







DECLARATION OF INTENT FOR EUROPEAN COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIP OF UNIQUE CULTURAL HERITAGE FORTIFIED IDEAL CITIES

" DECLARATION OF DAUGAVPILS"
AUGUST 30TH 2011

DECLARATION OF THE PARTICIPANTS OF INITIATION CONFERENCE FORTIFIED IDEAL CITIES IN EUROPE

AUGUST 29 - 30, 2011 IN DAUGAVPILS, LATVIA

The participants of the first Initiation Conference of Fortified Ideal Cities in Europe in Daugavpils, Latvia, after having discussed they agree to the positions for future European cooperation to achieve mutual benefits.

They conclude

THE FORTIFIED IDEAL CITIES ARE A UNIQUE VALUE OF THE FORTIFIED CULTURAL HERITAGE IN EUROPE. THEY BELONG TO THE MOST ATTRACTIVE AND IMPORTANT FORTIFIED MONUMENTS REPRESENTING THE HISTORY OF EUROPE.

THE COMMON IDENTITY OF THE FORTIFIED IDEAL CITIES GENERATES SIMILAR QUESTIONS AND INTERESTS OF CITY DEVELOPMENT, MONUMENT PROTECTION, UTILISATION AND OPERATION OF THE DEFENSE ARCHITECTURE AND NATURE, OF MARKETING, MANAGEMENT AND MONUMENT ECONOMY.

EACH FORTIFIED IDEAL CITY ACCUMULATED OWN EXPERIENCES AND METHODS, BUT AN INTERNATIONAL TRANSFER OF KNOWLEDGE, EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES, SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, COMMON ACTIVITIES SUCH AS ON THE CULTURAL MARKET AND THE TOURISM ARE MISSING.

THE FORTIFIED IDEAL CITIES OFFER GREAT POTENTIAL FOR EUROPEAN COOPERATION TO SUPPORT THE MAINTENANCE, THE DEVELOPMENT, THE INTERNATIONAL PRESENTATION ON MARKETS AND SOME OTHER REAL ECONOMIC EFFECTS. THEY ALSO NEED SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND TRANSNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION.

As a result of the first initiation Conference the participated institutions should be encouraged in the position,

- TO CALL THE FORTIFIED IDEAL CITIES FOR EUROPEAN COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIP TO GENERATE BENEFITS AND
- TO CALL THE EUROPEAN SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS TO START AND EXTEND THE RESEARCH OF FORTIFIED IDEAL CITIES AND TO OPEN THE TRANSNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION.

THE ORGANIZERS AND THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE DAUGAVPILS CONFERENCE (MOSTLY) AGREE TO SET A SIGNAL FOR THE CONTINUATION OF COOPERATION BASED ON A ROAD MAP AND SUPPORTING PROGRAMME. IT'S A COMPONENT OF THE FUTURE EUROPEAN INTEGRATION AND SHOULD STIMULATE A CROSS-CULTURAL DIALOGUE FOR COMMON RESPONSIBILITY TO THE FORTIFIED HERITAGE.

THIS COOPERATION IS SUPPORTED BY THE EUROPEAN COOPERATION CENTRE OF FORTIFIED HERITAGE.

The participants of Initiation Conference Fortified Ideal Cities in Europe, August 29-30, 2011 in Daugavpils, Latvia, declare their principle consent to the "Declaration of Daugavpils"

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STATEMENT TO THE "DECLARATION OF DAUGAVPILS"

FORTIFIED IDEAL CITIES - THE SPECIAL IMPORTANCE AND SIGNIFICANCE, THE COMMON UNDERSTANDING AND CHANCES FOR EUROPEAN COOPERATION AND EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES

Europe has got an "unrecognised pearl" of reserved historical fortified cities in different countries. The "Fortified Ideal Cities" are a specific kind and independent category of the fortified cultural heritage. Their foundation based on the military strategy for defense of regions, infrastructure and settlements mainly from the 15th till 18th century and the town planning was realised under instruction and requirements of the military administration. The Romans were among the first to plan such ideal structured cities.

For the moment there are known 51 "Fortified Ideal Cities" in twenty European countries. Famous and well preserved examples are

- Terezin in Czech Republic
- Valetta in Malta
- Palmanova in Italy
- Neuf-Brisach in France
- Naarden in The Netherlands
- Fredrikstad in Norway

Such on the drawing board of military created cities have a regular structure and defined sectors for military functions. The ground plan and the layout of "Fortified Ideal Cities" follow similar principles. They all have a geometric, systematic layout of the city centre and a mostly geometrical enceinte. The size and expansion of the urban complex are at the same time different. This structure is based on a central place: either as a radiation scheme or as a "chess board scheme" with rectangular city blocks.

The concept dates at least from the period of Plato, whose Republic is a philosophical exploration of the notion of the 'ideal city'. The group of "Fortified Ideal Cities" reflects rare and precious examples of town-planning from the time of Renaissance. Most of the "Fortified Ideal Cities" could keep their enceinte. A lot of them are protected, some of them are part of UNESCO World Cultural Heritage, one (Brouage/NL) was completely rebuilt 50 years ago.

The map on next page shows the spread of identified Fortified Ideal Cities in Europe (incomplete).

Common Identity and special category of European cultural heritage

The conference on Fortified Ideal Cities of Daugavpils underlines that the Fortified Ideal Cities in Europe have a common identity and fulfil several conditions to create a special monument category of cultural heritage. They all have a similar historical background of engineering, the complete city is structured for defense, the military strategic genuine and function to save the inhabitants and the regional values. All those cities have experienced a historical process of change, in which the historical defense architecture lost its function and searched for new functions in modern civil society. Not all those fortified cities have finished this transfer process, but others practice it successfully.



Historical "Fortified Ideal Cities" in Europe unique value of the cultural heritage in Europe

On the basis of ECCOFORT e.V. researches can be identified for the moment 51 existing historical 'Fortified Ideal Cities' in Europe in twenty European countries

(Status: August 17th,2011)



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Potentials of European Cooperation and Research with Common Benefits

In a united Europe the Fortified Ideal Cities have excellent chances to present their unique value and to become part of the European cultural heritage policy. The Council of the European Union has appreciated the role of cultural cooperation for the European integration and the economic development of regions.

Currently, the term and category "Fortified Ideal Cities" are not transparent on the market. Exchange of experiences, common strategies for marketing and branding are missing. The possibilities for economic and financial effects are not used. The European cooperation and research offers new possibilities to generate new mutual benefits and effects for the maintanance, development and implementation on the markets.

The Initiation Conference of Daugavpils detected some common interests of Fortified Ideal Cities and similar development tasks.

Issues for European cooperation and research can be such as

Monument protection, conservation and protection label

- The Fortified Ideal Cities have to solve special problems in the permanent monument protection, reconstruction, renovation under usage of historical technologies and materials, can be supported with transnational ecxchange of experiences
- The European Fortified Ideal Cities have the quality and importance to belong the UNESCO World Culture Heritage and to get awarded with the "European Heritage Label". The transnational cooperation enables a new common quality in the cultural heritage status. There are real chances to start a common initiative of all or of some cities regarding protection under the global and European label.

Integrated development of the city area with defence architecture and nature

 How can the Fortified Ideal Cities develop a modern city for modern living and life in agreement with the historical surroundings? FIC's have to harmonise the city development with the restrictions of the monuments. There are potentials for innovative and original solutions.

Compatible Monument utilisation of historical defence architecture and nature

It's very difficult to find and implement modern utilisations for the historical defense architecture with strict restrictions. But the utilisation of the defense architecture and nature is the key for a profitable fortress operation. New thinking and modern strategies for monument utilisation are needed as "NEW LIFE IN HISTORICAL SCENERY". Transnational exchange of experiences and best practices should give new impulses.

Monument economy, financing and management for more capitalization of cultural heritage

In times of big deficits in public budgets, new ways are necessary, creative ideas and best practice to generate more income with the operation and utilisation of the defense architecture. The quality and methods of the monument management decide the effectiveness of the monument economy and the benefits. The cooperation should help to qualify the monument management and the economic effects, as well as the integration of private sector.

Branding, successful marketing and tourism as economic factors

The "Fortified Ideal Cities" have a high marketing potential. They can be branded as specific, exceeding category of cultural heritage in Europe, to make it transparent for markets, to develop international tourism, make it important for funding and investments etc. Cooperation should mobilise these potentials. A new tourist product will be born and the common power enables active presence on the world wide touristic markets and the real estate markets.

Research and European scientific cooperation

Fortified Ideal Cities as complex monuments need research, exceptional scientific competence and professional consulting. We want to initiate a European cooperation of scientific institution for research and monitoring of the Fortified Ideal Cities, for transformation of performances and knowledge. Scientific input streng-thens their sustainable maintenance and development. Exact definition and characteristics of FIC's are necessary. Documentation and monitoring should be initiated.

Initiation of effective networking and partnership

The mobilisation of benefits needs common activities and organisation of concrete actions. Transnational networking between fortress cities, linked with science and market players, get social and economic impacts. A cooperation network should elaborate the European dialogue on the basis of the results of the conference. The continuation of cooperation and to establish a permanent voluntary framework of FIC's are proposed.

European cooperation opens the **exchange of experiences and best practices** in all fields of interest. Many of the "Fortified Ideal Cities" have found solutions for problems, other cities are still looking for them. A lot of the problems are equal, but ask for different approaches. Nothing seems to be more serious than to get into contact and to speak and discuss about similarities and solutions, but also to promote the exchange of experiences.

This first Initiation Conference vote

- to use the chances.
- the following of the offers to start the cooperation,
- to setting of impulses, giving inputs
- and to take feedbacks and benefits

Discussed, voted and accepted by the conference participants.

Daugavpils, 30 th August 2011