wednesday, 8 June

Morning session. Vilnius University, Faculty of History, Universiteto g. 7 (auditorium 211)

9.00-9.45. Introductory lecture by Marija Drėmaitė, professor at Vilnius University, Faculty of History, and a researcher of the 20th century architecture, housing and industrial heritage

Post-War Mass Housing in Lithuania and the Question of Middle Class

In the Soviet mass housing, construction has been largely regulated by standardisation and economy. However, regional differences of large housing estates could be increasingly introduced by local experts proposing unique architectural solutions. The talk is based on the research of mass housing design in 1960–1980 in the Soviet occupied Lithuania, as a Western periphery of the Soviet Union.

09.45-10.15. Discussion

10.15-10.30. Coffee break

10.45-12.00 Introduction and presentations by Training school students

12.00-13.00 Lunch

Afternoon session

13.00-17.30 Excursion by bus visiting different mass housing estates of Vilnius

18.00-19.00. Open Keynote lecture. Vilnius University, Aula Parva, Universiteto g. 3

Welcome word by Dr. Loreta Skurvydaitė, the Dean of History Faculty, Vilnius University

Lecture by dr. Lidwine Spoormans, a researcher and lecturer of Heritage & Architecture at Delft University of Technology

Everyday Heritage

Everyday and Heritage seem to be contradictory concepts, because heritage suggests something exceptional, a valuable asset that is not commonplace. Moreover, in the case of housing, an everyday function par excellence, there seems to be a possible conflict between the collective interest of the heritage and the individual interest of the resident. In my lecture, I will address the value of the ordinary, starting with interpretations of heritage and notions of the everyday.

19.00-20.00 Welcome reception

Thursday, 9 June

Morning session in Lazdynai Mass Housing Area (Lazdynai Library, Architektų g. 17)

8.30-9.00 Trip by bus

9.00-10.30. Lecture by Viltė Janušauskaitė, conservation architect and assistant professor at Vilnius University, Faculty of History. She holds a PhD in History, a master degree in architecture and a degree in cultural history and anthropology (cum laude).

Achievement, Inconvenience or Heritage? Mass Housing Heritage in Lithuania + documentary video “Lazdynai. Architektų Street” (1974) screening (20 min)

First examples of Soviet modern architecture were inscribed on the Lithuanian Cultural Monuments list back in Soviet times. At the time of inscription there were serious contradictions among the experts who couldn't approve the fact of legally protecting these completely new buildings. This ambiguous attitude persisted and, therefore, the main question remains – what this protection meant in the eighties and means today?

10.30-12.30. Lazdynai guided tour by Viltė Janušauskaitė

12.30-13.30, Lunch in Lazdynai

Afternoon session

14-16.00. Lecture by Jelica Jovanović, dipl. ing. arch. (Faculty of Architecture University of Belgrade), a practicing architect and conservator, cofounder of Docomomo Serbia, and of the NGO Grupa arhitekata **Preservation of the Central Zone of New Belgrade: valorization process** (Teams session online)

In January 2021 the Central Zone of New Belgrade was protected by the Government of Serbia as a cultural landmark. This was quite the opposite compared to the failure of the first attempt of protection in 1992. The lecture presents the results of the comprehensive research that led to the protection of the site, and the methodology behind it, as well as an insight into the future steps towards its preservation.

16.00-18.00. Open Air Viršuliskės Mass Housing District Exhibition (guided tour by curator Povilas Andrius Stepavičius, Vilnius Museum)

18.30-20.00 Dinner at TV Tower

Friday, 10 June

Morning session in Lazdynai Mass Housing Area (Lazdynai Library, Architektų g. 17)

8.30-9.00 Trip by bus

9.00-10.00. Lecture by dr. Aušra Černauskienė, a practicing architect and an independent researcher. She holds a BA and MA in Architecture, and PhD in History and Theory of Arts from Vilnius TECH.

Project “List of Valuable Post-war Architecture in Lithuania” and Issues of Concrete Heritage

The main idea of the project was to draw the attention of the society and responsible institutions to the architecture of the second half of the 20th century, which was not yet listed. Post-war mass housing, for the implementation of which reinforced concrete technologies were used, is a very abundant and controversial part of the post-war heritage and its challenges and opportunities will be discussed in the lecture.

10.00-11.00. Lecture by dr. Viltė Janušauskaitė
Mass Housing Individual Perspective: Mikrorayons through the Experiences of the Newcomers.

The history of everyday life allows studying the “afterlife” of urban design after its completion and microrayon's daily life in Soviet times through the memories and narratives of its residents. The interviews enrich the history of mass housing with “background stories” and insiders' perspectives: strategies, used to make this type of urban and architectural environment feel “at home” and psychological adaptation to this then new type of housing and everyday life practices.

11.00-11.30 Group work

11.30-13.00 Lunch with the local Lazdynai community

Afternoon session. Vilnius University, Faculty of History, Universiteto g. 7 (auditorium 211)

14.00-15.30. Group work and preparations.

15.30-16.00. Coffee break

16-17.30. Presentations of trainees and discussions

17.30-18.30. Lecture by Oleksandr Anisimov, MSc in Urban Studies (Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Universitat Wien), head of the research project Aftersocialistmodernism.com and the research group New housing policy

Mass housing in the wake of neocolonial claims for Soviet heritage and its divergent identities in Ukraine (Teams session online)

Ukrainian cities have suffered immense damage to their built environment. Houses, hospitals, bridges and schools — mainly objects of Soviet modernity are being destroyed by Soviet armaments on a scale not seen in Europe since WW2. Russia feels entitled to take away what is theirs or not to leave it to anyone at all. Citizens in Ukraine often share a strenuous relationship with the urban landscape of the second half of the 20th century. Damaged, unloved and partially abandoned, these houses serve as a dire reminder of the centrally-planned Soviet reality for each citizen. A partially forgotten but still present in stone, a result of the work of a critical group of architects sheds light on an alternative view towards approaching mass housing in Ukraine. These Ukrainian soviet architects looked into how to develop a locally relevant mass housing from the late 1970s that would foster local identity and empower people to a more community-centred lifestyle, while still remaining within the restrictions and peculiarities of a socialist society.