

Integration of the historic urban landscape with contemporary architecture

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## POSTER 2 - Integration of the Historic Urban Landscape with Contemporary Architecture

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### ↔ ABSTRACT

The theme is dedicated to the preservation of the historic urban landscapes in the era of globalization with the rapid growth of large cities and megalopolises. During the research there were studied several world-wide cities, such as Moscow, Warsaw, Frankfurt am Main with their historic urban landscapes integrated with contemporary architecture, and also the problems of identity of these cities were analyzed. Based on the study of information and on the documents of conservation of historic city centers, the opportunity to preserve the historic urban landscape is offered with new regulatory standards of development and of use of land in the most valuable historical urban areas.

Each city as a work of art has its unique architectural and artistic image created by the historic urban landscape. The growth of population, the increasing number of vehicles, the felling of green areas and the construction of skyscrapers all these factors in the age of globalization lead to misrepresentation and loss of identity of the historical images of the cities.

The problem of preservation of architectural heritage, despite its relevance, often falls outside the scope of interest of modern architects-practitioners, which project buildings with the maximum number of usable area on small expensive areas of land in the historic city centers. Most architects, who plan urban development, know extremely superficial the history of the planning city, haven't got the slightest idea of the urban values of these cities and urban planning ideas that were developed in these cities before (Likhachov D., 2001).

The historic images of cities became noticeably change after the 2nd World War. Palace of Culture and Science in Warsaw was built in 1952-1955 under the project of soviet architect Lev Rudnev and his staff. The Poles chose the project of 120-meter building, but claims of the construction team were significantly greater, that allowed them to construct a building much higher. At the time of construction of the building its height with a spire was equal 230.68 meters. The shape of the palace reminds socialist realism high-rise buildings in Moscow and it still evokes extreme emotions - from admiration to disassembly requirements of this "symbol of Soviet domination."

Since the early 2000s, the construction of skyscrapers began construction in the historic center of Warsaw. And the highest "Stalin" high-rise building has already become invisible against the background of glass towers of style "international architecture". This style is characteristic of the buildings and complexes built in the 1960s in USA, has found mass application in contemporary architecture. Modern landscape of the German city Frankfurt can easily be mistaken for a New York Down Town, twelve skyscrapers located here (minimum height of one hundred and fifty meters) and one building is under construction - 185 Tower about 205 meters.



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**THE INTEGRATION OF THE HISTORIC URBAN LANDSCAPE WITH CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE**

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 Session: Topic 4 - The landscape as a laboratory for good living: the fruitful relationship between agriculture, tourism, natural and historical/artistic resources, and knowledge of places.



Is it Moscow?



It is Warsaw

Is it New York?



The Palace of Culture and Science in Warsaw, 1955.



It is Frankfurt.

Is it New York?



It is Moscow.



Hotel Ukraina, Moscow, 1957.

Is it New York?!



Yes, it is New York.

"A buffer zone is a well-defined zone outside the protected area whose role is to shield the cultural values of the protected zone from the impact of activities in its surroundings. This impact can be physical, visual or social." - The Valetta Principles for the Safeguarding and Management of Historic Cities, Towns and Urban Areas. Adopted by the 17th ICOMOS General Assembly on 28 November 2011.



Project of Oshita Center Saint Peterburg, Russia, 2006



Contemporary architecture can not only improve the historical landscape of the city, but rather make it worse. The Moscow Kremlin, the object of protection of UNESCO, together with the construction of a new modern complex “Moscow-City” has got gloomy background buildings. The British have a notion of skyline. Skyline - it is outline against the sky, a line of convergence of the sky and the mountains, the sky and houses; rather, line drawn around the corner or around the houses in the sky. But this is also the line of the city against the sky. Constructing in modern cities, it is imperative to take into account its «skyline», which opens from different perspectives (Likhachov D., 2001).

Today, there are no clear rules, principles and methods of design in historical environment, preservation of the historic landscape and its integration with contemporary architectural objects. However, it was created the notion of a «buffer zone» (VP, 2011). The width of the buffer zone in each case depends on the scale of construction of new architectural objects. And without an accurate urban planning analysis it is difficult to determine the impact on the historic landscape of new objects after their implementation. One of the most important steps towards the solution of similar problems and challenges of the new building in the historic center is the development of projects of zones of protection of historic urban landscape, architectural and cultural heritage. These projects are generally designed to address the problem of integration of this valuable heritage in the modern fabric of the city and contemporary architecture in the historic urban environment, define a strategy for further development of the historic city center. Different methods can be used for the adaptation of the monuments to the modern city life and introducing them to the economic cycle:

- privatization of monuments with imposition of an obligation on private owners;
- development of architectural and cultural heritage;
- development of cultural and educational tourism and creation on the basis of heritage sites tourism
- products and brands;
- sale the “aura” of the historical and cultural heritage, when the attractiveness of historic cities and
- individual historic districts used to increase the value of new properties
- the development of creative clusters on the basis of cultural heritage.

Preservation of historic urban landscape and with it historical, cultural and architectural heritage is the driving force in the development of cities, through which creates a comfortable living environment for the life of citizens.

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