



Monitoring Group on Cultural Heritage in the Baltic Sea States

Joint statement Postwar and late 20th Century Built Heritage in the Baltic Sea Region

Preamble

The 6th Baltic Sea Region Cultural Heritage Forum calls for the attention of safeguarding the postwar and late 20th century built environments as valuable manifestations of the region's history and development.

The postwar 20th century built heritage in the region reflects the ideology and different interpretations of the welfare society in an eastern and a western context. Furthermore the late 20th century built heritage represents the general shift towards globalization and a stronger emphasis on individuality. The conference fosters to understand the importance of postwar and late 20th century built heritage as an integral part sustainable development strategies of urban and rural landscapes.

Statement

The postwar and late 20th century built heritage in the Baltic Sea Region is at risk due to extensive social changes and a lack of recognition from society in general. The architecture, ideology and function that intervene in the legacy of 20th century built heritage require specific demands. The practical core challenges are the exceptional scope in quantity, the experimental use of different materials and the rapid change of functions and use. A deepened regional cooperation is decisive in order to safeguard the legacy of postwar and late 20th century built heritage in the Baltic Sea Region.

The Conference call upon all state parties to recognize and strive towards the following:

- Promote research in the field and spread knowledge and raise awareness of postwar and late 20th century built heritage in the Baltic Sea Region
- Deepen cooperation in order to tackle the specific challenges of postwar and late 20th century built heritage to enhance safeguarding; that includes adaptive re-use and classification
- Elaborate common approaches for cultural assessment regarding postwar and late 20th century built heritage, landscape and public spaces and promote integration of these methods in planning processes, property management and property development
- Mediate tangible and intangible values of postwar and late 20th century built heritage for the purpose of integrating democratic perspectives in order to obtain sustainable development
- Promote preservation and management of 20th century built heritage as part of global effort to reduce global warming. Life cycle assessment (LCA) is a valuable tool in addressing this angle
- Promote research on a cross-sector basis regarding materials, best practice/methods and techniques for the preservation of postwar and late 20th century built heritage including sustainable improvement of the energy performance
- Recognize preservation and continuous use and reuse of 20th century built heritage as important aspects of ecological and social sustainability
- Highlight postwar and late 20th century architecture in a Baltic Sea Region context in order to attract tourism and regional development / foster heritage based economy