

# RUSSIAN FEDERATION

## Kremlin and Red Square, Moscow

### Brief description

Inextricably linked to all the most important historical and political events in Russia since the 13th century, the Kremlin (built between the 14th and 17th centuries by outstanding Russian and foreign architects) was the residence of the Great Prince and also a religious centre. At the foot of its ramparts, on Red Square, St Basil's Basilica is one of the most beautiful Russian Orthodox monuments.

### 1. Introduction

**Year(s) of Inscription** 1990

#### Agency responsible for site management

- The State Historical and Cultural Museum-Reserve The Moscow Kremlin  
Red Square, Kremlin, 103073 Moscow  
Website: [www.museum.ru/M287](http://www.museum.ru/M287)

### 2. Statement of Significance

**Inscription Criteria** C (i), (ii), (iv), (vi)

#### Justification provided by the State Party

Moscow Kremlin and adjoining it Red Square are the unique Art ensemble, genius masterpiece of the outstanding masters of many generations (C 17i) .

The Kremlin monuments greatly influenced not only the development of architecture, town-building and Applied Art of their period, but became standards for future (C 17ii).

The Kremlin is the outstanding example of buildings typical for their period; it's a universal value and has no analogy among other outstanding universal values of the world culture (C 17iv).

Moscow Kremlin and Red Square beginning from the 13th century are inseparably connected with all most important historical and political events in Russia (C 17vi).

#### As provided in ICOMOS evaluation

ICOMOS recommends its inclusion on the basis of Criteria I, II, III, IV and VI.

- Criterion I. The Kremlin contains within its walls a unique series of masterpieces of architecture and the plastic arts. There are religious monuments of exceptional beauty such as the Church of the Annunciation, the Cathedral of the Dormition, the Church of the Archangel and the bell tower of Ivan Veliki; there are palaces such as the Great Palace of the Kremlin which comprises within its walls the Church of the Nativity of the Virgin and the Teremnoi Palace. On Red Square is Saint Basil the Blessed, still a major edifice of Orthodox art.

- Criterion II. Russian architecture was clearly affected many times in its history by influences emanating from the Kremlin. A particular example is the Italian Renaissance. The influence of the style was felt when Ridolfo Fioravanti built the Cathedral of the Dormition (1475-79), and grew stronger with the Granovitaya Palata (Hall of Facets, 1487-91) by Marco Ruffo and Pietro Antonio Solario as well as in the towers of the fortified enceinte, built during the same period by Solario using principles established by Milanese engineers (the Nikolskaya and the Spasskaya both date from 1491). The Renaissance expression was even clearer in the classic capitals and shells of the Church of the Archangel reconstructed from 1505-09 by Alevisio Novi. This was a time when, according to Philoktee, a monk, Moscow had aspirations of becoming "the third Rome".

- Criterion III. The Kremlin bears unique testimony to the civilization of Czarist Russia by the organization of its space, its monuments, and its collections (like those of the Armory Palace, indissociable from the history of the site).

- Criterion IV. With its triangular enceinte pierced by five gates and reinforced with 29 towers, the Kremlin preserves the memory of the wooden fortifications erected by Yuri Dolgoruki c. 1156 on the hill at the confluence of the Moskova and the Nieglinnaya rivers (the Alexander Garden now covers the latter). By its layout and its history of transformations (in the 14th century Dimitri Donskoi had an enceinte of logs built, then the first stone wall), it is the prototype of the kreml, the citadel at the centre of old Russian towns, such as Pskov, Toula, Kazan or Smolensk.

- Criterion VI. From the 13th century to the founding of St. Petersburg, the Kremlin was directly and tangibly associated with every major event in Russian history. A 200-year period of obscurity ended in 1918 when it again became the seat of government today it houses the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Palace of Congress. The Mausoleum of Lenin on Red Square is the Soviet

Union's prime example of symbolic monumental architecture. To proclaim the universal significance of the Russian revolution, the funerary urns of heroes of the revolution were incorporated into the Kremlin's walls between the Nikolskaya and Spasskaya towers. The site thus combines in an exceptional manner the preserved vestiges of bygone days with present-day signs of one of the greatest events in modern history.

#### **Committee Decision**

Bureau (1990): The Bureau recommended that this property be included in the List and expressed the wish to receive from the Soviet authorities further details on alterations, either completed or planned, to the interiors of palaces not open to the public.

Session (1990): The Committee recommended that the authorities concerned observe the present configuration of the site, particularly the balance between the monuments and non-built areas.

- Statement of Significance adequately defines the outstanding universal value of the site
- No change required by State Party

#### **Boundaries and Buffer Zone**

- Status of boundaries of the site: adequate
- Buffer zone: adequate
- No change to buffer zone has been proposed by State Party

#### **Status of Authenticity/Integrity**

- World Heritage site values have not been maintained. The Kazan Cathedral and Iberian Gate with the Chapel have been rebuilt

### **3. Protection**

#### **Legislative and Administrative Arrangements**

- Agreement of 18.09.02 transmitted all federal property immovable objects of Kremlin to the Federal Agency of the State Historical and Cultural Museum-Reserve "Moscow Kremlin"
- Law: not provided
- Presidential Decree N° 392 (2001) "About improvement of the management of federal property objects on the Moscow Kremlin territory"; Governmental Decree (2001) "on approval of the Charter of the Moscow Kremlin"
- The protection arrangements are considered sufficiently effective

### **4. Management**

#### **Use of site/property**

- Visitor attraction, national park, religious use, governmental residence

#### **Management /Administrative Body**

- No steering group has been set up
- Site manager on full-time basis
- Levels of public authority who are primarily involved with the management of the site: national
- The current management system is sufficiently effective

#### **Actions proposed:**

- Establishment of the Board of Guardians at Kremlin museums

### **5. Management Plan**

- Management plan is being implemented
- Implementation commenced: not provided
- The current management plan considered to be adequate
- Responsibility for over-seeing the implementation of the management plan and monitoring its effectiveness: Ministry of Culture and Mass Communications, Federal Agency of Culture and Cinematography, Department of Immovable Monuments of History and Culture

### **6. Financial Resources**

#### **Financial situation**

- State Budget subsidies: not provided
- UNESCO International Campaign for the acquisition of equipment
- Funding is sufficient

### **7. Staffing Levels**

- Number of staff: 685

Rate of access to adequate professional staff across the following disciplines:

- Very good: interpretation, education
- Good: conservation, management, promotion, visitor management

### **8. Sources of Expertise and Training in Conservation and Management Techniques**

- Scientific-Expert Councils, Scientific-Methodological Councils
- Museum conservation facilities: not provided

- Training: national and international conferences, seminars and courses; International workshops organised by the UNESCO Chair in Urban and Architectural Conservation

### **9. Visitor Management**

- Visitor statistics: 1,670,700 visitors (in 2004)
- Visitor facilities: information and sensor kiosks, audio guides, souvenir shops and bookstores

### **10. Scientific Studies**

- Risk assessment of aerodynamic and acoustic impact of vehicular traffic; monitoring of hydro-geological condition; exploring deformations of basement and architectural superstructures, conditions of bearing and enclosure constructions, elements of décor; exploration of construction's load-carrying ability, state of materials, temperature and humidity regimes; Archaeological surveys at the Kremlin territory
- Archival and art-historical researches focused at study of historical-cultural and artistic value of the property

### **11. Education, Information and Awareness Building**

- An adequate number of signs referring to World Heritage site
- World Heritage Convention Emblem used on some publications
- Adequate awareness of World Heritage among: visitors, local communities, businesses, local authorities
- Web site available: [www.kremlin.ru](http://www.kremlin.ru)

### **12. Factors affecting the Property (State of Conservation)**

#### **Reactive monitoring reports**

- World Heritage Committee sessions: 18<sup>th</sup> (1994)

#### **Conservation interventions**

- Conservation/restoration works: not provided
- Present state of conservation: good.

#### **Threats and Risks to site**

- Development pressure, environmental pressure, tourism pressure
- No emergency measures have been taken

### **13. Monitoring**

- Formal monitoring programme is focused on the diagnosis of bearing, building envelope and décor
- No key indicators have been identified

### **14. Conclusions and Recommended Actions**

- Main benefits of WH status: conservation, economic, management
- Strengths of management: management policies have been brought in correspondence with the UNESCO recommendations
- Weaknesses of management: lack of coordination between stakeholders