In the search for “the soul of city,” the UIA congress has highlighted the endeavors of architects as an alternative search in facing urban problems. In the contemporary age, the task of architects goes beyond the professional realms and expands into a social participation that can embrace our congress theme, the soul of city.

NATURE
Nature takes revenge on the soullessness of urbanization with fine dust, climate change, and diseases of domesticated animals of being born as our food. Thus, architects perceive the effort of nature to re-naturalize itself, and make every effort on natural rehabilitation of cities. In doing so, nature enlightens sustainable technologies. Therefore, we, as architects, reflect the cultural, historical and social demands on our works, to be complementary and compatible to nature.

CULTURE
The soul of culture creates unique and collective culture in a place and develops a collective sense of sympathy to urban settings. Therefore, architects arouse the cultural memes among old and new through emphasizing each era’s modernity, as well as shape cities with latent spiritual values, awakening the soul of culture. Architects stimulate a civic sense on historical and cultural accumulation, with architecture that reveal hidden and latent meanings of a place and culture.

FUTURE
The soul of future in the city is based on human and environment rather than cold-capital. We, architects fill the city with public spaces that people can share with warm-hearted open minds. Embracing the soul of future within the architecture and infrastructure of a city, architects evoke the sense of caring of urban environments through architectural intervention in infrastructures.

The soul of city in the 21st century cannot be attained through old regimes of historical and ecological viewpoint only. UIA Seoul aims to nurture the public to widen their understanding of their cities and architecture to motivate one’s caring of living.