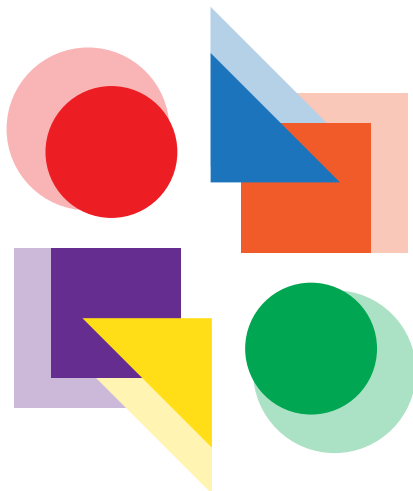


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CONFERENCE
**CULTURAL HERITAGE
FOR RECONCILIATION
IN THE BALKANS**
4-7. APRIL 2024 | HOTEL "RIVIJERA"
PETROVAC NA MORU | MONTENEGRO

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

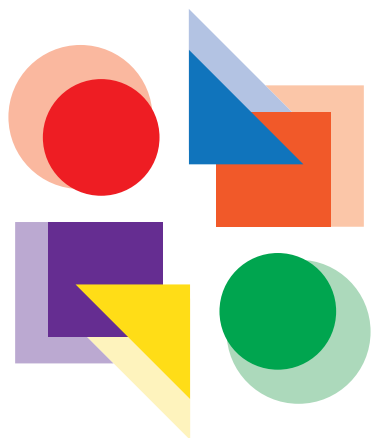


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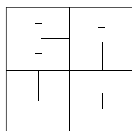
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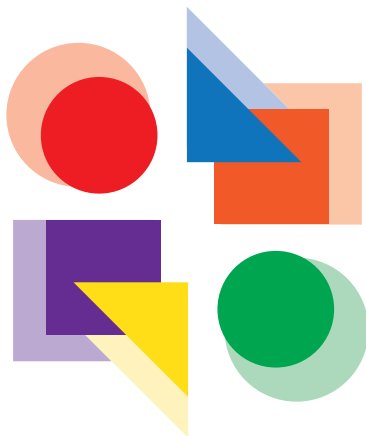
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Petrovac na Moru
2024

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CONFERENCE “CULTURAL HERITAGE FOR RECONCILIATION IN THE BALKANS”

The main objective of the conference “Cultural Heritage for Reconciliation in the Balkans” is to contribute to decreasing social and political issues on the region within cultural heritage. We will try actively to contribute to the mitigation of prevalent social and political challenges in the Balkans, employing cultural heritage as a transformative tool to foster cross-cultural understanding, encourage dialogue, and promote reconciliation, thereby cultivating a more cohesive and harmonious societal fabric within the region.

Goal is to cultivate robust professional networks, bridging the generational and experiential gaps between young and experienced professionals in culture and cultural heritage within the Balkans region. The overarching aim is to foster the development of societies that refrain from exploiting cultural heritage and history as catalysts for conflicts and divisions. By creating opportunities for meaningful dialogue, collaboration, and knowledge exchange, the initiative aspires to instill a sense of shared responsibility for preserving and celebrating the region’s cultural richness. The established professional networks on this conference will serve as dynamic platforms where emerging talents and experienced practitioners can engage in constructive conversations, transcending the historical tensions that have often led to societal divisions. Through networking, dialogue, and exchanging ideas, the goal is to nurture a culture of respect for diverse perspectives and a collective commitment to utilizing cultural heritage as a unifying force rather than a source of discord. This objective seeks to empower the younger generation with insights and guidance from established professionals while encouraging experienced individuals to embrace fresh perspectives. By emphasizing

the shared heritage of the Balkans, the initiative aims to contribute to the cultivation of a harmonious societal fabric that values cultural diversity, rejects divisive narratives, and collectively safeguards the region's cultural legacy for future generations.

The specific objective of the conference is to improve the knowledge of young professionals and experienced professionals in the cultural sector about the potential of cultural heritage for building peace, stability, and reconciliation in the Balkan. We hope this event will elevate the level of specific professional knowledge within the cultural sector by engaging a cohort of 12 young and 12 senior professionals in an immersive exploration of the untapped potential of cultural heritage (2+2 from Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania, Serbia, North Macedonia, and Kosovo*). This initiative transcends traditional educational boundaries, aiming to equip both emerging young cultural talents and seasoned practitioners with specialized insights into leveraging cultural heritage as a transformative tool for building peace, stability, and reconciliation in Montenegro and other countries in the region.

Through lectures of young professionals, two panel discussions, and a study visit, the project seeks to delve deep into the intricate relationship between cultural heritage and societal well-being. The 12 young participants, representing the next generation of cultural stewards, will benefit from these activities and expertise of the experienced professionals, ensuring a transfer of knowledge and skills that is both nuanced and contextually relevant. Importantly, the conference extends its impact beyond the selected cohort by actively involving the wider Montenegrin audience. By organizing public lectures, panel discussions, and other events, the initiative strives to disseminate the acquired knowledge to a broader demographic, fostering a collective understanding of the role cultural heritage plays in fostering peace and reconciliation. By doing so, the project aims to plant the seeds of awareness and appreciation within Montenegrin society, cultivating a shared commitment to utilizing cultural heritage as a powerful catalyst for positive social change. Ultimately, it envisions a ripple effect, where the enriched understanding

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

of cultural heritage permeates the broader cultural sector, contributing to a more harmonious and resilient societal fabric in Montenegro.

Unfortunately, in the faculties where cultural heritage is studied (archaeology, ethnology, anthropology, history of art, museology, heritology, and the like) in the Balkans, not enough attention is paid to the issues of intercultural dialogue, common heritage, overcoming differences, and the overall reconciliation of our often quarrelling societies that live in this area. This is especially noticeable among the younger cultural professionals, more than among experienced professionals who are certainly more mobile and knowledgeable about each other, and more than among younger colleagues who are not often in a position to travel around the region and establish communication and cooperation with each other.

Therefore, the project seeks to alleviate the existing problem and the lack of intercultural dialogue and international cooperation among young people, providing them with a platform for meetings, dialogue, and the development of ideas for future projects and cooperation.

Appreciating all of the above, we hope that the conference will contribute in the long term to better acquaintance and the establishment of friendly, good-neighborly relations between the cultures and societies living in the Western Balkans.

Dušan Medin
project coordinator

PROGRAMME

Day I | 5/4/2024

- 9.00 ARRIVAL & REGISTRATION
- 10.00 CONFERENCE OPENING
Dušan MEDIN, Executive Director of Association for Cultural Development "Bauo"
Bojana LALATOVIĆ, from organization RYCO LBO
in Montenegro, Podgorica
CULTURAL PROGRAMME: Students of Elementary School "Mirko Srzentić", Petrovac na Moru
- 10.30 INTRODUCTORY LECTURE
Dušan MEDIN, Association for Cultural Development "Bauo", Petrovac na Moru | Cultural Heritage for Reconciliation in the Balkans: Case of Montenegro
- 11.00 COFFEE BREAK
- 11.30 PANEL DISCUSSION 1: Potentials of Cultural Heritage for Reconciliation in the Balkans
Helidon SOKOLI, Regional Directorate for Cultural Heritage, Shkoder, Milena JOKANOVIĆ, University in Belgrade, Faculty of Philosophy, Ordanče PETROV, Institute for Old Slavic Culture, Prilep, Amra ŠAČIĆ BEĆA, University in Sarajevo,

CONFERENCE "CULTURAL HERITAGE FOR RECONCILIATION IN THE BALKANS"

Faculty of Philosophy, and Vesna DELIĆ, Association for Cultural Development "Bauo", Petrovac na Moru
moderator: Dušan MEDIN

13.30 LUNCH

16.00 MENTORING WORKSHOPS

19.00 DINNER

Day II | 6/4/2024

10.00 Livia KREKO, Durres Active Center, Durres | The Cultural Trail of the 12 Old Doors of Durres

10.30 Heldi KODRA, Amfora Centre, Tirana | Activism that Connects the Past and the Present: The Case of "Muret e Portës" Archaeological Site

11.00 Ana GAVRILOVIĆ, University in Belgrade, Faculty of Philosophy, Archaeology Students Club | COOLTOUR – Integrating Youth Into Creation of Comprehensive Platform and Methodology

11.30 COFFEE BREAK

12.00 Martina MARINČIĆ and Sara JALIMAM, University of Sarajevo, Faculty of Philosophy | Cultural Heritage of Bosnia and Herzegovina: During and After the War

12.30 Eleonora BOŽINOSKA, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, Faculty of Architecture, Skopje, and Hristijan PETROVSKI, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University, Faculty of Philosophy, Skopje | Cultural Heritage Between Strife and Reconciliation

13.00 Ana VUKADINOVIĆ, University of Donja Gorica, Faculty of Culture and Tourism | The (In)visibility of the Ottoman Heritage in Podgorica

CONFERENCE "CULTURAL HERITAGE FOR RECONCILIATION IN THE BALKANS"

- 13.30 Drita KABASHI, independent researcher, Prishtina | The Oil Lamps of Ancient Dardania: Illuminations and Metaphors
- 14.00 LUNCH
- 16.00 Eva VESELINOVIĆ, University in Belgrade, Faculty of Philosophy, Archaeology Students Club, Belgrade | Examples of Understanding and Respecting Diversities in the Middle Ages: Case Study of Roman-Catholic Churches within the Medieval Serbian State
- 16.30 Emina ŽIGA, University of Donja Gorica, Faculty of Culture and Tourism | Religious and Secular: Examples of the Church-Mosques
- 17.00 Albina MORINA, independent researcher, Prishtina | "Kullat": Exploring the Architectural Heritage of Kosova's Towers
- 17.30 COFFEE BREAK
- 18.00 PANEL DISCUSSION 2: Potentials of Cultural Heritage for Reconciliation in the Balkans
Adnan KALJANAC, University in Sarajevo, Faculty of Philosophy, Katarina ŽIVANOVIĆ, Europa Nostra Serbia, Belgrade, Aleksandar VASILEVSKI, Institute for Old Slavic Culture, Prilep, Klaudio HYSENI, Qendra Durresi Aktiv, Durres, Nikolina RAŽNATOVIĆ, Centre for Study and Protection of Cultural Heritage of Montenegro, Budva, and Besfort AXHANELA, Regional Center for Cultural Heritage, Prishtina
moderator: Dušan MEDIN
- 19.00 DINNER

CONFERENCE "CULTURAL HERITAGE FOR RECONCILIATION IN THE BALKANS"

Day III | 7/4/2024

- 10.00 CONFERENCE CONCLUSIONS
- 10.30 AWARDING A CERTIFICATES
- 11.00 STUDY VISIT (OLD BAR & ULCINJ)
- 18.00 DEPARTURE

ABSTRACTS

Heldi KODRA
Amfora Centre
Tirana

ACTIVISM THAT CONNECTS THE PAST AND THE PRESENT: THE CASE OF "MURET E PORTËS" ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

Abstract: Cultural heritage is considered a key sector, when it comes to the study of the past and building the connection between the past, present and future. "Muret e Portës" archaeological site (literally translated as Gate Walls) belongs to Albania's rich and legally protected cultural heritage, standing up since the IV century AD. Unfortunately, today this site is facing one of the greatest risks of its existence. Located 7 km in north of Durrës, the site is situated on the shores of the Adriatic Sea, in the so-called zone Porto Romano. Since 2015, the construction of a hydrocarbon port has affected the entire zone, including the perimeter of the archaeological site. Consequently, in 2022 the constructions brought the illegal partial flattening of the monument. The developments caused the reaction of activists and civil society actors, who were joined in the protection of the archaeological site. A campaign is ongoing, with the support of Europa Nostra, confirming the risk that "Muret e Portës" archaeological site is facing through enlisting it between 11 Most Endangered sites for 2024. This campaign is significantly contributing not only to the appeal of the endangerment, but is also creating bridges between the past and the present, appraising the importance of this archaeological site.

Keywords: "Muret e Portës", archaeology, cultural heritage, endangered, activism

Livia KREKO
Durrës Active Center
Durrës

THE CULTURAL TRAIL OF THE 12 OLD DOORS OF DURRËS

The Cultural Trail of the 12 Old Doors of Durrës is an initiative undertaken by the Durrës Active Center in collaboration with the MuZEH Lab Center, supported by the European Union, aiming to revitalize and promote the city's cultural heritage in an innovative and sustainable manner. The Cultural Trail brings a wide range of benefits for the local community, tourists, and the cultural heritage of the city, assisting in the preservation and promotion of significant historical and cultural heritage.

1. Support for Artisans: The project provided a platform and support for 5 local female artisans to creatively bring to life old doors using traditional techniques such as carving and weaving. This not only promotes cultural heritage but also supports the local artisan community; 2. Revitalization of Cultural Heritage: Through the promotion of the old doors and their stories, projects like this help in preserving and revitalizing the city's cultural heritage, crucial for maintaining its cultural and historical identity; 3. Innovation and Technology: Utilizing technology to promote the cultural trail through a digital map on the dedicated website www.theolddoorstrail.com serves as a powerful tool for attracting tourists; and presenting the history and culture in a modern and appealing way. 4. Local Economic Development: By attracting tourists and raising awareness about cultural heritage, the project contributes to the economic development of the area by encouraging local trade and tourist services in the areas where the 12 old doors are located.

Keywords: cultural trail, old doors, Albania, revitalization, artisan support, heritage promotion, economic development

Ana GAVRILOVIĆ
University in Belgrade
Faculty of Philosophy
Archaeology Students Club
PhD student
Belgrade

COOLTOUR – INTEGRATING YOUTH INTO CREATION OF COMPREHENSIVE PLATFORM AND METHODOLOGY

Abstract: COOLTOUR – Millennials for cultural heritage is a youth project funded by Erasmus+ program that includes youth in the design and decision making process in the project. The main objective is to create a better dialogue between Millennials and CH managers in partner countries throughout the interactive and innovative Cooltour platform and guidelines for CH managers on the bases of co-creative process with Millennials. Not only that more than have the consortium belongs to generation of Millennials, this partnership has actively worked with this target group during the International mobility of 60 students (Italy, Croatia, Hungary, Slovenia, Cyprus and Serbia) in Viminacium, Serbia (March 2023), during pilot projects (summer of 2023), implementation and multiplayer events. Creative visual and interpretative resolute made during these activities has stayed in hands of CH that have every day connection with heritage sites. Visual content such as memes, infographics, Snapchat filters, TikToks but also radio dramas have been disseminated through projects promotional materials that amazed both CH managers and Millennials at our events. Focusing on pros and cons of this intergenerational dialogue, KSA professionally has deepened the impact on the archaeological community and outside of it showcasing how much good impact youth organizations can have on multiple levels.

Keywords: youth involvement, COOLTOUR, millennials, cultural heritage, intergenerational dialogue

Martina MARINČIĆ
University of Sarajevo
Faculty of Philosophy
MA student
Sarajevo

Sara JALIMAM
University of Sarajevo
Faculty of Philosophy
MA student
Sarajevo

CULTURAL HERITAGE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA: DURING AND AFTER THE WAR

Abstract: During the war period of the 90's in Bosnia and Herzegovina an enormous amount of cultural heritage destruction occurred. The human need for cultural engagement didn't die even in this terrible period. Art was represented as a manner of escape from the horrors of daily life and art interventions were performed by artists in damaged buildings. As a result of that a lot of art exhibitions were organized. During and after the war many Institutions had the goal to restore and preserve the cultural heritage. Some of those Institutions are: Republic Institute for Protection of cultural, historical and nature heritage of Republic of Srpska, Institute for Protection of monuments in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, National Gallery of Bosnia and Herzegovina, National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Centre for Balkan Studies as a part of the Academy of Science and Art in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Also, we have to acknowledge the importance of the Department of Archaeology and the Institute of Archaeology which are a part of the Faculty of Philosophy in Sarajevo. Some of the most important Archaeology sites are: Badanj in Stolac, Butmir and Aqua S in Sarajevo, Mogorjelo in Čapljina, Radimlja in Stolac and Ornamented Mosque in Travnik.

Keywords: archaeology, culture, heritage, institutions, reconciliation, protection of cultural monuments

Eleonora BOŽINOSKA

Ss. Cyril and Methodius University

Faculty of Architecture

MA student

Skopje

Hristijan PETROVSKI

Ss. Cyril and Methodius University

Faculty of Philosophy

MA student

Skopje

CULTURAL HERITAGE BETWEEN STRIFE AND RECONCILIATION

Abstract: The Balkan Peninsula is no stranger to war and conflict. Throughout its turbulent history many an empire have come, risen and fallen here leaving behind vestiges of their culture, language and beliefs. Because of this, The Balkans today are a diverse ethnic, linguistic, and religious mosaic of peoples who, despite their differences, have that much more in common. Yet despite this many bear grudges against others of different religions or ethnicities brought upon by conflicts dating back decades or even centuries. One such conflict was the 2001 insurgency in Macedonia which was an interethnic conflict between Macedonians and Albanians. This clash had a devastating impact on a number of high priority cultural heritage sites including the ones that will be discussed- the razing and destruction of the Lešok Monastery, the Matejče Monastery and the Čarši Mosque in Prilep. The conflict also had a delayed effect as per the example of the disagreements and altercations about the Skopje Fortress in 2011. Confrontations such as these have led to wounds in interethnic relations which have yet to heal. Despite this not all is lost as reconciliation efforts can always be made. Through examples such as the construction of the memorial room of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk in the museum in Bitola, the renovation of Ali Riza Efendi's house in Kodžadžik in Debar, as well as the recent reopening of Yeni Mosque in Thessaloniki for the first time in 100 years for Eid prayer show us that if there is enough good will any animosity mended.

Keywords: Skopje, conflict, 2001, cultural heritage, architecture

Ana VUKADINOVIĆ
University of Donja Gorica
Faculty of Culture and Tourism
Bachelor student
Podgorica

THE (IN)VISIBILITY OF THE OTTOMAN HERITAGE IN PODGORICA

Abstract: In this presentation we are going to look back at Ottomans' heritage existing today in Podgorica, the capital of Montenegro. Given the multcentury presence of Ottomans and their culture on it's territory, it is to be expected that their remains and heritage is one of the most visible. In contrast, modern-day Podgorica and its architecture and visual culture contain merely a few layers of Ottomans' heritage that they had throughout history. Therefore, in this presentation we are going to expose many elements of Ottomans heritage, which should be much more visible to a broader public, tourists, as well as citizens of Podgorica. We will open up a several questions such as: Why this heritage is (not) as visible as it could to be? Is it talked about Ottoman heritage enough in our schools? How much do younger generations now about Ottoman cultural layers in Montenegrins' capital? How many streets in our city carry the name of a local famous Muslims?, and many other questions.

Keywords: Ottoman heritage, Muslims, Podgorica, architecture, mosques, history, cemetry, poem

Drita KABASHI
Independent researcher
Prishtina

THE OIL LAMPS OF ANCIENT DARDANIA: ILLUMINATIONS AND METAPHORS

Abstract: This study employs critical fabulation to explore the Dardanian terracotta oil lamps of the National Museum of Kosova, viewing them as portals to personal ancestry and broader cultural interactions. Departing from traditional methods, it adopts a multidimensional perspective, blending poetic exercises with scientific inquiry to bridge individual narratives with historical contexts. By reimagining these lamps as agents of cultural transmission, the study challenges established paradigms in cultural heritage research, aiming to reconcile poetic and scientific elements in a comprehensive examination of identity and meaning. This dynamic methodology can serve as a framework for progress in cultural heritage studies and approach.

Keywords: critical fabulation, personal genealogy, collective history, metaphors in cultural heritage studies, reimagining

Eva VESELINOVIĆ
University in Belgrade
Faculty of Philosophy
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Belgrade

EXAMPLES OF UNDERSTANDING AND RESPECTING
DIVERSITIES IN THE MIDDLE AGES: CASE STUDY
OF ROMAN-CATHOLIC CHURCHES WITHIN
THE MEDIEVAL SERBIAN STATE

Abstract: The Balkans, as a centuries-old metaphor of diversity, is an extremely important source of examples of how minorities were treated in the past. The most significant of those differences in the medieval period is certainly religion. The community, which belonged to the Roman Catholic Church, was the most numerous religious minority in the Serbian medieval state before it fell under Ottoman rule. Written sources and archaeological material provide valuable insight into the treatment of the Roman Catholic Church and believers within a predominantly Orthodox society. This presentation explores the importance of understanding diversity and good examples of tolerance, as evidenced mainly in the statutes of cities, on the example of cities Novo Brdo and Rudnik, and in connection with Catholic parishes. Through the analysis of written sources and legal documents, it sheds light on the various degrees of tolerance, cooperation, and occasional tensions between the Orthodox and Catholic communities. Understanding these historical dynamics is essential for contemporary researchers and policymakers who seek to promote interreligious dialogue and develop social cohesion in diverse societies.

Keywords: Roman Catholic Church, Orthodox Church, society, cultural diversity, Novo Brdo, Rudnik, tolerance

Emina ŽIGA
University of Donja Gorica
Faculty of Culture and Tourism
Bachelor student
Podgorica

RELIGIOUS AND/OR SECULAR: EXAMPLES OF THE CHURCH-MOSQUES

Abstract: Should we treat former religious objects as museums, preserving them for their beauty and history? Or should they be a place of worship again? We will look at why these buildings matter and what they can teach us about our past. First we will take a look at church-mosque ("crkva-džamija") in Ulcinj. The Catholic church of St. Mary's in the Old Town, according to the inscription on the transom of the entrance portal, was erected in 1510. It was turned into a mosque (Haji Halil Shurova's mosque) in 1693 when it was restored in accordance with the requirements of its new function. It was fully restored in 1975 in order to house the museum. This transformation reflects the complex history and coexistence of different religious communities in the area over the centuries. Today, this object serves as a symbol of cultural heritage and is open to visitors interested in exploring its rich history. Also, we will present another famous landmark: Hagia Sophia. Originally a church, it later became a mosque, reflecting the changing times in Istanbul. In 1935, it was turned into a museum, showing its importance as a symbol of shared history. But in 2020, it became a mosque again, sparking debates worldwide. The story of Hagia Sophia reminds us that historical sites can have different meanings for different people.

Keywords: religion, churches, mosques, Ulcinj, Istanbul, crkva-džamija, Hagia Sophia, museum

Albina MORINA
Independent researcher
Prishtina

"KULLAT": EXPLORING THE ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE OF KOSOVA'S TOWERS

Abstract: This study delves into the rich architectural heritage of Kosovo, spotlighting various structures that narrate its diverse history and cultural amalgamation. From ancient shelters to modern fortresses, each edifice encapsulates craftsmanship, tradition, and societal values. Among these structures, Kullat, traditional residential towers, stand out, prevalent from the 18th to the 20th century in western and southern Kosovo, as well as northern Albania. These towers served multifaceted roles, blending personal residence, defense, and protection of wealth. Their design typically comprises three floors, with the ODA, elaborately adorned and symbolizing hospitality, as the focal point. However, the towers' significance extends beyond architectural prowess; they embody the resilience and cultural identity of the Albanian population in Kosovo. Despite facing destruction during conflicts, efforts for reconstruction and preservation persist, albeit with challenges in maintaining their original numbers.

Keywords: Kosovo, architectural heritage, "kullat" (towers), residential structures, multifaceted roles, "oda" (central space), hospitality, cultural identity, conflict impact, preservation efforts

NOTES

CONFERENCE "CULTURAL HERITAGE FOR RECONCILIATION IN THE BALKANS"

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