

do \_ co \_ mo \_ mo \_

Minimum Documentation Fiche 2009

composed by national/regional working party of: Germany

International working party for  
**documentation and conservation**  
of buildings, sites and neighbourhoods of the  
**modern movement**

### 0.1 Picture of building/site



depicted item: Berlin, Seat of East German State Council  
source: Dr. Simone Oelker  
date: 2009

	db code
<b>1. Identity of building/group of buildings/urban scheme/landscape/garden</b>	
1.1 Current name of building: ESMT European School of Management and Technology GmbH	3
1.2 Variant or former name: Staatsratsgebäude / Seat of East German State Council	4
1.3 Number & name of street: 1 Schloßplatz	5
1.4 Town: Berlin	6
1.5 Province/state: Berlin	7
1.6 Zip code: 10178	8
1.7 Country: Germany	9
1.8 National grid reference:	10
1.9 Classification/typology: School	11
1.10 Protection status & date: Protected monument since 1977	12

do \_ co \_ mo \_ mo \_

ISC/R members update 2003

*for office use only*

International working party for  
**documentation and conservation**  
of buildings, sites and neighbourhoods of the  
**modern movement**

<b>2</b>	<b>History of building</b>	
2.1	Original brief/purpose: Seat of East German State Council	13
2.2	Dates: commission/completion: 1962-1964	14
2.3	Architectural and other designers: Roland Korn, Design: Hans Erich-Bogatzky, Bruno Hess	15
2.4	Others associated with building: window picture: Walter Womacka, metal doors und steel wall: Fritz Kühn, fries of porcelain: Günther Brendel	16
2.5	Significant alterations with dates: 1962-1964 construction of the building, 1976/77 alterations in the interior of the office for Erich Honecker, 1990-1996 office of the administration for relocation of the Federal Government of reunified Germany, 1997/98 place of the Berlin Stadtforum and centre for urban planning in the capital, 1999-2001 provisional seat of the Federal Government of reunified Germany, alterations in the interior by Elisabeth Rühnick, 2004/05 renovation and conservation according to the concept of hg merz, construction by HochTief, 2006 reopening for the European School of Management and Technology GmbH (ESMT)	17
2.6	Current use: Business School	18
2.7	Current condition: the renovated part of the building: very good. For the other part of the building and the garden a renovation is intended.	19
<b>3</b>	<b>Description</b>	
3.1	General description: the building complex includes the general building, an outbuilding und a technical building. All of these building enclose a courtyard designed in a garden like manner. The three story main building located at the Schlossplatz is 141 meter long. The historical portal of the Berlin castle built by Eosander von Göthe is integrated as the entrance portal. The fassade revetted with sandstone and red granite refers to the proportion of the historical portal.	20
3.2	Construction: steel-construction, double pitch roof built of steel framework	21
3.3	Context: the "Amtssitz des Staatsrates der DDR" was planned at the historical place of the destroyed castle of the Hollenzollern. It was the first building which was built on this place, followed by the GDR foreign ministry and the "Palast der Republik". The place in front of the Staatsratsgebäude was used for military parades. The Staatsratsgebäude was used by the GDR as State Council, an institution of 22 persons, which was the highest government body of the GDR.	22
<b>4</b>	<b>Evaluation</b>	
4.1	Technical: the steel construction of the building was styled by the architect Roland Korn. The construction is filled up with masonry. The roof is built as a double pitch roof built of steel framework. The windows are built of aluminum and were changed in 1986. Most important is the integration of the portal IV of Eosander von Göthe from the Hohenzollern castle in the fassade.	23
4.2	Social: the building was only used for representing occasions. It is dominated by the huge entrance hall, the colonnade and the representing rooms like the "Festsaal", the "Bankettsaal", the "Kartenraum" and the "Sitzungssaal". It was not open for the public. All these rooms are	24

**d o \_ c o \_ m o \_ m o \_**

ISC/R members update 2003

*for office use only*

International working party for  
**documentation and conservation**  
of buildings, sites and neighbourhoods of the  
**modern movement**

- conserved and renovated. The new furniture of the ESMT is reversible, so that the original design and atmosphere is conserved.
- 4.3 Cultural & Aesthetic: Exceptional of the Staatsratsgebäude is the high quality of design. For this most famous designers of the GDR were engaged. In the entrance hall there are tiles of "Meissner Porcelain", the great window-picture of Walter Womocka shows the history of the working-people. In the "Sitzungssaal" is placed a relief of steel called "The economy under the sign of peace". The "Bankettsaal" contains a relief of porcelain from Günther Brendel which shows the "History of the GDR". All rooms are designed with particular wall coverings and lamps. Exceptional are the metal doors of Fritz Kühn in the upper hall. 25
- 4.4 Historical: The Staatsratsgebäude was the first official government building of the GDR at the "Marx-Engels-Platz" (Schlossplatz) and at the same time the most important building of the GDR. It is located at the central place of the new center of the GDR. Its modernist architecture turns away from national traditions and leads to modern international forms. 26
- 4.5 General assessment: 27  
 Roland Korn was one of East Germany's most important political architects. With the Staatsratsgebäude he has given the GDR one of its most significant architectures. The technical construction and its standard of workmanship were to remain unrivalled.
- 5 Documentation**
- 5.1 principal references: Harald Bodenschatz, Zwischen Stadtschloß und Staatsratsgebäude: Berlins zentraler Platz in den 50er und 60er Jahren, in: Stalinistische Architektur unter Denkmalschutz? Eine Tagung des Deutschen Nationalkomitees von Icomos und der Senatsverwaltung für Stadtentwicklung und Umweltschutz in der Architektenkammer Berlin, 1995, Gepflegte Moderne, ####, Stuttgart 2010; Philipp Meuser, Schlossplatz Eins, European School of Management and Technology, Berlin 2006; Wilhelm Klauser, Baujahr 1964. Umbau des ehemaligen Staatsratsgebäudes in Berlin, in: Bauwelt, 2006, H. 4; Kroos & Marx (Berlin), Denkmalpflegerische Voruntersuchung. Staatsratsgebäude. Schlossplatz 1. Berlin-Mitte, Juli 1997. 28
- 5.2 visual material attached: 29  
 Photographs
- 5.3 rapporteur/date: Simone Oelker, 30 October 2009 30

## 6. Fiche report examination by ISC/R

name of examining ISC member:

date of examination:

approval:

Wp/ref. no:

NAI ref. no:

comments:

**do \_ co \_ mo \_ mo \_**

ISC/R members update 2003

*for office use only*

International working party for  
**documentation and conservation**  
 of buildings, sites and neighbourhoods of the  
**modern movement**



depicted item: Berlin, former Staatsratsgebäude, Foyer with Glass-Window by Womacka  
source: Tobias Schneider, Barlofotografie  
date: 2008



depicted item: Berlin, former Staatsratsgebäude, Interior  
source: Dr. Simone Oelker  
date: 2009

**do \_ co \_ mo \_ mo \_**

ISC/R members update 2003

*for office use only*

International working party for  
**documentation and conservation**  
of buildings, sites and neighbourhoods of the  
**modern movement**