

PRESS RELEASE

GUIDELINES OF ARCHITECTURE POLICY OF THE VISEGRÁD FOUR

THE 12 POINTS

The associations of architects of the Visegrád Four agree that each member country (Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary, Slovakia) must procure that a national architecture policy is developed. The guidelines of national architecture policy are formed in the framework of public workshops, on public discussion fora. Such policy is adopted by the architecture profession and closely associated fellow professions, subject to government approval. Finally, the guidelines of architecture policy are realized in professional regulations and requirements at decision-making fora and at various levels of domestic and international legislation.

On occasion of the international conference titled the Architecture Policy of the Visegrád Four, V4 professional partners **summarized their common guidelines of architecture policy in 12 points.**




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THE 12 POINTS

1. Basic training. Education of architecture and visual culture must be included already in primary and secondary education.
2. Management of the impact of the built environment on the economy, on culture and the environment requires a holistic approach at government – ministerial – levels as well. The current “administrative division” does not sufficiently cover these areas; coordination is needed.
3. By reason of their nature and “motivations”, economic, cultural and environmental criteria must prevail in a completely different manner in the formation of the built environment. In the sphere of the economy, the ideal of solidarity; in the sphere of culture, the ideal of liberty, and in the area of the environment, the ideal of equality must be vindicated.
4. Incidental ad hoc interventions must be replaced by long-term planning and an aptness for long-term considerations.
5. Robust control in urban development; uncontrolled, “chaotic” urban growth to be halted; new means, methods and approaches are required in urban rearrangement and development.
6. Consistent and clear regulations – equally valid for everybody – are needed for practising the architect profession in accordance with the practice of European countries.
7. For public procurements and public assignments, the bid price in itself may not be a decisive aspect of assessment.
8. The profession of architecture has a duty to create a sustainable environment; to complete designs and construction works in a sustainable and energy-efficient manner; to reduce pollutant emissions loading the environment; to utilize materials and resources economically; and to apply renewable energy resources.
9. The built environment is highly responsible for the environmental crisis and the climate change, therefore architects must act in the knowledge of their responsibility.
10. Landscape and public space protection must be ensured in accordance with the basic principles of architecture.
11. Human beings are the subjects of architecture; life is the centre of living architecture.
12. Existing buildings, cities and infrastructures constitute the majority of the built environment, therefore their preservation, maintenance and transformation requires appropriate expertise and coordination.

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Architecture Policy of the Visegrád Four

International Conference

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architectural association

Czech Republic
Hungary
Poland
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