

CALL FOR PAPERS

## 3RD HERITAGE FORUM OF CENTRAL EUROPE 16 ► 18 SEPTEMBER 2015



Forum  
Dziedzictwa  
Europy  
Środkowej

Heritage  
Forum  
of Central  
Europe

Cities, as mirrors and hallmarks of our civilisation, some of the most spectacular human inventions, are phenomena which challenge full understanding. They are multilayered compositions of social interactions, economics, infrastructure and a growing number of inhabitants. As Jane Jacobs has said, they are a complex problem of interacting factors that are interrelated into an organic whole; at the same time they generate problems of climate change, crime and inequality and, on the other hand, originate creative solutions as well as hopes and dreams for many. Analysing the city brings together researchers and practitioners from various disciplines: urban planners, economists, sociologists, social psychologists, anthropologists, historians and art historians. It is this interdisciplinarity and innovation that the organisers hope to attract to the debates and sessions of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Heritage Forum of Central Europe focused on “The City”.

Therefore, we invite researchers, specialists and practitioners – experts in heritage, cultural and media studies, urban planners, architects, historians, sociologists, political scientists – to submit proposals dedicated to the city and its links to heritage, presented from the point of view of their respective fields. **With Central Europe/V4 serving as a starting point, we would like to encourage submission of papers analysing both the Central European and the global context of the problem, providing innovative approaches, comparative studies and international cases.**

### WE SHALL WELCOME PAPERS ON THE FOLLOWING THEMES:

WHO IS THE CITY FOR?

HISTORIC URBAN LANDSCAPE

CREATIVE HERITAGE CITIES

CITIES AND THEIR NARRATIVES

HERITAGE IN CONFLICT

REVITALISATION PRACTICES IN HERITAGE CITIES

RESILIENT CITIES AND HERITAGE

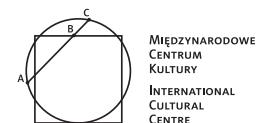
Proposals for 20-minute presentations should include a brief biographical note with your title and institutional affiliation and a maximum 150-word abstract in English.

They should be submitted by e-mail to [heritageforum3@mck.krakow.pl](mailto:heritageforum3@mck.krakow.pl) by **February 20, 2015**. Notifications of acceptance will be sent by mid-April 2015.

The conference will be held in English. It will result in a peer-reviewed (academic) publication. All articles, up to 4000-6000 words long, following the assigned style guide and submitted by the deadline (to be announced) will be considered for publication.

The conference fee is €80, which will cover conference materials and catering. Transport and accommodation costs are covered by conference participants themselves.

Organiser



Partners



The Forum is organised by the International Cultural Centre in Krakow under the auspices of the **V4 Cultural Heritage Experts' Working Group**, comprising:

**Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic, Cultural Heritage Department, Prague**

**Gyula Forster National Centre for Cultural Heritage Management, Budapest**

**International Cultural Centre, Krakow**

**Monuments Board of the Slovak Republic, Bratislava**

**For more information:**

🌐 <http://www.mck.krakow.pl/conference/the-3rd-heritage-forum-of-central-europe-the-city>

✉ [heritageforum3@mck.krakow.pl](mailto:heritageforum3@mck.krakow.pl)

## PROPOSED SESSION TOPICS:

### WHO IS THE CITY FOR?

In 1999 Paolo Saturnini – mayor of Greve in Chianti – invented the concept of *Cittàslow* (slow city) as a movement of “unhurried cities” promoting the idea of a good, peaceful and stress-free everyday life in towns of less than 50000 inhabitants, as the opposite of the rush and stress of major urban agglomerations. However, the trend has exceeded these initial assumptions by encompassing also large cities which have begun to re-evaluate their hitherto followed policies. Consequently, the focus has begun to shift from initiatives for tourism development and investment attraction, towards the residents of a city, their participation and the quality of life. Civic budgets and social consultations, illustrating this very trend, have become indispensable elements of the actions undertaken by city authorities.

We shall welcome proposals dealing with the links between heritage, city and the quality of life, answering the following questions. What is the role of heritage in enhancing the quality of life in cities? Who is really the city for – the inhabitant, the tourist, the investor? Do city authorities cooperate with the citizens? What is the role of non-governmental organisations in creating the city policies? Who envisions the city? Comparative analyses and case studies will be of special interest to the session.

### HISTORIC URBAN LANDSCAPE

The period of political and economic system transformation in many Central European countries has led to an increasing crisis in spatial planning. So-called liberalisation of the law and periodic rapid growth of investment have brought about visual chaos which is most visible in the largest and most attractive cities. Often it is historical cities that are particularly strongly affected by the problem: disturbing changes can be observed in the shaping of the development outline, and consequently in the panoramas of entire districts. The effects of the pressure from investors usually clashes with the recommendations endorsed by UNESCO and ICOMOS concerning historic urban landscapes.

Contemporary discourse on the conservation of historic cities is based on the concept of the HUL. In November 2011, the UNESCO General Conference in Paris adopted the text of the Recommendation on the HUL. This is not a new category of protection, but a tool for managing the urban historic resources, in a time of a rapid civilizational change.

To what extent can this new Recommendation be helpful in heritage protection and in a balanced development of our cities? To what extent should HUL be reflected in urban planning policies? How do heritage cities tackle pressure from developers in the context of heritage protection? What problems do urban planners, architects and city public space managers face in heritage cities? Is the concept presented in UNESCO’s Recommendation on HUL an effective remedy to this “new” threat to our city’s cultural landscape? These are the main issues put forward for debate in this discussion panel where we invite original presentations: both theoretical and based on case studies.

### CREATIVE HERITAGE CITIES

Creativity and innovation are keywords in the discourse on the development of contemporary world. The concept of a creative city in this context highlights the importance of cultural industries, cultural infrastructure, as well as “the creative class” in discussions on key city resources. According to Sharon Zukin, a creative city fosters creativity by promoting open attitudes and low entrance barriers for cultural diversity, and is characterised by “impatient desire for new things, while appreciating what is old.”

This session aims at discussing the following issues. What is the place of heritage in building the potential of a creative city? Are heritage industries creative industries? What is the relationship between the creative class (R. Florida’s concept) and heritage? We are particularly interested in articles that deal exclusively with the role of heritage (not only broadly understood culture) in fostering creativity and creative cities and provide evidence-based examples.

### CITIES AND THEIR NARRATIVES

The city is a complicated historical subject and any narration about it cannot and is not simple, unequivocal, single-threaded. There are no places without heritage. However, there are places without their own stories. As stories promote deeprootedness and have the power to create communities, they are indispensable for all cities. This is why a number of them, in Central Europe especially after the transformation of 1989, search for city narratives and “newly found memory” (with Timisoara or Wrocław being examples of retelling and reviving places of shared memory). First of all, contemporary cities search for their stories to define themselves and consolidate their communities. Often inspiration for new narratives comes from works of art and heritage (e.g. creating Museum of Innocence in Istanbul, echoing Orhan Pamuk’s novel or Barcelona sight-seeing guide based on Carlos Ruiz Zafón’s novel *The Shadow of the Wind*). On the other hand, however, city narrative plays a vital role in creating a brand for the city and is used in PR and promotion activities.

The city is a physical product consisting of buildings, streets, inhabitants, visitors, as well as history, and customs, which needs a distinguishing mark, an evocative element thanks to which it can be properly remembered. In the time of museums, as the period of catching up with the Western trends regarding the approach towards the role of museum might be called in Central Europe, museums might play the part both of “domesticating” the city and the residents and a flagship promotional investment, pinning together both aspects discussed in the session.

We are looking forward to papers which will elaborate on the following issues. What stories do Central European cities seek? Who creates them and how? Whom do they serve? In what ways can the narratives be communicated? How do the city and its inhabitants tackle promotion – understood not only as publicity directed outside, intended to attract tourists and investors, but also as inward promotion, devised for inhabitants, helping them to get to know the – often forgotten – past of their little homeland? Case studies and comparative analyses are of special interest to us.

## HERITAGE IN CONFLICT

In the contemporary world activities which stimulate economic growth merely in quantitative terms are slowly being abandoned in favour of qualitative development. Similarly, approaches to heritage continue to change – today we speak of taking advantage of the past for the sake of the future. One might ask, then, if heritage and development are magical companions or rather mutually exclusive counterparts.

We look forward to submissions analysing heritage from the perspective of socio-economic development as well as issues related to urban planning. We are particularly interested in case studies based on original and derivative sources and quantitative and qualitative data that deal with the following issues. What new challenges does the new trend entail for managing a historic city? Does this lead to a novel approach to heritage, which in itself is a resource promoting progress and growth? Or is the heritage rather seen as an obstacle to development? How do heritage cities tackle pressure from investors in the context of heritage protection? What problems do urban planners, architects and city public space managers face in heritage cities? How to deal with the clashes between tourism industry and heritage protection? How can a heritage city adapt to socio-economic needs without endangering its inherent values?

## REVITALISATION PRACTICES IN HERITAGE CITIES

In recent years, mainly thanks to the inflow of the EU funds, Central Europe has seen a great increase in the need or even fashion for reviving heritage cities and individual historical objects. It is both the historic city centres as well as post-industrial heritage that have become an arena of the new practices. Given the importance of the trend, it becomes necessary to ask about both positive and negative consequences of revitalisation projects. Is the planned addressee always the real recipient? Are the newly created places positively perceived by inhabitants and tourists and thus have a chance for a future life? How can there be balance between old and new architecture and green spaces? What happens to historical green space complexes under protection – can they be combined with recreation, playgrounds, and education for both children and adults? What is the situation of revitalised post-industrial buildings, often transformed to fulfil completely new roles, and their surroundings, often degraded and threatened with ecological disaster?

We are seeking proposals for articles based on case studies, which would expand existing knowledge on the creative potential of heritage regarding revitalisation and renewal of cities. What are the impacts of regeneration schemes? How can abandoned heritage areas be revived? How does the gentrification phenomenon change heritage cities?

## RESILIENT CITIES AND HERITAGE

The term ‘resilience’ has in recent years gained currency in many disciplines and has been increasingly applied to various scientific contexts: from approaches to human ecology and taxonomy to studies on developing countries, micro-sociology, ethnology and political sociology. In relation to urban issues and studies in governance there exists a strong focus on the challenges of policy-making and planning. Since this focus is complex and not one-dimensional, various structures and areas of action can only be integrated by way of a systemic approach that overrides sectoral policy models with the aim of attaining resilience to imminent dangers and threats. While built heritage and resilience may appear contradictory at first glance, a more thorough understanding leads to the conclusion that heritage in fact contributes to resilience in various ways, reparability through the use of appropriate materials and ways of adapted use being only the most obvious factors.

We are seeking theoretical and practical illustrations to the problem that would enlarge our knowledge on the role that heritage plays in fostering resilience as a vital city characteristic. What are the limits to cross-sectoral approach in integrated heritage rehabilitation?