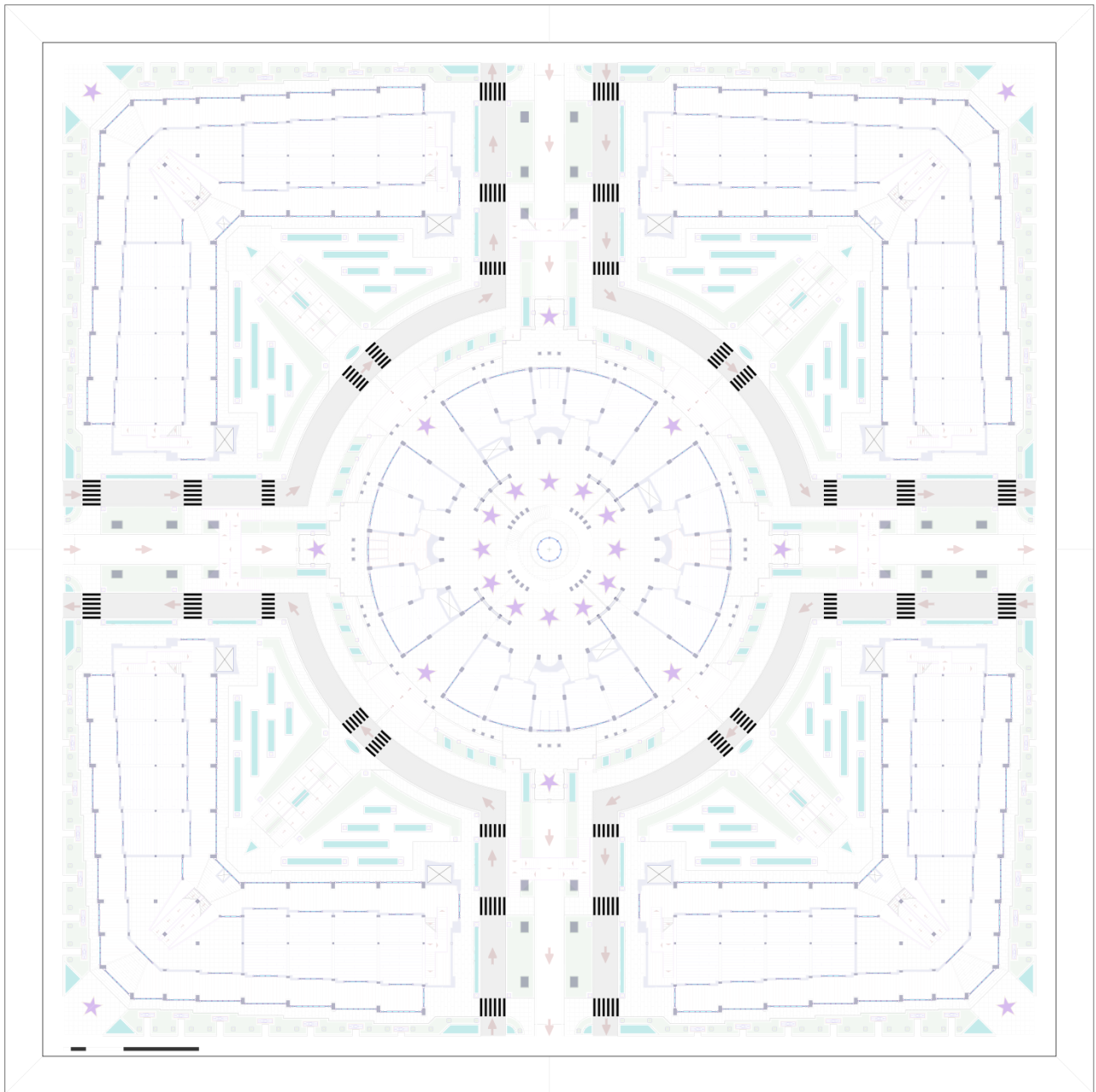


United Berlin

The "United Berlin / The Cable Pyramid" Project:



(An Architectural Proposition by Young Foreign Professionals)

As a group of young foreign professional architects living in Berlin, we have conducted extensive research across the city of Berlin. And what we've learn is that Berlin remains in continuous evolution among the rest.

A city where Vietnamese markets coexist with block-chain startups, where bunkers house art galleries, and where the scars of Stasi surveillance inform data privacy debates. Its genius lies in transforming division into dialogue:

A city where the "death strip" now grows organic vegetables, the Cold War's front line hosts the Carnival of Cultures, and the bomb craters are hills offering panoramic views.

Berlin proves to us that cities can harness historical trauma to build futures defined not by walls, but by welcoming bridges, making it Europe's most compelling model for sustainable, diverse, and technologically advanced urban life.

As **Andreas Butter** notes, Berlin rebuilt itself four times in a century; its fifth iteration as a global capital of resilience is its most visionary yet.

The general context we observed include the unique serenity amidst vibrancy, the complex timeline of architectural development shaped by division and reunification, the interplay of light and shadow, the city's palpable energy, its diverse geometric forms.

We also identified both its strongest points (resilience, creativity, green spaces) and weakest (social inequalities, lingering divisions, infrastructural strains).

Through this research, we conceived an idea to build upon the foundation Berlin itself has laid: **Unity.**

Then as a group we propose embarking on a significant public project called "**United Berlin**" also known as The Cable Pyramid.

This name reflects the peaceful aspiration of Berliners and aims to resonate globally. A United Berlin can inspire reconciliation, influencing peace talks from familial disputes to international conflicts.

And our proposal is a tangible project promoting unity among humanity.

Furthermore, "United Berlin" project is conceived as a symbol of the world reconciliation especially for Africa and Africans in diaspora, acknowledging the continent's fate was decisively shaped in Berlin during the 1884/85 "Scramble for Africa" at the Berlin Conference, which imposed arbitrary borders without consent.

Here are our project step-by-Step architectural Representation:

Foundation & Symbolism: The structure unites four potent symbols defining human history:

- a. **Pyramid:** Representing ancient achievement and permanence.
- b. **Armored Car:** Representing conflict and division (specifically evoking the WWII era, Cold War tensions) as much as today's geopolitical unrest.
- c. **Berlin Watchtower:** Representing surveillance and division (evoking the Berlin Wall).
- d. **Iron Cables:** Representing connection, tension, and engineering unity among diversity.

These elements are fused through extreme geometric unification to form a unique Cultural Market Center.

Site & Perimeter Memorial:

On a Total Land Area: 16,568.27 square meters, square-shaped.

External Perimeter: Are 56 statues depicting soldiers (from all sides) of WWII, lying horizontally on rectangular concrete blocks (0.80m x 2.20m), placed flat on green grass.

This consciously references the solemnity of the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe (designed by architect Peter Eisenman and engineer Buro Happold), honoring victims while acknowledging combatants as symbols of war's futility.

Secondary Structures (Unity Blocks): Eight (8) symmetrical blocks rise from the four corners at the pyramid's base. Following the pyramid's 45-degree inclination up to 7 levels.

Each block contains: Designed to accommodate 20 rentable stores. One lateral emergency stair and disabled lift. 16 lateral external porticoes (x perimeter) and 10 internal porticoes (courtyard) up to the 5th floor. Secondary doorways at exact corners connect adjacent blocks via open staircases.

These staircases and internal elevators provide access to: Underground levels (toilets, warehouse, car parks via double escalators). Linking to the courtyard and lead to all levels up to the rooftop.

Upper Levels: The 6th floor houses an exhibition gallery (e.g., "Women in Conflict"), connecting to a multi-functional hall on the 7th floor, with direct access to the terrace rooftop.

Monumental Entrances & Courtyard:

Each of the four facades features a monumental entrance leading to the courtyard.

Each entrance has: Two lateral water fountains. A three-lane driveway and secondary sidewalks.

Drive Lanes: Run under elevated squares for artistic gardening.

Clockwise Flow: Right lane (entry to courtyard), Central lane (entry to underground parking - 140 cars + loading bays), Left lane (exit).

Elevated Squares: Feature vertical steel structures supporting solar panels, inclined at 45° (matching the un-uniform body of the pyramid), adjoining the facades.

Façade Treatment: Load-bearing concrete structures coated with white marble, combined with walls of tinted dark glass, creating a gridded geometric form reflecting Berlin's architectural context.

Underground Access: Easily accessible via elevators and staircases from the courtyard and entrances, leading to parking, warehouses, and toilets.

The Courtyard: "Ocean Gardens" Features four gardens shaped like butterfly wings, and each garden is dedicated to one of four major world oceans (Atlantic, Pacific, Indian, Arctic - acknowledging the Southern Ocean as the fifth).

Garden Elements: Mixed flower hedges, water fountains, external light poles, sizable glass attics (providing light to underground parking - the "butterfly body").

Access: Open staircases lead down from the courtyard (head of the butterfly) to the underground levels. Triangular pavement patterns guide towards the exit doors of the Unity Blocks.

Central Compound & Unity Tower:

Compound: Designed to represent a cardinal points shape master-plan and also referencing the European Parliament hemicycle. An internal drivable semi-roundabout with lateral sidewalks connects the eight internal directions. Four designated car stop spaces are located opposite staircases.

Accessibility: Ramps lead from the semi-roundabout to two other elevated rings, forming a semi-ground-floor circular balcony around the central **Unity Tower**, ensuring disabled access. Spaces for statues representing human diversity are placed at ramp disengagement points.

Unity Tower (Main Block):

Height: 90 meters from ground level.

Form: Gigantic round base ("shaped like cake"), tapering in diameter from ground floor to 5th floor. Maintains this diameter from 6th to 12th floor. The 13th and 14th floors protrude slightly.

Structural Unity: Six massive iron cables descend at 45 degrees from the top floors, anchoring onto the load-bearing structures of the eight Unity Blocks, creating the overall pyramidal silhouette. The tower's façade uses diverse textures.

Unity Tower main entrance: Four cone-shaped entrances (anticlockwise doors) designed intentionally to maximize natural light and air and welcome visitors.

Interior: 18 stores, 4 secondary lifts, gender-separated toilets surrounding a central circular gallery.

Gallery & Historical Reflection:

Within the gallery stand statues of four pivotal WWII leaders: Franklin D. Roosevelt, Joseph Stalin, Winston Churchill, and Adolf Hitler. Their decisions irrevocably shaped history. Placed at extremes, opposing each other, they compel visitors to contemplate the consequences of power amidst the gallery's activity.

Path to "Freedom": Embedded in the gallery floor are 12 stars (symbolizing unity). A spiral staircase ascends the tower core. At the gallery's exact center, a circular elevator rises symbolically towards "freedom," directly confronting the statues of those who opposed it.

Light & Descent: Natural light filters through the tower's concrete-and-tinted-glass structure. Descending the stairs allows reflection amidst this illumination.

Critical Intent & Call to Action

As critical architects, our design intentionally confronts Berlin's historical role: orchestrating the world's largest division of families via the Wall, and defining Africa's division at the 1884 Conference without consent.

While we credit Berlin for tearing down its Wall and becoming a potential beacon of reconciliation, this project serves as a stark reminder and catalyst for deeper atonement.

And here is why we call upon **The City of Berlin and Berlin Chamber of Architects** to join hand and champion this movement, positioning Berlin and Berliners as the ultimate symbol of resilience for the world to emulate.

"United Berlin / The Cable Pyramid" is designed to spark essential dialogue in this era of geopolitical unrest. We believe this is the first project conceived with human unity as its paramount priority.

We call upon UNESCO, the United Nations, and initiatives like the Belt and Road to join hands, making this humanitarian dream a reality.

Let "United Berlin" stand tall, exporting peace and collaboration for a multipolar world.

What "United Berlin" Stands For

As Berlin proves that cities can thrive by converting trauma into sustainability, United Berlin comes as a Blueprint for Global Reconciliation, by anchoring global healing in the very geography where worlds were torn apart, turn trauma into the ultimate diplomatic tool, exactly in the city that once divided nations now trains them to unite.

United Berlin, symbolized by its architectural centerpiece "The Cable Pyramid," embodies a transformative vision for contemporary society:

1. Historical Reconciliation

It confronts Berlin's dual legacy as both a perpetrator of division (the 1884 Berlin Conference that partitioned Africa and the Cold War's Berlin Wall) and a catalyst for unity (the 1989 reunification). The structure's fusion of antagonistic symbols—pyramid (ancient unity), armored car (war), watchtower (surveillance), and iron cables (connection)—represents humanity's capacity to forge harmony from conflict

2. Multipolar Collaboration

Designed as a "Cultural Market Center," it rejects unilateral worldviews, instead creating a space where diverse cultures, professions, and ideologies converge. Its geometric unification of forms mirrors Berlin's real-world identity: a city where 35% of residents are foreign-born, driving innovation in tech, sustainability, and social integration.

3. Global Restorative Justice

The project explicitly addresses colonial trauma, dedicating spaces to acknowledge the 1884 Berlin Conference's arbitrary partition of Africa. By elevating this narrative alongside Holocaust remembrance (referencing the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe), it positions Berlin as a mediator of historical accountability.

Why Humanity Must Support This Project

1. Berlin's Unique Position as a Microcosm of Global Challenges

A city once fractured by walls now thrives as Europe's most cosmopolitan capital, with 65% German and 35% international residents.

Its success in transforming division into strength offers a replicable model for fractured societies worldwide.

Berlin's infrastructure, such as its 1,700+ bridges (surpassing Venice) and green spaces covering 33% of the city, proves that ecological resilience and urban cohesion are achievable.

The Cable Pyramid's solar-paneled facades and butterfly gardens symbolizing Earth's oceans extend this legacy, making sustainability central to unity.

2. Combating 21st-Century Fragmentation

In an era of geopolitical strife, the project's critique of historical divisions (e.g., statues of Roosevelt, Stalin, Churchill, and Hitler in the Unity Tower) forces reckoning with leadership's consequences.

This serves not as glorification but as a warning against authoritarianism and exclusion.

Economically, Berlin's growth into a €207 billion GDP powerhouse stems from diverse professionals collaborating across fields, from hydrologists managing its waterways to architects like David Chipperfield reshaping its skyline. United Berlin champions this inclusivity as an engine for global prosperity.

3. A Blueprint for "Unity in Action"

The project's design, where cables physically tether the tower to eight "Unity Blocks" demonstrates interdependence. Just as iron cables stabilize the pyramid, so too does humanity's survival rely on interconnectedness: ecological (shared oceans), economic (global trade), and social (migrant integration).

By memorializing WWII soldiers (all sides) lying side-by-side, it rejects "victor's history," urging societies to mourn collectively rather than perpetuate grievances.

4. Diplomatic Catalyst

Berlin's status as a diplomatic hub, hosting embassies, NGOs, and UN agencies, makes it the ideal stage for this project. "United Berlin" can formalize the city's unofficial role as a mediator,

leveraging its efficient transport, multilingual tolerance, and historical credibility to host peace dialogues.

From Division to Beacon of Unity

1. Historical Journey & Transformation

WWII & Reconstruction: Berlin suffered catastrophic damage during WWII. Post-1945, reconstruction was immense, hampered by material shortages, political division (into Soviet, US, UK, and French sectors), and the ideological split of the Cold War. A unique challenge was rebuilding the extensive city underground (U-Bahn, S-Bahn, bunkers) amidst ruins.

Division & The Wall: The ideological divide culminated in the construction of the Berlin Wall in 1961, physically splitting the city for 28 years. Its fall in 1989 became a global symbol of freedom and the beginning of German reunification.

Birth of Multiculturalism & Integration: Post-reunification, Berlin actively embraced its role as a capital. Significant immigration, driven by EU freedom of movement, asylum seekers, and global talent, fostered multiculturalism.

Integration efforts, though ongoing challenges, have been substantial. Foreigners have demonstrably fueled the city's economic growth, filling vital roles in tech, healthcare, hospitality, and starting innovative businesses, contributing to Berlin's dynamism.

Today, Berlin's population is approximately 65% German and 35% foreign (including naturalized citizens), with higher foreign population density often found in inner-city districts compared to some outer urban areas.

2. Urban Fabric, Ecology & Culture

Urban Landscape: Berlin boasts more bridges (over 1,700) than Venice, traversing its rivers, canals, and railway lines. The city features stark contrasts in density, from the bustling, built-up Mitte to expansive un-built zones like the Grunewald forest or Tempelhofer Feld.

Eco-System: Berlin's water supply is managed through a modern system drawing from surrounding lakes and groundwater, with high-quality standards. Energy supply increasingly incorporates renewables, aiming for climate neutrality.

The weather is characterized by distinct seasons: cold winters and warm summers, with moderate rainfall year-round.

Landmarks & Heritage: Key landmarks include the Brandenburg Gate, Reichstag Building, Berlin Cathedral, Charlottenburg Palace, Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, the TV Tower (Fernsehturm), and the Holocaust Memorial. Unter den Linden stands as one of the city's oldest and most historic streets.

Culture & Events: Berlin is renowned for its vibrant cultural scene, hosting major events like the Berlinale (Film Festival), Karneval der Kulturen (Carnival of Cultures), Christopher Street Day (Pride), Festival of Lights, and iconic Christmas Markets.

Masterplan & Influencers: The city's structure evolved from historical plans like James Hobrecht's 19th-century expansion (focusing on perimeter blocks and green courtyards) to post-reunification developments.

Notable figures associated with Berlin include architects Karl Friedrich Schinkel, Walter Gropius (Bauhaus), Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, and David Chipperfield; engineers like Oskar Hossfeld; botanist Adolf Engler; archaeologist Heinrich Schliemann (excavated Troy, lived in Berlin); hydrologists contributing to its water management; and innovators like Emil Rathenau (AEG founder).

3. Tolerance, Diversity & Global Role

Political & Social Tolerance: Berlin maintains a strong reputation for political tolerance, openness towards diverse ethnic groups, and acceptance of different religious faiths. It's a hub for LGBTQ+ communities and progressive movements.

Imperative for Diverse Professionals: Prioritizing the inclusion of diverse professional backgrounds is critical. This diversity drives innovation, fosters global connections, enhances problem-solving, attracts international investment, and fuels the city's economic growth, solidifying its status as a European tech and creative powerhouse.

Diplomatic Hub & Connectivity: Berlin is Germany's capital and a major diplomatic center, hosting embassies and international organizations. Its efficient transportation system (integrated U-Bahn, S-Bahn, tram, bus network) makes it highly connected. Multi-lingual tolerance is a practical reality in daily life and business.

Vision: From Division to Global Beacon:

Berlin must transcend its history as a symbol of division to become a beacon of diversity, sustainability, and reconciliation. It aspires to be the world's most welcoming city, leading in eco-sustainability, integrity (linguistic, cultural, professional, intellectual), and as an economic powerhouse and technologically advanced hub.

The world should learn from Berlin's journey, overcoming profound division to build a vibrant, open society. Berlin is uniquely positioned to become an exporter of peace and a collaborative partner in the new multipolar world.

UNITED BERLIN WHERE HUMANITY MEETS HISTORY

(Be Part of the Monument That Heals the World)

BERLINERS – THE WORLD NEEDS YOUR VOICE

We've designed a landmark that turns our city's scars into hope for humanity. But steel and glass mean nothing without your hands to build it.

DEMAND ITS REALIZATION

Sign the Petition Now

Goal: 10,000 signatures to unlock Senate approval.

Every name forces Berlin to confront its past and fund a future where:

56 warrior statues made from melted tanks guard a peace sanctuary

African leaders rewrite colonial borders in the 1884 Return Pavilion

Refugees run galleries in a pyramid built on Wall rubble

PRE-ORDER THE SACRED BLUEPRINT

Reserve "UNITED BERLIN: The Book of Bones & Light"

Limited Edition: €50 (Public) / €30 (Students)

Your pre-order directly funds construction and grants:

Your name etched in the courtyard's "Wall of Builders"

Augmented Reality access – explore 3D models via smartphone

reconciliation architecture

All profits fund Phase 1 earthworks.

WHY THIS CAN'T WAIT

"In 1884, Berlin divided a continent. In 2025, let it unite humanity."