



XXXIX° Conference
Scienza e Beni Culturali
Bressanone, 2-5 Luglio 2024

Scienza e Beni Culturali proposes for the 2024 edition of the Conference to deal with the topic:

PREVENTIVE AND PLANNED CONSERVATION.
Twenty years after the Italian Cultural Heritage Framework Law

In 2004 the Italian Cultural Heritage Framework Law, art. 29, established that the conservation of cultural heritage is obtained through a consistent, coordinated and planned investigation, prevention, maintenance and restoration activity. That definition came to crystallize several reflections, researches and tests started since the Seventies at least, but also to suggest, with the strength of a law, a cultural vision and a methodological attitude to the management of properties. Not for chance, the criterion of planned conservation is quoted in the Code of public contracts as the distinctive character of works concerning cultural heritage.

Preventive conservation, in the museum sector and for monumental interiors, took a disciplinary statute long ago and has been a frequent research topic, especially at the international level.

As for the architectural scale, the reflections and the on-field applications during the last two decades built, around the Unesco Chair instituted at Leuven (B), an acknowledged international network, lively also for the diversity of the contributions gathered from different cultural traditions. That diversity promoted the definition of a sounder preventive and planned conservation strategy, integrating built heritage and movable items.

Undoubtedly, that research has been stimulated by a wide and comprehensive vision, capable of both all the sustainability themes and making timely implement many innovative techniques, involving qualified skills all along the wide range of Cultural Heritage issue.

On the other hand, it is evident that research has often been carried out according to a sector-based approach, as if such a wide topic could be reduced, for instance, to a simple matter of maintenance. The potentialities and the practical need to coordinate and rationalize the multiple phases of the conservation process, as well as to come out from the current discontinuous management of una tantum works not informed by a strategic vision, have in several cases suggested further legislation initiatives at the regional level, involving financial investments, also with the intervention of bank foundations.

Therefore, the cases of good practices and experimentations became more frequent.

More than twenty years after the XV edition of the conference, which had the topic: Back to Maintenance. Researches, Projects, Materials and Techniques for the care of the built environment, the 2024 Scienza e Beni Culturali conference takes the target to evaluate the impact and the actuality of the definition of preventive and planned conservation, taking into account the precedent and following strategies and activities, as well as the timely issues concerning heritage protection, such as digital and environmental transitions.

The conservation process cannot avoid involving public bodies and institutions, which, above all for the public sector, but also in the private one represented also by big owners and foundations, carry on an essential function to implement preventive and planned conservation practices.

Given the many and diverse activities involved in the development of the conservation process, the role of the engaged actors becomes quite important, as their documented experiences can offer a rich palimpsest for comparison, enhancing the debate of the actuality and the perspectives of the topic.

Authors are invited to submit contributions on the following themes:

1. Theoretical reflections and the construction of a common language;
2. Legal foundations, comparative picture and experiences at European and International level;
3. Economic and financial planning and the effects on the sustainable management of cultural heritage;
4. Technical-economic planning as a requirement for the quality of a conservation project;
5. Conservation activities planning through time: examples of planned conservation plans and their implementation in the built heritage field (buildings, archaeological areas, parks) as well as in the fields of surfaces and movable goods;
6. Case studies of preventive conservation in museums and worship buildings, also referring to the diverse typologies of goods, in contexts characterized by the presence of heterogeneous materials and conflicting requirements of public fruition;
7. Evaluation of the costs and benefits of preventive and planned conservation;
8. The engagement of persons and communities in conservation and valorisation processes, also referring to the partnership forms agreement schemes defined by the legal framework;
9. Prevention as the management of risk at the different scales;
10. Compatibility, the diagnostics predictive of vulnerability forms and the management or risk;
11. Digital management of knowledge as an enabling factor for planned conservation;
12. Monitoring and control techniques;
13. Innovative materials, methods and techniques;
14. Competences to be engaged for a multidisciplinary methodological approach to preventive and planned conservation.

Authors are required to propose contributions referring to case studies whenever possible, even if more general theoretical contributions could be submitted as well.

For the submission of a paper, a preliminary abstract should be sent, exhaustive enough and containing a clear description of scopes, methodology and findings, of the maximum length of one page, to the Conference Secretariat using the form available at the link:

(<http://www.scienzaebeniculturali.it/convegno/contributi.html>)

Deadline for the abstract submission: **October 15th 2023**

The authors of the selected contributions will be requested (with notification by 15 November 2023) to send the full paper that will be peer reviewed. Following the peer review results, changes and integrations could be required for publication.

The full papers must have a maximum length of 12 pages, including pictures, charts and notes, and follow the format and editorial instructions provided on the conference website.

Deadline for the full paper submission: **January 31st 2024**

The conference will be held from 2 to 5 July 2024 in Brixen at the “Casa della Gioventù” – Università degli Studi di Padova summer seat – via Rio Bianco 12.