

ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE

Ateneo/DAD - Theatres and amphitheatres in Roman contexts of the Eastern Mediterranean. Conservation, enhancement within archaeological sites and urban areas

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Context of the research activity	<p>The research aims to propose compatible conservation and a sustainable enhancement of archaeological heritage by suggesting reuse strategies that, concerning contemporary needs, propose a sustainable tourism fruition project. So, through absolute respect for those transformation dynamics that have always guaranteed a close relationship between building, urban context and landscape.</p>
	<p>The architectural heritage of the classical age, present in Italy, Europe and all the countries of the Mediterranean basin has been the subject, over the centuries, of very different phenomena, which have decreed its abandonment or continuity of use, transformation or partial loss of integrity. In particular, buildings for entertainment (theatres, amphitheatres, circuses, stadiums, racetracks, odeia) as a result of destructive events or simply due to the interruption of use, have come down to us in a ruined state after having, in many cases, known seasons of transformation, conversion to new uses, repair of damage of various kinds, restoration or consolidation interventions, adaptation to new stylistic canons: processes that, on the one hand, have made it difficult today to read the characters that typify classical architecture, on the other hand, have guaranteed its survival through continuous integration into the most diverse urban and territorial activities.</p> <p>Today, these goods, mainly located in particularly significant natural contexts or urban areas, are an integral part of a system whose continuous transformations, dictated by those illusions aimed at making these contexts attractive to tourists, are inexorably creating clear separations between these monuments and the urban or landscape contexts in which they are located today. If for Italy and most of the Central-Northern European countries, the studies carried out so far have investigated the criticalities and potential of these assets so that correct conservation strategies are applied, even concerning the contemporary needs of the communities, for the Eastern European countries and those overlooking the Eastern Mediterranean, there is a lack of in-depth studies about the specific geographical contexts (countries of the former Yugoslavia, Albania, Greece), national reference</p>

Objectives

standards, policies for the protection and enhancement of archaeological heritage and, specifically, of ancient recreational and theatrical buildings. The research on ancient theatres, amphitheatres and recreational structures will also involve research topics in the field of architecture, as what was in the past entirely the responsibility of historians and especially archaeologists now requires a multidisciplinary technical and scientific intervention. Within this field of research, several skills and scientific contributions will be required, especially geomatics, to be understood as a discipline capable of scientifically analyzing certain phenomena and the research results through multiple IT tools.

The research will address a specific view of case studies and with a comparative approach to investigate different architectures located throughout the chosen territorial areas.

Therefore, the study will respond to the fundamental need to fully know the history, techniques and subsequent stratifications of these architectures to propose some protection and enhancement actions that can keep historical and memorial values alive, also fulfilling an educational function for future generations.

It will refer to a heritage that is not yet fully known, sometimes still hidden in the subsoil of our territories. Therefore, the mission of the research is to develop awareness within the communities, starting with government institutions, indicating this heritage as an element of growth and union between different populations and institutions. This culture wants to become a promoter of education in the construction of cooperation between European and non-European countries, inextricably linked by historical periods in close connection and by a future yet to be traced, in the perspective of a collaborative dialogue.

Therefore, the doctoral research aims to involve, in various capacities, scholars and researchers of the Polytechnic of Turin, starting with the professors of the Doctoral College in Architectural Heritage whose multidisciplinary skills will be able to stimulate reflections on the use and management of this heritage.

Furthermore, the contacts with main research centres and some universities (University of Zagreb, Tirana, Athens) and protection institutes, with which collaborations are already underway, will guarantee the permanence of the doctoral student at the specifically identified realities to deepen the doctoral research. These contacts will allow direct reading of the artefacts to favour the analysis of the phenomena of transformation and use of theatres and amphitheatre. It will help in the critical interpretation of the current processes of archaeological heritage management.

Therefore, the purpose of the research is to identify within the selected countries all the ancient structures for which there is information, analyzing their state of knowledge, conservation and valorization, also highlighting the morphological and formal characteristics, as well as the relationship with the urban and landscape environment in which these assets now are inserted.

Skills and competencies for the development of

Candidates must be willing to engage with new international contexts while building upon their knowledge of national realities. They should also possess a solid theoretical and methodological background in the field of conservation and restoration of archaeological heritage.

The commitment will involve not only bibliographic research and historical analysis of contexts and monuments but also active fieldwork, requiring organizational skills and the ability to engage with identified international entities.

Furthermore, the candidate must be able to manage networks of contacts to

**development of
the activity**

consolidate relationships that can lead to international research projects. The doctoral student will have to publish the partial results of his research in scientific publications (conference proceedings, journals, book chapters, etc.) during their PhD studies and actively participate in national and international conferences and exchange opportunities. The candidate must spend at least six months abroad.