



Geographies
of the
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Climate change related urban transformation and the role of cultural heritage
Matthias Ripp & Christer Gustafsson (Eds.)

The impact of the photovoltaic system on Florence's roofs. Collaboration and balance between innovation, Authenticity and Integrity

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Abstract

Considering the Historic Centre of Florence World Heritage site as a case study, the paper aims to provide a reflection about the need to reconcile the protection of the site's Outstanding Universal Value with the increasing urgency to implement adaptation strategies to climate change in urban heritage environments. The municipal regulations are the result of an attempt to reconcile these needs, and are part of a national and regional regulatory framework that has recently undertaken an evolution oriented towards the need to provide a rapid response to the contingent energy crisis.

The Florence experience serves as example of how studies and researches on the territory, additional levels of safeguard and international conventions and recommendations can be transposed in local legislation but also come into conflict with it. Therefore, climate change turns out to be an ambivalent threat: for itself and for those measures that risk contradicting the objective of maintaining the Integrity and Authenticity of the site.

In this context, the vision adopted by the Florence World Heritage and Relations with UNESCO Office of the Municipality of Florence aims to consolidate the presence of culture and heritage in urban policies - in accordance with UNESCO's Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape - with the ambition of focusing on the city's historical, cultural, environmental and social identity in a dynamic, value-based context, and not only prescriptive and of mere preservation, enhancing its uniqueness and at the same time its universality.

Keywords: Historic centres, UNESCO World Heritage sites, Authenticity & Integrity, Historic Urban Landscape, photovoltaic system, Florence

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