

Annual Meeting of the International Scientific Committee on Historic Cities,  
Towns and Villages (CIVVIH) - ICOMOS

3rd Conference of the Sub-Committee for Central and Eastern Europe

**KULDIGA, LATVIA**  
**SEPTEMBER 10-15, 2025**

**STRATEGIES FOR ENHANCING HISTORIC CITIES' RESILIENCE  
TO DISASTERS**

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**CALL FOR PAPERS**

Dear Colleagues,

The International Committee on Historic Cities, Towns, and Villages (CIVVIH) invites members to submit proposals for papers to be presented at the upcoming scientific symposium entitled "STRATEGIES FOR ENHANCING HISTORIC CITIES' RESILIENCE TO DISASTERS", scheduled for September 10-15, 2025, in Kuldiga, Latvia.

This conference will focus on the key theme of resilience in heritage management, addressing the preparedness, the response, and the recovery of cities, towns and villages in the face of disasters and conflicts. We encourage submissions that explore the heritage-protection and community resilience, highlighting strategies that can be implemented to preserve both tangible and intangible values of heritage.

While the main focus will be on resilience to natural disasters and conflicts, we are keen to discuss the role of crafts and, in this context, traditional skills that can contribute to preserving the cultural heritage and identity of towns and villages.

The key question to discuss: How can we methodologically support site managers, communities, and residents for such a work?



## PROPOSAL SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Proposals for 20-minute presentations should include:

- 1 - a brief biographical note with your title and institutional affiliation,
- 2 - an indication of which of the proposed themes your presentation is to address,
- 3 - a maximum 150-word abstract.

The conference is structured in 3 half-day sessions and each session will be followed by 30 min of discussion.

**Proposals should be submitted via email to Jana Jakobsons,**  
[civvih.kuldiga@gmail.com](mailto:civvih.kuldiga@gmail.com) **by May 14, 2025.**

Notifications of acceptance will be sent **by June 11, 2025**

## CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

At the 2023 General Assembly in Sydney, *Disaster and Conflict Resilient Heritage - Preparedness, Response and Recovery* was selected as the theme for the Triennial Scientific Plan (TSP) 2024-2027. In this context, one might ask in 2025: How can members and constituent Committees of ICOMOS better prepare for these disasters? What role can we play collectively, and what resources will we require to enhance our effectiveness? And how can we assist site managers, communities, and the everyday custodians of heritage- our residents-in this endeavour? As CIVVIH, how we should consider what practical steps should be taken to protect cultural heritage from unforeseen disasters, particularly at the local level?

## PROPOSED 3 THEMES

### 1. Living Heritage and Urban Resilience: Integrating Preservation and Development in Historic Cities, Towns, and Villages

This theme emphasizes the significance of heritage for the continuity of development and the importance of involving local communities in heritage management, showcasing case studies that demonstrate the impact of community involvement in preserving and protecting heritage.

### 1. Living in wooden heritage: Reviving craftsmanship

How traditional skills and craftsmanship and artisans contribute to the recovery and maintenance of the local heritage and fostering resilience within communities.

### 1. Risk Management in Historic Cities, Towns, and Villages: Lessons Learned and Capacity Building for Disaster Preparedness

This theme focuses on analysing successful case studies and frameworks that support the recovery and continuity of heritage practices

CIVVIH seeks to foster a creative dialogue around the theme of disaster and conflict resilience in heritage management. We look forward to your contributions that will enhance our understanding and practices in this vital area.

#### Scientific committee:

##### CIVVIH

Danuta Klosek Kozłowska

Elena Dimitrova

Hogne Langset

Jana Jakobsone

Paula Cordeiro

##### ICOMOS LATVIA

Ināra Bula

Ronalds Lūsis

Agnese Cernaja

Alma Kaurate

##### KULDIGA MUNICIPALITY

Ilze Zarina