Since the 2nd National Congress on Appropriate Interventions for "Safeguarding historic buildings and other monuments" an important scientific tradition is going on with the 3rd national congress concerning "Gentle Innervations for protecting historic building and artefacts – New Directions of Design", which is taking place in Thessaloniki from 9 to 11 April 2009. This Congress progressively builds up the tradition on the topic and seeks to preserve historic buildings and other monuments which constitute an important cultural capital in this country and cover a large part of its material culture. Historic buildings apart from being important monuments – sources of our history, they are excellent elements which enrich the environment of cities and particularly cityscape-townscape. For this reason they worth our intensive care. Not only to preserve them but to use them carefully in ways that may make them live city cells, centres for life, for civilian action and scenes for social behaviour in the environment of contemporary cities. The area of Macedonia and Thrace has a great number of historic buildings to present as well as traditional towns and villages. They are a characteristic part of its civilization. Therefore there is a need that demands an effort to protect and preserve them. And these efforts should be made in accordance to safeguarding their special typology and other characteristics of their own. Moreover all technical and scientific approaches should be covered with the proper scientific coherence. This 3rd congress gives the opportunity to develop ideas and questions and questioning theories around the above topic and I am certain that all this will lead to proper management of our historic continuity and our architectural heritage in particular. Furthermore they will be safeguarding proper quality in dealing with restoring and repairing historic buildings. And to return them to their users with all their authenity preserved as better as possible. The Ministry for Macedonia and Thrace accepting our responsibility for protecting architectural heritage fully supports the present Congress. We take the opportunity to congratulate the organizing committee as well as its scientific committee and offer to them our thanks for the job they have successfully done. With our greetings to the participants we wish all full success and to our guests a pleasant stay in Thessaloniki and Macedonia-Thrace.
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