

Second European Conference of Ministers responsible for the Architectural Heritage

(Granada, 3-4 October 1985)

Resolutions of the conference

Foreword

An up-to-date approach to conservation issues is essential in view of recent developments in European society marked by broad trends which in some cases endanger the heritage, but which also hold out prospects for its future.

The pursuit and improvement of sound environmental policies guarantee that the architectural heritage, a major component of the European historical heritage, will be passed on to future generations.

The future of the heritage, and the opportunities it provides for improving the human environment, call for a process of active conservation which should affect all sectors of social activity and demands creative community efforts by all citizens.

In a changing Europe which, though currently affected by political and economic crises, is nonetheless anxious to convey its unique message on culture and the quality of life, the ministers responsible for the architectural heritage have agreed, at the close of their conference held in Granada on 3 and 4 October 1985, to adopt the resolutions set out below.

Resolutions

Preamble

The European ministers responsible for the architectural heritage, meeting in Granada on 3 and 4 October 1985,

Reasserting their belief in the principles set forth in

- the European Cultural Convention (1954)
- the European Charter of the Architectural Heritage (1975)
- the Amsterdam Declaration (1975)
- the European Declaration on Cultural Objectives adopted by the 4th European Conference of Ministers responsible for Cultural Affairs meeting in Berlin in 1984
- the Parliamentary Assembly's recommendations on the cultural heritage and the resolutions of the Standing Conference of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe on the same subject;

Expressing their support for the action taken since the First Conference of Ministers responsible for the Cultural Heritage of Monuments and Sites, convened in Brussels in 1969 at the Council of Europe's initiative;

Declaring their solemn support for the principles laid down in the Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe, which is the first practical result of this co-operation;

Considering that each country is responsible for the protection of the architectural heritage within its own territory, whatever its historical, cultural or national origin, and that the conservation of this heritage is a matter of general European importance;

Proclaiming their wish to continue and extend European co-operation for the conservation and enhancement of Europe's historical heritage;

Having regard to the reports presented by the ministerial delegations on the three themes of the conference and to the memorandum submitted by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe;

Adopt the following resolutions.

***Resolution No. 1
on the implementation of the Convention for
the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe***

The European ministers responsible for the architectural heritage request the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe to invite the Governments of member states

A. to take the necessary measures provided for by their respective institutions with a view to the earliest possible ratification, acceptance or approval of the Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe opened for signature at the ministerial conference;

B. to incorporate the political, legal and administrative principles laid down in the Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe in their policies for the conservation and enhancement of the architectural heritage, before the said convention actually comes into forces.

***Resolution No. 2
on the promotion of the architectural heritage in
socio-cultural life and as a factor in the quality of life***

The ministers responsible for the architectural heritage request the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe to recommend that the governments of member states

A. Adopt the current wider concept of the architectural heritage in their conservation policies:

- i. by extending the categories of assets due for protection to cover examples of vernacular, rural, technical and industrial architecture and nineteenth and twentieth century architecture together with their environment;
 - ii. by commissioning studies on a European scale of the chronological, qualitative and typological criteria appropriate to this wider concept.
- B. Develop and strengthen the principles of integrated conservation:
- i. by expressing the objectives to conserve and enhance the cultural heritage in national, regional and local policies concerning planning and management of the natural and human environment;
 - ii. by intensifying the co-operation on all levels between the sectors responsible for the conservation and enhancement of the heritage and other sectors responsible for the planning and management of the natural and human environment;
 - iii. by promoting the integration of the enhancement of the architectural heritage in an overall cultural policy;
 - iv. by emphasising the principle that the conservation and enhancement of the cultural heritage should be based on active citizen participation.
- C. Promote public awareness of, and access to, the heritage:
- by fostering knowledge and understanding of the cultural heritage through educational schemes in and out of school;
 - by giving increased attention to the historical dimension of the everyday surroundings for living and working;
 - by stimulating people to take part in the preservation and enhancement of their local heritage;
 - by supporting owners of monuments and sites to open up their property and make it accessible to the public;
 - by using all possibilities to combine the conservation of monuments and sites with the enhancement of the cultural traditions that are tied to them;
 - by taking advantage of the cultural heritage as a resource for tourism especially by establishing a more balanced flow of tourists between regions and create new poles of attraction by enhancing neglected art treasures;
 - by using modern media, audiovisual and advertising techniques.
- D. Develop concerted action by public authorities, private enterprise and voluntary bodies:
- i. by intensifying collaboration between the national, regional and local public authorities preparing joint co-ordinated conservation programmes;
 - ii. by organising local co-operation between public authorities, associations and citizens as a practical expression of the responsibility of the entire community for the upkeep of its heritage;
 - iii. by encouraging private and voluntary initiative designed to maintain and manage the heritage, by means of legal, financial or tax incentives.

Resolution No. 3
on the economic impact of conservation policies

The European ministers responsible for the architectural heritage request the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe to recommend that the governments of member states:

A. Promote the value to the community of public or private investment in the heritage.

This value takes the form of:

- i. recovery effects produced in a period of under-employment by the development of particularly labour-intensive activities in relation to the capital invested;
- ii. savings in the costs of unemployment owing to the preservation of existing jobs or the creation of new ones;
- iii. various kinds of spin-off effects of variable duration for central, regional and local government budgets;

B. Determine, on the basis of the results of an overall economic analysis, selection criteria for the establishment of conservation, rehabilitation and restoration strategies combining an appreciation of the cultural value of the items concerned and of their conservation.

C. Having due regard to the priority of cultural criteria, devise methods for a true evaluation of the economic dimension of the heritage, thus making it possible to analyse:

- i. the economic value of the components of the architectural heritage and of conservation activities on its behalf;
- ii. the direct and indirect profits from maintenance, restoration and management work and the foreseeable income from, for example, tourism;
- iii. the calculable impact of the heritage on the entire economic network;

D. Pursue an appropriate information and education policy to make economic groups and public opinion more aware of the fact that sums allocated to the heritage constitute a productive investment, and to make clear the difference between the apparent cost of conservation, its actual cost and the benefits deriving from it.

E. Develop an active policy of public orders and of financial incentives for the conservation of the architectural heritage

a. with a view to promoting:

- i. the continued existence and expansion of firms supplying labour and materials, which guarantee the preservation of the traditional skills that are essential for physical conservation of the heritage;
- ii. the opening up of career prospects in manual trades, whose rehabilitation among unemployed persons and young people is desirable from the point of view both of the economy and of opportunities for self-fulfilment;

- iii. enhancement of the architectural heritage as a part of programmes for economic recovery of problem regions;
- iv. the establishment of cultural industries to stimulate interest in historical monuments and create jobs in services and tourism;
- b. by the following means:
 - i. a constant and increasing number of orders for restoration work from central and local government bodies;
 - ii. an active policy, where necessary, of turning old buildings to new uses as part of housing and public amenity schemes, insofar as such a policy is compatible with the architecture of the buildings concerned;
 - iii. public financial support to private owners for maintenance, upkeep and renovation through, for example, low-interest loans, grants, tax reliefs and revolving funds, special attention being given in this context to the need for low-cost housing programmes for the older building stock.

***Resolution No. 4
on the physical conservation of the architectural heritage
and the need to combat pollution***

The European ministers responsible for the architectural heritage, aware that the deterioration of monuments attributable to air pollution and in particular acid rain, is becoming increasingly serious in extent and degree,

I. Request the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe to invite the governments to:

- A. intensify efforts to reduce substantially emissions of all damaging pollutants at source in accordance with the principles of international agreements in this field;
- B. intensify scientific research in their respective countries to determine effective means for eliminating or neutralising the harmful substances concerned, with a view to:
 - i. drawing up an inventory of the results of research into the destruction of natural materials by pollution and the consolidation and conservation of stonework;
 - ii. identifying the gaps in this research and initiating supplementary research programmes;
 - iii. concluding agreements between the competent institutions in order to avoid duplication of work;
 - iv. centralising research findings in information centres that are sufficiently accessible to ensure that data can be supplied to the various professional circles concerned;

- C. ensure the availability of specialist conservation staff:
 - i. by organising multi-disciplinary scientific training on pollution, deterioration of materials and conservation;
 - ii. by providing the necessary funds to enable such staff to carry out their duties;
- II. *Recommend that the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe:*
 - A. promote international and multi-disciplinary exchanges in this fields, preferably by organising meetings of experts under Council of Europe auspices and also by seeking co-operation and co-ordination with other international organisations, for the purpose of defining joint strategies to combat damage to materials;
 - B. give active support to national efforts to reduce substantially at source emissions of all damaging pollutants, to remedy the effect of pollution on the heritage, and consider what recommendations might be made at European level for the adoption of appropriate political, administrative and financial measures.

***Resolution No. 5
on future programmes of European co-operation
to promote the historical heritage***

The European ministers responsible for the architectural heritage:

- I. *Request the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe to recommend that the governments develop their bilateral and multilateral relations by:*
 - A. signing and ratifying the international agreements relating to conservation of the cultural heritage;
 - B. participating more fully in the work of international organisations, in particular through the Council of Europe's intergovernmental work programme;
 - C. initiating or continuing practical experiments in transfrontier or interregional co-operation in the conservation, restoration and management of the heritage.
- II. *Express the wish that international, intergovernmental or non-governmental organisations:*
 - A. co-ordinate their activities more closely, having regard to their respective aims;
 - B. reach agreements concerning joint and complementary activities in harmony with the objectives of the Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe.
- III. *Recommend that the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe:*
 - A. take steps to ensure the application of the Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe:
 - by setting up the committee of experts provided for by the convention to supervise its implementation;

- by drawing the attention of the public authorities and the general public to its contents and aims;
- B. promote the European heritage by giving priority to putting Resolutions 2, 3 and 4 of this conference into effect in the future intergovernmental work programme and by organising future co-operation along the following lines:
- a. European concertation with a view to adapting heritage policies to recent socio-economic changes in Europe, by:
 - i. acknowledging the principle of integrated conservation as a major working tool in conservation policies;
 - ii. refining and up-dating this principle, through:
 - joint research on specific methods to protect new categories of the heritage;
 - policies for increasing public awareness, interest, knowledge and participation;
 - enhancement of the architectural and archaeological heritage as a major component of the historical heritage and a factor of socio-cultural development;
 - iii. assessing the economic impact of conservation and seeking new funding methods;
 - iv. preparing a joint strategy to combat pollution and damage to materials;
 - v. endeavouring to share responsibilities at European and transfrontier level as regards the conservation of large heritage areas of multi-national interest;
 - b. Mutual technical assistance and exchange of experts under Council of Europe auspices and the possible collaboration of other institutions:
 - i. strengthening of the technical assistance programmes between states, regions or towns by delegating conservation and town-planning experts;
 - ii. exchange of further-training personnel, in particular those well versed in teaching conservation crafts;
 - c. More frequent European exchange of information on heritage policies:
 - i. development by the Council of Europe, and possibly other organisations, of a common news medium for wider distribution in member states;
 - ii. establishment of co-operation between international and national documentation centres; compilation of compatible bibliographical data banks and multilingual terminology catalogues.

Resolution No. 6

The European ministers responsible for the architectural heritage

Express their warm thanks to the Spanish Government for organising the conference and for its generous hospitality;

Pay tribute to the interest displayed by Andalusia in European activities in this field, bearing in mind that the City of Granada hosted a Council of Europe symposium in 1977 on rural architecture and regional planning;

Welcomes the invitation from the Swiss Government to organise the Third Conference of Ministers responsible for the Architectural Heritage.