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Tasks of the municipality in the field of monument protection with particular emphasis on residential monuments

Abstract

The article delineates the municipality's role as the custodian of historical monuments, elucidating the factual and legal circumstances and the genesis of this extraordinary relationship. It outlines the goals and tasks faced by municipalities in relation to the conservation, restoration, and revitalization of residential historic structures under their purview. The article further scrutinizes the situations that led municipalities to assume ownership of historical monuments, often acquiring them from the State Treasury, primarily during the process of political transformation. It delves into intricate interconnections, examining the nexus between the interest in heritage preservation, the financial capacities of public and private entities, and the mission of local governments in the protection and upkeep of these objects. Given their imposing volume and frequently dire state of preservation, revitalizing residential historical monuments requires substantial financial investments. Additionally, there is the challenge of determining a rational and socially appealing way to utilize renovated monuments.

The text accords particular attention to the professionalization and developmental stages of tools and instruments in the possession of these local government units. These entities employ such tools to effectively secure external funding for ambitious revitalization and conservation projects involving dilapidated castles and palaces. This approach unquestionably serves as an alternative to the simplest solution, namely the privatization of these objects—a course of action that does not always lead to the achievement of intended goals and, quite often, results in further degradation of the structures. After more than thirty years of political transformation, many residential monuments are gradually regaining their former glory, and performing new, predominantly socially beneficial public functions.

Keywords: protection of castle and manor properties – funding for restoration and preservation of monuments – municipality tasks in heritage protection