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## Editorial

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### Federico Cluni\*

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering,  
University of Perugia,  
Via G. Duranti, 93 06125 Perugia, IT  
Email: federico.cluni@unipg.it  
\*Corresponding author

### Claudia Conforti

Department of Enterprise Engineering “Mario Lucertini”,  
University of Rome Tor Vergata,  
Via del Politecnico, 1 00133 Roma, IT  
Email: conforti@uniroma2.it

### Vittorio Gusella

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering,  
University of Perugia,  
Via G. Duranti, 93 06125 Perugia, IT  
Email: vittorio.gusella@unipg.it

**Biographical notes:** Federico Cluni is an Assistant Professor in Structural Mechanics at the University of Perugia since 2010. Since 2011 to 12 he teaches ‘dynamics of structures’ course for the Master’s in Civil Engineering. He has been a member of programs funded by the Italian Ministry of University and Scientific Research (MIUR) on wind engineering and vibrations in civil engineering structures. During his scientific activity, he has taken into account several topics: analysis and reliability of historical buildings; numerical analysis of masonry walls through the homogenisation method; dynamics of cables; development of equivalent beam models for tall buildings under environmental loads; development of techniques for the identification of masonry texture through photographic and thermographic images. He is the author or co-author of numerous technical papers published in scientific journal or in conference proceedings. Since 2015, he is an Associate Editor of *International Journal of Masonry Research and Innovation*.

Claudia Conforti is a Full Professor of History of Architecture at the University of Rome Tor Vergata. She has lectured in the INHA - Paris, Sorbonne Paris, Tours; Poitiers; Cambridge (UK), Harvard and Rutgers (USA) Universities and in other Italian Universities. She is part of the editorial board of *Casabella*, *Rassegna di Architettura e Urbanistica*, *Città e storia*. She is a member of Accademia Nazionale di San Luca and Accademia Belle Arti di Perugia and (as a founding member) of the *Associazione Italiana di Storia Urbana (AISU)*. She has been involved in Biennale of Venice, Triennale of Milan. She took part in the project for the New Uffizi Museums and she curated the exhibition for the fifth centenary of G. Vasari’s birth (2011) held at the Uffizi. She has been part of many national research projects (Cofin and Furb) and she collaborates with

national and international institutions like Institut National d'Histoire de l'Art (INHA), Paris; Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, Paris; Fondazione Caris Modena; Fondazione Caetani, Rome; Biblioteca Corsiniana e dei Lincei, Rome; Bibliotheca Hertziana Max Planck Institut; Villa Medici and Etablissements de France in Rome; University of Kent etc. She has published several essays and volumes on modern and contemporary architecture, construction, materials and building sites.

Vittorio Gusella obtained the Master's in Civil Engineering from the University of Florence in 1982 and the PhD in Structural Engineering in 1987. Since 1992, he has taught as an Associate Professor in 'Scienza delle Costruzioni' (Mechanics of Structures) at the Engineering Faculty of the University of Perugia. Since 2004, he is a Full Professor. He has taught in courses of civil engineering, building engineering and architecture and mechanical engineering. In his research activity, he developed several topics in structural engineering. In the recent years, he considered structural reliability (seismic vulnerability, safety estimation with cumulative damage), mechanical modelling of masonry (homogenisation of non-periodic masonry, RVE and probabilistic analysis of the texture, strength surface), analysis of historic buildings and structural monitoring.

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The international conference AID Monuments, organised by the Master of Science in Building Engineering and Architecture of the University of Perugia and the Chair of Architectural History of the University of Rome Tor Vergata, reached its second edition. It was held in Perugia, Italy, from 14 to 16 May 2015. The topics of the conference were materials, techniques and restoration for architectural heritage reusing.

This Special Issue collects, among the over 60 papers presented at the conference, the most interesting works from the point of view of the masonry research. These papers were selected by the Scientific Committee of the conference and the authors were invited to submit extended manuscripts for possible publication on the *International Journal of Masonry Research and Innovation*. After an independent peer review, five of these papers were accepted for publication.

The papers consider several aspects concerning masonry structures: from different approaches to estimate seismic vulnerability, to the effects of the probabilistic nature of the material mechanical characteristics, to the numerical methods to assess structural damage and, eventually, the analysis of specific historical buildings.

These papers are a further confirmation that the analysis of historical building requires a multidisciplinary approach.

Therefore, this Special Issue represents for us an important outcome of the conference and we wish to express our gratitude to the anonymous reviewers of the papers, the Journal Editors and Inderscience Publishers.

Guest Editors of the Special Issue

Federico Cluni, Claudia Conforti and Vittorio Gusella