

cultural heritage is practised in order to ensure its maintenance and accessibility, can serve as a positive example. The cost-effectiveness of buying such property is assured through tax breaks for the new owner. Another good example is the United Kingdom, where the involvement of cultural heritage monuments in contemporary life is well planned and the monuments themselves represent a significant source of funds for intervention and maintenance. English Heritage operates on several levels at the same time: research, conservation, awareness, facilitating access and activation of heritage in modern life.

Stakeholders involved in the process of restoring architectural heritage are architect-engineers, owners of cultural property, investors, protection services, local communities and the public. There are a number of architects in international practice who base their approach on the application of laws by which traditional architecture was built. On the other hand, there are a large number of architects who completely ignore traditional architecture, even when it comes to projects in old urban centres. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, in the mid-twentieth century, Juraj Neidhardt and Dusan Grabrijan spoke of the need for a new architecture required by new lifestyles, but advocated “cultural continuity” in shaping and realizing a connection with the past in the field of architecture.

The owners of cultural assets, who in most cases are also investors, primarily aim at achieving greater profits and see heritage as an obstacle to be removed rather than as a resource. However, there are private owners who are emotionally tied to cultural property (family heirlooms) and take all necessary measures to protect it. Citizens are involved in the process of adopting spatial planning documents through public inspection and verification. Further opportunities are limited and there is a need to examine the requirements, capabilities, desires and attitudes regarding both the spatial planning documentation and individual public buildings. Protection services in Bosnia and Herzegovina are defined by entities and there is a state-level Commission for the Preservation of National Monuments. The jurisdiction of the protection services is defined by law but there are many more stakeholders involved in the process (Ministry of Spatial Regulation, urban planners and municipal departments of urban planning) and there are conflicts in the legislation, so satisfactory results are not always achieved.

The Cekovica house restoration case study

Unfortunately, today it is possible to find a number of examples of complete devastation or destruction of cultural property. Different factors contributed to this, but the end result is the same: the objects are irretrievably lost. But if all the stakeholders in the process of restoration of architectural heritage actively participate in decision-making, the end result can be positive. Cekovica house in Pale is a positive example, where the joint work of all the stakeholders produced a favourable result for both cultural heritage and community interests.