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# **WORLD HERITAGE LIST: THE CASTLE OF IOANNINA**

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## **Abstract**

This dissertation was written as part of the MA in Art Law and Economy at the International Hellenic University. I am grateful and I want to thank my supervisor Prof. Paroula Naskou-Perraki for the contribution. My motivation to write this essay was my sensitive in matters concerning the protection cultural heritage. Nowadays when we see images of total destruction of important monuments, for instance the recent example of the destruction of the ancient city of Palmyra by the ISIS, it is more crucial than ever for organizations like UNESCO and countries to ensure the protection and maintenance of cultural monuments of exceptional significance.

The essay analyses the structure of the UNESCO organization and the World Heritage Convention and the criteria that a monument must fulfill in order to be included in the World Heritage List.

In another chapter I decided to study my city Ioannina and the monuments that in my opinion should be inscribed to the World Heritage List as being of outstanding Universal Value. I hope this essay would motivate the local community to take serious consideration for the nomination of the Castle of Ioannina and be a helpful guide to that path.

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## **Contents**

<b>ABSTRACT</b>	<b>III</b>
<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>V</b>
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION</b>	<b>1</b>
DEFINITIONS AND GOALS OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION	1
OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE	5
THE CRITERIA FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE	6
<b>THE CASTLE OF IOANNINA: OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE</b>	<b>17</b>
IOANNINA: HISTORY	17
THE CASTLE OF IOANNINA	18
THE OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE OF THE CASTLE OF IOANNINA	22
<b>PREPARING A NOMINATION FILE</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>	<b>29</b>

## **Introduction**

The World Heritage Convention was established by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) at its 17th session General Conference in Paris on 16 November 1972. The World Heritage Convention is an international treaty between Member States of the United Nations. The 1972 Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage is a recognized legal instrument responsible for the protection of natural and cultural heritage sites worldwide. It aims to identify, conserve, protect, present and transmit to future generations cultural and natural heritage of Outstanding Universal Value worldwide. UNESCO aims to promote the dialogue between Member States and their mutual understanding and cooperation to save as many sites as possible. It aims to mutual appreciation of different values and cultures. Every site is valuable for all people across the world.

Member State Parties are responsible for the preservation and protection of natural and cultural heritage- not only in their territory but world widely- by adopting policies and undertake all the necessary legal, administrative, scientific and financial measures for this purpose. Furthermore member State Parties are also responsible to aid other State Parties, to reinforce them and to provide all the necessary knowledge and means to protect their natural and cultural heritage.

The World Heritage Convention is administered by a World Heritage Committee, which meets annually and consists of members, elected for four years, by member State Parties to the Convention. The Committee is supported by a small secretariat, the World Heritage Centre, which is a part of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) based in Paris, France. The Committee is responsible for the implementation of the Convention and for the protection of natural and cultural heritage by advising and ensuring that member states follow their obligations. To guarantee the primary goal of the Convention -which is to identify, conserve, protect, present and transmit to upcoming generations cultural and natural heritage of

Outstanding Universal Value- the World Heritage Committee established a list of properties which have met the requirements of the Convention, called the World Heritage List. The World Heritage List established by the Committee, has become one of UNESCO'S most popular and celebrated programs. Until now, a total of 1031 properties (802 cultural, 197 natural and 32 mixed sites) located in 163 State Parties have been registered in the World Heritage List as being of Outstanding Universal Value.

There are specific criteria and conditions, which are clearly defined in the Operational Guidelines of the Convention, that are used in order to identify if a property is qualified for inclusion on the World Heritage List. The most important feature that a property must meet in order to be included in that list is to be characterized as of "Outstanding Universal Value". In the following chapters we will try to analyze the ten criteria established by the Convention and the meaning of "outstanding universal value".

## **The World Heritage Convention**

UNESCO was founded as a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN) on November 16, 1945.<sup>1</sup> UNESCO's Constitution aims: "to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among the nations through education, science and culture in order to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law and for the human rights and fundamental freedoms which are affirmed by the Charter of the United Nations."<sup>2</sup> UNESCO's mission is to promote cooperation among its Member States for the completion of these goals.

### ***Definitions and goals of the World Heritage Convention***

The tremendous interesting for successful salvation of priceless monuments, the return to their countries and the beyond imagination world support for preservation of ancient sites- especially nowadays where the danger of distraction and distinction of important monuments across the world is visible- lead UNESCO into further action. Member States began drafting a treaty in 1969 and by 1972, UNESCO completed the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. The Convention was drafted "to encourage the identification, protection and preservation of cultural and natural heritage around the world considered to be of outstanding value to humanity". Ratified by twenty nations, the Convention came into force in December 1975, as specified in its Article 33.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) leads the world in acting to preserve the world's natural and cultural her-

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations Educ., Scientific & Cultural Org., UNESCO, available at <http://www.unesco.org>

<sup>2</sup> Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, art. 1, § 1, available at <http://www.unesco.org>

itage through its World Heritage program. With the 1972 World Heritage Convention a new era opened for international law making for both cultural and environmental protection. The 1972 World Heritage Convention has continually developed and is growing quickly and steadily as it stands out for two very important and innovating reasons. “The first is its exceptional recognition of the close link between culture and nature and in having established a common regime of conservation and safeguarding of the most significant manifestations of what is man made and what is the most astonishing work of nature. The second innovating feature is the introduction of the concept of world heritage to designate sites, monuments and assets which, because of their outstanding importance, are of principal value of humanity as a whole and for this reason, are suitable for placement under a system of special international protection embodied in The World Heritage List”.<sup>3</sup>

The 1972 World Heritage Convention states that UNESCO’s purpose is to “maintain, increase and diffuse knowledge; By assuring the conservation and protection of the world’s inheritance of books, works of art and monuments of history and science and recommending to the nations concerned the necessary international conventions.”<sup>4</sup>

For the purpose of the Convention, first and foremost, there had to be a conceptual definition of what is called cultural and natural heritage. For this reason the Convention mentions in Article 1 and 2 the definitions of these two types of heritage. In Article 1 the Convention considers as cultural heritage “monuments: architectural works, works of monumental sculpture and painting, elements or structures of an archaeological nature, inscriptions, cave dwellings and combinations of features, which are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science; group of buildings: group of separate or connected buildings which, because of their architecture, their homogeneity or their place in the landscape, are of out-

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<sup>3</sup> The 1972 World Heritage Convention, A Commentary, Francesco Francioni

<sup>4</sup> UNESCO CONSTITUTION, art. 1 par. C, UNESCO 1945,

standing universal value from the point of view of history, art or science; sites: works of man or the combined works of nature and man, and areas including archaeological sites which are of outstanding universal value from the historical, aesthetic, ethnological or anthropological point of view.”<sup>5</sup> In Article 2 of the Convention as natural heritage is considered “natural features consisting of physical and biological formations or groups of such formations, which are of outstanding universal value from aesthetic or scientific point of view; geological or physiographical formations and precisely delineated areas which constitute the habitat of threatened species of animals and plants of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation; natural sites or precisely delineated natural areas of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science, conservation or natural beauty.”<sup>6</sup>

As mentioned before, what makes World Heritage Convention exceptional is the link between natural and cultural heritage. The Convention has defined those two meanings in two different articles but what it is not clear at first sight is the combination of those two meanings in one article. Specifically, Article 1 mentions three types of cultural heritage: “monuments”, “groups of buildings” and “sites”. “Sites” are defined as “the works of man or the combined works of nature and man”. This is an important and unique feature of the Convention, as natural and cultural heritage are traditionally considered to be two different entities.

The World Heritage Convention, puts pressure to the State Parties to be responsible and promote its main purpose which is to “ensure the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission of cultural heritage to future generations”<sup>7</sup>. State Parties should develop educational programs to familiarize their communities to the importance of protecting and preserving their heritage, cultural or natural. The importance of the heritage depends on the efforts made by communities to get to know it better and ensure its protection. Every heritage has its own unique beauty and value but only when people appreciate it and preserve its glow.

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<sup>5</sup> The 1972 World Heritage Convention, art. 1

<sup>6</sup> The 1972 World Heritage Convention, art. 2

<sup>7</sup> The 1972 World Heritage Convention, art. 4

Lack of education and promotion of a state's heritage can diminish a heritage's value even if it managed to survive through the years. Main responsibility of a State Party must be not only to try to protect the heritage but also to highlight it and make known and to the world. This should be our society's obligation; to care for natural and cultural resources, to make them as much sustainable as possible, to preserve these sites in their initial, historical state. The closer a site is to its original form, design, workmanship and material, the more authentic it will be.

The Convention defines a system of technical and financial international cooperation and assistance, pointed out in articles 19 to 26. It is clearly defined in articles 3, 4 and 5 of the Convention that States Parties are responsible for selecting, nominating and ultimately conserving World Heritage sites. Specifically, article 5 of the Convention, mentions that State Parties have the duty to take the appropriate financial, technical, legal and administrative measures to create inventories, to adopt all the essential measures for the convention and presentation of sites to the public, to facilitate research and study of their heritage and to withdraw from taking deliberate measures damaging to it. Economic-rich countries base a part of their economy in the promotion of cultural heritage. They publicize their heritage to enhance their history and cultural diversity from other countries. What the World Heritage Convention wants to accomplish is to give motivations and persuade local communities of the State Parties to involve in the salvation, preservation and conservation of their heritage. Article 5(a) of the Convention encourages State Parties to "adopt a general policy which aims to give the cultural and natural heritage a function in the life of the community". Articles 27 and 28 of the Convention also encourage State Parties to develop educational programs to motivate their citizens to respect and protect their World Heritage and to increase their awareness to the potential hazards that might appear in the future.

Article 8(1) of the World Heritage Convention establishes an Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection of the Cultural and Natural Heritage of Outstanding Universal Value, called the World Heritage Committee. This article further indicates that the Committee should be composed of fifteen State Parties that have been elected by all State Parties during General Assembly. It also indicates that the number of States Parties constituting the World Heritage Committee should be in-

creased to twenty- one following the ratification of the Convention by at least forty states. By August 1978, forty states had ratified the World Heritage Convention following which the Committee was enlarged to twenty-one members. The Committee is responsible for selecting sites on the basis of nominations submitted by State Parties, for inclusion on the World Heritage List, for monitoring the state of conservation of these World Heritage Sites in cooperation with State Parties, for inscribing sites on the List of the World Heritage in Danger and for distributing the resources of the World Heritage Fund to assists State Parties in need.

### ***Outstanding Universal Value***

Outstanding Universal Value is at the center of the World Heritage Convention (see, for instance , Article 11[2]; Article 15[1] or Article 19). This definition refers to properties that are so exceptional and unique that they can be equally valued by all people around the world and therefore must be protected for mankind as a whole. “Following this logic, human beings – regardless of their differences in socio-economic status, geographic origin or cultural frame of reference- should share the same values concerning specific, extraordinary places and appreciate them in an identical manner. These special sites are thus assumed to possess objective intrinsic values that do not change over time and can be disconnected from various people’s interests in the present”<sup>8</sup> . The basic UNESCO documents, such as the Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, constantly describe outstanding universal value using the adjectives “intrinsic” and “objective”.<sup>9</sup> However, this phrase was not explicitly defined in the Convention. This lack of precise definition gives some flexibility in the types of properties that can be nominated for inclusion in the World Heritage List. Properties that are existing all over the world have their own beauty and unique significance. State Parties that have in their territory these properties most of the times are not objective. They are emotionally and

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<sup>8</sup> Laenen 2008,101; Lafrenz Samuels 2008,72

<sup>9</sup> Labadi,2013, 12

historically attached to these sites that it is difficult not to consider it as of outstanding universal value. “ It is true that State Parties themselves have not clearly understood outstanding universal value, or indeed whether and how they have related it to broader topics such as social cohesion, cultural diversity and sustainable development.”<sup>10</sup>

### ***The Criteria for the assessment of Outstanding Universal Value***

The World Heritage Convention established the criteria and the conditions under which a property can be inscribed on the World Heritage List. Operational Guidelines have been developed primarily to evaluate if any properties fill the criteria to be in the World Heritage List and secondly to guide States Parties on how to protect these properties and ensure their sustainability.

The World Heritage Committee which is the legitimate mechanism of the Convention, is responsible for the inquiry and the decision of whether or not a proposed site fulfils one or more of the established criteria to be inscribed as a nominated property on the World Heritage List. In order the World Heritage Committee to fulfill its objectives it is assisted by a Secretariat, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, and by three recognized Advisory Bodies each one with different responsibilities – ICCROM (International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property), ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites), and IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature).

As mentioned above, whether or not a property can be listed under one of the criteria and be included in the World Heritage List depends on the Committee’s characterization as being of Outstanding Universal Value. A State Party must provide every possible nomination documents to the World Heritage Committee to evaluate the proposed property and to decide whether it meets the requirements of the Convention, and in particular whether it is of Outstanding Universal Value. Responsible for the procedure of the evaluation and selection of a site are the Operational Guide-

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<sup>10</sup> ICOMOS 2008

lines which assists the World Heritage Committee by applying two questions which will clarify whether a property is of Outstanding Universal Value:

a) Does the property fulfil one or more of the World Heritage criteria to be considered as having Outstanding Universal Value (Operational Guidelines, Paragraph 77); and

b) Does the property fulfil the conditions of integrity and/or authenticity (Paragraph 78)?

According to paragraph 77 of the Operational Guideline in order for a cultural property to be characterized as of outstanding universal value it has to i) be an exceptional creative work of human, ii) show signs of an important exchange and influences of human values within time between different cultural areas of the world, concerning architecture or technology developments, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design, iii) represent an exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which had vanished or is still alive, iv) represent an exceptional and unique example of a building, architectural or technological structure or landscape which illustrates an important period of human history, v) represent an exceptional example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is example of a culture, or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change, vi) be directly or tangibly related with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal importance.

“The ICCROM report gave further consideration to the phrase Outstanding Universal Value. The report emphasized that the definition of Outstanding Universal Value “cannot be justified except when referred to specialized scientific literature on the subject, which is considered the most up-to-date expression of the universal consciousness on the issue ”. There are different parameters that should be taken into consideration such as the historic, the artistic or the typological aspects. When we refer to the artistic value of the heritage we mean a creation that is unique, authentic, priceless and universally recognized by competent specialists in the fields concerned. By researching the influence that a site had in time and the importance

from history perspective we refer to the historic value of a site.<sup>11</sup> Searching the typological value of a site we refer to this type of value that would seem to require explicit recognition in comparison to its historic importance, in order to reassure that this distinguishing work of a certain tradition threatened by extinction because of the constant changes, could be saved and preserved, overcoming the risks of disappearance.

*Criterion (i): “represent a masterpiece of human creative genius”*<sup>12</sup>. In a paper presented at the Consultative Body meeting at UNESCO in 1998 (WHC-98/CONF.201/INF.11), the representative of Malta stated that the words should be interpreted as following “Masterpiece: should be taken to mean a complete and perfect piece of workmanship, an outstanding example, Creative: should be taken to mean inventive, original as either a) first in a movement or style or b) the peak of a movement or style, as Genius: should be taken to mean a high intellectual or symbolic endowment, a high level of artistic, technical or technological skills and as masterpiece of human creative genius needs therefore to be interpreted as: An outstanding example (or the peak) of a style evolved within a culture, having a high intellectual or symbolic endowment, and a high level of artistic, technical or technological skills .”<sup>13</sup>

This means that a nominated site should not only distinguish for its artistic or technical quality, but it should also be a pioneering and unique landmark in the history of art or technology. Uniqueness is not sufficient, on its own, to justify the inscription. State parties that have in their territory a nominated property they are not always objective and drifted by their emotion and national pride tend to characterize a property as exceptional and unique. The site must be evaluated in a broader

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<sup>11</sup> These can consist, in variable degrees, of different factors, such as: Uniqueness or extreme rarity of the document , The degree of novelty or importance of the influence exercised in time and/or in space by the work concerned, Its importance for the comprehension of the advancement of related historic events. International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS),2008 *The World Heritage List: What is OUV?* Berlin, Verlag, p. 11

<sup>12</sup> UNESCO, The criteria for Selection

<sup>13</sup> ICOMOS 2011, p.34

worldwide cultural and historical context, and its value will be considered in relation to this context. There are many exceptional monuments like for instance Taj Majal or Statue of Liberty that are listed under criterion (i). Not all monuments/sites were build to be deemed as masterpiece and not all creators are genius. There are cases where something was created to fulfill a functional purpose and it turned out be masterpieces and deemed to be of outstanding universal value. When a site or monument fulfils the requirements to be listed under criterion (i) it is important to search whether it also meets the authenticity and integrity criteria. We have to search through different aspects- depending of the property/site- in order to conclude if the nominated property is authentic. Some of these aspects are the form and the design of a site, the materials used, its function and purpose, the traditions or techniques used, where the site is located and in cases of intangible heritage the language and other forms.

*Criterion (ii):* “exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design.”<sup>14</sup> The importance of this criterion is the word ‘interchange of human values’. Initially the criterion referred to the word “influence” but after many thematic meetings it was replaced by the phrase “interchange of human values”. In many cases influences are what normally we refer to when we mention history, art, technology, urban design or architecture. Value is the word frequently used to refer to cultural, social or economic aspects. What ICOMOS estimates is whether the physical features of a property, such as the architecture structure, the monumental arts, the town-planning or landscape design are linked to an interchange of ideas. In many cases properties were influenced by an idea or structure imported from another region or area- especially in war times where populations moved- and which changed the homogeneity of the recipient region. Respectively, a property may itself have provoked the exchange inspiring ideas that influenced other regions. Furthermore, mutual exchange

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<sup>14</sup> UNESCO, The criteria for Selection

of ideas between different civilizations, could have created unique and exceptional sites.

In all cases the interaction of human ideas, values or influences needs to be examined in compare to the influence the property had at the time or on people and societies in order to be consider as an outstanding example. “In many properties, the influences or interchanges refer to the tangible dissemination of ideas important in the history of art, architecture or urban design, or the history of technology, all as embodied in the attributes of the property.”<sup>15</sup> The values or influence interchanged must be apparent and distinguishable in the nominated site, otherwise an insignificant cultural feature, or the transfer of a value with modest impact, are inadequate and therefore does not comply with the criteria for inscription. When we refer to this criterion to describe a well-preserved example of a type of property it is recommended that we examined it with other criteria as well to reinforce the arguments.

*Criterion (iii):* “bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared in contrast to criterion (ii), this criterion considers processes – cultural traditions that have, normally over a long period of time, defined a way of life or civilization in a geo-cultural region.”<sup>16</sup> Such cultural traditions may still be alive, instead of other cultural traditions that have disappeared. In that case the testimony of their existence is their memorial. When we refer to the word tradition we mean both tangible and intangible heritage. It could be a civilization, a history of an area or mythology that no longer exists or it may be spatial planning or urban patterns. “Alternatively, the traditions may be intangible but with precise tangible results – such as for instance rock art images which can reflect ideas or aspects of cultural traditions.”<sup>17</sup> The important phrase in this criterion is ‘exceptional testimony’. The testimony is the evidence of a cultural tradition or civilization and must be distinguishable in the nominated property. The nominated cultural tradition or civilization must be examined and evaluat-

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<sup>15</sup> ICOMOS 2011, 35

<sup>16</sup> UNESCO, The criteria for Selection

<sup>17</sup> ICOMOS 2011,36

ed in the context of Outstanding Universal Value. The examined cultural tradition or civilization must be of universal importance and not only significant to a specific area or culture. A civilization or a tradition examined must demonstrate its living duration through time, an organized character or unifying qualities, and that it influences a rather significant group of people. “Relatively short-lived societies, groups lacking an organized character or unifying qualities, or very small groups may not necessarily be regarded as civilizations.”<sup>18</sup> The authenticity feature in that criterion has to do with the originality and verification of the sources especially when the property has disappeared. The monument of Angkor in Cambodia was registered under criterion (iii) for its exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition.

*Criterion (iv):* “be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history.”<sup>19</sup> This criterion refers to properties with architectural uniqueness or exceptional urban design, illustrating one or more noteworthy stages in history. The meaning of this criterion is that the site or monument must in some way display evidences that it was related with a major moment in human history. The site or monument may have been influenced by that period, or may reflect that period’s impact. The historical moment reflected in the property examined must be considered to be of outstanding importance. The property must reflect the important stage in human history, whether it is political or economic history, artistic or scientific history, which had influential and important consequences in an outstanding and exceptional way. Such a stage needs to be estimated both in a regional and universal framework, and the stage must demonstrate its importance in that framework. A noteworthy phase in just the history of one country is inadequate unless there is a considerable regional or universal impact. There is also the time parameter to a stage. “A stage should be defined in terms of cultural history and the patterns of continuity and change in that history.”<sup>20</sup> An important time phase should be a distinct phase which is signifi-

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<sup>18</sup> ICOMOS 2011,36

<sup>19</sup> UNESCO, The criteria for Selection

<sup>20</sup> ICOMOS 2011,37

cant and famous within a cultural perspective. “The criterion should thus be used in relation to significant ‘prototypes’ or strongly representative examples of a defined type of property. This criterion is not meant to encourage or allow the inscription of an example of every type of building, ensemble or landscape in the world – even if it is an outstanding example.”<sup>21</sup> For instance the Tower of London was listed under criterion (iv) due to its military architecture and the role it played in the saga of British history. Important role for a building or a landscape to be inscribed under criterion (iv) it is the authenticity and integrity criteria. Even though it matches the exceptional and unique criterion we have to search through different aspects- depending of the property/site- in order to conclude if the nominated property is authentic. These aspects are the form and design of the building; the materials and substance; the purpose for it was build; techniques or management systems; the place situated.

*Criterion (v):* “be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change.”<sup>22</sup> Under that criterion we usually meet historic towns, archaeological sites, industrial areas, landscapes and ecosystems. Traditional settlements may be urban or rural. The important feature of this criterion is that the site must represent a unique and exceptional structure but also in relationship with particular culture. “It is sometimes assumed that the emphasis in this criterion is on the impact of irreversible change – in that a property that is vulnerable to irreversible change is therefore of outstanding value.”<sup>23</sup> There plenty of vulnerable monuments that were vibrant and consistent, but through time and under the circumstances they are facing distinction or a major part of their structure has already vanished and only few remaining have survived to remind a type of settlement or land-use. From this criterion we should emphasize to the phrase ‘land-use’. In order for a property to be considered traditional it must have passed and long living period linked to the

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<sup>21</sup> ICOMOS 2011,37

<sup>22</sup> UNESCO, The criteria for Selection

<sup>23</sup> ICOMOS 2011, 38

settlement or use. As mentioned to the other criteria here as well the settlement or use must also demonstrate an exceptional and outstanding depiction of a culture or human interaction with the environment. The importance of the settlement or use must be distinguished within the life of the culture, or the human interaction must have not only regional but also universal significance.

*Criterion (vi):* “be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance. (The Committee considers that this criterion should preferably be used in combination with other criteria.)”<sup>24</sup> This criterion is mostly concerning ideas, cultural ideas, political and religious beliefs, religious or science ideas, historical events, political leaders, wars and conflict, or ideas in town planning or structural innovations or even mythology. This criterion basic refers to intangible heritage that it may lead to a tangible impact within the property. For example, there are landscapes or mountains worldwide dedicated to some gods and considered sacred or inspirational or they are the source of artists’ inspiration or the property is just related with events that have an impact on human history and are of outstanding importance. As in every other criterion, the characterization of the events, the artistic works or the traditions as being of outstanding universal value, is the key feature. The importance of these events, ideas, traditions or artistic works and how they influence the property must be clearly distinguishable.

As we know the World Heritage Convention refers specifically to tangible properties. This criterion is the exception as it is referring to ideas and even to mythological stories that may have aspects of Outstanding Universal Value. The authenticity of these intangible heritages has to do with the genuineness especially when we deal with mythology. It is preferable that this criterion should be examined with other criteria. For instance, when a religion or a movement is of outstanding universal value and is directly related to a tangible property, then it is of absolute importance to be inscribed on the list as long as it demonstrates outstanding example of direct or tangible relations.

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<sup>24</sup> UNESCO, The criteria for Selection

*Criterion (vii):* “contain superlative natural phenomena or areas of exceptional natural beauty and aesthetic importance.”<sup>25</sup> When the criterion states ‘superlative natural phenomena’, it refers to natural property that is extraordinary and objectively speaking they are unique as for example highest mountain, deepest canyon or highest waterfall. To distinguish a natural property for its ‘beauty and aesthetic importance’, is not easy to do due to lack objectiveness. There are many intellectual approaches analyzing the features of the beauty and aesthetics of natural areas. This criterion is the example of the combination of the two basic elements of the Convention, the natural and cultural heritage. It examines natural landscapes but in relation with aesthetic importance meaning the history and the culture. By no means this criterion should not be confused and related to the other criteria referring to the aesthetic value of cultural property or landscapes because the properties are examined under cultural criteria and their impact from cultural aspect. Furthermore, natural properties examined for inscription under this criterion should demonstrate uniqueness and importance not in a regional framework but in a universal framework and in comparison with other natural sites. This feature distinguishes the use of the aesthetic element of this criterion from those features used when we examine a cultural property. “Evaluation in relation to this aspect is based on comparison with properties previously inscribed by the World Heritage Committee under this criterion and, to the extent possible, it also involves a comparison of measurable indicators of scenic value.”<sup>26</sup> It is also recommended - as stated in the previous criterion- that this criterion should be examined with relationship with at least one other natural criterion.

*Criterion (viii):* “be outstanding examples representing major stages of Earth’s history, including the record of life, significant ongoing geological processes in the development of landforms, or significant geomorphic or physiographic features.”<sup>27</sup> This criterion is specific and to examine it someone must be specialist in geological

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<sup>25</sup> UNESCO, The criteria for Selection

<sup>26</sup> ICOMOS 2011,40

<sup>27</sup> UNESCO, The criteria for Selection

features. Under this specialized criterion we examine particular cases concerning geological features, natural phenomena and so on that common people without knowledge in that area is difficult to approach. For this reason possible nominations with geological specificity are examined by geological experts and scientists used by IUCN. This criterion concerns nominations that have a global impact, for instance geological formations that possibly influenced the Earth's structure and life's evolution on Earth. Examination of the global impact that a possible nomination had in Earth's history is the first key element of that criterion. Nominated properties must demonstrate their impact in earth's history and the drastic changes they created, for instance phenomena that developed the planet such as the genesis and development of mountains, meteorite impacts, continental movement and rift valley development and changing climate in the geological past. "Properties that may be considered for inscription on the World Heritage List under this category would primarily involve major discoveries that have led to our overall understanding of Earth processes and forms as revealed by rock sequences or associations, rather than fossil assemblages."<sup>28</sup> Another important aspect of this criterion is a careful examination of the record of life is required. This compartment of the criterion examines paleontological (fossil) sites. Examining the significant ongoing geological processes in the development of landforms is also important. In order to inscribe a property with geomorphologic feature it is important to prove that its geological processes are related to important landscapes and landforms such as those associated with mountains, glaciers active volcanoes, deserts, island and coasts, rivers and deltas. Finally someone should examine the significant geomorphic or physiographic features of the nominated properties. This part of the criterion includes geomorphic features resulting from earlier or longstanding periods of activity, such as extinct volcanoes and relict glacial landforms. Furthermore, landforms that are the products of active processes, and are closely linked with the consideration of processes listed above are included in this criterion. When we examine properties that should be inscribed under this criterion

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<sup>28</sup> ICOMOS 2011, 41

it is recommended to examine them in relation to the application of criterion (vii), regarding the aesthetic quality of some spectacular landforms.

*Criterion (ix):* “be outstanding examples representing significant ongoing ecological and biological processes in the evolution and development of terrestrial, fresh water, coastal and marine ecosystems and communities of plants and animals.”<sup>29</sup> This criterion is specialized and requires the contribution of scientists and researchers with knowledge regarding Earth’s ecosystems and the ecological and biological processes associated with their dynamics. The IUCN has developed especially for the examination of this criterion a number of global thematic studies regarding on forests, small island ecosystems, marine and coastal areas, boreal forests and mountains in order to aid the process.

*Criterion (x):* “contain the most important and significant natural habitats for in situ conservation of biological diversity, including those containing threatened species of Outstanding Universal Value from the point of view of science or conservation.”<sup>30</sup> As mentioned above this criterion is also specific concerning biological matters and ecosystems that is makes it difficult for someone non specialist to examine a nomination like this. For these reason there are many organizations specialized in different fields, assisting the Committee, such as for example the IUCN Red List, the Center of Plant Diversity and WWF’s Global 200 Ecoregions for Saving Life on Earth.

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<sup>29</sup> UNESCO, The criteria for Selection

<sup>30</sup> UNESCO, The criteria for Selection

## **The Castle of Ioannina: Outstanding Universal Value**

### ***Ioannina: History***

The first signs of human activity in the region of Ioannina there are indications that date back to the Paleolithic Age. The city was founded in the 6th century by the Byzantine Emperor Iustinianos. The name of the city probably comes from the monastery of St. John (Ioannis in Greek) the Baptist which was situated in the castle and probably founded around 510 a.C. or because they were under the protection of St. John the Baptist.

The city was conquered in 1082 by the Normans under the leadership of Bohemund, who repaired the existing city walls in order to repel the offensive of Emperor Alexios I Comnenos. The place where the city was built was of crucial strategic point as it was surrounded by the Pamvotis lake and that made it difficult for the enemies to approach. In the 13th century, the creation of the Prefecture of Epirus favored the city of Ioannina, which became the second most important city in the Prefecture, after its capital, Arta.

In 1430 the Ottomans under Sinan Pasha entered the city in exchange to respect many privileges of residents, mainly property and religious privileges. In 1611 Dionysios the Philosopher (or Skylosofos), former Bishop of Larissa led widespread uprising in the region. The revolt was suppressed but the city's governor Aslan Pasha, while Dionysios suffered to death outside the castle of Ioannina. The result of this uprising was the abolition of the privileges. The church of St. John the Baptist inside the castle was destroyed and the monks were killed. The church was then replaced by a mosque in 1618 (Aslan mosque, now a museum, on the castle) dedicated to Aslan Pasha who suppressed the movement of Dionysios. From that moment on, Greek residents were evicted from the castle and Turkish and Jewish families were settled inside.

Despite the eviction and the unpleasant situation that was created the citizens continued their activities mostly commercial and handicraft; these activities were the springboard for trading with important European commercial centers of the time, such as Venice and Livorno. These commercial activities gave great economic wealth to the city which led to a remarkable cultural activity. This involvement with different civilizations and cultures influenced the region in many aspects for instance in education, culture and architecture.

### ***The Castle of Ioannina***

The Castle, was built on a small peninsula extending in Pamvotis lake. Its present form is the result of extensive restoration works of Ali Pasha, governor of Epirus at the end of the 19th century. The Ottoman governor chose the castle for his administrative headquarters and as one of his residences – the other residence was in the island of the lake Pamvotis- due to its important strategic place. The palace was built in a hill inside the castle where he could control his region without distraction and also secure his integrity against his enemies due to difficult approach. The present appearance of the castle was made after several modifications and repairs during the years. The Byzantine walls are no longer distinguishable due to modifications that Ottoman governors had undertaken. Ali Pasha made extensive reconstructions of the castle walls in the early 19th century, which were completed in 1815. Ali Pasha made an effort to preserve, most of the pre-existing Byzantine fortifications and constructed new walls with thickness of 10 meters in front of the old ones. The gaps that the pre-existing walls had, were filled with rubble while arched galleries were created to form a large terraced surface on top where 250 cannons installed. The area inside its walls is about 200 acres, the perimeter is 2.000 m. and its width is 10 m.

The castle is divided in two citadels, which were established in the late 11th century; the northeastern citadel, where the palaces of the Byzantine emperors of the city stood, which were then replaced by the Ottoman Aslan Pasha Mosque, and the southeastern citadel, which is known by the name “Its Kale” meaning Inner fortress.

The northeastern citadel consists of an area of approximately 6,000 m<sup>2</sup>, surrounded by these imposing walls, like the enormous southern gate with the large circular tower. This side of the castle was called the "Upper Tower" and during the Byzantine era was the place where most of the powerful local governors lived. Where now the Aslan Pasha Mosque stands there was a church dedicated to Saint John which was demolished in 1618 by Aslan Pasha. In the place where Aslan Pasha Mosque is situated is the most privileged as it is higher with panoramic view to the castle, the city of Ioannina and the island. The complex consists of the mosque, the founder's tomb, an educational institution (madrasah) and a kitchen, which remain in a very good condition. That part of the citadel was the Muslim religious centre of the city. Today the Aslan Pasha Mosque works as Municipal Ethnographic Museum of Ioannina.

Next to the Mosque there are an Ottoman bath (hamam) with the unique architecture as it was crossed shaped and the Sufari Sarai (horsemen's palace) with the wooden roof. The huge stone-made Sufari Sarai, that used to be Ali Pasha's cavalry school, stands across, while the old Turkish Library is nearby. The Jewish Synagogue which is also in the castle, is the only existing monument of the once Jewish community of Ioannina.

The southeastern citadel, which is the larger of the two citadels, is known as "Its Kale", a Turkish word meaning inner fortress. It was constructed as a separate fortress extended to an area of 30,000 m<sup>2</sup>. In the center of the citadel we meet the Tower of Bohemund, a large circular tower which dates back to the Byzantine period. Archaeologists recently excavated Hellenistic-era foundations. During the Byzantine period in the southeastern citadel were the residences of the city's commanders, and during the Ottoman period the residences of local people. Here as well as is situated the cathedral church of the Taxiarches and the church of the Pantokrator.

When Ali Pasha ruled the city, the Its Kale was completely transformed in 1788 to become his main residence and his administrative headquarters. The new palace of the powerful commander was described by famous European travelers as an imposing, impressive, large stone structure with many windows, with great wealth and luxury of the decoration, giving excellent view to Lake Pamvotis. In a description of seraglios by the English physician and traveler H. Holland, who visited

Ioannina, in 1812-1813, mentioned inter alia "the seraglio of Ali Pasha is; built on a hill that provides control over the entire city; ".<sup>31</sup> In the known chalyvografia of W. Leitch and H. Adlard rendered as grand building with many windows on the first floor, arranged in series. The H. Holland also mention the waiting room of seraglios, which it describes as follows: " a gallery or hall of seraglios, windows offer spectacular views of the lake of Ioannina and the mountains of Pindos. The walls are painted and numerous doors leading to various parts of the palace; ".<sup>32</sup> Breathtaking and majestic was also the audience hall of seraglios. The lithograph by G. de la Poer Beresford, depicts a huge room, with large, arched windows and rich painted decoration on the ceiling and walls. The testimony of H. Holland is again informative on this room "; the pilasters of the walls and into the pits between the hanging arms of Vizier, fights, manuals and pistols, all exceptional art and adorned with gold and precious stones. A Turkish carpet covered the floor and couches surrounded the whole room. "<sup>33</sup>

The impressive palace with the complicated structure survived until 1870 when Ali Pasha's empire was defeated by the Sultan's troops. Next to the palace, on the northern side was the harem and the women's quarters. The older buildings have not survived destruction and the only remains that we meet now are the ruins of the circular Tower of Bohemund.

After the liberation of the city in 1913 from the Ottomans, whatever remained from the palace complex was used for the construction of the city's military hospital, until 1958 when architect V. Harisis, replaced the remains of the palace with a new building which was used as royal residence. From 1995 the building became the Byzantine Museum of Ioannina.

Next to the museum, on the eastern and on the highest part of the citadel, it is sited a magnificent monument, the Fethiye Mosque. The mosque replaced the once Byzantine-era cathedral church, and was originally built after the Ottoman con-

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<sup>31</sup> Pappas, 2001

<sup>32</sup> Papastavrou,1994

<sup>33</sup> Papastavrou,1994

quest in 1430. The mosque is an exceptional case of architectonic and cultural example. The mosque is consisted of one room housed a large dome resting on four blind arches with traditional wooden balcony on the north side. The interior of the mosque is also a magnificent example of art and architecture. The walls are covered with frescoes with floral and geometric patterns and Arabic inscriptions at most parts of the area. Definitely influenced by the involvement with different cultures, the movement of "neoclassicism" prevailed in the area at the late Ottoman period. Easily one can distinguish that the painted decorations reveals the art style of that period.

Outside the mosque there was an open gallery, but it suffered severe destructions and the only ruin remained in the place is the platform. In a very good condition reserved is the minaret with the gallery and a pointed roof. On top of the base of the minaret, there are well preserved three plates with relief decoration representing life in the Ottoman city and birds. According to sources, in the 15th century, after the surrender of the city of Ioannina to the Ottomans (1430), the Fethiye mosque was the first Muslim metzit (religious institution), that was built inside the castle. The name Fethiye is the Turkish version of the word "conquest."

Next to Fethiye mosque is the tomb of Ali Pasha and one of his wives. Undoubtedly, the tomb for the headless body of Ali was unique and impressive. The existing iron railing is an imitation of the authentic wrought iron balustrade, which survived until about 1940.

The part of Ali Pasha's palace complex that survived and retained its structure is the "Treasury" building to the north, a square building which its use is not known. The vaulted space next to the remained building was converted into the small church of the Holy Unmercenaries. The Treasury was restored in the interior in 1989–90 and now it is used for art restoration and as an exhibition on the history and methods of the famous silver art of Ioannina.

In the area of the Ali Pasha's palace complex, some of the buildings survived destruction and retained their form and structure. These are the kitchens, situated in the northwestern part of the citadel and now it is used as a cafeteria; the gunpowder store to the northeast of the Fethiye Mosque, which is mostly used as an educational space. Dispersed in the area of the citadel there are many half remained ruins of the

Ottoman period without knowing their use such as a ruined base of a circular tower dated back to Byzantine-era, a large two-storey stone building next to the Treasury, estimated to be parts of Ali Pasha's palace, as well as a small bath complex .

The Tourbes (mausoleum) is located east of the mosque of Aslan Pasha. This is the funerary monument dedicated to Aslan Pasha, the founder of the mosque and it is dating of the early 17th century. It is based at the edge of the castle on the top of rock which made it really difficult to built and represents a really innovative architecture construction of that period. The structure of the building is octagonal covered with a hemispherical dome, which brings the external cone roof slates. Inside the building visitors are impressed by the sculpture decoration in which the green color- the official color of Islam- dominates.

Around the türbe, in the area there are other eminent Muslim graves with tombstones with relief decoration and inscriptions. From resources of that period it is known that near Aslan's mausoleum there were other important burial monuments for Turkish officials, who were destroyed during the Second World War.

### ***The Outstanding Universal Value of the Castle of Ioannina***

The castle of Ioannina represents an architectural work and also an archaeological site. The castle with its graceful and soaring structure, is dating back to the Byzantine era. It is difficult to identify one influence or school of design as it combines the result of different projects from the Byzantine, Ottoman and Greek period. It was built in a peninsula, to a strategic point for the conquerors not easily accessible to the enemies. The fortress required a work of a large scale and played crucial strategic role for the political stability of the city . Built with stone, in 200 acres and a perimeter of 2.000 meters and width 10 m, it is impressive due to its complicated structure, decoration and architecture, which represents the combination of different artistic and architectural traditions which influenced the region. Its impact is heightened by its dramatic setting and an amazing view, the Pamvotis lake and the

rocky mountains of Epirus. The walls of the castle have survived destruction and they well preserved. They still retain their authenticity and integrity.

The castle combines gracefully important archaeological monuments and historic buildings, as well as religious and military property and memorials. Anyone can distinguish at first glance how influential was the Ottoman period for the area. The Ottoman period in Ioannina lasted for 500 years between 14<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century. But all those years- unlike other cities in Greece- Ioannina managed to progress economically, militarily and culturally because of the privileges given to them by the Ottoman conquerors. The exceptional and unique structure of the burial monument of Ali Pasha, a man who played a significant role in Greek history, makes it valuable and of great importance. The castle, despite the architectural interventions of different conquerors, the destructions and the pillages through the years, still has remained a historic monument of high quality and authenticity. What makes its architecture remarkable is- as mentioned before- the harmonic combination of different elements from several cultures- Greek and Ottoman culture- that have co existed for many centuries. The luxury in the decorations signifies the wealth of the city during the Ottoman period. Ioannina during the Ottoman period was known for being economical, spiritual and military progressed in compare with the other Greek cities. The economical and religious privileges given to the citizens by the Ottoman government gave them the opportunity to evolve. Ioannina was known for the merchants it had who travelled across Europe bringing home money and habits of other European countries. Many European visitors to the city of Ioannina compared it to other European cities due to its wealth and high educational level of its citizen. The contacts with other European civilizations and with the Ottoman civilization definitely inspired and influenced the architecture of the interior of the palace and its surroundings making it an exceptional case of architecture.

The castle exhibits an important interchange of human values over a span of time displaying an interchange of cultures and cultural fusion. The coexisting of mosques and Christian churches inside the castle bears an exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition and to the history of the area. Besides the archaeological monuments-the palace, the mosques, the Turkish baths and the Soufari Sarai (horsemen's palace) - houses inside the castle still retain their traditional structure. They were

built with stones and woods and they are considered preserved and owners are not allowed to change their original state. This urban pattern –the combination of Ottoman elements such as the mosques on the one hand and the Christian churches on the other hand that was created inside the castle -makes it unique and absorbs in full harmonization the characteristics of an internal cultural creating a unique and exceptional entity with international value and significance.

The castle of Ioannina separate and with the buildings inside it can be inscribed in the World Heritage List under criterion (ii) as it exhibits an important interchange of human values over a span of time, with distinguishable monumental arts, as it combines different architecture school and designs from the Byzantine, Ottoman and Greek Period. Additionally it can be inscribed under criterion (iv) because the monuments display some sort of cultural fusion and ideas about the history of the area, the architecture of that time and the urban design. Furthermore, the castle, the monuments and the houses surviving all those centuries bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a civilization that lived in the region and to a cultural tradition and so it can be inscribed under criterion (iii) as well. They show evidences of cultural diversity and cultural traditions, architecture and urban patterns.

Regarding its integrity the castle has retained its architectural and cultural functions. What makes it important is its quality structure and architecture and beyond doubt its unique place which makes it a landmark for the region. The castle is truly authentic as its external wall remained almost untouchable despite damages during the centuries. In the inside of the castle most of the buildings retained its original structure and every modifications or alterations made were in accordance and with respect to the original structure.

## **Preparing a nomination file**

The Convention, as mentioned before, encourages States Parties to take actions to preserve and maintain their heritage. State parties should propose monuments with outstanding universal value to be inscribed to the World Heritage List. For the World Heritage Committee in order to estimate the nomination of a property, it is of absolute importance, that the nominated property is included in the State Party Tentative List. A Tentative List is a record of properties located on the territory of a State Party that are considered suitable for nomination and match at least one of the criteria for inscription to the World Heritage List. As a result each State Party has to create its own Tentative List and include as many information as possible of their properties-the ones that according to them are unique and have Outstanding Universal Value- which they intend to propose for nomination during the following years.

To achieve this goal and to create a Tentative List State Parties should encourage the participation and collaboration of different stakeholders, including site managers, local communities, local and regional governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), experts like academics or researchers who have an understanding of the nominated property and other interested parties. The collaboration between different people involved in the process is necessary and useful in order to undertake a comparative analysis needed for the nomination dossier.

When a State Party nominates a site, it is first evaluated by the Advisory Bodies and then the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection of the Cultural and Natural Heritage of Outstanding Universal Value votes upon it. Every nominated site - depending whether is cultural or natural- is evaluated by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) or the World Conservation Union (IUCN) with the help of the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM) who provides useful and important information concern-

ing the nominated sites. Operational Guidelines set the procedures for the Advisory Body.

Each Advisory Body has groups of experts responsible for the consultation and the evaluation. Considering the proposals of the Advisory Bodies the World Heritage Committee makes the final decision of which site should be included on the World Heritage List, its Outstanding Universal Value and recommends how its should be managed and protected.

States Parties can have their own representatives at the Advisory Bodies to:

- a) ensure the identification, nomination, presentation, conservation and protection of their cultural and natural heritage;
- b) implement general policies on how their heritage can function in their community;
- c) create planning programs for the protection of the heritage;
- d) launch plans for the protection and conservation of the heritage;
- e) develop scientific and technical studies to launch actions that would eliminate the dangers for the heritage;
- f) “take appropriate legal, scientific, technical, administrative and financial measures to protect the heritage;
- g) foster the establishment or development of national or regional centers for training in the protection, conservation and presentation of the heritage and encourage scientific research in these fields;<sup>34</sup>
- h) not take any deliberate measures that directly or indirectly damage their heritage or that of another State Party to the Convention;<sup>35</sup>
- i) submit to the World Heritage Committee a catalog of properties suitable for inscription on the World Heritage List;
- j) contribute financially to the World Heritage Fund;
- k) encourage the establishment of foundations or associations to raise donations for the protection of the properties;
- l) give assistance to international fund-raising campaigns organized for the World Heritage Fund;<sup>36</sup>
- m) use educational and information programs to strengthen appreciation and respect by their peoples of the cultural and natural heritage defined in Articles 1 and 2 of the Convention, and to keep the public informed of the dangers threatening this heritage;<sup>37</sup>
- n) provide all the necessary in-

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<sup>34</sup>Article 5 of the World Heritage Convention.

<sup>35</sup> Article 6(3) of the World Heritage Convention

<sup>36</sup> Article 18 of the World Heritage Convention

<sup>37</sup> Article 27 of the World Heritage Convention.

formation to the World Heritage Committee on the implementation of the World Heritage Convention and state of conservation of properties<sup>38</sup>.”

## Conclusions

The 1972 World Heritage Convention has proven to be a successful and an effective instrument for the protection of cultural and natural heritage. Many countries have embraced the idea of the Convention and they have implemented it. But what makes the Convention successful is the feedback and the involvement of the local population for the protection of the cultural and natural items made.

In most of the developed and developing countries great efforts are undertaken to protect and preserve their cultural heritage and their natural resources. And although in the past cultural and natural resources they were examined separately, nowadays this has changed and their interaction is reflected in the World Heritage Convention. The idea of bringing cultural and natural heritage together in a single convention created the opportunity for exploring the complementarities and interactions between the two types of heritage. “The Convention establishes the diversity of two categories of heritage and also provides substantive concepts and procedural mechanisms aimed at forging closer links between the two in the context of its implementation”.<sup>39</sup>

The creation of the World Heritage Convention was a pioneering movement for the recognition, protection and preservation of cultural and natural aspects worldwide. It recognizes that every cultural and natural heritage is unique, valuable and irreplaceable for all mankind and for this reason all the efforts are focused to the

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<sup>38</sup> Article 29 of the World Heritage Convention.

<sup>39</sup> Cuido Carducci, The 1972 World Heritage Convention, A commentary

prevention of distortion and disappearance. Furthermore the World Heritage Committee is not inactive, it continually and steadily evolves and makes efforts to overcome many obstacles and flaws by establishing several "strategic objectives" to strengthen its commitment to conservation.

Inclusion of a monument or landscape on the World Heritage List by the Committee is a very dynamic and constantly process where countries participating in the World Heritage Committee have the responsibility to examine if the obligations are followed and communities have the obligation to constantly protect and maintain their property, especially if it included in the List. Besides natural hazards, the constantly increasing globalization requires the protection and the maintenance of monuments-sites, where only an international legitimate organization like UNESCO, could offer.

Furthermore, UNESCO was the only organization that aims to protect not only tangible properties and natural environments but also focuses its target to the protection of the "living tradition", the intangible cultural heritage of global communities, which are inherited from generation to generation. It is of great importance that intangible culture is preserved alive especially nowadays where communities developed radically in the context of globalization and new communication technologies and represent homogenizing tendencies while traditional features tend to eliminate.

A monument of great importance an exceptional significance is the Castle of Ioannina which holds worldwide interest regards an important page of Greek history and as expresses the "marriage" of eastern and western culture. The benefits of a monument to be inscribed in the World Heritage List as of outstanding importance are many. Firstly, it is the effective protection and preservation of the monument as the World Heritage Convention aids economical and with other measures the countries. The monument maintains this way its sustainability. Secondly, as soon as a monument is inscribed in the World Heritage List it gains instant publicity and as result many people from around the world would like to visit it. It is known that areas that have in their territory monuments included in the World Heritage List have increased their tourist numbers.

A monument of that significance as the Castle of Ioannina should be nominated to be in the World Heritage List. The benefits for the castle and for the region of Ioannina would be important. It would familiarize the world with the history of the monument and of the city and it with the cooperation of this major organization further destructions would be prevented in the future.

The city governors should encourage the nomination of the monument of the exceptional castle of Ioannina and of the unique buildings inside the castle because the benefits for the local community would be many culturally and economically. It would also sensitize the local community and citizens to protect and preserve their exceptional monument and learn more about the history, the culture and architecture of their city during that period.

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## Appendix

### SELECTION CRITERIA

- I. "to represent a masterpiece of human creative genius";
- II. "to exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design";
- III. "to bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared";
- IV. "to be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history";
- V. "to be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change";
- VI. "to be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance. (The Committee considers that this criterion should preferably be used in conjunction with other criteria)";
- VII. "to contain superlative natural phenomena or areas of exceptional natural beauty and aesthetic importance";
- VIII. "to be outstanding examples representing major stages of earth's history, including the record of life, significant on-going geological processes in the development of landforms, or significant geomorphic or physiographic features";
- IX. "to be outstanding examples representing significant on-going ecological and biological processes in the evolution and development of terrestrial,

fresh water, coastal and marine ecosystems and communities of plants and animals";

- X. "to contain the most important and significant natural habitats for in-site conservation of biological diversity, including those containing threatened species of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation."