

SOFIA DECLARATION

ADOPTED BY

ROUND TABLE *Architecture PLUS*
11 MAY 2012, SOFIA

THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

We,

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE ARCHITECTS' COUNCIL OF EUROPE,
THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHAMBER OF ARCHITECTS IN BULGARIA,
THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHAMBER OF ENGINEERS IN THE INVESTMENT DESIGN,
THE PRESIDENT OF THE BULGARIAN CONSTRUCTION CHAMBER,**

In response to the serious challenges posed by the financial crisis as well as climate change, both of which have a strong impact on the economy, the environment and the quality of life of European citizens,

Having considered:

The important fact that the European Council has assigned to the promotion of architectural quality in Europe in its Resolution of 12 February 2001 (2001/C73/04);

The Bristol Accord of March 2006, the Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities of May 2007, the Marseille Statement of November 2008; and the Toledo Declaration of June 2010;

The Europe 2020 Strategy and 2050 Plan, approved by the European Council on 17 June 2010 followed by Communication of the European Commission "EUROPE 2020: A strategy for intelligent, sustainable and involving growth" of 3 March 2010 (COM/2010/2020);

and

Taking into account the role of architecture in the health and social welfare, environment and economy in Europe:

We call on EU national and local governments and all organisations responsible for the built environment and the well-being of the citizens, to work on and to ensure the establishment of legal and financial instruments that guarantee that procurement of architectural and construction services is based on:

1. Consideration for a holistic and integrated procurement process that respects the efficient use of resources and our rich and diverse built-heritage, by taking into account the three pillars of sustainability- social, economical and environmental;
2. Consideration for adequate community consultations and involvement in the procurement procedures, including the use of architectural design contests when procuring works of major public interest.

3. Consideration for long-term planning rather than prioritising short term goals, applying life-cycle cost analysis throughout the procurement process, and the principle of "the economically most advantageous offer" rather than "the lowest price" option in the assessment criteria.
4. Consideration for adequate building control procedures throughout the procurement and construction process in favour of the citizens health and safety, the quality and stability of the built environment and optimal operational and maintenance costs.

For

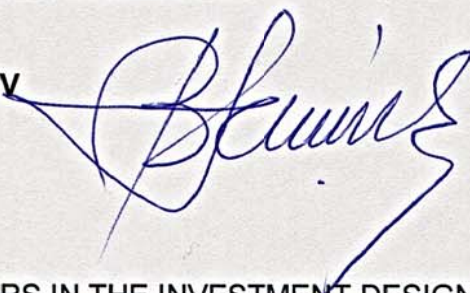
THE ARCHITECTS' COUNCIL OF EUROPE

ARCH. SELMA HARRINGTON
President



THE CHAMBER OF ARCHITECTS IN BULGARIA

ARCH. VLADIMIR DAMYANOV
Chairman



THE CHAMBER OF ENGINEERS IN THE INVESTMENT DESIGN

ENG. STEFAN KINAREV
Chairman



THE BULGARIAN CONSTRUCTION CHAMBER

ENG. SVETOSLAV GLOSSOV
Chairman

