



Presidency of Latvia
Council of Europe
MAY – NOVEMBER 2023

Présidence de la Lettonie
Conseil de l'Europe
MAI – NOVEMBRE 2023

International Scientific Conference
**THE SENSE OF THE
CONTEMPORARY
ARCHITECTURE IN
HERITAGE
PRESERVATION**

Riga, 29–31 May 2023

The Council of Europe, together with other international institutions, professional organizations, national heritage institutions, and experts, has built, over a period of 30 years, a platform based on democratic principles for professional cooperation among European countries in cultural heritage. It has created several international conventions, a series of recommendations, and a turn-of-the-century model of high-quality expert assistance to the new member states and has successfully set the tone for heritage preservation. As a result of this cooperation, almost all European countries have gained a mutually understandable philosophy for heritage conservation, a more structured cultural landscape, a more professional approach to the maintenance and care of cultural property, and a greater focus on the awareness and recognition of cultural and historical values. This system culminated in the Faro Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society.

There are so many examples of good practice in Europe, but information on them is scarce. There are still diametrically opposed views on the relationship between cultural heritage, contemporary architecture, and design. So often architectural heritage is destroyed or damaged by the architecture and construction industry itself. The urge to make a quick profit, to demolish what has been built, and to build as much, as wide and as high as possible, consuming more energy and generating more waste, poses a threat to human existence in the future.

There are lessons to be learned in the preservation of cultural heritage, the analysis of which over time is necessary for sustainable thinking and the quality of development in the future. How well can different eras co-exist in architecture? Can a philosophy of cultural heritage teach us to live more responsibly? Can quality architecture contribute to the preservation of cultural heritage? To answer these questions, as well as to encourage discussion on what has been achieved in the protection of architectural heritage, to highlight examples of good practice, and to look at new challenges in today's context of rapid change, a regularly maintained platform for scientific debate is needed. Discussions in this regard have already taken place but have not yet been sufficiently heard. That is why the National Heritage Board of Latvia, in cooperation with several partner institutions, is organizing an international conference "The Sense of Contemporary Architecture in the Preservation of Cultural Heritage".

Target audience: experts from European cultural heritage institutions, architectural heritage theoreticians and practitioners, architects, planners, philosophers, representatives of international institutions

Number of participants: 120

Working languages: English, Latvian

Venue: Wagner House, Riga, 4 Riharda Vāgnera Street

AGENDA

Monday, 29 May 2023

Arrival from 14:00

Tour around the historic centre of Riga

Meeting of the Scientific Committee

A cocktail in the courtyard of the building complex "Three Brothers"

Tuesday, 30 May 2023

Registration

Conference proceedings (presentations, discussions)

Dinner at Rundale Palace (80 km from Riga)

Wednesday, 31 May 2023

Conference proceedings (presentations, discussions)

Adoption of the Resolution (until 15:00)

Excursions (until 18:00)

For more information, please contact: linda.zonne-zumberga@mantojums.lv