

Coping with Destruction

Approaches to rebuilding in Ukraine

Edited by Anastasiia Bozhenko
with Arnold Bartetzky, Anja Höfer, and Thomas Will

Since Russia launched its full-scale invasion, Ukraine's cities have suffered untold damage. Rebuilding is a matter of both immediate measures and long-term strategies. The urgent needs are to make buildings liveable again, restore infrastructure, and house displaced persons, but the longer-term aim is to make cities suitable for life in the twenty-first century.

Based on a workshop held at Leipzig City Hall in April 2025, this book looks, among other things, at:

- > how damaged buildings can be restored even as hostilities continue, and the importance of such rehabilitation as a moral statement;
- > new planning regulations so as to prioritise a human scale and spatial structuring over megalomania and spatial chaos;
- > how dependence on large-scale technical infrastructure can be reduced by new forms of settlement and energy;
- > treatment of Ukraine's architectural monuments, and the possibility of giving protective status to late Soviet residential districts as 'everyday heritage'.

The question of Ukraine's survival and renewal cannot be ignored: it is inseparable from the question of Europe's own resilience in a world that is becoming increasingly high-risk.