

ABSTRACT - 4. CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES IN HERITAGE DISCOURSE - A CRITICAL EXAMINATION OF THE STATE OF THE ART IN HERITAGE DISCUSSIONS, CONSIDERING THE EVOLVING PERSPECTIVES AND CHALLENGES THAT HAVE EMERGED SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE VENICE CHARTER. EXAMINING THE RELEVANCE OF THE VENICE CHARTER IN THE CURRENT CONTEXT, WITH A FOCUS ON CHALLENGES POSED BY THE WESTERN DIVIDE BETWEEN NATURE AND CULTURE, THE GROWING IMPORTANCE OF METROPOLISES, SOCIAL INEQUITIES, THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF HUMAN ACTIVITIES, DISASTERS AND CONFLICTS, AMONG OTHERS.

### **THE VENICE CHARTER UNDER CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES**

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The Venice Charter completes sixty years since its adoption. As a result of a very different context from what we currently find, it is inevitable to take a critical look at the contents involved in the Charter. The aim, then, is to draw parallels between the issues addressed in its writing and the problems and questions that surround the field of cultural heritage today, especially with regard to built heritage – just as the letter is presented: about conservation and restoration of monuments and sites. Through a bibliographical review and focusing on the main critics regarding the Charter, the objective is to understand how the text can be (re)interpreted based on new heritage discussions encouraged by international organizations, such as Icomos and Unesco. If management is integrated into the discourse mainly in the last decade, as well as the approach

to people and communities that experience cultural heritage, through social participation, the question arises how a current reading of the Charter can be carried out and what questions can be raised for its review, even if the integrity of the objectives sought sixty years ago is respected. Would it be possible, then, to take a contemporary look at the Venice Charter, or would an alternative be to replace it with a new document? And, if a new look is possible, how can social participation and the management of monuments and sites be interpreted in this document, already so consolidated among theorists and managers of cultural heritage? This exercise is not, and should not be, exclusive to the 1964 Charter, but a constant effort among the documents and bibliographies consolidated in the heritage field.

Palavras-chave: venice charter; heritage management; social participation.