

*Seminar on “Seismic Protection of Monuments”
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SOME CRITICAL REMARKS ON STRUCTURAL RESTORATION

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ABSTRACT

The initial invitation letter gave the impression that the major objective of the present activity would be drafting a regulatory document for the seismic protection of historical monuments. The keyword “a regulatory document” strongly appealed to the author who has been longing for a seismic code specifically for restoration of historical structures.

The present seminar appears to have a wider scope. Therefore, he will briefly explain his thoughts concerning possible types of regulatory document in one or two subsections of his talk. This talk will consist mainly of remarks about some critical issues observed in the current structural restoration practice. Issues to be discussed may include,

- Importance of mutual respect among disciplines involved in conservation
- Importance and problems of structural monitoring
- Importance and limitations of qualitative and quantitative analyses
- Importance of a clear understanding of the structural behaviour
- Need for a seismic code specifically for historical structures
- Need for guidelines for structural restoration of architectural heritage

The presentation will be concluded by summarising two case studies illustrating the importance of a clear understanding of the structural behaviour.

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