

III International Scientific Conference

ARCHITECTURE OF THE LOCAL CULTURES OF THE BORDERLANDS

Sacrum – profanum – sacrum.

Conversions and reconversions of religious architecture

DECLARATION

We, the participants of the III International Scientific Conference ARCHITECTURE OF THE LOCAL CULTURES OF THE BORDERLANDS Sacrum - profanum - sacrum. Conversions and reconversions of religious art and architecture of the XX-XXI century, taking place in Warsaw and Supraśl, 21-23 April 2017, express our deep concern at acts of intense and persistent intolerance, ignorance and sometimes also aggression towards the artefacts of the spiritual legacy of various nations, cultures and religions, as a consequence of the ongoing global secularisation of life and the depreciation of religion as a source of the creation of the true values of human life and of its cultural heritage.

Devastation and profanation of the cult objects, as well as other spiritual places and those devoted to mankind's memory become very common these days. Their adaptations to unworthy purposes, contradictory with their spiritual status, become common. They are being turned into caricatures, lacking of religious spirit. Culture departs from the cult, from which it had genetically originated. It is a very dangerous phenomenon as it touches the very essence of culture, striking at its basic values: truth, good and beauty.

Greatly concerned over the welfare of sites associated with spiritual culture and memory, we plead to the governments and political authorities of all countries to adopt an architectural policy striving for the protection of the value of these sites so that they do not perish. We address our message primarily to architects, calling for their full respect for the spiritual and cultural heritage of all the local communities in the world, and to make a commitment to protect and develop it.

We express our unequivocal support for the intensive work of individuals and of all social and institutional bodies, primarily for the UIA Work Programme "Spiritual Places". This work is highly appreciated and we declare our unequivocal support in our scientific and professional environments, while also asking for support from the International Union of Architects. It is necessary to stop the progressive destruction of the artefacts of man's spiritual culture and to stop the pernicious tendency of the depreciation of holiness in the architect's work and the culture he co-created.

We ask that this declaration be made public among the Member States and at the forum of the UIA Congress in Seoul 2017, and that, adequate to the seriousness of the problem, institutional action be taken.

The undersigned:

1. Jęży Mścinianu, Polshie, UIA WG "Spiritual Places"
2. Jury Kryworuchko, Ukraina, UIA Spiritual Places
3. - KNYSZEWSKI ZYGUNT - France PT. lieux spirituels" UIA
4. Bopanska Anuana, Пpавoславнист Цeрeв -
5. Juxcaceant unudefeeter, Mocaba, Poccия
6. Petur Brui, Beograd, Serbia.
7. TATO AXA HAHYHEO, BEAPYOC, Дpoc
8. Bopustaw Pochalowski, Kocian, Poland
9. Grandy Gábor DIA, BUDAPEST, HUNGARY UIA WG "SPIRITUAL PLACES"
10. Бeубepo Уpинo, Poccия, Caнaт-Пeтepбypr ИДeя -
11. CEKMY GYRALK, POKKO HAPW
12. Krystyna Sulowska-Jurysko, Toren, UMK
13. JANKUREK, KRAKOW - PK - JANKUREK
14. Zoltanna Kocsanyi, Pp - Hungary
14. Poccия KAPLASHA, GPANSK

15. Agnieszka Januszkiewicz, ZAKŁ Politechnika Białost
 16. Janusz Gogol, ZAKŁ WA Politechnika
 17. Piotr Thymiel, ZAKŁ WAPB Białostok
 18. GRZEGORZ RZEPECKI: K.N.I.P.P, W.A.P.A.I.S., ^{UNI}UNIWERSYTET
 BYDGOSZCZ, TECHNOLOGICZNO-PRZYRODNICZY
 19. JAN RABIEJ - POL. ŚLĄSKA W. ARCHITECTURY
 20. Стоменко Александр, Музей архивохранилища
 им. А. Б. Успенского, Москва, Россия