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Old City of Zamość - 22 years on the World Heritage List

Urban complex was under conservation protection already in 1936. The entry in the register of monuments was revived in 1966, including Renaissance town and the circuit of fortification, as a historic complex of the highest values in the world which is an example of creation of urban plans based on the theory of ideal cities, realized by the architectural concept, developed and enriched under the supervision of engineers of Zamość fortress to the nineteenth century, and supplemented building structures from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. In the Old City of Zamość there is a total of about 160 objects, of which more than 100 objects is individually listed in the Register of Monuments, including outstanding works of architecture such as: the cathedral, the town hall, the building of the academy, the churches of the Franciscans and St. Catherine, Zamoyski's Palace, Jewish Synagogue.

In 1992 Old City of Zamość, along with fortifications was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List, as a perfect example of Renaissance town of the late sixteenth century, which has kept the original plan, fortifications and numerous buildings connected Italian and central European architectural traditions. Historical city within the nineteenth century fortifications, on 8 September 1994 was considered under decree of the President of the Republic of Poland as the Historical Monument.

Due to the great cultural achievements, the city authorities have a duty to properly manage heritage in UNESCO place. Supreme law in Poland is the Act on the protection of monuments and care of monuments, which requires that the owner of the monument (in the case of Zamość – local authorities) to fund any work on the monument. Unfortunately, the Act does not contain a separate legal regulations concerning cultural property inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List. Although the registration does not increase funding activities in the field of heritage protection by the state, to a large extent allows acquisition of European Union funds for this purpose.

Currently revitalization is one of the most important tools in the development of the city. Due to the wide range of activities generates large financial costs. The most valuable substance town of Zamość for many years has not enough funds and fell into disrepair. In the years 2004 – 2014 there have lasted thorough maintenance and revitalization process. Consistent revitalization program, financed by external funds about 75%, enabled the restoration of the Old City of Zamość authentic cultural values represented by the World Heritage Site.

Ability to raise external funds should not replace the system of financing the protection of cultural heritage in the country. The height of the city's own income is significantly different from the level of expenditures necessary for the preservation and restoration. Cultural heritage plays an important social role in Poland and the Polish people believe that it is worthwhile to invest public money in the protection of monuments. Status of the place, a UNESCO World Heritage Site obliges municipalities to careful and gradual care for restoration the splendor of the historical complex of Zamość.