

= National Assembly Building of Slovenia =

The National Assembly Building (Slovene : Zgradba Državnega zbora , also colloqually the Parliament (Parlament) in Ljubljana , the capital of Slovenia , is a modernist palace housing the legislature of Slovenia . Built between 1954 and 1959 by the architect Vinko Glanz , it is a three @-@ storey building with an area of 2 @, @ 200 m² (24 @, @ 000 sq ft) . It is located on the Republic Square in the center of Ljubljana . Annual visitor numbers are around 13 @, @ 000 .

Despite its name , the building houses both the National Assembly (lower house) and the National Council (upper house) of the legislature . The building is an officially protected monument , led in records as the People 's Assembly Building of the Republic of Slovenia (Skupščina Republike Slovenije) . It was opened on 19 February 1959 as the Palace of the People 's Assembly (Palača Ljudske skupščine) , because it was built in the time when the Socialist Republic of Slovenia had a People 's Assembly .

= Construction =

The Cathedral of Freedom is an unrealised project of the Slovenian Parliament building , designed by the architect Jože Plešnik in 1949 . It featured a large cone @-@ shaped roof of 394 feet (120 m) high but failed to result in any action . A new legislature building was thereafter planned by the architect Vinko Glanz , a much more conservative and modest design than either of the Plešnik concepts , being an austere modernist palace with no monumental elements or decorations save a large sculptural group of bronze figures framing its main portico .

Work began in 1954 on construction of the building to Glanz 's plans , using Tehnika , a Ljubljana construction firm . Part of the ethos was that local building materials should be used , such as wood , stone and marble . 27 master craftsmen were also used for the metalwork and joinery . It was completed in 1959 .

= Opening =

The building , opened as the Palace of the People 's Assembly , hosted the first session of the People 's Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia on 19 February 1959 .

For its first 32 years , the building held meetings of the Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Slovenia . Following the independence of Slovenia in 1991 , it gave way to use by the Slovenian Parliament : both the National Assembly and the National Council .

= Design =

= Exterior architecture =

The four @-@ storey building is externally austere . A freestanding cube , the main façade faces Republic Square and is inlaid with Karst marble , with green Oplotnica granite below each window . The only decorative element is the two storey main portal ? four oak doors surrounded by statues by Zdenko Kalin and Karel Putrih which represent working people .

= Interior =

Inside , the building is furnished with paintings and frescoes by a selection of Slovenian artists . The largest , a 67 @. @ 4 by 1 @. @ 4 metres (221 @. @ 1 by 4 @. @ 6 ft) wall painting by the 20th century mural artist Slavko Pengov , extends across the length of the entrance hall and illustrates the history of Slovenians . Created in 1958 and 1959 , the mural portrays events including the Revolutions of 1848 , the First World War and the 1918 creation of the Kingdom of Serbs , Croats and Slovenes , the Second World War and national liberation , and the creation of socialist

Yugoslavia and homeland reconstruction . The walls of the first @-@ floor corridor are furnished with portraits of former Presidents of the National Assembly . Following the 1991 independence of Slovenia , the building 's interior has been refurbished several times to suit the desideratum of the new Slovenian Parliament .

The center of the building is occupied by the 422 m² (4 @,@ 540 sq ft) , 150 seat Great Hall , where the National Assembly convenes . Formerly rectangular , it was renovated into an amphitheater in 2000 . Each seat has a microphone , an automatic voting system , plug socket and access to the National Assembly 's computer network . The chair facing the doors to the hall is for the President of the National Assembly . Behind it , a bronze relief of the coat of arms of Slovenia is positioned on the marble wall . The sculptor Marko Pogačnik created the work in 1991 to celebrate independence . There is also a 106 @-@ seat gallery for the public and guests to view the Great Hall .

The National Council holds its meetings in the Small Hall , on the ground floor . The room is also used for public presentations and conferences .

= = Incidents = =

On 18 May 2010 , the front façade of the building , made of rare green tonalite , was severely damaged by students who threw granite rocks removed from a nearby pavement at the building 's main entrance . The incident happened during a large student protest against the proposed law on the introduction of mini jobs that would curb student work and changes to scholarship policy . Repairs to the building were estimated at 27 @,@ 000 euros .