

Cultural Diversity under Attack: Protecting Heritage for Peace

High-Level Meeting and Technical Conference

Brussels, 09-10 June 2016

Day 1 – 09 June 2016

Venue: Royal Flemish Academy for Arts and Science, Academy Palace

- 09:30-10:00 Registration and Coffee
- 10:00-10:45 **Opening: Heritage Heroes**
- Mr Abdelkhader Haidara, *Owner, Timbuktu libraries, Mali*
 - Mr Ferhad Mulabegovic, *Architect, Bosnia and Herzegovina*
 - Father Najeeb Michael o.p., *Director, Centre numérique des manuscrits orientaux, Dominican Order, Iraq*
- 10:45-11:00 **Music**
- Mr Bassel Khalil, *musician, Refugees for Refugees, Syria/Belgium*
 - Mr Jeremie Hakeshimana, *Musician, Burundi/Belgium*
- 11:00-11:15 **Opening Remarks**
- Ms Irina Bokova, *Director-General, UNESCO, France*
 - Ms Federica Mogherini, *High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy*
 - Mr Geert Bourgeois, *Minister-President, Government of Flanders*
- 11:15-13:00 **High-level Debate: Cultural Diversity under Attack**
- Ms Irina Bokova, *Director-General, UNESCO, France*
 - Ms Federica Mogherini, *High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, European Union*
 - Mr Aananda Prasad Pokharel, *Minister of Culture, Nepal*
 - Ms N'Diaye Ramatoulaye Diallo, *Minister of Culture, Mali*
 - Mr Kunio Mikuriya, *Secretary-General, World Customs Organization*
 - Ms Karima Bennoune, *UN Special Rapporteur on Cultural Rights*
 - Mr John Hocking, *Assistant Secretary-General, International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia*
- 13:00-14:00 Lunch
- 14:00-14:10 **Opening of the Technical Meeting**
- Mr Francesco Bandarin, *Assistant-Director General for Culture, UNESCO, France*
- 14:10-15:00 **Cultural Diplomacy**
- Mr Diego Marani, *Policy Officer, Global Issues Division, European External Action Service* and Mr Walter Zampieri, *Chief, Cultural Policy and Intercultural Dialogue, Directorate General for Education and Culture*
 - Prof Luc Van Langenhove, *United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies, and EU Horizon 2020 project on Cultural Diplomacy, Belgium*

15:00-15:45

Culture on the Move

Personal stories from artists who were forced to flee their home country will touch upon the importance of culture in triggering displacement and for return and (re)integration.

- Ms Fatena Al-Ghora, *Poet, Palestine/Belgium*
- Mr Jeremie Hakeshimana, *Musician, Burundi/Belgium*
- (TBC)

Presentation on cultural rights and living heritage in situations of return

- Mr Younes Saramifar, *Researcher, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands*

15:45-16:15

Coffee

16:15-17:45

Session 1: Protecting Cultural Rights in Protracted Crisis

The violation of cultural rights, in particular extreme violations like ‘cultural cleansing’, is closely linked to impact of armed conflict on communities, the rise of violent extremism, and the conditions necessary for recovery and return. An approach that considers (access to) culture and cultural rights is essential and should be an integral part of recovery and re-integration strategies. A key part of the motivation behind the deliberate targeting of culture in all its forms is the aim to create new historical narratives that afford no alternative vision to their own and for which all tangible and intangible elements that could contradict that narrative need to disappear. The deliberate targeting of culture that serves these sectarian agendas often goes hand-in-hand with other large-scale violations of human rights, and also has a direct correlation with displacement. Ending these forms of destruction, and tackling in part the events that they trigger – such as displacement -, requires addressing fundamentalist ideologies. It also requires enabling access to culture and building on the positive power of culture to overcome and commemorate past events. This is not only important to prevent conflict from escalating, but is an essential component of post-conflict recovery, including for the return and (re-)integration of displaced communities.

Introduction and Presentation by Chair

- Prof Patrice Meyer-Bisch, *Coordinator of the Interdisciplinary Institute for Ethics and Human Rights, Freiburg University, Switzerland*

Presentation on Cultural rights, Transitional Justice and Commemoration

- Prof Stephan Parmentier, *Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium*

Panel Debate

- Mr Tom Adami, *Head, Arusha Branch of the Archives and Records Section of the Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals, Rwanda/Tanzania*
- Ms Catherine Kennedy, *Director, South African History Archives, South Africa*
- Father Najeeb Michael o.p., *Centre numérique des manuscrits orientaux, Dominican Order, Iraq*
- Mr Younes Saramifar, *Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands*

Q&A

18:30-20:00

Evening Event - Bozar

Evening event organized together with the Bozar Cultural centre in Brussels. The event will consist of a cocktail and a cultural programme linked to the conference theme.

09:00-10:45

Session 2 A: Culture and Arts for Dialogue, Conflict Resolution and Stabilization

(main room)

This session will discuss how dialogue around culture, arts and engaging communities can be used as tool for conflict resolution and peacebuilding. Culture, and arts in particular, provide ways to open dialogue and for bringing communities back together. Dialogue built around heritage or practices is a tangible way to bring communities or different religious groups around the table and find openings towards common ground. In addition, artists have always been among the most outspoken voices in society and therefore can play a catalyst role. This is why an approach that considers creativity as a force makes peacebuilding processes more inclusive through constructing common perspectives

Introduction by chair

- Ms Jyoti Hosagrahar, *Director, Division for Creativity, UNESCO*

Presentation on Intercultural Dialogue

- Prof Mike Hardy, *Chair in Intercultural Relations, Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations, Coventry University, UK*

Panel Debate

- Mr Tomas Baum, *Director, Flemish Peace Institute, Belgium*
- Ms Rebecca Crozier, *Head of Middle East and North Africa Programme, International Alert, UK*
- Mr Evert Kets, *Security Sector Reform Officer, United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA)*
- Mr Ole Reitov, *Director, FreeMuse, Denmark*
- Ms Deborah Stolk, *Emergency Programme Coordinator, Prince Claus Fund, The Netherlands*

Q&A

Session 2 B: Use of Digital Technologies for Heritage in Emergencies

(auditorium)

Digital technologies have in recent years seen a rapid development, including in their application for recording and re-imagining heritage. These new tools are also placing the debate on rehabilitation in a new light and poses new questions on the relation between the reconstruction of physical assets and the recovery of the concerned populations. New opportunities are offered for monitoring and documenting damage to cultural heritage during conflict, including in areas that are difficult to access. But these tools and associated social media platforms are also increasingly used to provide communities with a continued sense of belonging and access to their heritage, which is proving to be an essential component of their recovery.

Introduction and presentation by chair

- Mr Olivier Van Damme, *Deputy Director, UNOSAT, United Nations Institute for Training and Research*

Demo on data mapping in humanitarian crises, case study of Bosra, Syria

- Mr Nick Axel, *Researcher, Forensic Architecture, Goldsmiths university, UK*

Panel Debate

- Mr Barnaby Gunning, *Architect, L'Aquila Project, UK*
- Ms Alexy Karenowsky, *Director of Technology, Institute for Digital Archaeology UK*
- Ms Elizabeth Lee, *Vice-President, CyARK, USA*
- Prof Salvatore Russo, *Associate Professor of Structural Engineering, University of Venice, Italy*

Q&A

10:45-11:15

Coffee

11:15-13:00

Session 3: Culture for Recovery, Rehabilitation and Resilience

Built around the example of the rehabilitation of the heritage of Timbuktu, Mali, the session will discuss how the rehabilitation of cultural heritage in all its forms can be successfully integrated into peacebuilding and recovery programmes. Such rehabilitation has a catalytic role to play in sustainable recovery from situations where cultural and historic references have been affected, for example through destruction or looting. As part of a recovery phase, the rehabilitation of the culture sector - whether through its built heritage or through its institutions, movable heritage or intangible traditions - is an inherent part of rebuilding communities and contributes significantly to the sustainability and success rate of recovery efforts.

Introduction by Chair

- Mr Lazare Eloundou, *Representative, UNESCO, Mali*

Screening of video on Mali reconstruction

Panel Debate

- Mr Maamoun Abdulkarim, *Director of Heritage, Directorate General for Antiquities and Museums, Syria*
- Mr Christophe Bouleau, *Aga Khan Historic Cities Programme, Switzerland*
- Mr Abdelkader Haidara, *Owner, Timbuktu libraries, Mali*
- Mr Ferhad Mulabegovic, *Architect, Bosnia and Herzegovina*
- Mr Ali Ould Sidi, *Advisor, Ministry of Culture, Mali*
- Ms Sophie Ravier, *Chief Culture and Environment, MINUSMA, Mali*

Presentation on Cultural Property Protection under International Humanitarian Law
Mr Gilles DuTertre, *Senior Trial Lawyer, Mali case, International Criminal Court*

Q&A

13:00-14:00

Lunch

14:00-14:20

Involving Armed Non-State Actors in Cultural Heritage Protection

- Ms Elisabeth Decrey-Warner, *President, Geneva Call, Switzerland*

14:20-16:00

Session 4 A: Working with Law Enforcement to Protect Cultural Property
(main room)

This session will discuss how within the framework of International Humanitarian Law (IHL), the protection of cultural property during and after conflict can be enhanced by working with the security sector and law enforcement agencies. Within the context of IHL, practitioners from legal, security and related sectors will discuss the importance of cultural property protection and the prevention of illicit trafficking for their work in crisis situations, and how this can contribute to better to post-conflict recovery and reintegration.

Session 4 B: (Social) Media and the deliberate targeting of cultural heritage
(auditorium)

Culture is being used in an unprecedented manner as part of strategic communication by armed groups. Aiming to wipe out history and any cultural references other than their own, extremist groups have skillfully used modern means of communication to communicate that strategy and to mobilize globally for or against their cause. At the same time, media, including social media, have created tools for communities, governments and CSOs to draw the world's attention, and that offer new ways for commemorating.

Introduction by Chair

- Mr Benjamin Goes, *4th President of the Intergovernmental Committee for the protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict, Belgium*

Presentation on Sanctions Monitoring

- Expert, *UN Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team*

Presentation on NATO and Cultural Property Protection

- Admiral Denis Bigot, *Assistant Chief of Staff, NATO SHAPE J9, Belgium*

Panel Debate

- Ms Antonia Pereira de Sousa, *Office of the Prosecutor, International Criminal Court*
- Mr Claudio Cimino, *Director, WATCH – World Association on the Protection of Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage in Times of Armed Conflict, Italy*
- Mr Stephane Kolanowski, *Legal Advisor, ICRC*
- Mr Gianpietro Romano, *Expert of the Carabinieri Department for the Protection of Cultural Heritage, Italy*

Q&A

Introduction by Chair

- (TBC)

Presentation on the strategic use of social media in relation to heritage destruction in Iraq and Syria

- Mr Javier Lesaca, *Researcher George Washington University, USA*

Panel Debate

- Mr Chance Coughenour, *Cofounder, Rekrei*
- Mr Jacob Davey, *Researcher, Institute for Strategic Dialogue, UK*
- Ms Silvia de Ascaniis, *Faces4Heritage, Università della Svizzera Italiana, Switzerland*
- Ms Julie Majerczak, *EU Advocacy Advisor, Reporters without Borders, Belgium*

Q&A

- 16:00-16:15 **Messages for the Future**
Overview of key messages from conflict areas: personal testimonies to the positive role of culture in fostering resilience and dignity, with contributions from Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Haiti, Mali and Nepal, *UNESCO*
- 16:15-16:30 **Presentation of results and recommendations**
• Ms Jyothi Hosagrahar, *Director, Division for Creativity, UNESCO*
- 16:30-17:00 *Departure Coffee*

Side Events (Continuous: 9 - 10 June)

Venue: Royal Academy for Arts and Science, Academy Palace

- **Exhibition “Culture under Attack”**, developed by the Dutch and Flemish Commissions for UNESCO, and the International Committee of the Blue Shield: installed in the Atrium of the Academy palace.
- **Videos on UNESCO’s Cultural Emergency Response** from various field offices will be screened at different occasions in the main room (Throne)
- **Art installation “Lost Museum – History Lost”** by Mr Faust Campaná Pelejá, organized by the National Commission of Andorra to UNESCO: installed in the entry hallway of the Academy palace

**Additional information on the side events can be found on the USB key that was provided upon registration*