



Ancient City of L'viv

Crossroads of trade routes and cultures

L'viv – the Ensemble of the Historic Centre, Ukraine – 3-16 August 2009

◆ Cultural site

The site: The city of L'viv, founded in the late Middle Ages, was a flourishing administrative, religious and commercial centre for several centuries. The medieval urban topography has been preserved virtually intact (in particular, there is evidence of the different ethnic communities who lived there), along with many fine Baroque and later buildings. In its urban fabric and its architecture, L'viv is an outstanding example of the fusion of the architectural and artistic traditions of Eastern Europe with those of Italy and Germany. The political and commercial role of L'viv attracted to it a number of ethnic groups with different cultural and religious traditions, who established separate yet interdependent communities within the city.



The project and its objectives: In the frame of the first World Heritage Volunteers campaign in 2008, Alternative-V organized an international work camp in the historical centre of L'viv, where volunteers worked on the photo fixing and inventory of World Heritage patrimony. In 2009 the volunteers will be involved in performing a wide variety of tasks aiming at the renovation of one of the historical parks in the city, and will run non-formal educational activities throughout the course of the project. Apart for the practical renovation work, the main objective is to raise the awareness of the local community on issues related to World Heritage that witnesses, as in the case of L'viv Historic centre, the positive relations and dialogue among different cultures. Involving the community and local volunteers performing concrete tasks which would help preserve local WH site is therefore an important tool stimulating the cooperation among local authorities, local community, local youth organisations and national bodies.

The activities: The renovation of the historical park will include earthworks, painting, plastering, masonry works not requiring high skills and qualifications. A number of activities promoting World Heritage education will be organised around the manual work, from a press-conference in the City Hall at the beginning of the project to a World Heritage exhibition open for the citizens, where posters, photos, information and other materials brought by the volunteers about World Heritage sites and other unique places in their home countries will be exhibited. A round table – to which representatives of the local NGOs and local community representatives will be invited – will address the topic of the importance of the World Heritage site in L'viv and how local community relate itself to this property. Workshops with children and their families about World Heritage will also take place in the park, with the use of the educational materials provided by World Heritage Centre.

Expected results: Apart from the physical renovation of the historical park, the project will ensure the local community receives detailed information and discuss World Heritage issues concerning the site next to which they live. Thanks to the volunteers' activities the local education council of the department on family, children and sports will also be informed and trained to use non-formal methods in World Heritage in youth and children clubs and in schools. The international volunteers will have experienced different methods and approaches to contribute to World Heritage promotion and preservation, and will be able to replicate and multiply this kind of initiatives in their own countries and regions.

Partners: The UNESCO National Commission of Ukraine at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine will be one of the main supporters for this project, together with the Ministry of Ukraine on Family, Youth and Sports Affairs. At the local level, L'viv Regional Youth Labour Centre, Lviv City Department for Historical Environment Protection and L'viv Association for Tourism Development will also be involved.

Organisation responsible for the project:

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World Heritage Volunteers - "Patrimonto Voluntary Action 2009"

Sources: for the description of the World Heritage site: UNESCO World Heritage List, <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list>
For the description of the activities: Alternative-V Ukraine and CCIVS, www.unesco.org/ccivs