



27th UIA World Congress of Architects, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil ***All the Worlds. Just One World.***

*Statement of the president of the Brazilian Institute of Architects
February 2020, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris*

Six years ago, the Institute of Architects of Brazil decided to present the candidacy of Rio de Janeiro to the International Union of Architects to host, for the first time in Brazil, the World Congress of Architects.

Our main motivation is the understanding of the essential role of the architect in developing solutions to the day-to-day problems of our huge cities.

Rio de Janeiro, whose metropolitan region has 13 million inhabitants, is an extremely rich example of the complexity and challenges of world cities.

The opportunity to bring together, in Rio, thousands of architects from all over the world, in addition to public managers and professionals from similar areas, is the ideal situation to understand what brings us together, what differentiates us and what solutions have been adopted in the different regions of the planet, to face similar problems.

The general theme “All the worlds. Just one world. Architecture 21” is developed in four axes that depart from universal issues to understand how we, architects, can contribute to create better living conditions in a world in constant transformation.

An increasingly integrated and uniform world, but in which it is necessary to preserve the singularities of each place.

A world in which environmental, technological and social changes demand new ways of working in architecture.

A world in which globalization blurs frontiers and enhances mobility, but at the same time, it intensifies inequalities and threatens the environment.

Rio de Janeiro is a privileged city to help us think about the architecture for the 21st Century.

Rio, whose exuberant landscape, result of the astonishing encounter between mountain and sea, enchants and seduces tourists and artists from the five continents and was inscribed by Unesco in the World Heritage List.

Rio that, more than half a century ago, became the mecca of modern architecture, through interventions by names like Oscar Niemeyer and Roberto Burle Marx.

Rio that, since 1992, has centralized global debates on environmental problems.

Rio, a city of contrasts and favelas that, in the last decades, showed to the whole world how architecture and urbanism can transform the life of people in the most fragile communities.

Rio is a unique laboratory on how architecture can collaborate to face the contemporary challenges of a world in rapid transformation.

It is in this context that Rio will host the 27th World Congress of Architects, a moment for reflection and elaboration of proposals for the construction of a better world.



Architects, researchers, builders, social movements, technology and systems companies, academic and multilateral institutions, political and national representations are invited to exchange experiences, to debate and to formulate proposals for the future of cities.

It is a meeting to help build more socially just cities, with opportunities for everyone.

As we know, this is done with ideas, but not only with ideas. It is also done with technology, with science, with business, with good will and with art and beauty.

The Congress will be held in Rio, but it is a congress of the world, of each of its countries, of all countries.

What do we want for cities and metropolises in the world that also reveal themselves in inequality and segregation?

What are the good experiences in the world regarding the construction of social housing and equipment? And infrastructure? What are the good experiences and good systems for mobility? As for technology, planning and management of cities and metropolises?

And what about the reality of favelas, central to this century's city?

What commitments need to be made?

Can we build a common agenda for 2025 and 2030?

Each of your experiences will be most welcome.

From the political-conceptual point of view, we will not be starting from scratch.

We are supported by the experience of previous meetings. In UN resolutions and proposals, as well as UN-Habitat, Unesco, G20 and World Urban Forums.

Relevant themes such as climate, inequality, gender issues, among others, have mobilized worldwide efforts. However, little is seen about its developments in the city space.

For example: income inequality is certainly heightened in cities that have a shortage of public services. How are our countries addressing this issue?

Global warming is a reality. How do our cities tackle the issue of mobility, which is highly damaging to the climate?

What are we doing to reduce energy costs in real estate construction?

The 27th World Congress wants to be a significant agent for a better world. For that, we need everyone's participation, sharing their experiences.

In a brochure that you have received, you will find more information.

Each person will be very welcome in Rio, a city that knows how to welcome with sympathy, with a positive spirit and, why not say, knows how to welcome also with joy and celebration.

All the worlds. Just one world. Architecture 21.

Rio 2020.