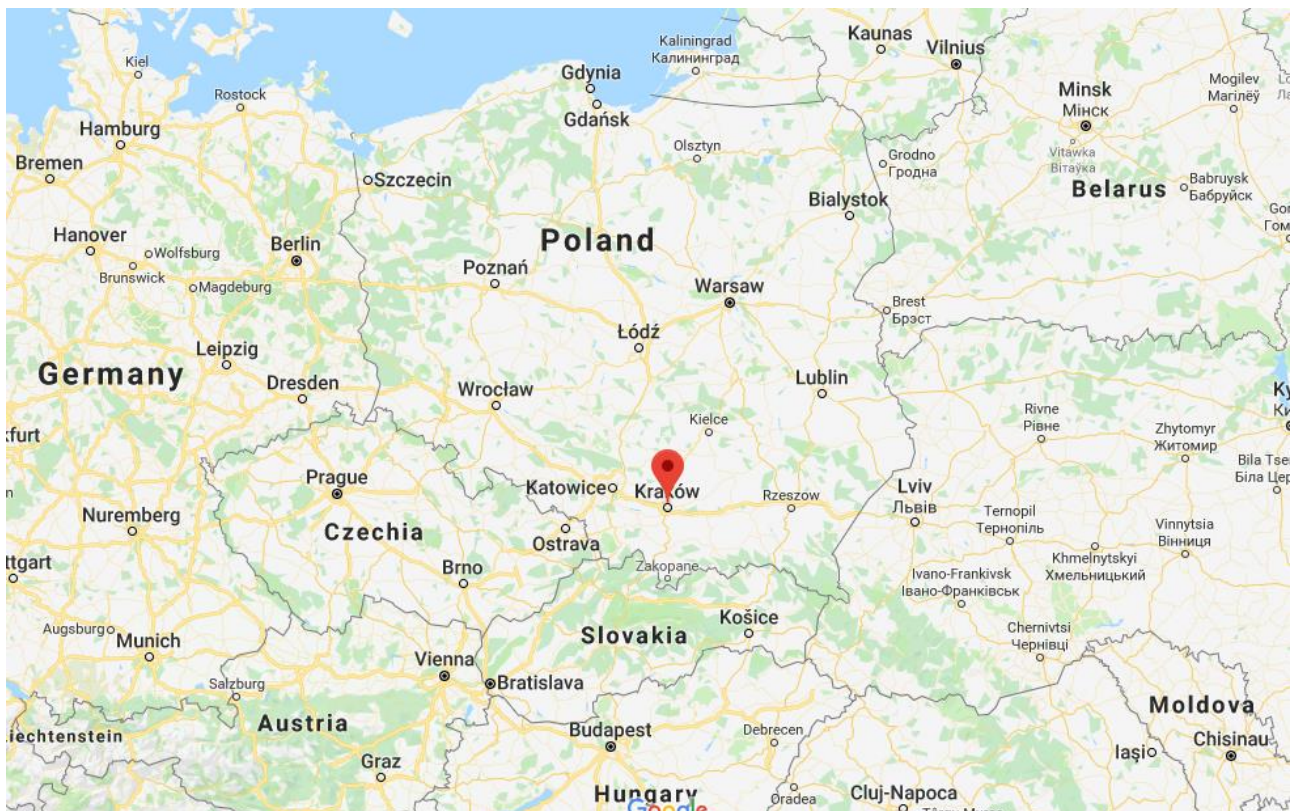






## NEWS: International conference in Cracow

International conference "Historic ruins - protection, use, management" was organised in Cracow (Poland) on 8 - 10 November 2018 by RUINS project consortium in cooperation with external stakeholders: Jagiellonian University in Cracow, Committee of Architecture & Urban Planning of Polish Academy of Sciences and International Committee on Theory & Philosophy of Conservation and Restoration.



*Location of Cracow (source: maps.google.com)*

The topic of the conference were broadly understood issues of contemporary protection of historic ruins and historical conditions of these activities. This difficult subject has always been present in the reflection on art and in the protection of monuments. At individual stages of the development of these disciplines, the successive generations of art lovers and conservators have tried to determine the place of ruins in cultural heritage and to look for ways to protect these sites. External conditions have changed radically, but there has always been the dominant view that historic ruin – a ruined object shaped in the long-term destruction process, is an outright monument and should be protected. Still, there have also emerged the concepts to rebuild the ruins to give them the forms of objects to which utility functions can be introduced. Such tendencies, significant in the modern era, have intensified again in recent decades, favoured by non-conservation conditions-technical, economic, organizational, ownership, social and cultural. As a consequence, the reconstruction of ruins is becoming more and more common across Europe and conservators have to face this problem again. In the past, many conferences were organised



and many publications were issued on the topic of historic ruins. These works intensified in Central Europe after the political transformation started in 1989, when the new economic, social and political situation created wide opportunities and threats in the utilisation of historic ruins. Environmental discussions, research programs, conferences and publications led, among others, to develop ment of a program document entitled Historic Ruins Protection Charterin 2009.

During the conference 4 thematic sessions were organized:

1. Ruins from the perspective of the history of art and culture
2. Technical and conservation issues for the protection of ruins
3. Development of ruins for modern utility functions
4. Management of historic ruins.

22 speeches were presenting during conference. 105 participants attended the conference.

## STATE OF ART REPORTS

### **Three State-of-Art Reports were published:**

1. Report assessing innovative restoration techniques, technologies and materials used in conservation.
2. Perception of medieval riuns by the society and expectations towards the use of ruins
3. Developed legal and regulatory framework for protection of medieval ruins

### **1. Report assessing innovative restoration techniques, technologies and materials used in conservation.**

This report focuses on innovative restoration techniques, technologies and materials used in conservation of ruins in particular. Priority has been given to those methods and procedures that are among the most used in the process of ruin protection and preservation. Preference was given also to the methods used at the workplaces of the members of the RUINS project consortium, as well as to original results of the applied research achieved at these workplaces.

For this reason, especially analytical and diagnostic methods are significantly represented in the report. The individual records are arranged in such a way that the descriptive characteristics of each method are presented first, then the extent of use or application and also the necessary degree of intervention. For a practical assessment a briefly summarizing of their advantages and disadvantages is namely important. Those interested in more information will appreciate keywords for internet searching, summary of the literature on the subject and links to important websites. In most cases, the examples of real applications are



included which can further clarify the scope of use. The presented review is selective as we stated above, so it is appropriate not to take it as a final list, but as a material that can be supplemented and updated on the basis of new knowledge and experience.

***To get more details about this report visit***

<https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/D.T1.3.1-Report-innovative-techniques-technologies-materials.pdf>

## **2. Perception of medieval ruins by the society and expectations towards the use of ruins**

The first step towards realization field research aimed at obtaining qualitative data on the connection of local people with ruins in their village was the creation of a qualitative questionnaire–list of questions, that will researchers ask respondents during the research. In the first place, it was necessary to clarify the precise areas of issues that are of interest to us. We have identified 4 areas. At the same time by conceptualizing the questions, it was necessary to ensure that the questions corresponded to the questionnaire created for the purpose of obtaining quantitative data. As a resource and at the same time as a verification tool, we chose a guideline designed for the study of cultural heritage created by Rhisiart, Martin. JPI Cultural Heritage and Global Change, Real-Time Delphi Study on the Future of Cultural Heritage Research. Based on this report, we have put together 4 basics that we wanted to verify in the field between the local population. We compiled the research questions to correspond with questions in the quantitative questionnaire, which was distributed by 600 respondents to fill in. In order to confirm the validity of the questionnaire responses, we put some questions similar in the qualitative research. The first part of the questionnaire addressed priority 4 rounds in the context of quantitative questionnaire. The second part included questions that were complementary. The goal of qualitative research was to verify and supplement the questionnaire method of direct narratives of the local population, which in the analysis and interpretation will create a holistic idea of our topic—a connection of local people with cultural heritage.

**The report contains 5 case studies covering the following facilities:**

1. Bzovik village
2. Montagnana
3. Castle in Janowiec
4. Selek castle in Valenje
5. Church St. Stosija in Putimaka (Zadar)

***To get more details about this report visit***

<https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/D.T2.3.1>



### 3. Developed legal and regulatory framework for protection of medieval ruins

Laws and legislation concerning Cultural Heritage protection and valorisation, in particular that referring to Medieval ruins, differ a lot among the European Nations, and it distinguishes the approach to the national Cultural Heritage in each Country. In this perspective, realising a survey dealing with the laws about the Cultural goods and the monuments in the countries that are partners of the Interreg Central Europe project “Ruins” seemed useful and considerable in order to focus differences and points of contact in the legislative codes. Thus, some focuses of attention have been selected in order to be brought to the attention of all the partners of the project and to have an uniform document.

The first point of attention that can be selected in order to deal with the relationship between Cultural Heritage and Ruins and Law, is about ownership and consistency of the Cultural Heritage in each country. In fact, the most important things are how and what define the Cultural Heritage, and the criteria used to select what is part of Cultural Heritage and what is not. Another important area of focus is that concerning the Authorities entitled to manage and preserve the Medieval Ruins and Monuments.

#### ***Whole report is available here:***

[https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/Deliverable-D.-T3.3.1-Rev-2.1-\(1\)-1.pdf](https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/Deliverable-D.-T3.3.1-Rev-2.1-(1)-1.pdf)

## ABOUT THE PROJECT

Topic of project are medieval ruins. In Europe there are at least several thousand historical ruins. Owners and managers of these sites struggle with the same problems: protection of ruins is problematic due to ongoing process of destruction, and modern use of ruins is limited. **Project objective is to give “the second life” to medieval ruins** through modern management and attributing contemporary, socially useful functions, while preserving historical value of these sites.

Project aims to develop and disseminate transnational guidelines and integrated model of contemporary use, modern management and protection of medieval ruins in Central Europe in order to enable elaboration of comprehensive management plans for ruined historical sites. Elaborated comprehensive management plans will help owners and managers of historical ruins, local, regional and public authorities exploit economic potential of this heritage in economic development of regions, and to preserve value of medieval ruins as cultural heritage.

Traditional approach to preservation of ruins has been focused on only one issue - how to maintain historical ruins from technical point of view. Innovation of project is to go beyond technical problems and to create integrated model that brings together 3 elements: contemporary use, modern management and sustainable preservation of ruins. Activities undertaken within project will be combination of research tasks concerning documentation and evaluation of technical state of ruins, conservation tasks concerning the form of protection of ruins and, most of all, activities aimed at contemporary use and modern management of historical ruins.



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Cooperation of 6 countries with various traditions and experiences will result in development of universal models that could be applied for management, use and protection of medieval ruins all over Europe, providing European added value.

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