

ESTABLISHING ONGOING DIALOGUE BETWEEN LOCAL HERITAGE STAKEHOLDERS

UNESCO Local Committee Bordeaux (CLUB) - **Bordeaux, France**

1. DESCRIPTION

Since 2009, the City of Bordeaux has had a consultative body in the form of a committee that aims to maintain a structured and regular dialogue between urban project leaders (urban development, architecture, public spaces, infrastructure) and heritage stakeholders (government departments, experts, associations, civil society). Its objective is to assess architectural or urban transformation projects designed to meet contemporary needs in light of World Heritage requirements, to share the attributes of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) and to guide projects that reinforce – or at least do not have negative impacts – OUV and improve habitability in the historic centre.

2. CONTEXT THAT MOTIVATED THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PRACTICE

After Bordeaux - Port of the Moon was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2007, the impact of several structural projects on the OUV raised questions and called into question the methods of communication with the World Heritage Centre. The City recognised the need to provide more detailed explanations of technical documents to better clarify projects in relation to the heritage attributes of the property and improve communication and anticipation of potential attention points.

3. APPROACH FOLLOWED/METHOD

- **Composition:** The CLUB relies on the participation of City departments, the Order of Architects, the French Landscape Federation, the Council for Architecture, Urban Planning and the Environment (CAUE), heritage associations, local experts, neighbourhood representatives (since 2014) and the City's consulting architect.
- **Governance:** Coordination is provided by the municipal team in charge of World Heritage. Meetings are held regularly (monthly depending on the time of year). The CLUB's opinion informs but does not replace the decision-making authorities.
- **Procedure:** Sessions are structured around site visits and presentations followed by a debate. The CLUB produces information sheets and reports that are distributed to the relevant stakeholders. It uses a framework that outlines the attributes of the VUE and how they relate to habitability, to ensure a common understanding.



Place Stalingrad in Bordeaux

4. EXPECTED/IMMEDIATE/MEASURABLE EFFECTS

Expected effects

- Sustainably strengthen the governance of the World Heritage Site through anticipation and consultation.
- Ensure alignment between conservation, projects and habitability.
- Develop a shared culture of VUE attributes among local stakeholders.

Immediate effects

- De-escalation of conflicts through mediation and on-site discussions.
- Improvement in the quality of projects, integrating both heritage requirements and usage needs.
- Improved institutional communication, supported by reports demonstrating the review and adjustment of projects.

Measurable results

- Major financial savings through the proposal of alternative solutions and simplifications

5. KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Consultative approaches improve the quality and acceptability of urban projects through anticipation and mediation.
- Multi-stakeholder dialogue promotes reconciliation between heritage conservation and habitability by integrating the uses and needs of residents, as well as technical expertise.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

<https://www.bordeaux.fr/>

