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Cordoba Path

Focus Group - Strategy

Krakow meeting (June 11-12, 2025)

Concept note (draft)

CONTEXT

The **Focus Group - Strategy** aims to clarify the strategic approach of the *New Urban Project*. The work takes into account the results of all the activities of the *Québec Roadmap* and the *Cordoba Path* in order to propose a strategy for the "Regeneration of Habitability in Historic Centers" in support of the sectoral strategies already in place in the OWHC cities.

OBJECTIVE

The aim of the first Focus Group - Strategy meeting in Krakow is to take stock of the form and content of member cities' tools and experience in planning and managing historic city centers, in order to determine the form and content of a "global strategy" for regenerating habitability in historic city centers as part of the OWHC's New Urban Project.

PROBLEMATICS

The Community of Practice has summarized the first 5 transversal *Objectives*, which together form a strategic basis for "Regenerating Habitability in Historic Centers" (*Évora Report*)

How can we incorporate these Objectives into a global strategy to generate structuring projects capable of triggering urban dynamics based on Habitability?

The Wesola Masterplan, currently being finalized in Krakow (*New Creative District in Kraków. Masterplan – Functional and Spatial Concept*) will serve as a case study for the first meeting of the Focus Group - Strategy. By examining the characteristics of this plan, the most recent and most innovative designed in Krakow, and putting it into perspective with other types of existing planning documents, enforceable or not, in the other participating cities, the Focus Group will be able to evaluate in particular:

- How the OWHC's Strategic Objectives may already be taken into account, and how they relate to each other;
- How the various plans effectively contribute to the regeneration of Habitability;

This starting point immediately raises questions of coherence and hierarchy between the different levels of plans, the responsibility of those who draw them up and the capacity of those who participate in their development, the monitoring of their effects and their relevance over time. Does the sum total of planning documents and tools guarantee the habitability of historic centers? What are the obstacles and challenges? In short, could the concept of a "global strategy" facilitate the design of structuring projects and inspire holistic planning tools that perhaps don't yet exist or are still too little implemented in OWHC cities?

CONTENT

The meeting, designed as a workshop to build concrete responses, will include the following elements, which will be developed in a detailed agenda:

1. Case study presentation (Wesola Master Plan, Krakow);
2. Presentations/introductions of the types of plans that exist in other cities, whether they are enforceable or not, or whether they focus exclusively on the historic center or encompass wider areas, whether they aim exclusively at heritage preservation or urban development;
3. Questioning the strategies and plans presented in light of the OWHC's Strategic Objectives and their contributions to regenerating habitability;
4. Identifying the issues and challenges posed by a holistic strategic approach to Habitability;
5. Evaluation of obstacles and opportunities to be developed in the perspective of the New Urban Project.