

Terezín



Porolissum



Albarracín



RFC

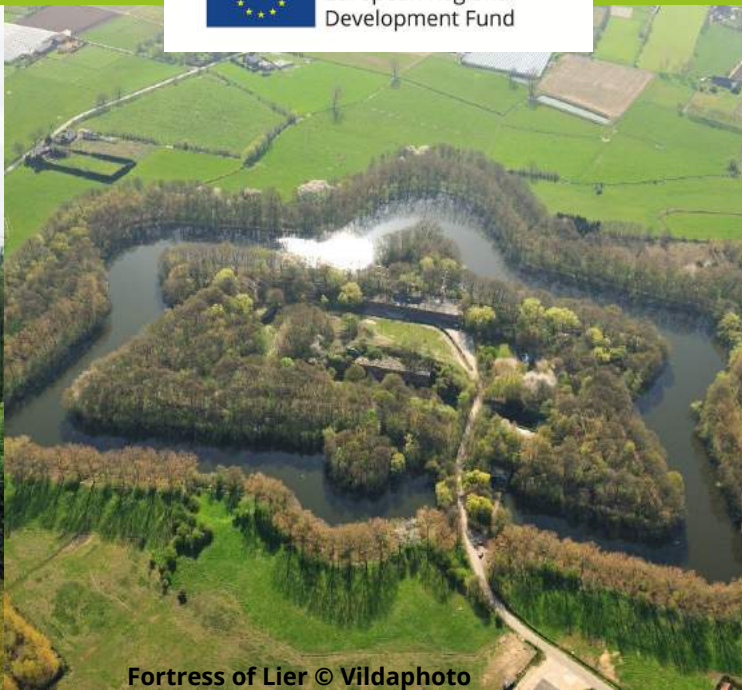


European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

Recapture the Fortress Cities



Bastion - City of Bardejov



Fortress of Lier © Vildaphoto



Ravelin 2

ABOUT RFC

RFC aims at the sustainable revitalisation of heritage buildings by improving the coexistence of fortified cities and neighbouring forts in urban regions. There is a high number of former fortresses and fortified sites of big historical value in Europe, established at different times.

This fortified heritage defines the image of today's landscape and the struggle and war around these cities define the current borders of municipalities, regions, countries and Europe. But in many cases such constructions are neglected, some derelict, some presented as historical monuments, or only partly utilised. In the majority of cases, they are fragmented and there is a problem to maintain them as this requires big financial investments and strong cooperation.

FOCUS ON

An innovative approach by developing smart ways of utilisation of old fortresses.

Make their maintenance easier and to include the fortresses into the life of the City by the development of sustainable strategies of the maintenance and exploitation of this heritage.

A new point of view for fortress structures, not only in a conservative way as protected heritage or environment.

An integrated approach for fortresses revitalisation.

PARTNERS:


- Leader Partner: Usti Region (Czech Republic)
- P2: Regional Landscape de Voorkempen - Representative and responsible for the Atwerp Regional Landscapes (Belgium)
- P3: Municipality of Komotini (Greece)
- P4: North-West Regional Development Agency (Romania)
- P5: The Prešov Self-Governing Region (Slovakia)
- P6: Provincial Government of Teruel (Spain)
- P7: City of Magdeburg (Germany)



Main events



Kickoff meeting
in Antwerp
(Belgium)



Teruel partner
meeting (Spain)



Ústí partner
meeting (Czech
Republic)



Magdeburg 1st
partner meeting
(Germany)



Study Visit
Magdeburg
(Germany)



Kickoff meeting in Antwerp

Representatives of all project partners participated in the RFC Kick-off meeting that was held in Antwerp, Belgium, 25 to 27 October 2019.

The official kick-off was given by depute of Province of Antwerp in castle Le Paige in Herentals, the place where RFC idea was born.

During the meeting sessions, all the partners participated in the study visits to Herentals, Lillo and Zandvliet. They also celebrated the steering committee and the thematic workshop.

MAIN ACTIONS

Presentations of partners
- Policy instruments and
Fortresses –
Cities solved under the project



Study visit to Lillo Zandvliet
and Herentals



1st Interregional Thematic
Workshop

Planning project's next steps





Teruel partner meeting

Teruel held the 2nd stakeholder meeting september 4th, 2020. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, the meeting was celebrated online. During the videoconference, the main progress of the project was presented to the stakeholders.

Good Practices presented by all project partners so far were also discussed, both those presented previously, which are more remarkable, and those presented in the previous semester.

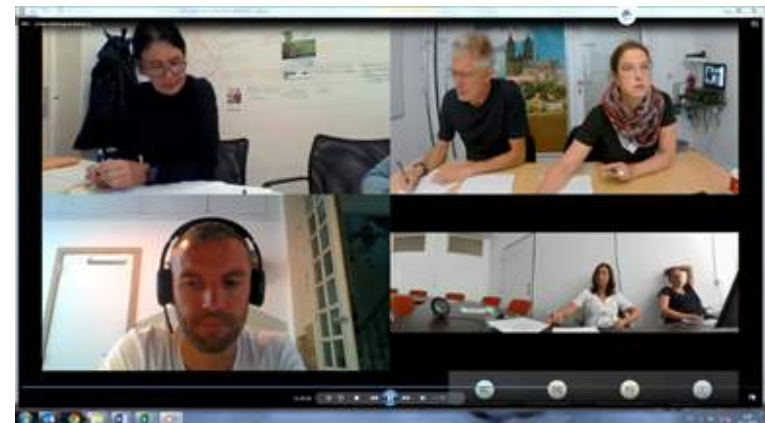
MAIN ACTIONS

Presentation of good practices

Broad debate about Good Practices

Participants made various proposals about the celebration of InfoDay and the difficulties to carry it out in person with the COVID-19 restrictions.

It was the first online meeting





Terezin partner meeting

All partners participated, 2nd and 3rd december 2020, in a virtual online study visit to the fortification of the town of Terezín. Part of the presentation was a tour of the city and historical fortification, presentation of reconstruction and maintenance of it.

From this meeting on, the partners were focus on preparing action plans in the coming months, with specific measures for their fortified cities.

In addition, in the thematic workshop, the topic was "Manage and maintain nature and the environment related to fortifications", to exchange knowledge and compare different cases, their problems and the solutions adopted.

MAIN ACTIONS

City tour and presentation of construction and maintenance of the the historical fortification

It suposed the starting point for Action Plans

The thematic workshop topic was "Manage and maintain nature and the environment related to fortifications"

It was the second online meeting





Magdeburg partner meeting

This meeting was celebrated online on 26th of January and 9th of March. The first part contained a thematical workshop about financing mechanisms and partners presented a first impression on their action plan ideas.

For the virtual study visit to Magdeburg, a variety of regional stakeholders presented their fortress-related projects to interested participants across Europe.

In both meetings the partners gave reports about their progress and news, giving special importance to expenditures and policies. At the end of the study visit, partners were informed about and discussed INTERREG EUROPE Additional Funding Possibilities.

MAIN ACTIONS

The topic of the thematic workshop was financing mechanisms.

Partners exchanged ideas for their action plans

Partners gave reports about their progress, giving special importance to expenditures and policies

For their virtual study visit, Magdeburg presented a selection of its fortress-related projects to the partners.




Good practices



Restoration of
Historic Buildings



Community Bee
Garden




10 small
sustainable
campings in
heritage or nature.



Live the castle



Rehabilitation of
the Tailors Tower
in Cluj-Napoca



Change of
defense barrack
into a "culture
fortress"

Restoration of Historic Buildings

P1: USTI REGION, Czech Republic

Terezin fortress, including the new town, was built 1780-1790 to protect the capital city Prague from North. It closed the Imperial road to Saxony and controlled the Elbe river. It was also built as huge military base able to support the Austrian Army fighting abroad. The fortress served its purpose till 1888.. The town become a momentum of the Second World War, as Terezin was Jewish ghetto and Gestapo prison.

After the army left at the end of 20th century, enormous buildings, fortifications and landscape was overtook by town municipality.

In the town remains historic buildings without use which provokes a need of their safeguard. The restoration project (2009–2015)

has helped to save and maintain the unique historic urban landscape which is protected by the Czech law. The key impact of the project is an opportunity to guarantee a re-use of the historic buildings and they are contributing to sustainable and adaptive (re)development.



10 small sustainable campings in heritage or nature.

P2: ANTWERP, Belgium

The context of the ten examples are all different, from an urban context or city edge towards more natural sites or even inside a private museum(park)

The main goal and objective is preservation and re-use of protected heritage and nature on a sustainable way, the second goal is the support for local tourism and promotion of the city, region or country - the way of implementation is mostly temporary (seasonal), some are permanent.

All examples of the small campings have been developed nearby or even inside heritage or natural sites and responds to it, by giving the place an added value and meaningful economic and touristic re-use that starts by

lodging but also expandable to food and drinks (summer bar), events (guided tours, workshops ...), connection with walking and cycling networks...



Rehabilitation of the Tailors Tower in Cluj-Napoca


P4: NORTH-WEST REGION, Romania

Tailor's Tower, ranked as A-class historical monument, is part of the 2nd medieval fortress of Cluj, first mentioned in 1475, during the reign of Matias Corvinus and rebuilt several times during the 17th and the 18th century. Latest rehabilitation took place in 2009, by the municipality, changing its destination into an Urban Culture Center, introducing a modern steel structure, independent and reversible, replacing the wooden boards and installing windows for functional

purposes but maintaining the stone walls, therefore keeping the medieval look also inside. Nowadays the Tailors' Tower hosts in its 783 sqm disposed on 3 level various cultural events every week, in its foyer, meeting and exhibition spaces

and conference hall, the spectacular design aiming to emphasize spatiality. It is also included in the touristic guides of Transylvania, being located in the very centre of the medieval Klausenburg/ Cluj-Napoca.



 Link for further information

Community Bee Garden

P5: PRESOV REGION, Slovakia

Community Bee Garden is an initiative of volunteers, which performs educational activities aimed at environmental protection in the historic bastion in the centre of Prešov - the so-called Franciscan Bastion.

The community bee garden initiated nationwide research aimed at determining the degree of environmental load on heavy metals using bees as a bioindicator. In this activity, they work closely with the University of Prešov

and other universities in Slovakia and with several dozen beekeepers throughout Slovakia.

The main mission of this initiative is to show a positive example of how to approach environmental protection and thus motivate other people to take similar activities.

Various events related to environmental protection are organized in Community garden as Ecological night (series of professional lectures), presentations for school children, beekeeping course, concerts.



Live the castle

P6: TERUEL, Spain

In the case of castles, the didactics of heritage has to be linked, necessarily, with its analysis as a primary source, but also with the determination of the identity and empathic values that the fortress may possess in the community in which it is located.

Interpretation becomes an effective weapon to be used as a decoder of the heritage reality, through different types of instruments

As a relatively recent discipline, historical recreation or reenactment has emerged as a very useful methodology in the dissemination of heritage in general, and of castles and fortified enclosures in particular. Historical reenactment sets in motion methodologies that allow us to disclose,

interpret and even teach the past. It is also one of the most comprehensive practices when used in heritage. When a fortified compound is set with reconstructed items, people, and artifacts from the past, it comes to life



Change of defense barrack into a "culture fortress"

P7: MAGDEBURG, Germany

This good practice promotes the establishment of a cultural and meeting place as an interface between the city and its universities thus preserving a listed former Prussian Defensive Barrack.

The project is a good example of civic engagement. By founding the student initiative with a subsequent skillful networking of different actors from a cultural and academic field, a broad citizenship could be won in support.

The interplay between conservation of the monument and cultural use strengthens the public perception of this cultural heritage and complements the cultural offer in the city.

This could only succeed with the support of public subsidies. The example can be applied to many cities in Europe.





Ústecký kraj



ΔΗΜΟΣ ΚΟΜΟΤΙΝΗΣ



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