The Valletta Principles: the participatory process of construction, the strengths and the change of perspectives

The Participatory Process of Construction, the Strengths and the Change of Perspectives
2005 - Istanbul
CIVVIH decided to reconsider Washington Charter

2007 - Helsinki
A first draft of revisions is presented and discussed

2008 - GA Quebec
Quebec Declaration on Preservation of Spirit of Places

2010 - La Valletta

2011 - GA Paris

Climate Change
Identity
Globalization
Setting
Mobility
Tourism
Sustainability
Traditions Activities
Tourism
Change
Environment
Stakeholders
Walking
Mobility
Intangibles
Heritage
Genius Loci
Change
Energy
Efficiency
Buffer Zone
People
Green Areas
Water
Soil
Climate
New Activities
Participation
Traditional Activities
Walking
Diversity
Inclusion
Cultural Differences
Public Spaces
Cultural Diversity
Inclusion
Traditional Knowledge
Gentrification
Relationships
Participation
Elvira Petroncelli, Marialuce Stanganelli - University of Naples Federico II

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An holistic approach to Historic Urban Space

ON INTANGIBLE:
Equal Importance to tangible and intangible elements

IDENTITY
Intangible Heritage

GENIUS LOCI

Traditional Knowledge

ON ACTIVITIES:
Activities weight as well as material changes on transformations

NEW ACTIVITIES
TRADITIONAL ACTIVITIES

ON SPACE:
A new concept of space

ON PEOPLE:
An active and strategic role for citizens

ON NATURE:
Nature is part of the HC

Climate Change
GLOBALIZATION
Mobility
TOURISM
CHANGE

Elvira Petroncelli, Marialuce Stanganelli - University of Naples Federico II
Absolute Space
“Space as container of all material objects”
Space as stage, a unique environment of infinite extension and independent from outside events.

Relational Space
“Space as positional quality of the world of material objects”
Space made-up from the relationships between material objects, people and events.

On Space

A sensory approach to space

- Objects
- Activities
- People
- Nature
- Meanings
- Symbols
- Traditions
- Habits
- Memories

Wide and bright
Focal point
narrow and dark
Visual axis
Les impacts que la mondialisation fait porter sur les sociétés se mesurent en termes d’érosion de leurs valeurs, identités et diversités culturelles, et leur patrimoine, matériel et immatériel, au sens le plus large. C’est donc sur le rapport entre développement et patrimoine qu’il faut s’interroger.

Déclaration de Paris 2011

Historic towns and urban areas are made up of tangible and intangible elements.

Intangible elements include activities, symbolic and historic functions, cultural practices, traditions, memories, and cultural references that constitute the substance of their historic value.

Conservation Plan covers both tangible and intangible elements, in order to protect a place’s identity without impeding its evolution.

A management plan is based on the knowledge, conservation and enhancement of tangible and intangible resources.

The preservation of intangible heritage is as important as the conservation and protection of the built environment.

The authenticity and integrity of historic towns, whose essential character is expressed by the nature and coherence of all their tangible and intangible elements.

d - The various functions that the town or urban area has acquired over time;

e - Cultural traditions, traditional techniques, spirit of place and everything that contributes to the identity of a place;
Les impacts que la mondialisation fait porter sur les sociétés se mesurent en termes d’érosion de leurs valeurs, identités et diversités culturelles, et leur patrimoine, matériel et immatériel, au sens le plus large. C’est donc sur le rapport entre développement et patrimoine qu’il faut s’interroger.

Déclaration de Paris 2011

**Historic towns** and urban areas are spatial structures that express the evolution of a society and of its cultural **identity**

The intangible elements that contribute to the **identity** and spirit of places need to be **established and preserved**, since they help in determining the character of an area and its spirit.

**Spirit of place** is defined as the tangible and intangible, the physical and the spiritual elements that give the area its specific **identity**, meaning, emotion and mystery.

The loss and/or substitution of traditional uses and functions, […] can lead to the displacement of communities and the disappearance of cultural practices, and subsequent loss of **identity** and character for these abandoned places.

**The development of tourism** in historic towns should be based on the enhancement of monuments and open spaces; on respect and support for local community **identity** and its culture.
Change vs Uncertainty

- **Climate Change** and the general environmental downfall,
- the end of the infinite economic growth model and the failure of
- **GLOBALIZATION**
- uncertain Geopolitical balances, the crisis of centralized modern States and the tensions between the centre and the periphery experienced in every Country,
- great immigration waves describes a World affected by poverty, wars, lack of democracy

“Something is coming to an end, but what? The world order that came out from the Second World War in 1945? The cultural order set by the French Revolution? Or the modern State? “ (Ventura, 2020)
Tourism was one of the activities most affected by the pandemic, now, in the recovery phase, the intensity of tourist flows seems to be back to pre-covid levels, but there are some substantial differences: the distance of travel has decreased while tourism of proximity has increased. It’s hard to understand if this would be a lasting trend.

Pandemic and Ukraine war have undermined the economic model underlying globalization. A came back to a reinforcement of local economies is already on the road. Many Countries are seeking for energy and food independence, a new and perhaps more environment friendly cycle of economy perhaps is beginning.
What kind of economic development?

1. Tourism
2. Creative economy
3. Sustainable Development Culture Driven
Sustainable development culture driven

Culture used to be considered a by-product of wellness, now, culture is seen as a generator of wealth (S. Zukin, 2001)

CH needs to have again an active part in city’s life-cycle

CH is not a passive resource to be overexploited

CH is an active source of inspiration for new culture

2017 Igor Mitoraj in Pompei

Culture as a part of everyday life and involved in every aspect of urban life
A multi-joint approach to Urban regeneration culture driven

- **COMBINE** culture with other urban aspects;
- **CONNECT** different spaces, concepts and cultures;
- **RECYCLE** spaces
**Critics:**

*The document is too long and complex*

A syntetic text and explanatory attachments

*The document well identify problems and what shouldn’t be done but is lacking from the operative point of view*

As a Charter of Principles the Document didn’t intend to be an operative tool. But it could be a good idea to think about a set of operative tools.