Cultural heritage in crisis and post-crisis situations

Speaker: John Bold, University of Westminster

The deliberate destruction or damaging of buildings and cultural artefacts has been a strategy in conflict for thousands of years. The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe has recently considered the problem anew in light of the wars in the former Yugoslavia in which destruction of artefacts aimed to eradicate the culture, identity and existence of the ‘other’. The lecture will explain the context and content of these recent deliberations and will suggest that guidelines for the protection and reconstruction of damaged or destroyed cultural heritage should be prepared as part of a larger strategy for preserving cultural identity and diversity.

(Image: The Mostar Bridge, Bosnia & Herzegovina, after reconstruction)

Short Bio:

John Bold is Reader in Architecture at the University of Westminster. Previously he was Head of Architecture at the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England. He has acted as a consultant on documentation and heritage management to the Technical Co-operation and Consultancy programme of the Council of Europe since 1989, contributing in this capacity to a mission and report on a Documentation and Inventory System for Cyprus (1995). He has written essays and books on English architecture, heritage management and documentation, including most recently the co-authorship of Discovering London’s Buildings and the co-editing of The Politics of Heritage Regeneration in South-East Europe. He is currently editing a book of essays on reconstruction.

Date: Thursday, 10 November 2016

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Room: Ground Floor Exhibition Area, Department of Architecture, Ledras 68, 1010, Nicosia