

THE 26th ICOM GENERAL CONFERENCE PRAGUE

RA ICOM South East Europe with NC Committees of South East Europe and the Forum of Slavic Culture – Joint Programme

22 August 2022, 14:00–15:30

Prague Congress Centre, Club D

MUSEUMS OF SE EUROPE: THE POWER OF COMMON ROOTS FOR BUILDING LASTING PEACE AMONG THE NATIONS

ICOM
PRAGUE
2022

With our joint presentation and performance with NC committees from ICOM SEE and the International Foundation – Forum of Slavic Cultures, we promote and emphasise the diversity, originality, exclusivity and identity of our cultural heritage. We present good practices and outstanding projects launched by recognised experts in this field.

The situation in this part of Europe remains very tense and uncertain, so our event is an important contribution to emphasising, launching and sharing concrete joint projects aimed at assisting and protecting heritage, especially heritage at risk, and helping colleagues in the conflicts zones. As part of a round table, we present successful common tasks and challenges, and our colleagues from Ukraine and Bosnia and Herzegovina share their experiences of war and its consequences for heritage and people.

Programme:

14:00–14:20

A Welcome Slide Show

Addresses/Statements:

- Alberto GARLANDINI, ICOM President
- Alenka ČERNELIČ KROŠELJ, Director of the Posavje Museum Brežice, Slovenia; Vice Chair of ICOM Slovenia; ICOM SEE Chair
- Andreja RIHTER, Director of International Foundation – Forum of Slavic Cultures

14:20–14:40

Round Table I: The Power of Museums – Common Projects – Common Roots

Panel leader:

Slavko SPASIĆ, Director of Natural History Museum Belgrade, Serbia; ICOM Serbia; ICOM SEE Vice Chair, Candidate for the ICOM executive board

Participants:

- Edlira ANDONI, ICOM Albania: **Common Cultural Heritage: Interregional Archaeological Research and Educational Practices**
- Philippos MAZARAKIS-AINIAN, ICOM Greece: **Imagining the Balkans: Identities and Memory in the Long 19th Century – A Travelling Exhibition.**
- Tanja ROŽENBERGAR, ICOM Slovenia: **The Role of ICOM SEE in Building Capacities and Developing the Idea of ICH**
- Andreja RIHTER, Forum of Slavic Cultures: **Museum that matter in Slavic World – "ŽIVA" MUSEUM AWARD**

14:40–15:00

Round Table II: Museums on the Frontline, Homefronts, Conflict Zones and Areas of Peace

Panel leader:

Pavel DOUŠA, Deputy Director General of the National Museum of Agriculture, Prague, Czech Republic; Director of Kačina Chateau – Museum of Rural Life in Bohemia, Czech Republic; ICOM Czech Republic; Forum of Slavic Cultures

Participants:

- Olha HONCHAR, Memorial Museum of Totalitarian Regimes “Territory of Terror”, Ukraine: **Museums’ and Military’s Mutual Help: Experience of the Museum Crisis Center**
- Olesia MILOVANOV VOLODYMYRIVNA, Local Lore Museum in the Lugansk region, Ukraine: **Double Evacuation Experience. Life of Museums during the Occupation**
- Elma HAŠIMBEGOVIĆ, History Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bosnia and Herzegovina: **The power of museums in dealing with difficult past: The case of History Museum of Bosnia and Hercegovina**

15:00

Statement for the Future:

- Alenka ČERNELIČ KROŠELJ, ICOM SEE Chair
- Andreja RIHTER, Director of International Foundation – Forum of Slavic Cultures

15:10–15:30

Reception

Abstracts:

Edlira ANDONI, ICOM Albania, ICOM SEE

COMMON CULTURAL HERITAGE: INTERREGIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATIONAL PRACTICES

This project is focused on the cultural heritage of Albania, North Macedonia and Serbia and consists of its research, protection, and promotion. It aims to demonstrate that the prehistoric cultural heritage in question has a lot in common although it belongs to three different countries. The project is designed to change the traditional cultural, educational and scientific narrative and endorse the terminology and methods that will assert the networks and relationship between the prehistoric communities in the present-day Albania, Serbia and North Macedonia.

The activities involve national cultural institutions, universities, museums, scientific institutes and municipalities. The target groups are students, local communities and minorities.

Phillipos MAZARAKIS-AINIAN, ICOM Greece, ICOM SEE

IMAGINING THE BALKANS: IDENTITIES AND MEMORY IN THE LONG 19TH CENTURY – A TRAVELLING EXHIBITION

The travelling exhibition “Imagining the Balkans: Identities and Memory in the Long 19th Century” (2013–2015), was a UNESCO-directed and ICOM-sponsored initiative for the cooperation of history museums across SE Europe. The aim was to raise the public awareness of cultural similarities and commonalities in the historic evolution of the different countries in the region. These are often concealed behind antagonistic national history readings, which transform the political borders into opaque “iron curtains” and splinter the region’s history into a set of incompatible narratives.

The experience of the cooperation was highly enriching for the participating museums and curators, although these same narratives did pose certain challenges, sometimes in an acute way. The exhibition explored the highly sensitive issue of national identities in the region and provoked much discussion in the public and the press, sometimes even bringing about political interventions that threatened its scientific integrity. The project's method was in essence a trial-and-error system that can be very didactic of what museum professionals can or cannot do when dealing with difficult historical issues.

Tanja ROŽENBERGAR, Slovene Ethnographic Museum, Slovenia,
ICOM Slovenia, ICOM SEE

THE ROLE OF ICOM SEE IN BUILDING CAPACITIES AND DEVELOPING THE IDEA OF ICH

The UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003) was adopted by countries in the South East Europe region. Work in this field is organised on the national level, where the role and contribution of museums and curators is also of a great importance. ICOM SEE as a regional alliance of museums in the SEE region could cooperate in this process on many levels. It could maintain contacts with museum institutions and experts responsible for the ICH in different countries, help with information for register elements that may be nominated to UNESCO together with a group of countries, support and promote the activities related to serial nominations from this region and cooperate with the Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of the ICH in South Eastern Europe under the auspices of UNESCO in Sofia.

ICH brings together individuals, groups, regions and heritage. And museums are important and crucial tools in this process.

Andreja RIHTER, Director of Forum of Slavic Cultures

MUSEUM THAT MATTER IN SLAVIC WORLD - "ŽIVA" MUSEUM AWARD

In the period following the end of WWII, the richness of Slavic spiritual and cultural heritage was first neglected and underestimated, and subsequently left to oblivion, remaining widely misunderstood. Isolation took its toll on existing relationships between European countries; it severed all ties and obliterated friendships, thus jeopardising any chance of establishing new liaisons and collaborations.

The Project "Živa award" is an award honouring interesting and outstanding museological and heritage experiences within Slavic countries.

There is an amazing and growing number of Slavic museums and heritage sites which extend their role in society with a significant local or international impact. That is admirable in itself, but these experiences need to be shared, seen and acknowledged. And the Živa award – with all its applicants – is a major entrance point for the FSK (Forum of Slavic Cultures) stakeholders, colleagues and audiences. The Award serves as platform for sharing and promoting – in Slavic countries as well as in the broader group of European countries. Živa award is dedicated to the promotion of the protection, preservation, education and communication of museum collections, and heritage sites, their diversity in type, size and contents as well as their social role by highlighting their innovative and creative approaches, accessibility to the public and openness, their impact on societies, and their contribution to the development of museological principles and ideas.

Olha HONCHAR, Director of Memorial Museum of Totalitarian Regimes “TERRITORY OF TERROR”, CEO, Museum Crisis Center, Ukraine

MUSEUMS’ AND MILITARY’S MUTUAL HELP: EXPERIENCE OF THE MUSEUM CRISIS CENTER

The Museum Crisis Center appeared during the first days of the war on the basis of the territory of the Terror Museum and the NGOs “Insha Osvita” and “New Museum”. The main focus of this initiative is providing individual financial support to museum workers in times of crisis. Since 3 March 2022, 170 UAH have been raised and distributed to 667 people from 120 institutions in 10 regions of Ukraine. During my speech, I will concentrate on the following: the algorithm of the initiative’s work, the problems and the dynamic in the museum network, solutions to the problems and the challenges that may appear in the future.

Olesia MILOVANOV VOLODYMYRIVNA, Director of the Local Lore Museum in the Lugansk region, Ukraine

DOUBLE EVACUATION EXPERIENCE. LIFE OF MUSEUMS DURING THE OCCUPATION

The Local Lore Museum in the Lugansk region survived the 2014 attack and occupation. It is being restored in Starobilsk, where it works successfully along the demarcation line, funding other new museums and building new exhibitions under fire. This museum connects people with the tool of history and soothes artificial conflicts; it becomes an open space for discussions and support. It brings together 17 regional museums under the Association of Museum Workers in the Lugansk region, who work together to bring European practices to Ukrainian museums. However, after a full-scale invasion on 24 February, the museum was forced to evacuate for the second time in its history. It now continues its work in Lviv.

During the meeting, we will discuss the present-day life of museum workers, all the challenges we are facing on a daily basis and our new exhibition on Victory.

Elma HAŠIMBEGOVIĆ, Director of the History Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bosnia and Herzegovina

THE POWER OF MUSEUMS IN DEALING WITH DIFFICULT PAST: THE CASE OF HISTORY MUSEUM OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

During the last two decades, the History Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina, founded in 1945, put a special focus on more recent history. Once at the first frontline, located in the Snipers Alley of besieged Sarajevo, the Museum today houses a large collection of photographs, stories and artefacts from the period of the siege, donated by the citizens of Sarajevo. The Besieged Sarajevo exhibition, inaugurated in 2003, provides the testimony of life during the siege but also celebrates human spirit and life in times of war. The presentation will focus on sharing experiences of how the History Museum of BiH is using its permanent exhibition and developing different strategies to foster constructive dialogue about difficult past within the local community, country and as well as within the region.

Short Biographies:

ALBERTO GARLANDINI is a museologist and an expert in the management of cultural heritage. He is President of ICOM and a member of ICOM's Executive Board and Standing Committee for Museum Definition, Prospects and Potentials. He was President of ICOM Italy and of the Board of the International Committee for Regional Museums. He is a speaker at the UNESCO High Level Forum on Museums (Shenzhen, China). He is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Museum of Palazzo Ducale in Mantua, of the Scientific Committee of Brescia Musei Foundation and of the Scientific Committee of Trento's MUSE – Museo delle Scienze. He has been appointed by the Italian Ministry of Cultural Heritage and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a member of various national commissions, such as the Commission for the Reform of State Museums and National Museum System, the Commission for the Definition of National Standards for the Museums' Management and the Commission for the Promotion of Italian Culture Abroad. He is a lecturer at universities and international conferences, and has been widely published in Italian, English and French.

Source: <https://romemuseumexhibition.com/speakers/alberto-garlandini/>

ALENKA ČERNELIČ KROŠELJ, Museum Advisor, graduated from the Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. After graduating in History of Art, Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, she worked in different institutions and was involved in several projects financed with EU funds. Since 2014, she has been the managing director of the Posavje Museum Brežice (Slovenia). She is involved in different strategic and development groups and boards (Posavje Regional Development Agency), organisations and societies focused on developing our society through and with our cultural heritage.

She is a lecturer at the Faculty of Tourism. She is a Vice Chair of ICOM Slovenia, Chair of Slovenian Museums Association, and the Chair of RA ICOM SEE. Since 2021, she has been a member of the Governing Board of IMREC (International Museums Research and Exchange Centre).

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ANDREJA RIHTER, PhD in History, Director of International Foundation – Forum of Slavic Cultures.

For more than twenty years, she has strongly supported cultural heritage projects and activities at the national, regional and international levels — as the Minister of Culture in the Government of Slovenia during her term of office (2000–2004), former director of the Museum of Recent History Celje (1986–2000; 2006–2008)) and through other assignments, functions and positions in different national and European cultural organisations such as the Association of the Museums of Slovenia (president, 1998–2001); the Museology School of Celje, Slovenia (initiator and head, 2006–2010); ICOM – ICTOP (board member 2007–2016, vice-chair 2010–2016); ICOM – ICOMAM (board member 2016–; secretary 2019–), the Forum of Slavic Cultures (founding member and initiator, 2002–), member of the Parliamentary Assembly Council of Europe (PACE) (2009–2011), Chair of the Sub-Committee on Cultural Heritage (PACE), (2010–2011); the European Museum Academy (president, 2009–). Currently, she is the Director of the Forum of Slavic Cultures (2012–) and initiator (2014) of the ŽIVA Award, the award for the best Slavic museum. Since 2021, she has been the President of the Association of Women Writers Route – Culture Route. She has published more than 230 articles and has lectured in Slovenia and abroad.

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SLAVKO SPASIĆ, Senior Curator, biologist, Master Engineer of Organisational Sciences.

He is the Director of the Natural History Museum in Belgrade, Vice-President of the Regional Alliance ICOM SEE, member of ICOM-IMREC Academic and Programming Board and the main republic coordinator of “The Best Museums” event in Serbia.

He has been member of the International Committee for Natural History Museums (NATHIST) since 2014, member of the Ethical Commission for Animal Welfare of the Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Belgrade since 2011 and member of the International Committee for Museum Management (INTERCOM) since 2015. He was the President of the National Committee of ICOM Serbia (2013–2019), member of the ICOM Strategic Plan Committee (2014–2016) and member of the National Advisory Committee for Monitoring the Implementation of the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (2015–2020). He has performed duties of Vice President of the Management Board of the Nikola Tesla Museum and is a member of the Management Board of the Museum of Theatre Arts of Serbia.

He has directed his research activities towards building management in culture, improving the system of preservation, management and presentation of the natural heritage of Serbia, and the positioning of heritage institutions in the country’s tourist offerings.

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EDLIRA ANDONI, graduated from the University of Tirana, Faculty of History and Philology, Diploma in History, Archaeology major. Since 2003, she has been employed at the Archaeological Museum in Tirana. Since 2019, she has been a doctor of archaeology, researcher at the Department of Prehistory, the Institute of Archaeology and the head of the

Collection of Archaeological Museum of Tirana at the Academy for Albanian Studies.

She has participated in excavation projects focused on various prehistoric settlements, authored several scientific contributions on the Early Neolithic period and participated in different scientific archaeology-related conferences with a particular focus on the field of prehistory.

Since 2008, she has been a member of ICOM and board member of ICOM Albania. Since 2014, she has been the secretary of ICOM Albania and since 2020 the Chair of ICOM Albania.

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PHILIPPOS MAZARAKIS-AINIAN, Senior Curator, National Historical Museum of Greece.

He has completed his studies in Archaeology and in Conservation of Historic Towns and Buildings. He began his career at the Culture Unit of the EC. He has been a curator of weapons and architectural drawings at the National Historical Museum of Athens since 1998. He has presented editions and exhibitions on these and on the modern Greek history.

He has served in the boards of ICOM Greece, ICMAH and IAMH. He has represented the museum in cooperation initiatives of UNESCO, the Council of Europe, the Balkan Museum Network and individual European museums. He is a co-organiser of international meetings and is responsible for the museum's digital strategy.

Contact: pmazarakis@nhmuseum.gr; pmaz70@gmail.com, National Historical Museum, Old Parliament Building, Stadiou str. 13, Athens 10561, Greece

TANJA ROŽENBERGAR, Museum Councillor for the Craft and Trade Collection at the Slovene Ethnographic Museum; she has a PhD in Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Faculty of Arts in Ljubljana, Slovenia, EU. She has been professionally involved in cultural heritage for more than thirty years and has worked in various fields of museum work, including research work, visitor-related work, educational work in the museology field, publishing, visual documentation and presentations, formation of national cultural strategies and management. She has worked as a secretary for the movable cultural heritage at the Slovenian Ministry of Culture and as an ethnologist and director at the Museum of Recent History Celje and the Slovene Ethnographic Museum since 2020.

Tanja Roženberger is a member of several professional associations; she was ICOM Slovenia Chair from 2010 to 2017.

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PAVEL DOUŠA, Deputy Director General of the National Museum of Agriculture, Prague, Director of Kačina Chateau – Museum of Czech Rural Life.

He is an experienced manager and scientist in the field of marketing, cultural heritage, history and museum studies. He has worked as a Collection manager at the Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague, Deputy Director of Communications, Marketing and Customer Strategy at the Prague Zoo, Deputy for Business Development at the National Museum, Director of the Historical Museum and a research secretary of the National Museum. He has also worked as an outside- lecturer at various universities.

The focus of his professional activities is on management, marketing and presentation of cultural heritage, collections management and the management of digital content, museology and museum studies. He is a member of several scientific, expert or advisory boards and has been involved in the development of various museum projects. He is a member of the ŽIVA Award Jury.

Contact: pavel.dousa@nzm.cz, National Museum of Agriculture, Kostelní 1300/44, 170 00 Prague / Kačina Chateau – Museum of Czech Rural Life, Svatý Mikuláš 51, 284 01 Kutná Hora, Czech Republic

OLHA HONCHAR, culturologist, project and communications manager, anti-crisis manager, Director of the Memorial Museum of Totalitarian Regimes “Territory of Terror” in Lviv. She has been researching the features of PR, cultural and museum management in Ukraine. She is the communicator of the projects “Cultural Diplomacy between the Regions of Ukraine” in the frontline and the liberated cities of Donetsk and Luhansk regions: “The Museum Is Open for Renovation”, the expedition “HERE AND THERE” and others. She is a co-curator of the experimental exposition of the Anti-Terrorist Operation at the Luhansk Regional Museum in Starobilsk. She is the initiator of the Museum Crisis Center and the Ambulance Museum project, which emerged in the first days of the Russian war against Ukraine.

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MILOVANOV OLESIA VOLODYMYRIVNA, Director of the Local Lore Museum in the Lugansk region. She has a Master’s degree in Management and a Master’s degree in History and Archaeology. Her focus is

on objective representation of Lugansk region's history as an integral part of European history. She founded the Association of Museum Workers in the Lugansk region. Her work includes the collection of information, oral stories and showpieces of the Russian-Ukrainian war.

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ELMA HAŠIMBEGOVIĆ, a historian and museum professional, born in Sarajevo in 1977. She graduated in History at the Faculty of Philosophy in Sarajevo, and holds an MA and MPhil in medieval studies from the Central European University in Budapest. Since 2001, she has worked at the History Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina Sarajevo as a curator, and since 2013 as a museum director, developing and implementing new strategies and policies for the institution, actively promoting the museum as a place of historical research, education and constructive dialogue, and as a space open to all. She is editor-in-chief of the museum journal and other museum publications. She was a member of the National Commission of Bosnia and Herzegovina for cooperation with UNESCO and holds a “Chevalier des arts and literature” medal of the Republic of France.

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