

# WORLD HISTORICAL CITIES

The League of Historical Cities Bulletin No.28: August 2003

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*Architectural Image of KIEV  
Maintenance of Originality*

*The 8th World Conference of Historical Cities  
in Montreal, October 6 to 8, 2003*





# Architectural Image of Kiev Maintenance of Originality

by Volodymyr Yalovy, Vice Mayor of Kiev

Ukraine occupies important place in the world within the field of cultural heritage. Metropolitan Kiev keeps memory of millennia, concentrating national spirit in its architectural image. It is here, where Ukrainian nationhood and culture have begun. With authentic aboriginal history, historical part of the capital exists as not only national value but also the world property.

During last two years Kiev went through more urban development "bursts", when its architectural look was changed essentially.

An architectural essence is always deeply national and especially this is true for capitals; features of landscape, town-planning, architectural environment, etc.. Kiev, European capital has its nature.

The UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) carefully prepared and accepted a number of documents (conventions, recommendations, declarations) with the purpose of regulation of activity of states-members of UNESCO in the field of protection of cultural legacy, in particular of its immobile objects. The urgent need of protection is reasoned in these documents.

Few years ago, in its activity of monument protection, Ukraine leaned on postulates adopted in the times of USSR, when the overwhelming amount of cultural properties were public domain. So, definite contradictions arose between the out-of-date legal norms and modern situation in society, which substantially differs from previous one, when these norms were formed.

There was a problem in domestic legislation regarding to terminology about the determination of protected objects. The adjustment in accordance with the documents of UNESCO and European Council was urgently needed.

The removal of contradictions in the field of protection of cultural inheritance was realized with the acceptance of Ukrainian Constitution in 1996, and Ukraine Law «About

protection of cultural legacy» in 2000. The state has proclaimed priority and secured preservation of historical monuments with cultural value.

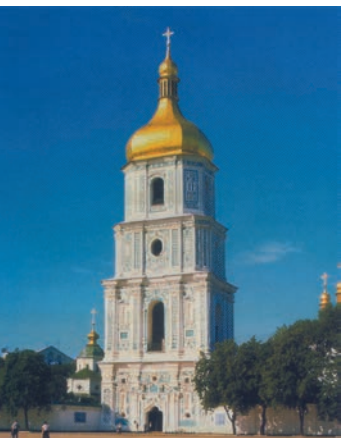
The basic provisions of new Law of Ukraine lean on Constitution of Ukraine, domestic & foreign experience and active law and other documents of UNESCO. These articles have nature of direct action that meets the modern tendency of creation of laws.

Unfortunately, the rich cultural heritage of Kiev suffered severe loss during last incomplete age. Ideological appeal of totalitarian days resulted in mass destroying of temples and monasteries, disappearing of town-planning dominants that formed an inimitable image of Kiev. Only in the period of the 1919-1941, near 60 religious architectures were destroyed. Numeral loss Kiev had during years of the World War II, and during the following period of industrial development. As a result, key points of town-planning framework and visual links in the urban panoramas were lost.

After the World War II, the destroyed city was revived and enriched by the original items of housing and public architecture which were organically included in its historical context. Inheritance of so-called Soviet's retrospective years from 1930 to 1950 presently is lifted to the higher level, re-estimated as an important stage of domestic architectural development.

In accordance with the Ukraine President Decree from December 9, 1995, the Program of re-creation of prominent monuments of history and culture of Ukraine was ratified. The Program acknowledged that re-creation of standards of national architectural inheritance with exceptional value was very important. Criteria of admission and legitimacy of their re-creation include elimination as a result of act of vandalism, military operations, restoration of the historical complex and availability of fixing documentation of a monument.

The capital authority headed by Oleksandr Omelchenko carries out the large volume of works in relation to renewal of city monuments. Thanks to



The St. Sophia of Kiev  
National Preserve  
Bell Tower



**The Domination Cathedral of Kiev-Pechersk Monastery**

the considerable assignments from the local budget, the church of our Lady Pirogoshchoi Dormition (12C), complex of the Archangel Michael's Cathedral of the Golden Domes (12-19C) and the Dormition Cathedral of the Kiev-Pecherska Lavra (12-18C) already were restored from non-existence. Re-creation of monuments is important now in both town planning and ideological plans. It is the highest manifestation of national intelligence and idea. As the capital of the new independent European State, Kiev keeps the balance of processes of regeneration and urbanization.

Kiev is Mecca of cultural inheritance in the world level. Foremost concern is to conserve and restore them. One of the oldest building of the Kiev-Pecherska Lavra - the church of Spas-na-Berestovi (12C) was registered in the UNESCO bulletin in 2002 (List of 100 world monuments that are under threat).

During last 20 years the church of Spas-na-Berestovi was explored in detail. Historical, archaeological, structural and typological researches, gave valuable information for conservation and restoration of the building.

The international conference of the restoration project for the church of Spas-na-Berestovi was held in June, 2001, where all previous researches and their results were presented to the selected circle of experts on architectural conservation from the USA, Italy, Yugoslavia and Russia. Their basic attention was turned to the condition of soils, brickwork, wooden constructions, roof, and conservation of frescoes. The restoration will be realized after its examination and discussion of Ukrainian and international specialists.

The considerable volume of further research was conducted in historical districts. Increasing number of the cultural heritage for the last two decades shows the result of re-understanding of national cultural property. The expansion of circle adds new history periods and typological groups.

The complex reconstruction from separate buildings to the town-planning including cultural landscapes is the basic task of monument protection.

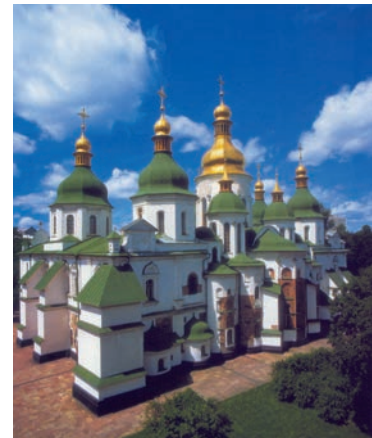
The problem can be solved only in the unity of development with the large spatial systems. Architectural monuments are not to be limited only by scope of separate buildings. This is fixed in the international documents, in particular in the Venetian Charter of year 1964.

Saving and passing the cultural heritage to the future generations is significant and noble mission of those who are related to the thorny problems of cultural reconstruction. Cultural decline, indifference to the spiritual development of nation and disregarding the cultural heritage result in the irreparable loss in all spheres of public life - economic, political, social ones.

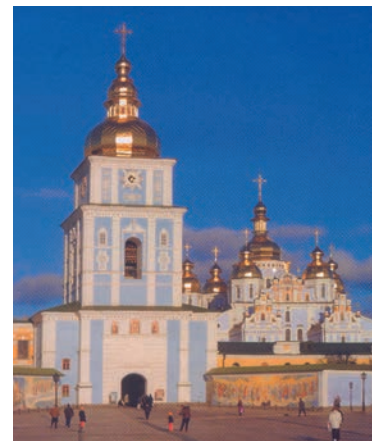
Mastering the world experience - theoretical, practical, legal and ethical bases of protection in national cultural achievements - results in understanding of collective responsibility for fate of the World inheritance and, in the same time, of global principles of international collaboration.



**The Golden Gates**



**The St. Sophia Cathedral**



**The Archangel Michael's Cathedral of the Golden Domes**

*For further information*

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# The 8th World Conference of Historical Cities in Montreal, October 6-8, 2003

*We have new challenges for the future development !!!*

*First time ... In 21st century!*

*In North America!*

*Collaboration with UN-Habitat!*

*Public Program : Partnership with citizens in workshop !*

*On-line Registration!*



**Gerald  
Tremblay**

*Mayor of Montreal  
Member of the Board of Directors  
League of Historical Cities*



**Yorikane  
Masumoto**

*Mayor of Kyoto  
Chairperson  
League of Historical Cities*



**Helen  
Fotopulos**

*Member of the Executive Committee  
Responsible for culture and Heritage  
City of Montreal*

The League of Historical Cities are pleased to announce the 8th World Conference of Historical Cities to be held in Montreal, from October 6 to 8, 2003. The World Conference of Historical Cities has been held every two years since 1987. The 8th World Conference of Historical Cities in Montreal is sure to interest not only elected municipal representatives but also professionals, academics and others involved with heritage and conservation issues. This event will attract over 200 delegates from around the globe to discuss and debate which elements of a city's heritage should be developed, the economic aspects of heritage, and the importance of public involvement.

## **THEMES**

### **Conserving and Developing: How? With whom? Why?**

#### **Round-Table Discussion**

*(Tuesday, October 7, 2003)*

- I Choosing development priorities
- II How to involve citizens, residents, merchants, experts?
- III Are development costs an expense or an investment?

#### **I Choosing development priorities**

Choosing which aspects of a city's heritage to develop may be determined by the extent and traces of remains from its past. Some historical cities have concentrated on conserving the most significant and easily identifiable traces of a specific period in their history. Some cities prefer to preserve buildings and facilities from different periods, including the recent past, others choose to reconstruct old buildings based on the

remains of a given period. Whatever the choice, there are certain to be reactions. As for development, we feel that there is no right or wrong answer, only choices.

#### **II How to involve citizens, residents, merchants, experts?**

Involving citizens in heritage protection assumes that they are aware of the historical importance of the heritage in question. To achieve this, the city must organize and present the fruit of historical and archaeological research in an interesting, accessible way. Residents and merchants develop a sense of ownership of their historic district, but their interests often diverge when it comes to plans for developing their neighborhood. Heritage lobby groups, architecture and urban planning professionals and civil society in general, demand a voice in any decisions by public authorities. The desire of all these groups to be involved in preserving and developing the built heritage must be considered. But it is the elected officials who must shoulder the ultimate responsibility for their decisions.

#### **III Are development costs an expense or an investment?**

Developing a city's built heritage necessarily calls for an injection of public funds, and such projects naturally have to compete with a range of other needs. Accordingly, proponents seek to make the public investment in renewing historic districts a profitable one. In the short term, this profitability will develop the tourism and generate jobs. But these more immediate and tangible economic benefits are increasingly supplanting the appeal to long-term cultural



**Bonsecours Market**

**The Conference Site**

*Photo: Le Photographe masque  
Source:www.old.montreal.qc.ca*

benefits and collective pride that used to be cited as reasons for conserving a city's heritage. If the development of historic districts is to be an investment not only in tourism, but also in urban and social life,

public authorities should encourage a variety of urban functions.



### First Co-operative Conference with LHC and UN-Habitat - United Nations Human Settlements Program

The first Monday in October has been declared World Habitat Day by the United Nations, and is the opening day of the 8th World Conference of Historical Cities. Dr. Axumite Gebre-Egziabher, Director of the New York Office of UN-Habitat, will honor us with her presence and take the opportunity to bring us a message concerning this World Habitat Day from UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, delivered that same morning in New York on the theme of Water for Cities. Dr. Gebre-Egziabher will attend the conference by the invitation of the LHC Chairperson, the Mayor of Kyoto.

The United Nations Human Settlements Program, UN-Habitat, is the United Nations agency for human settlements. It is mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all. In January 2002, the Commission for Human Settlements and its secretariat, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), including the United Nations Foundation for Habitat and Human Settlements, became a new organization named UN-Habitat. This United Nations agency was created in 1978 to coordinate UN activities concerning human settlements, and serves as the central organization for implementing the Habitat Program.

UN-Habitat contributes to the overall objective of the United Nations system to

reduce poverty and promote sustainable development. As part of its goals, principles and commitments, it proposes a positive view of viable human settlements, where everyone enjoys appropriate housing in a healthy and safe environment, with all essential services and access to productive work that they can choose freely. Its partners range from governments and local authorities to a wide international cross-section of Non-Governmental Organizations and civil society groups. The Habitat Program will help us to make this vision a reality.

This program was endorsed by 171 governments and adopted at the first World Assembly of Cities and Local Authorities (WACLA). See: [www.unhabitat.org](http://www.unhabitat.org).



**Dr. Axumite Gebre-Egziabher**  
Source:  
UN-Habitat, New York

A geographer by training, Dr. Gebre-Egziabher holds a PhD in development planning, with a major in the political economics of urban planning. She was a high-ranking member of the Ethiopian public service, with that country's Urban Development and Housing Department, and later a consultant to the United Nations. She joined the UN in 1993 as an advisor on human settlements, with the regional office for Africa and the Arab States, and was appointed to New York in 1999.

Welcome to our Conference  
**Dr. Gebre-Egziabher**  
of UN-HABITAT



# Barcelona



## The United Nations Has Awarded a Prize to the Mayor of Barcelona for his Contribution to the Collaboration between Local Authorities and the United Nations



On 7 October 2002, Mr. Joan Clos, the Mayor of Barcelona, received the Habitat 2002 scroll of honor as part of World Habitat Day for his outstanding commitment

and contribution in the global cooperation between municipal authorities and the United Nations.

On the occasion of World Habitat Day, Mr. Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the UN called for cities to recognize the importance of working together to face common challenges, which was dedicated to the theme of City-to-City Cooperation. He mentioned that "If cities are the collective future of humankind, it is time for us to take collective responsibility for their future development." The Mayor of Barcelona, as president of the UN Advisory Committee of Local Authorities, has promoted a series of initiatives with the aim of furthering the

collaboration of local governments with the United Nations, and the participation of cities in the programs supported by a variety of institutions belonging to the world organization.

During the ceremony, Mr. Joan Clos stressed again the value of the City-to-City program for cooperation between cities with the support of international organizations.

In 2004, Barcelona will host the second UN-Habitat World Urban Forum, an event which will highlight how culture intervenes in the creation of cohesion in cities.

### What is World Habitat Day?

In December 1986, the General Assembly of the UN designated the first Monday of October every year as "World Habitat Day." It is a day to be observed world-wide to reflect on the living conditions of human beings and for actions to be taken to address the shortcomings of those conditions. The World Habitat Day is celebrated every year under a special theme relating to human settlements development.

## Santiago de Compostela Was Awarded the Dubai International Award for Best Practices in the Field of Protection and Rehabilitation of the Heritage Site

In November 2002, Santiago de Compostela was selected one of the initiatives of 2002 Dubai International Award for Best Practices to Improving the Living Environment. The city was highly-evaluated for an environmentally-sound and socially inclusive approach to preserving the cultural environment of a historical city.

Since the early nineties Santiago de Compostela has been facing the challenge of the urban restoration and environmental regeneration. In the framework of a complex town planning policy, urban restoration pays special attention to two important problems in today's historical cities: the preservation of residential usage with the improvement of the population's housing conditions and the environmental regeneration of free spaces that have survived in a marginal state.

More than 650 projects, with public aid, have boosted a generalized rehabilitation process with demanding environmental and heritage criteria, resulting in more than 400 private projects.

The policy of restoring free spaces has consolidated two green corridors that include public riverbeds, woodland and vegetation, historical gardens and ethnographic elements. All of this in a pilgrimage city, millions of travelers who are immersed in a historical city with all its attributes, including the most fragile and valuable ones: the inhabitants that continue to use it in a natural way after 12 centuries of existence and the natural setting in which it has arisen.

### What is Dubai International Award?

The Best Practices was launched in 1995 during preparations for the Second UN Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) as a means of identifying what works in improving living conditions socially, economically and environmentally on a sustainable urbanization. The Municipality of Dubai, United Arab Emirates established a biennial environmental award.

The Municipality of Dubai and the UN-HABITAT, are pleased to invite you to submit your 'Best Practice' for the 2004 Dubai International Award.

Contact : [bestpractices@unhabitat.org](mailto:bestpractices@unhabitat.org)

# Santiago de Compostela





**Welcome to 2003 Gyeongju (Kyongju)  
World Culture EXPO !**  
**<Dreams of the Flying Horse>**  
**Dream EXPO Digital EXPO Delight EXPO**

Following on the successful 1998 and 2000 EXPOs, the historical city of Gyeongju hosts another World Culture EXPO in 2003 taking as its main theme "Dreams of the Flying Horse", with "Harmony in Diversity" as its sub-theme. It will be held for 72 days from August 13 to October 23, 2003. This year's cultural celebration will be more entertaining and stimulating than ever, including a feast of visual entertainment, unique cultural exhibits from all parts of the world and open-air cultural experiences in a comfortable, visitor-friendly environment, with trees, flowers and grass everywhere.

**Information**

Duration: August 13 to October 23, 2003  
Venue: Gyeongju World Culture EXPO Park & its vicinity in Gyeongju  
Inquiries: 2003 Gyeongju World Culture EXPO Organizing Committee public Relations Office  
TEL: +82-54-740-3072  
FAX: +82-54-748-3012  
E-mail: expo2003@gb.go.kr  
Website: www.cultureexpo.or.kr



**Gyeongju**  
**(Kyongju)**



**Kazan will celebrate its anniversary in August 2005: 1000 years since the day of its foundation.**

In accordance with the decisions of the Bureau of the Council of Europe's Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe, the International Symposium <Cultural Diversity in Historic Cities - Key to a Sustainable Future> was held in Kazan, Russian Federation, on 20-24 of June, 2002 as part of the program for the preparation for the celebration of the 1000th Anniversary of the foundation of the city of Kazan.

Kyoto as the chairperson of the League of Historical Cities duly attended the international symposium. In greeting message, the representative of Kyoto's official delegation introduced "The League of Historical Cities" and its contribution, explained the approach & solution that Kyoto had chosen, and described to enhance friendship & future-oriented partnership among international communities.

Participating in the Conference were more than 150 persons from 26 countries made up of representatives of associations of historic

cities, agencies and foundations, etc.. In addition, representatives of the following organization took part; UNESCO, European Association of Historic Towns and Regions, Organization of World Heritage Cities, Organization of Islamic Capitals and Regions, The League of Historical Cities, United Towns Organization etc.. They discussed the common problems of historic cities of the world ; "The impact & influence of cultural diversity on the character of historic towns", "The threats to cultural diversity", "Maintaining diversity & promotion of coexistence as factors in the stability & quality of life in historic towns", and "Cultural strategic development including tourism in strengthening economic development".

The International Symposium was adjourned with the adoption of the Final Declaration which esteemed the importance of mutual understanding & cooperation and respected for cultural diversity & information-sharing. Historical cities must respond to the challenges and the pace of change of the 21st century. Cultural diversity has a crucial part to play in securing a sustainable future for historical cities.

**Kazan**



# Urban Landscape is a Living History, an Essence of Human Life. Interview with Prof. Kunio Kato



**Kunio Kato**  
Academic Organizer of  
"France-Japan Symposium on City 2003"  
Prof. emeritus of Kyoto Univ.  
Prof. of Osaka Sangyo Univ.

*"Symposium franco-japonais sur les cites du futur 2003, - Architectural Property and contemporary creation" was held in both Kyoto and Tokyo in last May sponsored by Division of Architectural Heritage in French Culture & Communication Ministry, National Institute for Research advancement, Service & Culture Department of French Ambassador in Japan, Society of France-Japan Technique Industries. Researchers and urban-planning administrators, etc. discussed the preservation of historical area and urban renewal. Prof. Kato played an important role in giving lectures and summarizing discussion.*

The experts of the city planning focused on "preservation & development" of Paris & Kyoto which represented the historical cities of west and east. What is the most fruitful outcome of the Kyoto program?

Japanese conception of cultural property has been fixed within the framework of distinguished historical monuments like national treasure in the modern history. Japanese tend to focus on them extraordinary matter. On the other hand in France, cultural property means highly estimated public property that forms as an expansion of daily life. These differences concerning cultural property is decisive. Paris has tried an experimental operations of cultural properties in urban development and rehabilitation of the city. Kyoto has been preserved important historical urban environment by fortune, but today, confronts with a crisis of modern city planning methods, that often fail in protection of culturally significant aspects. A comprehensive discussion on such kind of differences must be encouraged in order to get a new possibility for the urban design. This symposium is one of the examples. Creation and preservation of urban landscape is far from mere tourism investigation. Through the symposium, we reconfirmed that the present city planning should be studied as an essentially important problem.

What kind of influences and role do the

historical landscape give to the residents and identity of the city?

Methodology of city planning must be changed. Creative city planning to recover a humanistic primary landscape would be substituted for urban development based on economical principle. Fostering a conscience of the human-beings can be possible by finding a primary essential landscape rooted regionality. Historical landscape is not a reminiscent of past history, but reflects a fundamental energy of a primary landscape which people have lived. Paris does not want to freeze urban scenes and make them museum city by landscape preservation. Paris aims at both sustainable urban development and landscape harmonization among great diversity in different periods.

Kyoto has strengthened the partnership with citizens, company and experts. How should we proceed the new city planning for the future development?

Paris has re-developed not only its old historical districts but also its peripheral urban sprawl areas. Latter cases represent good examples of successful partnership with citizens, enterprises, administration, government, architects and urban planners. In this context, city governance is a key. In Kyoto, enforcement of actual urban legislations and constructive promotion under the economic priority are taking a risk of losing precious city landscape preserved by chance until now. Paris is facing a dilemma; difficulty in finding a comprehensive urban regulation applicable to both historical districts and modern developed districts. Architecture & city are the products of creative activities and cultural properties are total manifestations of human life in urban space. In fact, it is urban life that must be preserved. This Parisian praxis shows the real basic starting point, from which we must learn much.

What do you expect & request against the League of Historical Cities?

City planning must respect the locality. Significant urban landscape is not a mere visual representation but a living history, reflection of an essence of human life with its identity. We must understand this fact. Thus people concerned urban creation must exchange opinions and share experiences to transmit the beneficial information. I hope that the League of Historical Cities should continue the world-wide interactions and exchanges.

## The League of Historical Cities Secretariat

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