Capitalising of fortified cultural heritage for sustainable development and competitiveness of cities and regions

# **CULTURA**





## REPORT TO PROJECT OUTPUT

			Output	4.6.1
Activity	Open WP4-summing up conference fortified heritage integration strategies			
Location	Sala Rossa-Palazzo Scaligero, Verona, Italy			
Qualitative description	Open international conference about methods and best practice for integration of fortified heritage into the urban and regional development, to enhance the cultur and social identity under involvement of citizens.		Date	09/10/2014 (morning)
Quantitative description	No. Participants	40		
	No. Nations	5		
Is the output	finalised ?( y/n) YE	ES .		

## PROJECT PARTNERS:

City Kostrzyn nad Odra

Austrian State Archives

Salzburg's Palaces and Castles Management

Jaromer Municipality

Humboldt-University at Berlin

City of Kronach

TIAW-Thuringian Institute for Academical Studies and Education reg.ass

ECCOFORT - European Cooperation Centre of Fortified Heritage reg.ass.

Fort Monostor Military Cultural Centre Komarom

Province of Verona

Institute for Protection of Cultural Heritage of Slovenia

Lviv Regional State Administration

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#### PROJECT MANAGEMENT

GKU Standortentwicklung GmbH, Berlin

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## **Agenda**

## Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup> 2014

(Output 4.6.1)

# Strengthening effects of fortified heritage for urban, rural and socio-cultural development International Conference

ime	Programme	Speakers/moderator		
09:00	Registration			
09:15	Territorial planning and sustainable tourism for the valorization of the forts in the Verona area	Ms Katia Gasparini Province of Verona		
09:40	The best practice of the cultural-touristic rehabilitation of Forte Marghera and future perspectives	Mr Daniele Sferra speaker and moderator external expert - Province of Verona		
10:10	Presentation of the Study of Verona (output 3.2.3)	Mr Fiorenzo Meneghelli external expert - Province of Veron		
11:20	[part of 3.2.4 workshop]			
11:40		Ma Vati Langer		
11.40	Aims, tasks and effects of the implementation of fortified heritage into the modernisation, cultural and social identity of cities and regions (output 4.1.5)	Ms Kati Langer TIAW Erfurt		
12:00	Residences in Fortresses (output 4.2.2)	Ms Marta Banasiewicz Kostrzyn nad Odrą		
12:20	Nature in Fortress Heritage (output 4.3.2)	Mr Frank Riesbeck Humboldt University Berlin		
12:40	Involving of Citizens into the fortress utilisation (output 4.3.4)	Mrs Erika Farkas Fort Monostor Komaróm		
13:00	Transnational Information System of fortified Heritage (output 4.4.3)	Mr Frank Riesbeck Humboldt University Berlin		
13:20	Summary			
13:30	Light-lunch			





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## **Minutes**

The Conference Strengthening effects of fortified heritage for urban, rural and socio-cultural development (corresponding to the "Open WP4-summing up conference fortified heritage integration strategies", output 4.6.1) took place in the morning of the second day of the combined Open International Conferences and Workshop meeting, at the Palazzo Scaligero in Verona, on 9 October 2014, from 9.00 until 13.30.

The session was chaired by Mr Daniele Sferra (external expert, PP10-Province of Verona, IT)

The first speech about the valorization of the fortified system of Verona was held by Ms Katia Gasparini (PP10 - Province of Verona, IT), on behalf of Ms Elisabetta Pellegrini (WP4 manager). In the framework of the project FORTE CULTURA, the Province of Verona aims to realize a study for the valorization of the fortified heritage in the provincial territory, with a particular focus on the area of the Adige Valley until Peschiera. The Adige Valley has always represented a gateway towards northern Europe, and for its strategic importance a widespread system of forts was built. Nowadays these forts represent an element of territorial identity. They combine the different historical legacies with agriculture and wine productions, creating a unique cultural features (environment, handicraft, agriculture, winery, etc), and thus becoming a driving element of touristic attraction and sustainable development of the area. A survey of the forts of the above mentioned axis Valdadige-Pastrengo-Peschiera del Garda was compiled in the frame of the study mentioned above.

The following lecture of Mr <u>Daniele Sferra</u> was on the best practice of the cultural-touristic rehabilitation of Forte Marghera and future perspectives. The lecture drew the attention to the overcrowded tourism destinations, starting from the case of Venice that has twice as many visitors than indicated by the tourism carrying capacity assessment (TCCA), with the consequent negative and positive effects. The decentralized location of the Venetian forts and



in particular of the mainland forts of the Entrenched Camp of Mestre, represents a possible solution to divert tourism flows. They can also be an opportunity for bottom-up participatory processes of urban revitalization and creation of cultural facilities, as in the case of Forte Marghera. Therefore, the Venetian Defence System can be an outstanding multiplier of the economic, cultural, social and environmental values for the local community. Forte Marghera recovery and valorization is on the wavelength with the inspiring principle of the Council of Europe Framework Convention of Faro. Herewith, Forte Marghera as "lighthouse" for the forts of Venice, plays a role that will be further enhanced with the Centre for studies of the the valorisation of the military architectures and of the defence systems.

Mr <u>Fiorenzo Meneghelli</u> (*external expert*, PP10-Province of Verona) presented the study for the valorization of fortified system in the Verona area (output 3.2.3). [*this speech is part of the workshop/output 3.2.4, held in the afternoon session of 9/10/2014. For organisational reason it was set in the morning session. Minutes of the speech are included in the 3.2.4 report]* 





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After the coffee break, Ms Kati Langer (PP7-TIAW Erfurt, DE) presented the results of the output 4.1.5, Documentation: Aims, tasks and effects of the implementation of fortified heritage into the modernization, cultural and social identity of cities and regions, that takes into account and compare two examplary situations of Verona and Erfurt. Main findings of the analysis show how the integration of fortresses with city development is generally affected by some problems: their separation from the sphere of economy; their potentials are mosty unknown; there is no understading of the positive effects of investments in preservation and recovery. In order to overcome such costraints there are some opportunities to exploit, and certain reccomendations should be considered: understading the link between fortress and the identity of cities and regions; stimulating public and private investments and inclusion of fortified heritage into urban modernisation; collecting and sharing information about best practices of fortresses valorization and their positive effects. According to this perspective, Mrs Langer offered an overview of the experience implemented in Erfurt, as an example of integration of a once restricted fortress area into the urban dynamics. Different steps in this process are highlighted, starting from the urban planning framwork of the Master Plan and its six guiding principles and a clear vision, through extensive works of restoration but also implementing a labour market policy that involved community participation in the reconstruction of the citadel. Today Petersberg citadel is part of an holistic long term urban policy, and aims to develop as "garden over the city" in the frame of the Federal Horticultural Show 2021.

The following lecture was about the theme of "residences in fortresses" and summarised the examplary historical research documentation about reconstruction and redevelopment of residential buildings in the fortress system of Kostrzyn (output 4.2.2). The lecture was given by Ms Marta Banasiewicz (LP-Kostrzyn nad Odrą, PL). The reconstruction of the Old Town in Kostrzyn nad Odra initiated 20 years ago with the inauguration of the rubble removal and proceeded with the a series of initiatives and activities. A publication entitled " A virtual reconstruction of the fortress and the Old Town n Kostrzyn nad Odrą" offered a visual computer model of the reconstruction and included studies that formed the basis for the spatial development of the area. In the years 2001-2003 a Local Spatial Development Plan was developed and adopted for the area of the Old Town: it provided the legal framework for the following investment plans of the public sector and private investors, and settled certain costraints and rules for the works according to different conservation zones. Another important step in the redevelopment process was the "Cross-border Study of the Old Town revitalization in Kostrzyn nad Odra" with the project entitled "Stary Kostrzyn 2015": it aimed to develop a coherent and holistic vision of the reconstruction of the Old Town, facilitating a compromise between preservation and revitalisation, and promoting and coordinating the investment processes within the area of the Old Kostrzyn. A division into stages of implementation of the Old Town reconstruction was adopted: 1) restoration and reconstruction of the preserved fortifications, the castle, and the parish church; 2) introduction of the guarter development with the service and residential functions; 3) landscape re-composition of the non-existent northern front of the fortress core, revitalisation of the Dzieło Rogowe as a park and recreational facility assumption. In the last ten years considerable financial resources hae been invested in the revitalisation of the Kostrzyn fortress, including: the Berlin Gate and the Chyżańska Gate; the Filip bastions and the Brandenburg bastion. The number of tourists visiting this area continues to increase. Nevertheless, since 1999 no new commercial investment appeared in the historical





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Old Town. The construction works concerning the complex of tenement houses at Szkolna Street completed around 2009. The first few residents appeared at that time. However, until today, a part of the residential apartments has not found any buyers or tenants. This indicates almost a complete lack of interest in the settlement within this area.



Mr Frank Riesbeck of the Humbolt University of Berlin (PP5, DE) provided an exhaustive overview of the challenging issue of nature in fortress heritage (output 4.3.2). The aim of such research was to develop methods and instruments for the owner of historical monuments like fortresses to find acceptable solutions to balance the preservation of fortified assets with the conservation of the environmental habitats according to different

utilization concepts. A scientific approach is suggested to face such issue, collecting knowledge about flora and fauna in fortresses, investigating current real situations, promoting interdisciplinary discussion. The research showed that fortresses are artificial human made ecosystems that were built through the same natural resources of the site (clay for briggs, loam, lime, sand and gravel and so on). The attention of the audience was drawn on the effects of abiotic factors on fortresses and their structures, but also on how forts represent biotic areas (they often have habitat conditions for bats). Fortresses without maintainance and utilisation let plants conquering and often destroying walls and other building parts: different biotops developed with high biodiversity. The cases of Spandau Citadel and the fortresses of Kaunas were presented as examples of the continuously evolving and challanging relationship between monument and nature. The last part of the presentation was focused on the two clashing scenarios of "priority monument protection" and "priority nature protection". A compromise is necessary for successful solutions: it should be facilitated by strong cooperation between authorities, deep investigations from both the point of view, and interdisciplinary discussion and evaluation based on utilisation concepts. Moreover, some knowledge deficits should be faced in order to influence restoration technologies. harmonise laws for nature and monument protection and develop better management instruments. Mr Riesbeck concluded suggesting a clear scientific strategy based on the development of a European Center for nature management in monuments and the promotion of international scientific cooperation in the field.

The Hungarian partner, represented by Ms <u>Erika Farkas</u> and <u>Ms Andrea Toth-Lencse</u> (PP9 - Fort Monostor Military Cultural Centre Komarom, HU) presented the results of the project output

4.3.4 focusing on the involvement of citizens and civil organisations in the utilisation, operation and mantainance of fortified monuments. Advantages and cons in working with Ngos and local inhabitants were highlighted. Mrs Farkas summarised the different efforts made in the years by Fort Monostor in this field, identifying certain phases in this process. Initially (before 2006) the cooperation was with tradition keepers and especially military traditions, organising for example battle reenactings. In 2006 the Association of Friends of







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the Komárom Fortresses was established, composed mostly by retired or elderly people from all over the country: they foster knowledge about the fortresses, cooperation with NGOs and between the fortifications, and organise community life events and initiatives like "Plant a tree for for your child, for Komárom". From 2007 affords were made to strengthen the involvement of young people and enlarge the level of cooperation to European topics and forts: different projects and international youth exchanges were implemented, supported by EU Programmes (Youth in Action, Erasmus+), covering various topics like nature, museum thatre, water and historical periods. These activities successfully achieved the inolvement and commitment of an enthusiastic young group around the fortress.

Finally, Mr <u>Frank Riesbeck</u> presented the progress of the development of program system and data collection of the *Transnational Information System of Fortified Heritage*, corresponding to output 4.4.3. The program system is at the final stages of testing and it is ready to perform its tasks: research database; sharing platform; knowledge exchange as part of capitalizing strategy. Still there are some pending issues related to the longterm maintenance costs, as lacking multilingual versions to make the platform more effective. Some screen shoots of the TIS and its utilization were presented.



