

PRESS RELEASE

Architecture of the Modern Movement: An Integral Part of Europe's Cultural Heritage

**Stockholm Declaration Adopted at the Forum "Add Modernism!"
Europa Nostra Annual Congress in Stockholm, 7 June 2007**

The Hague, 25 June 2007: Participants of the **Forum: "Add Modernism! Modernist Architecture and Sites as Europe's Cultural Heritage"** adopted a declaration calling on "all European Institutions and Governments to apply the same rules, standards and funding structures to the protection and enhancement of architecture of the Modern Movement as are applied to all other architectural heritage".

For the full text of the Stockholm Declaration:

http://www.europanostra.org/downloads/documents/EN_stockholm_declaration_070607.pdf

The event which took place as part of the Europa Nostra Annual Congress in Stockholm (5 - 8 June 2007), attracted 300 experts in the field of cultural heritage protection and conservation, as well as architects and historians especially interested in the architecture of the Modern Movement. The Forum was jointly organised with **Europa Nostra-Sweden**, the **Swedish Association of Architects** and **DOCOMOMO International**.

The Forum "Add Modernism!" aimed to raise awareness among professionals, the general public, and importantly among decision-makers, of the place of 20th century Modernism in Europe's cultural heritage. The Forum was primarily policy and action orientated and focused on the cultural *raison d'être* of architecture of the Modern Movement and its contributions to Europe's cultural heritage, as well as on more technical and functional aspects of the conservation of the era's buildings and sites.

The Forum's participants were welcomed by **Europa Nostra's Executive President, Dr Andrea H. Schuler**, who introduced the special threats facing buildings of the Modern Movement. Schuler noted that the architecture of the Modern Movement "is nowadays considered an essential part of our architectural and intellectual heritage" and that Europa Nostra wishes to present it "as part of Europe's cultural heritage". This more modern heritage "opens a gateway for the more traditional European Heritage Movement into more recent times and can be a way to attract the interest of wider groups of civil society for the value of heritage conservation".

For the full text of Andrea Schuler's speech:

http://www.europanostra.org/downloads/speeches/andrea_schuler_stockholm_forum_070607.pdf

Wessel de Jonge, co-founder of DOCOMOMO International, in his opening address introduced DOCOMOMO's work for the documentation and conservation of the architecture of the Modern Movement during the past 20 years. He welcomed the involvement and renewed cooperation with Europa Nostra and the European heritage movement regarding the protection and enhancement of architecture of the Modern Movement. Speakers from Sweden and other European countries presented ideas and examples of the conservation and reuse of buildings from this era.

For the programme and list of speakers of the Forum "Add Modernism!":

<http://www.europanostra.org/stockholmcongress/forum.html>

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Europa Nostra, the pan-European Federation for Cultural Heritage, is the representative platform of over 230 heritage NGOs active in 40 countries across Europe. It is the voice of this vast movement of European civil society active in the field of heritage towards international bodies concerned, in particular the European Union Institutions, the Council of Europe and UNESCO.

Europa Nostra is dedicated to putting heritage and its benefits in the mainstream of public consciousness and to making heritage a priority for public policies both at European and national levels. Its specific objectives are to promote, at a European level, high standards of quality in the fields of heritage conservation, architecture, urban and rural planning and to advocate a balanced and sustainable development of urban and rural, built and natural environment.

Europa Nostra supports national and international campaigns for the preservation and rescue of Europe's heritage at risk. It encourages exemplary initiatives in favour of the conservation and enhancement of cultural heritage by recognising outstanding heritage achievements, in particular through the running of the European Union Prize for Cultural Heritage / Europa Nostra Awards. In early 2006, Europa Nostra was selected as the new Liaison Office for the coordination of the "European Heritage Days", a joint action of the Council of Europe and the European Commission.

Through its various activities, Europa Nostra seeks to highlight the importance of cultural heritage as a building block of European identity and as a contribution to the strengthening of the sense of European citizenship.

Feel free to pass this press release on to those who might be interested.