

# Course Syllabus

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## POWER AND PRESERVATION

Spaces for political decision making and execution of power are currently being actualized and invigorated due to the the present-day political situation: people are actively reaching out to their political representatives, gather in public protest and assemble in political meetings, consequently shifting the role of public space: effecting buildings, informal spaces for assembly and official structures of power. Most of our parliament buildings, congresses, senates, court houses and city halls i.a. are designed according to very specific ideas on how power should be manifested in public, often holding prominent positions in the city and given certain symbolic properties. The seminar will investigate how these spaces are being effected by todays political situations, if they are still relevant and create meaningful environments for a living democracy. The students will be introduced to a number of historical examples and contemporary case studies, they will be asked to do research on an individually selected case study and finally contemplate on the the future role and configuration of our political spaces.

Each seminar day will start with an introduction followed by a discussion. You should expect doing some research between classes. The assignment is a written text (approx. 1500 words) that should discuss a chosen case study of urban preservation

- *Experimental preservation*, edited by Jorge Otero-Pailos, Erik Langdalen and Thordis Arrhenius
- *Tabula Plena: Forms of Urban Preservation*, edited by Bryony Roberts
- *The Historic Urban Landscape Managing heritage in an urban century*, by Francesco Bandarin, and Ron van Oers