

# COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF LANDSCAPE DESIGN OF BELL-VIEW POINTS ON THE SLOPES OF CITIES LISBON AND IASSY

## ANALIZA COMPARATIVĂ A AMENAJĂRILOR PEISAGISTICE ALE PUNCTELOR BELVEDERE DE PE VERSANȚII ORAȘELOR LISABONA ȘI IAȘI

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***Abstract.** In this paper are proposed for analysis and comparison, in terms of landscaping bell-views of the slopes, two European cities, situated in hilly terrain with spectacular breaks, capitals with historical, cultural and touristic true value: Lisbon - the administrative capital of Portugal, and Iassy - the historic capital of Moldavia and an important university center of Romania.*

***Key words:** bellvedere, amenajare peisageră, relief colinar*

***Rezumat.** În această lucrare sunt propuse spre analiză și comparație din punct de vedere al amenajărilor peisagere ale versanților, două orașe europene, situate într-un relief colinar, cu ruperi spectaculoase de relief, capitale istorice, culturale și turistice de mare valoare: Lisabona – capitala administrativă a Portugaliei, și Iași – capitala istorică a Moldovei și un important centru universitar al României.*

***Cuvinte cheie:** bellview, landscape design, sloped relief*

### INTRODUCTION

In all major cities of the world there are points or buildings, which are touristic, cultural or economic attraction. But there are not as many cities that provide a variety of views over the city, the harmonious blending of natural forms of relief with landscape forms built by man.

Joining and analysis of the two cities comes from the similarity discovered from knowing them by affiliation with the author's native city of Iasi, or her temporary adoption in Lisbon.

### MATERIAL AND METHOD

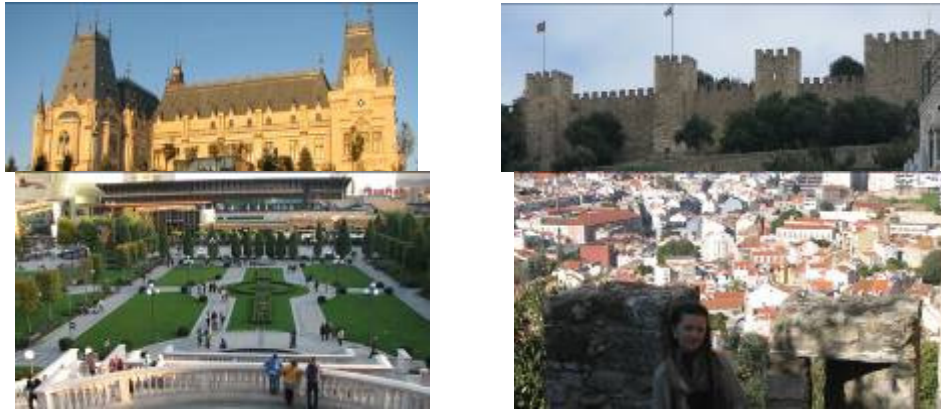
Both in Lisbon and Iasi, bellview points today were originally important centers of spiritual, cultural or administrative symbols of state power (royal or princely), or religious power, representing palaces or fortresses, towers and defensive walls, fortified monasteries or churches. Thus in Iasi Palace of Culture, former administrative palace, built in the early twentieth century, in the Gothic style, over the ruins of the old royal palace, is the building whose image has become the emblem of the city (Fig. 1-left). Similarly, Sao Jorge Castle, a landmark of the city Lisbon is strategically located

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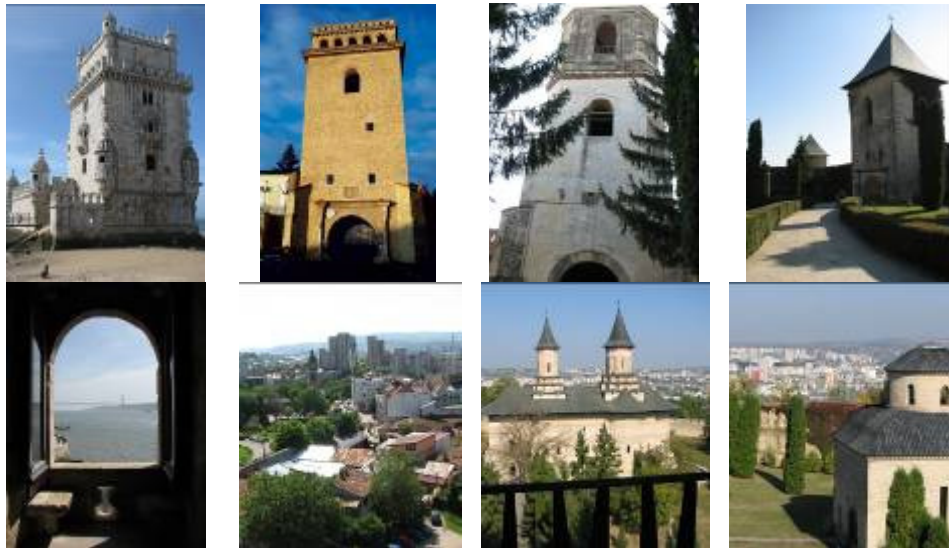
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on the hill where this medieval fortress is restored and recovered brilliantly from tourism point of view (fig. 1 right).



**Fig.1** - Monuments of mark, representing the outlook points over the surroundings: Palace of Culture in Iasi (left), Castle of Sao Jorge in Lisbon, sec. VI (right)



**Fig.2** - Historical defense towers (top) which can offer overviews of the surroundings (below) - Monuments benchmark for areas belonging to (from left to right): Tower of Belem, sec. IV (Lisbon), Tower of Golia Monastery (Iasi), Tower of Galata Monastery (Iasi), Tower of Cetatua Monastery (Iasi)

Subsequently, the security and welfare of western civilization, and varied topography, generated types of urban and architectural solutions very spectacular, where each hill or promontory, but also some special constructions were used to obtain recreational facilities and lookout points over the city - I am primarily refer to Lisbon, but lately appeared interesting things from this point of view in Iasi too.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The two named cities has some particularities that resembles: geographic situation in a hilly relief and there is a very diverse natural and built landscape with edifices from different historical eras and modern inserts.

Analyzed cities benefit by a greate touristic interest with a much higher degree of development for Lisbon, which in antiquity was called "Magic City" because of its magnetism generated among the travelers and also great conquerors, and for that, paradoxically, the effects of the Second World War have not felt (<http://www.lisbon-tourism.com/ro/scurt-istoric-al-orasului-lisabona.html>). This great miracle was celebrated as a monument to Jesus Christ as a sign of thanks and gratitude of the Portuguese people. The statue was proposed and inaugurated by the Portugal`s President in 1959, being an almost identical replica of the monument of Christ from Rio de Janeiro. This monument with the Bridge "April 25" form an architectural and landscape valuable ensemble, which can be admired with a touch of romance especially at the sunset, from moste overview sites of Lisbon.



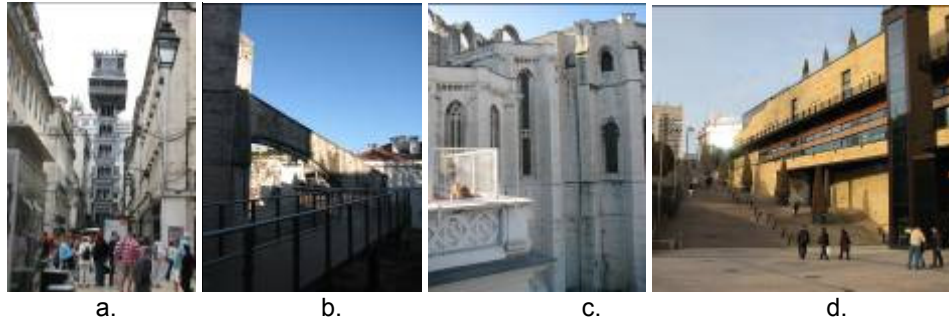
**Fig.3** - Cristo Rei monument and views from the top of the statue base-block to the bridge "April 25" and the Lisbon city

Another symbol of Lisbon is The Explorers Monument (1960), located in the Belem district on the very next shore of the Tejo river. It has the shape of a ship with sails raised, bearing on her carved aboard 35 personalities who have dedicated their lives to great Portuguese geographical discoveries or contributed to the reputation of Portugal (Vasco da Gama, Magellan, Felipe de Lancaster, Camoes, etc., all taking as leader by Infante Henry the Navigator, from whose death are commemorated five centuries) (<http://www.lisbon-tourism.com/ro/obiective-turistice-lisabona/edificii-si-monumente-istorice-in-lisabona.html>).

Between special buildings located in special areas which can offer spectacular views over the city of Lisbon (fig. 6) can remember the Santa Justa panoramic elevator tower (1901) (fig. 5), which functionally connects the lower terrace of Tejo river or Santa Justa Street, with the top of Carmo area, where there are ruins of an old Gothic cathedral remained roofless after the devastating earthquake in 1755 (<http://www.lisbon-tourism.com/ro/obiective-turistice-lisabona/edificii-si-monumente-istorice-in-lisabona.html>).



**Fig.4** - Explorers Monument - front (left) and profile (middle), and top monument view to the square and Lisbon city



**Fig.5** - a) Santa Justa elevator (Lisbon); b) The walkway connecting the elevator tower and the top of the city; c) View from the elevator terrace to the roofless Cathedral; d) Panoramic elevator from Palas Mall Iasi

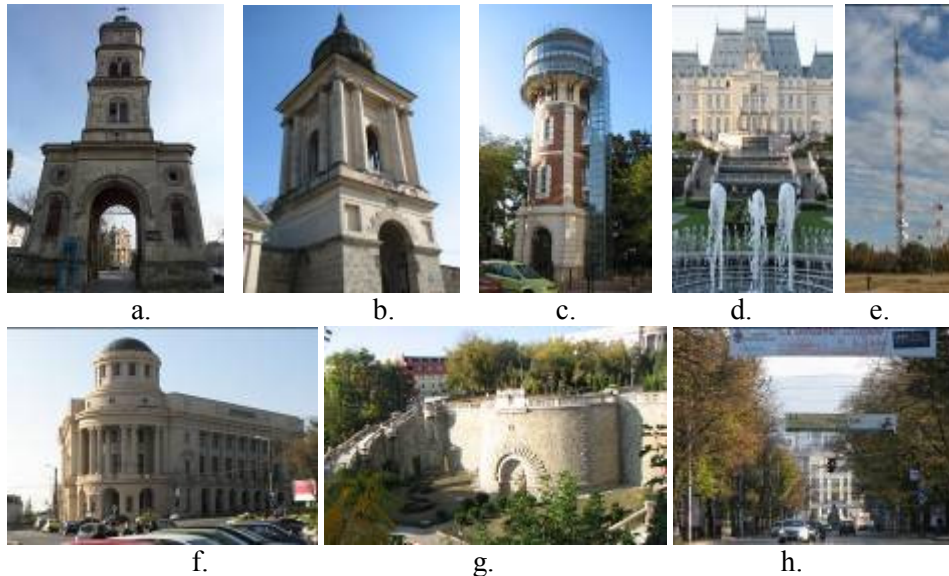


**Fig.6** - Views from the Santa Justa elevator terrace and the Palas Mall elevator terrace in Iasi: a) to Sao Jorge Castle; b) to the Commerce Square Arch, opening to the Tejo river; c) Lookout to the Palace of Culture

Analyzing the functionality and role of lookout point of Santa Justa Elevator in Lisbon, compared with outdoor panoramic elevator of Palas Mall complex in Iasi (fig. 7), we can estimate that they differ only by the era in which they were built and the style characteristic of the respective periods (Santa Justa elevator opened in 1902; Palas Mall Iasi - 2012)

In Iasi, between buildings and places that may be representative lookout points to the city, it lists: Palace of Culture (fig. 1 and fig. 7d), Golia Monastery Tower (fig. 2b), the Tower of Galata Monastery (fig. 2c), The Tower of Citadel Monastery (fig. 2d) Barboi Church Tower (fig. 7a) Beautiful Monastery Tower

(fig. 7b), Water Tower of Cuza University (fig. 7c), Union Hotel, Europe Hotel, „Mihai Eminescu” Central University Library (fig. 7f), Yellow Slope (fig. 8g), the Botanical Garden and the Carol Boulevard (fig. 7h) and last but not least a special structure design for GSM radio and TV antennas, which gave the name of highest place from Iasi: "hill Bucium relay" (fig. 7e).



**Fig. 7** - Buildings and places of Iasi representative which can provide views of the city or its environs



**Fig. 8** - Perspectives of Iasi caught in: a) the former water tower from Univ. Cuza; b) The esplanade Palace of Culture; c) the esplanade of „Râpa Galbenă”; d) Tower of Golia Monastery (The Cetățuia Monastery shown)

Landforms of Iasi are hilly type, more gentle as sinusoids amplitude and altitude breaks and rocky terrain that exists in Lisbon, rarely can be meet in Iasi and at much smaller scale (only Palace of Culture cornice, or the place so-called „Râpa Galbenă”). Therefore, in Iasi, the visitors can enjoy views only from centrally placed buildings, from top of modern or ancient towers, or surrounding hills special places, such as those presented above (fig. 2, fig. 7, fig. 8).

Lisbon is instead a city of contrasts between mountain and sea, between the largest square, paved, mobilated with obelisks, classic statues or fountains, and natural parks with water mirrors, harboring different species of birds and a rich

and varied vegetation in terms of number of species, or the appearance and coloring of leaves and flowers which have flowering periods all over the year. This "Magic City" offers many surprises (<http://www.lisbon-tourism.com/ro/obiective-turistice-lisabona/gradini-si-parcuri-in-lisabona.html>) (fig. 9): at each step the visitor can admire the excitement of urban structure with walkways, elevators or funiculars, tunnels linking different areas of the city, especially on each promontory is arranged one terrace garden or parks, where, stunned and tired traveler can stop and all the excitement and beauty of the city emerge to him as a magnificent painting crafted by the hand and the inspired mind of a generous Demiurge.



**Fig. 9** - Perspectives in Lisbon captured from: Terrace on the old Moorish wall (Porta do Sol); Promontory between Str. Ulisses and Str. Baltico; Terrace Church of „Santa Luísa”, „Amalia Rodrigues” Garden; „Eduardo VII” Park; „Sao Pedro de Alcantara” Garden.

## CONCLUSIONS

Given the images shown might conclude that landscape plays a dominant role in the creation of spectacular perspectives on urban or rural areas. Thus, if the Lisbon subway or train runs both underground and above ground, and this is reflected in all the urban structure, instilling excitement of mind and offers the viewer a dramatic architectural and landscape image of the city, in Iași everything seems quieter, like gentle hills curl of Repedea, Bucium, Galata, Sorogari, Breazu, Copou or Tătărași.

## REFERENCES

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