

ICOM

international
council
of museums

South East Europe

NEWSLETTER

2023



HIGHLIGHTS

ICOM GENERAL CONFERENCE IN PRAGUE
ICOM MUSEUM DEFINITION
ICOM SEE RED LIST
ICOM SEE PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES
PROJECTS

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FOREWORD



Dear all,

You have just opened the ICOM SEE Newsletter 2022/23 and I am honoured to be writing this foreword as the new/old Chair of the Regional Alliance for the 2022–2025 mandate. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to form and shape our network together with you in next three years.

The year 2022 was challenging, but also successful and rewarding, as most of the members and many of our colleagues met in Prague. Once again many thanks to the organisers, mainly ICOM Czech Republic and the Chair of the Organising Committee Martina Lehmannova. It was a great adventure, even more so in light of how difficult the years 2020 and 2021 were, and the organisers managed to prepare everything for an excellent conference. As the Chair, I am proud that the RA ICOM SEE was very active and our work, projects and especially our network was an important part of the programme. I am grateful to both Vice Chairs, Slavko Spasić and Virgil Stefan Nitulesco, for all the hard work and cooperation. I am also grateful to Goranka Horjan and Tanja Roženberger, who navigated me through my first mandate and were also indispensable in preparing the Prague programme.

We believe in cooperation, so most of the 2022 activities presented in the Newsletter show good co-working and achieving goals that we share in the SEE region and also within the entire ICOM network. We were active throughout the year. Among other things, we were part of the activities aimed at shaping and finally adopting a new museum definition. After the “Kyoto museum definition experience”, we were all dedicated to being part of new methods that led to a successful end of the process. The definition was confirmed on 24 August 2022 in Prague. An enthusiastic applause and happiness of two Chairs of the “Define group” reflected the importance of the topic and brought satisfaction for all the hard work. The next phase was translating the museum definition into other languages. Some ICOM SEE countries have already adopted the definition in their respective national languages. This is one of the first steps. Now we have to implement it and – this is always the most important step – accept it at all levels of our work.

We hope that 2023 will bring peace to Ukraine and our efforts to help our Ukrainian colleagues will have some impact, although we fear that this is just a drop in the ocean, so to speak, but we have to remain optimistic.

I am thankful to everyone that participated in this Newsletter issue, especially to the co-editor Urška Purg and Matija Dronjić, who was in charge of the layout and is the author of most of the photos.

Alenka Černelič Krošelj

ICOM SEE MEETINGS & WORK

ALENKA ČERNELIČ KROŠELJ

The year 2022 was yet another challenging year, however, we managed to organise most of the planned activities. We published the ICOM SEE News and held a number of online, hybrid and even in-person meetings. The most anticipated museological event of the year was the ICOM General Conference in Prague, for which ICOM SEE prepared a large amount of programme. The most urgent and shocking meetings were regarding the war in Ukraine and the role of ICOM SEE in terms of possible help and support.

Most of the ICOM SEE work proceeded online and a great deal of time was dedicated to the preparations for the ICOM General Conference in Prague. The Annual Meeting in November 2022 took place in a hybrid form. Those who were able to do so attended an in-person meeting in Brežice, the seat of the Posavje Museum Brežice, where the ICOM SEE Chair is the director. Despite this being a risky and courageous decision, as an increase of COVID-19 cases was still present in November, it proved to be a successful one. We followed all the precautionary instructions, provided a safe space and also online participation, managing to realize what we had planned.

The Chair sent regular emails to the members with information about important agendas in ICOM and also in the ICOM SEE countries.

The mandate of the ICOM SEE Board and the members ended in 2022, so elections for the new board and the members were held on 17 November 2022 simultaneously in Brežice and online (hybrid).



The Regional Alliance ICOM SEE (South East Europe) connects eleven countries in the region. We try to support museums, museum workers and experts in their work aimed at improving conditions in the region. The annual meeting was dedicated to the elections of the ICOM SEE Board members for the new mandate, discussion of the 2022 report, preparation of the ICOM SEE News at the end of 2022 and adoption of the first draft of the 2023 programme.



THE NEWLY ELECTED BOARD FOR THE 2022–2025 MANDATE

CHAIR

Alenka Černelič Krošelj, Slovenia (second mandate)

VICE CHAIR

Dr. Virgil Stefan Nitulesco, Romania (second mandate)

VICE CHAIR

Lidija Milasinović, Serbia (first mandate)

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Urška Purg, Slovenia (first mandate)

MEMBERS FROM ICOM SEE COUNTRIES

ALBANIA

Edlira Andoni
Dorina Xheraj-Subashi

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Azra Bečević Šarenkapa
Sarita Vujković

BULGARIA

Svetla Dimitrova
Aksinia Radoslavova Buteva

CROATIA

Matija Dronjić
Jurica Sabol

GREECE

Philippos Mazarakis - Ainian
Dr. Eugenia Gerousi-Bedermacher

MOLDOVA

Sergiu Pana
Valeria Suruceanu

MONTENEGRO

Anastazija Miranović
Dijana Đurašković

NORTH MACEDONIA

Gordan Nikolov
Rubin Belčeski

ROMANIA

Andrea Bernath-Doncutiu
Dr. Virgil Stefan Nitulescu

SLOVENIA

Urška Purg
Alenka Černelič Krošelj

SERBIA

Lidija Milašinović
Milena Milošević Micić

ANNUAL MEETING – AGENDA AND PLAN FOR 2023

The main purpose of the meeting was to hold the elections for the new 2022–2025 mandate. At the beginning of the meeting, the member countries offered insights into the most important museological events, happenings, progress and difficulties. This was followed by a short presentation for the board and members of the RA ICOM SEE, as well as the elections. Additionally, the meeting participants dedicated some time to the previously completed work and the 2022 goals achieved by then. They discussed the form and the venue for the next year's public ICOM SEE conference and meeting (proposal: Romania; topic: IMD – Sustainability and Wellbeing and Twenty Years of the ICH Convention). In addition to the voting procedure, the Chair informed the attendees about the progress made in translating the ICOM SEE Red List into the languages of each of the ICOM SEE countries and the necessity of translating it into the languages of the few countries which have not translated it yet. The same requirement was about the translation of the new museum definition as a joint action from the countries that are part of the alliance.

The Chair informed the members about the planned activities as part of the LEADERSHIP ALERT project lead by INTERCOM in partnership with ICOM SEE and others that also include a workshop in Zagreb, Croatia, in February 2023: South East Europe Museum Directors' Discussion Forum on Governance and Stakeholder Management and a conference in Doha, Qatar, in May 2023: The Future Museum. Framing the Skills and Mindset for the Visionary Leader that will be organised in cooperation with ICOM Arab. ICOM SEE will provide at least two grants.

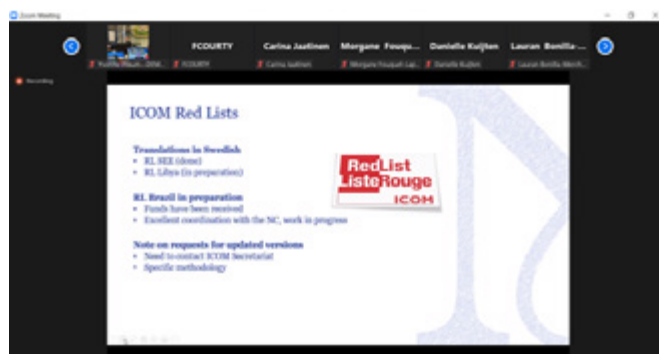
After the meeting, the in-person meeting participants had an opportunity to meet the Forum of Slavic Cultures and a broader network of successful museum professionals who had been nominated for the 2022 Živa Award.



PARTICIPATION: ICOM MEETINGS

20 MAY 2022: 91ST SESSION OF THE ICOM ADVISORY COUNCIL

The ICOM SEE Chair Alenka Černelič Krošelj participated in the Advisory Council's online meeting. Presented as one of the most important results of the year 2021 was the Red List for Southeast European Cultural Objects at Risk.



21 AUGUST 2022: 92ND SESSION OF THE ICOM ADVISORY COUNCIL, ICOM PRAGUE

The ICOM SEE Chair attended the 92nd session of the ICOM Advisory Council as part of ICOM Prague.

24 AUGUST 2022: ROUNDTABLE THE POWER OF THE MUSEUM DEFINITION, ICOM EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 37TH ORDINARY ICOM GENERAL ASSEMBLY, ICOM PRAGUE

The ICOM SEE Chair participated in the roundtable The Power of the Museum Definition, Extraordinary and Ordinary General Assembly with the elections of the ICOM President and the members of the Executive Board, and cast her vote.

ICOM GENERAL CONFERENCE IN PRAGUE, 21–28 AUGUST 2022

ALENKA ČERNELIČ KROŠELJ & MAJA HAKL SAJE

ICOM SEE invested a lot of time and energy into preparing a quality and diverse programme for the ICOM General Conference Prague 2022, working with several partners. For the conference, ICOM SEE hosted a reception, organised an ICOM SEE Red List presentation, independent and joint panels, roundtables, and joint sessions with discussions.

PANEL “THE ICOM RED LISTS, A TOOL TO PROTECT CULTURAL OBJECTS”

DISCUSSION ON THE NEW ICOM SEE RED LIST, SUNDAY, 21 AUGUST 2022

On 21 August 2022, the ICOM Secretariat organised a panel with ICOM SEE on the ICOM SEE Red List. The panel was chaired by Alenka ČERNELIČ KROŠELJ, Chair of the Regional Alliance ICOM SEE, and Sophie DELEPIERRE, Head of Heritage Protection Department, ICOM Secretariat. As part of the conference, a special session was dedicated to the presentation and promotion of the latest list. In addition to the representative of the Secretariat and the Chair of ICOM SEE, some representatives of working groups from Slovenia (Darinka Kolar Osvald, Maja Hakl Saje), Croatia (Darko Babić), Bosnia and Herzegovina (Alma Leka), Serbia (Marija Radin) and Romania (Michaela Simion) also participated in the panel. Each of the participants briefly presented the project from their point of view.





RECEPTION, SUNDAY, 21 AUGUST 2022

On the occasion of the 26th ICOM General Conference, we were honoured to invite participants from International Foundation – Forum of Slavic Cultures (FSK), INTERCOM, ICOM Slovenia, and other guests to a reception held at the National Museum of Agriculture in Prague. We are thankful to the host – Director Zdenek Novak and Deputy Director Pavel Douša.



After the opening addresses by the director of the museum Zdenek Novak, Alenka Černelič Krošelj (ICOM SEE), Andreja Rihter (FSK) and Ole Winther (INTERCOM), we enjoyed a musical performance and traditional food from Slovenia and the Czech Republic, as well as wines from Slovenia, Serbia and the Czech Republic. One of the guests was the ambassador of the Republic Slovenia in the Czech Republic, Her Excellency Tanja Strniša.

The participants enjoyed a guided tour of the museum, which also provided the venue for the opening party the next day. The vivid discussion was a great overture to the beginning of the conference.



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

22 AUGUST 2022: RA ICOM SEE WITH THE NATIONAL COMMITTEES OF SOUTH EAST EUROPE AND THE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION – FORUM OF SLAVIC CULTURE – JOINT PROGRAMME, ICOM PRAGUE, 14:00–15:30

On 22 August 2022, we promoted and emphasised the diversity, originality, exclusivity and identity of our cultural heritage with a joint presentation and performance with the national committees from ICOM SEE and the International Foundation – Forum of Slavic Cultures. We presented good practices and outstanding projects launched by recognised experts in this field.

The situation in this part of Europe remains very tense and uncertain; thus, this event was 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 roundtable, we presented successful common tasks and challenges, and our colleagues from Ukraine and Bosnia and Herzegovina shared their experiences of war and its consequences for heritage and people.



The panel was divided in two parts, starting with opening speeches by Alberto GARLANDINI, ICOM President, Alenka ČERNELIČ KROŠELJ, Director of the Posavje Museum Brežice, Slovenia; Vice Chair of ICOM Slovenia; ICOM SEE Chair, and Andreja RIHTER, Director of International Foundation – Forum of Slavic Cultures, and two short movies about the fifteen years of ICOM SEE and the Živa Award – an award for Slavic Museums by FSK. This was followed by two sets of roundtables.

The first roundtable was dedicated to The Power of Museums – Common Projects – Common Roots, moderated by Slavko SPASIĆ, Director of Natural History Museum Belgrade, Serbia; ICOM Serbia; ICOM SEE Vice Chair. The content and the aim of the panel was to introduce projects that showed common roots in the part of Europe that is still challenging and always has been.

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 – online; Tanja ROŽENBERGAR, ICOM Slovenia: The Role of ICOM SEE in Building Capacities and Developing the Idea of ICH; Andreja RIHTER, Forum of Slavic Cultures: Museums that Matter in the Slavic World – ŽIVA MUSEUM AWARD.



The second roundtable was dedicated to the topic: Museums on the Frontline, Homefronts, Conflict Zones and Areas of Peace, moderated by 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. Douša emphasised the importance of a network that is inclusive and committed to helping in challenging times. As an active member of ICOM Czech Republic and member of the jury at the Forum of Slavic Culture, he is an important link for good cooperation.

Participants: Olha HONCHAR, Memorial Museum of Totalitarian Regimes “Territory of Terror”, Ukraine: Museums’ and Military’s Mutual Help: Experience of the Museum

Crisis Centre; Olesia MILOVANOVVA 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 Herzegovina. All three presentations made a huge impact on the audience, as the participants can relate to what was presented, but still cannot do much on-site.

The discussion after the roundtables and the reception were paired with wine and cookies from Slovenia, brought by the ICOM SEE Chair.

JOINT PANELS WITH INTERCOM

MONDAY 22, AND TUESDAY, 23 AUGUST 2022

INTERCOM is leading several ICOM-supported projects, as part of which ICOM SEE is one of the partners. ICOM SEE joined the following panels: “INTERCOM GLOBAL MUSEUM LEADERSHIP STUDY AND KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM”, solidarity project, on 22 August 2022, presented by the INTERCOM Chair Goranka Horjan; and a three-part panel “MUSEUM LEADERSHIP – TAKING THE PULSE” on 22 and 23 August 2022.

In an age marked by numerous challenges, the project and the partners offered a possibility to discuss difficult leadership challenges museums are facing today. Short dynamic sessions provided the participants with an opportunity to interact and take part in panels and discussions. The session was organised in collaboration with the following partners: ICOM SEE, ICOM ZAMBIA, ICOM CZECH REPUBLIC, and ICOM INDIA. Alenka Černelič Krošelj, ICOM SEE Chair, and other members were active panellists or part of the audience.



JOINT SESSION WITH INTERCOM & CIMAM

TUESDAY, 23 AUGUST 2022

The session “MUSEUM GOVERNANCE – SOMETHING TO WATCH!” dealt with governance and management issues. The way founders and owners support your museums plays a vital part in running your institution in general. INTERCOM is committed to introducing an appropriate governance code and exploring good governance practices through research and exchange with museums. Therefore, the session focused on a discussion and exchange. During the pandemic, we held numerous webinars and presentations – we learnt a lot and it was time to share. Networking and participation were among the core values of professional excellence promoted by ICOM. The session was organised with the following partners: INTERCOM, CIMAM, ICOM POLAND and ICOM SEE.



The panellists reflected on governance challenges presented in the publication and questions asked by the moderators. Based on different experiences, we commented on the highlights presented in the project and its results. We can follow many similarities in the world even though the colleague from Azerbaijan stated that the cooperation in this country is excellent. The panel moderators emphasised the need for autonomy in institutions and within the Museum Boards, as we face political interventions that result in less autonomy and less democratic governance in the SE in E parts of Europe.

Alenka Černelič Krošelj co-chaired one part of the panel (together with Piotr Rypson).



ICOM SEE GRANT FOR THE ICOM GENERAL CONFERENCE PRAGUE

ICOM SEE financed three professional grants for the ICOM SEE members, who actively participated in the ICOM General Conference Prague with a paper presentation, worked on the SEE Red List, or helped with the organisation of the ICOM SEE events as part of ICOM Prague. The grant recipients had to make sure no double funding occurred.



The selected recipients were:

MATIJA DRONJIĆ

ETHNOGRAPHIC MUSEUM, CROATIA

Report: My participation in this year's ICOM General Conference, held in Prague from August 20 to 28, was twofold. On the one hand, as a full-time member of the Croatian National Committee, I served as a delegate to the 37th Ordinary ICOM General Assembly and the Extraordinary ICOM General Assembly. Thanks to the earlier collaboration with Ole Winther and Carol Ann Scott, I was actively involved in the ICOM Strategic Plan 2022–2028 roundtable, as well as the presentation of the new museum definition.

On the other hand, as an active member of ICOM Southeast Europe Regional Alliance, I participated in its main two activities: the promotion of the long-awaited ICOM Red List for Southeast Europe – a multilingual tool for the prevention of illegal trade of heritage, the first of its kind in Europe – and the panel “Museums of SE Europe: The Power of Common Roots for Building Lasting Peace Among the Nations”, which was organized in cooperation with the international non-profit foundation Forum of Slavic Cultures. In the introductory part of the session, Mr.

Alberto Garlandini (then the president of ICOM) addressed the audience, followed by a working part during which two round tables were held in a hybrid format: the first focused on presenting positive examples from contemporary museum practices in the area of SEE Europe, while the other problematized the challenges of museum work in war zones using the example of the occupied areas of eastern Ukraine, as well as the possibility of bringing the conflict closer to museum users. Regarding my tasks related to the moderation of the web and social networks of the alliance, my work included taking photos of the sessions and publishing them accompanied by short reports on the ICOM SEE Facebook page. It is important to note that the panel was preceded by a reception at the National Agriculture Museum, organized the day before. For many ICOM members of the countries gathered around the regional alliance it was the first meeting in person since the outbreak of the pandemic.

I also participated in the organization, photo documenting and reporting of two more sessions co-organized by ICOM SEE: "Museum Leadership: Taking the Pulse" (INTERCOM, ICOM SEE, ICOM Zambia, ICOM Czech Republic and ICOM India) and "Museum Governance: Something to Watch!" (INTERCOM, CIMAM, ICOM SEE, ICOM Poland). Named after the preceding projects, panels focused on the challenges inherent in the entire global museum community in the modern post-COVID world and to the exchange of specific experiences among museum professionals in the domain of management. My reporting activities were extended at the offsite meeting organized by INTERCOM at the National Agriculture Museum, which I joined to get additional information about modern methods in the area of digital strategies. The meeting was followed by an organized tour of the museum and the informal socializing with colleagues continued at the closing ceremony of the congress.

In overall, ICOM Prague 2022 turned out to be another very successful and well-organized conference with one new element – a hybrid mode (most of the sessions were broadcasted live over the internet). A consensus was reached regarding the new museum definition, a new president and executive board were elected, and some new light was shined on some old topics relevant for the museum community. The topics such as museums' role in civil society, new technologies, museum leadership and resilience were addressed in the contemporary context, strongly influenced by post-COVID realities and the war in Ukraine. Although global museum community is facing many specific challenges and the future sometimes seems rather bleak, ICOM Prague 2022 proved to be a space for exchange of ideas and positive practices upon which professional community can plan a better future based upon the ideals of unity and solidarity.

DORINA XHERAJ-SUBASHI

ALBANIA

Report: ICOM Prague this year was a great inspiration not only for the improvement of my professional path, but also in terms of providing many inspiring lectures, workshops, guided tours and visits to numerous cultural venues and museums.

Many important issues were covered during the ICOM SEE hosted and co-hosted sessions, especially one that is very important in my country, i.e. looting and destruction of archaeological artefacts. The ICOM Red List was a great outcome document, which I, as a lecturer of museology and culture heritage in my home country, will be able to use as a reference for improving the lessons, future protection plans and thus also enhance further the importance of the topic for shared professional discussion among professionals. Moreover, I was able to interact with several other professional colleagues from cross disciplines and Western Balkan countries. With many of them, we have already exchanged professional museum activities, mostly with the help of online methods.

As a museum professional working at the Aleksander Moisiu University and also part of ICOM Albania and ICOM Albania Board Member, I found great value in my participation in the huge knowledge-sharing event alongside my peers and other professionals.

The Power of Museums was the key word that accompanied the entire conference with all the speeches, presentations, workshop sessions and, of course, guided tours and museum night events, organised for more than 3000 professionals in all the museums of Prague. This key word was more than relevant for the field of museums coming out of a difficult pandemic period, but also relevant due to the war between Ukraine and Russia in the early months of 2022. More than ever the solidarity was the most listed word for many online museum activities that were held during the global pandemic; hence, the dedication and emphasis of the programme on the unstoppable work of museums to continue their mission outside the concrete walls in the digital environment. The invaluable mission of solidarity aimed at supporting the staff of Ukrainian museums showed how relevant being connected in the ICOM community is and that the chosen topic, i.e. "The Power of Museums", was more than ever before felt during the meeting sessions throughout the conference in Prague.

ICOM SEE's work and efforts were in line with the main topic as well, despite the demanding working conditions of working digitally that resulted in the Red List SEE publication – a relevant work that will find utility for the heritage community, scholars, professionals, teachers and many other stakeholders, such as non-governmental organisations working towards the safeguarding and awareness of heritage preservation.

I am grateful I was able to participate in this extremely important event, where I found many interesting topics, discussions and informal chats that will shape my future ideas and collaborations, which need to be developed in the museum field in my country and abroad.

SARITA VUJKOVIĆ

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART OF REPUBLIKA SRPSKA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Report: I arrived in Prague on 21 August. Besides the keynote speeches, during the following days I followed sessions by ICOM SEE and CAMOC committees. ICOM Prague was an opportunity to meet many colleagues from museums across Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia and other countries and committees, and I used this privilege to have many informal meetings and exchanges of professional views.

On 23 August, I had a presentation of the paper titled Creative Museum Hub: Toward Sustainable Development and Community Participation together with my colleague Mladen Banjac, which was followed by a very intense Q&A session. The paper presented the vision of the Banja Luka-based Museum of Contemporary Art of the Republic of Srpska (MSURS), Bosnia and Herzegovina, by showing how a museum whose audience mostly consists of local citizens can promote emancipatory, educational and creative development in its local community through infrastructural and programme reorganisation. The presented case study shows how the MSURS building, a former Austro-Hungarian railway station, was renovated and adapted to create new facilities to be used for research, arts residency projects and conceived as a creative hub, whose participatory agenda has reconceptualised the work of the museum. As a relatively small institution, the MSURS has succeeded in transforming both itself and its community by forming international and regional partnerships. Central to this vision is the development of creative industries through activity/programme intensification and diversification and long-term museum practices aimed at youth education and learning, for the purpose of social emancipation and sustainability.

Apart from active participation by means of the paper, I was happy to participate in all of the ICOM Prague main and accompanying events, such as the opening ceremony at the Technological Museum, the Night of Museums and the Flag Relay Ceremony at the National Museum. I have greatly enjoyed the insight into museums in Prague and the ways they present cultural heritage.

THE ICOM MUSEUM DEFINITION

ICOM SEE encouraged all the countries of the region to translate the new ICOM museum definition, agreed upon during the ICOM General Conference Prague in August 2022, to assure its understanding and adherence in the region:

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A museum is a not-for-profit, permanent institution in the service of society that researches, collects, conserves, interprets and exhibits tangible and intangible heritage. Open to the public, accessible and inclusive, museums foster diversity and sustainability. They operate and communicate ethically, professionally and with the participation of communities, offering varied experiences for education, enjoyment, reflection and knowledge sharing.

MUSEUM DEFINITION IN BOSNIAN

Muzej je neprofitna, trajna institucija u službi društva koja se bavi istraživanjem, prikupljanjem, zaštitom, tumačenjem i izlaganjem materijalne i nematerijalne baštine. Otvoreni za javnost, pristupačni i inkluzivni, muzeji njeguju različitost i održivost. Muzeji djeluju i komuniciraju etički, profesionalno i uz učešće zajednica, pružajući razne prilike za obrazovanje, uživanje, promišljanje i razmjenu znanja.

MUSEUM DEFINITION IN CROATIAN

Muzej je neprofitna, trajna institucija u službi društva koja istražuje, sabire, čuva, interpretira i izlaže materijalnu i nematerijalnu baštinu. Otvoreni za javnost, pristupačni i uključivi muzeji potiču različitost i održivost. Muzeji djeluju i komuniciraju etično, profesionalno i u suradnji sa zajednicama pružaju različite mogućnosti za edukaciju, uživanje, promišljanje i razmjenu znanja.

MUSEUM DEFINITION IN ROMANIAN

Muzeul este o instituție permanentă fără scop lucrativ și aflată în serviciul societății, care este destinată cercetării, colecționării, conservării, interpretării și expunerii patrimoniului material și imaterial. Deschis publicului, accesibil și incluziv, el încurajează diversitatea și sustenabilitatea. Muzeele operează și comunică, într-o manieră etică și profesională, cu participarea diverselor comunități. Ele oferă publicului lor experiențe variate, în scopul educării, delectării, reflectării și al împărtășirii cunoștințelor.

MUSEUM DEFINITION IN SLOVENIAN

Muzej je stalna neprofitna ustanova, ki deluje v korist družbe, raziskuje, zbira, konservira, interpretira ter razstavlja snovno in nesnovno dediščino. Muzeji so odprti za javnost, dostopni in vključujoči ter spodbujajo raznovrstnost in trajnostni razvoj. Delujejo in komunicirajo etično, profesionalno in v sodelovanju s skupnostmi, pri čemer omogočajo raznovrstne izkušnje za izobraževanje, uživanje, premišljevanje in širjenje znanja.



MUSEUM DEFINITION IN SERBIAN (UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION)

Музеј је непрофитно оријентисана, стална институција у служби друштва који се бави истраживањем, прикупљањем, чувањем, тумачењем и излагањем материјалног и нематеријалног наслеђа. Отворен за јавност, приступачан и инклузиван музеј негује разноликост и одрживост. Музеј ради и комуницира етично, професионално и уз учешће заједница нудећи разнолика искуства за образовања, уживање, промишљање и дељење знања.

Muzej je neprofitno orijentisana, stalna institucija u službi društva koji se bavi istraživanjem, prikupljanjem, čuvanjem, tumačenjem i izlaganjem materijalnog i nematerijalnog nasleđa. Otvoren za javnost, pristupačan i inkluzivan muzej neguje raznolikost i održivost. Muzej radi i komunicira etično, profesionalno i uz učešće zajednica nudeći raznolika iskustva za obrazovanja, uživanje, promišljanje i deljenje znanja.

JOINT CONTRIBUTION – PARTICIPATION OF ICOM SLOVENIA IN THE PROCESS OF CHOOSING THE NEW MUSEUM DEFINITION

TINA FORTIČ JAKOPIČ

Reaching an agreement about the new museum definition presented a unique challenge to museum professionals all over the world. Our assumptions, expectations and ambitions vary, which means we sometimes aim for different objectives and we have slightly different priorities. Nevertheless, we make part of the same global society for which it is crucial to be united in sharing values and transmitting them to the society.

ICOM Slovenia joined the appeal of the ICOM Define board and participated actively in forming and choosing the new museum definition. We followed the initiative and gathered responses of our members at all stages of the process. As one of the first steps, we invited our members to contribute the words that they find crucial to be included in the new definition. Following that, we held an online meeting as part of which we discussed the specific words, terms and expressions in order to pass them on to the ICOM Define board. Already at this point, we acknowledged the first dilemmas that arose while discussing the new definition. Even within the national committee, the preferences of the members differ, their backgrounds are different, as are their professional disciplines. Moreover, without a doubt, all the activities and roles of the contemporary museum are equally important and sometimes it is very difficult to declare which word in the definition is to precede the others. To reach an agreement it was imperative to make a compromise even at this stage of the process.

Later on, we continued to participate in ICOM Define's appeals and we kept our members informed of the progress in the search for a new definition. We named a group of our members as electors at the ICOM General Conference in Prague and thus actively participated in bringing the new definition to light.

The real work for the national committees, however, started after Prague. ICOM Slovenia was bound to assure that we reach an agreement on the translation. Right after the Prague conference, we informed our members about the new definition and we suggested a first translated version. We were conscious that we have to include all of our members in every stage of the process and to translate the new official definition as adequately as possible. Therefore, we invited our members to send their suggestions for changes to the existing translation. We immediately got critical feedback from certain museum professionals who strongly opposed our proposition. Therefore, the ICOM Slovenia board decided to organise a working group for the translation of the new definition, which also engaged a professional translator in order to form a new proposition of the translated definition. The board also invited the translation and proofreading service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to check the translation. Later on, the new version of the definition was put to the vote at the autumn General Assembly of ICOM Slovenia. On this occasion, a lively debate on the translation took place, as a part of the community was particularly opposed to the translation of the word *conserves* (to *conserve*). This term can be translated into Slovenian as the English words *preserve* or *to conserve*. In Slovenian language, these two words have different contexts, origins and are already included in different official documents and legislation.

Finally, the members voted on the existing version, which was officially adopted, although some members were reluctant to do so. The translation of the new museum definition is thus consensual. After approval by the General Assembly, it is now considered the official translation of the new definition, but it is certainly not the only

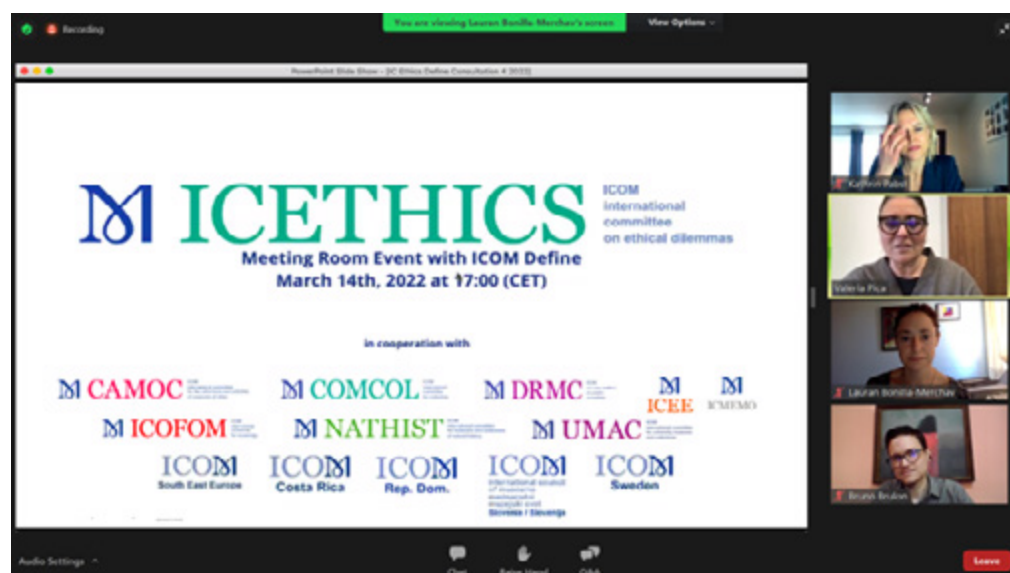
possible one in terms of terminology and meaning. This compromise signals that we are members of a community that is diverse and where everyone contributes from their own angle. This does not mean that one person's contribution is greater than anyone else's, but that all of us together form a meaningful community. Nevertheless, it is really important, when making agreements and compromises of this kind, to highlight everyone's opinion. That being the case, the translation of the new museum definition was a joint decision.

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE PROCESS AND DISSEMINATION OF THE DEFINITION

With regard to the efforts for high engagement in shaping the new museum definition, ICOM SEE appealed to the ICOM SEE region partners and museum professionals to participate in the process, and is now actively promoting and disseminating the definition to the relevant public.

ON 14 MARCH 2022, ICOM DEFINE PREPARED AN EVENT WITH ICOM ETHIC AND PARTNERS

ICOM SEE was a partner in an online event dedicated to a discussion on the keywords and concepts. The members also voted on the "best proposal" sent by ICOM Define.



LECTURE ON THE NEW MUSEUM DEFINITION DURING THE 14TH INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL OF MUSEOLOGY, FHŠ, UNIVERSITY OF PRIMORSKA, KOPER, 5 SEPTEMBER 2022.

The ICOM SEE Chair Alenka Černelič Krošelj held a lecture about the new museum definition during the 14th International Summer School of Museology, FHŠ, University of Primorska, Koper, Slovenia. The lecture about the process, methodology and outcome of the search for a new museum definition was held for thirty international museology students. She also presented ICOM SEE and ICOM Slovenia.

ICOM SEE RED LIST

MAJA HAKL SAJE

In order to promote the issued Red List for the Southeast European region, ICOM SEE organised online and in-person events in many ICOM SEE member countries as well as during the ICOM Prague 2022.

Since 2000, ICOM has been publishing the so-called Red Lists of Cultural Objects at Risk, which are published in different languages and are freely available in digital format. They represent cultural objects which are inventoried within the collections of recognised institutions (museums, galleries etc.) worldwide and serve to illustrate the categories of objects most vulnerable to illicit traffic.

In 2020, ICOM began preparations for a new list, namely the Red List of Cultural Objects at Risk for the area of Southeast Europe. The list was officially launched on 14 October 2021. It features 119 objects from 45 museums from 10 countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania, Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Slovenia). The first list was published in English, and soon translations into some of the languages of the participating countries began to follow.



On 24 May 2022, as one of the IMD programmes, ICOM SEE held an online presentation of the Red List for Southeast European Cultural Objects at Risk: Let Us Show You the Power of Museums from the perspective of the working groups (Darinka Kolar Osvald and Maja Haki Saje (Slovenia); Matija Dronjić (Croatia); Natalija Ćosić (Serbia); Mihaela Simion (Romania) and the Secretariat (Sophie Delepierre, Ted Oaks, Hélène Ventimiglia).

The introduction by Alenka Černelič Krošelj, ICOM SEE Chair, was followed by a presentation of ICOM's Red Lists by Edward Oakes, ICOM, Heritage Protection Department. This online event was, in a way, an introduction to the upcoming ICOM General Conference as every panellist gave different and interesting insights about the process and outcome of the joint project.

PROMOTION OF THE ICOM SEE RED LIST SLOVENIAN EDITION

A roundtable on the protection of cultural heritage was held in Slovenia on 4 October 2022. Shortly after the English version of the Red List of Cultural Objects at Risk for the area of Southeastern Europe was launched, we started thinking and looking for ways to translate the list into Slovenian. At the end of 2021, with the support of the Ministry of Culture, we started the project, which was successfully completed in the first quarter of 2022.

Both the English and Slovenian versions of the list were presented to the Slovenian media, museum professionals and the ICOM Slovenia members on the International Museum Day. Furthermore, on 4 October 2022, the Slovenian Police Museum organised a special consultation and roundtable on the topic of cultural heritage protection as part of the Days of European Cultural Heritage, primarily intended for employees of the Police and the Ministry of the Interior. A member of the working group (Maja Hakl Saje) presented the list, the entire project, its importance and further plans to the police representatives.

PROMOTION OF THE ICOM SEE RED LIST CROATIAN EDITION

MATIJA DRONJIĆ

The ICOM SEE Red List was a multi-year project in which the Ministry of Culture and Media of the Republic of Croatia actively participated alongside ICOM Croatia and the ICOM central office in Paris, as well as several museums from Zagreb, Rijeka and Pula.

The ICOM SEE Red List of Cultural Objects at Risk was presented by: Anuška Deranja Crmokić, MA (Director of the Directorate for Archives, Libraries and Museums, Ministry of Culture and Media of the Republic of Croatia), Željka Modrić Surina, PhD (museum consultant / director, Natural History Museum Rijeka; president of ICOM Croatia), Darko Babić, PhD (associate professor, Department of Museology, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Zagreb; member of the Executive Board of ICOM Croatia), Ivan Radman-Livaja, PhD (museum consultant, head of the Antiquities Department, Archaeological Museum in Zagreb) and Matija Dronjić (senior curator, Ethnographic Museum in Zagreb; member of the Executive Board of ICOM Croatia). The presentation was well covered by the national and local media and the presenters were featured in several television programmes, most notably on the news programme of the Croatian national broadcaster – Croatian Radio Television (HRT4).



ICOM SEE PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

ICOM SEE PARTICIPATED IN 7TH ŽIVA AWARD 2020 CEREMONY, 10–13 JANUARY 2022 IN BELGRADE

TANJA ROŽENBERGAR

ICOM SEE started a dialogue with the Forum of Slavic Cultures (FSK), whose basic purpose is to connect Slavic cultures and give them presence in today's global social arena. Due to some similarities in content and territorial operation, both organisations found many common initiatives and goals. For this reason mutual partnership and support is very important and challenging.

The ICOM SEE representative Tanja Roženbergar attended FSK's main event in the museum field – 7th Živa Award 2020. During the seven years of its existence, the award had brought together more than 135 museums. The event in Belgrade was prepared in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and Media of the Republic of Serbia and Serbian partner institutions. The main 2020 Živa Award was awarded to the Woodcarving Museum from Konjic in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Orhan Nikšić, the director of the Woodcarving Museum, dedicated the award to the past and present woodcarvers in the town of Konjic. The award for the best heritage site in Slavic countries was presented to the Etar Regional Ethnographic Open-Air Museum from Gabrovo in Bulgaria, a museum that ICOM SEE cooperates with regularly. In addition to the main award, special recognition awards were presented to the following museums: the Lviv National Literary Memorial Museum of Ivan Franko (Lviv, Ukraine) for leadership; the Coal Mining Museum in Zabrze (Zabrze, Poland) for attention to visitors and openness; the Božidar Jakac Art Museum (Kostanjevica na Krki, Slovenia) for creativity; the Center for Visitors Ivana's House of Fairy Tales (Ogulin, Croatia) for storytelling; and the Yaroslavl Art Museum (Yaroslavl, Russian Federation) for good use of resources. The jury also decided to give an Honourable Mention to the National Museum in Belgrade (Belgrade, Serbia).

The main goal of participation in Belgrade was to popularize and promote the ICOM SEE mission and its visibility, and to connect even more strongly with the museums and other partners from the SEE region. At the museum fair, ICOM SEE presented some issues of its printed newsletters, the printed ICOM SEE Red List and some other materials.

8TH ŽIVA AWARD CEREMONY, POSAVJE MUSEUM BREŽICE, SLOVENIA, 16–19 NOVEMBER 2022

ALENKA ČERNELIČ KROŠELJ

Mutual partnership and support between ICOM SEE and the Forum of Slavic Cultures (FSK) is very important and challenging. Therefore, ICOM SEE agreed to participate in the 8th Živa Award ceremony, hosted in Slovenia. The 8th Živa Award ceremony, which brought together no fewer than 170 Slavic museums, took place in Brežice. To ensure a wide ICOM SEE promotion, the annual meeting and elections were held during the Živa Award ceremony, since many of the ICOM SEE Board members and members were present at the event and were able to serve as ICOM SEE delegates.



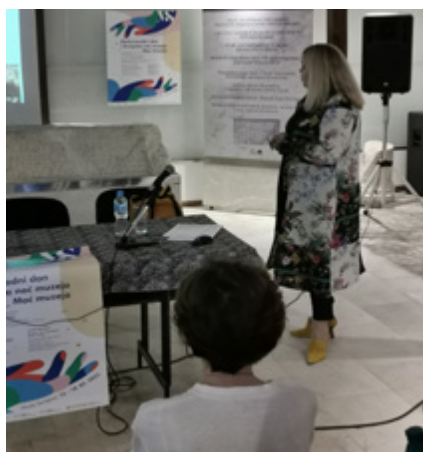
The Živa Award for the Best Slavic Museum was presented to the Virovitica City Museum (Croatia). The Živa Award for the Best Slavic Heritage Site was awarded to Cukrarna, Museum and Galleries of Ljubljana (Slovenia). The jury also recognised the creativity of the Museum of Contemporary Art Skopje (North Macedonia), leadership of the Castle Museum in Pszczyna (Poland), storytelling of the "Old Village" Open-Air Museum Sirogojno (Serbia), openness to visitors of the National Ethnographic Museum in Warsaw (Poland), good use of resources in the L'ubovňa Museum, Stará L'ubovňa (Slovakia) and team efficiency of the Nikola Koka Janković Gallery, National Museum in Kragujevac (Serbia). An honourable mention was given to the Slovak National Museum – the Museum of the Slovak National Councils, Myjava (Slovakia). This year saw the biggest number of nominees in the eight years' history of Živa Awards, with museums and sites from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Czech Republic, Croatia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Poland, Serbia, Slovakia and Slovenia among the nominees. ICOM SEE congratulates all the winners and nominated museums.

The main goal of participation in Brežice at the Posavje Museum Brežice, where the ICOM SEE Chair is based, was to popularize and promote the ICOM SEE mission and its visibility and to connect even more strongly with the museums and other partners from the SEE region. At the museum fair, ICOM SEE presented some issues of its printed newsletters, the printed ICOM SEE Red List and some other materials.

INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY 2022

ALENKA ČERNELIČ KROŠELJ

ICOM SEE is encouraging museums in the region to celebrate the IMD in the most creative and diverse ways. As part of the IMD 2022 celebration, we outlined the conference „Museum Watch Governance Management Project“ organised by ICOM SEE, ICOM Bosnia and Herzegovina, Museum Sarajevo and INTERCOM on 16 May 2022. At the time of the IMD and on the occasion of the European Museum Night celebrated in Bosnia and Hercegovina, Alenka Černelič Krošelj gave a lecture titled “Challenges in Museums of the ICOM SEE Region”. She presented the Regional Alliance, its aims and activities, emphasised the challenges faced during 2020 and 2021, and presented plans for 2022, especially activities at the General



Conference Prague 2022. Goranka Horjan, INTERCOM Chair and ICOM SEE Secretary, presented the project Museum Watch Governance Management Project and an online publication.

A VISIT TO THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART OF REPUBLICA SRPSKA, BANJA LUKA

ALENKA ČERNELIČ KROŠELJ

A meeting between Alenka Černelič Krošelj and Sarita Vujković, PHD, director of the Museum of Contemporary Art of Republika Srpska and also member of ICOM SEE, took place on 17 May 2022 in Banja Luka. The ICOM SEE Chair visited the museum peers in Banja Luka to strengthen the presence of ICOM in general and ICOM SEE in the region, to discuss the challenges in Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, exchange solutions and experiences, to promote ICOM SEE, and plan joint activities for future cooperation.

IMREC AND ICOM SEE

ALENKA ČERNELIČ KROŠELJ & SLAVKO SPASIĆ

As a member of the ICOM-IMREC Academic and Programming Board, Slavko Spasić was a member of the working group that created the targeted research call: Public Funding and Museums. ICOM-IMREC called for applications to explore the state of public funding for museums, which has been in decline in many countries for over a decade. The targeted research call was published in July 2022. Four proposals were received. The first review of the proposals was done by the Secretariat to make sure they all met the minimum requirements of the call. Then each proposal was assigned to two experts suggested by the RA and one member of the APB, for a total of three evaluators for each proposal. The evaluation is still ongoing. Alenka Černelič Krošelj as a member of the Governing Board participated in a meeting on 23 August 2022 in Prague.

ICOM SEE PRESENTATION DURING THE ECD SERBIA & ICOM SERBIA SEMINAR, NATIONAL MUSEUM KRUŠEVAC, 13–14 DECEMBER 2022

LIDIJA MILAŠINOVIĆ

During the two-day seminar organised by the European Creative Desk Serbia and ICOM Serbia, a presentation of RA ICOM SEE and the possibilities for cooperation in the region were introduced by the ICOM SEE Vice Chair Lidija Milašinović, who also participated in a roundtable. The purpose of ICOM SEE's participation was to fortify the network and open up new possibilities for cooperation within the ICOM SEE region and wider.

ICOM SERBIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, BELGRADE, 26 DECEMBER 2022

LIDIJA MILAŠINOVIĆ

The ICOM SEE Vice Chair Lidija Milašinović attended the annual conference of ICOM Serbia to maintain the connection with the national committee and to have a meeting with the Chair of ICOM Serbia in order to discuss further cooperation between the RA and the committee.

PROJECTS

SPECIAL PROJECT “MUSEUM WATCH GOVERNANCE MANAGEMENT PROJECT”

GORANKA HORJAN

ICOM SEE collaborated with INTERCOM and CIMAM in the implementation of the project with a supporting partner – ICOM Poland – in order to reveal the aspects of museum governance. The project was supported by ICOM as a Special Project and was completed in April 2022.

The approach started with the identification of problems, which were discussed during the joint meetings and workshops. The main research was done in the countries of Southeast, Central and East Europe, where museum directors reported numerous challenges related to museum management. The issues became more prominent during the pandemic and the crises that followed. The research provided additional mapping for further development of efficient management in museums.

The project's aim to explore how the capacity of museum directors may be balanced to the impact of politics was questioned in the survey and the interviews organised. Various experiences were reported and a data analysis of the expert team resulted in several areas where museum professionals and ICOM as the professional museum organisation can contribute and explore how to make museums less depending on the whims of politics. The topic is very up to the present political situations in most of the ICOM SEE countries, so the participation was important and also the interest in collaboration was high.





SOLIDARITY PROJECT “INTERCOM GLOBAL MUSEUM LEADERSHIP STUDY AND KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM”

GORANKA HORJAN

The project was supported by ICOM as a Solidarity Project. Duration of the project was 18 months and it ended in April 2022. INTERCOM strategically fosters ICOM values by implementing a globally significant project, which included about 100 countries in a global survey that was used as a foundation to create a knowledge platform on leadership. The project was implemented with the following partners: ICOM Czech Republic, ICOM India, ICOM Zambia, ICOM SEE and ICOFOM. The project followed the main reason why ICOM's Solidarity Project Call was launched, i.e. looking forward to future prospects by triggering museums' potential to face the current crises by finding solutions for the post-COVID-19 world. The project provided answers to inquiries as described in the project objectives:

- how museum leaders are managing their work in the ongoing COVID-19 crisis and what support is needed to help leaders build resilient museums for the future
- how a global picture of museum leadership can be contextualized and how to introduce specific digital leadership resources
- how global museum research can be used for the benefit of ICOM and its members
- how to build capacity and support the world's museum leaders

The project required a complex engagement and conducting a thorough global survey and the process took longer than expected. In order to get a better and more varied feedback, survey questions were translated into several languages, which was not the initial plan (Russian, Chinese, Arab, French, Spanish, Portuguese plus the originally planned English version). This requirement increased in-kind contribution of the members and was more time consuming.

The outcomes of the project are:

- survey text in different language variants
- detailed statistics of the analysed data
- report on the feedback made for the International Symposium in Prague
- presentations of the project in order to raise the visibility for conferences and webinars (e.g. <https://intercom.mini.icom.museum/intercom-participates-at-the-international-conference-solidarity-in-culture/>)
- written report in English with an external review – the title chosen “Museum Leadership: Taking the Pulse 2021”

- proofread report sent to be translated into Arabic, French and Spanish
- design and graphic layout of four printed publications and four e-book variants
- briefing with ICOM regarding the issue of ISBNs for all printed versions and e-publications
- printing arrangements and transport of publications
- online promotion of the publications – <https://intercom.mini.icom.museum/497/>
- onsite promotion of the Spanish version
- online platform box with downloadable e-publications with active indexes (i.e. if you click on any chapter title in the TOC, it will jump to it directly), bookmarked TOC and working links in footnotes/references page.

The publications and results were presented in Prague during the General Conference.



SOLIDARITY PROJECT “LEADERSHIP ALERT – CAPACITY BUILDING FOR FUTURE MUSEUM SCENARIOS”

GORANKA HORJAN

The project is implemented with the following partners: ICOM Czech Republic, ICOM BiH, ICOM Zambia, ICOM SEE and the Kolkata Centre for Creativity. Strategic implementation partnership has also been established with Fundación Typa from Argentina.

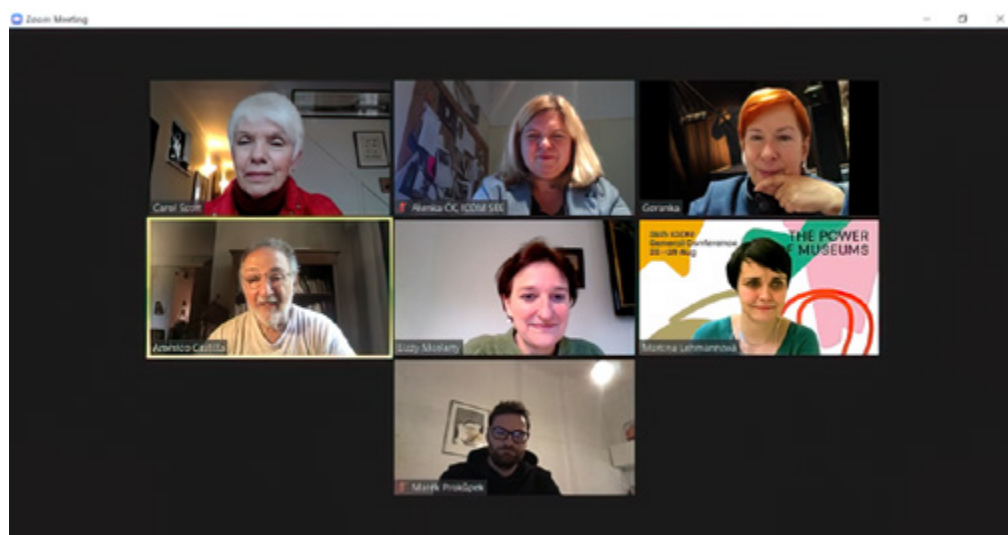
The project is based on the INTERCOM research implemented in the 2020–2021 period, as part of which several serious concerns of museum leaders were detected. In the 2022 LEADERSHIP ALERT project, INTERCOM and partners focused on two issues: the degree of museums' autonomy and the strategic knowledge of digital engagement museums require in order to tailor their activities due to the demands of contemporary audiences. The project activities were centred around organising forums in which participants can share their experiences and benefit from the offered mentorship by selected experts.

Special attention is paid to selected regions where forums have been organised, namely Africa, Asia, Southeast and East Europe and Latin America. The focus has been on countries belonging to the categories 3 and 4 according to ICOM propositions. These regions have also been chosen according to the geographical analysis of Phase 1 research, as they have indicated a greater need for support with digital strategy and governance issues.

INTERCOM strategically fosters ICOM values by means of the globally significant project, funded by the ICOM Solidarity Projects scheme. The leadership issue has been selected as ICOM's strategic priority with the aim of creating an international platform that can provide support for museum leaders on global level.

ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED SO FAR: In 2022, two regional forums on governance were organised:

1. Latin American Forum: It took place on 10 August 2022 via ZOOM. The introductory presentation was given by Americo Castilla, Argentina.
2. African Forum: It took place on 23 November 2022 via ZOOM. The introductory presentation was done by George Abungu, Kenya.
3. Global Forum: In 2022, the Global Digital Forum was organised on 30 November 2022. The introductory presentation was given by the expert Conxa Roda, a thought leader in the use of digital technology for visitor-centred cultural organisations. The expert presentation focused on mind-set changes and structural changes that are necessary for museums to make the most of their digital opportunities. Using case studies and examples from museums small and large, Roda addressed the digital world post-COVID; setting the digital strategy; audiences and digital content, and technology and infrastructure. The goal of the forum is to provide actionable insights for museum leaders on the high-level "institution-shaping" opportunities and the challenges their institutions face in the digital space. It was an opportunity to learn from one another and discuss strategies, ideas, and solutions amongst peer museum leaders. They were ready to be inspired and challenged to think anew about the strategy and structure for digital engagement. Participant outcomes from the forum: an understanding of the skill set required for digital engagement, practical Challenged Thinking advice.



REPORTS FROM ICOM SEE COUNTRIES

ICOM ALBANIA

EDLIRA **ANDONI**

On the occasion of the International Museum Day, ICOM Albania and the National Historical Museum jointly organised the Scientific Conference “The Power of Museums”. This event brought together professionals, specialists and experts, researchers from Albania and Kosovo in the fields of museology and cultural heritage to present and discuss their experiences, research, dynamics and challenges related to activities and opportunities for exploring the potential of museums. The main aim of this conference was to bring positive changes to the communities and highlight the challenges museums face today. The meeting agenda was focused on the promotion of sustainable development, such as educational programmes, exhibitions, culture heritage, innovation in digitalization – digital technologies as a tool to reach a wider public as well as financial concepts in order to increase the funds for museums.

At the conference, special attention was given to the promotion of the Red List for Southeast European Cultural Objects at Risk. Representatives and specialists of the Ministry of Culture involved in the protection of cultural heritage were among the conference attendees. The audience was introduced to the aim of publishing this important tool, which illustrates the types of heritage most at risk from theft and smuggling. Colleagues from various institutions from the field of cultural heritage and art, friends of the museum and the participating students expressed their support to further disseminate this tool among other colleagues. They considered the SEE Red List an important step towards protecting the country's heritage and the fight against illicit trafficking of cultural heritage.



This event and the promotion of the Red List for Southeast European Cultural Objects at Risk on the occasion of the International Museum Day was widely reflected in the written and visual media, being considered an important event in the field of cultural heritage and museums. There was also special interest in the launch of the RED List by ICOM.

At the beginning of April 2022, the Ministry of Culture provided a fund to the ICOM Albania to financially support the translation of the Red List for Southeast European Cultural Objects at Risk into Albanian. We expect that the translation of this tool will raise awareness of the threats facing Albanian heritage. It will be distributed to police, border control and customs officers throughout the country, as well as the art dealers, museums, and other professionals that work with heritage. The whole process of translating the SEE Red List into Albanian is almost at the end. Printed copies of the Albanian version of the SEE Red List will very soon be delivered in Albania, as the printing process will be completed at the end of 2022.

The most significant global event, designed for and dedicated to museums and museum professionals, the 26th ICOM General Conference Prague 2022, was an excellent opportunity to meet colleagues from around the world and an exclusive tool to share, learn and create networks.

The members of ICOM Albania were mainly engaged in and contributed to the meeting organised by ICOM SEE “Museums of SE Europe – Hope, Pride, and Power” and other meetings in collaboration with other ICOM committees. The chair of ICOM Albania made a short presentation on the topic “Common Cultural Heritage: Interregional Archaeological Research and Educational Practices”. The presentation was focused on the excellent experience of the cultural heritage of Albania, North Macedonia and Serbia, which consisted of research, protection, and promotion of the prehistoric sites of these countries.

The meetings organised by international committees were a chance to meet professionals from the fields of education, leadership and museum management, communication and marketing, conservation and preservation, curatorship and collection. All the topics were very interesting, as they provided new perspectives for museums and museum professionals.

ICOM GREECE

PHILIPPOS MAZARAKIS - AINIAN

A significant number of ICOM Greece members attended the 26th ICOM General Conference 2022 in Prague, both in person and remotely. The ICOM Greece Chair, Ms Teti Hadjinicolaou, attended in person the Advisory Council meetings, all keynote speeches and roundtables in plenary sessions and statutory meetings. She also participated in the meeting of ICOM Europe Regional Alliance on Monday, 22 August 2022, as an outgoing member of the ICOM Europe Board and supported the election of the new ICOM Europe Board. As a member of the ICOM Resolutions Committee and co-ordinator of the ICOM Resolutions Working Group on Language Diversity, the ICOM Greece Vice Chair, Ms Penny Theologi-Gouti participated in the roundtable on ICOM Resolutions, which was held on Monday, 22 August 2022. She presented the resolution No. 2: “Language diversity and overcoming language barriers for equitable participation of all ICOM members” and participated in the discussion that followed. Mr Philippos Mazarakis-Ainian, representative of ICOM-GR in the board of the Regional Alliance of SEE, participated virtually in the roundtable titled “Museums of SE Europe: The Power of Common Roots for Building Lasting Peace Among the Nations” in the afternoon of 22 August, and presented the travelling exhibition “Imagining the Balkans, Identities and Memory in the Long 19th century” (2013–2015), coordinated by the UNESCO Culture Unit of Venice and with the assistance of ICOM and ICOM-ICEE. This was a project seeking to bridge the gap between diverging nation-building narratives.

The Hellenic National Committee of ICOM welcomes the approval and adoption of the new museum definition in Prague 2022.

Having extensively consulted with its membership via questionnaires throughout the preparatory stages of the definition, it collaborated with the Department of Archives, Library Science and Museology and the Department of Foreign Languages, Translation and Interpreting of the Ionian University, which produced a thorough and precise translation of the definition in Greek, and are also undertaking the translation of the latest ICOM Resolutions.

ICOM MONTENEGRO

DIJANA ĐURAŠKOVIĆ

The ICOM Montenegro (MNE) conference, held in the Heritage Museum in Bar on 22 October 2022, brought together representatives of almost all the museums in Montenegro, representatives of the Ministry of Culture and Media of Montenegro, as well as the interested public and media. The goal of the conference was to start a discussion on problems related to museum management and the achievement of an adequate dialogue and cooperation between the cultural institutions of Montenegro. In this context, the topics discussed are: the situation/problems in the museum community of Montenegro, the new definition of museums, the operation of museums in the COVID/post-COVID period; business challenges in an uncertain/unstable global environment, etc. The main theme of the conference was focused on diagnosing the situation in the Montenegrin museum community, because we considered it expedient to focus, primarily, on summarising and “cleaning up” the situation at home, before catching up with the world when it comes to museum activities. The information and findings presented at the conference have been consolidated into the first Proceedings of the ICOM MNE, the publication of which, as well as the Code of Ethics for museums, was assisted by the Maritime Museum of Montenegro. In addition to all the aforementioned activities, at the conference we also presented the recently adopted new museum definition, the basic principles of the Code of Ethics for museums, and the newly established ICOM Red List of endangered cultural properties in Southeast Europe.

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