



RUSSIAN ARCHITECTS' OPPOSITION TO A TOWER IN SAINT PETERSBURG

The Union of Architects of Russia is fighting the decision to build a **tower over 300m high in the historic city centre of Saint Petersburg**, which is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site. This plan, initiated by Gazprom, was the object of an international competition organised without consultation with the UIA. It has been **severely criticised** by many cultural institutions and personalities from the world of architecture.

Gaetan Siew, UIA President, addressed a letter to the Russian Federation President, **Vladimir Putin**, to express the UIA's **support for the position** taken by the Union of Architects of Russia, and its concern over this situation and this **process in flagrant contradiction** to the UNESCO-UIA regulations for international competitions, the UIA Accord on Recommended International Standards of Professionalism in Architectural Practice, and the International Code of Ethics on Consulting Services.

For more information

<http://www.uia-architectes.org/texte/england/Menu-2/1-nouvelles.html>

To consult the UIA reference documents

<http://www.uia-architectes.org/texte/england/Menu-4/X-liste.html>

UIA CORPORATE PARTNERS

Construction industry manufacturers are among the partners vital to the architectural profession worldwide. By establishing a group of UIA Corporate Partners, the Union intends to set up a **network of receptive collaborators**, capable of responding to architect's demands and expectations.

These partners should be:

- **Multicultural**: able to adapt to different building contexts, cultures, and environments
- **Innovative and creative**: offering solutions and services rather than simple products
- **Contributors to meeting the challenges** facing the built environment: sustainable development, global comfort, universal accessibility
- Capable of **communicating with architects in all countries**, responding to their professional requirements, the specific demands of their projects, their aspirations, and their technical and cultural expectations.

Information

uia@uia-architectes.org

www.uia-architecte.org

CANADA

ART IN ARCHITECTURE PROGRAMME

The Royal Architectural Institute of Canada is **raising awareness** about the profession in **high schools** around the country through a programme called *Art in Architecture*, that allows students to **tour buildings without leaving the classroom**. The core element of the programme is a DVD entitled **In Search of a Soul** that describes the design process leading to the **Canadian War Museum in Ottawa**. The video covers several curriculum subjects including science, philosophy, and history, and is part of a presentation that often includes participation by **noted architects**.

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HUNGARY

**RESPONSIBILITY-ARCHITECTURE**

On **10 March 2007**, Budapest will host an international conference on the theme *The Responsibility of Architecture – The Responsibility-architecture*. Organised by various media from Hungary, Germany, Austria, and the Czech Republic, and supported by the Association of Hungarian Architects, this annual event expects to see close to 700 participants. As part of this session, **Reischl Gabor**, president of the association, along with **Kengo Kuma**, **Jan Kaplicky**, and **Wolf D. Prix** will address participants and present their works.

Further information and registration

www.archiweb.hu/convention

POLAND

**ARCHITECTURE ICONS**

From **9 February to 11 March 2007**, the Polish Institute of Dusseldorf will present an exhibition entitled *Poland. Icons of Architecture*. Presented for the first time in Warsaw where it was inaugurated in the presence of Gaetan Siew, UIA President, this travelling exhibition is dedicated to the flagship buildings of **contemporary Polish architecture**. Organised with the support of the **SARP**, by the magazine **Achitektura Murator** and the Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs, the exhibition aims to promote Polish architecture among the general public throughout the world.

For more information

<http://www.polnisches-institut.de/veranstaltungen.php?kategorie=1>

USA

**THE 2010 IMPERATIVE**

On **20 February 2007**, the American Institute of Architects is holding an on-line, educational conference entitled *The 2010 Imperative - global emergency teach-in*, that asks the question **Are you being trained for the world you will live in?** Intended for a global audience, it addresses all schools of architecture, their students and teachers, and all stakeholders in the built environment. It proposes a mobilisation on the issue of climate change and global warming. The global teach-in will be animated by **Susan Szenasy** (Metropolis Magazine), **James Hansen** (NASA GISS), **Edward Mazria** (AIA), and **Chris Luebke** (Arup).

For more information or to participate

www.2010imperative.org

MEXICO

SARA TOPELSON DE GRINBERG APPOINTED AS A MEMBER OF FELIPE CALDERON'S GOVERNEMENT

Sara Topelson de Grinberg was recently named **Under Secretary of Urban Development and Territory Planning** alongside Maria Beatriz Zavala Peniché, Minister of Social Development for the Mexican Republic.

Sara Topelson de Grinberg served as **president of the UIA** from 1996 to 1999, after serving successive terms of office as a Member of Council (1990-1993) and as UIA Vice-President for Region III (1993-1996).

BSH

STUDY GRANTS TO PAKISTAN

Until **16 February 2007**, applications are being accepted for the bursaries offered by the **British Building and Social Housing Foundation** to participate in its study visit, to take place 24 May to 3 June, to the site of **The Aga Khan Planning and Building Service, Pakistan - Building and Construction Improvement Programme**. This programme, which received one of the BSHF 2006 World Habitat Awards, has developed and manufactured environmentally appropriate housing products for approximately 70 000 inhabitants in 125 villages in the north and the Chitral region of Pakistan.

Building and Social Housing Foundation

www.bshf.org

wah@bshf.org

Aga Khan Planning and Building Service, Pakistan

http://www.akdn.org/news/2006sept4_bacip.htm

SEVILLA

EUROPEAN CITIES IN FAVOUR OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

On **21 - 24 March**, Sevilla will host the 5th International Conference for Sustainable Cities and Towns. On the theme *Taking the Commitments to the Streets*, it will examine the Aalborg Commitments and **Aalborg Charter** that were signed by 350 European cities upon their publication in 1994, and now count over 2 500 signatories. The conference will highlight the tools, ideas, and methods recently developed, encourage sustainable development through local action, and get the next generation involved by giving the floor to a delegation of motivated young Europeans.

www.sevilla2007.org

For more information on the Aalborg Commitments and Charter

<http://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/IMG/agenda21/textes/aalborg.htm>

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