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The Role of the Architectural Competitions for “the Palace of Soviets” in the 1930s in the USSR totalitarian Regime

The international competition for the gigantic complex of the Palace of Soviets for the centre of Moscow held in the Soviet Union in 1930s – is one of the most symbolic and influential projects of Stalin’s regime. Though it had not been built, it marked the turn not only in soviet architecture from avant-garde style to Stalin’s Classic revival, but the changes in the whole cultural policy. At the same time the competition caused the world wide interest: hundreds of designs were sent by the leading architects of Europe and America. The paper analyses the influence of this competition on the development of the soviet architecture and the system of its international links.