The Berlin Wall fell a few months after Richard Rogers’ project had been selected. As the former communist bloc countries were set to join the Council of Europe, the initial project, which had become too small even before work began, had to be amended.

The architect added a fifth and sixth floor and extended the wings of the building where the offices were to be located. As a result, the surface area of the building increased from 22,500 sq. m to 28,500 sq. m.