



Serban Sturdza  
President  
Ordinul Arhitecilor din Romania

13 May, 2009

Dear President,

Now, in 2009, the year of the crisis, a lot of things must be questioned in order to project the new scenario, to preserve our heritage and to assume challenges. This is a crossroad year in which time has arrived to decide where our efforts and attitudes, models and patterns of our professional practice should be placed in the era of globalization, international mobility and market competitiveness: years in which we have guaranteed our role in the world and our social function.

This is why the architectural profession, as a whole, has to consider which its profile for the future will be, should it want to take benefit from the dynamic heritage derived from its recent pluralism; should it not want to renounce the transfer of knowledge and deep experience this period has produced; and, in particular, should it want to take benefit from the possibility of strongly facing uncertainty, from the lowest level of perplexity to the highest one of decision. The generations of change and those in charge of consolidating the model of the future, all of them practising generations, we all have to bet for architecture of quality that has to be, at the same time, socially responsible, environmentally sustainable and friendly with cultural values and human rights. Young people are going to decide their profile of practice for the future because they are much more numerous.

Having all these considerations in mind, Spanish architects we have decided to meet together in a congress. It can seem reckless to have such a meeting now, when the 2009 crisis has reached its climax, but we are pretty sure that both the Orders of Architects of Spain and the CSCAE we think this is the best and appropriate moment: space and time do not wait.

The Congress, then, will be held on the 1, 2 and 3 July next in Valencia. Its main aim is to raise the engagement architects have with the society, facing the new challenges of the profession and redefining our contribution for the cultural and architectural built environment is adapted to the new circumstances. The Congress, structured in different spaces for reflection, will then try to update the professional challenges before the new scenario.

Although this is a National Congress, the crisis we are suffering is global and this is the reason why we think the Congress must be open to the participation of all the architects worldwide. We will be delighted to have you here with us, sharing professional working areas and assisting us to come to conclusions from different points of view.

You can check the Congress website, which is continuously updated:  
<http://www.congresodearquitectos2009.es/>

Looking forward to seeing you all and receiving you in Valencia, I remain.

Yours faithfully

Carlos Hernández Pezzi, President