

SEMINAR PROCEEDINGS

Valletta: Beyond 2020

Valletta, 9 April 2016

Seminar organised by:



Valletta Alive Foundation

Valletta beyond 2020 will need to meet the needs and aspirations of Maltese society of the future. What actions and initiatives should be taken so that future aspirations for Valletta will be achieved? The topic areas discussed are: architecture and urban spaces; leisure and entertainment; economic activity; arts, culture and heritage; liveability; regeneration.

Papers available on Valletta Alive Foundation website through 'archives':

Introduction and contents (pages 1 to 3)

<http://vallettaalivefoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/VAF-Seminar-April-2016-Valletta-Beyond-2020-2-TITLE-PAGE-CONTENTS.pdf>

Papers (pages 4 to 51)

<http://vallettaalivefoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/VAF-Seminar-April-2016-Valletta-Beyond-2020-3-PAPERS.pdf>

Papers included in this compilation:

Prof. Alex Torpiano compares today's Valletta with a vision for Valletta set out 50 years ago. He discusses the nature and quality of Valletta's urban spaces and emphasizes the need for the enhancement of the public domain and makes recommendations how this can be achieved. He makes observations on residential aspects and the community life of the city.

(Spaces for People: Lessons from Valetta - pages 4 to 18)

Vince Fabri gives a detail account of events that take place in Valletta and how they developed over the years. He also looks at how Valletta's evening leisure has changed to one which is vibrant and interesting. He notes and makes recommendations how certain deficiencies can be resolved.

(Valletta: a Leisure City or a City of Culture? - pages 19 to 23)

Joseph F. X. Zahra notes how Valletta is changing thanks to many developments over the past decade. He asks however whether Valletta is being transformed into a live museum and an events arena. He makes proposals for Valletta's regeneration, including one involving financial instruments.

(Economics, liveability and Urban Heritage: can they co-exist? - pages 24 to 27)

Sandro Debono emphasises the importance of participation and community engagement in museums and describes how this concept is being applied in MUŻA, Malta's new museum of art.
(*Valletta Museums in the Community* - pages 28 to 30)

Dr. Reuben Grima considers the liveability of Valletta today, based on my experience as a resident. It focuses on four key themes which he has become acutely aware of, as areas where Valletta's liveability is under threat. These are shorelines, soundscapes, viewsapes and social fabric/affordable housing. Today Valletta is under a siege of a different kind, which is no less of a threat to its fabric, its sense of place, and the quality of life of its residents.
(*Living in Valletta: The liveability of a historic city* - page 31 to 34)

Dr. John Ebejer emphasizes the need for clear about objectives when discussing Valletta's regeneration. He proposes eight objectives namely: well-maintained urban heritage; enjoyable urban spaces; a liveable city; a vibrant city; a city reflecting national identity; a great place to visit; sustainable commercial activity and easily accessible. For each, Dr. Ebejer considers where we are at by looking at past trends and future prospects.
(*Regenerating Valletta: A vision for Valletta beyond 2020* - pages 35 to 44)

Dr. Lawrence Gonzi spoke about his government's vision for Valletta and how this was being implemented during his tenure as prime minister (2004 – 2013). He explained how a series of major Valletta projects, the most important being City Gate, were set in a framework of clearly defined strategic objectives.
(*Valletta: The Pride of what makes us a Maltese and European Nation* - pages 45 to 47)

Closing address by the Mayor of Valletta
Prof. Alexiei Dingli (pages 48 to 49)

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