

FOREWARD

The 3rd International Conference on Protection of Historical Constructions, PROHITECH'17, is held in Lisbon, Portugal, from 12 to 15 July 2017, organized by the Instituto Superior Técnico, Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal, with the collaboration of the University of Naples Federico II, Italy. The edition 2017 follows the two previous ones, which were held in Rome, Italy, in 2009 and in Antalya, Turkey, in 2014. This specialty conference series has been inaugurated at the conclusion of the European project "*Protection of historical buildings by reversible mixed technologies*" (2004-2008).

The conference offers an important platform to researchers, engineers, architects and other specialists to present and discuss a wide variety of topics related to the protection of historical constructions. The topics range from structural and earthquake engineering, intervention strategies, materials and technologies, architecture and urban planning, represented by a showcase of diversified case studies covering different construction materials.

Papers are presented in oral parallel sessions together with plenary lectures given by renowned and diversified keynote speakers. These are: António Lamas from the Instituto Superior Técnico, Portugal, who reports the sustainable management of cultural heritage and the contribution of tourism – the case of Sintra; Laszlo Dunai from the Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary, who presents the rehabilitation of historical bridges over the Danube in Budapest; Ana Tostões from the Instituto Superior Técnico, Portugal, who reports how to reuse modern architecture; Paulo Lourenço from the Universidade do Minho, Portugal, who presents the technologies for rehabilitation and protection; Ioannis Vayas from the National Technical University of Athens, Greece, who presents the restoration and protection techniques for classic Greek temples and sculptures; Abolhassan Astaneh-Asl from the University of California, USA, who reports the preservation of historical bridges in USA: the Golden Gate Bridge and the Albion River Bridge cases.

More than 200 papers from 41 countries, (Algeria, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Nepal, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, USA, Uzbekistan) have been accepted for publication in the proceedings of the conference. In particular, two pages extended abstracts are included in the abstract proceedings book, while full papers are published on a pen drive. A selection of full papers will be published in a special issue of the International Journal of Architectural Heritage -Conservation, Analysis and Restauration (ISI Journal), dedicated to PROHITECH'17. All the manuscripts were reviewed by the Scientific Committee and/or the Advisory Committee Members whose voluntary work is deeply acknowledged.

The enthusiasm and huge work of the members of the Organising Committee are also gratefully acknowledged. Special thanks are due to the team of the Conference Secretariat for the excellent assistance in the organization.

Finally, the editors wish a big success to the Conference, for enhancing every way of fruitful cooperation among all involved stakeholders operating in the field of the protection of historic constructions.

Federico M. Mazzolani
António Lamas
Luis Calado
Jorge Miguel Proença
Beatrice Faggiano