



**Regional  
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Republic  
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Ministry  
of Culture



**SOFIA**  
REGIONAL CENTER  
FOR THE SAFEGUARDING  
OF THE INTANGIBLE  
CULTURE HERITAGE IN THE  
SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE  
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF  
UNESCO

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# **10<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the South-East European Experts Network on Intangible Cultural Heritage**

***“Intangible Cultural Heritage and World  
Heritage: synergies and coordination  
between the UNESCO 2003 and 1972  
Conventions”***

**Brač, Croatia, 14-15 June 2016**

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**PROGRAMME**

## Background

The South-East European Experts Network on Intangible Cultural Heritage was established in 2007 with the support of UNESCO, in order to support the implementation of the UNESCO 2003 Convention in South-East Europe. Annual meetings of the network took place in Arbanasi, Bulgaria, June 2007; Safranbolu, Turkey, May 2008; Zagreb, Croatia, April 2009, Râmnicu-Vâlcea, Romania, May 2010; Belgrade, Serbia, May 2011; Athens, Greece, May 2012; Sofia, Bulgaria, May 2013; Limassol, Cyprus, May 2014; and Venice, Italy, June 2015.

These meetings contributed to enhance a common understanding of opportunities and challenges linked to the safeguarding of the ICH as a key asset of South-East European cultural diversity, as well as to develop institutional and professional capacities within the relevant national authorities serving as a regional platform for sharing knowledge and good practices.

During last year's meeting in Venice, Italy, the participants agreed on focusing their annual meeting in 2016 on the relation between tangible and intangible heritage, with special attention to the coordination and synergies between the UNESCO 2003 and 1972 Conventions.

## Topics of discussions

### **Session 1: Implementing the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage: progress, experiences and challenges**

During this first session, participants will give short presentations (10 minutes max.) on the main developments, achievements and challenges in the implementation of the 2003 Convention in their respective countries, with special focus on the period 2015-2016.

Presentations may include information on legal and regulatory frameworks, general policies, cooperation mechanisms, institutions, networks, as well as on specific safeguarding and awareness-raising activities.

Question-and-answer sessions will follow each presentation.

### **Session 2: The UNESCO 1972 and 2003 Conventions: convergences and coordination**

Among the complementary set of standard-setting instruments elaborated by UNESCO for the protection of cultural heritage, the 1972 Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage and the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage are those that count the highest number of State Parties, and are the only two that include a "List(s)" system.

In light of new and emerging challenges threatening the survival and transmission of cultural and natural tangible and intangible heritage to future generations, the scope and implementation of both conventions has moved beyond simple preservation in order to encompass a wide range of factors moving along the four dimensions of sustainable development: social; economic; environmental; peace and security.

Although each legal instrument is operational per se among its States Parties, according to its content and within its scope of application, the need to ensure an integrated approach when addressing the protection and safeguarding of cultural heritage, in both its tangible and intangible expressions, is becoming increasingly relevant. This applies both at the general level, in the definition and actualization of sectoral policies, and at operational level with regard to the safeguarding of interrelated elements of tangible and intangible heritage.

Accordingly, discussion during this session will focus on the following issues:

- Differences and commonalities in the approaches of the 1972 and 2003 Conventions;
- Sustainable development at the junction of the 1972 and 2003 Conventions;
- Experiences, challenges and lessons learned in coordinating the Conventions at country level.

The session will be opened by a key-note speech, followed by presentations by participating countries and a round-table discussion. Participants who may wish to give a presentation within this session are kindly invited to inform the organizers in advance, by no later than 10 June 2016.

## Participants

The conference will be attended by experts in representation of the ministries of culture and/or other relevant authorities of Albania; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Bulgaria, Croatia; Cyprus; Italy; Greece; Republic of Moldova; Romania; Serbia; Slovenia; The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; and Turkey. Participants from Austria, Hungary, and the United Arab Emirates will also participate as observers.

International experts and UNESCO staff will also participate in the meeting.

## Working language

English

## Conference venue and accommodation

Velaris Resort, Supetar - Brač Island (Croatia) <http://www.velaris.hr/>

Transportation to/from airport, as well as meals for the duration of the meeting will be arranged by the organizers.

## General Contacts

Ms. Rut Carek, Secretary-General, Croatian Commission for UNESCO  
Ministry of Culture

Tel: +385 1 4866 304

Email: [rut.carek@min-kulture.hr](mailto:rut.carek@min-kulture.hr)

Mr. Matteo Rosati, Programme Specialist, Culture Unit  
UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe

Tel: + 39 041 260 15 35

Email: [m.rosati@unesco.org](mailto:m.rosati@unesco.org)

On travel and accommodation: Ms. Laura De Stefani, Programme Assistant  
UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe

Tel: + 39 041 260 15 36

Email: [l.destefani@unesco.org](mailto:l.destefani@unesco.org)

## AGENDA

### Monday, 13 June 2016

Arrival of participants – Transfer to Supetar, Velaris Resort

20.00 Dinner at the hotel.

### Tuesday, 14 June 2016

08.30 Registration of participants

09.30 **Opening addresses**

10.00 **Session 1**

**Implementing the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage: update on progresses, experiences, and lessons learned**

**Key-note speaker: Véronique Dauge, head of Culture Unit, UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe**

10.30 **Presentations** by representatives of: Croatia; Albania

11.15 Break

11.45 **Presentations** by representatives of: Austria; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Bulgaria; Cyprus; Greece; Hungary

13.30 Lunch

14.30 **Presentations** by representatives of: Italy; Republic of Moldova; Romania; Serbia; Slovenia

15.45 Break

- 16.15 **Presentations** by representatives of: The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; Turkey; United Arab Emirates.
- 17.30 End of first session
- 20.00 Gala dinner offered by the city of Supetar

## Wednesday, 15 June 2016

- 09.00 **Session 2**  
**Synergies and coordination between UNESCO 1972 and 2003 Conventions**
- 09.30 **Presentations by participating countries**
- 11.00 Break
- 11.30 **Round-table discussion**
- 13.00 **Conclusions**
- 13.15 Lunch
- 14.30 **Field excursion to Brač Island – meetings with heritage communities**
- 20.00 Dinner

## Thursday, 16 June 2016

Departure of participants