



ICOMOS TheoPhilos ISC Conference

***“Public spaces in historic cities -
conservation principles and good
practices”***

14th edition in Florence, Italy

Florence (Italy), 9 - 10 March, 2023
Palazzo Coppini (Via del Giglio 10)
Sala Komech Room

The Conference promoters:



In collaboration with:



1. Topic of the conference

Protection of historic cities is a most complex conservation issue. This is determined by a combination of many factors – such as the large scale of the operation, the diversity of historic elements and their values, the multitude of stakeholders, the complexity of urban functions, radical changes in the standards of use of objects and spaces as well as the fact that cities are, by definition, subject to constant change.

The complex structure of the historic city cannot be protected as a whole. On a practical level, conservation activities must include the individual components of the historic elements of the city. At the theoretical level, however, it is possible to determine the principles and forms of dealing with entire typological or historical groups of monuments. However, principles and forms of conservation were first developed primarily for individual historic buildings or groups, and to a much lesser extent for public spaces and the historic urban fabric.

Public spaces – squares, streets, courtyards, public gardens and playgrounds – are intensively used; they co-create the value of a given historic city, and to a large extent determine its image and ‘spirit of place’. Their conservation must take into account technical, communication, urban and ecological aspects, acknowledging the central role of city governments in their management. Therefore, it is of the utmost importance to analyze and evaluate the contemporary forms and principles that shape public spaces in historic cities and to manage how they change in response to changes of function and public need.

Broadly understood, environmental considerations have meant that in recent years the revitalization of many public spaces in historical cities has been critically reevaluated. In many countries, conservation services have developed regulations for the protection and development of public spaces. These policies and documents must be supported by a theoretical foundation and a catalogue of good practice. An international discussion on this subject is long overdue.

2. Objectives and thematic scope of the conference

The aim of the conference “*Public spaces in historic cities – conservation principles and good practices*” is to organize a discussion and exchange of experiences amongst architects, urban planners, landscape architects and conservators, on these key issues.

The issues of the conference will be divided into three sessions.

1. Principles for conservation of public spaces in historic cities – technical, ecological, urban, landscape and formal aspects;
2. Practices: forms and constraints for the conservation of public spaces – squares, streets, courtyards, public gardens, and playgrounds – inclusive of interventions and changes to public spaces such as the introduction of greenery;
3. Interdisciplinary processes and guidelines for the responsible conservation of public spaces in historic cities; local, national, and international.

The conference will include opportunity for discussion of projects for historic public spaces, both proposed and implemented. The presentation of positive and negative examples will help the conservation community to define the principles and program necessary to inform and shape public spaces in historical cities.

3. Organizational information

Proposals for papers should be sent by **10 January 2023**, to theophilos@icomos.org

Proposals should include:

- a 300 word abstract (separate points will assist reviewers in assessing proposals);
- a brief biographical note on the author; and
- an indication of which session (1, 2, or 3) the paper is intended for.

The selection of papers to be presented at the conference will be made by reviewers appointed by the Organizing Committee. The authors of the papers will be informed about the decision of the reviewers by **January 30, 2023**.

The materials of the conference – after the reviewers' assessment – will be published in the journal "Protection of Cultural Heritage".

<https://ph.pollub.pl/index.php/odk>

We invite you to submit proposals for conference presentations.

We invite you to participate in the conference.



Scientific Committee

ICOMOS International Scientific Committee Theory and Philosophy of Conservation and Restoration

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Notes

Thanks to a Memorandum of Understanding signed originally in 2013 and renewed in 2019 all the ICOMOS ISC's have the possibility to hold their annual meetings in Florence, in collaboration with the Fondazione Romualdo Del Bianco and its "Life Beyond Tourism" Movement, that prompt local communities in WHS to protect and enhance heritage for travelers inclusiveness and intercultural dialogue.

In 2014 Life Beyond Tourism has been endorsed by the ICOMOS GA Resolutions n. 1 and n. 42

The Final Resolution of the 18th General Assembly in ICOMOS recognizes the operating of the Romualdo Del Bianco Foundation's Life Beyond Tourism Model and considers the Foundation itself as a partner for promoting conferences and meetings with Foundation's university network and ICOMOS

ICOMOS
international council on monuments and sites

ICOMOS 18th General Assembly
Heritage and Landscape as
Human Values
Italy Florence 2014

18th General Assembly of ICOMOS
Florence, Italy
9 to 14 November 2014

Resolutions of the General Assembly

18GA Agenda item 2 Opening of the General Assembly

Vote of thanks

Resolution 18GA 2014/01

The 18th General Assembly of ICOMOS,

Congratulates with gratitude ICOMOS Italy for the successful hosting of the 18th General Assembly;

Thanks The President of the Italian Republic, the President of the Council of the Italian Republic, the Italian Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities and Tourism, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, and UNESCO; as well as the Region of Tuscany, the Province of Florence, the Municipality of Florence, the ITA Italian Trade Agency, the Italian National Commission UNESCO, for their support;

Acknowledges with gratitude the support of partners and sponsors, in particular: Life Beyond Tourism – Fondazione Romualdo Del Bianco, The Getty Foundation, P.T.I. Progetti Territoriali Integrati S.p.A., UniCredit, Carso Technologies, Fibre NET, De Feo Restauri, Officina Farmaceutica Santa Maria Novella, Acqua Fonte dei Medici, Consorzio Gragnano Città della Pasta, Fattoria Casa Sola, Consorzio Terra e Orti; and of the Scientific Partners: Università degli Studi di Firenze, CNR Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, PAU –Università Mediterranea di Reggio Calabria, IULM Libera Università di Lingue e Comunicazione, Istituto universitario di Architettura di Venezia, Giambos Association Florence, Fondazione Spadolini Nuova Antologia, ITKI International Traditional Knowledge Institute, FICLU Federazione Italiana Club e Centri UNESCO

Resolution 18GA 2014/42 – Travel beyond sustainable tourism: Life Beyond Tourism, Travel for Dialogue

The 18th General Assembly of ICOMOS,

Recalling that the Fondazione Romualdo Del Bianco signed on 4 March 2013 a Memorandum of Understanding with ICOMOS regarding collaboration on scientific activity related to heritage conservation for intercultural dialogue;

Noting that the Fondazione has implemented the "Life Beyond Tourism" philosophy and model for promoting the presentation, interpretation and enjoyment of local cultural identities in order to promote sustainable development;

Noting that the Fondazione established the International Life Beyond Tourism Institute in October 2013 for the implementation of its philosophy and model;

Noting that the Fondazione develops initiatives for intercultural dialogue including "Life Beyond Tourism: Travel for Dialogue"; which advocates travel as personal outreach, and travel as a gift to share with others, to know and to be known, to be open to dialogue, to appreciate and to respect diversity;

Recognising with gratitude that the implementation in Florence of the Life Beyond Tourism Model has allowed a financial support to the Italian National Committee of ICOMOS for organising the 18th ICOMOS General Assembly and Scientific Symposium in Florence;

Considers the Fondazione Romualdo Del Bianco - with its International Life Beyond Tourism Institute - as a partner for familiarising young people in the Fondazione's network with ICOMOS;

Supports the notion and activity of travel to promote dialogue among international youth.