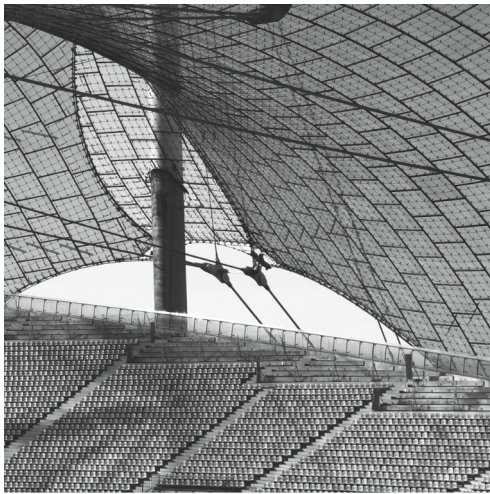


ICOMOS STUDENT COMPETITION 2025

1960 + / CONSTRUCTION



1 Olympic stadium Munich (Behnisch & Partner 1972), Photo: Kirsten Angermann

In the spirit of preserving the built environment in a way that promotes understanding of the built environment, more recent testimonies to the history of architecture and urbanism are increasingly coming to the attention of heritage conservation. These include works from the 1960s to the 1990s, which are now attracting increasing public attention and conservation interest, but also leading to controversy. With the student competition "60plus – Postmodernism", the awarding authorities would like to continue the ICOMOS student competitions of 2015 "from 60 to 90", 2017 "60plus XXL", 2019 "Subway and Transportation Buildings", 2021 "Brutalism", and 2023 "Postmodernism" and want to draw attention to the constructive heritage of bridges, roof and facade constructions, aircraft hangars and other hall structures.

COMPETITION ORGANIZERS

German National Committee of ICOMOS
Wüstenrot Foundation
Bauhaus-Universität Weimar
Working Group Theory and Teaching of Heritage Conservation
DFG Priority Program 2255 "Construction as Cultural Heritage"

DEADLINE

September 1, 2025

INFO

www.icomos.de

TOPIC

Late modernist construction technology was characterised by advances in materials technology and the art of engineering. At the same time, the supporting structure was deliberately emphasised, so that the construction itself became a means of artistic expression. In addition to the widespread use of reinforced concrete, the use of steel and glass allowed for transparent facades and delicate structures that continued the functionalist spirit of modernism. Prefabricated building elements were increasingly used to rationalise the construction process and reduce costs. The prestressed concrete technology allowed for larger spans and innovative roof structures that opened up new spatial possibilities. Visible beams, solid concrete shells and bold geometric shapes testified to an experimental approach to technology and materials. These construction techniques reflect the pursuit of rationality, efficiency and a new architectural language that continues to shape the architectural heritage of late modernism to this day.

Many late modernist constructions are in a state of transition between the present and the past. Not yet fully considered historical, their aesthetics struggle to find widespread favour. At this dangerous turning point for many buildings, there is a risk of a lack of use, remodelling, decay and demolition. Therefore, it can be crucial right now to take a distanced, objectifying and interested look at the constructive heritage, to highlight its qualities and to bring it to the attention of the public, thus ensuring its preservation. The student competition should make a valuable contribution here.

COMPETITION TASK

The aim of the competition task is to precisely define what makes the constructive heritage worth preserving. What constructive, aesthetic, urban planning or conceptual qualities can be identified? What meanings can be ascribed to the constructions? What might communication strategies for the buildings look like? Which strategies of preservation, renovation and further construction have to be developed for these buildings?

Based on the examination of a specific building of one's own choice in Germany or abroad, either the heritage qualities and values are to be examined and discussed as theoretical work, or strategies for the (further) use, renovation or communication of the object could be developed within the framework of a conceptual work. The work is to be presented as a poster (see below).

Regardless of the disciplinary approach and focus, an examination of the following aspects, among others, is expected:

- Research on the chosen building's development history as well as its history of use and alterations.
- Discussion of the heritage criteria or the possibilities of a heritage-compatible preservation and use
- Historical significance of the chosen building
- Potential of the object for local appropriation and sense of identity
- Relationship to or challenge of common monument expectations
- Possible addressees, interested parties or partners for a heritage-compatible renovation or re-use.

The organisers of the competition hope that the submitted works will be a diverse collection of objects worthy of discussion throughout Germany, or at best throughout Europe, as well as approaches to solutions for the permanent preservation and, if necessary, sensible re-use of these objects.

POSTER

The competition entry is to be submitted as a poster in German or English in PDF format and in A1 vertical format. The poster is to be folded to A4 format for mailing. The results of the research are to be documented on the poster. For a uniform layout, the following structure of the poster is to be adhered to:

The upper left quarter (A3 format, vertical) is to be fully covered with a photo as well as the name of the project. An exterior view of the project is to be used for the photo.

The lower left quarter is to be filled with text as well as plans and images relating to the history of the building's development and alterations.

The upper right quarter is available for text, plans and images for the evaluation and, if applicable, concept ideas.

The lower right quarter is to be used in full for a photo of a detail typical of the heritage value or of the preservation concept as well as for the name of the author(s) and the university.

The poster is to be sent physically and as a PDF to the addresses below. In addition, we ask you to complete this short online form. The submitted documents remain the property of the organisers. By submitting the poster, the authors agree that their work may be published by ICOMOS or the awarding bodies without further remuneration, with the authors being named. By submitting their work, the authors confirm that they have obtained all image and illustration rights in order to enable ICOMOS or the awarding bodies to publish the work without further investigation.

SUBMISSION

The submission includes:

1. an A1 poster folded to A4 format (posters from outside Europe can be submitted digitally only)
2. E-mail with PDF of the poster
3. information given in the online form

The deadline for submission is September 1, 2025 (postmark).

Address

Bauhaus-Universität Weimar
Fakultät Architektur und Urbanistik
Professur Denkmalpflege und Baugeschichte
99421 Weimar

E-mail address: icomos@icomos.de

Online form: <https://forms.gle/2YsgeeDXBmxBz1gX6>

PARTICIPANTS

Students of architecture, interior design, civil engineering, urban planning, art history, restoration, archaeology, or other heritage-related disciplines.

Group work with two persons is possible.

Competition entries can be submitted in German and English.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Not the prominence of an object or its significance as a monument is decisive for the assessment, but rather the quality of the analysis. The following criteria are relevant:

- Quality of the research
- Quality of the analysis, evaluation and solution approaches
- Quality of the presentation

JURY

The jury is expected to meet in October 2025.

Members of the jury are:

Philip Kurz, Wüstenrot Foundation

Tino Mager, ICOMOS Germany

Daniela Spiegel, Bauhaus-Universität Weimar

Christian Raabe, Working Group Theory and Teaching of Heritage Conservation

Roland May, DFG Priority Program 2255 "Construction as Cultural Heritage "

AWARDS

The five to ten best works will be awarded with cash prizes totalling 5000€. An award event with an exhibition of the competition entries is planned. In an e-publication by ICOMOS, the awarded works are to be comprehensively documented and all other submitted works and their authors will be listed in a catalogue.