

State of Conservation Report

"Budapest - the banks of the Danube, the Buda Castle District and Andrásy Avenue" (Hungary) (C400, 400bis)

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List: 1987, extended 2002

Criterion: (ii)(iv)

Area of the World Heritage property: 473.3 ha, buffer Zone: 493.8 ha



Budapest
2025. January

1. Executive Summary of the report

In 2024, the State Party has taken important steps in the management and conservation of World Heritage sites, in parallel with the organisational changes within the World Heritage field in Hungary, which is also an important milestone for the World Heritage Site "Budapest - the banks of the Danube, the Buda Castle District and Andrásy Avenue".

The Ministry of Construction and Transport is committed to fulfilling its obligations under the World Heritage Convention and protecting Hungary's World Heritage sites and national treasures. The State Party of Hungary makes every effort to ensure that developments are implemented in a manner worthy of the World Heritage status, in accordance with the World Heritage Convention, that they do not cause the decrease of universal and national values and their impairment, neither threaten the authenticity and integrity of the site, and that access to the World Heritage site is ensured.

Hungary places particular focus on complying with the guidelines adopted by UNESCO and incorporating them into legislation, both in order to preserve its national heritage and to protect the outstanding universal value (OUV). Hungary always reacts to changes and challenges with innovative solutions. The *"Act on World Heritage"* was drafted in 2011 in this spirit. The Act pays more attention to the protection of monuments, townscape and cultural heritage than any other Hungarian legislation to date, and thus protects the visual links of World Heritage sites more strongly than ever before. The protection of monuments and World Heritage sites has become even stronger with the entry into force of the Hungarian Architecture Act, which aims, among others, to preserve the specific townscape values, improve the quality of life, and preserve and protect our architectural heritage and green spaces.

The Ministry of Construction and Transport is the national competent authority for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention. The tasks of the Deputy State Secretariat for Architectural Strategy include ensuring the operation of the National Council of Architectural Design, strategic architectural tasks, and providing preliminary opinions from the perspective of protecting the national and settlement image. Its aim is to set an architectural example through public investment, respecting and preserving the value of monuments and the townscape.

In 2023, a new World Heritage Management Body has been appointed for the World Heritage property "Budapest - the banks of the Danube, the Buda Castle District and Andrásy Avenue". One of its priority tasks is the preparation of the Management Plan for the property, taking into account the latest guidelines such as the *"Enhancing Our Heritage Toolkit 2.0"* published by ICCROM to assist World Heritage site managers.

In accordance with the above, and in compliance with the Committee Decision 46 COM 7B.8, the State Party invited the Reactive Monitoring Mission for the period 3-7 February 2025. Among others, the results of the Management Plan preparation process will be presented for the experts, creating an important opportunity for a professional dialogue

between the World Heritage Centre, the Advisory Bodies and the State Party, facilitating its finalisation as soon as possible.

Hungary remains open to the dialogue with the World Heritage Centre and its Advisory Bodies regarding its World Heritage Sites, and the following additional information is provided in relation to the conservation reports already submitted, in the hope that our response will help to address concerns about the integrity of the Outstanding Universal Value and provide an opportunity for further professional communication.