

# ICOMOS

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES  
CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DES MONUMENTS ET DES SITES  
CONSEJO INTERNACIONAL DE MONUMENTOS Y SITIOS  
МЕЖДУНАРОДНЫЙ СОВЕТ ПО ВОПРОСАМ ПАМЯТНИКОВ И ДОСТОПРИМЕЧАТЕЛЬНЫХ МЕСТ

## City-Hof, Hamburg ICOMOS STATEMENT - 27th November 2018

At the invitation of the State Party of Germany, ICOMOS undertook an Advisory Mission to Hamburg on 30 August 2018 to consider the proposed demolition of the City-Hof in the buffer zone of the Speicherstadt and Kontorhaus District with Chilehaus World Heritage property.

The Advisory mission was asked to consider how the City-Hof contributes to the buffer zone, how the buffer zone supports the World Heritage property, and overall to make recommendations as to the potential impact on OUV of the proposed demolition.

During the mission the two mission experts met with a wide range of stakeholders, both those for and those against the proposed demolition.

ICOMOS submitted its mission report to the State Party through the World Heritage Center on 19 October 2018.

Since then, there have been discussions with the State Party on details of the report. The State Party has indicated that it will be making the mission report public in due course.

This ICOMOS statement is being issued to correct what we consider to be unfortunate errors in a Press statement issued today at <https://www.hamburg.de/pressearchiv-fhh/11893186/welterbezentrum-unesco-welterbe-nicht-betroffen-durch-planungen-klosterwall/>.

These are as follows:

1. The conclusion of the ICOMOS Advisory report is not as suggested in this report.
2. Although it is correct that the City-Hof does not contribute to OUV, and neither does the buffer zone as a whole, both support the OUV of the property. The Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention set out clearly the role of buffer zones in supporting inscribed properties.
3. As far as we are aware, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre has not pronounced on the impact of the proposed demolition on OUV as it did not take part in the mission, but has merely stated that currently there are no plans to present this project to the World Heritage Committee. This arrangement in itself does not imply any lack of negative impact but rather that the issue should be resolved at a national level.

END

For more information, please contact ICOMOS International Secretariat at [secretariat@icomos.org](mailto:secretariat@icomos.org).