

REPORT
of the Joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICCROM Advisory mission to
the World Heritage property

Historic Centre of Vienna (Austria)

11-13 March 2024



Belvedere Garden © Nicholas Clarke

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Most importantly, the mission team conveys its heartfelt thanks to all those involved in the mission, for the open and candid discussions and for their sincere engagement and determination to protect the 'Historic Centre of Vienna' World Heritage property.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND MAIN CONCLUSIONS

In December 2023 the State Party of Austria invited an Advisory mission to the property, the 'Historic Centre of Vienna' World Heritage property comprising experts from the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM. The mission was charged with complex and extensive tasks related to the property, focusing on providing advice to the State Party in the process of implementing the corrective measures that were adopted by the World Heritage Committee in 2021, in order to reach the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR). In this respect, the mission acknowledges the progress that the Federal Government of Austria and the City of Vienna have made in redressing the systemic management challenges at the property, and the large amount of engagement of all stakeholders in developing projects that are aligned with the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the Historic Centre of Vienna. These steps are critical to protect and preserve the property's OUV, as at the time of inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger in 2017, the primary deficiency concerned the management system of the property, which failed to fully protect its OUV. As part of the corrective measures, it is equally critical that responses to past decisions on changes and development projects made in the context of a weak management system halt further erosion of the OUV of the property.

The Terms of Reference of the mission included three main objectives:

1. to advise on how to proceed with the further development of the project proposal for the Heumarkt Neu development,
2. to assess the status of the implementation of the corrective measures, and
3. to advise the State Party on the corrective measures which are yet to be completed.

In this regard, the mission conducted site visits and held discussions with representatives of the State Party and concluded that the State Party has made substantial progress towards achieving the DSOCR and implementing the corrective measures adopted by the World Heritage Committee.

Design of the Heumarkt Neu project

One of the remaining major tasks for the State Party's relevant actors is implementing the corrective measures concerning the Heumarkt Neu project. The mission noted that the advice to the State Party on this project has been consistent since the project was first brought to the attention of the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies in 2012. At that time, the UNESCO-ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission noted that

"The project offers the possibility to improve the quality of the plot used by Ice-Skating Club and re-contextualize the area with regard to the Beethoven Platz and the fine "Gründerzeit" buildings across the street. It would also entail a new opening to the Wiener Konzerthaus.

With this project being planned, the challenge lies in the visual relationship between the building of the Hotel Intercontinental (volume, height) and Belvedere Palaces and garden. Currently, this hotel (constructed far before the inscription of the Historic Centre of Vienna on the World Heritage List) strongly disturbs the famous view from Belvedere. Therefore, no increase to the building's height should be aimed at in connection with the redo. On the contrary, it is warmly recommended to use this opportunity to reduce the height of the building and therefore reduce its negative visual impact." (2012 UNESCO-ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission, pp. 17-18).¹

This mission wishes to highlight that the latest design (dated August 2023) of the Heumarkt Neu project proposal includes elements that hold benefit for the City of Vienna and its inhabitants but concludes that these benefits can and should be realised without eroding the OUV of the property. To this end, the mission underlines that the project has two main problematic elements, which are planned as high-rise constructions: the hotel building and the residential building. The mission noted that the State Party has made significant efforts to reduce the negative impacts of the initial project proposal of these two buildings, but further reducing the size of both high-rise elements is a matter of concern for the developer from contractual and financial perspectives, and therefore an agreement between the developer and the City of Vienna will need to be found, for the project to fulfil both interests. The mission considers that it is possible to develop further design solutions for these, but the design options (for

¹ Available at: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1033/documents/>

which the mission provides four options, ranging from the most ideal to the maximum possible in height and scale) will still need to be accompanied by an iterative impact assessment process (conducted in accordance with the 2022 *Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context*²) and the chosen design option will need to respect the authenticity and integrity of the property as a whole and not compromise attributes that convey its OUV. The impact assessment should also examine any accompanying changes (including the reorientation of the ice-skating rink and the related need to relocate the Lothringerstraße, as well as the contribution of the corner of the Lothringerstraße and the Johannesgasse to its urban environment), in order to fully understand the impacts of all elements of the project and make informed decisions about the way forward.

Implementation of the other corrective measures adopted by the World Heritage Committee

The mission assessed the implementation of the majority of the other corrective measures as well, and concluded the following:

Planning tools and legal provisions

With regard to protection and management measures, the mission concludes that, there are still deficiencies in the planning tools and legislation, the most important of which is the lack of an obligation to carry out impact assessments in a systematic way for all scales of projects that have the potential to adversely affect the OUV and attributes of the property. This issue has implications both for the effective control of high-rise buildings within the property, its buffer zone and wider setting, and for the appropriate control of roof conversions and extensions. In addition, a more efficient process is needed for the selection of projects to be notified to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies in order to verify, or if necessary, achieve through dialogue design options that do not adversely affect the property. The mission also noted that the legal protection of historic gardens is still not fully resolved, with implications for the Schwarzenberg Garden, which is an important attribute conveying the property's OUV.

Management system and Management Plan of the property

Overall, the mission considers that the management system of the property has improved significantly but needs to be further developed and the role of the site managers strengthened to ensure the implementation of the provisions of the World Heritage Convention. With regard to the characteristics of the property, the approach to implementing the 2011 Historic Urban Landscape recommendation needs to be mainstreamed into all urban planning decision-making processes and the overall management system of the property. The mission notes that there are no measures yet put in place to monitor the efficacy of the management system and the updated Management Plan with regard to its capacity to protect the OUV of the property in the long term, which is also a key corrective measure included in the DSOCR. The monitoring of the state of conservation of the property (to maintain the OUV and its underlying attributes) is inherently linked with these above measures and the mission advises to enforce this link at all relevant levels.

Definition of the attributes that convey the Outstanding Universal Value of the 'Historic Centre of Vienna'

Another critical corrective measure that requires further attention is the improved definition of the attributes that convey the OUV of the property, as these provide the basis for conservation, sound planning and management.

Development projects

Projects proposed and implemented in the Schwarzenberg Complex

With regard to further specific projects that are part of the corrective measures, the mission advises that the full documentation for the ongoing renovation of the Schwarzenberg Palace should be submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies. Concerning the projects in its Garden, which together with the Palace is a key attribute of the property, the mission concludes that the proposed new hotel complex, while it underwent several very positive changes to mitigate its negative impacts, still adversely affects the property's OUV. The mission advises to pursue design options that will result in a minimal negative impact on the related attributes and implement all the mitigation measures proposed by the 2023 HIA through developing a specific Action Plan.

² Available at: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/guidance-toolkit-impact-assessments/>

Projects planned and implemented in the Karlsplatz area

In the case of the Wien Museum, which was completed and opened in December 2023, the mission noted that the recommendations of the 2018 mission for modifications to the project had not been adopted, and the requested full design plans were only submitted with the State Party's last state of conservation report in 2024. As a result, the relevant corrective measure could no longer be met. Should a proposal be made for the refurbishment of the Winterthur Building, the mission advises the City of Vienna to carefully consider the recommendations of the 2018 mission and to ensure that they are implemented in the proposed projects for the redesign of the Winterthur Building.

Further projects brought to the attention of the mission

The mission reviewed other projects brought to its attention by the State Party and provided advice on which of these needed to be notified and further discussed with the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS. The most notable of these projects is the planned new underground visitor centre in the Belvedere Garden, concerning which the mission advised the State Party to notify its plans to the World Heritage Centre as a matter of urgency, continue its planning with an impact assessment process, and engage in a dialogue with the Centre and ICOMOS on the project before irreversible decisions are made.

In conclusion, while fully acknowledging that the 'Historic Centre of Vienna' is a very complex urban property with multiple layers of heritage values, overlapping attributes, stakeholders and rightsholders with sometimes conflicting interests, the mission considers that, at this stage, several aspects of the DSOCR have not been fully achieved, that several corrective measures remain to be implemented and that, in practice, some of these have already passed the point of possible full implementation. While acknowledging that working towards the full achievement of the DSOCR is a major challenge for such a complex property, the mission considers that, overall, the State Party has, through collaborative and committed efforts, developed a management system that, once fully implemented, should be able to maintain the property's OUV. The most challenging tasks ahead are both to correct the potential negative impacts of projects proposed and approved before the improved measures were put in place, and to operationalise the improved protection and management measures in such a way that they demonstrate their effectiveness in conserving the OUV of the property and its attributes in the long-term.

The table below provides an overview of the assessment of the mission on the status of the implementation of the relevant corrective measures. The full list of detailed recommendations related to all the above topics is provided in **Chapter 3.** of this report.

Table 1 The assessment of the mission on the status of implementation of the relevant corrective measures

	N°	Indicator from the corrective measure table, related to the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger	Mission assessment of implementation
I.	1	The attributes which reflect and support the OUV of the property are clearly defined and described.	<i>The mission appreciated the progress made in outlining the attribute groups but considers that further development of a thorough understanding of the attributes that convey the OUV of the property is required.</i> The mission assesses this corrective measure as not yet achieved.
I	2	Sound planning tools and legal provisions foster the safeguarding of the property.	<i>The mission considers that significant progress has been made, in particular on the regional/local level, but the relevant spatial planning documents have not yet been updated, the revision of the federal level act is still in progress, and there is no obligation for systematic impact assessment processes for all types and scales of projects</i>

			<p><i>that could have larger than a negligible impact on the OUV of the property.</i></p> <p>The mission assesses this corrective measure as not yet fully achieved.</p>
I.	3	<p>A comprehensive Management Plan and a related management system are the legal basis for all future decisions concerning the World Heritage property.</p> <p>The Management Plan has been accepted by the World Heritage Committee and formally adopted by the Vienna Council and the Federal Government.</p> <p>The efficacy of the Management Plan is demonstrated in practice by way of regular monitoring reports through the national and international monitors of the property assigned by ICOMOS Austria.</p>	<p><i>The mission concludes that the Management Plan adopted by the Vienna City Council and embedded into the Viennese Building Code can be considered as a legal basis for future decision-making on the World Heritage property.</i></p> <p><i>The mission concludes that more time is needed to verify the efficacy of the Management Plan, which can be verified through the evaluation conducted over a 5-year period with the monitoring data collected.</i></p> <p><i>The mission considers very positive the involvement of ICOMOS Austria as national monitors for the proposed development, but this does not prove the efficacy of the overall Management Plan, which should be evaluated on the basis of the data collected from the monitoring programme.</i></p> <p>Progress has been made, but the mission assesses this corrective measure not yet been fully achieved.</p>
I.	4	<p>The Management Plan includes a comprehensive process <u>for continued monitoring and evaluation (a)</u> that is focused on retention of OUV while sustaining the economic growth of the City of Vienna.</p>	<p><i>The mission concludes that a monitoring programme to follow the progress of the implementation of the management plan, to track, document and report regularly on the status of all actions a regular basis has not been included in the Management Plan.</i></p> <p>The mission assesses this corrective measure not yet achieved but can be complemented with retrospective data collection.</p>
I.	5	<p>Assessment of a revised design for the Heumarkt Neu project by a new HIA based on the results of the 2019 HIA and following its methodology.</p>	<p><i>The mission concludes that since the approval of the project in 2017, significant progress has been made in revising the design of the Heumarkt Neu project based on three iterations of assessments (HIA 1, HIA 2, and HIA 2plus), including design versions proposed to reduce the negative impacts of the project.</i></p> <p>The mission assesses this corrective measure is nearing its achievement.</p>
II.	1	<p>Implementation of a revised design of the Heumarkt Neu project respecting the integrity and authenticity of the OUV of the property as a whole as measured through an independent HIA.</p>	<p><i>The Heumarkt Neu project is currently undergoing an iterative process of design revision and impact assessment towards reaching the implementation stage of the revised design.</i></p> <p>Progress has been made, but the mission assesses this corrective measure still to be achieved.</p>
II.	2	<p><u>No further high-rise development</u> within the property as well as in areas affecting its visual integrity.</p>	<p><i>The mission noted that there is a strong political commitment and an improved planning framework in place to implement this corrective measure. Nevertheless, both the relevant updated spatial planning documents, which will replace the Glacis Masterplan and the STEP 2035, are still pending.</i></p> <p>The mission assesses this corrective measure as not yet fully achieved.</p>

II.	3	<u>No further roof top conversions that adversely affect the historic skyline and the overall integrity of the property</u> and enhanced safeguarding of historic roof constructions based on the results of a comprehensive Roof Cadastre and the guidelines provided by way of the Standards for Built Heritage Conservation. ³	<p><i>The mission considers that the developed Roof Cadastre is a key tool in implementing this corrective measure, and notes that it will be extended to historic metal structures but considers that the planning practice put in place will also need to be tested for its adequacy over time.</i></p> <p>The mission assesses this corrective measure is nearing its achievement.</p>
II.	4a	Implementation of a revised design of the Heumarkt Neu project respecting the overall integrity and the authentic character of the logic of the Gründerzeit layout.	<p><i>The Heumarkt Neu project is currently undergoing an iterative process of design revision and impact assessment towards reaching the implementation stage of the revised design.</i></p> <p>Progress has been made, but the mission assesses this corrective measure still to be achieved.</p>
II.	4b	4b: No further roof top conversions that adversely affect the historic appearance of the Ringstraße ensemble and Gründerzeit layout.	<p><i>The mission acknowledges the significant progress made in implementing this corrective measure but considers that the Management Plan's role in this area needs to be revised and reinforced, and that the effectiveness of the planning framework enforced in securing this objective needs to be confirmed in the longer term.</i></p> <p>The mission assesses this corrective measure is not yet fully achieved.</p>
II.	4c	4c: No inadequate developments within the area of Ringstraße and Glacis.	<p><i>Significant progress has been made, but the relevant spatial planning documents need to be updated and the effectiveness of an integrated management system needs to be demonstrated.</i></p> <p><i>The August 2023 design version of the Heumarkt Neu project would be inappropriate for the urban morphology of the Ringstraß and Glacis.</i></p> <p>The mission assesses this corrective measure as not yet fully achieved.</p>
II.	5	No further roof top conversions of historically and artistically significant roof constructions.	<p><i>The mission acknowledges the significant progress made in implementing this corrective measure and considers that the amended Federal Monument Protection Act could become a solid tool for achieving this goal.</i></p> <p>The mission assesses this corrective measure as in need of longer-term confirmation of its completion.</p>
II.	6	No further disturbance of the baroque layout and visual integrity of the Belvedere/Schwarzenberg Complex (Palace and Gardens) including the vistas constituting an integral part of the original logic of this baroque Gesamtkunstwerk.	<p><i>The mission considers that the excavation of the basement of the proposed hotel annex has already disturbed the Baroque layout of the Schwarzenberg Palace and Garden, which is still reversible. However, the construction of the new hotel annex would result in a permanent disturbance to the visual integrity of this attribute and on the OUV of the property as a whole.</i></p> <p><i>The August 2023 design version of Heumarkt Neu project would lead to further disturbance of the vistas from the Upper Belvedere Palace and the top terraces of the Garden.</i></p>

³ <https://bda.gv.at/publikationen/standards- leitfaeden-richtlinien/standards-der- baudenkmalpflege/>

			The mission assesses this corrective measure not yet achieved.
II.	7	Karlsplatz/Wien Museum/Winterthur Building area is redesigned according to the findings of the 2018 Advisory mission and the related mission report.	<p>The mission assesses that this corrective measure is technically unachievable but concludes that the renovated museum would not have a fundamentally negatively on the OUV of the property.</p> <p><i>The Winterthur Building refurbishment or replacement remains pending.</i></p>
II	8	Priority to preservation of historic / original building stock of the property.	<p><i>Significant progress has been made, but the relevant spatial planning documents need to be updated and the effectiveness of an integrated management system needs to be demonstrated. In addition, further work is needed on the identification of attributes.</i></p> <p>The mission assesses this corrective measure as not yet fully achieved.</p>
II	9	Historic gardens and green spaces in general receive strong statutory protection and play a major role in preservation and management strategies not least with the aim to support and improve climate conditions in the urban area.	<p><i>Progress is made to include related protection and management measures in the Management Plan of the property, nevertheless, further measures are still required to ensure that historic gardens and green spaces in general receive strong legal protection.</i></p> <p>The mission assesses this corrective measure as not yet fully achieved.</p>
II.	10	Schwarzenberg Garden and Palace are recognized as a major attribute reflecting the OUV of the property and thus anchored in the list of attributes. The protection is ensured by way of the new comprehensive Management System for the Historic Centre of Vienna as well as by an updated garden care-plan taking in account the results of an independent HIA.	<p><i>The mission considers that the Schwarzenberg Garden and Palace ensemble is not adequately anchored in the Management Plan as a major attribute. The recent HIA has identified areas for improvement in the protection and management of the garden.</i></p> <p>Progress has been made, but the mission assesses this corrective measure not yet been fully achieved.</p>
III	3	Contemporary interventions in the property, its surrounding buffer zone and all areas that have potential visual impacts on the latter are based on sound assessments giving priority to the requirements of a World Heritage property.	<p><i>The application of the 2011 Historic Urban Landscape (HUL) recommendation still need better integration in a cross-cutting way in all decision-making processes for urban planning and into the overall management system of the property.</i></p> <p>The mission assesses this corrective measure as not yet fully achieved.</p>

1 BACKGROUND TO THE MISSION

The World Heritage property 'Historic Centre of Vienna' (Austria) was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2001 under criteria (ii), (iv) and (vi). A Retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (RSOUV) was adopted in 2016 by Decision **40 COM 8E** ([Annex 1](#)). The property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger in 2017, as the World Heritage Committee considered that the planning controls in force and specific projects posed serious and specific threats to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property.

The recognised threats at the time of inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger were grouped under three main categories:

- inadequate overall planning control mechanisms and legal framework;
- the possibility of constructing high-rise buildings in the historic centre;
- inappropriate project proposals (especially in the Karlsplatz area and the Vienna Ice-Skating Club – Intercontinental Hotel – Vienna Konzerthaus project [today called Heumarkt Neu project])

In 2021, the World Heritage Committee, at its extended 44th session (Fuzhou/online), adopted by Decision **44 COM 7A.32** ([Annex 2](#)) a Desired State of Conservation for the Removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) and a set of corrective measures as proposed by the State Party of Austria with a timeline.

In 2023, at its extended 45th session (Riyadh), the World Heritage Committee, commended the State Party for the progress made in implementing many of the adopted corrective measures, but also considered that a number of corrective measures still needed to be fully implemented and therefore decided to retain the property in the List of World Heritage in Danger (Decision **45 COM 7A.55** – [Annex 3](#)). In order to follow progress made towards the implementation of its recommendations, the World Heritage Committee also requested the State Party to submit a State of Conservation report, by 1 February 2024, to be examined at its 46th session.

On 31 January 2024, the State Party submitted to the World Heritage Centre the requested state of conservation report, which is included in the official documents that will be reviewed by the World Heritage Committee at its 46th session (21-31 July 2024, New Delhi, India).

Following this latest decision of the World Heritage Committee, on 21 December 2023, the State Party, Austria invited an Advisory mission to the property, involving experts from the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM. The State Party requested advice on the possibilities of defining acceptable thresholds for the design review options of the Heumarkt Neu project (located within the property), as well as assessment on the status of the implementation of the corrective measures developed for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger. The Terms of Reference for the mission (see [Annex 4](#)), jointly agreed between the State Party, the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM, were prepared based on this request and the mission took place between 11-13 March 2024.

Prior to the mission, the State Party was requested to provide the following information and documentation:

- the full list of the adopted corrective measures with their current implementation status and the foreseen deadline for the ones which are not yet completed;
- the current planning regulations for the Glacis and Ringstraße areas, with a description of the changes made since the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger;
- the status of the STEP-2025 policy (Guidelines for Vienna's urban development);
- the green facades policy for Vienna;
- Impact Assessment regulations/ legislation relevant to World Heritage at national and local level.

In addition, the State Party was asked to prepare a visual model showing options for the Heumarkt Neu project and present it during the mission.

The requested information and documentation were uploaded to a web platform provided by the State Party prior to the mission and a mission programme was prepared and agreed upon accordingly (see [Annex 5](#)).

The findings and recommendations of this Advisory mission, presented below, must therefore be understood against this background, and the advice provided in this report is intended to serve the following purposes:

- support the State Party in completing implementation of the corrective measures adopted by the World Heritage Committee in order to help reaching the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR);
- support the State Party in implementing the recommendations made the World Heritage Committee relevant to the adopted corrective measures; and
- advise the State Party on follow-up measures that may be required regarding development projects presented to the mission.

It is important to note that the role of the Advisory mission was consultative, and its mandate did not include the approval, rejection or endorsement of any proposal, nor to speak authoritatively on behalf of UNESCO/ICOMOS/ICCROM, nor to prejudge future technical reviews or decisions of the World Heritage Committee.

While the current mission is not a Reactive Monitoring mission and therefore, does not have in its scope to report back to the World Heritage Committee, the findings of the mission may inform the state of conservation report to be prepared by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies for the World Heritage Committee at its 46th session.

It is also important to note that in the recent past, three missions took place that visited the property:

- 11-15 November 2018 - High level WHC/ICOMOS Advisory mission to the World Heritage property of the Historic Centre of Vienna,
- 16-19 November 2015 ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the World Heritage property of the Historic Centre of Vienna,
- 17-20 September 2012 UNESCO-ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring Mission to the Historic Centre of Vienna and Palace and Gardens of Schönbrunn.

The reports of these missions are referenced in this report, using the relevant year of the missions as identification point.⁴

⁴ The reports of these missions are available on UNESCO's website dedicated to documents related to the 'Historic Centre of Vienna' World Heritage property through the following link:
<https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1033/documents/>

2 FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPONSE TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)

This section of the report is structured following the main topics covered by the Terms of Reference (ToR). To facilitate its use, some of the elements of the ToR have been combined, as they are interconnected. The complete Terms of Reference is included in [Annex 4](#), and the list of documentation requested during the mission in [Annex 8](#).

In this report, the mission provides information received for the purpose of the mission from the State Party (through documents and the discussion sessions) under the subtitle '*Discussion*'. It makes references and comments about the State Party assessment under the specific items within this chapter of the report and provides recommendations in sections with subtitles '*Considerations of the mission*' and provides advice on the individual items under the '*Recommendations*' subtitles.

2.1 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CORRECTIVE MEASURES ADOPTED BY THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE (TOR 2 AND 3)

Following the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger in 2017, the State Party, with the support of the World Heritage Centre (the Secretariat of the World Heritage Convention) and the Advisory Bodies, developed a list that reflect the DSOCR and a set of corrective measures with a timeline (see [Annex 2](#)). The list of 18 corrective measure is divided into three categories:

- Protection and management (5)
- Attributes (10)
- Integrity and authenticity (3)

The World Heritage Committee in 2021, with Decision **44 COM 7A.32**, adopted both the DSOCR and the corrective measures as proposed by the State Party. The State Party provided a list of the adopted corrective measures with assessment of their current implementation status, prior to the mission ([Annex 6](#)).

2.1.1 Planning tools and legal provisions

The adopted DSOCR for the property includes, among others, the following requirements to be met to protect and preserve the property in the long-term:

- Sound planning tools and legal provisions to foster the safeguarding of the property are in place.
- No inadequate developments occur within the area of Ringstraße and Glacis.
- Priority is given to the preservation of historic / original building stock of the property.
- Historic gardens and green spaces receive strong statutory protection and play a major role in preservation and management strategies to support and improve climate conditions in the urban area.
- Contemporary interventions in the property, its surrounding buffer zone and all areas that have potential visual impacts on the latter are based on sound assessments giving priority to the requirements of a World Heritage property.

The related corrective measures are formulated as follows:

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Rationale	Method of verification	Status of indicator in 2021 (during the time of submitting the CM)	Target completion date
I.	2	Sound planning tools and legal provisions foster the safeguarding of the property.	The deterioration of the OUV of the property largely is the result of insufficient or inappropriate planning tools and of legal provisions that were adapted rather to enable (inconsistent)	Planning tools and legal provisions at both Federal and regional level are amended according to the recommendations of the related Committee decisions, the 2012, 2015,	The implementation is based on the Management Plan and the implementation of a related management system. The latter shall encompass revised legal provisions that ensure the safeguarding of the property and	City of Vienna, June 2024 at the latest for the legal provisions on Federal Level (please also note N3 in section "Attributes").

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Rationale	Method of verification	Status of indicator in 2021 (during the time of submitting the CM)	Target completion date
			renewal than to foster conservation and preservation.	2018 mission reports, the results of the 2019 HIA and their effect monitored and proven.	prevents from further deterioration of its authenticity and integrity.	
II.	4c	No inadequate developments within the area of Ringstraße and Glacis.	<u>Currently the Masterplan Glacis allows</u> for uncertain developments without explicitly mentioning the World Heritage status as a basic parameter for any intervention.	The planning tools (particularly the Masterplan Glacis) have been revised according to the findings of the 2012, 2015 and 2018 missions and the related Committee decisions and are based on sound legal provisions adopted by the City Council of Vienna. The planning tools and regulations are an integral part of the Management Plan that has been reviewed, adopted, implemented and its efficacy proven.	The process of developing an integrated management system at present is work in progress.	From July 2021 on by way of regular monitoring reports (also note N3 "Protection and Management").

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Rationale	Method of verification	Status of indicator in 2021 (during the time of submitting the CM)	Target completion date
II.	8	Priority to preservation of historic/original building stock of the property.	Perceived inaccuracies and contradictions in the RSOUV as well as a very permissive interpretation of the Vienna Memorandum lead to a predomination of urban renewal instead of enhanced conservation of the existing building stock.	<p>The RSOUV has been clearly and definitively interpreted in the reviewed and adopted Management Plan.</p> <p>The property is defined as a protection zone according to the Vienna Building Code.</p> <p>National Monuments Protection is strengthened in accordance with the definition of attributes reflecting the OUV of the property.</p>	<p>Enhanced protection provided by a legal provision within the Viennese Building Code concerning all buildings built before 1945 (enacted 2018).</p> <p>Implementation of further protection measures takes place during the procedure of the elaboration of the Management Plan and the implementation of a related management system. National Monuments Protection is a constant process based on the Federal Monuments Protection Act; specific provisions concerning World Heritage protection will be amended.</p>	<p>July 2021 for the implementation of the Management Plan.</p> <p>End of 2021 for the implementation of the legal provisions on the regional level (City of Vienna), which constitute the majority of planning and protection provisions for the property according to the Austrian Federal System.</p> <p>June 2024 at the latest for the implementation of the amended Federal Monuments Protection Act (as the latter applies not only to Vienna but to the whole Federal Republic and has to be adopted by the Austrian Parliament).</p>

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Rationale	Method of verification	Status of indicator in 2021 (during the time of submitting the CM)	Target completion date
II.	9	Historic gardens and green spaces in general receive strong statutory protection and play a major role in preservation and management strategies not least with the aim to support and improve climate conditions in the urban area.	There is a gap in the suite of statutory protection mechanisms for the property, such that important gardens are not adequately protected. Already implemented building projects in historic gardens as well as projected development areas evident in the Masterplan Glacis currently are inconsistent with this goal or could cause harm to the generally well-preserved status of green spaces in the property.	The Masterplan Glacis declares green spaces as strict protection zones. Related regulations are evident in the Management Plan. Regulations are provided for enhanced protection of historic gardens within the national Monuments Protection Act or other legal matters concerned.	The implementation takes place during the procedure of the elaboration of the management plan and the implementation of a related management system. National legal regulations shall be implemented during the current legislators' term that ends in 2024.	January 2021 for submission of the HIA Schwarzenberg Garden. July 2021 for the Management Plan and Management System. Amendment of legal provisions on Federal level until June 2024 at the latest.
III.	3	Contemporary interventions in the property, its surrounding buffer zone and all areas that have potential visual impacts on the latter are based on sound assessments giving priority to the requirements of a World Heritage property.	Most of the recently put in place or projected contemporary interventions referred to the Vienna Memorandum. The latter in this context was partly misunderstood or misinterpreted. The Historic Urban Landscape (HUL) recommendations currently are not part of planning tools.	The HUL Recommendation constitutes a basic element within the Management Plan and related Management System and the success of this new Management System is proven through implementation. HIAs are carried out prior to the implementation of projects with potential impact on the authentic character of the property.	The implementation takes place during the procedure of the elaboration of the management plan and the implementation of a related management system.	July 2021 within the framework of the Management Plan and Management System.

Table 2. Corrective measures related to the planning tools and legal provisions

Discussion

The current legal framework in place for protecting and preserving the property

The State Party uses different legal, regulatory and planning instruments at both federal and municipal levels to provide legal protection of the World Heritage property and its buffer zone. This is primarily done through the classification of different historic built structures, built ensembles or public spaces, and conservation areas.

Austria signed the **World Heritage Convention** in 1992, and it came into force as federal law on 1st January 1993. As Austria ratified the 1972 Convention without clause, it must be implemented on all levels by the Austrian authorities and should not be contradicted by any regional or local legal provisions.

Concerning cultural World Heritage properties, the primary legal source of protection is ensured by the **Federal Act on the Protection of Monuments** (Monument Protection Act – MPA) from 1923, which is regularly updated. The MPA sets the legal framework for the interaction of relevant authorities (ministries, Federal Monuments Office, district administrations, committees), owners and the wider public. It considers that Austria's built heritage and built environment is largely a cultural treasure per se, and the MPA provides legal regulations concerning preservation, development, modernisation, and change of use. The latest revision of the MPA is ongoing, and the suggested update also concerns the protection of World Heritage in Austria. The modification proposal includes measures to enforce obligations related specifically to the protection and preservation of World Heritage properties. For designated federal monuments, it has already been a practice to obtain permission from both from the Federal Monuments Authority and the regional/local administration for any new development, however with the proposed amendment this will be applied to all World Heritage properties within Austria. The new provisions would enhance the obligation to maintain monuments and the potential to issue statutory instruments for the protection of ensembles that have specific importance on federal level. In addition, the Federal Monuments Office would become the central coordination between the various stakeholders, political bodies and administrations in World Heritage properties, and to this end, the Federal Minister for Arts, Culture, the Civil Service and Sport would establish an office at the Federal Monuments Office to fulfil this coordination task. Therefore, it is expected that in the near future, the Federal Monuments Authority will be fully embedded in the decision-making process for any future development permissions regarding World Heritage in Vienna and all of Austria. The proposed modifications of the MPA will be presented for adoption by the National Assembly in June 2024, and if accepted, it will enter into force on 1st September 2024.

Concerning specific measures included currently in the MPA, it is worth noting that the demolition of buildings in protection zones as well as of buildings constructed before 1945 is currently possible if there is no public interest in their conservation or if their structural condition is so poor that rehabilitation is technically impossible or economically unfeasible.

With regard to the protection of historic gardens, the mission has been informed that the protection of historic gardens in Austria do not fall under the auspices of the MPA, as these are not considered to be man-made, and therefore, only historic gardens that are owned by the State or the regional/local governments, or those for which private owners agree to protection, have legal protection (like the Belvedere). Legal protection for gardens that are in private ownership (like the Schwarzenberg Garden), could only be issued if the owner specifically agrees to this.

As Austria is part of the European Union, it should also comply with the legal tools issued by this entity, especially the EU regulations and directives. With regard to World Heritage protection and management; the most relevant EU regulation is **Directive 2011/92/EU** on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment. Austria's **Federal Act on Environmental Impact Assessment** (Act 2000 - UVP-G 2000), implements this EU directive, and the mission had been informed that this is currently the only legal provision at national level that includes the obligation to assess potential impacts on cultural heritage in general and on World Heritage in particular, but which only applies to development proposals above a certain size.

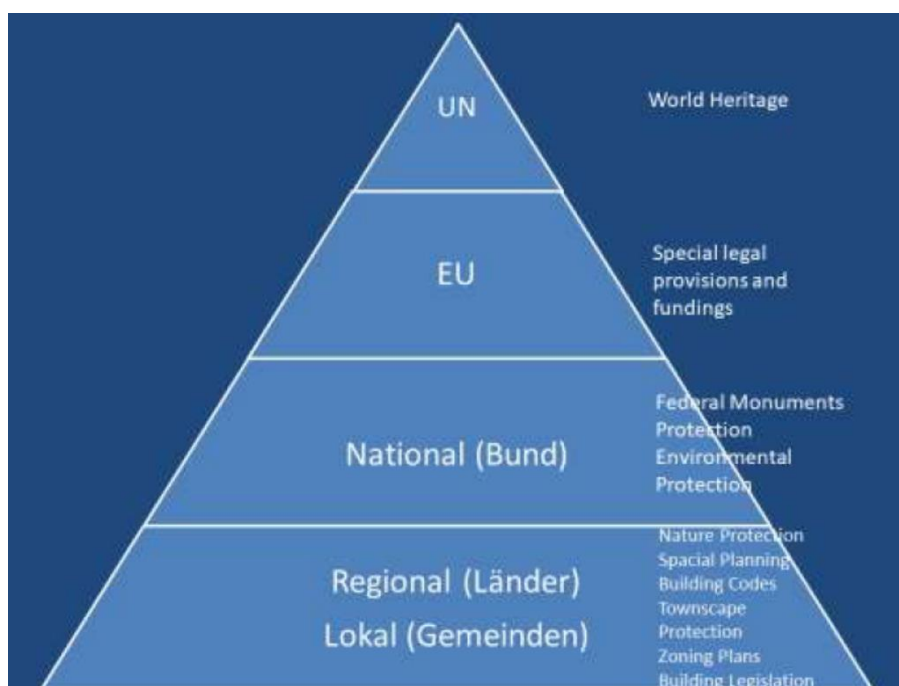


Figure 1. Hierarchy of the legal framework concerning World Heritage protection in Austria (source: State Party document provided to the mission)

Concerning the regional or local level (as the City of Vienna is considered an independent region within the Austrian federal system), the main legal protection tool for the property is the **Building Code for Vienna** (VBC), which provides the framework for any development plan related decision. The mission had been informed by the representative of the City of Vienna that the VBC has been modified by the Vienna Provincial Parliament several times in the last few years (during 2021-2023) in order to provide enhanced protection for the World Heritage properties within the city, and specifically for the 'Historic Centre of Vienna'.

The recent modifications of the VBC include the following measures:

- in the definition and modification of land use plans and development plans, the protection of the OUV of the UNESCO World Heritage properties need to be considered, with the aim to safeguard the cityscape of the respective areas and the protection of buildings meriting conservation;
- World Heritage status is a criterion for the designation of 'ensemble protection zones';
- proposals for construction projects must be reviewed with regard to their potential impact on the World Heritage properties and the ones that might have an impact on the OUV of a World Heritage property must be submitted to the City's special Advisory Board;
- when assessing proposals for deviations from stipulations laid down in the land use and development plan (which is permissible under certain conditions), permission must not be granted if the proposed deviation compromises a World Heritage property;
- the impacts of project proposals need to be assessed on the respective area's cityscape, that includes the World Heritage property's OUV and attributes.

Under the VBC, specific land use and development plans (as detailed zoning plans within the spatial planning system of Vienna) form the basis of planning procedures and decision-making related to project proposals.

With regard to the property's boundary, there are **land use and development plan for specific areas within the 9th and 1st municipal districts** (areas situated in the surroundings of the Vienna Ringstraße and the Glacis that form the area of the property and its buffer zone). The mission had been informed that these district plans are currently under revision.

In addition, the mission also received information about the **STEP 2035**, which is the strategic plan or policy for Vienna's urban development for the coming 10 years, which is currently being finalized and that will replace the current STEP 2025 policy (adopted in 2014). The Step 2035 document is scheduled for adoption in 2024 by the Vienna City Council. The representatives of the City informed the mission

that the draft Urban Development Plan STEP 2035 defines Vienna as a UNESCO World Heritage city, in which the protection of Vienna's World Heritage properties is given priority. The goals included in STEP 2035 aim to serve as a guideline for the transformation of Vienna to attain climate neutrality while maintaining its high quality of life and innovative capabilities. The accompanying strategies, guidelines and projects of STEP 2035 will define how to attain these goals. STEP 2035 will also include the commitment of the City of Vienna to applying the Management Plan of the 'Historic Centre of Vienna' World Heritage property in all planning activities.

An updated **Management Plan** of the property was adopted by the Vienna City Council on 25 November 2021 with a view to ensure enhanced legal protection. With regard to this, the mission had been informed that as the Management Plan is an official document of the City of Vienna, its adoption triggered several positive changes concerning especially the planning framework and procedures of the city. The scope of tasks of the existing **Advisory Board for Urban Planning and Design** had been extended to include World Heritage issues and one World Heritage expert.

With regard to the relevant planning procedure, this Advisory Board plays an important role. It has 12 members, formed by experts from a variety of disciplines, working on a voluntary basis within a term of three years. The Building Code for Vienna regulates the composition and tasks of the Advisory Board, requiring obtaining the Advisory Board's opinion on projects affecting the land use and development plans before any political decision is taken. The expertise on World Heritage issues was added to the tasks of the Board, and the appointment of an expert was underway during the mission.

It was confirmed that following amendment of the VBC, all individual construction projects that might impact the OUV of the property must be submitted to the City of Vienna's Advisory Board for its recommendation as an administrative procedure. For land use and development plans, it is mandatory to obtain the Advisory Board's expert opinion before any political decision is taken. For individual architectural projects, the Advisory Board focuses on assessing the building and its characteristics, the relationship of the building with its surroundings and the historical structure, the compatibility of the proposal with building regulations and code, where protection zones and World Heritage areas need to be considered. It was also confirmed that proposals at various different stages could be reviewed by the Advisory Board whether they are at conceptual idea stage, draft stage or with detailed plans.

The mission has also been informed that the Vienna City Council adopted a **resolution** in September 2023 in order to demonstrate an explicit political commitment to protect the World Heritage properties within the city.

Considerations of the mission

A solid legal framework is the basis of adequate and integrated management. Over the last 2-3 years, the State Party improved its legal framework, which is still to be completed with the adoption of the proposed revisions of the MPA. The State Party also revised its planning procedures to its advantage, and in a way that the priority is provided in an enhanced manner to the preservation of the building stock that are attributes of the OUV. The Glacis Masterplan that included a high-rise building strategy, which was deemed inappropriate by previous missions and decisions of the World Heritage Committee, was cancelled and the land use and development plans for specific areas within the 9th and 1st municipal districts (areas situated in the surroundings of the Vienna Ringstraße and the Glacis that form the area of the property and its buffer zone) are currently under revision. These are already considerable improvements for the property's legal framework, which is still an ongoing process, and further improvements will follow. With regard to the revision of the MPA, it will be advisable to ensure that the Federal Government establishes working processes to collaborate with municipalities and local governments on the implementation of management actions and conservation, and its relation to the Ministry of Arts, Culture, Civil Services and Sports. The mission, however, identifies a very significant and worrying gap in the legal framework concerning impact assessment processes to comply fully with paragraph 118bis of the *Operational Guidelines* and in early notification of projects that may impact the OUV of the property as per paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*. Clear examples of this are the lack of obligation for impact assessment processes conducted for the Heumarkt Neu and the projects in the Schwarzenberg Garden (in the mission's understanding, both commissioned through specific processes by the Ministry of Arts, Culture, Civil Services and Sports), but also for the planned new visitor centre at the Upper Belvedere Palace. Impact Assessment processes are the most appropriate tools to avoid urban transformation that damages the unique values of the property and help to identify better projects, which yield more benefits in the long term, satisfying both conservation and development needs.

The mission sees it as a decisive step that the role of the Advisory Board has been strengthened with a special need to focus on the World Heritage related impacts of project proposals. This provides possibility of influencing the projects at their earliest stages of design and planning. It has been explained to the mission that projects that are reviewed by the Advisory Board must submit revised proposals per the suggestions or implement the recommendations; however, written provisions that explain this process have not been provided. While this procedure cannot be considered as a fully-fledged heritage impact assessment, it strengthens the screening steps that may lead to a proper impact assessment, and acts as a process to implement internal assessments for smaller scale projects that would normally not trigger the official impact assessment which only apply to projects of a larger scale.

The mission nevertheless considers that much relies on the adequate decision making of individuals in the planning processes aiming to protect and preserve the OUV of the property. This has been improved by comparison with the situation when the property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger with a more supporting legal framework; nevertheless, it is very dependent of the experience and knowledge of the persons involved in the decision-making processes. If this is not supported by the systematic impact assessment processes that are conducted as an obligatory part of the project planning, the vulnerability of decision-making increases, and where decisions are made in favour of protecting the OUV of the property, they may be more difficult to defend in appeal cases.

The mission also noted that the situation with protection of the historic gardens within the property, including those that are attributes conveying the property's OUV has not improved significantly. These gardens can only be protected by legal measures if they are in public ownership, or if the private owner specifically accepts the initiative for a legal protection.

The mission advises the State Party to continue looking for appropriate solutions to address both systematic impact assessment processes and protection of historic gardens.

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Mission assessment of implementation
I.	2	Sound planning tools and legal provisions foster the safeguarding of the property.	<p><i>The mission considers that significant progress has been made, in particular on the regional/local level, but the relevant spatial planning documents have not yet been updated, the revision of the federal level act is still in progress, and there is no obligation for systematic impact assessment processes for all types and scales of projects that could have larger than a negligible impact on the OUV of the property.</i></p> <p>The mission assesses this corrective measure as not yet fully achieved.</p>
II.	4c	No inadequate developments within the area of Ringstraße and Glacis.	<p><i>Significant progress has been made, but the relevant spatial planning documents need to be updated and the effectiveness of an integrated management system needs to be demonstrated.</i></p> <p>The mission assesses this corrective measure as not yet fully achieved.</p>
II.	8	Priority to preservation of historic / original building stock of the property.	<p><i>Significant progress has been made, but the relevant spatial planning documents need to be updated and the effectiveness of an integrated management system needs to be demonstrated. In addition, further work is needed on the identification of attributes.</i></p> <p>The mission assesses this corrective measure as not yet fully achieved.</p>
II.	9	Historic gardens and green spaces in general receive strong statutory protection and play a major role in preservation and management strategies not least with the aim to support and	<p><i>Progress is made to include related protection and management measures in the Management Plan of the property, nevertheless, further measures are still required to ensure that historic gardens and green spaces in general receive strong legal protection.</i></p> <p>The mission assesses this corrective measure as not yet fully achieved.</p>

		improve climate conditions in the urban area.	
III.	3	Contemporary interventions in the property, its surrounding buffer zone and all areas that have potential visual impacts on the latter are based on sound assessments giving priority to the requirements of a World Heritage property.	<p><i>The application of the 2011 Historic Urban Landscape (HUL) recommendation still need better integration in a cross-cutting way in all decision-making processes for urban planning and into the overall management system of the property.</i></p> <p>The mission assesses this corrective measure as not yet fully achieved.</p>

Table 3. The assessment of the mission on the status of implementation of the corrective measures related to planning tools and legal provisions

Recommendations

The mission advises the State Party to:

- 1) Ensure that the Building Code for Vienna defines the property as a whole as a preservation area and that special provisions are made in the relevant zoning plans for all the attributes located within the areas covered by these plans. Such protection should also include structures dating from after 1945 as attributes that contribute to justifying the application of criterion (ii): *The urban and architectural qualities of the Historic Centre of Vienna bear outstanding witness to a continuing interchange of values throughout the second millennium* (emphasis added);
- 2) Fully align the planning system of Vienna with the requirements of *the Operational Guidelines*, including early notification to the World Heritage Centre (Par. 172) and the obligation to carry out impact assessment processes (in accordance with the 2022 *Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context*) in the relevant planning procedures for all projects that may have an impact on the OUV of the property, regardless of the project's size (Par. 118bis). In accordance with the 2022 *Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context*, where a formal assessment of the impacts of the proposed action would be required as part of local/national frameworks or donor requirements, the assessment of impact on the property's OUV should be integrated into the wider Environmental Impact Assessment. Alternatively, in cases where the action would not be covered by existing impact assessment requirements, a stand-alone assessment of impacts on OUV and other heritage/conservation values should be carried out.
- 3) Develop tools and measures that will allow to assess the cumulative impact of project proposals in relation to existing and other planned changes;
- 4) Ensure that the 2011 Historic Urban Landscape (HUL) Recommendation is applied in a cross-cutting way in all decision-making processes for urban planning and the overall management system of the property;
- 5) Consider that the role assigned to the Advisory Board for Urban Planning and Design should not be seen as replacing the provisions of paragraphs 118bis or 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*. Rather, the Advisory Board should also make recommendations as to when projects should be subject to independent OUV-focussed impact assessments and when a proposal should be transmitted to the World Heritage Centre. For this reason, ensure that all members of the Advisory Board for Urban Planning and Design have a good understanding of the 'Historic Centre of Vienna' World Heritage property, the other two World Heritage properties in Vienna, and World Heritage related issues in general;
- 6) Ensure the protection of the historic gardens, which are attributes conveying the OUV of the property, through the planning process system and the management system of the property; in this regard, explore regulated soft policy measures that could include the historic gardens in World Heritage protection zones or establish additional protection schemes that can benefit from the revision of the Federal Monuments Protection Act;
- 7) Submit the draft STEP 2035 to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies prior to its adoption in 2024.

2.1.1.1 Control of high-rise development proposals

Background information

The retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (RSOUV – Annex 1) for the property includes the following:

“The historic urban fabric of the Historic Centre of Vienna is thus informed by this ongoing interchange, which has caused the urban landscape to evolve and grow over time, reflected in the new, emerging skyline outside the buffer zone. Vienna’s continuing development requires a very sensitive approach that takes into account the attributes that sustain the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, including its visual qualities, particularly regarding new high-rise constructions.”

The missions of both 2012 and 2015 included the issue of high-rise buildings in Vienna, and several high-rise building projects were reviewed by the World Heritage Committee in the course of the years since the site’s inscription and deemed having a negative impact on the OUV of the property (the ‘Wien-Mitte’ project has already been the concern of the Committee around 2002/2003, and the Heumarkt Neu project is the most recent example). The report of the 2018 Advisory mission⁵ assessed the issue of the high-rise buildings in the context of the property from the perspective of the integrity of views from within key places of the property, as attributes of OUV, with the following outcomes:

1. *The property may, on first impressions, seem to have retained the integrity and authenticity of the urban morphology, but on closer inspection, the Mission concludes that the cumulative effects of changes to the built fabric and the larger urban setting has eroded the integrity and authenticity of the urban morphology of the property.*
2. *New developments have the potential to repair past negative impacts, but these require a strong OUV-focussed urban conservation and development policy. The danger of new developments is that, despite their conforming to the current guidelines such as the Step 2025 High Rise Vision, they do not address the immediate urban morphology adequately to ensure a harmonisation with the important extant fabric. The Step 2025 High Rise Vision remains too vague on specific requirements for new-build or remodelling of buildings below 35 metres in height. The architecture of new-build should be carefully developed to harmonise, not be of an outstanding individualism.*
3. *The Viennese Parliament Decision of May 2018 limiting high-rise is an addendum to the Step 25 High Rise Concept excluding new approvals for high-rise developments in the inner city and the areas of the Glacis Master Plan. In this, high-rise is described as any building taller than 35 metres (conforming to the Viennese Building Regulations). The division of the guidelines for high-rise and low-rise at 35 metres does not adequately address the specifics of individual places in the property. The Mission concludes that more careful regulations are required that look at the specific context of a building. The aim should not be to limit height but to harmonise any new construction with the immediate and larger context. This requires a dynamic and site-specific approach. The State Party is recommended to reassess these height limitations.*
4. *The Mission recommends that no construction projects be approved that may impact the integrity of characteristics of the key views, view-cones and vedutas before these have been identified and understood.*
5. *The State Party should commission a thorough and exhaustive study to be undertaken to identify key places, views, view-cones and vedutas within the property, from the property outwards, and from outside the property inwards, as attributes of the OUV. This study should include fieldwork-identification and 3-D modelling.*
6. *The Mission recommends that, once identified, the characteristics of the key views, view-cones and vedutas be described and a description of their ideal condition be developed as guide to steer future development.*
7. *These key characteristics of the key views, view-cones and vedutas of key places, views, view-cones and vedutas should be protected through policy, to ensure their maintenance.*

The 2018 mission was also entrusted to assess specifically “current and recent high-rise constructions and their status that have been or shall be carried out within the World Heritage Property or in its buffer

⁵ Report of the joint High level WHC/ICOMOS Advisory mission to the Historic Centre of Vienna (Austria), 11-15 November 2018, available at: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1033/documents/>

zone and wider setting, and analyse their impact, both individually and cumulatively on Outstanding Universal Value”, and as an outcome, it concluded:

“... current and recent high-rise developments have cumulatively had an eroding effect on the urban attributes of the property that contribute to the application of criterion (iv). Great care is therefore needed in the further integrated development of the city.

Vienna is a dynamic, living, growing city. The larger urban setting of the Historic Centre of Vienna has and should continue to evolve. The Mission recommends that in order to do so in a responsive manner it is essential that:

The attributes that contribute to the OUV of the Historic Centre of Vienna World Heritage property be carefully analysed and defined.

The attributes that are identified address all three criteria applied to the OUV of the property.

The identification, localisation, description and mapping of tangible and intangible attributes be undertaken before the completion of a Management Plan because a new Management Plan should aim to allow for the sustainable future of the city while maintaining and developing these attributes of the OUV of the property.”

The DSOCR requires the State Party to meet the following conditions:

- *No further high-rise development occurs within the property as well as in areas affecting its visual integrity.” In addition, it also requests that “No inadequate developments occur within the area of Ringstraße and Glacis.” and that “Contemporary interventions in the property, its surrounding buffer zone and all areas that have potential visual impacts on the latter are based on sound assessments giving priority to the requirements of a World Heritage property.*
- *Contemporary interventions in the property, its surrounding buffer zone and all areas that have potential visual impacts on the latter are based on sound assessments giving priority to the requirements of a World Heritage property.*

The related corrective measures are formulated as follows:

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Rationale	Method of verification	Status of indicator in 2021 (during the time of submitting the CM)	Target completion date
II.	2	<u>No further high-rise development</u> within the property as well as in areas affecting its visual integrity.	The high-rise development since inscription of the property already deteriorated the integrity of the historic urban skyline and hence the OUV of the property.	The current planning tools (particularly the STEP 2025 High Rise concept) have been revised according to the findings of the 2012, 2015, and 2018 missions and the related Committee decisions and are based on sound legal provisions adopted by the City Council of Vienna.	The implementation takes place during the procedure of the elaboration of the Management Plan and the implementation of a related management system. The process of developing an integrated management system has been initiated.	July 2021 for the Management Plan and Management System. End of 2021 for the implementation of the revised legal provisions on the regional level (City of Vienna).

Table 4 Corrective measure related specifically to the high-rise developments

Discussion

With regard to the above presented background, the mission received specific information from the representatives of the State Party on the current legal framework in relation to proposals for high-rise building project.

The State Party representatives highlighted that there is an explicit political commitment to prohibit new high-rise locations in the historic centre of Vienna (inner city and the areas covered by the former Glacis Master Plan), based on the resolution proposal of the Vienna City Council adopted at its session of 5 May 2017. This includes the conservation of the historically evolved silhouette of the city centre, as well as the prohibition of the planning and approval of new high-rise locations and buildings, and storey additions to existing high-rise buildings. The updated Management Plan for the property refers to both the 2014 'Expert Concept High-Rise Buildings' and the Urban Development Plan STEP 2025, which is revised every 10 years. The mission was informed that the upcoming STEP 2035 (to be finalised and approved in 2024) will define the property as an exclusion zone for high-rise buildings and will include political commitments to respect the OUV of the property. The State Party representatives also confirmed that the former Glacis Masterplan, which gave way to possible high-rise development, had been discarded.

In the practice of planning procedures, the mission was informed that the protection of the attributes conveying the property's OUV plays a key role in the evaluation of projects by the City of Vienna's planning authority and that 'silhouettes and views of the city' (with regard to protecting the integrity of the property from negative visual impacts) is a key evaluation criterion. The City of Vienna considers buildings 35m or higher to be high-rise buildings and has ensured that any high-rise development within the property and its buffer zone is subject to a feasibility study overseen by the relevant City departments. A 'cultural property database' has been created, containing all the essential identity features of the city that are considered worthy of preservation. The city has developed a three-dimensional, geo-referenced digital model of the city to analyse the impact of high-rise buildings on the cityscape, and visibility studies of the impact on the attributes conveying the property's OUV are being carried out on the basis of the current concept 'High-rise Buildings'.

The mission has also been informed that thanks to the revised and updated legal frameworks and planning procedures, a project such as the Heumarkt Neu project would not receive approval from the Viennese authorities if the proposal would be submitted today.

Considerations of the mission

The mission was satisfied to learn that the legal framework for protecting and preserving the property's OUV and the planning procedures and tools have been improved in relation to avoiding inappropriate developments, including high-rise buildings. The mission considers that it is also important that the City of Vienna issues an explicit commitment towards protecting the property's OUV in view of high-rise building developments, as it is foreseen to be done through the STEP 2035. Nevertheless, the mission considers that the legal framework needs to be strengthened with a legally binding measure to ensure that the property and its buffer zone is an exclusion zone for high-rise buildings and that the planned and proposed projects are assessed on a case-by-case basis. In addition, it was noted that aspects of urban density and volume for buildings are not yet sufficiently addressed.

In addition, the mission observed that there is no obligation for the developers to commission impact assessments focusing on the OUV and attributes of the property, except for those cases when a development is proposed for such a large area that falls into the threshold that an Environmental Impact Assessment is compulsory. The mission is of the opinion that the legal gap concerning systematic impact assessment processes that focus on heritage, including World Heritage is a deficiency of the legal framework for protecting and preserving World Heritage.

However, in relation to high-rise development proposals, the mission also understood that the individual assessment of the high-rise buildings now needs to go through a much more thorough validation process than before, and that there are assurances built into the planning assessment by the planning authorities in Vienna that the proposal will not have negative impacts on the property's OUV based on the identified attributes. The mission wishes to highlight that these processes will be able to fulfil this intended goal only if there is continued attention paid to ensure that the advisors and decision makers in these processes have adequate knowledge and understanding of the property, including its attributes conveying its OUV, and are fully aware of World Heritage management needs.

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Mission assessment of implementation
II.	2	<u>No further high-rise development</u> within the property as well as in areas affecting its visual integrity.	<p><i>The mission noted that there is a strong political commitment and an improved planning framework in place to implement this corrective measure. Nevertheless, both the relevant updated spatial planning documents, which will replace the Glacis Masterplan and the STEP 2035, are still pending.</i></p> <p>The mission assesses this corrective measure as not yet fully achieved.</p>

Table 5. The assessment of the mission on the status of implementation of the corrective measure related specifically to the control of high-rise developments

Recommendations

The mission advises the State Party to:

- 8) Create the intended high-rise exclusion zone in relation to the property and ensure that it provides adequate control to prevent the approval of project proposals that are not compatible with the OUV of the World Heritage property;
- 9) Ensure that the identified attributes that support and express the OUV of the property adequately cover all the aspects that need to be considered in the assessment of planned high-rise projects;
- 10) Ensure that the planning framework is able to filter project proposals that may have an impact on the property's OUV even if the project is located within the buffer zone or the wider setting of the property, and that permission is denied if negative impacts are identified by the impact assessment or the relevant authorities;
- 11) Ensure that all high-rise projects (as well as all other projects that may have a significant impact on the OUV) within the City of Vienna undergo a World Heritage-focused impact assessment, prepared in accordance with the 2022 *Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context*;
- 12) Ensure that existing planning procedures are adequate to avoid further deterioration of the integrity of the historic urban skyline and thus of the OUV of the property;

2.1.1.2 Control of the roof top conversion proposals

Background information

The need to enhance the effectiveness of managing the proposals for roof top conversions or height extension of buildings in the property were highlighted by the 2012 and 2015 Reactive Monitoring missions. The latter recommended that the modification of the roofscape morphology in the property should be avoided.

Under the assessment of the overall development of the property since inscription on the World Heritage List, the 2018 mission noted that the:

“economic growth has further also impacted negatively on the physical fabric of the property, through inappropriate adaptive re-use projects, expressed most visibly in roof conversions and extensions, most visible in Gründerzeit buildings, but expected to have impacted the interiors of the built fabric as well.”

The 2018 mission assessed in detail also the current developments of the roof scape within the property against the backdrop of the study on historic roof constructions and the resulting acknowledgements, and concluded that

“The rooftop conversions of the recent past have altered the urban morphology of the property. The roof cadastre, commissioned by the State Party, is a thorough study and presents a detailed picture of the status of the roof structures of the Historic Centre of Vienna. The large number of roof conversions of buildings in the property, including those from the Gründerzeit, means that the material and architectural integrity and authenticity of the property is under threat, but also that the urban morphology of the property, which depends largely on the property's Gründerzeit built

heritage fabric, has been affected. This has had a notable impact on the visual integrity and authenticity of the appearance of the urban morphology of the property.”

With regard to this conclusion, the 2018 mission recommended the following:

- *The roof cadastre needs to be extended to include steel and composite roof constructions.*
- *The conclusions of the roof cadastre on the value of structures should not be based only on age and rarity of typology but should be extended to the streetscape and urban morphology that results from the roof scape and its historic authenticity.*
- *The conclusions of the roof cadastre need to be put into policy and included in a new Management Plan for the property.*
- *In order to maintain the material authenticity of Grunderzeit buildings as attributes of the OUV of the property, the remaining 15% of unaffected Grunderzeit-period roofs, as identified in the roof cadastre, urgently need to be protected.*
- *Further investigations should be undertaken on the current material and architectural authenticity of the property, following which recommendations on the further protection of the architectural heritage of the property need to be developed and enacted.*
- *The State Party should reassess the regulations for rooftop conversions and extensions. It would be advisable to implement a moratorium on rooftop conversions until such a time as appropriate tools and approvals processes have been developed to harmonise these proposed conversions with their urban morphological context (and in accordance with the principle of the 2017 World Heritage Committee Decision on the property).*

In 2019, the World Heritage Committee encouraged the State Party:

*“to support and facilitate appropriate measures to manage and conserve the historic roof constructions in the Historic Centre of Vienna as an important attribute of the property, through appropriate extensions to the roof cadastre, a moratorium on rooftop conversions until appropriate tools and approvals processes are in place, and also requests that any such changes be referred to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, prior to adoption and implementation”.*⁶

Concerning the topic of roof conversions, the DSOCR specifically requires for the State Party to meet the condition that:

- *There are no further roof top conversions of historically and artistically significant roof constructions, or that adversely affect the historic skyline and the overall integrity of the property, and enhanced safeguarding is provided for historic roof constructions.*

The related corrective measures are formulated as follows:

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Rationale	Method of verification	Status of indicator in 2021 <i>(during the time of submitting the CM)</i>	Target completion date
II.	3	<u>No further roof top conversions that adversely affect the historic skyline and the overall integrity of the property</u> and enhanced safeguarding of historic roof constructions	The increase of roof extensions already deteriorated the urban fabric. Specific projects already threatened to affect valuable examples of baroque mansard	The Roof Cadastre and the related regulations in the Management Plan apply to the whole building stock of the property and includes specific measures related	The Roof Cadastre is currently extended to Iron and Composite Constructions with special attention to the area of the Ringstraße (as the latter can be	End of 2021 as part of the Management Plan and Management System. Independently from the Management

⁶ Decision 43 COM 7A.45

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Rationale	Method of verification	Status of indicator in 2021 <i>(during the time of submitting the CM)</i>	Target completion date
		based on the results of a comprehensive Roof Cadastre and the guidelines provided by way of the Standards for Built Heritage Conservation. ⁷	roofs as well as remarkable Gründerzeit building stock.	to areas / objects according to the list of attributes. The Management Plan includes regulations based on the results of the Roof Cadastre for all future roof extensions and conversions.	found mainly in this area).	Plan the <u>Roof Cadastre will be publicly available after completion.</u>
II.	4b	No further roof top conversions that adversely affect the historic appearance of the Ringstraße ensemble and Gründerzeit layout.	Due to progressing loss of historic fabric in the roof zones the authentic appearance of the urban and architectural heritage of the Gründerzeit era are increasingly threatened.	The Management Plan includes regulations based on the results of the Roof Cadastre and the recommendations provided by the Standards for Built Heritage Conservation for all future roof extensions and conversions.	The Roof Cadastre is currently extended to iron and composite constructions with special attention to the area of the Ringstraße, where these types of constructions mainly appear.	From July 2021 on by way of regular monitoring reports (also note N3 "Protection and Management").
II.	5	No further roof top conversions of historically and artistically significant roof constructions.	Roof top conversions in the last years also affected roof constructions of eminent quality, such as originally preserved baroque mansard roofs in the most prominent areas of the property.	The policy based on the results of the Roof Cadastre are implemented through legal measures and encompassed by the Management Plan and related Management System. The Roof Cadastre is available for the public.	The process of developing an integrated management system has been initiated and is work in progress. The Roof Cadastre is currently prepared for publication and shall be extended to iron and composite constructions.	July 2021 for the implementation of the Management Plan. <u>End of 2021 for the implementation of the legal provisions on regional level (City of Vienna), which constitute the majority of planning and protection provisions for the property</u>

⁷ <https://bda.gv.at/publikationen/standards-leitfaeden-richtlinien/standards-der-baudenkmalspflege/>

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Rationale	Method of verification	Status of indicator in 2021 <i>(during the time of submitting the CM)</i>	Target completion date
						according to the Austrian Federal System. <u>June 2024 at the latest for the implementation of the amended Federal Monuments Protection Act</u> (as the latter applies not only to Vienna but to the whole Federal Republic and has to be adopted by the Austrian Parliament).

Table 6. Corrective measures related specifically to rooftop conversions

Discussion

The State Party informed the mission that height extension of buildings additions and roof extensions/conversions in the historic centre are restricted, based on the specific zoning classification applicable to each building on a case-by case basis. As the area of the World Heritage property is subject to 'building stock-oriented zoning, height extensions and large-volume densification projects based on existing development plans are practically excluded. The ridge height of buildings above cornice line in the historic centre of Vienna is limited to 5.50 meters, and a maximum of one attic floor is permitted. The construction of staggered floors is prohibited.

The amended legal provisions in the VBC and the ongoing revision of the relevant zoning plans, as well as commitments in the forthcoming urban strategy STEP 2035 together will ensure that the property's values are taken into account in the decision-making processes for the roof conversion proposals. Based on an independent study⁸, the possibilities for roof extensions in the future are very limited. The results of this study were incorporated into the drafts of the zoning and development plans. The property's updated Management Plan states that at the time of inscription, *"the roofscape of the inner city of Vienna already embodied a heterogenous and fragmented image"*, and recognises the danger that *"the historic roofs, roof constructions and forms of the different buildings will be lost due to intensified roof extension activities"*, therefore, declares that *"only a small part of the roofs has the potential to be developed"*, and that the City of Vienna's conservation objective is to cultivate a *"sensitive approach to the historical heritage"* and find a *"balance between preservation and change"*. Nevertheless, it is to be noted that the updated Management Plan considers that the closed roofscapes is not an attribute of the World Heritage property.

⁸ Reference made by the State Party in a presentation to Stühlinger, H.: Der Einfluss der Bauordnungen des 19. Jahrhunderts auf die Stadtgestalt von Wien. Wien: Wissenschaftsstipendium MA7. (2004).



Figure 2. Examples from the State Party's presentation of best practice for roof conversion (left), and infill project (right) (source: State Party presentation)

The State Party representatives presented several projects as case studies to the mission, in order to prove the effectiveness of the current planning procedure and the usefulness of the developed roof cadastre and informed the mission of the effectiveness and usefulness of the developed Roof Cadastre (available currently for the historic wooden roof structures).

Considerations of the mission

The mission considers that the creation of the Roof Cadastre by the Federal Monument Office for historic wooden structures (which is also available for the wider public), and the ongoing work to extend this to the historic metal structures is a very important and valuable step to protect the property's urban and architectural qualities. In this respect, with the planning processes put in place, the mission is of the opinion that the State Party is now equipped with control mechanisms to ensure that there are no further roof top conversions of historically and artistically significant roof constructions.



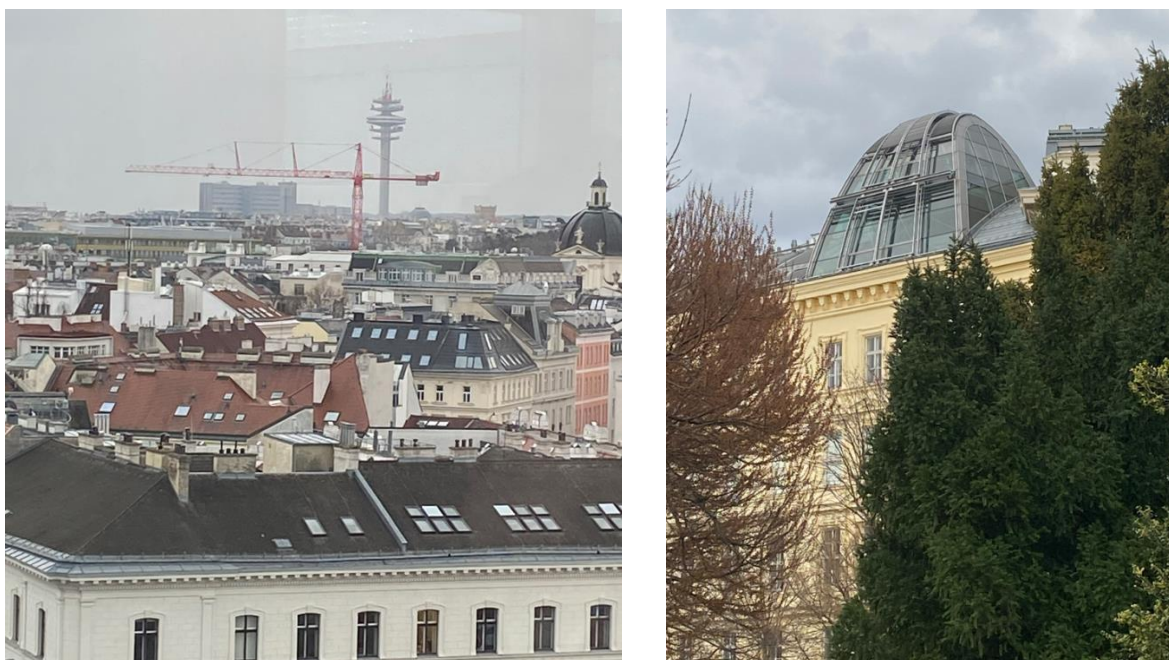


Figure 3. Examples for implemented rooftop conversions within the historic centre of Vienna (source of photo on the top left: State Party presentation; photos on the top right and below © UNESCO)

During the site visits within the Historic Centre of Vienna, the mission has seen a large amount of roof conversions (the date of these were not discussed), and the overall impression of the mission was that several of these are contextually inappropriate architecture and seemed in sharp disharmony with the historic urban fabric. As the cumulative impact of the existing roof conversions within the property and its buffer zone is already high and negative, the State Party will need to be very restrictive with issuing any further permits, even if these new proposals individually respect the property's OUV and attributes. In addition, the mission advises the State Party to have a more strategic and holistic approach regarding proposals for rooftop extensions or conversions, consider the buildings as a whole and also the urban fabric of the area in question, as well as the built and unbuilt urban fabric of the property and its buffer zone. To this end the mission advises the State Party to work further on identifying the relevant attributes and understanding their relationship with the OUV of the property in order to ensure that there are no further roof top conversions that adversely affect the historic skyline and the overall integrity of the property, and enhanced safeguarding is provided for historic roof constructions.

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Mission assessment of implementation
II.	3	<u>No further roof top conversions that adversely affect the historic skyline and the overall integrity of the property</u> and enhanced safeguarding of historic roof constructions based on the results of a comprehensive Roof Cadastre and the guidelines provided by way of the Standards for Built Heritage Conservation. ⁹	<i>The mission considers that the developed Roof Cadastre is a key tool in implementing this corrective measure, and notes that it will be extended to historic metal structures but considers that the planning practice put in place will also need to be tested for its adequacy over time.</i> The mission assesses this corrective measure is nearing its achievement.
II.	4b	No further roof top conversions that adversely affect the historic	<i>The mission acknowledges the significant progress made in implementing this corrective measure but considers that the Management Plan's role in this area needs to be revised and reinforced, and that the effectiveness of the</i>

⁹ <https://bda.gv.at/publikationen/standards-leitfaeden-richtlinien/standards-der-baudenkmalspflege/>

		appearance of the Ringstraße ensemble and Gründerzeit layout.	<i>planning framework enforced in securing this objective needs to be confirmed in the longer term.</i> The mission assesses this corrective measure is not yet fully achieved.
II.	5	No further roof top conversions of historically and artistically significant roof constructions.	<i>The mission acknowledges the significant progress made in implementing this corrective measure and considers that the amended Federal Monument Protection Act could become a solid tool for achieving this goal.</i> The mission assesses this corrective measure as in need of longer-term confirmation of its completion.

Table 7. The assessment of the mission on the status of implementation of the corrective measures related specifically to roof top conversions

Recommendations

The mission advises the State Party to:

- 13) Finalise as soon as possible the extension of the Roof Cadastre to include the historic metal structures;
- 14) Conduct a thorough analysis of the Statement of OUV of the property in order to fully understand the attributes conveying the property's OUV as they relate to the historic urban fabric, the historic buildings and the role of the roofs for the buildings. In this regard, consider the building as a whole and roof conversions not only as an aesthetic issue ('urban view'), but also as an urban morphological issue to ensure that the authenticity and integrity of the property ins preserve.
- 15) Ensure that the updated versions of the Management Plan take into consideration all relevant attributes and include appropriate measures for their long-term conservation;
- 16) Apply a very restrictive approach for issuing permits within the property and the buffer zone. Take into consideration the cumulative impact of roof conversions already implemented and other changes that add up to this impact when assessing new proposals;

2.1.2 Management system and Management Plan of the property

Background

With regard to the management of the property, and specifically the Management Plan, the DSOCR specifically requires the State Party to meet the condition that:

- A comprehensive Management Plan and a related management system are the legal basis for all future decisions concerning the World Heritage property.
- The Management Plan includes a comprehensive process for continued monitoring and evaluation that is focused on retention of OUV while sustaining the economic growth of the City of Vienna.

The related corrective measures are formulated as follows:

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Rationale	Method of verification	Status of indicator in 2021 (during the time of submitting the CM)	Target completion date
I.	3	<p>A comprehensive Management Plan and a related management system are the legal basis for all future decisions concerning the World Heritage property.</p> <p>The Management Plan has been accepted by the World Heritage Committee and formally adopted by the Vienna Council and the Federal Government.</p> <p>The efficacy of the Management Plan is demonstrated in practice by way of regular monitoring reports through the national and international monitors of the property assigned by ICOMOS Austria.</p>	The current Management Plan dates back to 2002, never led to an integrated Management System nor was it part of actual planning deliberations.	<p>A revised Management Plan based on the initial safeguarding and management intentions as laid down in the SOUV has been reviewed by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies and accepted by the World Heritage Committee as well as adopted by the City Council of Vienna.</p> <p>Its efficacy is proven in practice by way of regular monitoring reports through the national and international monitors of the property assigned by ICOMOS Austria.</p>	The process of developing a Management Plan and an integrated management system has been initiated and is work in progress.	<p>July 2021 for the implementation of the Management Plan and Management System.</p> <p>End of 2021 for the implementation of the related legal provisions on the level of the City of Vienna.</p> <p>Prove of efficacy:</p> <p>From July 2021 on regularly at least once a year by way of monitoring reports.</p>
I.	4	The Management Plan includes a comprehensive process <u>for continued monitoring and evaluation (a)</u> that is focused on	To be effective the Management Plan needs to include an ongoing mechanism for monitoring and evaluation. This	A revised Management Plan which addresses matters raised in World Heritage Committee Decisions 41	The implementation takes place during the procedure of the elaboration of the Management Plan and the	Starting from July 2021.

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Rationale	Method of verification	Status of indicator in 2021 (during the time of submitting the CM)	Target completion date
		retention of OUV while sustaining the economic growth of the City of Vienna.	mechanism should be directed at OUV, but must also recognise the need for the City to be sustainable.	COM 7B.42 and 43 COM 7A.45 has been reviewed by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, and <u>accepted by the World Heritage Committee (b)</u> , adopted by the City Council of Vienna, and <u>its efficacy proven in practice through monitoring and evaluation over a period of 5 years (c)</u> .	<u>implementation of a related management system (d)</u> .	

Table 8. Corrective measures related to the management system and Management Plan

In August 2021, ICOMOS concluded in its Technical Review that the submitted draft Management Plan required substantial revision to include specific provisions for amendment of legislation, planning controls and guidelines, consistent with Decision of the World Heritage Committee and the recommendations of past Reactive Monitoring and Advisory Mission reports. It also pointed out the need to incorporate the Corrective Measures adopted to achieve the Desired State of Conservation for Removal (DSOCR) from the List of World Heritage in Danger into the Management Plan.

A revised Management Plan was submitted to the World Heritage Centre in February 2022, and in its following Technical Review (November 2022) ICOMOS concluded that the revised and updated draft Management Plan had been significantly improved, and that it incorporated the DSOCR and Corrective Measures that are required to enable the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger. ICOMOS however concluded that further revision was required. Noting that the Management Plan was already adopted by the Viennese Municipal Council on 25 November 2021 prior to the submission to WHC, ICOMOS encouraged further revision to the Management Plan as there were various areas in which the requirements for achieving the DSOCR and fulfilling the Corrective Measures are not sufficiently addressed which include the following issues.

1. Approach to OUV, where safeguarding the OUV of the Historic Centre of Vienna as a World Heritage property must be placed in the primary position in strategies, specialist concepts and regulations of the City of Vienna and the conservation and transmission of OUV should be central to the implementation of policies and plans.
2. Incorporation of corrective Measures and DSOCR into the plan and ensuring adequate mechanisms to implement these measures.
3. Planning controls which present protection of OUV as one of 17 points of particular attention when amending zoning plans which is not considered to provide adequate emphasis, priority nor explicit requirements for protection OUV. The World Heritage Committee's 2017 Decision, clearly requesting the State Party to establish parameters for the urban density as well as specific standards for building height and volume for the property and buffer zone has not been addressed.
4. Composition, decision-making process, role and responsibility of the Advisory Board and the Site Manager needs to be accurately stated and clarified.
5. To review and augment the list of attributes of the property in the Management Plan as it remains too broad to be effectively used as a baseline list (refer to section 2.1.3, below).

The Management Plan was accepted by the World Heritage Committee in Decision **45 COM 7A.55**, but at the same time the State Party was requested to ensure that subsequent revisions of the Management Plan should address the matters raised in the Technical Review.

Discussion

The Mission Team had multiple discussions with the various institutions of the State Party regarding details of the Management Plan and in general how the management system for the Historic Centre of Vienna operates.

Legal status of the Management Plan and placing priority on World Heritage in future developments

The legal status of the Management Plan and its relation to the revision of the Viennese Building Code was confirmed. The Management Plan which was accepted by the World Heritage Committee in 2023, was officially adopted by the Vienna City Council in November 2021, and has also been anchored in the Viennese Building Code. The revised version of the Viennese Building Code has been adopted by the Vienna Provincial Parliament in November 2023. The Building Code is the most important legal tool for urban planning, and it has been confirmed that future zoning and development plans will be obligated to follow the World Heritage requirements outlined in the Management Plan, and any permissions or approvals for specific development proposals will also need to fulfil the requirements of protecting OUV.

Role and responsibility of the site manager and the decision-making processes of different actors both within and beyond the City of Vienna

The role of the site manager was explained in terms of coordinating the different departments involved with the zoning plans and construction permits that covers approximately 1700 buildings within the property area and 3500 buildings in the buffer zone. The site manager sits under the Vienna Planning Director in the Chief Executive Office of Vienna City, in the Executive Group for Construction and Technology, in particular within the Buildings and Engineering Division of the City Administration. The site manager is responsible for internal and external communication and coordination for World Heritage related issues, cooperation with the Advisory Board, monitoring and reporting to the World Heritage Committee and raising awareness about World Heritage. Currently there is one appointed site manager for the whole property, who is responsible for other tasks as well, and therefore does not only engage with issues related only to the property as a World Heritage site.

The State Party confirmed that the role of the site manager is central in establishing effective communication between the relevant departments within the City administration, but in particular with the departments of Architecture and Urban Design (19), Urban Development and Planning (18), and District Planning and Land use Central-Southwest (21). It was noted that any new development proposal that are submitted to the City for approval will now be assessed on the basis of the OUV and its attributes, as the WH Management Plan is anchored within the Building Code.

Monitoring the implementation of Management Plan

Monitoring and evaluation are included in the corrective measures with the indicators for verification established as the following.

DSOCR	Corrective Measure	Indicator for verification
The Management Plan includes a comprehensive process for continued monitoring and evaluation that is focused on retention of OUV while sustaining the economic growth of the City of Vienna.	The efficacy of the MPL is demonstrated in practice by way of regular monitoring reports through the national and international monitors of the property assigned by ICOMOS Austria.	A revised Management Plan which addresses matters raised in World Heritage Committee Decisions 41 COM 7B.42 and 43 COM 7A.45 has been reviewed by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, and accepted by the World Heritage Committee, adopted by the City Council of Vienna, and its efficacy proven in practice through monitoring and evaluation over a period of 5 years.
	The MPL includes a comprehensive process for continues monitoring and evaluation that is focused on retention of OUV while sustaining the economic growth of the City of Vienna	

Table 9. Corrective measures related specifically to monitoring the implementation of the Management Plan

While the Management Plan has been accepted by the World Heritage Committee, the decision reiterates the following:

Notes that the corrective measures adopted require that the efficacy of the Management Plan be proven in practice through monitoring and evaluation over a period of five years and requests the State Party to ensure that subsequent revisions address the matters raised in the 2022 ICOMOS technical review and to report on the proposed monitoring and evaluation process.

The actions included in Chapter 5 'Field of Action' outline a range of actions that need to be implemented both in the short/medium term of 1-5 years, and Medium/long term of 6-10 years. The actions are categorised in themes of Preservation and construction; Historic gardens, parks and public spaces; Research, communication, capacity building; Tourism; Climate protection and climate change adaptation; and Music. The Management Plan does not include a specific section on how monitoring will be conducted on the attributes of the World Heritage property, or on the management actions outlined in the plan. Details on who conducts the monitoring, the frequency of implementation, data management and how the collected data is evaluated and feeds into the next cycle of management planning are not elaborated.

During the mission it was confirmed that two independent members of ICOMOS Austria are consulted on a case-by-case basis when there is the possibility that a project may have negative impact on OUV of the World Heritage property and this constitutes the monitoring and evaluation of the Management Plan.

Architectural Competitions for new projects

Additionally, the mission requested clarification on how architectural competitions for new development projects were structured, and whether the details of OUV and attributes were provided as baseline information for the basis of the competition and jury assessments. The necessity of such competitions as required by EU regulations and positive benefits of such mechanisms was explained and it was confirmed that World Heritage specifications were not included in the competition briefs.

Considerations of the mission

The legal status of the Management Plan being officially adopted and inserted into the Vienna Building Code is very welcome and is a significant improvement. However, it is not very clear to the mission team how the periodic revisions and updates to the management plan will happen, and how those new revisions will be incorporated into the Vienna Building Code in the future, to ensure that the updated Management Plan will continue to be the reference point.

In the mission's opinion, at the current moment, the day-to-day processes between the necessary departments seem to be functioning well to ensure that the OUV of the World Heritage property is properly reflected in future strategic planning and individual approvals for development in Vienna. However there is the need to make sure that these processes and sequences between the departments are clearly outlined in the management plan, in terms of sequence and approval processes, so that all stakeholders (including potential developers) and managers involved in the process are aware of these working processes. It was noted that any new development proposal that are submitted to the City for approval will now be assessed on the basis of the OUV and its attributes, as the WH Management Plan is anchored within the Building Code, which is very welcome. However as the list of attributes is not completed, there is still possibility of relying on individual knowledge of those reviewing to determine whether new projects should be compatible with World Heritage requirements or not. Therefore, a thorough attributes identification needs to be completed urgently (refer to section 2.1.3, below for a detailed discussion). The role of the site manager needs also to be strengthened.

Monitoring and evaluation need to be conducted to ensure that all the actions outlined in the sections above are continuously monitored and followed up to ensure that the Management Plan is indeed being implemented over the medium-long term period. While seeking additional inputs from ICOMOS Austria for proposed development is very positive, this only covers aspects on new proposals, which can be considered as a screening process to determine whether the *Operational Guidelines* paragraph 172 reporting on new development projects should be invoked (refer also to discussion on the Advisory Board above).

In the mission's opinion this arrangement does not constitute a full monitoring program that covers all the management actions included in the Management Plan and tracks the state of conservation for the entire property. There needs to be a monitoring program with the full list of attributes, indicators to verify the state of conservation, with appropriate thresholds established for the indicators that would potentially trigger a management intervention when necessary. This needs to be equipped with modalities on frequency of collection, data collection method and mechanisms for archiving set up. The monitoring program needs to be designed to follow the progress of implementation of the management plan, and to track, document and report on the state of conservation on a regular basis.

It is also not clear how the results of the monitoring of the Management Plan will be evaluated and reflected in the next iteration of the Management Plan. As is the case with the STEP plan, the Management Plan of the World Heritage property must be outlined with a specific time scope of implementation where the results of the monitoring and evaluation can be used for the next cycle of planning.

Therefore, while the Management Plan being adopted by the City Council of Vienna in 2021 is a significant step forward, the monitoring and evaluation program set up must be followed up to collect the necessary data retrospectively from its adoption, that would fulfil the 5-year period of monitoring which would feed into an evaluation of the current management plan to fully complete this corrective measure.

With regards to architectural competitions for new developments, the mission team suggests methods of having the World Heritage OUV and attributes being fully provided in the competition brief and jury criteria for assessments. As a preventive mechanism, all competition entries should be informed that any project that are in the property, buffer zone, or that are outside but still may have an impact on OUV will be subject to a heritage impact assessment process.

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Mission assessment of implementation
I.	3	<p>A comprehensive Management Plan and a related management system are the legal basis for all future decisions concerning the World Heritage property.</p> <p>The Management Plan has been accepted by the World Heritage Committee and formally adopted by the Vienna Council and the Federal Government.</p> <p>The efficacy of the Management Plan is demonstrated in practice by way of regular monitoring reports through the national and international monitors of the property assigned by ICOMOS Austria.</p>	<p><i>The mission concludes that the Management Plan adopted by the Vienna City Council and embedded into the Viennese Building Code can be considered as a legal basis for future decision-making on the World Heritage property.</i></p> <p><i>The mission concludes that more time is needed to verify the efficacy of the Management Plan, which can be verified through the evaluation conducted over a 5-year period with the monitoring data collected.</i></p> <p><i>The mission considers very positive the involvement of ICOMOS Austria as national monitors for the proposed development, but this does not prove the efficacy of the overall Management Plan, which should be evaluated on the basis of the data collected from the monitoring programme.</i></p> <p>Progress has been made, but the mission assesses this corrective measure not yet been fully achieved.</p>
I.	4	<p>The Management Plan includes a comprehensive process <u>for continued monitoring and evaluation (a)</u> that is focused on retention of OUV while sustaining the economic growth of the City of Vienna.</p>	<p><i>The mission concludes that a monitoring programme to follow the progress of the implementation of the management plan, to track, document and report regularly on the status of all actions a regular basis has not been included in the Management Plan.</i></p> <p>The mission assesses this corrective measure not yet achieved but can be complemented with retrospective data collection.</p>

Table 10. The assessment of the mission on the status of implementation of the corrective measures related to the management system and Management Plan

Recommendations

The mission advises the State Party to:

- 17) Ensure that the World Heritage management is entrusted to as a core group of people and not to a single person, thus ensuring enhanced coordination possibility, implementation and monitoring of the Management Plan, the related actions and activities, as well as the state of conservation of the property and its attributes, and raising awareness of the property both within the competent city authorities and the wider public;
- 18) Ensure that assessing the efficacy of the legal framework, including the Management Plan, is part of an established monitoring cycle of the management system according to the DSOCR, and that the Management Plan is regularly updated and its ability to ensure the protection and preservation of the property within the Viennese Building Code is maintained;
- 19) Establish a monitoring programme to track the progress of the implementation of the management plan, to track, document and report on the status of all actions on a regular basis that can meet the 5-year monitoring and evaluation period proposed in the corrective measures;
- 20) Ensure that the Management Plan of the World Heritage property is outlined with a specific timeframe for implementation so that the results of the monitoring and evaluation can be used to inform the next planning cycle;
- 21) Provide details on the OUV and attributes of the World Heritage property in the competition brief and jury criteria for assessments of future architectural competitions and include as condition in all competition entries for projects that are located within the property and its buffer zone, or the wider setting (with the view that at these latter locations projects still may have an impact on OUV) to be subject of World Heritage related Impact Assessment processes.

2.1.3 Definition of the attributes that convey the Outstanding Universal Value of the 'Historic Centre of Vienna'

Background

With regard to the attributes that convey the OUV of the property the DSOCR also requires the State Party to meet the following condition:

- *Attributes which reflect and support the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property are clearly defined and described.*

The related corrective measure is formulated as follows:

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Rationale	Method of verification	Status of indicator in 2021 (during the time of submitting the CM)	Target completion date
I.	1	The attributes which reflect and support the OUV of the property are clearly defined and described.	The nomination dossier and the current RSOUV name only a few areas or buildings that contribute to the integrity and authenticity of the property and hence the conservation in their original status is crucial for the safeguarding of the OUV. The lack of clearly defined and described attributes constituting the basis for a sound management-framework lead to inadequate developments in the property and thus to deterioration of the OUV.	A description of attributes that support the integrity and authenticity of the OUV of the property and supporting its status at the time of inscription is part of an integrated management system that has been proven to protect the OUV in practice. The attributes schedule will form an integrated part of the Management Plan. <u>It will be publicly available, and the respective places will be indicated in the digital map outlining the property.</u>	Not yet started. The elaboration takes place parallel to the procedure of the elaboration of the management plan and the implementation of a related management system but will be completed before finalizing the Management Plan in order to inform the Management Plan's content and mechanisms.	July 2021 for the public availability within the Management Plan.

Table 11. Corrective measure related to the definition of the attributes that convey the OUV of the property

At the time of inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger the inadequate overall planning control mechanisms and legal framework were identified as threats to the property's OUV. To achieve improved management and development control, it is necessary to understand what the elements, features of attributes are that support the OUV of the property. Ensuring that there is a common understanding of the attributes through the entire management system foundational to a well-functioning management system.

A first identification of (some of) the attributes that together convey the OUV (hereafter 'attributes' for short) was made as baseline specifically for the Heritage Impact Assessment of the Heumarkt Neu project. This formed a basis for the further exploration and development of the attributes of the priority in the Management Plan – a process that was completed by 2021 and included a (first) identification and structuring of the attributes.

ICOMOS reviewed the Management Plan in August 2021, and concluded that: “The submitted draft Management Plan includes a first definition of attributes illustrated by characteristic examples, and states that it will be the task of the future application of the management plan to advance the systematic collection and differentiation of the attributes. (p. 13). The Field of action: research, communication, capacity building, includes mapping of attributes in the short term (1-5 years) but does not identify who the responsible party is for this action. The definition of attributes on which the draft submitted Management Plan is based remains rudimentary. For instance, for the defined Key period of the Middle Ages, only “Medieval Sacred Buildings”, “Medieval urban structures” and “Medieval settlement ensembles” are identified but there is no indication of individual buildings or building fabric, design and layout or potential archaeological remains as attributes. The definition of attributes needs to be further explored and presented in the Management Plan itself, in order to provide a sound basis for managing those attributes that support the Outstanding Universal Value of the property.”

The State Party amended the management plan and submitted it in 2022, by which point it was already adopted by Viennese Municipal Council. ICOMOS provided another review of the plan, based on the understanding presented in the plan that it ‘...is understood as a “learning system” that is continuously adapted and developed to meet the changing demands of a modern city.’ (p. 8), and the ‘...World Heritage Management Plan for the *Historic Centre of Vienna* provides a structural framework that is continuously developed as a “living document”.’ (p. 134).¹⁰

In its review ICOMOS reiterated that:

“the August 2021 Technical Review advised clearly that the initial overview of the attributes of the property is too rudimentary, even as a baseline list, and should be expanded and included in the Plan. This can be implemented through an addendum to the Plan. Specifically, attributes related to the justification of the application of criterion (ii) should be seen as being much wider than ‘morphology and increased urban space’, and those related to criterion (iv) needs expansion to include the ‘ordinary’ (houses, interiors, etc.) and not just the ‘highlights’ (palaces, churches, etc.)”

Subsequently the World Heritage Committee in 2023 (**Decision 45 COM 7A.55**) recorded that it:

“Accepts the revised and updated Management Plan for the property, notes that the corrective measures adopted require that the efficacy of the Management Plan be proven in practice through monitoring and evaluation over a period of five years, and requests the State Party to ensure that subsequent revisions address the matters raised in the 2022 ICOMOS technical review and to report on the proposed monitoring and evaluation process”.

The mission was informed that ICOMOS Austria is developing a method for the identification of attributes, and that a workshop will be held in the spring/ summer of 2024 to discuss both the systematic and how to further define the attributes of the Historic City of Vienna.

The State Party also noted that, while it the identification of the attributes presented in the Management Plan is not complete, it provides a thorough baseline, which has already proven its worth in development decision making. This Management Plan is seen as a dynamic document will continue to be reviewed, including to refine the inventory and categorisation of the attributes.

During discussions with the representatives of the City of Vienna, it became clear that the amendments to the Viennese Building Code, which now includes the directive that the protection of the OUV of World Heritage properties as an objective in defining and modifying land use and development plans (Section 1). This is linked to an amendment (Section 7) which states that in “designated protection zones”...

¹⁰ ICOMOS, 2022 Technical Review.

“attention shall be paid to the attributes that sustain the outstanding universal value of Vienna’s UNESCO World Heritage properties and support their authenticity and integrity.”

Section 67, also now gives the City the power to consider the impact on the “...protection of UNESCO World Heritage properties,” while (Section 69) states that when the City considers projects that deviate from existing development plans, “the outstanding universal value of the UNESCO World Heritage properties must not be compromised.”¹¹

The mission was also told that, because the Management Plan was formally adopted by the City Council in 2021, decision-makers can now legally test the impacts of proposed development projects on the defined attributes and use this as legal criteria in their decision-making. The adoption of the Management Plan responded to the World Heritage Committee request for: “...a new Management Plan for the property, based on identification, description and mapping of tangible and intangible attributes of the property.” (Decision **43 COM 7A.45**).

Discussion

The mission has been informed that the updated management system now implements the protection of attributes as a factor in decision-making. This has strengthened the management system. The definition of attributes and giving their protection executive force, now gives the City authorities the legal basis for rejecting proposals that may affect the OUV of the property.

Because of the critical role given pre-defined attributes in decision-making through the augmentation of the planning system, the mission highlighted that a clear and thorough definition of the attributes that support the OUV of the property is fundamental to the efficacy of the protection and management system, and pointed out that an analysis of the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (SOUV) for a World Heritage property provides the point of departure for the definition of attributes. The SOUV with its Brief synthesis, justification for the application of criteria, statements of Integrity, Authenticity and Management and protection requirements provides a synoptic description of the OUV of a World Heritage property. For the case of the ‘Historic Centre of Vienna’, the applied criteria and the justification for their application of the property are presented in Table 10.

Criterion	Justification
Criterion (ii): exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design;	<i>The urban and architectural qualities of the Historic Centre of Vienna bear outstanding witness to a continuing interchange of values throughout the second millennium.</i>
Criterion (iv): be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history;	<i>Three key periods of European cultural and political development – the Middle Ages, the Baroque period, and the Gründerzeit – are exceptionally well illustrated by the urban and architectural heritage of the Historic Centre of Vienna.</i>
Criterion (vi): be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance. (The Committee considers that this criterion should preferably be used in conjunction with other criteria);	<i>Since the 16th century Vienna has been universally acknowledged to be the musical capital of Europe.</i>

¹¹ Translations provided by the City of Vienna in document: *Amendments to the Building Code for Vienna, including enhanced protection of the UNESCO World Heritage properties, adopted by the Vienna Provincial Parliament on 21 November 2021 and 23 November 2023.*

Table 12. Applied criteria and the justification for their application of the Historic Centre of Vienna World Heritage property

The Management Plan structures the definition of attributes in three categories: “urban-structural attributes”, “building-specific attributes” and “intangible attributes” and also notes that: “... it will be the task of the future application of the management plan to advance the systematic collection and differentiation of the attributes”.¹²

A diagrammatic outline is presented on page 19 of the Management Plan and reproduced below.

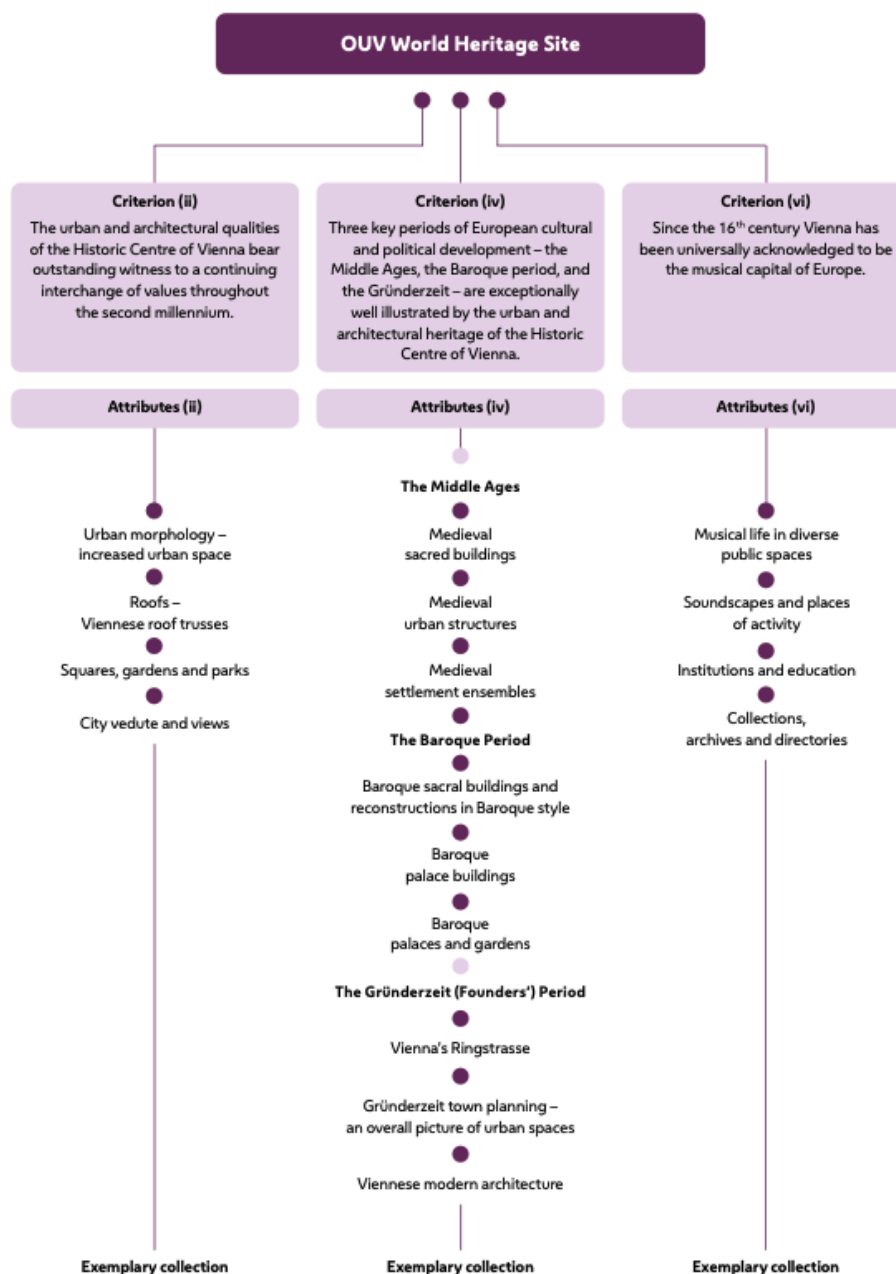


Figure 4. The overview-framework of attributes presented on the Management Plan (p. 19)

Considerations of the mission

While acknowledging that the State Party has already advanced in the identification of the attributes of the OUV of the property, the mission is of the opinion that the attributes are still not yet clearly defined and described. Therefore, the condition related to the identification of attributes as contained in the

¹² City of Vienna, 2021. *Management Plan: UNESCO World Heritage: Historic Centre of Vienna*, p. 18.

DSOCR item 1/1 has not yet been achieved. When comparing the overview-framework replicated from the Management Plan above to the criteria with which OUV is established, some gaps in the attributes identified emerge, which invite further elaboration.

The further elaboration of the attributes is foreseen in principle in the Management Plan. In this respect the mission notes the identified three categories of attributes and agrees that this classification system could be of use, nevertheless, it wishes to point out that it should not be dogmatically applied, and exceptions should not be excluded if they do not easily fit this classification. Of course, the diagram reproduced as Figure 4. above is an abstraction – which is its strength, but it omits an important principle: that one attribute can contribute to the OUV of the property through its contribution to the justification of more than one criterion. So, to name one example, the Baroque layer of the city for instance includes attributes related to monument arts and should also be seen to contribute to the justification of Criterion (ii).

With regards the further development of attributes that support Criterion (ii), attention should be given to all elements that represent an important interchange of human values, during the second millennium, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design. Currently only the Viennese Modernism (until c. 1930) is presented, but as attribute of Criterion (iv), whereas its natural place would be under Criterion (ii). The rest of the development of the city centre during the twentieth century (including post-War reconstruction, the Cold War era, Post-Modernism, etc., is presented in subsequent chapter and its legacy not included in the analysis attributes that contribute to the application of Criterion (ii), even though they form part of the second millennium. The mission advises that development of the attributes that contribute to the application of Criterion (ii) should be further developed to include those representing the important interchange of human values throughout the entire second millennium. (The attribute 'Urban morphology – increased urban space' is puzzling, which may be a result of the translation – but should be clarified).

In short, it can be expected that many of, if not all, the attributes that contribute to the justification for the application of Criterion (iv) would also contribute to Criterion (ii), but that Criterion (ii) would cover a wider chronological period, focussed more on sources of ideas and their localisation in Vienna. This localisation was not only in the facades of monumental churches and palaces, but also in the humbler buildings of the city, including for instance the still-extant Medieval and Renaissance 'kellers' (cellars) that are still found internalised behind Baroque façades of the inner city.

The presentation of the attributes of OUV in the Management Plan includes the presentation of an "Exemplary representation/collection". Seeing as the attribute definition has taken on a fundamental legal position in the management system, there is a danger that those attributes presented in the Management Plan as 'exemplary' assume a position as the key attributes, and thereby diminishing in practice the protection granted to those attributes not selected as 'exemplary'. It is therefore important to create more complete inventories to ensure administrative clarity. Morphological attributes (such as the 'coherency' and 'uniformity' of the *Ring* (as noted in the running text of the chapter on attributes) probably call for diagrammatic and textual explanation, as do the views and vedutas, which themselves are a result of interaction between building, landscape and spatial morphology. It is also unclear why the initial identification of important views (also towards the city and from the city) identified specifically for use for the 2019 Heumarkt Neu HIA were not expanded on. The exemplary representation/collection show in many instances show historic birds-eye views – one confusingly of an unimplemented historical proposal (is this idealised image to be seen as communicating the attributes of the property?) – to explain the city's morphology etc in a manner that cannot be appreciated by the city resident. More diagrammatic analytical representation would provide a better framework for communication and decision-making.

The already completed portions of the inventory of the Viennese roof trusses in the roof cadastre is exemplary (throughout there is inconsistency in the terminology, but this may be a translation issue). The great focus on roof trusses is in part due to past rooftop conversions, but there is a risk that this will lead to focus only on the trusses whereas buildings should be approached in an integral manner. The extension of roof cadastre should be a priority especially as Gründerzeit buildings are key attributes for the justifying of Criterion (iv).

Specific mention is made in the Brief Syntheses of the "Several historic Viennese buildings [...] now associated with the residences of important personalities such as Mozart, Beethoven, and Schubert, when the city played an essential role as a leading European centre for music", which one would expect to see a better inventorying of these than the cursory mention they receive under the discussion of attributes associated with the application of Criterion (vi).

Further development is also required in terms of identification of the attributes that contribute to the maintenance of the integrity and authenticity of the property, for instance the “characteristic skyline” noted in the Statement of Integrity, or the “overlapping and multi-layered interweaving of urban buildings, structures, and spaces” noted in the Statement of Authenticity.

The first exercise in identification of attributes has been of benefit to the management of the property and the maintenance of its OUV. The State Party has also given attributes a fundamental role in the management and decision-making on the property. These are important developments. Further developing a thorough understanding of the attributes that contribute to the OUV of the property is however necessary as was already highlighted by ICOMOS in its 2021 technical review of the Management Plan and was implicitly noted in the Management Plan itself where it states that the further development of an understanding of the attributes was a task to be undertaken during the implementation of the plan. The plan does not indicate how this would be undertaken on under which timeframe.

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Mission assessment of implementation
I.	1	The attributes which reflect and support the OUV of the property are clearly defined and described.	<p><i>The mission appreciated the progress made in outlining the attribute groups but considers that further development of a thorough understanding of the attributes that convey the OUV of the property is required.</i></p> <p>The mission assesses this corrective measure as not yet achieved.</p>

Table 13. The assessment of the mission on the status of implementation of the corrective measure related to the definition of attributes

Recommendations

The mission advises the State Party to:

- 22) Continue efforts to develop both the identification and communication of the attributes that support and convey the OUV of the property. It would be important to approach such a process along various avenues. One such avenue that should be explored is to further develop the understanding of attributes not by theme, but along spatial scales (i.e., building, street, urban etc.,) and thereby develop a layered plan indicating where attributes are located. The communication of intangible attributes, such as conformity, views, spatial relationships, etc., can best be mapped and communicated through diagrams. It is also important to investigate the cross-cutting contributions of attributes to the justification of all three criteria (ii), (iv) and (vi) as well as their contribution to the maintenance of the Integrity and Authenticity of the property;
- 23) Consider the inclusion of the identified tangible attributes in the relevant databases and planning tools of the city;

2.1.4 Development projects

One cornerstone of the DSOCR is ensuring the completion of the development projects, highlighted in the 2018 joint WHC/ICOMOS Advisory mission and subsequent the Committee Decisions, in such a manner that they do not diminish the OUV of the property, also because this is also an indicator that the management system of the property is functioning adequately. The three project areas specifically noted in the DSOCR are:

- the Heumarkt Neu project (discussed in a separate section of this report below),
- the Schwarzenberg palace and Gardens, and
- the Karlsplatz area with the Wien Museum and Winterthur Building.

These projects were included in the programme of the mission to visit and to discuss their current status with the representatives of the State Party. The mission team visited the areas concerned by the three development projects, and the State Party provided documentation for these prior to the mission (also as part of the 2024 State Party state of conservation report), as well as after the mission at the request of the mission team. The mission team was not entrusted for carrying out detailed and full evaluation of any of these projects, as this would exceed the scope of the mission. The mission will report specifically to the known development projects (the Schwarzenberg Palace and Garden), and the projects in the Karlsplatz area. The Heumarkt Neu project is discussed under a separate chapter in this report.

Concerning the additional projects that were brought to the attention of the mission, advice is provided with the main aim of judging whether any of these would require closer follow up by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies.

2.1.4.1 Projects proposed and implemented in the Schwarzenberg Complex

Background

The DSOCR requires the State Party to meet the following condition in relation to the Schwarzenberg Palace and Garden complex:

- *There is no further disturbance of the baroque layout and visual integrity of the Belvedere / Schwarzenberg Complex (Palace and Gardens) including the vistas constituting an integral part of the original logic of this Baroque Gesamtkunstwerk*
- *Historic gardens and green spaces receive strong statutory protection and play a major role in preservation and management strategies to support and improve climate conditions in the urban area.*
- *Schwarzenberg Garden and Palace are recognized as a major attribute reflecting the OUV of the property, ensuring its protection through the new comprehensive Management System for the Historic Centre of Vienna and an updated garden care-plan.*

The related corrective measures are formulated as follows:

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Rationale	Method of verification	Status of indicator in 2021 (during the time of submitting the CM)	Target completion date
II.	6	No further disturbance of the baroque layout and visual integrity of the Belvedere/Schwarzenberg Complex (Palace and Gardens) including the vistas constituting an integral part of the original logic of this	The Belvedere/Schwarzenberg Complex (Palace and Gardens) is a key attribute and major representative of the OUV of the property. The vista constituting an integral feature of this	A description of attributes reflecting and representing the OUV is part of the Management Plan. The Belvedere/Schwarzenberg Garden Complex is anchored in this list as an area of highest protection	The process of developing an integrated management system has been initiated and is work in progress. Revision of the project currently undergoing; visual study and	July 2021 as integral part of the Management Plan and Management System.

		baroque Gesamtkunstwerk.	stellar baroque complex compared to its status at time of inscription is disturbed by high-rises.	level. A revised Heumarkt Neu project that constitutes no further interference with this most important vista is either implemented or its implementation is guaranteed within the legislative framework (zoning plan/building permission).	HIA to be conducted and project developed to the point that it does not negatively affect the OUV of the property.	
II.	10	Schwarzenberg Garden and Palace are recognized as a major attribute reflecting the OUV of the property and thus anchored in the list of attributes. The protection is ensured by way of the new comprehensive Management System for the Historic Centre of Vienna as well as by an updated garden care-plan taking in account the results of an independent HIA.	Contemporary interventions in the historic garden environment lead to censure and complaints by members of the civil society and experts for historic gardens. Hence the whole area was assessed by the 2018 Advisory mission.	An HIA assessing the developments in Schwarzenberg Garden has been reviewed by the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS. Recommendations provided by a Technical Review have been implemented in the Management Plan of the property.	The HIA is carried out to best international practice guided by adopted Guidelines, by order of the World Heritage Unit in the Federal Ministry for Arts, Culture, Public Service and Sports. The placing of the HIA is work in progress.	The results of the HIA shall be available by the end of 2020. The implementation in the Management System takes place according to the scheduled timeframe (please note relating sections in this document).

Table 14. Corrective measures related to the Schwarzenberg Palace and Garden

The 2018 joint Reactive Monitoring mission assessed proposals to construct in the Schwarzenberg Garden, a new restaurant pavilion linked to the pre-existing Stöckl building (today 'Stöckl im Park' restaurant) and the construction of a new hotel wing in the lower platform of the Garden (the possibility (in the planning system) to construct a hotel in the Schwarzenberg Garden, dates to 2005¹³, thus after inscription of the property on the World Heritage List). At that time a parking garage was being constructed under the forecourt of the Palace.

The report of the 2018 mission states that the Palace and Gardens present a large conservation challenge and recommended, amongst others, that:

"With reference to Paragraph 110 of the Operational Guidelines, the effects of the Belvedere Stöckl redevelopment project and the other projects currently being executed or planned for the near future should be assessed through an HIA process before they are approved and/or implemented and, if a negative impact is identified, mitigation measures be developed to offset or compensate these identified impacts. For those projects already under way or recently executed, post-construction mitigation could offer a means to offset the negative impacts of the project, if any are established that are not adequately compensated by the

¹³ City of Vienna Plandokument 7728, adopted 2005, based in a Council decision of 26 March 2004 Plandokument 7574.

*positive impacts of each project or the larger redevelopment of the Schwarzenberg Palace and Gardens.*¹⁴

The report, referring to a January 2019 ICOMOS technical review, also states that while it was aware of a project in the making to renovate the Palace and for construction of a hotel building on the lower garden, located directly on the boundary of the Belvedere Palace gardens where greenhouses were, it has not been presented with any details on these projects.

The 2019 ICOMOS technical review, included in the 2018 mission report states that: "... [t]he proposed redevelopment projects planned for the Schwarzenberg Palace and Gardens have the potential to have a negative impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the Historic Centre of Vienna World Heritage property."

The World Heritage Committee (Decision **43 COM 7A.45**) recorded a decision that: "urges all parties to support and pursue... [t]he recommendations of the 2018 Advisory mission..." and requested "...the State Party to submit, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*... detailed plans and supporting documentation for the Belvedere Stöckl redevelopment project, and any other proposed developments within the Schwarzenberg Garden, for review by the Advisory Bodies, prior to implementation or the making of any irreversible decisions".

The State Party as part of its 2024 state of conservation report submitted an HIA for four implemented and planned projects related to the Schwarzenberg Palace and Garden:

1. Upper garden (third terrace): extension and conversion of the Belvedere Stöckl,
2. Main garden (first terrace): new hotel building,
3. Court of Honour / forecourt: underground car park,
4. Middle garden (second terrace): use as an open-air stage.

This HIA, submitted as annex to the State Party's 2024 state of conservation report, and is the topic of a separate specific review by ICOMOS. After the mission, the State Party on the request of the mission, provided the visualisations from the City of Vienna's 3-d city model (of the Department of Surveying and Mapping). This material provided a visualisation of the outline of the current design for the new hotel building on various views.

The mission had the opportunity to visit the Schwarzenberg Palace and Garden, which is in private ownership, on 12 March. During the visit to the ensemble, the mission:

1. inspected the garden, visiting all sections including the upper terrace, accompanied by amongst others, Prof. Dr Hartmut Troll, the author of the aforementioned HIA;
2. inspected the site for the proposed new hotel annex located against the northern wall of the first terrace, of which the basement excavation has already been undertaken; and
3. briefly visited the ongoing renovation of the Palace currently being implemented for its future use as hotel, accompanied by amongst others by the architect Thomas Hoppe.



¹⁴ 2018 joint WHC/ ICOMOS Advisory mission report, p. ix.



Figure 5. The Schwarzenberg Palace and Garden, with (top left) main façade as seen from the top of the parking structure, (top right), the restored upper cascade, (bottom left) the tennis courts on the top terrace and (bottom right) the excavations already completed for the basement of the new hotel building (photos © Nicholas Clarke)

On 13 March the mission was presented with the outcomes of the HIA by its author, as well as the current plans for the development of the hotel in the lower terrace of the garden by its designer Prof. Wolfgang Tschapeller during a meeting in the Wien Museum. It also noted that the restoration of the upper cascade had been completed.

Discussion

In a similar procedure as the impact assessments for the Heumarkt Neu project, the HIA for the Schwarzenberg Garden was commissioned by the Ministry of Arts, Culture, Civil Services and Sports following the completion of the Belvedere Stöckl project. It does not assess the renovation project of the Schwarzenberg Palace itself.

The DSOCR acknowledges that the Schwarzenberg Palace and Garden ensemble is a ‘major attribute’ of the property. The HIA confirms this perspective, and notes that the Gardens are under great pressure, due to lack of maintenance, inappropriate use and lack of legal protection.

The Palace and Garden receive limited mention each in the Management Plan (“The Schwarzenberg Garden Palace, for example, which is considered to be the first Viennese building by the Baroque architect Johann Lucas von Hildebrandt, was built between 1697 and 1704. The associated garden forms an extensive complex rising towards the Upper Belvedere and divided into several terraces, which was partially redesigned into an English landscape garden in the eighteenth century”; “Numerous palaces of aristocrats, regal families and important building families bear witness to Baroque architecture and this political change (e. g. Schwarzenberg, Harrach, Esterházy, Liechtenstein, Lobkowitz, Collalto...” and “The Schwarzenberg Garden, a former Baroque garden, was transformed into an English garden...”).¹⁵

With regard to the status of the legal protection of the Schwarzenberg Garden, the mission was informed that the Federal Monument Act does not ‘automatically’ apply to historic gardens, and that protection under this law needs must therefore be granted only under certain conditions. While this is done consistently for publicly owned historic gardens, in the case of private gardens, the consent of the owners is a prerequisite. The Schwarzenberg Palace is therefore a historic monument under the Federal Monument Act, but its owner has not given consent for the garden to receive the same level of protection. As the garden is not under this monument protection, planning applications for changes or projects in the garden do not need to go through the same procedure as for protected monuments.

The mission was informed that the design competition for the new hotel extension in the Schwarzenberg Garden (called ‘Glashaus im Park’) dates back to 2004 and the relevant zoning plan, which allows for the possibility of the hotel building construction in the main garden, dates back to 2007. As part of the planning application/approval process, the hotel project will be discussed at the next meeting of the City of Vienna’s Advisory Board for Urban Planning and Design, prior to the final decision on the building permit. The developer’s goal is to have both the restoration of the Palace and the construction of the new hotel annex completed and open to guests by 2026.

Considerations of the mission

The mission concludes that the Schwarzenberg Palace and Gardens make a considerable contribution to the justification of the application of both Criterion (ii) and Criterion (iv). The ensemble is however not included in the Exemplary representation/collection presented with the defined attributes:

¹⁵ City of Vienna, 2021, Management Plan, pp. 25, 39 & 43.

“SQUARES, GARDENS AND PARKS, (related to the justification of Criterion (ii) and “BAROQUE PALACE BUILDINGS” and “BAROQUE PALACES AND GARDENS” (related to the justification of Criterion (iv) as presented in the Management Plan. The mission advises the State Party to rectify this deficiency, all the more as such a strengthening of the Management Plan may also contribute to reaching the related DSOCR element. Nevertheless, the mission considers that the lack of Federal level protection of the Garden as a whole remains problematic.

The Schwarzenberg Palace

The mission was only able to pay a cursory visit to the Schwarzenberg Palace renovation site. As already noted, the HIA did not assess the renovation project, currently being undertaken. The Palace would also be part of the hotel to be operated on this site, The State Party did not provide any information to the World Heritage Centre before the project was implemented as per Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*. The mission noted that as the Palace is a significantly important attribute, it would have been appropriate for the State Party to send a notification in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines* about the restauration project to the World Heritage Centre. In addition, the project should have been assessed through a Heritage Impact Assessment as mandated by Paragraph 118bis of the *Operational Guidelines* before its implementation commenced.

The Belvedere Stöckl, new hotel annex, underground car park and use of the second terrace as open-air stage

With regard to these projects, the mission considers that the conclusions of the HIA are appropriate, but also notes that the HIA was undertaken in a context in which projects have either been approved or already initiated. In this respect, the HIA cannot serve its intended purpose to identify avoidance measures, but to seek mitigation measures to reduce negative impacts. The HIA has developed several mitigation measures, ranging from the relocation of recent interventions with negative impacts to management measures and institutional strengthening. These are all important suggestions, and the mission particularly stresses the need to implement all of these but wishes to highlight some.

Concerning the specific projects, the mission fully agrees that mitigation measures proposed to reduce the impact of the Stöckl im Park restaurant and beer garden are appropriate.



Figure 6. The historic brewery with the new ‘Stöckl im Park’ restaurant, featuring also a part of the beer garden (photo © UNESCO)

The mission also noted that use of the middle terrace as open-air theatre in the summer is shown as highly problematic in the HIA. Its annual temporary use is therefore, advised to be reconsidered, however, the relocation of the theatre activities to the upper terrace, as recommended by the HIA, in the opinion of the mission would need to be carefully designed to ensure that access, use etc, are designed in appropriate ways.

With regard to the proposed new construction in the garden to serve as annex to the hotel (‘Glashaus im Park’), located along the wall that separates the garden from the Belvedere, which already received in principle approval from the authorities through the zoning plan modification, the mission acknowledges the great flexibility of the project architect of the hotel annex to adapt the winning design for the project to reduce its impact on both the Schwarzenberg Palace and Garden (considered by the

HIA as large negative impact with regard to their status as attributes) ensemble and on the adjacent Belvedere ensemble (considered by the HIA as very large negative visual impact for the lower Belvedere). This flexibility and cooperative approach have allowed the design to be adapted to such an extent that its impact has been dramatically reduced. This seems to, however, been the maximum extent of possible mitigation for the architectural proposal and the HIA developed further measures to reduce the impact by proposing landscape interventions to screen the building, especially from the Belvedere Garden. However, even with the implementation of these measures – some of which will take a long time to achieve – the impacts on certain viewpoints remain moderate negative. The mission agrees with the assessment of the HIA that the planned 'Glashaus im Park' also has an important adverse impact on the Schwarzenberg Palace and Garden itself, which is a key attribute of the property. If making the link to the related DSCOR, the adverse impact of the proposed project is even larger on the baroque layout and visual integrity of the 'Schwarzenberg Palace and Garden' component of the 'Belvedere / Schwarzenberg Complex (Palace and Gardens)', and noted that while in this respect, the HIA, suggest some solutions for mitigating this negative impact, does not present avoidance as the most preferable option. The mission, however, is also conscious of the fact that the project through the zoning plan received in principle authorisation already from the planning authorities, and therefore concludes that advice for avoidance (which in the mission's view would be the most favourable solution to avert the project's adverse impact on the OUV and on its related underlying attributes, and to support achieving the related DSOCR), does not seem to be realistic from a procedural point of view.

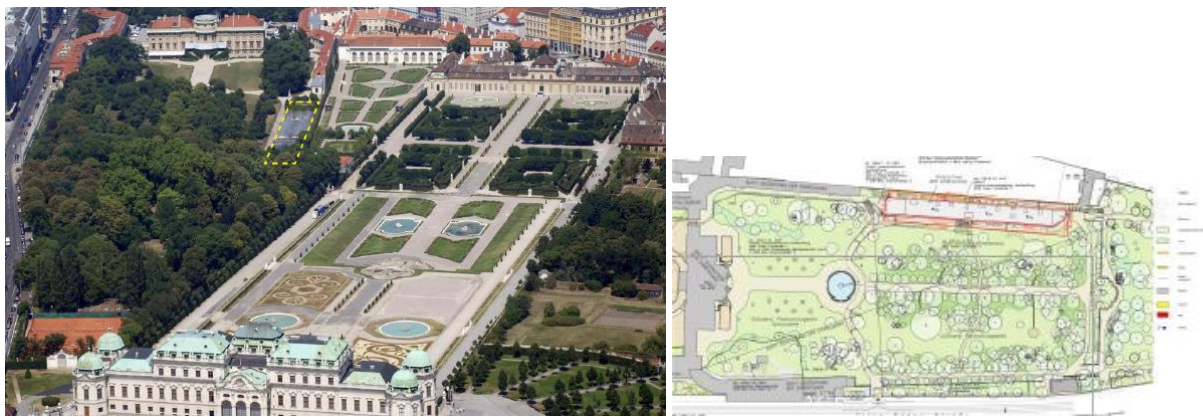


Figure 7. Location of the planned new hotel annex building in the Schwarzenberg Garden, near the connecting wall with the Belvedere Garden (source: State Party presentation)

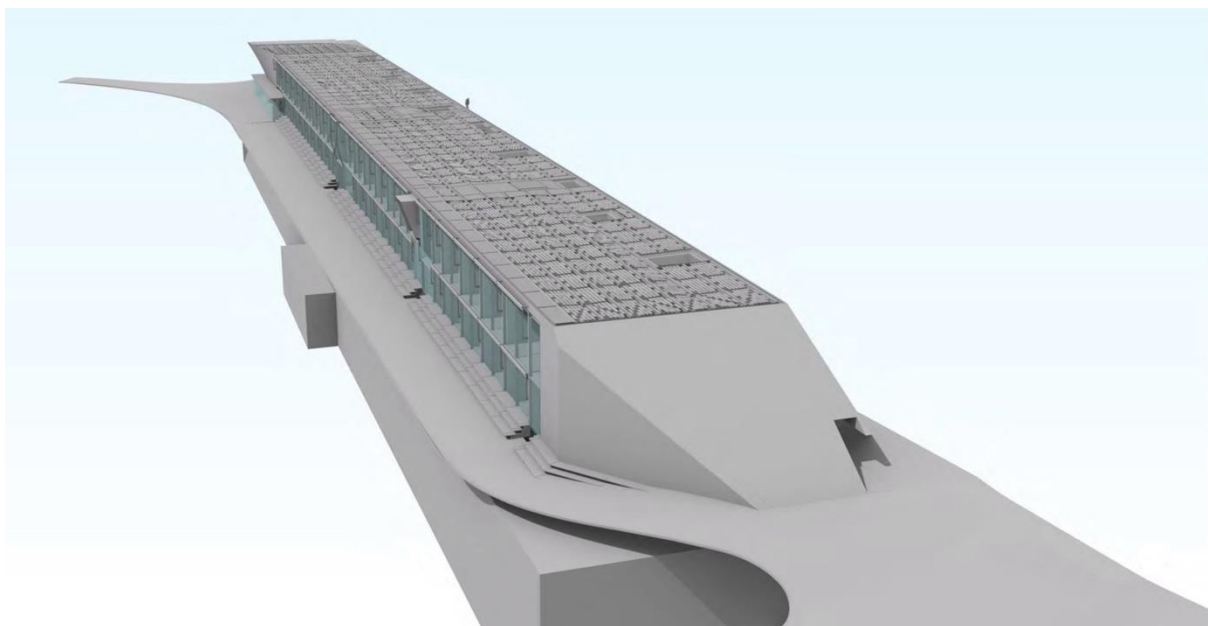


Figure 8. 3-D presentation of the current design proposal for the new hotel annex building, seen from the east (Wolfgang Tschapeller Architekten)

Because the forecourt of the Palace was in use as an open parking area for most of the 20th century, the HIA concludes that the planned measures linked to the moving the parking structure under the forecourt of the Palace significantly strengthen the attributes "squares, gardens and parks" (Criterion (ii)) and "Baroque palace and gardens" (Criterion (iv)), and the mission concurs with this.

While authentic historic elements of both the Palace and the Garden are preserved, the Palace is currently a building site, and the Garden is divided into sections (including the Swiss Embassy, the 'Stöckl im Park' with the beer garden, the tennis courts), which do not fully respect its authentic historic elements and structural and spatial morphology and the long-term conservation of its historic features. The Garden still however holds to potential important weakened aspects to be strengthened through for instance reinstating historic planting designs, adopting the mitigation measures developed for the 'Stöckl im Park' outdoors seating area and improved maintenance, and this should be the aim of all interventions in the Garden.

The HIA has proven to be of great worth also as a source of information and possible domains of action. It identified weaknesses in the institutional, management and physical conservation of the Schwarzenberg Garden, highlighted the high negative impacts of recent interventions (like the construction of the Belvedere Stöckl), and ongoing inappropriate uses of the garden (like the operation of the open-air theatre during the summer months). At the same time it provided options towards reducing the impact of proposed but not executed projects (like the planned new hotel annex 'Glashaus im Park') and shows that it is possible to plan and implement interventions with positive results (like the forecourt project for the underground parking).

The HIA has also highlighted the essential contribution that this palace and garden ensemble makes to the OUV of the Historic City of Vienna and shown how recent decisions especially since the 1980s have greatly eroded the significance of the garden. This process is continuing, for instance by the construction of a palisade fence for the garden of the Swiss Embassy, thereby proportioning off a part of the lower terrace from the rest of the garden and reducing its integrity.

The commissioning and completion of the HIA highlights several challenges to the conservation of the garden. The HIA has no legal binding force. The current legislative environment does not require that an HIA to be commissioned for such projects. No mechanism exists to ensure that its wide range of recommendations get implemented. These recommendations are directed at a large range of actors, from the Federal Government and its various departments to the City of Vienna and the owner of the Schwarzenberg Palace and Garden. The mitigation measures proposed to reduce the impact of the hotel annex project on the Belvedere Palace Gardens requires for instance interventions in the Kammergarten, which raises questions about coordination as this means that interventions need to be done in a public protected monument (Belvedere Palace Garden) to reduce the impacts of a private development in a property next-door (Schwarzenberg Garden).

The mission considers that the Schwarzenberg Palace and Gardens case illustrates the need to further strengthen the protection and management system of the property to include the implementation of further regulations to mandate Heritage Impact Assessments. The case of the Schwarzenberg Palace and Gardens highlights that the Federal Environmental Impact Assessment Act 2000 – UVP-G 2000 in its application does not trigger HIAs for projects such as the Palace renovation or the interventions in the Gardens (as is required by Par 118bis of the *Operational Guidelines*), despite it referring to 'UNESCO World Heritage sites registered in the list pursuant to § 11 (2) of the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (Federal Law Gazette No. 60/1993)'.¹⁶ The new Section 67 of the Vienna Building Code does not explicitly give the Advisory Board the power to require Impact Assessments.

The mission also points out that as the Schwarzenberg Palace and Garden is an important attribute of the property, the plans for the restoration of the Palace and plans for the new hotel building on the lower terrace should have been seen by the relevant authorities in Vienna as projects that would warranted submission to the World Heritage Centre in line with the invitation contained in Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*. In the current situation, when the State Party is faced with DSOCR elements that will be very difficult to achieve, the mission advises to use HIA as a tool to work together with the project planners in developing a final design which minimises the negative impact that the construction will have on the baroque layout and visual integrity of the Belvedere / Schwarzenberg Complex (Palace

¹⁶ Translation provided by the State Party.

and Gardens) including the vistas constituting an integral part of the original logic of this Baroque Gesamtkunstwerk.

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Mission assessment of implementation
II.	6	No further disturbance of the baroque layout and visual integrity of the Belvedere/Schwarzenberg Complex (Palace and Gardens) including the vistas constituting an integral part of the original logic of this baroque Gesamtkunstwerk.	<p><i>The mission considers that the excavation of the basement of the proposed hotel annex has already disturbed the Baroque layout of the Schwarzenberg Palace and Garden, which is still reversible. However, the construction of the new hotel annex would result in a permanent disturbance to the visual integrity of this attribute and on the OUV of the property as a whole.</i></p> <p>The mission assesses this corrective measure not yet achieved.</p>
II.	10	Schwarzenberg Garden and Palace are recognized as a major attribute reflecting the OUV of the property and thus anchored in the list of attributes. The protection is ensured by way of the new comprehensive Management System for the Historic Centre of Vienna as well as by an updated garden care-plan taking in account the results of an independent HIA.	<p><i>The mission considers that the Schwarzenberg Garden and Palace ensemble is not adequately anchored in the Management Plan as a major attribute. The recent HIA has identified areas for improvement in the protection and management of the garden.</i></p> <p>Progress has been made, but the mission assesses this corrective measure not yet been fully achieved.</p>

Table 15. The assessment of the mission on the status of implementation of the corrective measure related to the development projects in the Schwarzenberg Garden

Recommendations

The mission advises the State Party to:

- 24) Continue with its efforts to develop statutory protection in order to achieve the indicator “*Historic gardens and green spaces receive strong statutory protection and play a major role in preservation and management strategies to support and improve climate conditions in the urban area*”;
- 25) Update the Management Plan to ensure that the Schwarzenberg Garden and Palace is recognised as a major attribute which supports and conveys the OUV of the property;
- 26) Submit to the World Heritage Centre for review the full documentation of the ongoing renovation of the Schwarzenberg Palace, including reports of historic and on-site investigations and plans for the current project, as well as a thorough records of the renovation process.
- 27) Continue to work with the project planners through the process of an iterative HIA to develop a final design for the proposed new hotel that minimises the negative impact of construction on the baroque layout and visual integrity of the Belvedere / Schwarzenberg Complex (Palace and Gardens), including the vistas that are an integral part of the original logic of this Baroque Gesamtkunstwerk;
- 28) Develop, resource and implement the garden-care plan as required by the DSOCR to ensure its protection through the new comprehensive management system for the Historic Centre of Vienna and an updated garden care-plan.
- 29) Develop an action plan for the mitigation measures proposed in the HIA, with identification of those institutions responsible for their implementation and timelines for the implementation of the mitigation and management recommendations, for submission to the World Heritage Centre.

2.1.4.2 Projects planned and implemented in the Karlsplatz area

Background

With regard to the **Wien Museum** renovation project, the 2018 mission recommended that:

“...final design drawings for the Wien Museum, especially the entrance pavilion, should be submitted to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre as soon as possible for a final technical review before the project is implemented.

Outstanding issues are:

1. final detail confirmation of the materiality of the new upward extension of the museum;
2. the finalisation of the entrance design and the landscape design between the Winterthur building and the Karlskirche, before the landscape project is implemented to accommodate the Winterthur cut-back and top-up in future.¹⁷

The 2018 mission further advised on three specificities: the materialisation of the top-up volume, the design of the entrance (which included that the design: “should aim to maintain the stair/handrail/entrance configuration as an integral part of the new designed entrance. The Mission further advises that the finalised design (including architectural plans/sections and elevations) be submitted for final agreement” and on the main Karlsplatz-facing façade, recommended that:

“advises that the very last ground-floor window (southern- most window) of the main façade be maintained and the level of the landscape outside this bay of the window be maintained up to and around the corner of the building. This will result in maintaining the character of the original building as a built volume floating over/independent of the landscaped square, as well as leaving a full-height bay of the building’s main elevation intact as per the original design.”¹⁸

The Committee in 2019, 2021 and 2023 recorded decisions that urges all parties to support and pursue the recommendations of the 2018 Advisory mission and requested the State Party to submit, in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, final plans for the Wien Museum and Winterthur Building.

The renovation of the Wien Museum was not yet underway at the time of the 2018 mission, but the museum building had already been vacated. In the meantime, the entire Wien Museum project and its associated landscaping has been completed, and the museum reopened in 2023. The mission noted that the submission of the material (related only to the Wien Museum building), requested also by the World Heritage Committee, was undertaken on 31 January 2024, annexed to the latest state of conservation report submitted by the State Party. The drawings of the landscape design have not yet been submitted.

Regarding the **Winterthur Building**, that is adjacent to the Wien Museum, the 2018 mission advised that:

“...the final design drawings for the Winterthur Building be transmitted to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre for a final technical review before the project design is finalized and implemented.

It should be stressed that the addition of additional storeys to the building can only be carried out in conjunction with the proposed 5-metre cutback in order to ensure that the Winterthur Building does not spatially dominate the Karlskirche.¹⁹

The DSOCR requires the State Party to meet the following condition in relation to the Karlsplatz area:

- *Karlsplatz / Wien Museum / Winterthur Building area is redesigned according to the findings of the 2018 High Level Joint UNESCO/ICOMOS Advisory mission and the related mission report.*

The related corrective measure is formulated as follows:

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Rationale	Method of verification	Status of indicator in 2021 (during the time of submitting the CM)	Target completion date
II.	7	Karlsplatz/Wien Museum/Winterthur Building area is	The projected redesign was considered a	The World Heritage Centre and the Advisory	Final landscape designs were submitted to the	Final designs for the <u>Wien</u>

¹⁷ 2018 joint WHC/ ICOMOS Advisory mission report, p. viii

¹⁸ Ibid, p. 13-14.

¹⁹ Ibid, p. 15.

		redesigned according to the findings of the 2018 Advisory mission and the related mission report.	benefit for the area.	Bodies reviewed and agreed to the final designs for the extension and redesign of the Wien Museum and Winterthur Building as well as the new landscape designs.	World Heritage Centre subsequently to the 2018 Advisory mission. Final designs for the Wien Museum currently are work in progress. Conversion of Winterthur House halted; beginning of conversion works currently not foreseeable.	<u>Museum</u> will be available end of 2020 and submitted with the SOC Report in January 2021. <u>Conversion of Winterthur House</u> only possible according to the design linked to the conversion of the Wien Museum. Regular reports on progress by way of roadmaps and State of conservation reports.
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Table 16. Corrective measure related to developments in the Karlsplatz area

Discussion

As noted above, the State Party submitted plans and sections of the museum, and of the entrance structure to the World Heritage Centre, as well as the official 2023 press release for the opening of the museum as annex to the 2024 state of conservation report. The State Party also included the zoning plan for the plots of the museum and the Winterthur Building.



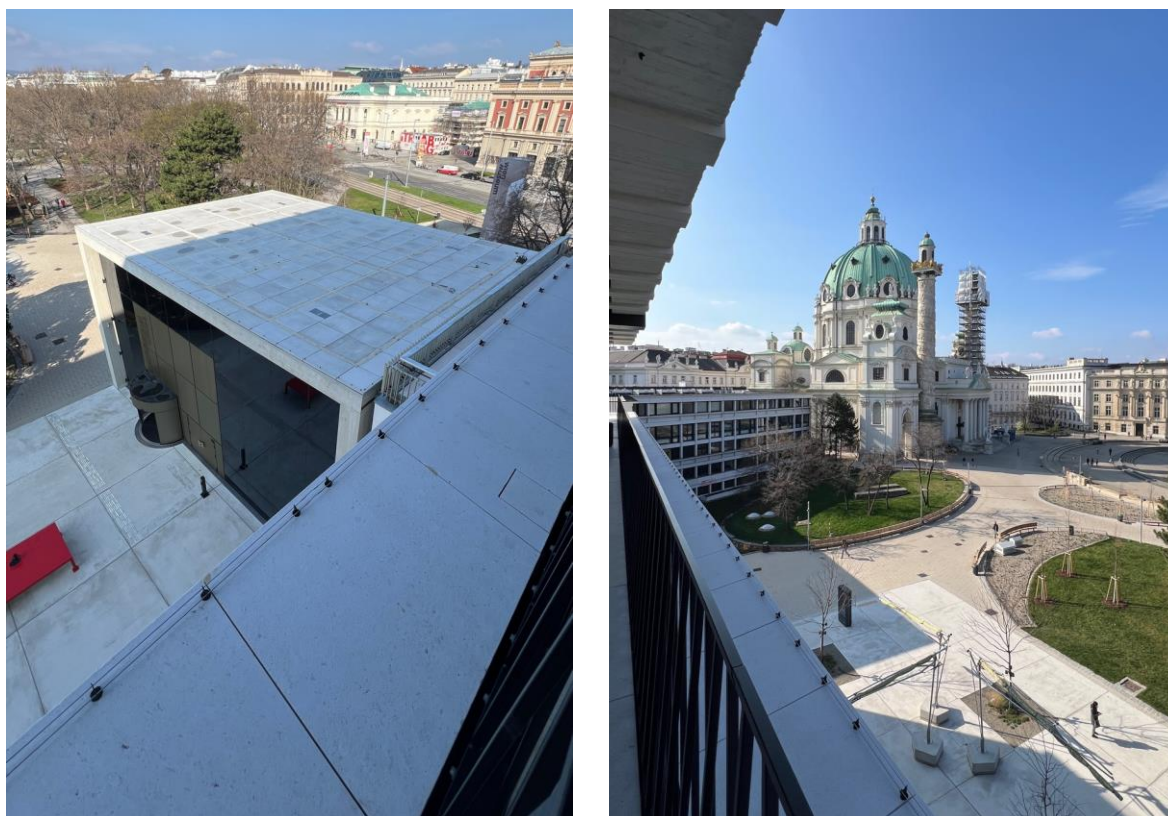


Figure 9. The Karlsplatz area with (top left) the Wien Museum seen from the Technikerstrasse, (top right) from the Karlsplatz, (bottom left) the entrance seen from the upper terrace, and (bottom right) the Karlskirche and Winterthur buildings (photos © Nicholas Clarke)

The mission visited the Karlsplatz area the museum. It was presented with a quick tour of the museum and had the privilege of utilising a meeting room in the new top-up for a day.

The mission noted that in the meantime, the section of the Winterthur Building that connected it with the Wien Museum has been removed. This was part of the original plans for the Wien Museum renovation and was assessed by the 2018 mission as an improvement on the then current situation with regard to the spatial areas around the Karlskirche. The mission was informed that there are currently no active plans to further modify the Winterthur Building, for which the World Heritage Committee has requested the submission of plans (Decision **43 COM 7A.45**).

Considerations of the mission

Regarding the Wien Museum (a protected monument under federal law) the mission notes that it was acknowledged as being of architectural significance as an important Modernist building from the post-War era and can therefore be seen (especially in its original state) as an attribute that contributes to the application of criterion (ii).

The mission was presented with a *fait accompli* in terms of the design and implementation of the renovation of the building and the surrounding landscaping. The mission noted that the recommendations of the 2018 mission to amend the project were not accepted and considers it a missed opportunity that there was no engagement with the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS to have a dialogue on the design details, as advised by the 2018 mission and requested by the Committee in repeated decisions. As a result, it will not be technically possible to achieve the related element of the DSOCR (item 11/7). In this context, it should be noted that the 2018 mission had concluded that the project was acceptable in principle and had only provided recommendations on aspects of its detail. The present mission considers that, while it is no longer technically possible to achieve the related DSOCR element, the renovated museum does not have a fundamentally negative impact on the OUV of the World Heritage property.

The mission appreciates the high quality of the exhibitions on the history of the city presented in the museum. It notes that the status of the historic inner city as having been valorised as being of outstanding value to humanity by inscription of the World Heritage List is not included in the narrative

of the museum. This could be considered as a topic for future temporary exhibitions, or revision of the permanent exhibition.

Regarding the Winterthur building, the mission notes that the plans for its refurbishment has been put on hold, and it also sees the new opening between this building and the Wien Museum through the demolition of the Winterthur building's connecting wing, as an improvement to the spatial organisation of the Karlsplatz and the visual connection of the neighbouring areas to the Karlskirche.

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Mission assessment of implementation
II.	7	Karlsplatz/Wien Museum/Winterthur Building area is redesigned according to the findings of the 2018 Advisory mission and the related mission report.	The mission assesses that this corrective measure is technically unachievable but concludes that the renovated museum would not have a fundamentally negatively on the OUV of the property. <i>The Winterthur Building refurbishment or replacement remains pending.</i>

Table 17 The assessment of the mission on the status of implementation of the corrective measure related to the developments in the Karlsplatz area

Recommendations

The mission advises the State Party to:

30. Review its communication protocols, in particular with regard to projects that are aligned to corrective measures, to ensure that technical non-compliance does not occur for other corrective measures;
31. Consider adding content on the recognition/celebration of the inscription of the Historic Centre of Vienna on the World Heritage List and explanations on its OUV to the exhibition of the Wien Museum;
32. Fully consider the recommendations of the 2018 Advisory mission regarding the Winterthur Building and ensure that they are implemented in any proposed project for its redesign, and that the final design ensures that the OUV of the property is maintained;
33. Notify the World Heritage Centre should the planning for the refurbishment or replacement of the Winterthur Building restart and submit the plans to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies in the early planning stages, and not take any decisions that would be difficult to reverse until feedback is received.

2.1.4.3 Further projects brought to the attention of the mission

During presentations to the mission on 12 and 13 March 2024 and in documents provided to the mission, the State Party presented a number of projects previously unknown to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies ICOMOS and ICCROM. These projects are as follows.

Proposed Visitors' Centre at the Belvedere Palace

The mission received brief information on plans to develop a 3 500 m² visitor centre under the southern forecourt of the upper Belvedere Palace, which contains the Grand Basin. This project is envisaged to connect the Baroque Palace and its Gardens. The materials submitted by the State Party describe the visitor centre as 'invisible' (In this context it is important to note that there is currently no information on archaeological potential of this area known to the mission). The project requires changes to the land use and zoning plans of the land parcel, which, it was communicated to the mission, would take approximately one year, during which due consideration of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property will be taken into consideration. The mission was informed that the State Party intends to call for proposals through a design competition and that Austria has been requested to provide input through its system of World Heritage monitors.

Consideration of the mission

The Belvedere Palace ensemble (Upper and Lower Belvedere and Garden ensemble) is arguably the most significant Baroque attribute of the World Heritage property. It is an essential attribute to the justification of the application of Criterion (iv) and makes a substantial contribution to the justification of Criterion (ii). Constructing a visitor centre underground in the forecourt of the Palace will alter the way

in which the Upper Belvedere and the entire complex is approached from the south, may require interior alterations to the Upper Belvedere Palace itself, and will change the relationship of the Palace's main entry to the forecourt garden and its Grand Basin. There could also be risks associated with large excavations directly adjacent the Upper Belvedere and there may potentially be archaeological residue in this location.

The mission located the public call for tenders, published online on 22 October 2023, under the title: "163632-00 - 1030 Wien, Prinz-Eugen-Straße 27, Visitor Center-Oberes Belvedere, EU-weiter, offener, einstufiger Realisierungswettbewerb mit anschl. Verhandlungsverfahren für die Vergabe von Generalplanerleistungen".²⁰ From the material available, it is clear that this is an open architectural competition, (see Annex 7.) that the closing date for a receipt of projects for applications for participation was 2 February 2024, that a service contract as result of the competition will be awarded to the winners of the competition. It is also stated that the decision of the jury is binding on the contracting authority.²¹ Press articles indicate that the result of the competition was to be made public in March 2024.²²

In this respect, the mission wishes to highlight this case as an illustration that the management procedures that are currently in place are not yet effective to ensure an important process of the World Heritage Convention, namely in ensuring timely notification to the World Heritage Centre of projects that may affect the OUV of the property. The Management Plan does not yet mandate such notification, rather only stating that: *'The site manager is the contact person for the State Party within the City of Vienna and, in accordance with Section 172 of the Implementation Guidelines of the World Heritage Convention, reports on the impact of construction measures on the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Site.'* (p. 121).

While acknowledging that the English translation of the Management Plan may not be technically equivalent to the German original, this provision does not meet the requirements of Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, which invites State Parties to: *'...inform the Committee, through the Secretariat, of their intention to undertake or to authorize in an area protected under the Convention major restorations or new constructions which may affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property. Notice should be given as soon as possible (for instance, before drafting basic documents for specific projects) and before making any decisions that would be difficult to reverse, so that the Committee may assist in seeking appropriate solutions to ensure that the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is fully preserved.'*

The Management Plan should be adapted to ensure that the State Party is in a position to inform the World Heritage Committee in a timely manner and to benefit from its assistance through the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies. In addition, while within the City of Vienna the site manager is the contact person for World Heritage matters, it is the national focal point(s) for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention at national level who act as the contact person(s) for the State Party in coordinating the above-mentioned notifications.

The mission acknowledges that the Upper Belvedere Palace receives a large number of visitors on a daily basis, and that providing logistical spaces such as restrooms entry spaces shops and ticketing facilities may be required. However, seeing the high level of sensitivity of the forecourt of the Upper Belvedere, the mission is of the opinion that this project holds a high risk of adversely impacting the OUV of the property, and therefore advises the State Party to engage in dialogue with the World Heritage Centre the Advisory Bodies to provide the State Party with assistance to ensure the maintenance of the OUV of the property. Until this point no irrevocable decisions are advised to be made.

Recommendation

The mission advises the State Party to:

²⁰ Translated: "163632-00 - 1030 Vienna, Prinz-Eugen-Straße 27, Visitor Center-Oberes Belvedere, EU-wide, open, one-stage realization competition with connection Negotiated procedure for the award of general planning services." Available at: <https://big.vergabeportal.at/Detail/163632>.

²¹ The material associated with a call could not be downloaded by the mission team. The online portal indicated that: "Nach Ende der Abgabefrist ist kein Dateidownload mehr möglich." (After the end of the submission deadline, it is no longer possible to download the file.)

²² <https://www.derstandard.at/story/3000000192333/unsichtbares-visitor-center-belvedere-startet-architekturwettbewerb>.

34. Submit formally and urgently all known details of the project to the World Heritage Centre in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
35. Defer the adoption of any land-use and zoning plans for the land parcel on which the Upper Belvedere is located until such changes have been assessed through a Heritage Impact Assessment (undertaken in accordance with the 2022 *Guidance and Toolkit on Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context*), as required by Paragraph 118bis of the *Operational Guidelines*;

Haus der Geschichte Österreich– House of Austrian History

The House of Austrian History is currently located in the Hofburg complex. A project is proposed to relocate the museum to the Museum Quarter (the adaptively re-used former Palace stable complex). The mission was informed that the area identified on the Mariahilfer Street was constructed in 1862 for use by the stables staff. Structural adaptations need to be undertaken to accommodate the House of Austrian History, which were being reviewed by the City of Vienna at the time of the mission. The area has seen past adaptations, including with extensions to for use as youth theatre. The feasibility study indicates demolition limited structural adaptations are required.²³

Considerations of the mission

The mission considers that the proposal for the adaption of the housing complex on the Mariahilfer Street to accommodate the House of Austrian History will lead to acceptable change to the historic fabric of that complex. The mission does not consider that further notification under Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines* is necessary.

Rossauer Kaserne project

The Rossauer Kaserne is a large military complex in historic-romantic style, that accentuates the northern end of the Gründerzeit Ring at the Danube Canal. Its first phases were constructed between 1865 to 1869. Therefore, it is an attribute that contributes to the justification of the application of criteria (ii) and (iv).

It was constructed for military use and is still used as such. An architectural competition to provide more office space was awarded in 2016 and the design has been refined. It consists of a four-storey double-X plan building located as free-standing pavilion in the central courtyard of the complex. The double X-plan building will have mirroring facades and is raised on piloti. It will connect to the historic barracks by means of a single bridge-passage. Existing under-ground infrastructure will remain.

The Rossauer Kaserne project introduces a contrasting new volume in the main courtyard of the former, which is now used by the Austrian military for offices. The new volume stands free from the existing building, and is expected that with its mirrored façade, it would create a visually highly appealing play of reflections. The barracks building itself is large and robust.

Considerations of the mission

The mission considers that the new volume sits within the courtyard and is of an appropriate scale.

The mission advises that the scheme, while being highly contrasted, does not affect the contribution that the barracks make as attribute of the OUV of the property, and will continue the historic association of use with the military. The project supports the functional historical value of the building. The mission does not consider that further notification under Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines* is necessary.

Extension of the Viennese Underground

The city has communicated to the mission that an upgrade of the Vienna underground is ongoing:

“These two lines directly cross the core zone and buffer zone of the World Heritage Site. Surfaces and public spaces are being redesigned on a large scale in the course of the related construction works, with a focus on enhancing atmospheric quality and improving the adaptation to climate change. Amongst others, this concerns the areas of Universitätsring, Sigmund-Freud- Park, Landesgerichtsstrasse, the surroundings of Vienna City Hall and

²³ See: https://hdgoe.at/items/uploads/module_pdf/HdGO_MQ%20470.03_MAPPE_A3_Long_29.09.2023.pdf

Auerspergstrasse, all of which are situated in the Glacis area. Moreover, archaeological digs were conducted as well.”²⁴

Considerations of the mission

The mission considers that, the scale of this project would have warranted a notification with details at a very early stage to the World Heritage Centre, as per Par 172 of the *Operational Guideline* and should have triggered a Heritage Impact Assessment as a matter of priority.

Recommendation

The mission advises the State Party to:

36. Provide to the World Heritage Centre, as a matter of priority, detailed information and documentation on this project including the trajectories of the extensions, details of the above and below ground infrastructure and stations, and the relevant assessments undertaken before making any decisions that may be difficult to reverse.

Climate Adaptation Plan, including redesign Michaelerplatz and Schwarzenbergplatz

The extension of the Viennese Underground project includes the redefinition of extant squares in the property, also to accommodate climate change adaptation. During the mission, the initial ideas for greening the Michaelerplatz (square) were noted during a site visit. These initial ideas have given rise to a decision of the City of Vienna to, instead of implementing ad-hoc measures, to develop an overarching climate change mitigation design for the city. The City of Vienna has also adopted a Façade Greening Policy which mandates compulsory investigation of the possibility to green façades in the case of zoning and development plan amendments.

The Management Plan also addresses Climate Change adaptation as a Field of Action, with as ambition to develop: “*Guiding principles for World Heritage-compatible measures for climate protection and climate change adaptation in public spaces*” within the first 1-5 years of implementation of the Management Plan²⁵ which was adopted in November 2021.

Considerations of the mission

Climate change adaptation is an important and necessary ambition. The mission agrees that developing an overall integral strategic/master plan is an appropriate strategy to developing a programme for climate mitigation adaptation. Such a strategy should be based on the ‘Guiding Principles’, that are to be developed, as mandated by the Management Plan. It is of course important that such a plan be informed by a rigorously developed inventory of the attributes of the property, specifically relating to its open space structure and based on an approach which retains attributes of OUV. For instance, it would be useful to investigate the Schwarzenbergplatz (square) with its Monument in Honour of the Soldiers of the Soviet Army, to ascertain to what extent it contributes the applicant of Criterion (ii) as representing an important interchange of human values throughout the entire second millennium.

The mission considers that the climate change adaptation interventions, if not carefully planned and implemented, can have a deleterious impact on the OUV of the property.

Recommendations

The mission advises the State Party to:

37. Establish a rigorously developed inventory of the attributes conveying the OUV of the property, in particular in relation to its open space structure;
38. Develop the climate change adaptation plan and associated ‘Guiding Principles’ through an iterative Heritage Impact Assessment to ensure that the plan is consistent with the maintenance of the OUV of the property;
39. Submit the climate change adaptation plan and associated ‘Guiding Principles’ and Heritage Impact Assessment to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies prior to adoption of implementation of any associated projects.

²⁴ City of Vienna, 2024 (04 March), *UNESCO/ICOMOS/ICCROM Monitoring Mission, 11-13 March 2024 Supplementary information* pp. 2-3.

²⁵ Management Plan, p. 105

Façade Greening policy

The Façade Greening Policy of the City of Vienna is understood in the context of Section 85 of the Building Code for Vienna states that: “*With regard to style, scale, material and colour, the exterior of the built structures shall be of a kind that will not disturb the uniform design of the respective area’s cityscape.*”

The Heumarkt Neu project proposal has already been amended according to the Green Facade Policy. ICOMOS in its May 2022 of the HIA 2 technical review noted that: “While the predominant concerns arising from the revised Heumarkt Neu project relate to its form, scale and bulk, the proposed ‘green’ façade is inconsistent with the palette of historic materials (predominantly masonry and stonework) that are visually characteristic of the property...”

Considerations of the mission

The mission is of the opinion that in a World Heritage context, a building incorporating extensive planting should be acceptable in architectural and townscape terms with or without the planting, which is inescapably cyclical and vulnerable to weather conditions.

Recommendations

The mission advises the State Party to:

40. Proceed with extreme caution with proposals for greening of facades in the World Heritage property until the ‘Guiding Principles for World Heritage-Compatible Measures for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation in Public Spaces’ have been finalised;
41. Ensure that all projects for green façade projects are reviewed by the Advisory Board in accordance with Section 67 of the Vienna Building Code. The Advisory Board should consider whether a project proposal warrants notification to the World Heritage Centre in accordance with paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines;

Rathausstraße 1 (former EDP centre of the City of Vienna dating from the 1970s)

The project for the replacement of the fourth former EDP centre resulted in the removal of a 1970s building.

Considerations of the mission

The mission considers that, submitting a notification to the World Heritage Centre would have assisted the State Party in assessing whether the EDP Building could have been identified as an attribute that contributed to the justification of the application of Criterion (ii).

Planned and proposed changes and developments in general

As a general advice related to planned/proposed changes and project that have the potential to negatively impact the OUV of the property and its attributes, the mission wishes to highlight that information provided to a World Heritage related mission (especially advisory missions) does not replace in any way the notification process that the State Parties are invited to follow in accordance of paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*. Missions, with their limited scope and Terms of Reference could not replace the exchanges and dialogues that the State Party might wish to or need to conduct with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies.

Recommendation

The State Party is therefore advised to:

42. Review and revise the management system of the property in order to establish a systematic filtering mechanism to ensure that the State Party is in a position to respond in a timely manner to the request of the World Heritage Committee contained in Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines and to select the projects which need to be notified to the World Heritage Centre. The notification should be submitted to the World Heritage Centre at the earliest possible planning stage, and the depth and length of the documentation should be commensurate with the scale and stage of the project and its potential to have a negative impact on the attributes conveying the OUV of the property. In accordance with paragraph 118bis of the *Operational Guidelines*, in most cases the documentation should be accompanied by an impact assessment document, to

carried out in line with the *Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context* (2022). The impact assessment documentation to be prepared (its length and depth) also needs to reflect the nature of the project and its current planning stage.

2.2 DESIGN OF THE HEUMARKT NEU PROJECT

2.2.1 Background of the project

The proposed Heumarkt New project has been subject to advice since 2012 through Reactive Monitoring missions (in 2012 and 2015), an Advisory mission in 2018, State of Conservation reports that informed decisions of the World Heritage Committee between 2013 and 2023, and numerous Technical Reviews conducted by ICOMOS on different iterations of the project proposal. Since 2012, it has been repeatedly noted that the current InterContinental Hotel (constructed before the 'Historic Centre of Vienna' was inscribed on the World Heritage List) severely obstructs the fundamentally significant view of the city from the Belvedere, and that the development proposal should provide an opportunity to reduce the height of the building and improve the quality of the neighbourhood, while taking into account the scale and massing of the proposal in relation to the characteristics of the specific location. Subsequent proposals for the project did not fully implement the recommendations of the missions and the decisions of the World Heritage Committee, and the approval of the redevelopment project by the Vienna Municipal Council in June 2017 contributed significantly to the Committee's decision to inscribe the Historic Centre of Vienna on the World Heritage List in Danger in 2017.

A joint High level WHC/ICOMOS Advisory mission visited the property in 2018. In accordance with this mission's Terms of Reference, the 2018 mission report referred to the conclusions of a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA 1) that was then being undertaken and nearing completion. The 2018 mission concluded that the conclusions and recommendations of the HIA were well-founded, highly relevant and urgently applicable, and recommended that the State Party explore possible World Heritage-compatible alternatives to the current Heumarkt Neu project that would avoid the negative impacts of the redevelopment of this site (pp. x-xi). The so-called 'HIA 1' was completed in 2019. It identified mainly visual impacts, including major negative impacts on key identified viewpoints. In its subsequent decisions, the World Heritage Committee welcomed the commitments made by the State Party not to proceed with the project and to develop alternatives. The Committee

- *noted with concern that legal approval was given... even though the Committee has advised that this project in its current form would adversely affect the OUV of the property (Decision 42 COM 7A.5);*
- *noted that the decisions 40 COM 7B.49 and 41 COM 7B.42 as well as the recommendations of the 2012 and 2015 missions should be addressed in developing a DSOCR and a related set of corrective measures and timeframe for their implementation (Decision 42 COM 7A.5 and Decision 43 COM 7A.45);*
- *requested that alternative proposals be assessed through precisely the same data, methodology and format of the 2019 HIA (Decision 44 COM 7A.32).*

The DSOCR requires the State Party to meet the following condition in relation to the Heumarkt Neu project:

- *Revised design of the Heumarkt Neu project is implemented, respecting the integrity and authenticity of the OUV of the property as a whole as measured through an independent Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA), based on the results of the HIA 2019 and following its methodology.*

The related corrective measures are formulated as follows:

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Rationale	Method of verification	Status of indicator in 2021 (during the time of submitting the CM)	Target completion date
I.	5	Assessment of a revised design for the Heumarkt Neu project by a new HIA based on the results of the 2019 HIA and following its methodology.	HIA and 2018 mission report assessed the current design as "major negative" and its implementation as a potential	New HIA, prepared using the same methodology and impact assessment methodology as the 2019 HIA. The new HIA	The assignment of an independent expert to carry out the new HIA is currently in preparation.	Autumn 2020 submission of the <u>new HIA to the World Heritage</u>

			conclusive threat to the OUV.	<u>concludes that the revised project does not adversely impact upon the OUV of the property and has undergone a Technical Review by ICOMOS International. The latter assessed the revised design to be consistent with the requirements of safeguarding the OUV of the property.</u>		<u>Centre for review.</u>
II.	1	Implementation of a revised design of the Heumarkt Neu project respecting the integrity and authenticity of the OUV of the property as a whole as measured through an independent HIA.	Particularly the proposed height of the project adversely affects the monocentric character of the urban morphology.	A revised project that does not harm the OUV is either implemented or its implementation guaranteed within the legislative framework (zoning plan / building permission).	<u>Revision of the project currently undergoing a Visual study and new independent HIA to be conducted.</u>	End of 2021 for the complete legal implementation of the respective provisions in accordance with the redesign (e.g. zoning plan, building permission).
II.	4a	Implementation of a revised design of the Heumarkt Neu project respecting the overall integrity and the authentic character of the logic of the Gründerzeit layout.	At present, the Ringstraße morphology is well maintained (with the exception of minor “disturbances” prior to inscription). The proposed height and building mass would adversely interfere with the historic logic of the ensemble and with its morphology.	The revised project that is not harming the OUV in total and meets said criteria in detail has been assessed through an independent HIA and is either implemented or its implementation guaranteed within the legislative framework (zoning plan / building permission).	<u>Revision of the project currently undergoing a Visual Study and independent HIA to be conducted.</u> HIA concludes that the revised project does not adversely impact upon the OUV of the property including the logic of the Gründerzeit Ensemble, this being a major attribute reflecting the OUV.	Autumn 2020 for the HIA. End of 2021 for the implementation of the revised legal provisions for the revised design. (please also note N1 in this section)

Table 18. Corrective measures related specifically to the Heumarkt Neu project

The Heumarkt project also has links with other corrective measures, specifically those relevant for the Ringstraße and Glacis areas, as well as the Belvedere Palace and Garden.

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Rationale	Method of verification	Status of indicator in 2021	Target completion date

					<i>(during the time of submitting the CM)</i>	
II	4c	No inadequate developments within the area of Ringstraße and Glacis	Currently the Masterplan Glacis allows for uncertain developments without explicitly mentioning the World Heritage status as a basic parameter for any intervention.	The planning tools (particularly the Masterplan Glacis) have been revised according to the findings of the 2012, 2015 and 2018 missions and the related Committee decisions and are based on sound legal provisions adopted by the City Council of Vienna. The planning tools and regulations are an integral part of the Management Plan that has been reviewed, adopted, implemented and its efficacy proven.	The process of developing an integrated management system at present is work in progress.	From July 2021 on by way of regular monitoring reports (also note N3 "Protection and Management").
II	6	No further disturbance of the baroque layout and visual integrity of the Belvedere / Schwarzenberg Complex (Palace and Gardens) including the vistas constituting an integral part of the original logic of this baroque Gesamtkunstwerk.	The Belvedere / Schwarzenberg Complex (Palace and Gardens) is a key attribute and major representative of the OUV of the property. The vista constituting an integral feature of this stellar baroque complex compared to its status at time of inscription is disturbed by high-rises.	A description of attributes reflecting and representing the OUV is part of the Management Plan. The Belvedere / Schwarzenberg Garden Complex is anchored in this list as an area of highest protection level. A revised Heumarkt Neu project that constitutes no further interference with this most important vista is either	The process of developing an integrated management system has been initiated and is work in progress. Revision of the project currently undergoing; visual study and HIA to be conducted and project developed to the point that it does not negatively affect the OUV of the property.	July 2021 as integral part of the Management Plan and Management System.

				implemented or its implementation is guaranteed within the legislative framework (zoning plan / building permission).		
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Table 19. Additional corrective measures relevant for the Heumarkt Neu project proposal

Subsequently, a revised Heumarkt Neu project was developed by the project proponent and assessed using the same methodology as the first HIA. The potential impacts of this revised project were assessed and reported on in a report referred to as ‘HIA 2’ (2021). The outcome of this assessment was that the impacts on the seven attribute categories assessed remained ‘Large to Severe Negative’.

In its most recent Decision (**45 COM 7A.55**), the Committee noted that the process of developing alternative proposals had not resulted in an outcome which achieved the DSOCR, and further noted that:

“...in order to achieve a project that does not adversely impact the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property necessarily involves a reduction, and that in line with previous Committee decisions, as well as the DSOCR and its corrective measures for the property, the further revised scheme will need to be assessed using the methodology of previous HIAs.”

In accordance with this Committee decision, the State Party commissioned an additional impact assessment (HIA 2plus) to assess the positive and negative impacts of the latest proposed Heumarkt Neu project (of August 2023) in terms of visual, functional, and cumulative impacts, focusing on the assessment of the planned proposal from main views and vistas.

2.2.2 Current status of the project

In response to the draft Committee Decision **45 COM 7A.55**, published prior to the World Heritage Committee’s 45th session (Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, 2023), a revised project proposal was put forward by the developer in August 2023. The project area of the planned Heumarkt Neu project is in the immediate vicinity of the Stadtpark (a large, historic public park) of Vienna, covering an area of approx. 15,400 sqm and is located on the existing property of the Inter-Continental Hotel and the ice-skating area of Vienna’s Ice-Skating Club (WEV) and its service buildings. The buildings adjacent to the project area include Vienna’s Konzerthaus, located in the south-west, as well as the Akademietheater in the same building block. The project area is entirely within the area of the World Heritage property. The street Am Heumarkt, also within the World Heritage property, marks the boundary to the property’s buffer zone.



Figure 10. The existing Hotel Intercontinental as seen from the Stadtpark (photo © UNESCO)

The mission team received detailed information on the evolution of the project proposal starting with its first design option from the project developer, Mr. Michael Tojner, and the project architect, Mr. Thomas Schwed. Professor Michael Kloos, who has been responsible for the preparation of all impact assessments for the project, also presented a detailed brief on the contents and conclusions of the series of HIAs conducted for the Heumarkt Neu project, focusing on the results of the most recent impact assessment, 'HIA 2plus'. The mission team also had the opportunity to visit the entire perimeter of the Heumarkt Area to confirm the current state of the urban environment and to the Upper Belvedere to confirm the visibility of the current buildings within the sightline.



Figure 11. The Heumarkt Neu project site from the Lothringerstraße, with the entrance of the ice-skating rink (on the left) and the ice-skating rink with the Vienna Konzerthaus (on the right) (photos: © UNESCO)

The current planned proposal, dated August 2023, consists of three geometric elements with the following plans:

- The existing InterContinental Hotel would be demolished, and a new hotel building would be built in its place. The base would be formed by a two-storey horizontal building which would house a conference centre. The new hotel building would have a height of 48m, and a second building would accommodate residential apartments, placed at a 90° angle to the hotel.
- The residential building would have a height of 49.9m, which would be 2m higher than the new hotel, and 12m higher than the existing InterContinental Hotel.
- The third component of the proposal is the Heumarkt building, which would be a five-storey solitary building that follows the street lines of the street Am Heumarkt. In addition to these new buildings, the existing Wiener Eislauf-Verein ice skating rink that sits in between the InterContinental Hotel and the Wiener Konzerthaus would be refurbished and upgraded in its facilities. In order to provide the building ground for the planned residential block, which is a new element in the area, the ice-skating rink would be turned around 90° from its current orientation and protrude out into Lothringerstraße and be equipped with new facilities, located

also underground (offices, service rooms, training rooms, etc.). The upgrade would also include the provision of an indoor gymnasium to the neighbouring high school.

The project also includes plans for opening connections between the two main streets of Lothringerstraße and Am Heumarkt, next to the residential block and in front of the Konzerthaus. The Konzerthaus would benefit from the general improvement of the urban area both by having added offices in the Heumarkt building, and the possibility to open a new main entrance for the building from the new outdoor space made available by the new connecting access between the two streets. During the summer, the area of the ice-skating rink would also be used as a public space. Due to the changed orientation of the ice-skating rink, the current Lothringerstraße would need to be moved slightly to the north of its current location.

The revised project of August 2023 is therefore a mix of developments that serve both private and public interests. The refurbishment of the ice-skating rink, the provision of sports facilities for the neighbouring school, and the improvement of the urban fabric and public access to the Wiener Konzerthaus are elements that would have a clear public benefit. To this end, the developer and the City of Vienna have entered into a contract years ago, to ensure the implementation of all project elements. It was explained to the mission that the financing of these projects would be provided by the profits gained from the sale/rental of the apartments in the residential building block.

It was also explained to the mission that refurbishment of the current InterContinental Hotel building was not considered feasible due to ceiling height limitations on each floor and the resulting restrictions on upgrading room facilities to meet current InterContinental brand standards. This has led to the decision to demolish the current hotel building and to plan the construction of a new one, in order to maintain the available room capacity of the hotel, which is required as part of the business agreement between the owner and the InterContinental Hotel Group for the use of the brand name.

As noted in previous missions and Committee decisions, improving the quality of the neighbourhood by defining a better use of the plot in terms of urban and community function is a welcome proposal. However, in a World Heritage context, such potential public benefits cannot be considered to offset the negative impacts that the project may have on the attributes that support and convey the OUV of the property.

The HIA 2plus (2023) assesses the further reduced project compared to the proposal assessed in HIA 2 (2021). It recognises major changes including:

- the volume of the conference centre has been altered through a reduction of the cantilever cornices,
- a 6.55m reduction of the residential slab from and a reduction in its cubature,
- a reduction of 0.7m of the height of the Heumarkt Building but an increased cubature; and
- a reduction in the length and width of the hotel slab, while retaining the height from the 2021 proposal.

The HIA 2plus assesses the above proposal following the methodology of the two previous assessments as requested by the Committee in Decision **45 COM 7A.55**. Rigorous comparisons were made between the 2021 and 2023 proposals from all the relevant viewpoints identified, retaining the same methodology applied in HIA 2 (2021).

The HIA 2plus concludes that the proposal has some positive impacts such as reducing the existing barrier effect and improving the accessibility of the Heumarkt Area. The new proposal maintains the different uses of the Heumarkt Area, where these are enhanced and supplemented with other uses offered, forming an appropriate mix of uses in the area. It also acknowledges the general need of urban upgrade of the Heumarkt Area which the proposal promotes, with its contribution to the surrounding public spaces. While these positive impacts are noted, in terms of visual impact, the visual integrity of the World Heritage property, particularly from the higher viewpoints of the Upper Belvedere, remains “large negative” and from the viewpoint of the Stadtpark “moderate-large negative” due to the increased volume and height of the hotel slab compared to the current building.

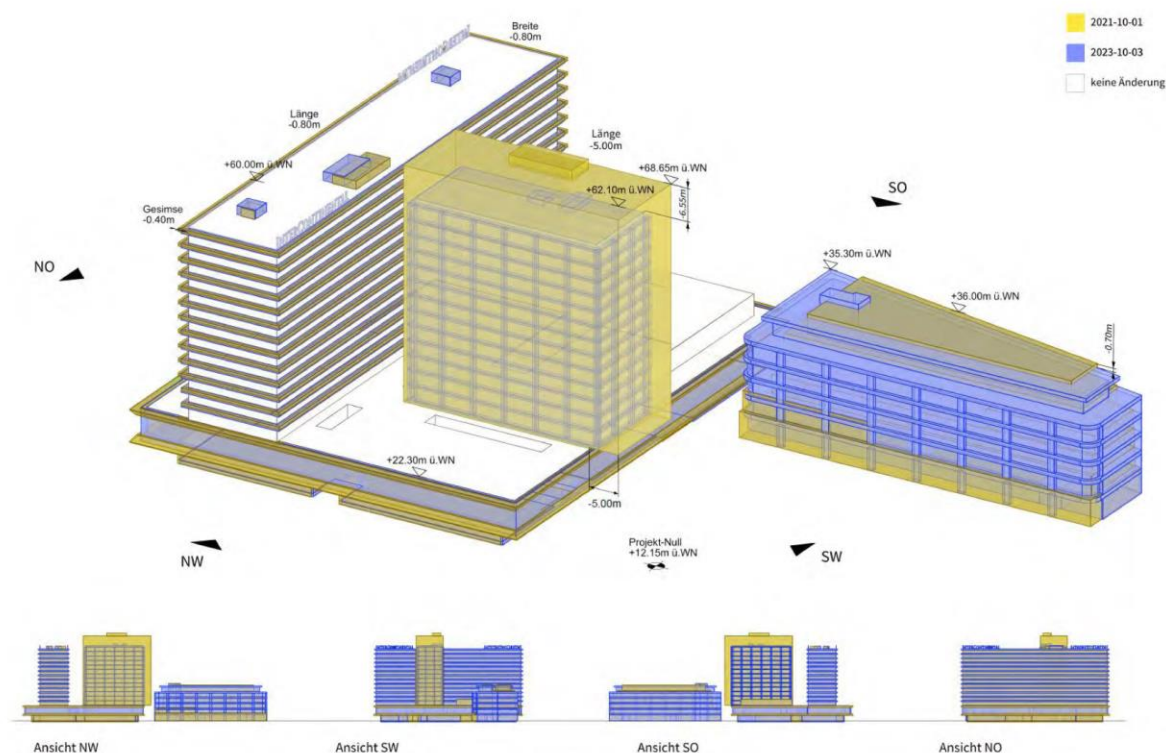


Figure 12. Overlay illustration showing the bulk and diagrammatic articulation of the 2021 and 2023 versions of the project design for the Heumarkt Neu project (Source: Michael Kloos planning and heritage consultancy. 2023. Heritage Impact Assessment 2plus, p. 38)

The *Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context* (2022)²⁶ outlines that for World Heritage it is always preferable to avoid, rather than minimize impacts on the attributes of a World Heritage property. Any loss of, or damage to OUV is unacceptable, which means that offsetting of impacts is inappropriate in a World Heritage context. It also states that negative impacts on OUV should be avoided altogether, since the OUV of a World Heritage property is irreplaceable and damage to OUV is unacceptable²⁷.

Based on these principles, HIA 2plus suggests the following four different mitigation proposals as alternatives:

- Mitigation proposal 1a: Minimization of residence slab by two more floors;
- Mitigation proposal 1b: Minimization of hotel slab by two floors;
- Mitigation proposal 2: Minimization of residence slab by two more floors and hotel slab by two floors; or
- Mitigation proposal 3: Minimization of residence slab by two more floors and hotel slab by three floors.

The assessment of the mitigation proposals in HIA 2plus concludes that in order to achieve a project status that maintains or even improves on the negative impacts of the existing Hotel InterContinental, the height of both buildings should be reduced by at least two further floors from the August 2023 proposal. This would mean that the hotel slab would be approximately 42m instead of 48m and the residential slab would be 44m instead of 49.9m.

The HIA 2plus also suggests the following as further mitigation:

- modification of facades including the materialization; and

²⁶ Available at <https://whc.unesco.org/en/guidance-toolkit-impact-assessments/>

²⁷ Guidance and Toolkit on Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context (2022), pp 8 and 32

- further communication and dialogue during the process towards delivering an acceptable design.

The ICOMOS Technical Review finalized in February 2024, prior to the Advisory Mission taking place, concluded that HIA 2plus should be seen as an important milestone towards developing a project proposal for the Heumarkt Neu project that provides all the benefits of the project without compromising the OUV of the World Heritage property. While the commitment and reductions made by the State Party are welcomed, the Technical Review concurred with the conclusions of the HIA 2plus in that the 2023 proposal still significantly impacts the key characteristics of the cultural heritage property and its setting, but also causes a highly significant impact on the views from the Belvedere. ICOMOS Technical Review therefore provided the following recommendations for the State Party to consider in order to fulfil the DSOCR:

- further reductions in height and volume be explored through theoretical visual modelling exercises to develop a volume for the development that does not exceed the current negative visual impact of the existing built form, before further revised projects are developed;
- further investigations into façade articulation be undertaken to harmonise the project proposal with its built context;
- the corner of the Lothringerstraße and the Johannesgasse should be investigated further to assess its contribution to its urban environment; and
- visualisations of the video-sequence (Video sequence J) should be included in future assessments.

The mission was assured of the commitment of the developer, the City of Vienna and the Federal Government of Austria to find an alternative solution for the Heumarkt Neu project that would provide all the social and economic benefit to the area but that would not negatively impact the OUV of the World Heritage property. The complexity of the situation was explained, including maintaining economic viability to fund the resources needed to redevelop the facilities, which would be of great public benefit, and the objective of maintaining the current number of hotel rooms (460) in order to continue operation as the InterContinental Hotel.

The mission noted that while a fully acceptable solution has not yet been agreed, the process so far, which has seen the building height reduced from 66m to 49m, is a step in the right direction and the significant improvements to the project also demonstrate the value of rigorous impact assessment processes that can improve the design and planning process for development.

The mission also had the opportunity to meet and listen to the positions of various NGO and civil society organizations regarding the Heumarkt project. A number of these organizations provided valuable third-party information on the state of conservation of the World Heritage property as well. The possibility to meet with and receive information from civil society and NGOs demonstrates the importance the City of Vienna places on participatory approaches to the various decision-making processes.

Of the information that was provided during this meeting, the mission also took note of the issue of a pending Environmental Impact Assessment for the Heumarkt project. It was brought to the attention of the mission that the Federal Administrative Court has determined that an Environmental Impact Assessment had to be carried out to assess the impact on cultural heritage irrespective of the thresholds set out in the UVP-G 2000 (see also: DSOCR Vienna_240229 Attributes – item 1, page 6). A point which, in the mission's view, needs to be followed up by the State Party by providing further information to the World Heritage Centre on whether a full-fledged Environmental Impact Assessment will be conducted for the Heumarkt Neu project.

2.2.3 Design options and a way forward

Taking into account the varying project designs impact assessments provided by the State Party, the exchanges between the State Party, the World Heritage Centre, and ICOMOS through letters and technical reviews, moreover, the relevant Decisions of World Heritage Committee, the mission considers that the State Party has received consistent advice in relation to this project since its first plans. The Mission is also aware that the project is also of great importance to the City of Vienna, in view of its elements aimed at upgrading the entire area of this building block, including elements that will serve the residents and the local community. To this end, the Mission also recognises that the objective of achieving a high-quality project that will define this area of the city centre for many decades to come is also of great importance to the Municipality of Vienna.

The mission considers that there are several elements of the project that do not have a negative impact on the OUV of the property, but on the contrary, there are elements that will provide a much needed upgrading of this area of the city and will have a positive beneficial impact by restoring built structures that are in a degraded state, providing connectivity through the enclosed building blocks for public use, creating a more dignified environment for the Wien Konzerthaus, and creating a built structure along the Am Heumarkt street (considering the currently proposed height and dimension of this built element) that blends well with the surrounding Gründerzeit buildings of the neighbouring area. Therefore, the mission concludes (and agrees with findings of previous missions, reviews and Committee decisions) that the most sensitive elements of the project are the hotel block (including the conference centre) and the residential block.

With regard to these two main project elements, based on all the information provided, the mission concurs in general terms with the conclusion of the HIA 2plus and the need for the suggested recommendations for mitigation.

To assist the State Party in considering how to achieve this element of the DSOCR, the following options are outlined as all the possible alternatives with regard to the two elements of the Heumarkt Neu project (hotel building and residential building) that are considered to have negative impacts on the property's OUV based on the design proposal of August 2023. These options range from the most ideal option, which focuses on the protection and preservation of the property's OUV and its attributes, to options that may assist the State Party in achieving the DSOCR, through the implementation of the relevant corrective measures, including design choices and other measures and tools that support this goal.

Option	Hotel building	Residential building	Assessment of the mission
1	Revising the proposed design to reduce the height and volume of the two high-rise building elements that would serve as the hotel and residential building. The height and volume of the buildings in this scenario would be compatible with the existing urban fabric of the World Heritage property, respecting the building heights of the neighbouring areas of Gründerzeit buildings. This option would consider a significant reduction in the height and volume of both the hotel and residential buildings to the scale of neighbouring buildings.		The Mission considers this the most ideal option that would reduce or eliminate existing negative impacts, avoid any new potential negative impacts on the OUV of the Historic Centre of Vienna World Heritage property, and enhance potential positive benefits.
2	Maintain the current hotel building with the option to restore and upgrade. (The interior of the building could be completely restructured and redesigned.)	The newly added residential building would be redesigned with a reduced height and volume that respects the surrounding areas of the Gründerzeit buildings (parts of it could be used for hotel functions that the old building could not accommodate).	The Mission considers that this option would not bring new negative effects.
3	Demolition of the current hotel building and the construction of a new hotel building that would match the existing hotel envelope (height and massing).	The newly added residential building would be redesigned with a reduced height and volume that respects the surrounding areas of the Gründerzeit buildings (parts of it could be used to house hotel functions that the old building could not).	The Mission considers that this option would have no more negative impact on the property's OUV and its attributes than the existing building complex. This option would not improve the current situation of the World Heritage property in terms of visual integrity, as the existing hotel building is already considered large and intrusive, but it would also not further adversely affect the OUV of the property in terms of visual

			integrity. While the negative impacts on visual integrity can be avoided, the positive impacts of enhancing the urban fabric of the area, renovating the ice-skating rink and improving the accessibility and quality of the public realm could be achieved through the addition of a significantly large residential building and conference facilities.
4	Demolition of the current hotel building and the construction of a new hotel building that would match the existing hotel envelope (height and massing).	The height and dimensions of the residential block could be greater than in Option 3. but would still need to be balanced in relation to both the existing hotel building and the other elements of the project. In any case, its height should be visibly lower than that of the existing hotel building.	This option would meet the DSOCR by respecting the authenticity and integrity of the property as a whole and would not compromise the attributes that convey the OUV of the property. With two large buildings (the hotel and the residential building) instead of the existing one large building, this option would have negative impacts on some of the attributes of the property but should not compromise them to the extent that the OUV of the property would be threatened.

Table 20 Design options regarding the hotel building and residential building of the Heumarkt Neu project that respect the protection of the OUV of the property

The mission considers that if Option 4 were to be pursued, every effort must be made to develop and implement mitigation measures to ensure that this option respects the integrity and authenticity of the property as a whole. To this end, the quality of the project design should be ensured, both in terms of the design and the materials used for its construction. The mission agrees with the conclusions of the HIA 2plus, where the materialisation of the design and the adoption of green facades should be further improved. It should be recognised that the facades of both the hotel and residential buildings would have a significant impact on the surrounding neighbourhood, and that the different façade articulations of the buildings would need to be adapted in this respect to harmonise the design with its built context. The other elements of the project would also need to ensure that they were used to create a balancing effect between the hotel and residential building and the surrounding built structures and urban areas.

In case there would be a feasible possibility to choose from the above options, this mission would advise the State Party to prioritise Option 1. Noting the history of the project, as well as the legal obligations of the City of Vienna, the mission noted that the likely option that the State Party would need to work towards will be Option 4. Noting also the complexity of the project, where its financing is contributing to public benefit, and is dependent on the revenue that can be raised through the additional residential slab, and also the limitation of needing to maintain the number of hotel rooms, the mission recalls Recommendation 8 from the 2018 Mission:

- 1) *Completing an independent study on the whole socio-cultural and economic value of the World Heritage property and the potential added value of the planned Heumarkt Neu project, possibly using the Contingent valuation method.*
- 2) *Amendment of the existing Heritage Impact Assessment by another expert report to evaluate the social and economic added value for the general public created by the Heumarkt Neu project.*
- 3) *This expert report is to be created by an institution or expert which is completely independent of the City of Vienna.*
- 4) *It is essential to note in this context that an expected public added value cannot be a replacement for complying with necessary measures protecting the OUV, and therefore it cannot be a reason*

for accepting developments which are a potential risk for the authenticity and integrity of the World Heritage property.

5)	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Mission assessment of implementation
I.	5	Assessment of a revised design for the Heumarkt Neu project by a new HIA based on the results of the 2019 HIA and following its methodology.	<i>The mission concludes that since the approval of the project in 2017, significant progress has been made in revising the design of the Heumarkt Neu project based on three iterations of assessments (HIA 1, HIA 2, and HIA 2plus), including design versions proposed to reduce the negative impacts of the project.</i> The mission assesses this corrective measure is nearing its achievement.
II.	1	Implementation of a revised design of the Heumarkt Neu project respecting the integrity and authenticity of the OUV of the property as a whole as measured through an independent HIA.	<i>The Heumarkt Neu project is currently undergoing an iterative process of design revision and impact assessment towards reaching the implementation stage of the revised design.</i> Progress has been made, but the mission assesses this corrective measure still to be achieved.
II.	4a	Implementation of a revised design of the Heumarkt Neu project respecting the overall integrity and the authentic character of the logic of the Gründerzeit layout.	<i>The Heumarkt Neu project is currently undergoing an iterative process of design revision and impact assessment towards reaching the implementation stage of the revised design.</i> Progress has been made, but the mission assesses this corrective measure still to be achieved.

Table 21. The assessment of the mission on the status of implementation of the corrective measures related to the Heumarkt Neu project

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Mission assessment of implementation
II.	4c	4c: No inadequate developments within the area of Ringstraß and Glacis.	<i>The August 2023 design version of the Heumarkt Neu project would be inappropriate for the urban morphology of the Ringstraß and Glacis.</i>
II.	6	No further disturbance of the baroque layout and visual integrity of the Belvedere / Schwarzenberg Complex (Palace and Gardens) including the vistas constituting an integral part of the original logic of this baroque Gesamtkunstwerk.	<i>The August 2023 design version of the Heumarkt Neu would lead to further disturbance of the vistas from the Upper Belvedere Palace and the top terraces of the Garden.</i>

Table 22. The assessment of the mission on the status of implementation of the additional corrective measures relevant for the Heumarkt Neu project proposal

The mission believes that the redevelopment of the Heumarkt Neu area will be possible if all of the above options are fully considered by both the developer and the City of Vienna, and an agreement is reached to achieve a balanced project in the interest of both the developer and the citizens of Vienna, while ensuring that the final design option respects the related DSOCR item.

Recommendations

The mission advises the State Party to:

43. Conduct an independent study of the socio-economic value added of the project, possibly with further information on the profit margin required from the residential slab to finance the project,

which could provide other innovative ways of diversifying the use and functions of the different buildings to meet all the identified needs.

44. Test the further design solutions of the project through an iterative impact assessment process, focusing not only on the visual impact of the hotel and residential building elements, but also on the other project elements and their design options (including the reorientation of the ice-skating rink and the associated need to relocate the Lothringerstraße, as well as the contribution of the corner of the Lothringerstraße and the JohannesgaÙe to its urban environment), in order to:
 - fully understand the impact of these elements,
 - identify the ideal mitigation measures, and
 - make informed decisions about the way forward.

3 RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations for the State Party are extracted from the respective parts of the report, in order to provide an overview for the relevant stakeholders, especially with regard to the implementation of the corrective measures that need to be implemented to bring the property to the Desired state of conservation for removal from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR). The mission, nevertheless, advises that when considering and planning the implementation of the mission's advice, such considerations and planning should be based also on the assessment of the mission with their background and context with regard to the respective topics.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CORRECTIVE MEASURES ADOPTED BY THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Planning tools and legal provisions

- 1) Ensure that the Building Code for Vienna defines the property as a whole as a preservation area and that special provisions are made in the relevant zoning plans for all the attributes located within the areas covered by these plans. Such protection should also include structures dating from after 1945 as attributes that contribute to justifying the application of criterion (ii): *The urban and architectural qualities of the Historic Centre of Vienna bear outstanding witness to a continuing interchange of values throughout the second millennium* (emphasis added);
- 2) Fully align the planning system of Vienna with the requirements of the *Operational Guidelines*, including early notification to the World Heritage Centre (Par. 172) and the obligation to carry out impact assessment processes (in accordance with the 2022 *Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context*) in the relevant planning procedures for all projects that may have an impact on the OUV of the property, regardless of the project's size (Par. 118bis). In accordance with the 2022 *Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context*, where a formal assessment of the impacts of the proposed action would be required as part of local/national frameworks or donor requirements, the assessment of impact on the property's OUV should be integrated into the wider Environmental Impact Assessment. Alternatively, in cases where the action would not be covered by existing impact assessment requirements, a stand-alone assessment of impacts on OUV and other heritage/conservation values should be carried out.
- 3) Develop tools and measures that will allow to assess the cumulative impact of project proposals in relation to existing and other planned changes;
- 4) Ensure that the 2011 Historic Urban Landscape (HUL) Recommendation is applied in a cross-cutting way in all decision-making processes for urban planning and the overall management system of the property;
- 5) Consider that the role assigned to the Advisory Board for Urban Planning and Design should not be seen as replacing the provisions of paragraphs 118bis or 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*. Rather, the Advisory Board should also make recommendations as to when projects should be subject to independent OUV-focussed impact assessments and when a proposal should be transmitted to the World Heritage Centre. For this reason, ensure that all members of the Advisory Board for Urban Planning and Design have a good understanding of the 'Historic Centre of Vienna' World Heritage property, the other two World Heritage properties in Vienna, and World Heritage related issues in general;
- 6) Ensure the protection of the historic gardens, which are attributes conveying the OUV of the property, through the planning process system and the management system of the property; in this regard, explore regulated soft policy measures that could include the historic gardens in World Heritage protection zones or establish additional protection schemes that can benefit from the revision of the Federal Monuments Protection Act;
- 7) Submit the draft STEP 2035 to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies prior to its adoption in 2024.

Control of the high-rise development proposals

- 8) Create the intended high-rise exclusion zone in relation to the property and ensure that it provides adequate control to prevent the approval of project proposals that are not compatible with the OUV of the World Heritage property;
- 9) Ensure that the identified attributes that support and express the OUV of the property adequately cover all the aspects that need to be considered in the assessment of planned high-rise projects;
- 10) Ensure that the planning framework is able to filter project proposals that may have an impact on the property's OUV even if the project is located within the buffer zone or the wider setting of the

property, and that permission is denied if negative impacts are identified by the impact assessment or the relevant authorities;

- 11) Ensure that all high-rise projects (as well as all other projects that may have a significant impact on the OUV) within the City of Vienna undergo a World Heritage-focused impact assessment, prepared in accordance with the 2022 *Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context*;
- 12) Ensure that existing planning procedures are adequate to avoid further deterioration of the integrity of the historic urban skyline and thus of the OUV of the property;

Control of the roof top conversion proposals

- 13) Finalise as soon as possible the extension of the Roof Cadastre to include the historic metal structures;
- 14) Conduct a thorough analysis of the Statement of OUV of the property in order to fully understand the attributes conveying the property's OUV as they relate to the historic urban fabric, the historic buildings and the role of the roofs for the buildings. In this regard, consider the building as a whole and roof conversions not only as an aesthetic issue ('urban view'), but also as an urban morphological issue to ensure that the authenticity and integrity of the property is preserved.
- 15) Ensure that the updated versions of the Management Plan take into consideration all relevant attributes and include appropriate measures for their long-term conservation;
- 16) Apply a very restrictive approach for issuing permits within the property and the buffer zone. Take into consideration the cumulative impact of roof conversions already implemented and other changes that add up to this impact when assessing new proposals;

Management system and Management Plan of the property

- 17) Ensure that the World Heritage management is entrusted to as a core group of people and not to a single person, thus ensuring enhanced coordination possibility, implementation and monitoring of the Management Plan, the related actions and activities, as well as the state of conservation of the property and its attributes, and raising awareness of the property both within the competent city authorities and the wider public;
- 18) Ensure that assessing the efficacy of the legal framework, including the Management Plan, is part of an established monitoring cycle of the management system according to the DSOCR, and that the Management Plan is regularly updated and its ability to ensure the protection and preservation of the property within the Viennese Building Code is maintained;
- 19) Establish a monitoring programme to track the progress of the implementation of the management plan, to track, document and report on the status of all actions on a regular basis that can meet the 5 year monitoring and evaluation period proposed in the corrective measures;
- 20) Ensure that the Management Plan of the World Heritage property is outlined with a specific timeframe for implementation so that the results of the monitoring and evaluation can be used to inform the next planning cycle;
- 21) Provide details on the OUV and attributes of the World Heritage property in the competition brief and jury criteria for assessments of future architectural competitions and include as condition in all competition entries for projects that are located within the property and its buffer zone, or the wider setting (with the view that at these latter locations projects still may have an impact on OUV) to be subject of World Heritage related Impact Assessment processes.

Definition of the attributes that convey the Outstanding Universal Value of the Historic City of Vienna

- 22) Continue efforts to develop both the identification and communication of the attributes that support and convey the OUV of the property. It would be important to approach such a process along various avenues. One such avenue that should be explored is to further develop the understanding of attributes not by theme, but along spatial scales (i.e., building, street, urban etc.,) and thereby develop a layered plan indicating where attributes are located. The communication of intangible attributes, such as conformity, views, spatial relationships, etc., can best be mapped and communicated through diagrams. It is also important to investigate the cross-cutting contributions of attributes to the justification of all three criteria (ii), (iv) and (vi) as well as their contribution to the maintenance of the Integrity and Authenticity of the property;
- 23) Consider the inclusion of the identified tangible attributes in the relevant databases and planning tools of the city;

Projects proposed and implemented in the Schwarzenberg Complex

- 24) Continue with its efforts to develop statutory protection in order to achieve the indicator *“Historic gardens and green spaces receive strong statutory protection and play a major role in preservation and management strategies to support and improve climate conditions in the urban area”*;
- 25) Update the Management Plan to ensure that the Schwarzenberg Garden and Palace is recognised as a major attribute which supports and conveys the OUV of the property;
- 26) Submit to the World Heritage Centre for review the full documentation of the ongoing renovation of the Schwarzenberg Palace, including reports of historic and on-site investigations and plans for the current project, as well as a thorough records of the renovation process.
- 27) Continue to work with the project planners through the process of an iterative HIA to develop a final design for the proposed new hotel that minimises the negative impact of construction on the baroque layout and visual integrity of the Belvedere / Schwarzenberg Complex (Palace and Gardens), including the vistas that are an integral part of the original logic of this Baroque Gesamtkunstwerk;
- 28) Develop, resource and implement the garden-care plan as required by the DSOCR to ensure its protection through the new comprehensive management system for the Historic Centre of Vienna and an updated garden care-plan.
- 29) Develop an action plan for the mitigation measures proposed in the HIA, with identification of those institutions responsible for their implementation and timelines for the implementation of the mitigation and management recommendations, for submission to the World Heritage Centre.

Projects planned and implemented in the Karlsplatz area

30. Review its communication protocols, in particular with regard to projects that are aligned to corrective measures, to ensure that technical non-compliance does not occur for other corrective measures;
31. Consider adding content on the recognition/celebration of the inscription of the Historic Centre of Vienna on the World Heritage List and explanations on its OUV to the exhibition of the Wien Museum;
32. Fully consider the recommendations of the 2018 Advisory mission regarding the Winterthur Building and ensure that they are implemented in any proposed project for its redesign, and that the final design ensures that the OUV of the property is maintained;
33. Notify the World Heritage Centre should the planning for the refurbishment or replacement of the Winterthur Building restart and submit the plans to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies in the early planning stages, and not take any decisions that would be difficult to reverse until feedback is received.

Further projects brought to the attention of the mission

Proposed Visitors' Centre at the Belvedere Palace

34. Submit formally and urgently all known details of the project to the World Heritage Centre in accordance with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*;
35. Defer the adoption of any land-use and zoning plans for the land parcel on which the Upper Belvedere is located until such changes have been assessed through a Heritage Impact Assessment (undertaken in accordance with the 2022 *Guidance and Toolkit on Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context*), as required by Paragraph 118bis of the *Operational Guidelines*;

Extension of the Viennese Underground

36. Provide to the World Heritage Centre, as a matter of priority, detailed information and documentation on this project, including the trajectories of the extensions, details of the above and below ground infrastructure and stations, and the relevant assessments undertaken before making any decisions that may be difficult to reverse.

Climate Adaptation Plan, including redesign Michaelerplatz and Schwarzenbergplatz

37. Establish a rigorously developed inventory of the attributes conveying the OUV of the property, in particular in relation to its open space structure;
38. Develop the climate change adaptation plan and associated 'Guiding Principles' through an iterative Heritage Impact Assessment to ensure that the plan is consistent with the maintenance of the OUV of the property;

39. Submit the climate change adaptation plan and associated 'Guiding Principles' and Heritage Impact Assessment to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies prior to adoption of implementation of any associated projects.

Façade Greening policy

40. Proceed with extreme caution with proposals for greening of facades in the World Heritage property until the 'Guiding Principles for World Heritage-Compatible Measures for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation in Public Spaces' have been finalised;
41. Ensure that all projects for green façade projects are reviewed by the Advisory Board in accordance with Section 67 of the Vienna Building Code. The Advisory Board should consider whether a project proposal warrants notification to the World Heritage Centre in accordance with paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines;

Planned and proposed changes and developments in general

42. Review and revise the management system of the property in order to establish a systematic filtering mechanism to ensure that the State Party is in a position to respond in a timely manner to the request of the World Heritage Committee contained in Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines and to select the projects which need to be notified to the World Heritage Centre. The notification should be submitted to the World Heritage Centre at the earliest possible planning stage, and the depth and length of the documentation should be commensurate with the scale and stage of the project and its potential to have a negative impact on the attributes conveying the OUV of the property. In accordance with paragraph 118bis of the *Operational Guidelines*, in most cases the documentation should be accompanied by an impact assessment document, to be carried out in line with the *Guidance and Toolkit for Impact Assessments in a World Heritage Context* (2022). The impact assessment documentation to be prepared (its length and depth) also needs to reflect the nature of the project and its current planning stage.

DESIGN OF THE HEUMARKT NEU PROJECT

Design options and a way forward for the Heumarkt Neu project

43. Conduct an independent study of the socio-economic value added of the project, possibly with further information on the profit margin required from the residential slab to finance the project, which could provide other innovative ways of diversifying the use and functions of the different buildings to meet all the identified needs.
44. Test the further design solutions of the project through an iterative impact assessment process, focusing not only on the visual impact of the hotel and residential building elements, but also on the other project elements and their design options (including the reorientation of the ice-skating rink and the associated need to relocate the Lothringerstraße, as well as the contribution of the corner of the Lothringerstraße and the JohannesgaÙe to its urban environment), in order to:
 - fully understand the impact of these elements,
 - identify the ideal mitigation measures, and
 - make informed decisions about the way forward.

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1.

RETROSPECTIVE STATEMENT OF OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE

Brief synthesis

Vienna, situated on the Danube River in the eastern part of Austria, developed from early Celtic and Roman settlements into a medieval and Baroque city, eventually becoming the capital of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. It played an essential role as the leading European music centre, hosting major personalities in the development of music from the 16th to the 20th centuries, particularly Viennese Classicism and Romanticism, consolidating Vienna's reputation as the 'musical capital' of Europe. Vienna is also rich in architectural ensembles, particularly Baroque mansions and gardens as well as the late 19th-century Ringstrasse ensemble lined with grand buildings, monuments, and parks. The property consists of the city's medieval core (based on the Roman settlement), the principal Baroque ensembles with their axial layouts, and the Gründerzeit constructions from the beginning of the modern period.

At the beginning of the 12th century the settlement here expanded beyond the Roman defences, which were demolished. During the Ottoman conflicts in the 16th and 17th centuries, the medieval town's walls, which surrounded a much larger area, were rebuilt and provided with bastions. This remained the core of Vienna until the medieval walls were demolished in the second half of the 19th century. The inner city contains a number of medieval-era buildings, including the Schottenkloster, the oldest monastery in Austria, the churches of Maria am Gestade (one of the main Gothic structures), Michaelerkirche, Minoritenkirche and Minoritenkloster from the 13th century, and St Stephen's Cathedral, which dates from the 14th and 15th centuries. The same period also saw the construction of civic ensembles, such as initial parts of the Hofburg Palace. Whereas the monastic complexes were generally built of stone, becoming part of the defences of the medieval city, the residential quarters were of timber and suffered frequent fires.

In 1683, Vienna became the capital of the Habsburg Empire and developed rapidly, becoming an impressive Baroque city. The Baroque character was expressed particularly in the large palace layouts such as the Belvedere Palace and garden ensemble. A growing number of new palaces were built by noble families, many existing medieval buildings, churches, and convents were altered and given Baroque features, and additions were made to representative administrative buildings. Several historic Viennese buildings are now associated with the residences of important personalities such as Mozart, Beethoven, and Schubert, when the city played an essential role as a leading European centre for music.

A new phase in the history of Vienna took place when its 34 suburbs were incorporated into the city and the emperor ordered the demolition of the fortifications around the inner city. The opportunity was taken to create one of the most significant 19th-century ensembles in the history of urban planning, which greatly influenced the rest of Europe in this crucial period of social and economic development. In 1874, the Hofburg complex was extended with the addition of the Neue Hofburg, an 'Imperial Forum', and joined with large museum complexes into a single ensemble. The Burgtheater, parliament, town hall, and university formed another ensemble linked with these structures. To this was added the opera house as well as a large number of public and private buildings along the Ringstrasse, on the line of the demolished city walls. The late 19th and early 20th centuries testify to further creative contributions by Viennese designers, artists, and architects in the periods of the Jugendstil (Art Nouveau), the Secession, and the early Modern Movement in architecture.

Criterion (ii): The urban and architectural qualities of the Historic Centre of Vienna bear outstanding witness to a continuing interchange of values throughout the second millennium.

Criterion (iv): Three key periods of European cultural and political development – the Middle Ages, the Baroque period, and the Gründerzeit – are exceptionally well illustrated by the urban and architectural heritage of the Historic Centre of Vienna.

Criterion (vi): Since the 16th century Vienna has been universally acknowledged to be the musical capital of Europe.

Integrity

Within the boundaries of the 371 ha Historic Centre of Vienna are located all the attributes that sustain its Outstanding Universal Value, including its architectural and urban qualities and layout, and that illustrate its three major phases of development – medieval, Baroque, and the Gründerzeit – that symbolize Austrian and central European history. The Historic Centre of Vienna has also maintained its characteristic skyline. The 462 ha buffer zone protects the immediate setting of the inscribed property.

Authenticity

The property is substantially authentic in terms of its location, its forms and designs, and its substance and materials. This authenticity resides largely in the overlapping and multi-layered interweaving of urban buildings, structures, and spaces. The property has to a remarkable degree retained the architectural elements that demonstrate its continuous interchange of values through authentic examples from the above-mentioned three key periods of European cultural and political development. In addition to the architectural elements, the Historic Centre of Vienna has retained its role as the music capital of Europe.

The historic urban fabric of the Historic Centre of Vienna is thus informed by this ongoing interchange, which has caused the urban landscape to evolve and grow over time, reflected in the new, emerging skyline outside the buffer zone. Vienna's continuing development requires a very sensitive approach that takes into account the attributes that sustain the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, including its visual qualities, particularly regarding new high-rise constructions.

Protection and management requirements

About 75% of the property is in private ownership, 18% is publicly owned, and 7% is owned by the Roman Catholic Church. Various legal instruments at both federal and municipal/provincial levels protect the Historic Centre of Vienna and its buffer zone. These include the Federal Monument Protection Act (Federal Law Gazette No. 533/1923, the most recent amendment entering into force on 1 January 2000), and the municipal Building Code, with its Amendment on Old Town Conservation (Vienna Law Gazette No. 16/1972). Parts of Vienna fall under the regulations of the Vienna Nature Conservation Act (from 1998). Other legal instruments, such as the Garages Act and the Tree Preservation Act, are also relevant.

In addition to these regulations, the Province of Vienna has adopted a Land Use Plan and Urban Development Plans as planning instruments. The Land Use Plan, which on a scale of 1:2000 is a more precise version of the Urban Development Plan, divides the metropolitan area into green zones, development zones, and infrastructure zones. The Urban Development Plan lays down the spatial dimensions of the protection zones as defined under the Vienna Old Town Conservation Act. The Management Plan, which was elaborated in 2002, refers to the two World Heritage properties in Vienna (Historic Centre of Vienna, and Palace and Gardens of Schönbrunn). The plan fulfils objectives related to formalizing the procedures for the legal protection of cultural properties, and to defining the urban administrative structures for cultural assets as well as the necessary measures for the preservation of the cultural heritage (heritage which has to meet the requirements of 'authenticity', design, material, and artisanship).

Sustaining the attributes that support the Outstanding Universal Value, authenticity, and integrity of the property over time will require addressing the challenges related to development pressures, visual impacts, and modernization of the historic fabric that arise within the context of urban development in a prosperous capital city. Such challenges led to the adoption in 2005 of the internationally recognised "Vienna Memorandum" on managing historic urban landscapes. Since then, planning authorities in Vienna have paid particular attention to new, sustainable, appropriate conservation policies. As a result, the Urban Development Plan was revised in line with the stipulations of the

Memorandum. Efforts must be continued to ensure the coherence of new developments with the Outstanding Universal Value of the Historic Centre of Vienna, especially of high-rise buildings outside the buffer zone.

DECISION 44COM 7A.32 WITH THE DSOCR AND CORRECTIVE MEASURES DEFINED TO ACHIEVE THE DSOCR

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/21/44.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **43 COM 7A.45**, adopted at its 43rd session (Baku, 2019),
3. Welcomes the significant progress made by the State Party in implementing previous Committee decisions and progressing towards the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger and, in particular:
 - a. The programme for protection of World Heritage announced by the Austrian Government in January 2020, including anchoring of World Heritage properties in the Austrian legal system, sustainable protection and preservation of cultural heritage, and commitment to UNESCO Conventions on Cultural Diversity and the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage,
 - b. Progress towards completion of a new Management Plan for the property,
 - c. Extension of the coverage of the roof cadastre and its proposed implementation process through the new Management Plan;
4. Also welcomes the decision not to proceed with the proposed Heumarkt – Ice Skating Club – Vienna Concert Hall tower block as planned, further welcomes the process initiated to develop and evaluate alternative variants for the design and requests the State Party to ensure that the proposed additional visual study assesses the new design and potential impact on the property, having regard to the findings of the 2018 High Level Joint UNESCO/ICOMOS Advisory mission, and that a new Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is prepared using precisely the same data, methodology and format of the 2019 HIA;
5. Also requests the State Party to ensure that the new Management Plan for the property is submitted for review by the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies prior to its finalisation and implementation, and that it addresses the findings and recommendations of the 2018 Advisory mission;
6. Reminds the State Party of the Committee's previous request to pursue legislative protection for the Schwarzenberg Gardens and to submit final plans and designs for the Wien Museum to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
7. Further requests that the current moratorium be maintained on new developments or planning measures which may impact upon attributes that contribute to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, pending completion of the new Management Plan, the implementation of the proposed corrective measures, and consequent amendments to planning controls;
8. Commends the State Party on the elaboration of the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) and related corrective measures, and particularly the productive collaborative process with the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS;
9. Adopts the DSOCR developed by the State Party in consultation with the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and all stakeholders, as presented in Document WHC/21/44.COM/7A.Add and urges the State Party to proceed with the implementation of the corrective measures;
10. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2022**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, including progress achieved in implementing the corrective measures for the DSOCR, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 45th session;
11. **Decides to retain Historic Centre of Vienna (Austria) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

DSOCR AND CORRECTIVE MEASURES

The desired state of conservation for the property is defined as follows:

- Attributes which reflect and support the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property are clearly defined and described.
- Sound planning tools and legal provisions to foster the safeguarding of the property are in place.
- A comprehensive Management Plan and a related management system are the legal basis for all future decisions concerning the World Heritage property.
- The Management Plan includes a comprehensive process for continued monitoring and evaluation that is focused on retention of OUV while sustaining the economic growth of the City of Vienna.
- Revised design of the Heumarkt Neu project is implemented, respecting the integrity and authenticity of the OUV of the property as a whole as measured through an independent Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA), based on the results of the HIA 2019 and following its methodology.
- No further high-rise development occurs within the property as well as in areas affecting its visual integrity.
- There are no further roof top conversions of historically and artistically significant roof constructions, or that adversely affect the historic skyline and the overall integrity of the property, and enhanced safeguarding is provided for historic roof constructions.
- No inadequate developments occur within the area of Ringstraße and Glacis.
- There is no further disturbance of the baroque layout and visual integrity of the Belvedere / Schwarzenberg Complex (Palace and Gardens) including the vistas constituting an integral part of the original logic of this Baroque Gesamtkunstwerk.
- Karlsplatz / Wien Museum / Winterthur Building area is redesigned according to the findings of the 2018 High Level Joint UNESCO/ICOMOS Advisory mission and the related mission report.
- Priority is given to the preservation of historic / original building stock of the property.
- Historic gardens and green spaces receive strong statutory protection and play a major role in preservation and management strategies to support and improve climate conditions in the urban area.
- Schwarzenberg Garden and Palace are recognized as a major attribute reflecting the OUV of the property, ensuring its protection through the new comprehensive Management System for the Historic Centre of Vienna and an updated garden care-plan.
- The Retrospective Statement of OUV (RSOUV) is interpreted consistently with the initial intentions as adopted by the World Heritage Committee when the property was inscribed on the World Heritage List.
- Contemporary interventions in the property, its surrounding buffer zone and all areas that have potential visual impacts on the latter are based on sound assessments giving priority to the requirements of a World Heritage property.

Corrective measures:

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from	Rationale	Method of verification	Status of indicator in 2021	Target completion date

		the list in danger			(during the time of submitting the CM)	
I. PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT (CM-PM)						
	1	The attributes which reflect and support the OUV of the property are clearly defined and described.	The nomination dossier and the current RSOUV name only a few areas or buildings that contribute to the integrity and authenticity of the property and hence the conservation in their original status is crucial for the safeguarding of the OUV. The lack of clearly defined and described attributes constituting the basis for a sound management-framework lead to inadequate developments in the property and thus to deterioration of the OUV.	<p>A description of attributes that support the integrity and authenticity of the OUV of the property and supporting its status at the time of inscription is part of an integrated management system that has been proven to protect the OUV in practice.</p> <p>The attributes schedule will form an integrated part of the Management Plan. <u>It will be publicly available, and the respective places will be indicated in the digital map outlining the property.</u></p>	<p>Not yet started.</p> <p>The elaboration takes place parallel to the procedure of the elaboration of the management plan and the implementation of a related management system but will be completed before finalizing the Management Plan in order to inform the Management Plan's content and mechanisms.</p>	July 2021 for the public availability within the Management Plan.
	2	Sound planning tools and legal provisions foster the safeguarding of the property.	The deterioration of the OUV of the property largely is the result of insufficient or inappropriate planning tools and of legal provisions that were adapted rather to enable (inconsistent) renewal than to foster	Planning tools and legal provisions at both Federal and regional level are amended according to the recommendations of the related Committee decisions, the 2012, 2015, 2018 mission reports, the results of the 2019 HIA and their effect monitored and proven.	The implementation is based on the Management Plan and the implementation of a related management system. The latter shall encompass revised legal provisions that ensure the safeguarding of the property and prevents from further deterioration	City of Vienna, June 2024 at the latest for the legal provisions on Federal Level (please also note N3 in section "Attributes").

			conservation and preservation.		of its authenticity and integrity.	
	3	<p>A comprehensive Management Plan and a related management system are the legal basis for all future decisions concerning the World Heritage property.</p> <p>The Management Plan <u>has been accepted by the World Heritage Committee</u> and formally adopted by the Vienna Council and the Federal Government.</p> <p>The efficacy of the Management Plan <u>is demonstrated in practice</u> by way of regular monitoring reports through the national and international monitors of the property assigned by ICOMOS Austria.</p>	The current Management Plan dates back to 2002, never led to an integrated Management System nor was it part of actual planning deliberations.	<p>A revised Management Plan based on the initial safeguarding and management intentions as laid down in the SOUV has been reviewed by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies and accepted by the World Heritage Committee as well as adopted by the City Council of Vienna.</p> <p>Its efficacy is proven in practice by way of regular monitoring reports through the national and international monitors of the property assigned by ICOMOS Austria.</p>	The process of developing a Management Plan and an integrated management system has been initiated and is work in progress.	<p>July 2021 for the implementation of the Management Plan and Management System.</p> <p>End of 2021 for the implementation of the related legal provisions on the level of the City of Vienna.</p> <p>Prove of efficacy:</p> <p>From July 2021 on regularly at least once a year by way of monitoring reports.</p>
	4	The Management Plan includes a comprehensive process <u>for continued monitoring and evaluation (a)</u> that is focused on retention of OUV while sustaining the economic growth of the City of Vienna.	To be effective the Management Plan needs to include an ongoing mechanism for monitoring and evaluation. This mechanism should be directed at OUV, but must also recognise the need for	A revised Management Plan which addresses matters raised in World Heritage Committee Decisions 41 COM 7B.42 and 43 COM 7A.45 has been reviewed by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, and <u>accepted by the World Heritage Committee (b)</u> ,	The implementation takes place during the procedure of the elaboration of the Management Plan and <u>the implementation of a related management system (d)</u> .	Starting from July 2021.

			the City to be sustainable.	adopted by the City Council of Vienna, and its efficacy <u>proven in practice through monitoring and evaluation over a period of 5 years (c).</u>		
	5	Assessment of a revised design for the Heumarkt Neu project by a new HIA based on the results of the 2019 HIA and following its methodology.	HIA and 2018 mission report assessed the current design as “major negative” and its implementation as a potential conclusive threat to the OUV.	New HIA, prepared using the same methodology and impact assessment methodology as the 2019 HIA. <u>The new HIA concludes that the revised project does not adversely impact upon the OUV of the property and has undergone a Technical Review by ICOMOS International.</u> The latter assessed the revised design to be consistent with the requirements of safeguarding the OUV of the property.	The assignment of an independent expert to carry out the new HIA is currently in preparation.	Autumn 2020 submission of the <u>new HIA to the World Heritage Centre for review.</u>

II. ATTRIBUTE S (CM-A)

	1	Implementation of a revised design of the Heumarkt Neu project respecting the integrity and authenticity of the OUV of the property as a whole as measured through an independent HIA.	Particularly the proposed height of the project adversely affects the monocentric character of the urban morphology.	A revised project that does not harm the OUV is either implemented or its implementation guaranteed within the legislative framework (zoning plan / building permission).	<u>Revision of the project currently undergoing a Visual study and new independent HIA to be conducted.</u>	End of 2021 for the complete legal implementation of the respective provisions in accordance with the redesign (e.g. zoning plan, building permission).
	2	<u>No further high-rise development</u> within the property as well as in areas affecting its visual integrity.	The high-rise development since inscription of the property already deteriorated the integrity of the historic urban skyline and hence the OUV of the property.	The current planning tools (particularly the STEP 2025 High Rise concept) have been revised according to the findings of the 2012, 2015, and 2018 missions and the related Committee decisions and are based on sound legal provisions	The implementation takes place during the procedure of the elaboration of the Management Plan and the implementation of a related management system. The process of developing an integrated management	July 2021 for the Management Plan and Management System. End of 2021 for the implementation of the revised legal provisions on

				adopted by the City Council of Vienna.	system has been initiated.	the regional level (City of Vienna).
	3	<u>No further roof top conversions that adversely affect the historic skyline and the overall integrity of the property</u> and enhanced safeguarding of historic roof constructions based on the results of a comprehensive Roof Cadastre and the guidelines provided by way of the Standards for Built Heritage Conservation. ²⁸	The increase of roof extensions already deteriorated the urban fabric. Specific projects already threatened to affect valuable examples of baroque mansard roofs as well as remarkable Gründerzeit building stock.	The Roof Cadastre and the related regulations in the Management Plan apply to the whole building stock of the property and includes specific measures related to areas / objects according to the list of attributes. The Management Plan includes regulations based on the results of the Roof Cadastre for all future roof extensions and conversions.	The Roof Cadastre is currently extended to Iron and Composite Constructions with special attention to the area of the Ringstraße (as the latter can be found mainly in this area).	End of 2021 as part of the Management Plan and Management System. Independently from the Management Plan the <u>Roof Cadastre will be publicly available after completion.</u>
	4	4a: Implementation of a revised design of the Heumarkt Neu project respecting the overall integrity and the authentic character of the logic of the Gründerzeit layout.	At present, the Ringstraße morphology is well maintained (with the exception of minor “disturbances” prior to inscription). The proposed height and building mass would adversely interfere with the historic logic of the ensemble and with its morphology.	The revised project that is not harming the OUV in total and meets said criteria in detail has been assessed through an independent HIA and is either implemented or its implementation guaranteed within the legislative framework (zoning plan / building permission).	Revision of the <u>project currently undergoing a Visual Study and independent HIA to be conducted.</u> HIA concludes that the revised project does not adversely impact upon the OUV of the property including the logic of the Gründerzeit Ensemble, this being a major attribute reflecting the OUV.	Autumn 2020 for the HIA. End of 2021 for the implementation of the revised legal provisions for the revised design. (please also note N1 in this section)
		4b: No further roof top conversions that adversely affect the historic appearance of the Ringstraße ensemble and Gründerzeit layout.	Due to progressing loss of historic fabric in the roof zones the authentic appearance of the urban and architectural heritage of the Gründerzeit era are	The Management Plan includes regulations based on the results of the Roof Cadastre and the recommendations provided by the Standards for Built Heritage Conservation for all future roof	The Roof Cadastre is currently extended to iron and composite constructions with special attention to the area of the Ringstraße, where these types of constructions mainly appear.	From July 2021 on by way of regular monitoring reports (also note N3 “Protection and Management”)

²⁸ <https://bda.gv.at/publikationen/standards-leitfaeden-richtlinien/standards-der-baudenkmalspflege/>

			increasingly threatened.	extensions and conversions.		
		4c: No inadequate developments within the area of Ringstraße and Glacis.	Currently the <u>Masterplan Glacis</u> allows for uncertain developments without explicitly mentioning the World Heritage status as a basic parameter for any intervention.	The planning tools (particularly the Masterplan Glacis) have been revised according to the findings of the 2012, 2015 and 2018 missions and the related Committee decisions and are based on sound legal provisions adopted by the City Council of Vienna. The planning tools and regulations are an integral part of the Management Plan that has been reviewed, adopted, implemented and its efficacy proven.	The process of developing an integrated management system at present is work in progress.	From July 2021 on by way of regular monitoring reports (also note N3 "Protection and Management") .
	5	No further roof top conversions of historically and artistically significant roof constructions.	Roof top conversions in the last years also affected roof constructions of eminent quality, such as originally preserved baroque mansard roofs in the most prominent areas of the property.	The policy based on the results of the Roof Cadastre are implemented through legal measures and encompassed by the Management Plan and related Management System. The Roof Cadastre is available for the public.	<p>The process of developing an integrated management system has been initiated and is work in progress.</p> <p>The Roof Cadastre is currently prepared for publication and shall be extended to iron and composite constructions.</p>	<p>July 2021 for the implementation of the Management Plan.</p> <p><u>End of 2021 for the implementation of the legal provisions on regional level</u> (City of Vienna), which constitute the majority of planning and protection provisions for the property according to the Austrian Federal System. <u>June 2024 at the latest for the implementation of the amended Federal Monuments Protection Act</u> (as the latter applies not only to Vienna but to the whole Federal Republic and</p>

						has to be adopted by the Austrian Parliament).
	6	<p><u>No further disturbance of the baroque layout and visual integrity of the Belvedere/Schwarzenberg Complex</u> (Palace and Gardens) including the vistas constituting an integral part of the original logic of this baroque Gesamtkunstwerk .</p>	<p>The Belvedere/Schwarzenberg Complex (Palace and Gardens) is a key attribute and major representative of the OUV of the property. The vista constituting an integral feature of this stellar baroque complex compared to its status at time of inscription is disturbed by high-rises.</p>	<p>A description of attributes reflecting and representing the OUV is part of the Management Plan. The Belvedere/Schwarzenberg Garden Complex is anchored in this list as an area of highest protection level. A revised Heumarkt Neu project that constitutes no further interference with this most important vista is either implemented or its implementation is guaranteed within the legislative framework (zoning plan/building permission).</p>	<p>The process of developing an integrated management system has been initiated and is work in progress.</p> <p>Revision of the project currently undergoing; visual study and HIA to be conducted and project developed to the point that it does not negatively affect the OUV of the property.</p>	<p>July 2021 as integral part of the Management Plan and Management System.</p>
	7	<p>Karlsplatz/Wien Museum/Winterthur Building area is redesigned according to the findings of the 2018 Advisory mission and the related mission report.</p>	<p>The projected redesign was considered a benefit for the area.</p>	<p>The World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies reviewed and agreed to the final designs for the extension and redesign of the Wien Museum and Winterthur Building as well as the new landscape designs.</p>	<p>Final landscape designs were submitted to the World Heritage Centre subsequently to the 2018 Advisory mission. Final designs for the Wien Museum currently are work in progress. Conversion of Winterthur House halted; beginning of conversion works currently not foreseeable.</p>	<p>Final designs for the <u>Wien Museum</u> will be available end of 2020 and submitted with the SOC Report in January 2021.</p> <p><u>Conversion of Winterthur House</u> only possible according to the design linked to the conversion of the Wien Museum. Regular reports on progress by way of roadmaps and State of conservation reports.</p>
	8	<p>Priority to preservation of historic/original</p>	<p>Perceived inaccuracies and contradictions in the RSOUV</p>	<p>The RSOUV has been clearly and definitively interpreted in the reviewed and</p>	<p>Enhanced protection provided by a legal provision within the Viennese Building Code</p>	<p>July 2021 for the implementation of the</p>

		building stock of the property.	as well as a very permissive interpretation of the Vienna Memorandum lead to a predomination of urban renewal instead of enhanced conservation of the existing building stock.	<p>adopted Management Plan.</p> <p>The property is defined as a protection zone according to the Vienna Building Code.</p> <p>National Monuments Protection is strengthened in accordance with the definition of attributes reflecting the OUV of the property.</p>	concerning all buildings built before 1945 (enacted 2018). Implementation of further protection measures takes place during the procedure of the elaboration of the Management Plan and the implementation of a related management system. National Monuments Protection is a constant process based on the Federal Monuments Protection Act; specific provisions concerning World Heritage protection will be amended.	<p>Management Plan.</p> <p>End of 2021 for the implementation of the legal provisions on the regional level (City of Vienna), which constitute the majority of planning and protection provisions for the property according to the Austrian Federal System. <u>June 2024 at the latest for the implementation of the amended Federal Monuments Protection Act</u> (as the latter applies not only to Vienna but to the whole Federal Republic and has to be adopted by the Austrian Parliament).</p>
	9	Historic gardens and green spaces in general receive strong statutory protection and play a major role in preservation and management strategies not least with the aim to support and improve climate conditions in the urban area.	There is a gap in the suite of statutory protection mechanisms for the property, such that important gardens are not adequately protected. Already implemented building projects in historic gardens as well as projected development areas evident in the Masterplan Glacis currently are	The Masterplan Glacis declares green spaces as strict protection zones. Related regulations are evident in the Management Plan. Regulations are provided for enhanced protection of historic gardens within the national Monuments Protection Act or other legal matters concerned.	The implementation takes place during the procedure of the elaboration of the management plan and the implementation of a related management system. National legal regulations shall be implemented during the current legislators' term that ends in 2024.	<p>January 2021 for submission of the HIA Schwarzenberg Garden.</p> <p>July 2021 for the Management Plan and Management System. Amendment of legal provisions on Federal level until June 2024 at the latest.</p>

			inconsistent with this goal or could cause harm to the generally well-preserved status of green spaces in the property.			
	10	Schwarzenberg Garden and Palace are recognized as a major attribute reflecting the OUV of the property and thus anchored in the list of attributes. The protection is ensured by way of the new comprehensive Management System for the Historic Centre of Vienna as well as by an updated garden care-plan taking in account the results of an independent HIA.	Contemporary interventions in the historic garden environment lead to censure and complaints by members of the civil society and experts for historic gardens. Hence the whole area was assessed by the 2018 Advisory mission.	An HIA assessing the developments in Schwarzenberg Garden has been reviewed by the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS. Recommendations provided by a Technical Review have been implemented in the Management Plan of the property.	The HIA is carried out to best international practice guided by adopted Guidelines, by order of the World Heritage Unit in the Federal Ministry for Arts, Culture, Public Service and Sports. The placing of the HIA is work in progress.	The results of the HIA shall be available by the end of 2020. The implementation in the Management System takes place according to the scheduled timeframe (please note relating sections in this document).

III. INTEGRITY AND AUTHENTICITY (CM-IA)

	1	The RSOUV is interpreted consistently with the initial intentions as adopted by the World Heritage Committee when the property was inscribed on the World Heritage List.	The current version of the RSOUV gives room to misunderstandings due to perceived inaccuracies and contradictions that have the potential to impair the authenticity and integrity of the property as a whole.	The Management Plan includes an adopted statement on the interpretation of the RSOUV consistent with the initial intention of the World Heritage Committee at the time of inscription.	Not yet started. The statement on interpretation of the RSOUV is part of the elaboration of the Management Plan.	July 2021 within the framework of the Management Plan and Management System.
	2	The German version of the RSOUV does no longer contain any misleading terms.	The German translation until 2018 as well as the current version amplified the potential for misinterpretation.	The adopted statement on the interpretation of the RSOUV (see above) is publicly available after official translation.	Not yet started. The statement on interpretation of the RSOUV is part of the elaboration of the management plan.	July 2021 within the framework of the Management Plan and

			on of the OUV as mentioned above.			Management System.
	3	Contemporary interventions in the property, its surrounding buffer zone and all areas that have potential visual impacts on the latter are based on sound assessments giving priority to the requirements of a World Heritage property.	Most of the recently put in place or projected contemporary interventions referred to the Vienna Memorandum. The latter in this context was partly misunderstood or misinterpreted. The Historic Urban Landscape (HUL) recommendations currently are not part of planning tools.	The HUL Recommendation constitutes a basic element within the Management Plan and related Management System and the success of this new Management System is proven through implementation. HIAs are carried out prior to the implementation of projects with potential impact on the authentic character of the property.	The implementation takes place during the procedure of the elaboration of the management plan and the implementation of a related management system.	July 2021 within the framework of the Management Plan and Management System.

DECISION 45COM 7A.55

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/23/45.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions **37 COM 7B.71, 39 COM 7B.94, 40 COM 7B.49, 41 COM 7B.42, 42 COM 7A.5, 43 COM 7A.45**, and **44 COM 7A.32** adopted at its 37th (Phnom Penh, 2013), 39th (Bonn, 2015), 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016), 41st (Krakow, 2017), 42nd (Manama, 2018), 43rd (Baku, 2019) and extended 44th (Fuzhou/online, 2021) sessions respectively,
3. Commends the State Party on the progress made in implementing many of the adopted corrective measures and previous Committee decisions, with the aim to enhance the management system of the property, in particular:
 - a. anchoring the World Heritage status of the property in the Viennese Building Code as the most important legal planning tool of the City of Vienna,
 - b. elaboration, adoption and publication of a new Management Plan for the property,
 - c. initial steps towards enhanced legal protection of World Heritage in Austria,
 - d. the forthcoming Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for the Schwarzenberg Gardens and related recommendations for greater legal protection of historic gardens,
 - e. ongoing development of the roof cadastre;
4. Encourages the State Party to continue with the implementation of the adopted corrective measures in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies, with a view to achieving the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), in accordance with the established timetable to which the State Party has proposed slight revisions;
5. Accepts the revised and updated Management Plan for the property, notes that the corrective measures adopted require that the efficacy of the Management Plan be proven in practice through monitoring and evaluation over a period of five years, and requests the State Party to ensure that subsequent revisions address the matters raised in the 2022 ICOMOS technical review and to report on the proposed monitoring and evaluation process;
6. Reminds the State Party of the Committee's previous requests to submit final plans and designs for the Wien Museum to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
7. Acknowledges the efforts by the State Party and many other institutions and organisations to mitigate the negative impact of the proposed Heumarkt Neu project through design amendments, and undertaking an HIA of the revised proposal using a methodology which is rigorous, authoritative, and compliant with the previous HIA, but notes that this process has not resulted in an outcome, which achieves the DSOCR, including the verification requirements of the corrective measures;
8. Notes also that redevelopment is possible on the Heumarkt Neu site, in order to achieve a project that does not adversely impact the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property necessarily involving a reduction, and further acknowledges the progress made by the State Party in developing a further revised scheme with a reduced height and volume;
9. Further notes that, in line with previous Committee decisions, as well as the DSOCR and its corrective measures for the property, the further revised scheme will need to be assessed using the methodology of previous HIAs and notes furthermore that the determination of height, floorspace and built form which would achieve the desired improvement, such that the proposed development would not adversely impact the OUV of the property, could be pursued through the modelling used to assess visual impact which informed the previous HIAs;
10. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2024**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 46th session;
11. **Decides to retain the Historic Centre of Vienna (Austria) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE MISSION

Background:

The World Heritage property 'Historic Centre of Vienna' (Austria) was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2001 under criteria (ii), (iv) and (vi). The property was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger in 2017, as the World Heritage Committee considered that the planning controls in force and specific projects posed serious and specific threats to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property.

The recognised threats at the time of inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger were grouped under three main categories:

- a) inadequate overall planning control mechanisms and legal framework
- b) the possibility of constructing high-rise buildings in the historic centre
- c) inappropriate project proposals (especially in the Karlplatz area and the Vienna Ice-Skating Club – Intercontinental Hotel – Vienna Konzerthaus project [today called Heumarkt Neu project])

In 2021, the World Heritage Committee, at its extended 44th session (Fuzhou/online), adopted by Decision **44 COM 7A.32** (Annex 1) a Desired State of Conservation for the Removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) and a set of Corrective Measures as proposed by Austria with a timeline (Annex 2).

In 2023, at its extended 45th session (Riyadh), the World Heritage Committee, commended the State Party for the progress made in implementing many of the adopted corrective measures, but also considered that a number of corrective measures still needed to be fully implemented and therefore decided to retain the property in the List of World Heritage in Danger (Decision **45 COM 7A.55 – Annex 3**).

Objectives of Advisory mission

Following the latest decision of the World Heritage Committee, on 21 December 2023, the State Party, Austria invited an Advisory mission to the property, involving experts from the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM. The invitation to the Advisory mission requests advice on the possibilities of defining acceptable thresholds for the design review options of the Heumarkt Neu project at the site, as well as on the status of the implementation of the corrective measures for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger. The State Party requested that the joint Advisory mission take place in early 2024.

To address these objectives, the mission shall:

1. Assess, through site visits and discussions, how acceptable threshold options might be defined on the basis of visual modelling exercises to guide the further revision of the Heumarkt Neu project in order to ensure that the proposed development would not adversely impact the OUV of the property, taking into consideration the recommendations of the ICOMOS Technical Review of the latest revision of the project and its 'HIA 2 plus' to be provided to the State Party in advance of the mission;
2. Assess, through site visits and discussions, the status of implementation of the corrective measures adopted by the World Heritage Committee in 2021, including those related to:
 - updated planning tools and provisions for safeguarding the property,
 - the elaboration of the attributes which support the OUV of the property,
 - the updated Management Plan for the property,
 - the submission of the final design of the Wien Museum / Karlsplatz / Winterthur building to the World Heritage Centre,
 - Schwarzenberg Garden and Palace,
 - the Roof Cadastre and related regulations in the Management Plan,
 - Planning tools for the Ringstraße and Glacis,
 - other corrective measures, the implementation of which has not yet been completed.

3. Provide advice to the State Party on the corrective measures which are yet to be completed, including, as appropriate, specific recommendations on methodology, tasks to be completed, timeframe and sequencing, and guidance on verification methods as defined in the DSOCR and corrective measures.

Following the on-site mission, the World Heritage Centre and the two Advisory Bodies will prepare a report within eight weeks, including the results of the above assessments and providing relevant advice and recommendations to the State Party to guide it in achieving the DSOCR and the corrective measures required for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger. The draft mission report shall be provided to the State Party for comment on any factual errors. Following the mission, the mission team may request additional information from the State Party for the preparation of the draft mission report, which the State Party shall provide within two weeks of the request.

The State Party (through its relevant national, regional and local organisations and authorities) should ensure that the mission team is provided with all relevant information and documentation needed to undertake the mission in an efficient manner (including legislative instruments and policies) in English, at least two weeks before the start of the mission, to enable the assessment and review of the issues listed above, and that it can conduct on-site visits for a comprehensive inspection of all relevant sites.

The documentation to be provided to the World Heritage Centre and the two Advisory Bodies prior to the mission must include in particular the following documents or substantial summaries in English:

- The full list of the adopted Corrective Measures with their current implementation status and the foreseen deadline for the ones which are not yet completed;
- The current planning regulations for the Glacis and Ringstrasse areas, with a description of the changes made since the inscription of the property on the List of World Heritage in Danger;
- The status of the STEP-2025 policy (Guidelines for Vienna's urban development);
- The green facades policy for Vienna;
- Impact Assessment regulations/ legislation relevant to World Heritage at national and local level.

The visual model options for the Heumarkt Neu project, referred to in item 1. of the mission's objectives above, would need to be prepared for presentation during the mission.

The State Party should organise the working meetings and consultations between the mission and the relevant authorities/organisations and all other stakeholders, including the representatives of the local communities and NGOs, in English.

In order to facilitate the preparation of the mission, the State Party should cooperate with the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and ICCROM in preparing the detailed programme of the mission.

In accordance with the policies of UNESCO, ICOMOS and ICCROM, the experts participating in the mission will not engage with the media and will not discuss the findings or recommendations of the mission, which should only be made public with the publication of the final report, unless the State Party objects.

Annex 1: Decision **44 COM 7A.32** (Fuzhou / online meeting, 2021)

Annex 2: DSOCR and Corrective measures adopted by the WH Committee

Annex 3: Decision **45 COM 7A.55** (Riyad, 2023)

Annex 1 of the ToR

World Heritage Committee Decision 44 COM 7A.32 (

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/21/44.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **43 COM 7A.45**, adopted at its 43rd session (Baku, 2019),

3. Welcomes the significant progress made by the State Party in implementing previous Committee decisions and progressing towards the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger and, in particular:
 - a) The programme for protection of World Heritage announced by the Austrian Government in January 2020, including anchoring of World Heritage properties in the Austrian legal system, sustainable protection and preservation of cultural heritage, and commitment to UNESCO Conventions on Cultural Diversity and the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage,
 - b) Progress towards completion of a new Management Plan for the property,
 - c) Extension of the coverage of the roof cadastre and its proposed implementation process through the new Management Plan;
4. Also welcomes the decision not to proceed with the proposed Heumarkt – Ice Skating Club – Vienna Concert Hall tower block as planned, further welcomes the process initiated to develop and evaluate alternative variants for the design and requests the State Party to ensure that the proposed additional visual study assesses the new design and potential impact on the property, having regard to the findings of the 2018 High Level Joint UNESCO/ICOMOS Advisory mission, and that a new Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is prepared using precisely the same data, methodology and format of the 2019 HIA;
5. Also requests the State Party to ensure that the new Management Plan for the property is submitted for review by the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies prior to its finalisation and implementation, and that it addresses the findings and recommendations of the 2018 Advisory mission;
6. Reminds the State Party of the Committee's previous request to pursue legislative protection for the Schwarzenberg Gardens and to submit final plans and designs for the Wien Museum to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
7. Further requests that the current moratorium be maintained on new developments or planning measures which may impact upon attributes that contribute to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, pending completion of the new Management Plan, the implementation of the proposed corrective measures, and consequent amendments to planning controls;
8. Commends the State Party on the elaboration of the Desired state of conservation for removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR) and related corrective measures, and particularly the productive collaborative process with the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS;
9. Adopts the DSOCR developed by the State Party in consultation with the World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS and all stakeholders, as presented in Document WHC/21/44.COM/7A.Add and urges the State Party to proceed with the implementation of the corrective measures;
10. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2022**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, including progress achieved in implementing the corrective measures for the DSOCR, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 45th session;
11. Decides to retain Historic Centre of Vienna (Austria) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Annex 2 of the ToR

Desired state of conservation for the removal of the Historic Centre of Vienna from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR)

The desired state of conservation for the property is defined as follows:

- Attributes which reflect and support the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property are clearly defined and described.

- Sound planning tools and legal provisions to foster the safeguarding of the property are in place.
- A comprehensive Management Plan and a related management system are the legal basis for all future decisions concerning the World Heritage property.
- The Management Plan includes a comprehensive process for continued monitoring and evaluation that is focused on retention of OUV while sustaining the economic growth of the City of Vienna.
- Revised design of the Heumarkt Neu project is implemented, respecting the integrity and authenticity of the OUV of the property as a whole as measured through an independent Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA), based on the results of the HIA 2019 and following its methodology.
- No further high-rise development occurs within the property as well as in areas affecting its visual integrity.
- There are no further roof top conversions of historically and artistically significant roof constructions, or that adversely affect the historic skyline and the overall integrity of the property, and enhanced safeguarding is provided for historic roof constructions.
- No inadequate developments occur within the area of Ringstraße and Glacis.
- There is no further disturbance of the baroque layout and visual integrity of the Belvedere / Schwarzenberg Complex (Palace and Gardens) including the vistas constituting an integral part of the original logic of this Baroque Gesamtkunstwerk.
- Karlsplatz / Wien Museum / Winterthur Building area is redesigned according to the findings of the 2018 High Level Joint UNESCO/ICOMOS Advisory mission and the related mission report.
- Priority is given to the preservation of historic / original building stock of the property.
- Historic gardens and green spaces receive strong statutory protection and play a major role in preservation and management strategies to support and improve climate conditions in the urban area.
- Schwarzenberg Garden and Palace are recognized as a major attribute reflecting the OUV of the property, ensuring its protection through the new comprehensive Management System for the Historic Centre of Vienna and an updated garden care-plan.
- The Retrospective Statement of OUV (RSOUV) is interpreted consistently with the initial intentions as adopted by the World Heritage Committee when the property was inscribed on the World Heritage List.
- Contemporary interventions in the property, its surrounding buffer zone and all areas that have potential visual impacts on the latter are based on sound assessments giving priority to the requirements of a World Heritage property.

Corrective measures:

	N°	Indicator for removal of the property from the list in danger	Rationale	Method of verification	Status of indicator in 2021 (during the time of submitting the CM)	Target completion date
I. PROTECTI ON AND MANAGE MENT (CM-PM)						

	1	The attributes which reflect and support the OUV of the property are clearly defined and described.	The nomination dossier and the current RSOUV name only a few areas or buildings that contribute to the integrity and authenticity of the property and hence the conservation in their original status is crucial for the safeguarding of the OUV. The lack of clearly defined and described attributes constituting the basis for a sound management-framework lead to inadequate developments in the property and thus to deterioration of the OUV.	<p>A description of attributes that support the integrity and authenticity of the OUV of the property and supporting its status at the time of inscription is part of an integrated management system that has been proven to protect the OUV in practice.</p> <p>The attributes schedule will form an integrated part of the Management Plan. <u>It will be publicly available, and the respective places will be indicated in the digital map outlining the property.</u></p>	<p>Not yet started.</p> <p>The elaboration takes place parallel to the procedure of the elaboration of the management plan and the implementation of a related management system but will be completed before finalizing the Management Plan in order to inform the Management Plan's content and mechanisms.</p>	July 2021 for the public availability within the Management Plan.
	2	Sound planning tools and legal provisions foster the safeguarding of the property.	The deterioration of the OUV of the property largely is the result of insufficient or inappropriate planning tools and of legal provisions that were adapted rather to enable (inconsistent) renewal than to foster conservation and preservation.	Planning tools and legal provisions at both Federal and regional level are amended according to the recommendations of the related Committee decisions, the 2012, 2015, 2018 mission reports, the results of the 2019 HIA and their effect monitored and proven.	The implementation is based on the Management Plan and the implementation of a related management system. The latter shall encompass revised legal provisions that ensure the safeguarding of the property and prevents from further deterioration of its authenticity and integrity.	City of Vienna, June 2024 at the latest for the legal provisions on Federal Level (please also note N3 in section "Attributes").
	3	A comprehensive Management Plan and a related management system are the legal basis for all future decisions concerning the	The current Management Plan dates back to 2002, never led to an integrated Management System nor	A revised Management Plan based on the initial safeguarding and management intentions as laid down in the SOUV has been reviewed	The process of developing a Management Plan and an integrated management system has been	July 2021 for the implementation of the Management Plan and

		<p>World Heritage property.</p> <p>The Management Plan <u>has been accepted by the World Heritage Committee</u> and formally adopted by the Vienna Council and the Federal Government.</p> <p>The efficacy of the Management Plan <u>is demonstrated in practice</u> by way of regular monitoring reports through the national and international monitors of the property assigned by ICOMOS Austria.</p>	<p>was it part of actual planning deliberations.</p>	<p>by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies and accepted by the World Heritage Committee as well as adopted by the City Council of Vienna.</p> <p>Its efficacy is proven in practice by way of regular monitoring reports through the national and international monitors of the property assigned by ICOMOS Austria.</p>	<p>initiated and is work in progress.</p>	<p>Management System.</p> <p>End of 2021 for the implementation of the related legal provisions on the level of the City of Vienna.</p> <p>Prove of efficacy: From July 2021 on regularly at least once a year by way of monitoring reports.</p>
	4	<p>The Management Plan includes a comprehensive process <u>for continued monitoring and evaluation (a)</u> that is focused on retention of OUV while sustaining the economic growth of the City of Vienna.</p>	<p>To be effective the Management Plan needs to include an ongoing mechanism for monitoring and evaluation. This mechanism should be directed at OUV, but must also recognise the need for the City to be sustainable.</p>	<p>A revised Management Plan which addresses matters raised in World Heritage Committee Decisions 41 COM 7B.42 and 43 COM 7A.45 has been reviewed by the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies, and <u>accepted by the World Heritage Committee (b)</u>, adopted by the City Council of Vienna, and <u>its efficacy proven in practice through monitoring and evaluation over a period of 5 years (c)</u>.</p>	<p>The implementation takes place during the procedure of the elaboration of the Management Plan and <u>the implementation of a related management system (d)</u>.</p>	<p>Starting from July 2021.</p>
	5	<p>Assessment of a revised design for</p>	<p>HIA and 2018 mission report</p>	<p>New HIA, prepared using the same</p>	<p>The assignment of an independent</p>	<p>Autumn 2020 submission of</p>

		the Heumarkt Neu project by a new HIA based on the results of the 2019 HIA and following its methodology.	assessed the current design as “major negative” and its implementation as a potential conclusive threat to the OUV.	methodology and impact assessment methodology as the 2019 HIA. <u>The new HIA concludes that the revised project does not adversely impact upon the OUV of the property and has undergone a Technical Review by ICOMOS International.</u> The latter assessed the revised design to be consistent with the requirements of safeguarding the OUV of the property.	expert to carry out the new HIA is currently in preparation.	the <u>new HIA to the World Heritage Centre for review.</u>
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II. ATTRIBUTE S (CM-A)

	1	Implementation of a revised design of the Heumarkt Neu project respecting the integrity and authenticity of the OUV of the property as a whole as measured through an independent HIA.	Particularly the proposed height of the project adversely affects the monocentric character of the urban morphology.	A revised project that does not harm the OUV is either implemented or its implementation guaranteed within the legislative framework (zoning plan / building permission).	<u>Revision of the project currently undergoing a Visual study and new independent HIA to be conducted.</u>	End of 2021 for the complete legal implementation of the respective provisions in accordance with the redesign (e.g. zoning plan, building permission).
	2	<u>No further high-rise development</u> within the property as well as in areas affecting its visual integrity.	The high-rise development since inscription of the property already deteriorated the integrity of the historic urban skyline and hence the OUV of the property.	The current planning tools (particularly the STEP 2025 High Rise concept) have been revised according to the findings of the 2012, 2015, and 2018 missions and the related Committee decisions and are based on sound legal provisions adopted by the City Council of Vienna.	The implementation takes place during the procedure of the elaboration of the Management Plan and the implementation of a related management system. The process of developing an integrated management system has been initiated.	July 2021 for the Management Plan and Management System. End of 2021 for the implementation of the revised legal provisions on the regional level (City of Vienna).
	3	<u>No further roof top conversions that adversely affect the historic skyline and the overall integrity of the property</u> and enhanced safeguarding of	The increase of roof extensions already deteriorated the urban fabric. Specific projects already	The Roof Cadastre and the related regulations in the Management Plan apply to the whole building stock of the property and includes specific measures related to	The Roof Cadastre is currently extended to Iron and Composite Constructions with special attention to the area of the Ringstraße (as the	End of 2021 as part of the Management Plan and Management System.

		historic roof constructions based on the results of a comprehensive Roof Cadastre and the guidelines provided by way of the Standards for Built Heritage Conservation. ²⁹	threatened to affect valuable examples of baroque mansard roofs as well as remarkable Gründerzeit building stock.	areas / objects according to the list of attributes. The Management Plan includes regulations based on the results of the Roof Cadastre for all future roof extensions and conversions.	latter can be found mainly in this area).	Independently from the Management Plan the <u>Roof Cadastre will be publicly available after completion.</u>
	4	4a: Implementation of a revised design of the Heumarkt Neu project respecting the overall integrity and the authentic character of the logic of the Gründerzeit layout.	At present, the Ringstraße morphology is well maintained (with the exception of minor “disturbances” prior to inscription). The proposed height and building mass would adversely interfere with the historic logic of the ensemble and with its morphology.	The revised project that is not harming the OUV in total and meets said criteria in detail has been assessed through an independent HIA and is either implemented or its implementation guaranteed within the legislative framework (zoning plan / building permission).	<u>Revision of the project currently undergoing a Visual Study and independent HIA to be conducted.</u> HIA concludes that the revised project does not adversely impact upon the OUV of the property including the logic of the Gründerzeit Ensemble, this being a major attribute reflecting the OUV.	Autumn 2020 for the HIA. End of 2021 for the implementation of the revised legal provisions for the revised design. (please also note N1 in this section)
		4b: No further roof top conversions that adversely affect the historic appearance of the Ringstraße ensemble and Gründerzeit layout.	Due to progressing loss of historic fabric in the roof zones the authentic appearance of the urban and architectural heritage of the Gründerzeit era are increasingly threatened.	The Management Plan includes regulations based on the results of the Roof Cadastre and the recommendations provided by the Standards for Built Heritage Conservation for all future roof extensions and conversions.	The Roof Cadastre is currently extended to iron and composite constructions with special attention to the area of the Ringstraße, where these types of constructions mainly appear.	From July 2021 on by way of regular monitoring reports (also note N3 “Protection and Management”)
		4c: No inadequate developments within the area of Ringstraße and Glacis.	<u>Currently the Masterplan Glacis allows</u> for uncertain developments without explicitly mentioning the World Heritage status as a basic	The planning tools (particularly the Masterplan Glacis) have been revised according to the findings of the 2012, 2015 and 2018 missions and the related Committee decisions and are based on sound	The process of developing an integrated management system at present is work in progress.	From July 2021 on by way of regular monitoring reports (also note N3 “Protection and Management”)

²⁹ <https://bda.gv.at/publikationen/standards-leitfaeden-richtlinien/standards-der-baudenkmalspflege/>

			parameter for any intervention.	legal provisions adopted by the City Council of Vienna. The planning tools and regulations are an integral part of the Management Plan that has been reviewed, adopted, implemented and its efficacy proven.		
	5	No further roof top conversions of historically and artistically significant roof constructions.	Roof top conversions in the last years also affected roof constructions of eminent quality, such as originally preserved baroque mansard roofs in the most prominent areas of the property.	The policy based on the results of the Roof Cadastre are implemented through legal measures and encompassed by the Management Plan and related Management System. The Roof Cadastre is available for the public.	<p>The process of developing an integrated management system has been initiated and is work in progress.</p> <p>The Roof Cadastre is currently prepared for publication and shall be extended to iron and composite constructions.</p>	<p>July 2021 for the implementation of the Management Plan.</p> <p><u>End of 2021 for the implementation of the legal provisions on regional level</u> (City of Vienna), which constitute the majority of planning and protection provisions for the property according to the Austrian Federal System. <u>June 2024 at the latest for the implementation of the amended Federal Monuments Protection Act</u> (as the latter applies not only to Vienna but to the whole Federal Republic and has to be adopted by the Austrian Parliament).</p>
	6	<u>No further disturbance of the baroque layout and visual integrity of the Belvedere/Schwarzenberg Complex</u> (Palace and Gardens)	The Belvedere/Schwarzenberg Complex (Palace and Gardens) is a key attribute and major representative	A description of attributes reflecting and representing the OUV is part of the Management Plan. The Belvedere/Schwarzenberg Garden Complex is	The process of developing an integrated management system has been initiated and is work in progress.	July 2021 as integral part of the Management Plan and Management System.

		including the vistas constituting an integral part of the original logic of this baroque Gesamtkunstwerk .	of the OUV of the property. The vista constituting an integral feature of this stellar baroque complex compared to its status at time of inscription is disturbed by high-rises.	anchored in this list as an area of highest protection level. A revised Heumarkt Neu project that constitutes no further interference with this most important vista is either implemented or its implementation is guaranteed within the legislative framework (zoning plan/building permission).	Revision of the project currently undergoing; visual study and HIA to be conducted and project developed to the point that it does not negatively affect the OUV of the property.	
	7	Karlsplatz/Wien Museum/Winterthur Building area is redesigned according to the findings of the 2018 Advisory mission and the related mission report.	The projected redesign was considered a benefit for the area.	The World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies reviewed and agreed to the final designs for the extension and redesign of the Wien Museum and Winterthur Building as well as the new landscape designs.	Final landscape designs were submitted to the World Heritage Centre subsequently to the 2018 Advisory mission. Final designs for the Wien Museum currently are work in progress. Conversion of Winterthur House halted; beginning of conversion works currently not foreseeable.	Final designs for the <u>Wien Museum</u> will be available end of 2020 and submitted with the SOC Report in January 2021. <u>Conversion of Winterthur House</u> only possible according to the design linked to the conversion of the Wien Museum. Regular reports on progress by way of roadmaps and State of conservation reports.
	8	Priority to preservation of historic/original building stock of the property.	Perceived inaccuracies and contradictions in the RSOUV as well as a very permissive interpretation of the Vienna Memorandum lead to a predomination of urban renewal instead of enhanced conservation	The RSOUV has been clearly and definitively interpreted in the reviewed and adopted Management Plan. The property is defined as a protection zone according to the Vienna Building Code. National Monuments Protection is	Enhanced protection provided by a legal provision within the Viennese Building Code concerning all buildings built before 1945 (enacted 2018). Implementation of further protection measures takes place during the procedure of the elaboration of the Management Plan and the implementation of a related	July 2021 for the implementation of the Management Plan. End of 2021 for the implementation of the legal provisions on the regional level (City of Vienna), which constitute the majority of planning and

			of the existing building stock.	strengthened in accordance with the definition of attributes reflecting the OUV of the property.	management system. National Monuments Protection is a constant process based on the Federal Monuments Protection Act; specific provisions concerning World Heritage protection will be amended.	protection provisions for the property according to the Austrian Federal System. <u>June 2024 at the latest for the implementation of the amended Federal Monuments Protection Act</u> (as the latter applies not only to Vienna but to the whole Federal Republic and has to be adopted by the Austrian Parliament).
	9	Historic gardens and green spaces in general receive strong statutory protection and play a major role in preservation and management strategies not least with the aim to support and improve climate conditions in the urban area.	There is a gap in the suite of statutory protection mechanisms for the property, such that important gardens are not adequately protected. Already implemented building projects in historic gardens as well as projected development areas evident in the Masterplan Glacis currently are inconsistent with this goal or could cause harm to the generally well-preserved status of green spaces in the property.	The Masterplan Glacis declares green spaces as strict protection zones. Related regulations are evident in the Management Plan. Regulations are provided for enhanced protection of historic gardens within the national Monuments Protection Act or other legal matters concerned.	The implementation takes place during the procedure of the elaboration of the management plan and the implementation of a related management system. National legal regulations shall be implemented during the current legislators' term that ends in 2024.	January 2021 for submission of the HIA Schwarzenberg Garden. July 2021 for the Management Plan and Management System. Amendment of legal provisions on Federal level until June 2024 at the latest.
	10	Schwarzenberg Garden and Palace are recognized as a major attribute	Contemporary interventions in the historic garden environment	An HIA assessing the developments in Schwarzenberg Garden has been reviewed by the	The HIA is carried out to best international practice guided by adopted Guidelines,	The results of the HIA shall be available by the end of 2020. The

		reflecting the OUV of the property and thus anchored in the list of attributes. The protection is ensured by way of the new comprehensive Management System for the Historic Centre of Vienna as well as by an updated garden care-plan taking in account the results of an independent HIA.	lead to censure and complaints by members of the civil society and experts for historic gardens. Hence the whole area was assessed by the 2018 Advisory mission.	World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS. Recommendations provided by a Technical Review have been implemented in the Management Plan of the property.	by order of the World Heritage Unit in the Federal Ministry for Arts, Culture, Public Service and Sports. The placing of the HIA is work in progress.	implementation in the Management System takes place according to the scheduled timeframe (please note relating sections in this document).
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III. INTEGRITY AND AUTHENTICITY (CM-IA)

	1	The RSOUV is interpreted consistently with the initial intentions as adopted by the World Heritage Committee when the property was inscribed on the World Heritage List.	The current version of the RSOUV gives room to misunderstandings due to perceived inaccuracies and contradictions that have the potential to impair the authenticity and integrity of the property as a whole.	The Management Plan includes an adopted statement on the interpretation of the RSOUV consistent with the initial intention of the World Heritage Committee at the time of inscription.	Not yet started. The statement on interpretation of the RSOUV is part of the elaboration of the Management Plan.	July 2021 within the framework of the Management Plan and Management System.
	2	The German version of the RSOUV does no longer contain any misleading terms.	The German translation until 2018 as well as the current version amplified the potential for misinterpretation of the OUV as mentioned above.	The adopted statement on the interpretation of the RSOUV (see above) is publicly available after official translation.	Not yet started. The statement on interpretation of the RSOUV is part of the elaboration of the management plan.	July 2021 within the framework of the Management Plan and Management System.
	3	Contemporary interventions in the property, its surrounding buffer zone and all areas that have potential visual impacts on the latter are based on sound assessments giving priority to	Most of the recently put in place or projected contemporary interventions referred to the Vienna Memorandum. The latter in this context	The HUL Recommendation constitutes a basic element within the Management Plan and related Management System and the success of this new Management System is proven	The implementation takes place during the procedure of the elaboration of the management plan and the implementation of a related management system.	July 2021 within the framework of the Management Plan and Management System.

		the requirements of a World Heritage property.	was partly misunderstood or misinterpreted. The Historic Urban Landscape (HUL) recommendations currently are not part of planning tools.	through implementation. HIAs are carried out prior to the implementation of projects with potential impact on the authentic character of the property.		
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Annex 3 of the ToR

World Heritage Committee Decision 45 COM 7A.55

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/23/45.COM/7A.Add,
2. Recalling Decisions **37 COM 7B.71**, **39 COM 7B.94**, **40 COM 7B.49**, **41 COM 7B.42**, **42 COM 7A.5**, **43 COM 7A.45**, and **44 COM 7A.32** adopted at its 37th (Phnom Penh, 2013), 39th (Bonn, 2015), 40th (Istanbul/UNESCO, 2016), 41st (Krakow, 2017), 42nd (Manama, 2018), 43rd (Baku, 2019) and extended 44th (Fuzhou/online, 2021) sessions respectively,
3. Commends the State Party on the progress made in implementing many of the adopted corrective measures and previous Committee decisions, with the aim to enhance the management system of the property, in particular:
 - a) anchoring the World Heritage status of the property in the Viennese Building Code as the most important legal planning tool of the City of Vienna,
 - b) elaboration, adoption and publication of a new Management Plan for the property,
 - c) initial steps towards enhanced legal protection of World Heritage in Austria,
 - d) the forthcoming Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for the Schwarzenberg Gardens and related recommendations for greater legal protection of historic gardens,
 - e) ongoing development of the roof cadastre;
4. Encourages the State Party to continue with the implementation of the adopted corrective measures in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies, with a view to achieving the Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR), in accordance with the established timetable to which the State Party has proposed slight revisions;
5. Accepts the revised and updated Management Plan for the property, notes that the corrective measures adopted require that the efficacy of the Management Plan be proven in practice through monitoring and evaluation over a period of five years, and requests the State Party to ensure that subsequent revisions address the matters raised in the 2022 ICOMOS technical review and to report on the proposed monitoring and evaluation process;
6. Reminds the State Party of the Committee's previous requests to submit final plans and designs for the Wien Museum to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies;
7. Acknowledges the efforts by the State Party and many other institutions and organisations to mitigate the negative impact of the proposed Heumarkt Neu project through design amendments, and undertaking an HIA of the revised proposal using a methodology which is

rigorous, authoritative, and compliant with the previous HIA, but notes that this process has not resulted in an outcome, which achieves the DSOCR, including the verification requirements of the corrective measures;

8. Notes also that redevelopment is possible on the Heumarkt Neu site, in order to achieve a project that does not adversely impact the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property necessarily involving a reduction, and further acknowledges the progress made by the State Party in developing a further revised scheme with a reduced height and volume;
9. Further notes that, in line with previous Committee decisions, as well as the DSOCR and its corrective measures for the property, the further revised scheme will need to be assessed using the methodology of previous HIAs and notes furthermore that the determination of height, floorspace and built form which would achieve the desired improvement, such that the proposed development would not adversely impact the OUV of the property, could be pursued through the modelling used to assess visual impact which informed the previous HIAs;
10. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2024**, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 46th session;
11. **Decides to retain the Historic Centre of Vienna (Austria) on the List of World Heritage in Danger.**

ANNEX 5.

PROGRAMME OF THE MISSION AS IMPLEMENTED, WITH THE MISSION EXPERTS AND THE LIST OF PEOPLE MET

Monday, 11th March 2024

When	What and Where	Who participated
	<i>Vienna Concert Hall / Wotruba Hall</i> <i>Lothringerstraße 20, 1030 Wien</i>	
09:00	Welcome	LEA, RV, EJ, NC RP, IM PB, CK, RF MK, FM, BP/CS EW, RS, TM, RZ, MF, FK, IL, PW
09:10	Short Introduction Aims, tasks and topics of the mission Process to date on the implementation of corrective measures	
	Coffee Break (on demand)	
11:00	Heumarkt Neu Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of the area, retrospect and perspectives - 3D city model of the City of Vienna, visualizations, renderings and visibility analysis of the current project status - Presentation of the latest design - Presentation of results of HIA 2+ 	LEA, RV, EJ, NC RP, IM PB, CK, RF MK, FM, BP/CS EW, RS, TM, RZ, MF, FK, IL MN BS, HL MT, DE, TS
12:00	Discussion	
13:00	Light Working Lunch (on site)	All participants to the item
14:00	Walk around Heumarkt Neu area together with representatives of Concert Hall and Ice Skating Club	LEA, RV, EJ, NC RP, IM PB, CK, RF MK, FM, BP/CS EW, RS, TM, RZ, MF, FK, IL DE, TS

		TME, CBE
14:30	Walk to the Upper Belvedere Inspections of vistas from the Upper Belvedere	
15:15	Departure from Upper Belvedere to City Hall (Tram Ride from Upper Belvedere via Ringstraße)	
16:00	Coffee Reception and Conversation with Governor and Lord Mayor Michael Ludwig <i>Vienna City Hall / Lord Mayor's Office</i> <i>Lichtenfelsgasse 2/ 1010 Wien / 1st Floor</i>	LEA, RV, EJ, NC RP, IM PB, CK, RF, CTH MK, FM, CS ML, EW, RS, TM, RZ, MG, GS
17:00 – 19:00	NGOs and Civil Society presentations <i>Vienna City Hall - Assembly Hall of the Senate</i>	LEA, RV, EJ, NC RP, IM PB, CK, RF, CTH MK, FM, MFI, BP, CS EW, RS, TM, RZ, MF, PW
20:00	Dinner (by invitation of the Lord Mayor hosted by the President of the Provincial Parliament of Vienna) <i>Juwel in Media Tower, Taborstraße 1, 1020 Vienna</i>	Permanent Delegation

Tuesday, 12th March 2024

When	What and Where	Who
early morning	Transfer Director Eloundou Assomo to Vienna Airport	
	<i>The Parliament of Austria / Bertha von Suttner Hall</i> <i>(Lokal 4)</i> <i>Dr Karl Renner Ring 3, 1010 Wien</i>	
09:00	Presentation of planning policies, tools and legal provisions (adopted Managementplan including the attributes that convey the OUV of the property, Viennese Building Code, tools related to Building Code)	RV, EJ, NC RP, IM PB, CK MK, CS EW, RS, TM, BS, RZ, MF, FK, IL, CB, WS, AL
09:30	Best practice examples of the Management System from the perspective of the Department for District Planning and Architecture	
10:30	Coffee Break	

(or on demand)		
11:00	Federal Monuments Protection: Draft Law (proposed implementation of World Heritage in the Monuments Protection Act) Roof Cadastre: Status and Perspectives	
11:30	Discussion	
12:30	Working Lunch (by invitation of the Federal Ministry for European and Foreign Affairs hosted by Ambassador Christoph Thun-Hohenstein, Director General International Cultural Affairs) <i>Restaurant Kelsen in Parliament, Dr Karl Renner Ring 3, 1010 Wien</i>	All participants to the item
14:00	City Walk	
16:00	Visit of Schwarzenberg Garden and Palace	RV, EJ, NC RP, IM MK, FM, CS RZ WS, GP, ALI, GK ALO, TH, KP, HT
17:30	Internal discussions (venue tbc)	
19:30	Walk from Hotel to MuseumsQuartier	
20:00	Dinner <i>Glacis Beisl MuseumsQuartier, Breite Gasse 4, 1070 Wien</i>	Permanent Delegation

Wednesday, 13th March 2024

When	What and Where	Who
09:00	Visit of Wien Museum <i>Wien Museum, Karlsplatz 8, 1040 Wien</i>	RV, EJ, NC RP, IM PB BP, FM EW, RS, RZ, FK WS, GP FP
10:30	Coffee Break	

	<i>Wien Museum / Management Meeting Room</i>	
11:00	Presentation HIA Baroque Palaces and Gardens with a focus on Schwarzenberg Garden (site visit on Tuesday, 12 th March)	RV, EJ, NC RP, IM PB BP, FM EW, RS, RZ, FK WS, GP, PW ALO, WT, TH, KP, HT
11:30	Presentation of Hotel Project in Schwarzenberg Garden (site visit on Tuesday, 12 th March)	
12:00	Discussion	
13:00	Lunch Break <i>Trude und Töchter, Wien Museum</i>	All participants to the item
14:00	Final Questions and Closing Debate	RV, EJ, NC RP, IM PB BP, FM EW, RS, TM, BS, RZ, FK, IL WS, GP, PW HT
15:00	Internal Discussion ABs	WHC, Advisory Bodies
17:00	Transfers to Vienna Airport	

Permanent Delegation:

Mission Team UNESCO: Lazare ELOUNDOU ASSOMO LEA (Director UNESCO World Heritage Centre / WHC), Réka VIRAGOS RV (Expert Europa – North America Unit WHC), Nicholas CLARKE NC (Expert ICOMOS International), Eugene Jo EJ (Expert ICCROM)

State Party: Peter BREZOVSKY PB (Head of UNESCO Unit Federal Ministry for European and Foreign Affairs / BMEIA), Ruth PRÖCKL RP (Head of UNESCO World Heritage Unit Federal Ministry for Arts, Culture, Civil Service and Sport / BMKÖS), Irmengard MAYER IM (Expert in UNESCO WH Unit BMKÖS), Representative of the Federal Monuments Office, Michael KLOOS MK (Planning and Heritage Consultancy / HIAs Historic Centre of Vienna and Heumarkt Neu // until 12th March), Ambassador Regina FIGL RF (Permanent Delegation of Austria to UNESCO // 11th March only), Clemens KOJA CK (Federal Ministry for European and Foreign Affairs / BMEIA), Christoph THUN-HOHENSTEIN CTH (Federal Ministry for European and Foreign Affairs / BMEIA)

City of Vienna: Ernst WOLLER EW (President Provincial Parliament of Vienna), Thomas MADREITER TM (Head of Planning Directorate of the City of Vienna), Rudolf ZUNKE RZ (World Heritage Manager Historic Centre of Vienna), Renate SCHIERHUBER RS (Assistant to the President of the Provincial Parliament)

ICOMOS Austria: Bernd PAULOWITZ BP (Monitor of the Historic Centre of Vienna), Christoph SCHWARZKOPF CS (Monitor of the Historic Centre of Vienna)

Austrian Commission for UNESCO: Florian MEIXNER FM (Expert for UNESCO World Heritage), Martin FRITZ MFI (General Secretary)

Experts and representatives according to Program Items:

Legal Provisions, Planning Tools, Attributes and Management Plan:

City of Vienna: Franz KOBERMAIER FK (Head of Department for Architecture and Urban Design), Bernhard STEGER BS (Head of Department for District Planning and Zoning Inner City and South), Irene LUNDSTRÖM IL (Head of Unit for Architectural Review / Department for Architecture and Urban Design), Marlene FUCHS MF (Expert in the Directorate for Urban Planning), Hubert LEHNER HL (Expert Land Surveying Office)

Michael LUDWIG ML (Mayor of Vienna), Margaretha GRIEBLER MG (City of Vienna), Günther SMUNTY GS (Bureau of the Mayor of Vienna),

Federal Monuments Authority: Christoph BAZIL CB (President Federal Monuments Office), Petra WEISS PW (General Conservator Federal Monuments Office), Wolfgang SALCHER WS (Head of Vienna Department Federal Monuments Office)

Heumarkt Neu: Michael TOJNER MT (Owner / Project Developer), Daniela ENZI DE (Managing Director WertInvest / Project Developer), Thomas SCHWED TS (Hochform Architects / Project Planning), Mathias NASKE MN (Director Vienna Concert Hall), Thomas MEIXNER TME (Vienna Ice Skating Club President), Christoff BECK CBE (Vienna Ice Skating Club Vice President)

Schwarzenberg Garden / Belvedere Garden: Maximilian SCHAFFGOTSCH MS (Representative of Schwarzenberg Family Foundation), Thomas HOPPE TH (Hoppe Architekten ZT GmbH / Renovation Schwarzenberg Palace), Wolfgang TSCHAPPELLER WT (Architect), Alexander LOEBUS ALO (hotel project development Schwarzenberg Garden), Katharina PHILIPP KP (Lawyer Maximilian Schaffgotsch) Hartmut TROLL HT (Head of Garden Conservation of the Historic Castles and Parks of Baden Württemberg / HIA Schwarzenberg Garden and Hotel Project), Gerd KOCH GK (Interim Head of Austrian Federal Gardens and Head of Institute for Historic Gardens), Gerd PICHLER GP (Head of Department for Special Matters Federal Monuments Office / Historic Gardens), Agnes LIEBSCH ALI (Federal Monuments Office / Vienna)

Wien Museum: Florian POLLACK FP (Wien Museum, Communication and Development)

Roof Cadastre: Antje LIEBICH AL (Expert Roof Cadastre Federal Monuments Office)

**PROGRESS REPORT BY THE STATE PARTY ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CORRECTIVE MEASURES TO ACHIEVE THE
DSOCR**

	N	INDICATOR FOR THE REMOVAL OF THE PROPERTY FROM THE LIST IN DANGER	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	STATUS 29-02-2024
PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT				
	1	The attributes which reflect and support the OUV of the property are clearly defined	July 2021	<p>COMPLETE: The new management plan builds upon the key attributes of the property providing a description and illustration of the general character of the property. All objects within these key attributes are considered of equal significance and have to be treated accordingly during decision processes related to developments.</p> <p>This methodology prevents from creating areas or objects that do not contribute to the OUV of the property and hence could create gaps that attract developments with potential negative impact on the OUV.</p> <p>The attributes constitute an assessment criterion in the monitoring routines of the authorities of the City of Vienna when evaluating construction projects. Attribute mapping is under consideration for the future. The basis for this are the management plan and the Viennese Building Code.</p>

	2	Sound planning tools and legal provisions foster the safeguarding of the property	Regional Level: End 2021	<p>COMPLETE: on regional level by anchoring of the World Heritage in the Viennese Building Code as most important legal tool for urban planning, adopted by the Vienna Provincial Parliament in two steps on 24th Nov. 2021 and 21st November 2023. In addition to this, the Vienna City Council in May 2017 and November 2023 adopted</p>
				<p>resolutions expressing the strong commitment for World Heritage protection on local level. These instruments are part of the legal planning tools of the City of Vienna.</p> <p>The <i>Masterplan Glacis</i> as planning instrument was cancelled end of 2021.</p> <p>The World Heritage property is defined as an exclusion zone for high-rise buildings in the City of Vienna's overarching planning instruments (High-Rise Concept, Urban Development Plan 2035).</p> <p>For part of the World Heritage property, the Vienna City Council newly adopted the zoning and development plan. An independent study by Professor Stühlinger (Technical University Vienna) analysed how the attribute <i>Gründerzeit</i> should be considered. In principle, the possibilities for roof extensions in the future are therefore very limited. The results of this study were incorporated into the zoning and development plan.</p>

			National Level: Mid 2024	<p>WORK IN PROGRESS: on National Level by way of a resolution of the National Assembly on 8th July 2021 and resulting discussions in order to find the best possible way of enhancing World Heritage protection on national level (initiated by the Federal Ministry for Arts, Culture, Civil Service and Sport in Jan. 2022).</p> <p>From 2022 to 2023, a draft for the amendment of the Federal Monuments Protection Act was elaborated, inter alia, by anchoring World Heritage and introducing new paragraphs to enhance the implementation of the World Heritage convention.</p>
				<p>The parliamentary procedure for adoption of the draft law started in November 2023 with the public evaluation procedure. After reviewing and implementing commentaries, the draft law passed the Council of Ministers on 28th February 2024. The Culture Committee of the National Assembly will discuss the draft on 12th March 2024. The National Assembly shall adopt the amending law in June 2024. The amended Federal Protection Act is due to come into force on 1st September 2024.</p>

PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT	3	A comprehensive Management Plan (MPL) and a related management system are the legal basis for all future decisions concerning the World Heritage property.	July 2021 for the implementation of the MPL	<p>COMPLETE: The Vienna City Council adopted the new Management Plan on 25th November 2021 following the implementation of amendments in accordance with a Technical Review of the draft management plan by ICOMOS International.</p> <p>The World Heritage Committee adopted the Management Plan in its 45th session in Riyadh in 2023.</p> <p>Amendments in accordance with the recommendations by the Advisory Bodies will be subject to the ongoing implementation of the management plan and its future revisions.</p>
		The MPL has been accepted by the World Heritage Committee and formally adopted by the Vienna Council.	End of 2021 for the implementation of the related legal provisions on level of the City of Vienna	<p>COMPLETE: please note above item 2; in addition, the City of Vienna newly defined the tasks of the WH management by way of an official decree on 27th Dec. 2021.</p>

		The efficacy of the MPL is demonstrated in practice by way of regular monitoring reports through the national and international monitors of the property assigned by ICOMOS Austria.	From July 2021 on regularly at least once a year by way of Monitoring Reports	<p>COMPLETE: ICOMOS Austria commissioned two experts with the regular, independent monitoring of the World Heritage property.</p> <p>The City of Vienna anchored the communication with ICOMOS Austria within the newly defined tasks of the management in accordance with the new management plan that is valid since 25th November 2021.</p> <p><u>CONTINUOUS PROCESS:</u></p> <p>The site management is in constant communication with the ICOMOS Austria monitors. For projects with a possible negative impact on the OUV, the Management consults with the ICOMOS Austria monitors. Procedures resulting from these consultations inter alia can be the conduct of HIAs (as elaborated for the hotel project in Schwarzenberg Garden that led to a significant reduction of the initial design).</p>
	4	The MPL includes a comprehensive process for continues monitoring and evaluation that is focused on retention of OUV while sustaining the economic growth of the City of Vienna	Starting from July 2021	<p>COMPLETE: The Management Plan and its related legal and structural provisions are valid since 25th Nov. 2021. The Management Plan was also anchored in the amended Viennese Building Code in November 2023.</p> <p>The item is subject of the regular work of the management. The newly defined tasks of the management provide for all necessary steps in this regard.</p>
	5	Assessment of a revised design for the Heumarkt Neu project by a new HIA based on the results of the HIA 2018 and following this methodology	Autumn 2020 submission of the HIA to the WH Centre for review	<p>Ongoing Process: The City of Vienna submitted a Heritage Impact Assessment on a revised project status ("Plan B") in September 2020. As the assessment did not comply with the ICOMOS guidelines for the conduct of HIAs, the World Heritage centre requested that the HIA be repeated in consultation with the World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS. In the course of this process, a</p>

				<p>design modification was elaborated with the aim of achieving a project status that would be acceptable for the World Heritage property.</p> <p>However, the draft decision for the 45th session of the World Heritage Committee considered the impact of this revised project 2021 still too large and requested a further reduction.</p> <p>To keep with this request, the developer again revised the design, which the World Heritage Committee in its 45th session considered a progress and requested to assess the impact by an HIA.</p> <p>The State Party submitted the respective HIA on 21st December 2023 to the World Heritage Centre for review. The results show a clear improvement with regard to the OUV. With regard to some viewpoints, the expert still identifies effects in the range "strongly negative", even though the detailed analyses of these impacts is already very close to impacts of the existing building stock.</p> <p>ICOMOS International carried out a Technical Review that considers the project proposal 2023 "an important milestone towards developing a project proposal for the Heumarkt Neu that provides all the benefits of the project to the city of Vienna without unacceptable compromising the OUV of the Historic Centre of Vienna". However, ICOMOS concludes that "the project still has unacceptable" impacts on the OUV.</p> <p>The revised project design shall be subject to the evaluation by the Monitoring Mission in March 2024.</p>
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				The further process depends on the results of the Monitoring Mission and the decision by the World Heritage Committee in its 46 th session in July 2024.
ATTRIBUTES				
	1	Implementation of a revised design of the Heumarkt Neu project respecting the integrity and authenticity of the OUV of the property as a whole through an independent HIA	End of 2021 for the complete legal implementation of the respective provisions in accordance with the redesign	<p>Ongoing Process: given the delay caused by the pandemic, the cancellations of the WH COM session in 2020 and 2022 and the new request for a reduction of the project, the completion of the planning process and the related building permissions are still pending.</p> <p>Furthermore, a decision is still pending as to whether an assessment under the Environmental Impact Assessment Act is to be carried out in accordance with the provisions at EU level. In this Environmental Impact Assessment Act, the World Heritage Site is listed as an asset worthy of protection. This decision not least depends on the results of the Monitoring Mission to the property in March 2024 and the Decision by the World Heritage Committee in its 46th session in July 2024.</p> <p>Please also note bullet point 5 / Protection and Management</p>

	2	No further high-rise development within the property as well as in areas affecting its visual integrity	<p>July 2021 for the management plan</p> <p>End of 2021 and 2023 for the implementation of the revised legal provisions on regional level (City of Vienna)</p>	<p>COMPLETE: The amended legal provisions (adoption of amendment of Viennese Building Code) and the newly defined tasks of the management provide for the implementation of World Heritage in the overall urban planning routines.</p>
	3	No further roof top conversions that adversely affect the historic skylines and the overall integrity of the property and enhanced safeguarding of historic roof constructions based on the results of a comprehensive Roof Cadastre and the guidelines provided by way	<p>End of 2021</p>	<p>COMPLETE: The City of Vienna implemented the Roof Cadastre (as part of the management system) in the digital Culture Cadastre https://www.wien.gv.at/stadtentwicklung/grundlagen/dachbodenkataster/index.html</p> <p>In addition to this, the Federal Monuments Authority published the Roof Cadastre in printed and digital version: https://bda.gv.at/forschung/dachkataster-wien-innere-stadt/</p>

		of the Standards for Built Heritage Conservation https://bda.gv.at/publikationen/standards-leitfaeden-richtlinien/standards-der-baudenkmalpflege/		WORK IN PROGRESS: Extension of the Roof Cadastre to include iron constructions is currently work in progress. About 500 additional objects shall complete the existing Roof Cadastre. The whole process from data collection to publication of the results encompasses four phases. The Federal Monuments Office
				currently works on phase one. Progress will be reported on an ongoing basis as part of the SOC reports.
	4	4a: Implementation of a revised design of the Heumarkt Neu project respecting the overall integrity and the authentic character of the logic of the <i>Gründerzeit</i> layout.	Autumn 2020 for the HIA End of 2021 the legal provisions for the revised design	Ongoing Process: Due to the delay caused by the pandemic, the cancellation of the WH COM sessions in 2020 and 2022 and further project revisions related to the decisions by the World Heritage Committee results are still pending. Further steps and finalisation of the process depends on the findings of the Monitoring Mission 2024 and the Decision by the World Heritage Committee in its 46 th session in July 2024.

ATTRIBUTES		4b: No further roof top conversions that adversely affect the historic appearance of the <i>Ringstraße</i> ensemble and <i>Gründerzeit</i> layout.	From July 2021 on by way of regular monitoring reports	<p>COMPLETE: The amended legal provisions (adoption of amendment of Viennese Building Code) and the newly defined tasks of the management provide for the implementation of World Heritage in the overall urban planning routines.</p> <p>For part of the World Heritage Site, the Vienna City Council newly adopted the zoning and development plan. An independent study by Professor Stühlinger (Technical University Vienna) analysed how the attribute <i>Gründerzeit</i> should be considered. In principle, the possibilities for roof extensions in the future are therefore very limited. The results of this study were incorporated into the zoning and development plan.</p>
				<p>The extended roof cadastre of the Federal Monuments Authority will further enhance the work on this subject; this task is currently work in progress.</p>

		4c: No inadequate developments within the area of Ringstraße and Glacis	From July 2021 on by way of regular monitoring reports	<p>COMPLETE: The amended legal provisions (adoption of amendment of Viennese Building Code) and the newly defined tasks of the management provide for the implementation of World Heritage in the overall urban planning routines.</p> <p>In addition, the Glacis Masterplan was cancelled in 2021.</p> <p>The World Heritage Site is defined as an exclusion zone for high-rise buildings in the City of Vienna's overarching planning instruments (High-Rise Concept, Urban Development Plan 2035).</p>
ATTRIBUTES	5	No further roof top conversions of historically and artistically significant roof constructions	<p>July 2021 for the implementation of the MPL</p> <p>End of 2021 for the implementation of the legal provisions on regional level (City of Vienna)</p>	<p>COMPLETE: The amended legal provisions (adoption of amendment of Viennese Building Code) and the newly defined tasks of the management provide for the implementation of World Heritage in the overall urban planning routines.</p> <p>In any case, roof extensions that could have an impact on the OUV must be presented to the Advisory Board for Urban Planning, Urban Design and World Heritage Matters for assessment.</p> <p>The City of Vienna implemented the Roof Cadastre (as part of the management system) in the digital Culture Cadastre.</p>
				<p>https://www.wien.gv.at/stadtentwicklung/grundlagen/dachbodenkataster/index.html</p> <p>The extended roof cadastre of the Federal Monuments Authority will further enhance the work on this subject; this task is currently work in progress.</p>

	6	No further disturbance of the baroque layout and visual integrity of the Belvedere / Schwarzenberg Complex (Palaces and Gardens) including the vistas constituting an integral part of the original logic of this Baroque Gesamtkunstwerk	July 2021 as part of the Management Plan and Management System	<p>COMPLETE: The amended legal provisions (adoption of amendment of Viennese Building Code) and the newly defined tasks of the management provide for the implementation of World Heritage in the overall urban planning routines of the city of Vienna.</p> <p>The hotel project in Schwarzenberg Garden presented during the Advisory Mission 2018 was revised in accordance with the recommendations of an HIA assessing the state of conservation of the Baroque Garden Ensemble. Further mitigation measures to eliminate potential negative impacts by the project have to be implemented by the Federal Garden authorities through restoring the historical status of the neighbouring parts of the Belvedere Garden (Kammergarten).</p>
	7	Karlsplatz / Wien Museum / Winterthur Building is redesigned according to the findings of the Advisory Mission 2018 and the related mission report	Final designs for the Wien Museum will be available end of 2020 and submitted with	<p>COMPLETED: The renovation of Wien Museum was carried out in accordance with the project details presented during the Advisory Mission 2018.</p> <p>Wien Museum re-opened on 6th December 2023. Final plans and a photo documentation were submitted to the World Heritage Centre in August 2023 and along with the State of Conservation report 2024.</p>

			the SOC Report 2020	<p>The Winterthur Building currently remains in place, as there is no final decision on whether to renovate the existing building or to implement a new building in accordance with the designs presented during the Advisory Mission 2018.</p> <p>The new Wien Museum and its setting will also be subject to evaluation by the Monitoring Mission in March 2024.</p>
ATTRIBUTES	8	Priority to preservation of historic / original building stock of the property	<p>July 2021 for the implementation of the management plan</p> <p>End of 2021 for the implementation of the legal provisions on regional level (City of Vienna)</p> <p>June 2024 at the latest for the implementation of the amended Federal Monuments Protection Act</p>	<p>COMPLETE: The amended legal provisions on level of the City of Vienna (adoption of amendment of Viennese Building Code) and the newly defined tasks of the management provide for the implementation of World Heritage in the overall urban planning routines.</p> <p>On national Level within the framework of the National Monuments Protection, the <i>Strategic Target Agreement</i> between the Federal Monuments Authority and the Federal Ministry for Arts, Culture, Civil Service and Sport includes the World Heritage Convention as a legal basis for the enhanced monuments protection in World Heritage properties. In accordance with this new goal, monuments protection is a priority in World Heritage properties.</p> <p>In addition to this, the amendment of the Federal Monuments Protection Act shall anchor World Heritage within the national law and furthermore shall provide for a stronger obligation to maintain monuments protected by the Federal Monuments Protection Act.</p> <p>These legal provisions shall ensure an enhanced protection of historic building stock in the World Heritage property.</p>

				The amended law shall come into force on 1 st September 2024, provided the parliamentary process proceeds as scheduled.
ATTRIBUTES	9	Historic gardens and green spaces in general receive strong statutory protection and play a major role in preservation and management strategies with the aim to support and improve climate conditions in the urban area	January 2021 for the submission of the HIA Schwarzenberg Garden	<p>PARTLY COMPLETED: Due to travel-restrictions caused by the COVID pandemic, the international experts commissioned with the conduct of the HIA were not able to visit Vienna. Preliminary works on the HIA started in summer / autumn 2021. The experts assessed the state of conservation of the historic gardens throughout all seasons and defined recommendations following comprehensive consultations with the staff of the historic gardens and the authorities in charge.</p> <p>During the assessment, an “HIA within the HIA” evaluated potential impacts by a hotel project near the Schwarzenberg Palace (in the part of the garden that is not publicly accessible). The result was a major reduction in order to reduce the visibility of the building. A restoration of the historical height of the hedges in the neighbouring Kammergarten (part of the Belvedere Garden) would eliminate the remaining visual impact of the hotel.</p> <p>The final results of the HIA were submitted to the World Heritage centre along with the State of Conservation report 2024 and includes a set of recommendations for an enhanced protection of historic gardens (in the Historic Centre of Vienna as well as in general).</p>

				The implementation of the recommendations will be subject to a mid- and long term process.
			July 2021 for the Management System.	<p>COMPLETE: The new management plan defines “Historic Gardens, parks and public spaces” as a key attribute; Chapter 5.2 outlines the related field of action.</p> <p>The above-mentioned HIA was carried out based on this definition and assessed the impacts of the building projects on the attribute “Historic Gardens, parks and spaces”.</p>
			Amendment of legal provisions on Federal level until June 2024 at the latest	<p>WORK IN PROGRESS: As a first step in this direction, the new Strategic Target Agreement between the Federal Monuments Authority and the Federal Ministry for Arts, Culture, Civil Service and Sport includes the World Heritage Convention as a legal basis for the enhanced monuments protection in World Heritage properties; this certainly also applies to Historic Gardens.</p>
ATTRIBUTES	10	Schwarzenberg Garden and Palace are recognized as a major attribute reflecting the OUV of the property and thus anchored in the attributes. The protection is ensured by way of the new Management System for	The HIA shall be available by the end of 2020.	COMPLETE: Please note Item 9.

		the Historic Centre of Vienna as well as by an updated garden care-plan taking in account the results of the independent Heritage Impact Assessment.	The implementation in the management system takes place according to the scheduled timeframe	<p>COMPLETE: The new management plan defines “Historic Gardens, parks and public spaces” as a key attribute; Chapter 5.2 outlines the related field of action.</p> <p>Specific measures related to the HIA are subject of the continuous management of the Historic Centre of Vienna in accordance with the newly defined legal provisions and tasks and by including the respective authorities in charge.</p>
INTEGRITY AND AUTHENTICITY				
	1	The statement of RSOUV is interpreted consistently with the initial intentions as adopted by the World Heritage Committee when the property was inscribed on the World Heritage List	July 2021 within the framework of the management plan and management system	<p>COMPLETE: The management plan and related legal and structural provisions on regional level are valid since 25th Nov. 2021 and 21st November 2023.</p> <p>The former misunderstandings in relation to criterion ii ("continuing interchange" versus "permanent change") were clarified during the process for the elaboration of the new Managementplan.</p>
	2	The German version of the RSOUV does no longer contain any misleading terms	July 2021 within the framework of the management plan and management system	<p>COMPLETE: The Austrian Commission for UNESCO launched new translations of the statements of outstanding universal value of all Austrian World Heritage properties. In the course of this procedure, the German working translation of the RSOUV of the Historic Centre of Vienna was amended as requested.</p> <p>Please also note item 1.</p>

	3	Contemporary interventions in the property, its surrounding buffer zone and all areas that have potential visual impacts on the latter are based on sound assessments giving priority to the requirements of a World Heritage property.	July 2021 within the framework of the management plan and management system	<p>COMPLETE: The management plan and related legal and structural provisions on regional level are valid since 25th Nov. 2021.</p> <p>The amended legal provisions (Viennese Building Code), the adoption of the management plan and the related decrees and resolutions by the City of Vienna, insuring the anchoring of World Heritage within the overall planning routines of the City of Vienna, are the basis for a management respecting these aspects.</p>
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OVERVIEW OF THE ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITION FOR THE BELVEDERE PALACE VISITOR CENTRE

(machine translation)

Competition announcement
Document ID: 163632-00

Questions in advance

public contracting authority

Section I: Contracting Authority/Client

I.1 Name and addresses

Official name: Austrian Gallery Belvedere, Scientific Institution under public law
National identification number: 9110016169927
Postal address: Prinz Eugen-Straße 27
Location: Vienna
NUTS code: AT130
Postal code: 1020
Austria
Contact point(s): Bundesimmobiliengesellschaft m.b.H., Business Unit Schools
Phone: +43 502440
E-Mail: office.ubs@big.at

Internet address

Main address: <https://www.big.at/ueber-uns/unternehmensbereiche/schulen/>
Address of the procurer profile:

I.2 Joint procurement

The order documents are available free of charge for unrestricted and complete direct access at
URL for more information: <https://big.vergabeportal.at/Detail/163632>

Provide further information/give

the above-mentioned contact points

Offers or applications for participation must be submitted

electronically via
<https://big.vergabeportal.at/Detail/163632>

I.4 Type of contracting authority

Institution of public law

I.5 Main activity(s)

Leisure, culture and religion

Section II: Subject

Name of the contract: 1030 Vienna, Prinz-Eugen-Straße 27, Visitor Center-Oberes Belvedere, EU-wide, open, one-stage realization competition with a connection Negotiated procedure for the award of general planning services
Reference number of the announcement: 02.078/340-UBS/2023
CPV code main part: 71000000
CPV code main part:

II.2.4 Description of procurement

1030 Vienna, Prinz-Eugen-Straße 27, Visitor Center-Oberes Belvedere, EU-wide, open, one-stage realization competition with connection. Negotiated procedure for the award of general planning services

II.2.13 Information on European Union funds

The contract is related to a project and/or program financed by EU funds: no

Section III: Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.2.1 Information about a special profession

The provision of the service is reserved for a special profession: yes
Specify profession: see competition documents

Section IV: Current procedure

IV.1 Description

Type of competition: Open

Competition types: Realization competition

IV.1.9 Criteria for the evaluation of the projects

:

see competition document

IV.2.2 Closing date for the receipt of projects or applications for participation

Day: 02.02.2024

Local time: 13:00

IV.2.4 Language(s) in which projects can be created or applications for participation can be written

Language(s) in which projects can be created or participation applications can be written: DE

IV.3.1 Information on prices

One or more prizes will be awarded: yes

Number and amount of prizes to be awarded:

see competition document

IV.3.2 Information on payments to all participants

:

IV.3.3 Follow-up orders

A service contract as a result of the competition will be awarded to the winner(s) of the competition: yes

IV.3.4 Decision of the jury

The decision of the jury is binding on the contracting authority: yes

Name of the criterion:

Section VI: Further information

:

VI.4 Legal appeal procedures/review proceedings

VI.4.1 Competent body for appeal/review proceedings

Official name: Federal Administrative Court

Postal address: Erdbergstraße 192-196

Location: Vienna

Postal code: 1030

Austria

Telephone:

E-mail: einlaufstelle@bvwg.gv.at

Fax:

Internet address: www.bvwg.gv.at

VI.4.2 Competent body for arbitration proceedings

Competent body for conciliation proceedings:

VI.4.3 Living of legal remedies

Detailed information on the deadlines for filing legal remedies:

VI.4.4 Body that provides information on the filing of legal remedies

Body that provides information about the filing of legal remedies:

VI.5 Date of dispatch of this notice

Day: 20.10.2023

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION REQUESTED BY THE MISSION

- Final programme with the names of peoples met at each programme item
- Presentations of the State Party representatives and third parties/NGOs
- Visualization of the Heumarkt Neu project (with the available 3D application of the City of Vienna)
- Visualization of the Schwarzenberg Garden hotel project (with the available 3D application of the City of Vienna)
- Information for the last planned project height of the Winterthur building extension and its visualisation if available
- Organigram of the City Council of Vienna, with indication where the site manager(s) is/are embedded
- Description of the tasks/role of the site manager(s)