



Maintenance and regeneration of the territory and the city as an occasion for their ecological transformation

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The Session intends to collect contributions focused on the issues, needs and opportunities to carry out ordinary, but above all extraordinary, maintenance of the existing city and of the infrastructures that over time have designed and organized the territory. The recent tragic events in Genoa, Italy, with the collapse of the Morandi bridge, show how this, beyond any legal responsibility, is indispensable. That is for technological reasons, linked to the relationship between the passage of time and the reliability of the manufactured goods, and to the change in local conditions.

The territory and the modern city have been developed according to localization needs, criteria, technologies and materials of high efficacy and efficiency. But both of these are not “static”, i.e. it is related to the change of space and the duration of the materials. After decades of expansion older industrialization town have long stopped this trend. This, on the one hand, constitutes a potential benefit in terms of environmental and social sustainability given the evident limits of development of the industrial city declared since 1972 with *The Limits to Growth*, limits that highlight the exhaustion of the paradigm - using, metaphorically, the term reported by Khun (1962) to the scientific revolutions - of the industrial city. And, at the same time, it represents an opportunity and a threat.

Opportunity to manage, with care and attention, the places of the historical, social, urban and architectural values of territories and cities, i.e. morphology, infrastructure, building typologies: an order that corresponded to a social and spatial model that has changed during the time but which was one of the reasons for the formation of the landscape, the result of the relationship between human activities and nature as recalled in the *Florence Landscape Convention* (2000).

Choices that involve more and more issues related to the green and water, both considered as a resource and as a problem: but that certainly have become essential elements of urban quality. All this considering the ongoing climate change that requires the search for maximum territorial and urban resilience.

But the threat is that all of this adopts according to criteria indifferent to the local context and to the wellbeing of the inhabitants, and governed by only economic powers and choices, plus with an increase in various types of risks.

It is necessary to highlight how the territorial and urban policies can, using an integrated ecological approach, produce different scenarios of sustainable development from an environmental and social point of view. Thus achieving not only the security of infrastructure and of existing material heritage but also raising the quality of life of the inhabitants.

Bibliographic references

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