

SEMESTRE DI PRESIDENZA ITALIANA DELL'UNIONE EUROPEA  
SEMESTER OF ITALIAN PRESIDENCY OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

*Territorial information systems for the conservation, preservation and management of  
Cultural Heritage*

Workshop 3: Management of the risks of cultural heritage finalized to policies of preservation and conservation: from diagnosis to intervention strategies

Chairperson : Prof. Giorgio Croci

**Conclusions**

A SCHEME OF SETTING UP OF RISK MANAGEMENT FOR THE EUROPEAN  
CULTURAL HERITAGE.

The participants to the workshop agree upon the following items:

- To establish a common global strategy for risk management is not only desirable but indispensable if we want to assure not arbitrary decisions and choices about conservation of cultural heritage. As financial resources can be limited, common strategies will identify rational criteria to optimise resources in order to achieve the maximum benefit.
- The theme of risk does not have to be treated according to single/individual typologies of cultural heritage, but it has to be amplified to the territorial dimension.
- The best instrument to manage risk is the GIS which allows a connection of the cultural heritage, movable and immovable, with its territorial dimension. GIS have to be connected to cultural heritage data banks, movable and immovable, foreseeing the possibility to manage data in a single system.
- EU Member and Observing States should adapt national law systems to the principles expressed in the Malta Convention. Considering the impact of the territorial infrastructures (e.g. linear and aerial infrastructures) on the archaeological heritage, especially on the buried one, it is necessary to use the GIS as methodology for the documentation of the heritage, ( art. 7 of the Malta Convention).
- GIS must integrate with all available GIS for the knowledge of the territory.
- The logic passages for the management of risks are: inventory, intelligent list, map of risks, map of priorities, strategies.

1. INVENTORY CONTENTS

- movable and immovable artefacts ( as contents in containers)
- cultural sites and areas of scientific interest
- historical towns
- monuments and historical buildings
- cultural landscape

2. INTELLIGENT LIST CONTENTS

- Historical conditions: *techniques and technologies, repair etc.*

- Physical conditions : *damage, decay, structural diagnosis, territorial diagnosis ( as potential archaeological area, etc.), thefts, vandalism, terrorism.*
- Social, juridical, administrative conditions : *property, management ( e.g. loss of original function, lack of owner, negligence of owner or user).*

### 3. MAP OF RISK CONTENTS

- Intrinsic characteristics: *(typology, dimension, materials, etc)*
- Physical conditions
- Environmental conditions: e.g. *Water, Pollution, Soil settlement, slides, seismic area, an tropical, Territory transformations.*

The interaction of the individuals characteristics, of the physical conditions and of the environmental conditions establish the map of risk.

### 4. PRIORITIES

In the framework of the individualization of priorities, resources and “value” are determinant elements. Even if it is difficult to find an agreement between the definition of high priority connected to the “cultural value”, it is important to individualize the other fundamental elements for the determination of the value. It is necessary to measure the availability of the resources of each State in the framework of the reduction of the risk. Among the elements contributing to the definition of “value” we can mention:

- Social values, on a global, national and local level
- Economic values (tourism, territorial development, creation of new job opportunities)

### 5. STRATEGIES

Common strategies are based on the sharing of instruments for the knowledge, prevention and intervention. It is necessary to share information on these different aspects. These are the ambits in which priority actions can be reached:

- Interoperability of information systems on cultural heritage illicitly removed
- Financial resources assigned by each State
- Legislation databases
- Restoration databases and preventive measures
- Emergency procedures and works
- Monitoring
- Guidelines. Pilot projects
- Collaboration with European projects in progress
- Training.