COST Action C26
21 to 24 June 2009, Rome, Italy

Quick impact of protecting, strengthening and repairing, and consequences of fire damaged structure
- Hotel Union, Prishtina, Kosovo

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Quick impact of protecting, strengthening and repairing, and consequences of fire damage structure – Hotel Union, Kosovo

• Objectives

➢ to activate the participation of professional authorities into updating process

• of education, law and standardization when preparing the catastrophic risk plan
• to encourage the governmental responsibilities when preparing the fire and safety of buildings, in particular at architectural heritage premises
• to enhance effectively and efficiently social conscience

— while preparing the catastrophic risk plan – FP
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• Introduction
  – Importance of architectural heritage in Kosova
  – Durability and sustainability of their values
  – Understating legal & administrative mechanisms of fire and safety of buildings
  – Managing protection, strengthening and repairing of heritage buildings before and after catastrophes caused by fire

• Case study: Hotel Union in Prishtina, Kosova
Summarized research methodology

Private owned build. - Aug 2008
- Investigation
- Observable evidence
- Analytical approach of evidences

Occurred fire - 22 Aug 2009
- Investigation
- Observable evidence
- Interviews

Nowadays – Sep 2010
- Interviews
- Observable evidence
- Synthesis of dates and evidences
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• General Information – Hotel Union, Prishtina
  – historical building of XX century
  – most important example of eclectic style
  – urban environment symbolic premises
  – under state protection in year 1996
General Information - architectural

• Consist three-story
  – Grass area 650m²
  – Two main facades
    – Round tower at masonry roof
    – Brick masonry walls, th50cm
  – Timber beams structure of slabs
General Information – architectural heritage values

• Mansard – roof

  – Regular double chairs timber structure
  – Stone masonry strip foundation

  – 31 July 2006 (PTA)...
    ‘...as the building will change its function and ownership, is recommended urgent preservation and restoration; adaption of interior space by keeping building's architectonic features, prevent main facades...’
General information - pour intervention before fire

- Structure of building was seriously damaged and on danger for hazards and collapsing.

Strengthening with concrete reinforced columns & beams.

- Staircase
- Ceramic tiles
- Heating system
General Information – preparation of rehabilitation plane

• The views of the building while the diagnostic phase took place in order to prepare the rehabilitation plan ...May 2007
Quick practice of Methods and instruments thus guidelines for rehabilitation of building

prepared according to the (in May, 2007) ICOMOS Recommendations for the analysis, conservation and structural restoration of architectural heritage

- Gathering diagnoses
  - architectural documentation,
  - strength and deformability capacity of existing building,
  - cracks monitoring
  - proposals for repair and strengthening of main facade building (?!)

**Note:** During the privatization the authorities have not recommended general and professional requirement for rehabilitation of building including FP and implementation during catastrophic events
Quick practice of Law of Fire Protection (LFP) by authorities (Ministry of Internal Affairs, Municipality Authorities, etc.)

Adoption of LFP in April 2006
Comité Technique de Prévention at d’Extinction du Feu (CTIF):
vast discrepancy between law and reality

➢ General recommendation

• Most of constructive elements has timber used material,
• Absence of fire protection precautions, observation, guarding, signalization during the passive stage of intervention
• Deficiency of materials alteration to increase the fire resistance

Note: not yet any suitable and sufficient Fire Risk Assessments, referring Building Codes and Regulations for Fire and Safety
Fire – accidentally or aforethought

Note: investigation of causes of occurred fire on 22 Aug 2009 are not jet completed
Structural damage and materials decay after fire

**Note**: site observation without structural analysis; lack of mutual relations authority – owner.
Structural damage and materials decay after fire

**Note:** on site observation / investigation regarding the process of protection
Hypothetic requests for Hotel Union

- Reappear esthetic, architectonic and historical values and keep them operationally thus rebuild premises based on original shape.
- Establish administrative procedure, management of reconstruction – particularly establish cultural heritage professional commission.
- Enhancing relation between authorities and owner in regards to indentify the lack of mutual understanding.
- Apply any possible identified method of preservation or sufficient and adequate materials to be reused.
- Transmit all building heritage values during the process of reconstruction project and it realization.
Conclusion - Continues block process of actions

1. Structural damages
2. Precautions
3. Further actions

- building, urban environment, social environment,
- Law on Cultural Heritage (LCH), Fire Protections (FP) measures,
- Guidelines and regulations between LCH and FP, data base of state of art of damages,
Conclusion - delays fitting environmental puzzles by rule of law
Grazie per la cortese attenzione!

Thank you for your kind attention!