CIVVIH
ICOMOS

comité international des villes et villages historiques
international committee on historic cities, towns and villages

Scientific symposium "Eleven years of Valletta principles : evolution and practice of urban heritage governance"

15-16 June 2022, Brussels City Hall, Belgium

INTEGRATING HISTORIC URBAN VALUES
IN THE CITY PLANNING AND GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES OF TODAY:
Cultural Challenges in a Changing World

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The Valletta Principles of 2011: product and process

✓ Developed to set the planning and governance frame for historic cities (ICOMOS, 2011).

✓ During the eleven years following its adoption, it acted as an important guiding tool for urban practice but also as a meaningful cultural message about the importance of a value-based approach to the historic city.

✓ The ongoing effort to update the document stemmed from the awareness that the new challenges faced in a fast-changing world require an enhanced understanding for the growing urban complexity, uncertainties, and vulnerabilities in a continuously urbanizing world.
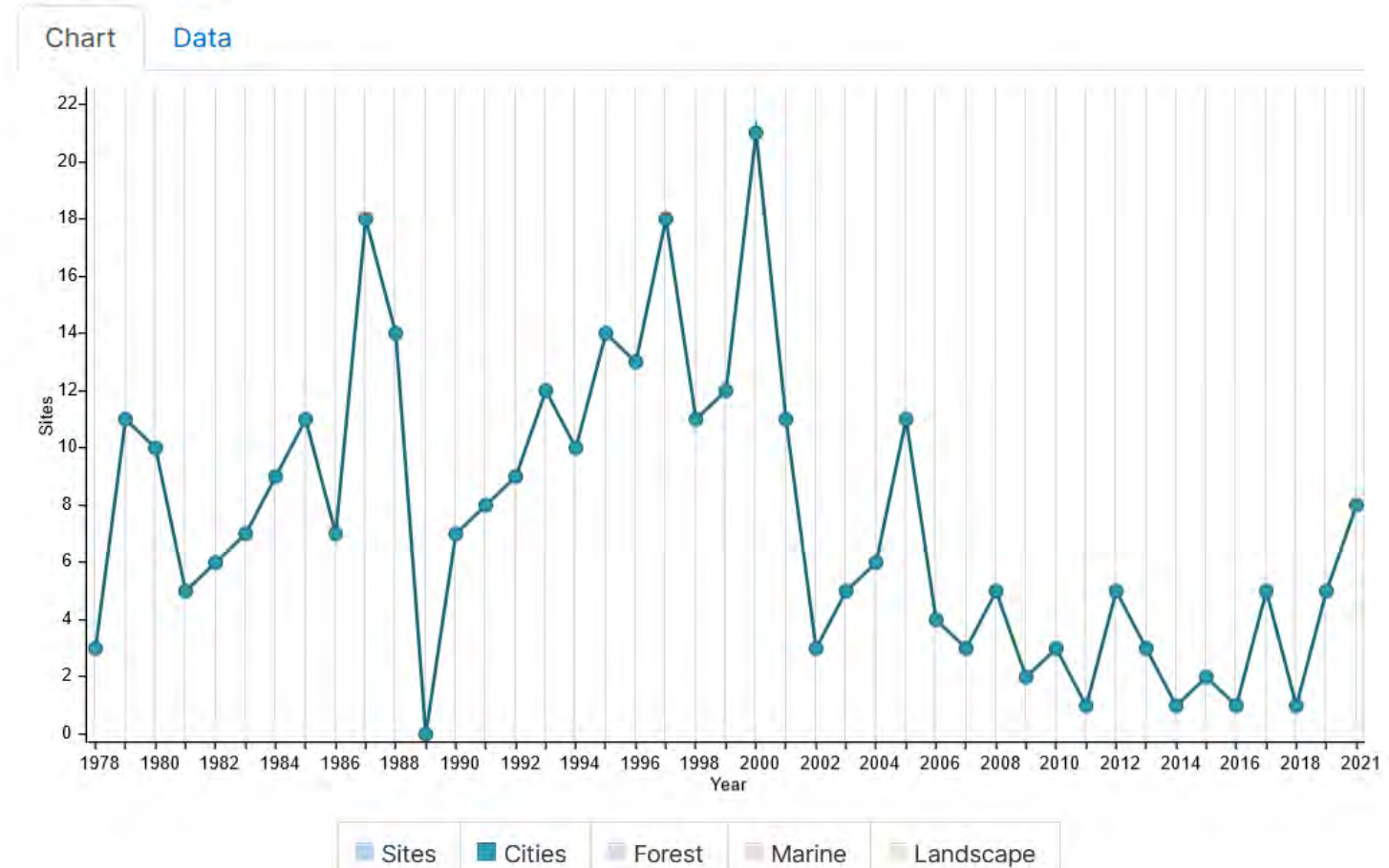
Questions raised:

✓ What is currently changing in the (urban) world?

✓ Who is the new document addressing?

✓ What are the cultural dimensions of the changes?

✓ How do they relate to the historic city?

✓ What values do we want to preserve and communicate in / through the historic city?

The target group/s of the updated document's message?

- ✓ Cities inscribed on UNESCO WH List about 320 until 2021

- ✓ OWHC

- ✓ UCLG

- ✓ Authorities and experts dealing with heritage preservation / urban development ?

- ✓ **Citizens and citizens' organizations?**

- ✓ Businesses involved in urban development / renewal / heritage preservation?

Number of World Heritage properties inscribed each Year by Themes

Chart | Data

Sites / Year

| Sites | Cities | Forest | Marine | Landscape |

https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/stat

This work builds upon the understanding that …

✓ Because of being living cultural heritage, the historic cities of today are also complex urban systems responding to:

- the general tendencies and the objectives of contemporary development framed by SDGs, and

- the evolving urban planning and governance theory and culture of today.

- Europe's cultural heritage not only consists of individual historic buildings and archaeology sites. The different lifestyles of inhabitants of European towns and cities have to be viewed in their entirety, as a part of the cultural heritage *(ESDP, 1999).*

✓ If being open and dialogical, the updated document will have the potential to conceptualize the cultural dimensions of urban policy and planning in human settlements where the sustainable development paradigm has requested a meeting area for the evolving theoretical concepts and practices of both urban governance and heritage preservation.

A brief overview of:

✓ the theoretical interpretations of urban complexity and its implications in the urban planning and governance field (Crawford, 2016; Portugali, 2013);

✓ the global urban policy framework for sustainable development as interpreted by the New Urban Agenda (UN, 2017);

✓ ICOMOS Quality principles document adopted in 2019, updated in 2021

Complexity theories: cities as dually complex systems

As a set of material components alone, the city is an artifact and as such a simple system. It is the urban agents that by means of their interaction **–** among themselves, **with the city's material components and with the environment –** transform the artifact city into the complex artificial system city.

… artifacts are not just the outcome of human interaction; rather they are also the media of interaction: The process involves, on the one hand, internal representations in the form of ideas, intentions, memories thoughts that originate and reside in the mind/brain of urban agents, while on the other, external representations, that is to say artifacts such as texts, cities, buildings or roads that reside in the world.

[…] the city is a dual complex system also in the sense that the city as a whole is a complex system and each of its agents is also a complex system. The implication is that we have to include the cognitive capability of the urban agents in the dynamics of cities. **[…] the urban agents –** are parts of a special kind: they are typified by chronesthesia that is, the ability to mentally travel in time; back to the past and forward to the future.

Juval Portugali, 2013, What makes cities complex?
http://www.spatialcomplexity.info/files/2013/10/Portugali.pdf

Complexity theories: messages to urban planning and governance

"... we continue to try to plan in the belief that the world will be a better place if we intervene to identify and solve issues that are widely regarded as problematic. But this must be tempered with an awareness of the limitations of planning, not least through an awareness of the evolutionary nature of urban change ..." *Batty & Marshall, 2012, p. 44*

"Government is just one of an evolving set of collective choice mechanisms in a complex system. In a participative approach to urban planning, government can influence the evolution of other collective action mechanisms, building on and influencing existing norms and values. [...] A rules-based approach to planning (using a few, simple universal rules) still requires place-based plans for publicly resourced city elements. In a hybrid system, policy would need to define the relative scope of rules-based and collaborative, participative approaches.

[In a participative, collaborative approach to city development] Because actors together shape outcomes, they need to develop shared understandings of planning objectives and the trade-offs in achieving those objectives, and shared commitment to achieving those objectives. The system needs feed-back loops so that, through shared understanding of what is happening, actors can adjust plans as the system evolves".

Ron Crawford (2016) What can complexity theory tell us about urban planning? New Zealand Productivity Commission Research Note 2016/2

SDGs and The New Urban Agenda

"At this critical juncture in human history, rethinking the way we plan, build, and manage our urban spaces is not an option but an imperative. Our work to realize this vision begins now.

Dr. Joan Clos,
Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Housing and
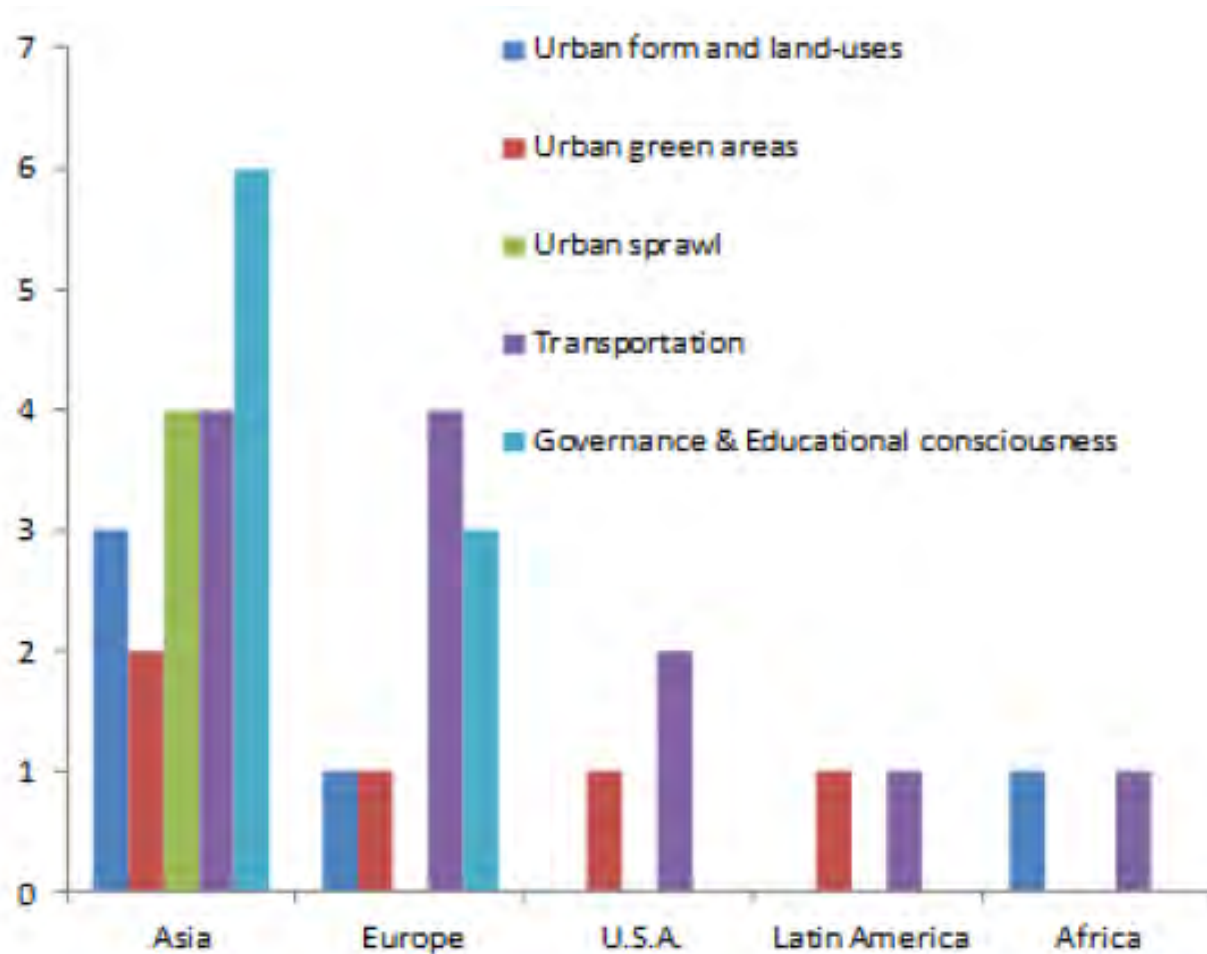*Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III)*

"10. The New Urban Agenda acknowledges that culture and cultural diversity are sources of enrichment for humankind and provide an important contribution to the sustainable development of cities, human settlements and citizens, empowering them to play an active and unique role in development initiatives".

Quito Declaration
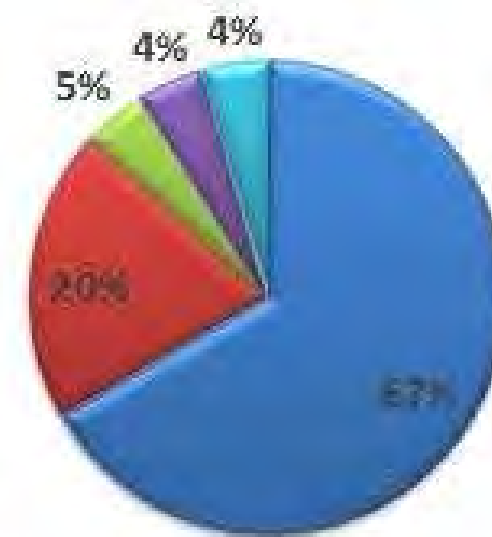*on sustaianble cities and hunman settlements for all*

Emerging opportunities to link the updated Valletta principles to a broader global process of re-thinking the city; being respectful and dialogical

Real-life trends: Sustainable urban development dimensions focused upon

Legend:
- Urban form and land-uses
- Urban green areas
- Urban sprawl
- Transportation
- Governance & Educational consciousness

The qualitative gauge for the five topical issues raised by continents concerned with SD

Pie chart: Asia, Europe, U.S.A., Latin America, Africa
- 5%
- 4%
- 4%
- 20%
- 67%

The share of each continent with respect to issues of SUD according to papers survey

Hassan, A. M. and Lee, H. (2018). Controversial Issues Relevant to Sustainable Urbanism: A Review of Global Urban Tendencies. European Journal of Sustainable Development Research, 2(1), 04. https://doi.org/10.20897/ejosdr/76137

Potential partnerships I 1
The Organization of World Heritage Cities (OWHC), over 300 cities

OWHC General Assemblies:

1995 Bergen (Norway): Communication between World Heritage Cities

1997 Evora (Portugal): Tourism and World Heritage – Challenges and Opportunities

1999 Santiago de Compostela (Spain): Innovation in the Management of World Heritage Cities

2001 Puebla (Mexico): Prevention and Protection Measures for World Heritage Cities in Case of Disaster

2003 Rhodes (Greece): Keeping Heritage Alive – Education and training for the preservation and management of cultural heritage

2005 Cusco (Peru): Heritage of Humanity, Heritage with Humanity

2007 Kazan (Russian Federation): Heritage and Economics

2009 Quito (Ecuador): The revitalization of historic centres: how to involve all social actors?

2011 Sintra (Portugal): World Heritage Cities and Climate Change

2013 Oaxaca (Mexico): Heritage Cities, Sustainable Cities

2015 Arequipa (Peru): World Heritage Cities, Resilient Cities

2017 Gyeongju, Republic of Korea: Heritage and Communities: Tools to engage local communities

2019 Krakow, Poland: Heritage and Tourism: Local communities and visitors – sharing responsibilities

Registrations for the 16th World Congress and its General Assembly are now open!

Enhancing Livability in World Heritage Cities

16th World Congress
06.09.22 - 09.09.22

You can now register for the 16th OWHC World Congress. The preliminary program, information related to the registrations (hotels, visas, etc.) as well as the registration link are available on the official website:

Official website of the 16th World Congress

Please note that all the details concerning the Loyalty Reward Program* will be published in the coming weeks, as well as information regarding promotional booths and reservations for site visits.

Each member city in good standing of the OWHC is hereby invited to attend the 2022 General Assembly of the OWHC to be held at the Quebec City Congress Center, Canada, between 6 and 9 September. Please click on the link below to fill out the attendance form for your city:
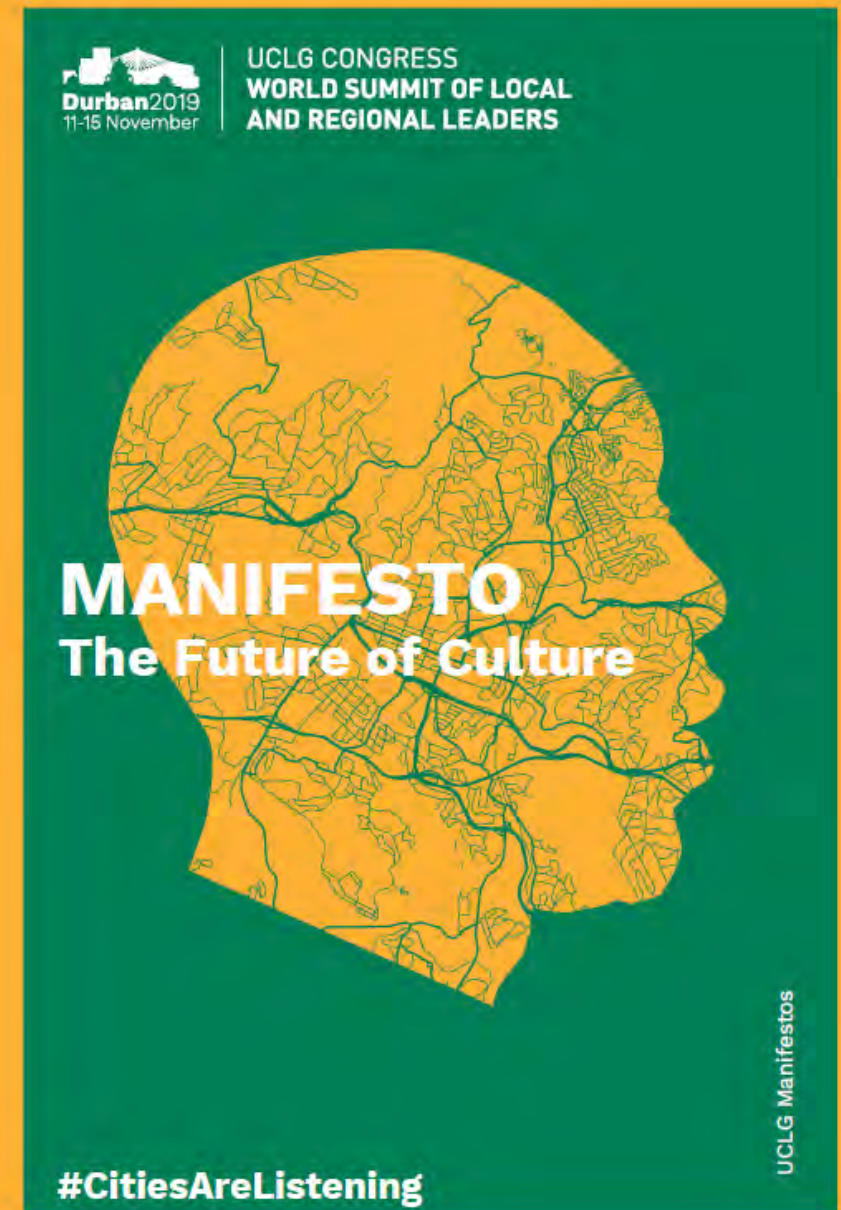
Potential partnerships | 1
The United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)

The largest organization of local and regional governments in the world

" … we stand on the shoulders of countless women and men who have worked tirelessly to empower each other for over a century, to lift up their communities and to collaborate with one another in order to achieve real change".

"We invite all actors related to culture to become more active in national and local plans to implement the Agenda 2030 and the SDG, because the success of this global commitment also stands on the cultural dimension of sustainable development being explicit and operational.

We are convinced that cultural development and the full exercise of cultural rights by peoples, communities, and individuals are fundamental acts of peace. While these may be fragile and subtle, they are also the most critical elements for human progress".

Synergies in moving from concept to action: ICOMOS Quality Principles, 2021

*"**Good governance** goes beyond fair and transparent processes that clearly set out responsibilities. It is also an attitude of mind, behaving with integrity and **being mindful of conflicts of interest"**.*

"Successful implementation requires a comprehensive understanding of the heritage asset, professional planning and management, and good cooperation of stakeholders".

"Advancing quality principles

3 Cultural assets should be used in respectful ways, to safeguard their meanings and values and to become an inspiration for local and heritage communities and future generations.

4 Recognition of cultural heritage as a common good and responsibility should be a precondition of quality. Cultural heritage conservation should be understood as a long-term investment for society.

Programming at EU and national levels

6 Cultural heritage preservation should be mainstreamed into programming at EU and national levels on an equal footing with other objectives.

7 The EU's programming activity and funding for cultural heritage should be based on sound research and analysis.

8 Member States should involve their national cultural heritage institutions/ administrations from the outset of the programming/negotiating phase and at all stages thereafter".
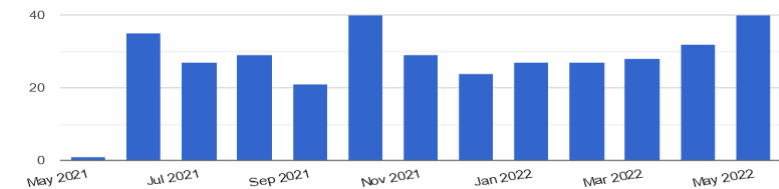

2018 EUROPEAN YEAR OF CULTURAL HERITAGE #EuropeForCulture

EUROPEAN QUALITY PRINCIPLES FOR EU-FUNDED INTERVENTIONS WITH POTENTIAL IMPACT UPON CULTURAL HERITAGE

ICOMOS — Co-funded by the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union

Downloads per month over past year

The new CIVVIH document as an opportunity for:

- ✓ Spreading a message to the broader community of experts and decision-makers involved in urban governance, urban development planning and heritage preservation?

- ✓ Communicating the cultural dimensions of the urban process imprinted in the urban form but also the need for building a new culture of urban planning and governance?

- ✓ Insisting upon the introduction of urban governance principles respecting historic urban values and enhancing the capacity of the active planning and governance systems to deal with urban continuity?

- ✓ Claiming that what is not appropriate for the historic city, is not appropriate for the city at all?

Thank you!