

# Keynote Speakers

Francesco Bandarin



Francesco Bandarin is the former UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Culture. He was the Director of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre from 2000 to 2011. He studied Architecture at the Institute of Architecture of Venice, Italy and City and Regional Planning at the University of California, Berkeley, USA.

He is Professor of Urban Planning at the University Institute of Architecture of Venice. For over 20 years, he has been consultant for international organizations in the field of urban conservation and development. He has been in charge of programs within large projects such as the Safeguarding of Venice and its Lagoon and the preparation of the year 2000 Jubilee Preparations in Rome. He has directed the process for

the drafting and adoption of the UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape.

Francesco Bandarin has written several specialized publications and articles, and recently co-authored *The Historic Urban Landscape: Managing in an Urban Century*. London: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.

**Francesco Bandarin: *The Historic Urban Landscape: managing historical urban layering and their relationships with water***

**Abstract:**

*Urban conservation has been a successful policy and planning practice in Europe and other contexts in the past half a Century, as proven by many national urban conservation legislation, plans and projects that have been proposed and implemented all over the world.*

*Undoubtedly, the relationship with water has been at the core of the most significant urban conservation and regeneration processes.*

*Today new challenges have emerged for urban conservation, prompted by the social and economic change processes driven by globalization.*

*In emerging economies, the very traditional meaning of urban heritage is challenged by new urbanisation models.*

*As a consequence, urban heritage can no longer be conceived of as a separate reality, a walled precinct protected from the external forces of change by plans and regulations.*

*The 2011 UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape opens new avenues to the conservation of urban heritage, by proposing a "landscape approach", within which elements linked to water and hydraulics play necessarily a fundamental role.*

*Besides providing an innovative, forward-looking definition of what we should consider part of urban heritage, it also proposes an approach aimed at reconnecting the way in which we address and plan urban conservation and urban development, redevelopment and regeneration.*

*Urban heritage can, in this context, offer important models for sustainability and social inclusion, and represents a 'resource' for the future of the city.*

*A selected number of case studies of urban regeneration in relationship with water will be used to illustrate this position.*

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## Olgierd Dziekonski



Olgierd Dziekonski, since October 2010 Secretary of State at the Chancellery of the President of the Republic of Poland. Born in 1950 in Wroclaw. He graduated from the Faculty of Architecture of the Wroclaw University of Technology. Deputy Mayor of the City of Warsaw in years 1990-1994 and 1999-2000. He was actively involved in creation of local self-government in Warsaw after the democratic breakthrough in 1990. Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of Infrastructure (2000-2001 and 2007-2010). Founder and president of the governmental foundation called Municipal Development Agency (1994-1999), which supported self-governments in Poland. UE expert for local and regional

development and self-government initiatives in the UE countries and Syria (2001-2002 and 2006-2007). Manager for development at RTI Poland in years 2002-2006. Member of numerous professional organizations, such as National Chamber of Polish Architects Committee, Board of Architects Council of Europe (2004-2007), Board of the Small and Medium Enterprises Foundation, Board of the Union of Polish Metropolises (1998-2006), Committee for Spatial Economy and Regional Planning at the Polish Academy of Sciences (1998-2005).

### **Title of Speech: Quality factor at the urban transformation. The dilemma of the local freedom**

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## Alex Krieger

Alex Krieger has combined a career of teaching and practice, dedicating himself in both to understanding how to improve the quality of place and life in our major urban areas.

Mr Krieger is a principal at the Boston-based architecture and urban design studio of NBBJ, a global architecture firm. The studio has served a broad array of clients in major cities worldwide, focusing primarily on planning, educational, institutional, health-care and public projects in complex urban settings.

Mr Krieger is a professor at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, where he has taught since 1977. He served as Chairman of the Department of Urban Planning and Design, as Director of the Urban Design Program, and as Associate Chairman of the Department of Architecture. He serves in several university-wide roles including the newly established design review committees for both the Allston and Cambridge campuses.

Mr Krieger is a frequent advisor to mayors and their planning staffs, and serves on a number of boards and commissions, including: Director of the NEA's Mayor's Institute in City Design, Founder and co-director of the Large City Planners Institute, The Joseph Riley Institute, and as a Design Excellence Peer for the U.S. General Services Administration. In 2012, he was appointed by President Obama to the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts.

Mr Krieger received a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Cornell University and a Master of City Planning in Urban Design degree from Harvard. He is a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects.

## Alex Krieger: Transformations Along Urban Waterfronts

*Along the waterfronts of cities world-wide, from Shanghai, China to Boston, USA, the human instinct to both preserve and to reinvent are robustly acted out in the passion play of urban waterfront revitalization.*

*City leaders seeking to increase the qualities inherent to urban living, eager to rescue land from industrial obsolescence, or provide an alternative to peripheral sprawl, turn to their waterfronts more than ever, and for a broader array of reasons. Along waterfronts it seems possible to accommodate the changing needs of today's urban dweller, as modern societies continue their millennial shift from industrial-based economies, and their spatial demands, to service- and lifestyle-based economies and their requirements. Waterfronts are, of course, unrivaled in their potential for providing for an exceptional or celebratory enterprise. Imagine the Sydney Opera House, or the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, or the neo-classical customhouses along Shanghai's Bund not juxtaposed against each city's major body of water? The London Eye, London's majestic Ferris wheel, actually sits in the Thames River. Much of contemporary Chicago's identity and self-image, not to mention wealth, comes from its spectacular 20-mile long facade stretching along Lake Michigan. Humanity, it seems, delights in and finds inspiration at waterfront settings, but increasingly asks more of them than spectacle alone.*

*The impending reuse of an urban waterfront generally combines grand expectations with considerable self reflection about the very nature of contemporary urbanism. Should planning for reuse support traditional maritime industries or promote new economies? Should cities seek new markets/status through refurbished waterfronts or maintain long-standing identities? Should public investment favor residents' needs, attract newcomers or cater to tourists; should it be used to shore-up adjoining neighborhoods or encourage gentrification; increase public access or leverage private development at water's edge? Should commercial expansion be favored or multiple civic needs addressed, especially those that private initiative does not readily achieve? Should, for example, cities seek to profit from the scale of modern development attracted to reconnected waterfronts or restrict density while enlarging recreational space for good places to dwell? Wise waterfront planning seeks to unravel such unnecessarily polarized visions, while anticipating that through a repositioning of an urban waterfront a local economy and the city's stature can both prosper.*

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## Meera Mehta



Dr. Meera Mehta is a Professor Emeritus at CEPT University.

She has over 35 years of experience in water and sanitation, urban development and urban infrastructure finance. She also serves as a member of the Steering Committee of the Stockholm-based inter-governmental organization Global Water Partnership (GWP), advisory committee for SHARE project at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and was a member of the working group on equity for the WHO-UNICEF post-2015 deliberations for water supply and sanitation.

Meera Mehta developed a new graduate programme in housing and was the Director of School of Planning in 1992. She has worked with USAID's FIRE-D Project, and with the World Bank in India and subsequently with its Water and Sanitation Program in Africa (2000-2006). She has consulted for a large number of international agencies (including World Bank, ADB, DFID, UNICEF, USAID and Government of Netherlands), Gates Foundation, and WaterAid. She has written extensively on housing, urban development, water and sanitation and infrastructure finance.

Meera Mehta studied Architecture, Urban Planning and obtained Ph. D. in economics.

### ***Meera Mehta: Urban planning and water and sanitation services in low and middle income countries***

#### **Abstract:**

*The world is rapidly moving towards high levels of urbanization. A large part of this growth over the coming decades is expected to take place in low and middle income countries, particularly in countries of South Asia, South East Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. This will put great pressure on provision of basic services such as water and sanitation services. This presents challenges, but also immense opportunities to meet the aspirations of people by ensuring sustainable universal access.*

*The challenges arise as cities in these countries are expanding and de-densifying, leading to increased costs. This is balanced by increasing incomes that result in increased service demand. There are also opportunities of using innovative approaches to simultaneously meet the burgeoning water needs of growing cities through reuse of waste water using more flexible and decentralized solutions. Increasing focus on using water neutral and zero waste approaches suggest a new way of thinking in the sector. New forms of financing and business models are being explored to address issues of growth in population, spatial extent of cities and effective demand for services.*

*The presentation will highlight both challenges and opportunities and discuss new institutional and financial mechanisms that incentivize the use of sustainable approaches.*

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## **Janusz Zbik**



Janusz Zbik was appointed Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of Infrastructure and Development on 28 November 2013.

He was Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of Infrastructure for the period 1 May 2011 to 23 November 2011. From 23 November 2011 to 27 November 2013 he worked as Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of Transport, Construction and Maritime Economy.

He was born in 1953 in Cracow. He graduated from the Faculty of Architecture at the Cracow University of Technology in 1981. Between 1981 and 1984, he worked in the Municipal Engineering Design Office in Cracow, taking part in municipal infrastructure projects (concerning water intake structures in Cracow, incinerators and cemeteries in Batowice and Tyniec). From 1984 to 1991, he worked in the public administration as Municipal Architect in Krzeszowice. Before appointment to the post of Building Control Inspector in Malopolska in March 2003, he was a Vice-Chairman of Municipal Council in Krzeszowice, member of Regional Council Bureau in Malopolska and District Board in Cracow. For many years, he was running a business as a chief architect and owner of 'Arch-Invest' architecture studio.

He conducted many projects in the area of construction (housing, public utility and industry).

Before the appointment to the post of Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of Infrastructure, Janusz Zbik worked as a Building Control Inspector in Malopolska. He holds entitlements to perform independent technical functions in the construction industry in the area of architecture and execution of construction projects.

He is a member of the Association of Krzeszowice Land Lovers. He was also a member of its Board. He was awarded Gold Medal for Long Service.

### **Title of Speech: The Polish Urban Agenda**