



PROTECTION OF MONUMENTS AND HISTORIC TOWNS



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DOCTRINAL TEXTS IN HERITAGE PROTECTION

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Enormous variety of heritage on the global scale, immense diversity of functions played by heritage and great differences of conditions and possibilities for its protection lead to the fact, that it is impossible to create universal guidelines for the actions around heritage (conservation rules) and forms of heritage maintenance (forms of protection).

Due to the enormous quantity of heritage and its variety as well as external factors, such as the pressure of modernization and commercialization, heritage protection is increasingly difficult. Conservators have less and less control over heritage, and actions concerning monuments become increasingly voluntaristic. Therefore, a conservation theory, which determines the frame (rules and forms) of dealing with heritage, is very important.

The basic way of formulating the conservation theory are doctrinal texts (in practice, no other form of codification of conservation theory is used). Doctrinal texts enable: classification of conservation theory (by the subject, topic and region), actualization of conservation theory; doctrinal texts have an international character, which strengthens their position.

ICOMOS - as the biggest and most important conservation organization worldwide - has the right and obligation to create the conservation theory (through doctrinal texts). ICOMOS has implemented procedures concerning the acceptance of doctrinal texts but it has not defined a general policy for conservation theory (doctrinal texts).

ICOMOS should define a complex policy and actions targeted at giving shape to the conservation theory (through doctrinal texts).

To develop a complex ICOMOS strategy/policy towards doctrinal texts (only afterwards can detailed analyses be conducted).

PROCEDURE FOR THE ADOPTION OF A DOCTRINAL TEXT

Definition:

A doctrinal text is a group of ideas which one affirms to be true and by which one claims to furnish an interpretation of facts in order to direct action.

Procedure:

1. A doctrinal text must have been either prepared or studied by a Specialised International Committee or by an ad hoc committee designated for this purpose by the Executive Committee.
2. A doctrinal text must have been distributed to all the ICOMOS National Committees for comment.
3. A doctrinal text must have received the approval of the Executive Committee no later than at the end of the year session preceding the year of the General Assembly.
4. A doctrinal text must have been re distributed in its revised form to all the National Committees for information, at least three months before the General Assembly.

After this procedure has been followed, the text may be proposed for adoption and ratification by the General Assembly.

Text presented at the 31th session of the Executive Committee in May 1984 and approved after review at the 33th session of the Executive Committee in November 1984 in Paris.

**This procedure is valid -
it limits the inflation of
the number of doctrinal
texts.**

CHARACTERISTICS /FEATURES/ OF ICOMOS DOCUMENTS

Feature/Document	Charter	Guidelines	Principles	Document
Subject	-whole discipline -part of heritage	-part of heritage -activity	-part of heritage -activity	No specify demands
Form of adoption	GA ICOMOS	-GA ICOMOS -NC ICOMOS -ISC ICOMOS	-GA ICOMOS -NC ICOMOS -ISC ICOMOS	No specify demands
Size /pages/	A few pages /5-7/	No limitations /detailed document/	A few – dozen pages -	No specify demands /few – dozen pages/
Formal structure	Should be formulated /preamble; aims, rules; methods/	Should be formulated	Should be formulated	No specify demands
Matter /contents/	Whole area /preamble; aims; rules; methods/	Whole issue /detailed information concerning procedures/	Whole issue	No specify demands
Durability /constancy/	Constant, unalterable	Changeable /according to requirements/	Constant /decades/	No specify demands
Hierarchy /importance/	****	**	***	*

1 Proposal: procedure of adoption.

Current procedure of adopting of the doctrinal texts should be consequently continued.

If there are too many doctrinal texts, or they are contradictory they cease being normative documents.

2 Proposal: revision of doctrinal texts.

It is not necessary to amend and discuss the existing doctrinal texts. They are historic documents, created in a certain context and they should be treated as heritage themselves. They belong to their authors and times, that created them.

CRITERIA FOR CLASSIFICATION OF DOCTRINAL TEXTS

Criteria for classification of doctrinal documents	Used forms	Examples
1.Type of document /declared by authors/	Charter	The Florence Charter, Venice Charter
	Document	Nara Document of Authenticity
	Principles	Principles for Wall Paintings
	Guidelines	Operational Guidelines WH
	Convention	World Heritage Convention
	Declaration	Xi'an Declaration
2. Form of adoption	GA ICOMOS	Washington Charter
	IS COMMITTEE ICOMOS	The Florence Charter
	National Committee ICOMOS	Burra Charter
	Conference ICOMOS	Nara Document
	Other organizations	World Heritage Convention
3. Subject	General documents	Venice Charter
	Heritage group	Washington Charter (historical towns)
	Action /or feature/	Guidelines of Education and Training
	Regional /national/ heritage	Burra Charter, China Principles

2 Proposal: revision of doctrinal texts.

The aim of a revision should be an authorization of the doctrinal texts.

The authorization should be done by the responsible bodies - International Scientific Committees, Regional Groups.

2 Proposal: revision of doctrinal texts.

It is not possible to unify the conservation doctrine - so the unification of all doctrinal texts is neither possible nor demanded.

"Corpus of doctrinal documents" should be adopted by the GA.

Conclusions/Proposal:

The existing doctrinal documents are documents of history, created in a certain context and should be treated as heritage. They are property of their authors and times, and therefore should not be changed?

Conclusions/Proposal:

If the unification of the conservation doctrine is impossible, so is the unification of the content of all the doctrinal texts? The documents concerning different groups of heritage can have different content, it is necessary however to unify the content of the documents covering the same problem.

TABLE 2
DOCTRINAL TEXTS /ICOMOS/

OFFICIAL NAME	SUBJECT /topic, matter/	DATE	FORM OF ADOPTION /by ICOMOS/	PREPARED /adopted/	TYPE /declared by authors/
The Venice Charter International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites	General	1964	Adopted?? by the Constitutive Assembly in Warsaw (Poland) 1965	Approved by the 2nd International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments, Venice (Italy) 1964	Charter
Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage	World Heritage	1972	No	Adopted by the 17 th session of General Conference of UNESCO in Paris (France) 1972	Convention
The Burra Charter The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance	General /region, country/	1979 /revisions 1981,1988, 1999/	Adopted by Australia ICOMOS Burra (South Australia) 1979		Charter
The Florence Charter Historic Gardens	Historic Gardens	1982	Registered by ICOMOS 1982 as an addendum to the VC covering specific field concerned		Charter
The Washington Charter Charter for the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas	Historic Towns and Urban Areas	1987	Adopted in 1987 at the meeting of the 8 th General Assembly in Washington,		Charter
Charter for the Protection and Management of the Archeological Heritage	Archeological Heritage	1990	Approved by the 9 th General Assembly of ICOMOS in Lausanne (Switzerland) 1990	Prepared by the International Committee for the Management of Archeological Heritage	Charter
Guidelines of Education and Training in the Conservation of Monuments, Ensembles and Sites	Education and Training	1993	Adopted by the 10 th General Assembly of ICOMOS in Colombo (Sri Lanka) 1993	Prepared by the International Scientific Committee of Training 1992	Guidelines

The Nara Document on Authenticity	Authenticity	1994	Drafted by the participants at the Nara Conference on Authenticity in Relation to the WHC, Nara (Japan) 1994; organizers UNESCO, ICCROM, ICOMOS	Drafted by participants at of Nara Conference; Final version edited by general rapporteurs (R.Lemaire, H.Stovel)	Document
Charter on the Protection and Management of Underwater Cultural Heritage	Underwater Cultural Heritage	1996	Ratified by the 11 th General Assembly of ICOMOS in Sofia (Bulgaria) 1996		Charter
Principles for the Recording of Monuments, Groups of Buildings and Sites	Recording	1996	Ratified by the 11 th General Assembly of ICOMOS in Sofia (Bulgaria) 1996)	Principles
International Cultural Tourism Charter Managing Tourism at Places of Heritage Significance	Cultural Tourism /management/	1999	Adopted by the 12 th General Assembly of ICOMOS in Mexico (Mexico) 1999		Charter
Charter on the Built Vernacular Architecture	Vernacular Architecture	1999	Ratified by the 12 th General Assembly of ICOMOS in Mexico (Mexico) 1999		Charter
Principles for the Preservation of Historic Timber Structures	Timber Structures	1999	Adopted by the 12 th General Assembly of ICOMOS in Mexico (Mexico) 1999		Principles
Principles for the Preservation and Conservation-Restoration of Wall Paintings	Wall Paintings	2003	Adopted by the 14 th General Assembly of ICOMOS in Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe) 2003	Drafted in Copenhagen 2002; edited in Thessaloniki 2003	Principles
Principles for the Analysis, Conservation and Structural Restoration of Architectural Heritage	Architectural Heritage	2003	Adopted by the 14 th General Assembly of ICOMOS in Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe) 2003		Principles
Xi'an Declaration on the Conservation of Setting of Heritage Structures, Sites and Areas	Setting /conservation/	2005	Adopted by the 15 th General Assembly of ICOMOS in Xi'an (China) 2005		Declaration



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