# A Review about "Conservation Theory and Principles of Italy"

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## ABSTRACT

Conservation of the historical and cultural environmental values that humanity has created in certain natural environments within the millennia of civilization, as in Italy. Both historical and cultural environmental values are not just the material values of societies, it is vital that has rich references in the creation of society structures. The aim of this work is to review the principles and theories of protection from past to present in Italy, which is one of the strong and rooted countries in the protection of the historical and cultural environment. Conservation of historical environment and structure development of new building applications in historical environment applications were made, and legal legislation in Italy to the present will be examined. In this context, firstly, information  about  the physical, geographical and historical development of Italy will be reviewed, then important historical structures of Italy will be discussed. Finally, information about the history of Italy, the principles and theories based on centuries will be evaluated with the years of its emergence. As results, these theories and principles have been applied in long periods due to socio - economic deficiencies. Among the most common problems in protection in Italy are the inadequacy of protection consciousness, conflict and contradictions of authority.

**Keywords:** Italy, Historical Building, Historical Environment, Conservation, Theory.

## 1. Introduction

From ancient time to present day, the human being created works that express the understanding of his life experiences, values and believes. Likewise, it reflects his physical, environmental and socio-cultural structure lived in. These artifacts found in historical and cultural environments, have been stolen, damaged and destroyed from their places due to economic, political and social reasons. While these historical and cultural riches have a local meaning, they also have a national identity. Therefore, they have a universal structure as it represents the common values of human beings. Italy, located in the geography where many cultures and civilizations were born and developed. It is on the list of countries with the richest historical and cultural values in the world (Akkuş and Efe, 2014). Italy has set an example first for European countries, then for the whole world with its conservation principles and practices. They have been a centuries-long struggle for the establishment of conservation understanding, principles and examples of institutional structuring. It has a long history of protection, including legislation on the protection of historical monuments, regulations on archaeological excavations, and the export of works of art. Italy has been in contact with Europe, England and many famous scholars such as Chateaubriand, Viollet-le-Duc, Ruskin, and has adopted the concept of preserving historical buildings in the medieval or later periods for a long time. Due to this delay, Italy was able to benefit from the protection experience of other European countries such as England, Germany and France (Can, 2011). Therefore, many different theories on conservation have been tried and they have constant discussion on this subject.

The development that lasted for centuries in conservation theory, kept the historical environment and buildings of Italy in existence. With the division of the Roman Empire and the collapse of Western Rome, the Roman forms lost their importance. Thus, the cultural heritage of Ancient Greece and Rome was faced with damaging bad practices. Reused building materials were taken to construct new and important structures in Rome. These materials literally exposed to violence, which were seen as a source of building elements. This is a bad process which brought early discussions of the conservation phenomenon. These important structures and cultural heritage have attracted the attention of some thinkers, intellectuals, artists, painters and architects. Therefore, the concept of protection began in Italy and quickly spread to other European countries. However, it has many wrong practices and decisions. Documentation of ancient artifacts which gained importance in the painful periods, various false protection methods and practices emerged. After this process and practices, answers to the questions of "what, why, how to protect" began to be sought, and some criteria were needed for answers. For example; "historical document value" has been adopted as one of the most important criteria applied for the answer to the question of what should be protected. In addition, it has a topic that came to the agenda that the cultural property, the data and information that directly reflect the period in which it was built. This will have historical documented value and it is

a criterion that should be considered (Borri and Corradi, 2019). Since ancient times, it has been seen that people who have influence and power in society tried to protect structures with more religious importance, starting from their own environment with different perspectives. In this study, the conservation theory and principles of Italy, which is among the strong and well-established countries in terms of the protection of the historical and cultural environment, will be examined. This study sheds light on the conservation theories changes and factors during different time periods in Italy. Moreover, it presents the importance of conservation, to show the historical culture of societies from past to present time, which can be beneficial for modern applications and principles. This study demonstrates the question of when the conservation theories and principles started in Italy, how it changed during time and what were the factors affecting it.

## 2. MATERIAL AND METHOD

In this work, which deals with the theory and principles of conservation in Italy, a detailed literature review on the subject was done. Various researches, articles, books, conference papers, internet resources and theses were examined.

-In the first place, the physical, geographical location and historical development of Italy, then the important historical buildings were studied.

-The materials were collected and detailed literature review was made under the title of conservation theories and principles in Italy from past to present.

In the next part of the research, Italy's conservation theory and principles are examined, evaluated and putted in chronological order from the data obtained in the literature.

## 3.    RESEARCH AREA

Italy is in an important position with its physical and geographical location which contains many important historical buildings.

Italy has made a name for itself in the list of important countries due to many civilizations which lived in.

- Population in year 2021: 59,257,566 (Del Lavoro, 2021).
- Area: 301.338 km²
- Capital: Rome
- Official Language: Italian
- Administrative Form: Republic
- Major Cities: Rome, Naples, Milan, Turin, Venice, Genoa (Bosker et al., 2007).

### 3.1  Historical Development of Italy

Many tribes from Europe and Asia lived in Italy before the Romans. Roman Empire quickly expanded its borders during the reign of Julius Caesar in the first century B.C. In 395 A.D., it was divided into the Eastern and Western Empires. After the barbarian tribes moved during the Middle Ages, the Western Roman Empire collapsed and Italy was divided into small kingdoms (Alioğlu, 2013). Italy was also the home for the Renaissance period, came under the rule of the Holy Roman Empire, and it was the dominant power in Europe for many years. As a result of the numerous wars that took place under the influence of the increasing nationalism movement in Europe in the nineteenth century. Italy, achieved its national unity in 1871, defined itself as a Republic in 1948 (Carbonaran, 2012).

### 3.2  Geographical Location

Italy is a peninsula that opens into the center of the Mediterranean and south African country. It is surrounded by the Adriatic Sea to the east, the Alps to the north, and the Mediterranean Sea to the south and west. It has 22 islands. The islands of Sicily and Sardinia in the Mediterranean with many small and large islands around the peninsula belong to Italy. It has a land border with France in the northwest, Slovenia in the northeast, Switzerland and Austria in the north. The Republic of San Marino is the oldest surviving Republic of Europe, it is 100 km from Florence. The Vatican State within Rome, is the religious capital of the Catholic sect (Jokilehto, 1986; Bosker et al., 2007).

### 3.3  Management and Policy

Italy's form of government is a republic that functions with a multi-party and parliamentary democracy, and its policies are formed in this context. The executive power is in the hands of the council of ministers and this council is chaired by the president of the country. The legislature is jointly run by the national assembly and the cabinet. The judiciary is independent of the legislative and executive powers. Italy has been governed as a democratic republic since 2nd June 1946. Prior to this, the royal system in the country was abolished by popular vote. The Italian Constitution entered into force on 1st January 1948 (Jokilehto, 1986; Carbonaran, 2012).

### 3.4  Important Historical Buildings of Italy

Italy is the home for many important historical buildings that are frequently mentioned. It is possible to characterize these structures as important elements that determine the historical identity of Italy (Rose, 2019).

**Colosseum**

 -The famous Colosseum is an arena, which made by Vespasian

 -Location: Rome

 -Construction start date: 72 A.D.

 -Opening Date: 80 A.D. After that, it has undergone functional change and restoration

 -Architectural style: Roman architecture. See Fig. 1.


Fig. 1.  Colosseum amphitheater (Rose, 2019)

**Pantheon**

 -Emperor Augustus' son-in-law Marcus Agrippa's first Pantheon was built on the 27th B.C.

 -Location: Rome

 -Construction start date: Pagan Roman gods Dedicated to the Pantheon, between 118 and 125 A.D. renewed again

 -Opening date: 126 A.D.

 -Architectural style: Roman architecture. See Fig. 2.


Fig. 2. Pantheon temple (Marder and Jones, 2015)

**St. Peter's Basilica**

 -St. Peter's Basilica Second of the four largest basilicas in Rome

 -Location: Rome

 -Construction start date: April 18, 1506

 -Opening date: 1626

 -Architectural style: Renaissance architecture and Baroque architecture. See Fig. 3.


Fig. 3. St. Peter's Basilica (Jasieńko et al., 2021)

**Tower of Pisa**

 -Tower of Pisa or Tower superimposed consists of a series of 6 round columns

 -Location: Pisa

 -Construction start date: 1173

 -Opening date: 1372

 -Architectural style: Romanesque architecture. See Fig.4.


Fig. 4. Tower of Pisa (Burland et al., 2020)

**Archaeological Park of Pompeii**

 -The perfect representation of everyday life in ancient Rome, it was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1997

 -Location: Naples

 -Construction start date: It was founded on an old lava layer 5,000 years B.C.

 -Mount Vesuvius exploded in 79 A.D. and remains in Pompeii were found in the 1900s

 -Architectural style: Roman architecture. See Fig. 5.


Fig. 5. Archaeological Park of Pompeii (Berry and Court, 2012)

**Venice Palace**

   -The palace is the residence of the Venetian Dukes

   -Location: Venice

   -Construction start date: The palace was originally built in 1420 after a wooden castle with clock towers and moats, which was destroyed in a fire

   -Opening date: It underwent serious restorations until the eighteenth century to take its present form

   -The palace has been serving as a museum since 1923

   -Architectural style: Venetian Gothic architecture. See Fig. 6.



Fig. 6. Venice Palace (Noh and Russo, 2017)

Table 1 shows the important monuments in Italy and the architectural style that been used to build these monuments. As well as, it contains the location and the date of the construction of the buildings, alongside with characteristics and function of the buildings. It is important to know the buildings that been preserved, their function and significance to the society.

TABLE 1
Important Monuments of Italy

| Monument | Location | Characteristics | Date | Architectural Style |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Colosseum** | Rome | Amphitheater | 80 A.D. | Roman |
| **Pantheon** | Rome | Temple | 126 A.D. | Roman |
| **St. Peter's Basilica** | Rome | It is second of the four largest basilicas in Rome | 1626 | Renaissance and Baroque |
| **Tower of Pisa** | Pisa | It consists of a series of 6 round columns | 1372 | Romanesque |
| **Archaeological Park of Pompeii** | Naples | It was declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1997 | 5,000 years B.C. | Roman |
| **Venice Palace** | Venice | The palace is the residence of the Venetian Dukes | 1420 | Venetian Gothic |

## 3.5 History of Italy's Conservation Theory

In the Ancient Period, the Romans systematically moved old buildings to other places, for the purpose of protection. The economic depression that followed the next 3 centuries reduced the construction activities, and the impoverished people tended to renovate and repair the old ones instead the new constructions.

### 3.5.1 Constantine Reign

During the reign of Constantine, who came to the throne in 312 A.D., it became usual to dismantle and use the materials in old buildings. In this period, political impotence with decline in the economic situation decreased the value given to the work of art. With the collapse of Rome and the first Christian Period, the protection process of monuments and artifacts belonging to Roman and Hellenic cultures were interrupted. In 313 A.D., after Constantine officially accepted Christianity, it enacted laws for the closure of temples with Milan Decision. It is envisaged the sculptures in the closed temples. It will only be exhibited as works of art in public buildings. In 410 A.D., the looting of cultural, artistic, and monumental structures started with the Visigoth invasion, which collapsed the Roman Empire in 3 days and mobilized the Romans. For the sake of personal power and sometimes religion, the individual interest of those who took over the country's administration continued fluctuations, and the intervening wars endured the destructions (Borri and Corradi, 2019).

### 3.5.2 Emperor Theodoric and Pope Vigiluis Reign

Emperor Theodoric, who was educated in 455-526 A.D. in Istanbul, made a name for himself with his practices aimed at preserving the works of Greek and Roman civilizations in the field of culture during his 32 years reign. It is a sad thing to reduce the artifacts inherited from ancient times and that he created the Sculpture Conservation institution to save old statues (Dedehayır, 2010).

The repairs made by Pope Vigiluis, who came to power in 537 A.D., became an example of the public's approach to monuments. During this period, the monuments of the Roman period were converted into Christian temples. Artworks have been destroyed and often deliberately neglected when delivering one to another. In 800 A.D., the historian Einhard was tasked with the maintenance of monuments, Einhard described in detail the decoration with columns, mosaics, and marbles brought from Ravenna, the construction and repair of religious monuments. This period is characterized as the period when the Roman Empire turned into a political rulership that developed in the West in accordance to the Christian religious principles (Borri and Corradi, 2019).

Fear and misery have affected the physical environment as well as the basic social order. For this reason, the most military architecture was developed in the Middle Ages. The walls and protection barriers were expertly built. After the tenth century, irregular settlements began to emerge, the settlements that developed around monasteries and castles were not in a certain plan order, therefore the political, social and physical features that ensure security were preserved. In 1084, the Normans captured and destroyed Rome, which was described as the greatest up to that time. During this period, two columns erected during the reigns of Roman Emperors, Trajan and Markus were preserved (Dedehayır, 2010).

### 3.5.3 Rome's Independency and Pope Martinius "the fourth" Reign

In 1143, Rome declared the Independent Republic, repairs were started without taking the necessary precautions. Rome was served as a marble quarry open to everyone. In the thirteenth century, there was no higher education institution in Rome, and the clergy took a skeptical attitude towards culture. Pope Boniface's destruction of the city of Palestrina in 1298 is an example of this (Marmo and Pascale, 2018).

Petrarch and Cola di Rienzo made a historical analysis of Rome and wrote the monuments on the map of the city. The fourteenth century is an important period for Italy. Petrarch did not see individual monuments which represent the past, as aesthetically valuable treasures, but rather than that the works evaluated with its environment. During this period, the Renaissance Period began and developed. The Renaissance is a period between the Middle Ages and the New Age. More precisely, it is a transitional period. Renaissance movements started in Italy, and new humanist works were created in this period. The person of this age is a person who thinks, turns to himself, examines himself, asks, judges and reveals freely. In this period;

-Most attention has been paid to the reorganization and

beautification of the old settlements.

-It is aimed to provide unity and order in accordance with the classical understanding in the city centers of Italy (Tunçer, 2009).

Between 1404 and 1472, Architect Leone Battista Alberti, who expressed the Renaissance understanding of art. While defining the ideal city; "If there is a Roman building remains in the settlement, it should be protected" in his opinion. This definition is characterized as the first advocacy of "Cultural Conservation". Inspired by the power in the remnants of the past, Alberti used them not by copying but as a source of ideas and opinions in planning, structure, likeness and form (Tunçer, 2009).

When Pope Martinius "the fourth" came to Rome, he found the city far from being a place to live, the houses were abandoned, the roads were covered with debris and filth, the churches were destroyed, there were traces of hunger and misery everywhere. Martinius realized that his first job was to clean the city and remove the ruins before construction. With a law enacted on March 30, 1425, he worked with an organization, and created to clean the roads and make them passable. It also authorized these people in the organization to remove those occupying public buildings and to demolish if additional structures were built. Martinius only brought some order to the city and was able to repair one or two bridges along with the churches (Tuztaşı and Civelek, 2011).

### 3.5.4 Seizure of Political Power

In the first half of the fifteenth century the behavior of official organizations in Rome especially the popes who seized political power, is not very encouraging. During this period Rome was an uninhabitable place where wolves raided at night and the dead were taken out of the graves. In 1431-1447, Pope Eugenius "the fourth" found Rome in a neglected state and took some precautions. When Pope Nicolaus "the fifth" came to Rome between 1447-1455, he worked on beautifying and developing the city. Nicolaus benefited from the powerful architects and craftsmen of the period, including Alberti, for the reconstruction works and he worked on the whole city rather than single works and structures (Erder, 2008). On April 28, 1462, Pope Pius "the second" passed a law not only in Rome, but also around it, forbade the destruction and damage of historical monuments, even if they are on privately owned land. He severely punished those who damaged the historical artifacts that he personally came and examined. With this law, Pius "the second" is recognized as the first pope to take general measures for the protection of ancient monuments (Erder, 2008). In the fifteenth century, Pope Sixtus "the fourth", enabled the establishment of today's Capital Museum. In this period, collecting ancient artifacts became an ambition and even

excavations were made for this purpose. Although Sixtus attracted many famous artists to Rome, it was the pope who caused the most damage to the historical ruins of the city during this period (Tuztaşı and Civelek, 2011).

A law enacted in 1471, Pius allowed the Vatican architects to excavate wherever they wanted so that they could obtain the stones they needed. With another law in 1480, Sixtus established the "Inspection of Roads and Monuments". It has given this organization the authority to buy then demolish the structures and extensions that hinder the order. Expansion of the roads, and to punish those who hinder them. Despite this law of "the third" Paulus in the law of 1534, in which various punishments were given to those who damaged the ancient monuments, the old demolition activities and the damages to the structures still continued. For the first time, he had to resort to the most severe measure and declared that those who destroyed old statues would be sentenced to death. However, the activities still continued and copying became more widespread (Erder, 2008). Another law enacted in 1540, it was understood that Pope Paulus himself was the first to forget the old law. With this law, he allowed those responsible for St. Peter's rebuilding to excavate wherever they wanted, inside or outside of Rome, so that they could provide them with the stone, marble, and pillars they needed (Kaderli, 2014).



Fig. 7. Vatican City (Carlini and Magrone, 2017)

In 1624, Pope Urban "the eighth" issued a law prohibiting the removal of monuments while demolishing monuments.

### 3.5.5 The French Academy and Pope Pius "the seventh" Reign

In 1646, the list of modern and ancient artifacts was expanded with the addition of inscriptions and a decision made on the issues related to the excavations. In 1655 and 1657, it is seen that the decisions regarding the control of the papacy were taken during the excavations. Although the papacy banned the export of antiquities in 1685, the repetition of the laws raised doubts about the correctness of the measures taken. The French academy was established in Rome in 1666 by Louis "the Fourteenth"

however, Rome was a cultural center whose importance officially recognized by the French. As a result of this widespread interest, an intense smuggling of historical artifacts from Rome to other European countries started. The European museums took the path of enriching with Roman artifacts. While this looting drew the reaction of the sensitive Romans, on the other hand, antiquities developed rapidly, copies, imitations, and the remains of antiquities offered for trade by completing the missing parts with new parts were in demand (Çirak, 2010). Pope Innocent "the eleventh" took decisions prohibiting the artifacts from leaving Rome with the law between 1676-1689. Pope Clement "the eleventh" renewed this decision in 1701 and 1704. In this decision, manuscripts and similar documents were added to the list of prohibited works. In 1707, the law was renewed again, this time Clement concentrated on museums. In 1740, Musei Capitolini was the first museum of antiquities open to the public (Çirak, 2010).

The plunder of the French between March and June 1798 was one of the events that caused the most damage to Rome. The French confiscated the ancient artifacts and moved these important structures to their own countries. It is said that in just one day, 500 horse-drawn carriages were leaving Rome under strict military control. In various parts of the city, strong demonstrations were held whenever possible, with posters hung saying "neither statues, paintings, nor manuscripts will be taken out of Rome". Among all these, Pope Pius "the seventh" came to the position of Papacy. Pius 1800-1823 ensured that the works taken to Paris were brought back (Tunçer, 2009). As the walls collapsed in the early nineteenth century, the work for the Colosseum to repair and strengthen was made in the time of Pius "the seventh". This building, which was repaired in various periods, but used as a quarry for many structures of the city in a very long time, and could hold 50,000 spectators. It was built for poets, painters, engineers, writers, architects, managers, in short, for all kinds of people (Torre, 2010).

### 3.5.6 The Scientific Viewpoint

In the eighteenth century, criticisms against conservation decisions and practices have increased. History and culture have begun to be examined with a humanistic and impartial approach. The nineteenth century was the period when the scientific point of view declared its dominance. Chairs were established in universities on the protection of historical monuments. Documents thoroughly scanned and unprejudiced evaluations were started (Dedehayır, 2010). In 1803, the efforts to carefully clean the surroundings of the Great Constantine Victory Monument, which was built in 315, and drew attention to reveal the Roman period pavements. See Fig. 8. The Antiquities Commission was

established in 1818, and in 1843, the long restoration work of St. Marks and the restoration of the Duchess Palace of Venice and Genoa at the same time were started. A special fund has been allocated for this restoration application and it has been foreseen that this process will be carried out without "removing its architectural character" (Erder, 2008).



Fig. 8. Great Constantine Victory Monument (Marlowe, 2006)

Adding new floors to historical buildings and adjusting the heights to create a harmonious appearance on the street. This also affected some important palaces and complaints were made to the municipality on the grounds that it caused problems in terms of archeology and architecture. A law was introduced in 1866 prohibiting the addition of additional floors to historical buildings (Torre, 2021).

In 1870, the Ministry of Education made a request to list registered buildings, and in 1872 this request was a law. The goal is to prepare two lists. Which are;

-It would contain historical buildings of national importance and these buildings would be under state protection.

-It would contain locally important buildings and their preservation would be the responsibility of the municipality.

Despite the enactment of a law strengthening the protection in 1873, it was decided to open new streets and expand some historical streets with the new master development plan (Marmo and Pascale, 2018). In the repair of historical artifacts, people who examine the building and evaluate all kinds of documents, drawings, pictures, inscriptions and ruins of the period in which it was built have started the period of conscious research (Carbonaran, 2015).

During the unification of the Italian Kingdom, Camillo Boito tried to enact many national laws for the Protection of Historic Monuments. In 1872, the Ministry of Education established its first General Directorate. In 1882, this General Directorate prepared a provisional guide for restoration in historical buildings. The reason for the preparation of this guide is to prevent unnecessary demolition and wrong restorations by having a better knowledge of monumental structures (Torre, 2010). Boito who was not satisfied with the result, he presented new proposals to the 1883 Congress of Architects and Engineers. He gathered what he wanted to express in this proposal in six items. These points generally discussed whether the restoration should imitate the original architecture and whether there should be new additions. In the decision taken in 1883 it was stated as follows:

-Architectural monuments are not only considered valuable for architectural studies, they are also counted as documents that tell and illustrate history.

-Any different application in the structures may lead to wrong assumptions as it may mislead people in terms of history.

-It is not only the original building that is considered monumental, but also all the additions and changes that are considered successful in history are considered monumental.

-While making a different addition, it was decided to use different materials or to specify the date of the addition.

-It is among the decisions taken to keep the structure to a minimum while restoring it.

-It was decided that the new additions should be made with current architectural methods but not incompatible with the original architectural technique (Can, 2011).

In 1887, Professor Guido Baccelli also made a proposal to protect the southern areas from the Capitoline Hill, Forum Romanum to the Palatine Hill, along the Domus Aurea, the Circus Maximus, the Caracalla hot springs and the Via Appia, as they are archaeological importance. In July of the same year, this proposal was enacted and the work for the opening of a long excavation area started. As well as, the cleaning of the structures that were built afterwards began (Çirak, 2010).

The enthusiastic interest in historical artifacts in conservation institutions in the seventeenth century, which contributed greatly to the establishment of the concept of conservation. It was replaced by cold-blooded and rational approaches in the eighteenth century. In the nineteenth century, the scientific perspective in conservation became dominant. During the growth and wealth period that affected Europe in the nineteenth century, investors gained power and historical buildings were sacrificed (Carbonaran, 2015). The law enacted in 1902, was difficult and limited to understand. Although importance was given to the prevention of smuggling and the purchase of works of art by foreigners with this law, it was observed that the part related to private property rights became quite complicated. In 1903, an additional law was adopted, and in 1904 the principles of practice, which clarified a little more, were accepted and gathered in 3 sections.

The first part is the statute of the committees and departments related to the protection of art, historical

works and monuments, which is not included in the 1902 law. Management is divided into 4 groups, those who are interested in:
- monuments,
- antiquities, museums and excavations,
- galleries and works of art,
- preventing the works from going abroad.

In the second part, it is foreseen to classify the works by dividing them into two groups as those that can be moved and cannot be moved. The evaluation is made by the ministry, and if it belongs to a private person, legal features are given to the work by notifying it separately.

The last part of the principles, museum and excavation works were specified, followed by the part that regulates modern art, music and theater education (Jokilehto, 1986). After the First and Second World Wars, a great destruction occurred, this situation led to the need to take new measures to protect the cultural heritage in European countries, and the states took on new duties in terms of protection with the new laws enacted. It has been suggested in this period, that the monuments should be protected together with their built environment and as building groups (Jokilehto, 1986).

### 3.5.7 The Athens Agreement and Italian Parliament Improvement of Laws

In this environment, the first "International Conference of Architects and Technicians Concerned with the Protection of Historical Monuments" was held in Athens in 1931, and the Carta Del Restauro, in which the principles to be applied in restoration were announced, was adopted in the "High Council of Antiquities and Fine Arts" in Italy in the same year. The Athens Agreement was accepted at the "Contemporary Architecture" Congress convened in 1933. According to this agreement;
-It can be protected using structures; however, such use should not harm them.
-Building groups should be protected and necessary precautions should be taken to replace every original piece that can be found in archaeological sites (Kaderli, 2014).

In 1939, the Italian parliament began to work on the laws that improved them by collecting and arranging the existing laws. The National Property Law of 1st June 1939 on the protection of objects of artistic and historical value allowed the ownership of antiques found in the country before 1902. The law considered illegal excavation and removal of artifacts as theft (Akkuş and Efe, 2014). With the law enacted on February 12, 1943, the deficiencies of the previous laws were completed, and the changes in the field of view around the monuments included in the annex list. The construction of new structures around them were taken under control. With this law; Measures such as the use of the land, the height of the buildings, the

proportions of the facades, leaving some places empty and turning them into parks were determined. The law has a solution-oriented attitude rather than a preventive one. The historical environment has become a popular topic discussed in municipal councils in Italy, with articles constantly appearing in magazines. The preservation of historical city centers in the master zoning plans has started to become the focus of discussions. Until the 1960s, restoration techniques to be applied in monuments were discussed and principles were tried to be determined, but in the following years, how to protect the archaeological heritage as a whole started to be considered (Marmo and Pascale, 2018).

In 1964, the board was responsible for overseeing the laws, regulations and policies of the period, and raising funds for Historic Heritage Conservation. After examining the published declaration, seven recommendations were made;
-Establishment of the security service for the purpose of protecting the historical and cultural heritage,
-Postponement of payments in monumental and archaeological projects,
-The historical buildings currently used for administrative purposes are accessible to the public,
-Establishment of directorates for research, conservation, restoration and archiving,
-Training scientific and technical staff for the autonomous management of cultural heritage,
-Promotion of modern artistic production,
-Increasing public awareness of cultural heritage through a national campaign.

In the second "International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historical Monuments" held in Venice in 1964, the random and different interventions of different professional groups, administrators and practitioners in historical buildings were criticized.

In the Venice Charter;
-It was emphasized that monuments should be arranged according to a regulation,
-Another important accepted principle is the rule of respecting the traces of all periods,
-The principle that new additions have the stamp of today and can be distinguished from the old ones,
-Monuments emphasize the importance of correct legibility of their period,
-One of the important innovations brought by the Venice Charter was redefining the concept of "Historical Monument" and moving from a single building to an urban or rural settlement that integrates with its historical texture (Kaderli, 2014).

In 1967, new additions were made to the law of 1943, this new law enabled cities and city sections of historical importance to be expressed as special areas, and stipulated the construction of development projects in places without a zoning plan. In regions where zoning

plans have been made, it is foreseen that the plans must be in accordance with this law. One of the most effective methods of protection in Italy is the "Special Protection Laws for Special Cities". Pergamo, Assisi, Venice, Bari, Aemona and many typical Italian cities are protected by special laws (Torre, 2021).

By the end of the 1980s, the issue of preserving the historical structure was at least physically accepted. Population growth, which continued until the 1980s, slowed down, the historical city centers of Italy start to offer people a more familiar living space than new cities, so a transformation began in the cities again. The reorganization of the historical buildings to be restored, whether they will be residences or offices, has become a matter of debate. They began to transform barracks and factories into offices, studios and shopping malls. The concept of "Historic" started to change day by day with the abandonment of industrial areas close to the city and these areas remaining within the urban fabric over time (Can, 2011).

Republic Law No. 229 dated 29 October 1999 established the framework of national regulations in the protection of cultural and historical environments. A single Decree-Law brought together community and national regulations. Persons who transfer documentaries, bibliographic and archival objects to foreign countries without a license for free circulation and export are punished with a prison sentence of 1 to 4 years or a fine of between 258.23-5.164.57 euros (Akkuş and Efe, 2014).

Table 2 demonstrate the most important periods of monuments conservation, as well as, the changes on the conservation principles during these times in Italy. Rome went through many reigns, most noticeable are the popes who has ruled the city for long time. Thereafter, the scientific point of view come to the power and many changes took place during its time. Then, the agreement of Athens held and after it the Italy's parliament began to improve the laws of monument conservation.

TABLE 2
Important Periods of Conservation Theory in Italy

| Period | Date | Events |
|---|---|---|
| Constantine Reign | 312 A.D. | The value that been given to the work of art is decreased because of the political impotence and economic decline. |
| Emperor Theodoric and Pope Vigiluis Reign | 455-526 A.D. 537 A.D. | Emperor Theodoric aimed to preserve the works of Greek and Roman civilizations in the field of culture. Pope Vigiluis, became an example of the public's approach to monuments. During this period, the monuments of the Roman period were converted into Christian temples. |
| Rome's Independency and Pope Martinius "the fourth" Reign | 1143 | Rome declared the Independent Republic; repairs were started without taking the necessary precautions. Rome was served as a marble quarry open to everyone. When Pope Martinius "the fourth" came to Rome, he found the city is abandoned and the life was misery everywhere. Martinius, cleaned the city and remove the ruins before construction. |
| Seizure of Political Power | 1431-1624 | Many popes took over the rule of Rome during this period. They made many repairs and established some laws. With law in 1480, the "Inspection of Roads and Monuments" have been established. It has given this organization the authority to buy then demolish the structures and extensions that hinder the order. |
| The French Academy and Pope Pius "the seventh" Reign | 1646-1823 | The French academy was established in Rome in 1666 by Louis "the Fourteenth". The most harmful event of Rome was the French plunder, because the French confiscated the ancient artifacts and moved these important structures to their own countries. Pope Pius ensured that the works taken to Paris were brought back. |

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| The Scientific Viewpoint | 1803-1904 | The nineteenth century was the period when the scientific point of view declared its dominance. In 1872, the Ministry of Education established its first General Directorate. In 1882, this General Directorate prepared a provisional guide for restoration in historical buildings. |
| The Athens Agreement and Italian Parliament Improvement of Laws | 1931-1999 | The first "International Conference of Architects and Technicians Concerned with the Protection of Historical Monuments" was held in Athens. The Italian parliament began to work on the laws that improved them by collecting and arranging the existing laws. Republic Law No. 229 dated 29 October 1999 established the framework of national regulations in the protection of cultural and historical environments. |

## 4. RESULTS

The conservation theory and principles have a very long and detailed history in Italy. Italy has gone through very difficult times until these days, it has played a guiding role in many countries in terms of protection and it still contains many important historical structures. The endless interventions to the urban fabric, although this is necessary for the continuity of use and maintenance but misapplications have attracted backlash. Another result is that the historical heritage has become a subject to who is ruling the city, this situation was generally used as a propaganda tool. Apart from these, historical heritage has become such a broad concept that the fate of the modern city has become debatable. It was not possible to deal with the inheritance completely physically, its social, economic and ethical aspects were topics of discussion.

## 5. EVALUATION AND CONCLUSION

Conservation work in Italy first started on a building scale and as a restoration work, however, these works were interrupted in many different periods. Protection was given importance with the renewal of the declining housing stock after the war. Italy has acquired the awareness of conservation later than other European countries. Therefore, it was able to benefit from the experiences of countries such as England and France.

In Italy, the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth century are also referred as historical. Urban furniture and applications from the Roman development plan in 1960 are now evaluated within the framework of historic and taken under protection. There is a belief that historical heritage is more important in Italy than in other places, because it is one of the few places with an intense historical texture. Although urban tourism does not go in harmony with conservation from time to time, but the concept of conservation has come to the fore as a very important issue in Italy, thus it still includes many important structures from the past to the present. The concept of conservation is very important worldwide, especially in countries that have a rich historical heritage such as Iraq and Kurdistan region. This study explains the theories of monument conservation in Italy; therefore, many lessons can be learned because it shows the social and national value of a nation. Therefore, the local people can understand the concept and significant of the historical heritage by increasing their awareness. As well as, the methods and laws have been applied are useful, because these methods can be studied and improved to be suitable for the local architecture. Likewise, the monuments should be conserved and be part of the future expansions because it is the representation of the identity of local people and architecture.

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