



**Intervention of the ACE President Georg Pendl at the roundtable about law on architecture at the CNAPPC Congress, 6 July 2018, Rome**

First of all, I want to explain how the Profession is regulated at EU level.

The EU regulates through binding Directives regarding certain parts of the access and the practice of the architectural profession. We have the Qualifications Directive, which regulates access, we have the Procurement Directive, concerning rules about public procurement (including a chapter about competitions) and we have the Service Directive.

In the field of Culture we face the principle of subsidiarity: this means that binding regulations are not possible, and this area subject to the decisions of the Member Countries.

We must know, that there are many countries, actually more the half, who have published concluded architecture policy documents, all with clear recommendations.

I want to report on the initiative of the Swiss President, who invited all EU Ministers of Culture to Davos to debate and sign the Davos declaration on high quality Baukultur. I was invited and I attended in my capacity as ACE President, together with Government Head of States and representatives.

The term Baukultur has been used in the central European, German-speaking world for almost 20 years, and in Austria we have been working on it since 2002. The term is very comprehensive, including of course architecture, but also all activities concerning the built environment, so engineering, bridges, traffic solutions, landscaping, space planning, urban issues, public spaces, etc., but also the quality of the planning procedures, participation of users and the general public. We can define Baukultur as of common interest for the well-being of the society.

This opens up the field and we are gaining many allies for our work. One remarkable aspect of the Swiss initiative is the fact that the German term, Baukultur, was put on the table of a European debate.

We have to build on that.

The next step from our side in ACE is to aim for a Council Declaration or Recommendation concerning this matter. We had meetings already with the head of the DG Culture, Michel Magnier and are looking forward to following this path in a successful manner.

In general I want to say, that these activities are affirmative. Declarations do not change the world, but they make a difference. It is up to you all, to do the work for better architecture in your own places, cities and regions.

Finally, I want to congratulate Pino Cappocchin for his strength and will to have you all here in this hall, I am sure, there is a chance to create a real team of architects to fight for quality in the built environment and for quality of life for our citizens.