## **X** Biennial of European Towns and Town Planners

## Cascais (Portugal), 19-20 September 2013

## **Keynote address**

"In praise of slow urban growth design patterns: The timeless way of planning."

By Pierre LACONTE, Foundation for the Urban Environment

## Abstract

At a time of growing concern for resource overconsumption, energy price increase and economic slowdown, a flexible piece-and-frame approach to urban extensions - using the lessons of historic town planning - makes sense.

It includes lower energy consuming urban forms, lower requirement for motorised transport, achieved through higher density urban forms and shorter distances between activities, while putting emphasis on urban identity, quality of life and adaptive reuse of architectural heritage.

The presentation illustrates these concepts through case histories spanning over different periods.

