Title: Uneasy but Shared Heritage: Modern Architecture on a Divided Island

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Coordination: Savia Palate

Funding: Research and Innovation Foundation (Cyprus) ["THALIA 2021-27," co-funded by the European Union] [€120.000]

Main Researcher: Savia Palate

Participation of UCY: Panayiota Pyla

Description: This study interrogates the contestations that surround the post-1974 use, appropriation, and misappropriation of modern hotels built in 1960–74, as well as their current realities as embodiments of shifting socio-political narratives that are both ambivalent and complex. Conducted as an encounter of modern architectural history with critical heritage studies, this project draws on archival research, fieldwork, and oral histories to provide a critical history of the different interpretive agendas that surround some of these modern buildings ultimately asking: How can the insights of architectural history shed light on the intangible value of these buildings, exploring their potential to become shared heritage on a divided island? The research project utilises technological tools to develop the U-SHer app as an alternative "guide" of modern architectural history in Cyprus that engages the public in an interactive dialogue with architectural history and research, by inviting them to 'share' stories entangled with an understanding of the intangible value of built heritage.