1. Issues of the conference

Heritage is very diverse and its preservation depends on many local conditions. Therefore, in the 21st century, the universal principles of the conservation activity were abandoned. However, this does not change the fact that on a global scale there are processes that affect the attitude to the heritage, methods of its management and the possibility of its protection. Phenomena such as environmental transformation, climate change, changes in utility standards, tourism development, demographic processes, urban development, mass migrations, mass culture, and technical progress, undoubtedly have an impact on the heritage protection. Of course, the detailed consequences of these processes are not known, but general trends and directions of changes can be seen. In particular, it is important to identify threats that may weaken the functioning of heritage protection systems shaped in the past.

The ICOMOS is the world’s most important heritage protection organization. More than 10,000 members, who are members of 100 National and 30 International Scientific Committees, are a group of specialists with a very broad overview of the theoretical and practical problems of the heritage conservation. Therefore, ICOMOS is entitled and obliged to discuss, diagnose challenges, and propose solutions to the most important problems related to the heritage protection.
The structure of the ICOMOS – National Committees, Regional Groups and International Scientific Committees – direct the activities of this organization on the problems of countries, regions and various heritage groups. However, apart from solving specific problems, it is also necessary to reflect on the future of the heritage protection.

Such a discussion should be organized by the ICOMOS International Committee on the Conservation Theory, which is established to address issues that are important to the discipline as a whole.

2. Aims and thematic scope of the conference

The aim of the conference *Future of Heritage Protection – Threats, Challenges, Proposals* is a discussion on the key issues of contemporary heritage conservation that condition and specify the future of this discipline.

The aim of the conference is to take a comprehensive look at the current situation of the heritage conservation and thus create a basis for identifying the main threats, problems and proposals for solutions.

The aim of the conference is to articulate the problems and topics that can be discussed by the various bodies of ICOMOS.

The conference will address three groups of problems (3 sessions)

1. The main threats to the heritage protection.
2. The main challenges and problems of heritage protection.
3. Proposals for measures to protect the heritage

We invite all specialists who wish to take a part in the discussion on the problems and future of the heritage protection. We invite representatives of all International Scientific Committees of ICOMOS and National Committees of ICOMOS. We invite all those involved in the theory and practice of the heritage protection in all its aspects.

We hope that the conference will be a forum for exchanging views and shaping opinions for different international environments of ICOMOS.

3. Organizational information

Abstracts of the proposed papers should be sent by **10 January 2020** to the following e-mail: isctheory@gmail.com

Abstracts should not exceed two pages of text (the form of separate points will make it easier for reviewers to grasp the concept of speeches).

The authors of conference presentations are asked to indicate the session during which the proposed paper is to be presented (session 1, 2 or 3).
The choice of papers to be presented at the conference will be made by reviewers appointed by the Organizing Committee of the conference. Authors of the submitted papers will be informed about the decision of the reviewers by **30 January 2020**.

The conference materials will be published in a peer-reviewed scientific journal "Protection of Cultural Heritage", published by ICOMOS Euro Group, ICOMOS Poland, LUT.

On behalf of the Organizational Committee

Bogusław Szmygin