

City of Ljubljana



**WORLD
HISTORICAL
CITIES**



19th Conference Venue - Center Rog

129 Member Cities

AFRICA

Alexandria / Algiers / Fès / Giza / Luxor / Tunis

ASIA

Andong / Buyeo / Chengdu / Chiang Mai / Dujiangyan / Gongju / Gyeongju / Hanoi / Harbin / Himeji / Hue / Kaesong / Kamakura / Kanazawa / Kathmandu / Kurunegala / Kyoto / Lahore / Masuda / Matsue / Nanjing / Nara / Suwon / Taichung / Tainan / Ulaanbaatar / Varanasi / Vigan / Vyas / Wuxi / Xi'an / Yangon / Yangzhou / Yogyakarta / Zhengzhou

EUROPE

Alba Iulia / Amsterdam / Athens / Bad Ischl / Barcelona / Bordeaux / Bratislava / Brussels / Budapest / Chernivtsi / Cologne / Constanța / Córdoba / Corinth / Dublin / Edinburgh / Florence / Geneva / The Hague / Helsingborg / Iași / Izhevsk / Kazan / Klaipeda / Kraków / Kutaisi / Kyiv / Lisbon / Ljubljana / Lutsk / Lviv / Minsk / Montpellier / Mtskheta / Nicosia / Niš / Norwich / Odesa / Paris / Prague / Riga / Rome / Santiago de Compostela / Sarajevo / Sheki / Shusha / South East Region of Malta / Strasbourg / Tashkent / Termez / Veliko Tarnovo / Venice / Vienna / Vladimir / Zagreb

LATIN AMERICA

Cartagena / Cuenca / Cusco / Guadalajara / Mexico City

MIDDLE EAST

Ankara / Ardabil / Baghdad / Bursa / Hebron / Isfahan / Istanbul / Jerusalem / Kashan / Kong / Konya / Masouleh / Nayshabur / Osmangazi / Şanlıurfa / Selçuklu / Semnan / Shiraz / Tabriz / Tehran / Yazd

NORTH AMERICA

Boston / Montreal / Quebec City

PACIFIC

Ballarat / Melbourne / Norwood Payneham and St Peters / Whanganui

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—Creating a Vibrant Walkable City Centre through Sustainable Urban Mobility

Dear Mayors and Colleagues,

Ljubljana is proud to be the host city of the 19th World Conference of the Historical Cities and we are delighted to invite the mayors of LHC member cities to visit our beautiful city between 12 and 14 November.

Under the central theme of "Creating a Vibrant Walkable City Centre through Sustainable Urban Mobility," this conference will serve as a platform for Mayors and representatives from historical cities around the world to come together and engage in fruitful discussions on strategies to promote sustainable urban mobility and enhance the vitality of our city centres. The conference venue, the newly renovated historical bicycle factory Center Rog, stands as a testament to Ljubljana's commitment to invest in cultural infrastructure and preserving its rich historical heritage. This innovative space will provide an inspiring backdrop for our discussions as we explore ways to integrate sustainable mobility solutions into our historic urban landscapes. Throughout the conference, the participants will have the opportunity to exchange ideas and best practices for creating walkable city centres that prioritize pedestrian-friendly infrastructure, and also discuss challenges and opportunities in implementing sustainable mobility initiatives within historical contexts.

Your presence and contributions to the conference are invaluable as we work together to address the complex challenges facing our historical cities and pave the way for a more sustainable and vibrant future. We believe that your city's unique perspective and experiences will greatly enrich our discussions and inspire actionable solutions for promoting sustainable urban mobility and preserving our cultural heritage. Should you require any further information or assistance regarding the conference, please do not hesitate to contact us at lhc2024@ljubljana.si.

Thank you for considering our invitation. We eagerly anticipate the possibility of welcoming you to Ljubljana this November for what promises to be a memorable and productive event.

Warm regards,

Zoran Janković, Mayor of Ljubljana

Dejan Crnek, Deputy Mayor of Ljubljana

Koji Matsui, Chairperson of the League of Historical Cities
/ Mayor of Kyoto

CONCEPT

By incorporating urban mobility and sustainability and also by redeveloping pedestrian paths in historical cities, we can enhance or better yet create connectivity among buildings, services, public facilities and green spaces. Valuing built heritage and promoting active and sustainable mobility is synonymous with wellbeing, protecting cultural heritage, and social inclusion. The theme of 19th World Conference of Historical Cities in Ljubljana aims to present case studies, policies, and practices as well as to share knowledge for development of sustainable human-centred historic towns and cities.

OFFICIAL LOGO



It derives from the urban design of the 1970s, representing a city with five branches (arterial roads), between which green wedges cut into it, as a bridge between the past and the present, and between the nature and the urbanity. Ljubljana, a historical city, with its past and cultural heritage, is imbued with a modern pulse. The green colour symbolizes sustainability, safety and balance, thereby underlining the city's role as the European Green Capital 2016. Five green wedges lead to the historic centre, representing a journey through time and space, and connecting us to history, culture and the environment. The logo is thus a guide to discovering Ljubljana in all its beauty, richness and diversity, and also a reminder of our embeddedness in an uninterrupted history.

Ljubljana City Tour

The city tour could offer an ideal opportunity to learn about sustainable urban development.

City of Ljubljana strictly restricts and controls automobiles in its city center. Alternatively, throughout the city, you can ride the four-wheel electric vehicles called Kavalir, the free city-center public transport, and utilize the bike-sharing system named BicikeLJ.

The city initiated the sustainable urban mobility in 2007, and since then it has preserved its historic cityscape, maintaining the quality of citizens' lives. In recognition of its significant efforts, the city received the European Green Capital Award in 2016.

Furthermore, the tour participants may find at various parts of the city the works of the great architect, Jože Plečnik, Slovenia's world-renowned architect and urban planner.

The tour will show the remarkable aspects of City of Ljubljana, which will definitely help each participant to tackle the challenges in its own city.



Škofja Loka, a Medieval Old Town

An hour and a half drive from Ljubljana will take you to Škofja Loka, a medieval European town. Strolling through the old town, you will notice that the streets and buildings have been preserved to the best of their condition; the town experienced two major earthquakes in the 15th and 17th centuries, but it was rebuilt with great effort. The town is also famous for the Passion Play, Slovenia's largest open-air theater, which was registered as a UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2016. Walking up the hill, you will reach the Škofja Loka Castle, which was built in the 14th century. The castle is now open to the public as a museum, introducing the industry and history of the town.



We are pleased to inform you that the official conference website will open from 1st June, 2024. Please visit [the website](#) for further details and registration.

Registration fee

500 EUR *



For more
Information.



* The fee covers the following expenses:

- Participation fee
- 3-nights accommodation at the [City Hotel Ljubljana](#) (IN: 11 Nov., OUT: 14 Nov. 2024)
- Meals during the conference
- City Tour and Excursion
- Transportation from/to Ljubljana airport

Venue

Centre Rog

Address : Trubarjeva cesta 72, 1000 Ljubljana

Website : <https://www.center-rog.si/en/about-us/>

Keynote Speaker

Prof. Janez Koželj, architect and former Deputy Mayor of Ljubljana

Janez Koželj, born in Ljubljana, architect, was a full professor at the Ljubljana University's Faculty of Architecture, where he lectured on urban design. In his research work he systematically focused on the study and development of operational methods in the design of the contemporary city. In his professional work he verifies theoretical findings in urban studies of city development and restructuring projects for urban brownfields. From 2006 to 2022, he was Deputy Mayor of Ljubljana in charge of urban planning and initiated the closure of Ljubljana's city centre to car traffic in 2007. Among many other awards, he was honoured with Honorary Membership of the Slovenian Chamber of Architects for his significant contribution to the development of the profession. In May 2024, he was awarded the title of Honorary Citizen of Ljubljana.

Program

12 Nov.
Day 1

10:00 - 12:00	Opening Ceremony - Opening Remarks - Keynote Speech by prof. Janez Koželj
12:00 - 13:30	Lunch
13:30 - 15:00	Session 1 - Round Table I
15:00 - 15:30	Coffee Break
15:30 - 17:00	Session 2 - Round Table II
19:00	Welcome Dinner

13 Nov.
Day 2

9:00 - 12:00	Session 3 - Youth Forum (Opening of the exhibition) Session 4 - Workshop by Experts
12:00 - 13:30	Lunch
13:00 - 14:30	<Group 1> 2024 Board of Directors Meeting
13:30 - 17:30	<Group 2> Excursion to Škofja Loka
18:30	Dinner

14 Nov.
Day 3

9:00 - 12:00	Official City Tour
12:00 - 13:30	Lunch
13:30 - 15:30	2024 General Assembly - Report of the Board of Directors Meeting
	Closing Ceremony of the 19th World Conference - Signing the Ljubljana Declaration - Closing Remarks

Call for Presenters for the Roundtable and the Expert Meeting

1. Roundtable

Intended for discussions among mayors, deputy mayors, and city representatives. The themes are as listed.

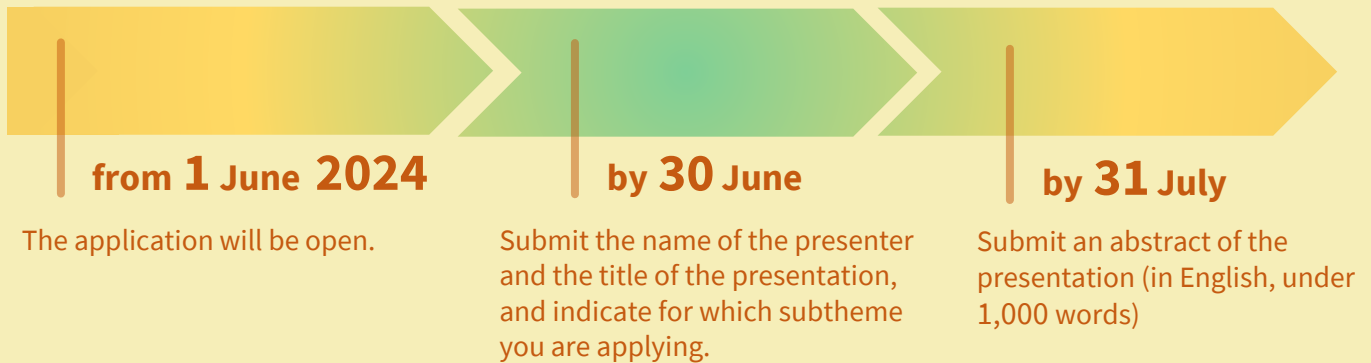
- “Walkability as a factor in the quality and attractiveness of historic urban areas”
- “Challenges and ways to implement sustainable mobility in historic cities”

2. Expert Meeting

- “Sustainable mobility as a safeguard against the deterioration of cultural heritage”

3. Conditions for Application

- Presentation should not exceed 15 minutes.
- If we have too many applicants, screening might be conducted based on the abstracts submitted.



Call for Participants in Youth Drawing Contest and Children Literature Exhibition

Youth Drawing Contest

We are looking for imaginative artworks that capture the essence of your city's heritage and the main attractions. Whether it is a historic building or any other iconic symbols that represent your city, we want to see your unique interpretation.

Theme

“Preserving Our Past, Imagining Our Future”

Conditions

- 1 piece of artwork per LHC member cities
- 7-to-15-year-old students in the LHC member cities
- 1 work per person, in 30cm×50cm size, using free technique and style
- Submission should be made in a digital format (.pdf file).



Exhibition of Children Literature

We invite you to submit children's books to be exhibited at the conference venue. We are seeking a diverse collection of children's books that showcase your city's unique heritage, landmarks, folklore and historical events.



Conditions

- 1 book per LHC member cities
- Submitted book must be related to the theme of local heritage and suitable for children aged 3-12
- Send a digital copy of the book cover, name of the author and/or illustrator and a brief synopsis in English

Note

All submitted works will be exhibited at the conference venue.
The contest is open to applicants residing in member cities of the LHC only.

Applications will be accepted **from 1 June to 30 September 2024**.
For further details, please visit [the website](#).

Dear Members,

松井 寿治

I am honored to announce that I have assumed the office of the 27th Mayor of Kyoto and appointed to the Chairperson of the League of Historical Cities. As Chairperson of the League, where the global historical cities have closely interacted for over 30 years since 1994 when it started, I now feel a sense of large responsibility for challenging mission.

We are now facing with serious crises including the conflicts occurring all over the world, rapid climate change, the pandemic, and others. In such an unforeseeable era, the historical cities, the creation of human wisdom, is to play an ever-greater role. The World Conference of Historical Cities offers an important opportunity to share intelligence on the model cases and the successful practices beyond differences of countries and ethnic groups, and to strengthen cooperation among cities. As Chairperson, I shall exert my fullest efforts to further develop this marvelous network of cities, and together with all member cities, I shall realize the secured succession and development of historical cities, and world peace.

I highly appreciate your continuous active participation and close cooperation with us. I look forward to seeing all of you in Ljubljana this fall.

MATSUI Koji

Chairperson / Mayor of Kyoto

**Jože Plečnik, architect**

Born in Ljubljana in 1872. After a successful career in Vienna and Prague, he was invited as a professor at the Ljubljana University and returned to his hometown in 1921, where he embarked on urban planning. His work contributed to Ljubljana's new identity as the capital of Slovenia after the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

**Center Rog**

A newly renovated public facility that opened in 2023. It was used as a bicycle factory in the 20th century. As a place to promote Slovenian creative sector, it has Fab Labs, workshops and small shops with variety of hand made products. It serves as community space as well as a space for gathering, international conferences and exhibitions.



The League of Historical Cities Secretariat

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