

## **We attended the 31<sup>st</sup> Congress for New Urbanism in Charlotte, North Carolina**



ISOCARP was happy to participate in the 31<sup>st</sup> edition of the Congress for New Urbanism (CNU31), which was hosted between May 31 and June 3, 2023, in Charlotte NC. Charlotte is one of the most diverse and vibrant cities in the American Southeast, as well as the first one in North Carolina to host the Congress after three decades. As a partner of CNU, ISOCARP took an active part in the event, through long-standing CNU and ISOCARP member Dhiru Thadani and invited ISOCARP Board and ExCom member Sabina Dimitriu.

The focus of the Congress in 2023 was the Corridor: at once the connector and the separator of neighbourhoods and districts, it holds significance for the New Urbanism due to its inherently civic nature: in the age of the metropolis, with villages, towns and neighbourhoods aggregated in unprecedented quantity, the most universally used public spaces are the corridors that serve connection and mobility.

The corridor, in its optimum form, is the most difficult to implement: it requires regional coordination and a novel view on both space and governance. With over 1,300 participants, this Congress was an opportunity to discuss these challenges and how all professionals can contribute to making our cities more sustainable and achieving

the SDGs: from overcoming the housing crisis, to tackling climate migration, improving walkability and responding to the opportunities and concerns of AI in planning.

We particularly appreciated discussions with the CNU Team 11 and the Place Initiative, involved in the World Urban Campaign, as well as bilateral discussions on how to actively strengthen the links between ISOCARP and CNU in North America.



Photos by Sabina Dimitriu.