

## IL TEMA DELL'USO NEL RESTAURO DELL'EDILIZIA STORICA E MONUMENTALE ATTRAVERSO L'EVOLUZIONE DELLE «CARTE DEL RESTAURO»

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### **Abstract.**

The problems relating to the correct use and compatibility of adaptations to historical and monumental buildings for human benefit, have always been of the utmost importance in the field of restoration, both in terms of buildings in a state of ruin (which are often used correctly: one only has to think of the many examples, such as theaters or amphitheaters of antiquity, used for musical and lyrical events), and of artifacts closer to us in time. We intend to demonstrate how the theoretical guidelines have evolved with regard to the use and adaptation of historical-architectural heritage, through the various national and international charters of restoration.

The first reference appears in the Venice Charter of 1964, «the conservation of monuments is always facilitated by making use of them for some socially useful purpose», but with a clear limitation, «such use is therefore desirable but it must not change the lay-out or decoration of the building. It is within these limits only that modifications demanded by a change of function should be envisaged and may be permitted» (Article 5). It was necessary to wait until the Amsterdam Declaration of 1975 to define this principle of conservation as «integrated with functions useful to society», declaring it clearly for the first time, "the result of the joint action of restoration techniques and the search for appropriate functions" (Article 7). More than ten years on, the 1987 Washington Declaration, stressed the importance of keeping cultural property in a good functional state, and for the first time in the field of restoration stated, «the preservation of historic centers must be an integral part of a coherent economic and social development policy».

And today? Since the end of the twentieth century there has been an expansion of the concept of correct conduct, to the point of aiming to harmonize the activities of the whole territory with the indispensable historical-environmental values (Krakow, 2000), and to insist that greater attention be paid to appropriate and compatible use in urban restoration. It is therefore necessary to verify whether "the correct rules of conduct" expressed by the Charters are still valid and above all current.

**Keywords:** *restoration, correct use, compatibility*