



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

UNESCO REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Cultural Heritage and Identity:
an Arab Youth Perspective

1-3 March 2017, Carthage, Beit El Hikma

AGENDA

DAY 1 : Wednesday 1 March 2017

08:30-09:00 Registration of participants

09:00-09:30 **Opening session** with:
- Mr Houcine Abassi, Nobel Prize Laureate, former Secretary General of the Tunisian General Labour Union
- Ms Nada Al Nashif, UNESCO Assistant-Director General for Social and Human Sciences

SESSION 1

Cultural heritage in times of conflict and post-conflict

Objective: to discuss the importance of cultural heritage safeguarding during conflict situations, transitional and recovery phases.

This session will: (i) analyze the social, environmental and economic impact of cultural heritage destruction during conflicts, (ii) showcase creative experiences using cultural heritage as a means for collective recovery, peace building, social cohesion and jobs creation, (iii) identify new narratives to help youth-led advocacy and actions on cultural heritage protection

Expected output: A better understanding of social, political, economic, and environmental dimensions of cultural heritage, as well as of its tangible role in fostering peace, dialogue, social cohesion and sustainable development, translated into key messages.

Facilitator: Ms Nada Al-Hassan, UNESCO Headquarters, Chief, Arab States Unit, World Heritage Centre

09:30-11:00 **Inspirational testimonial:** Mr Assaad Seif (Lebanon), archeologist, professor in cultural heritage management

Plenary panel:

- o Pr Gabi Dolff-Bonekamper (Germany). Arts and Architecture Historian, Professor at Technische Universität of Berlin.
- o Ms Chedlia Annabi (Tunisia), ICOM, culture expert engaged in the fight against the trafficking of cultural goods.
- o Mr Mohamed Gohar (Egypt), Architect, Co-founder of the Description of Alexandria Project
- o Mr Abderrahim Kassou (Morocco), Architect, Member of the National Human Rights Council

Discussions

11:00-11:30 Coffee break

11:30-13:00 Working groups

13:00-14:30 Lunch break

SESSION 2

Youth's engagement for heritage, dialogue and peace building

The session will shed the light on the crucial role of youth organizations for the safeguarding of cultural heritage, promotion dialogue and social transformation, tapping on the potential role of the diaspora.

Expected output: Awareness raised and vision clarified on how to engage youth in heritage and diversity promotion including within cities.

Facilitator: Mr Phinith Chanthalangsy, UNESCO Maghreb Office, Social and Human Sciences Sector.

14:30-16:00

Inspirational speaker: Ms Elza Seferian (Lebanon), Young Delegate of Lebanon and the Arab Block at the 39th World Heritage Committee Session

Plenary panel:

- o Mr Omar Azzabi (Switzerland), Jurist, human rights officer (UNHCR) and Swiss young activist in politics
- o Ms Nidaa Badwan (Palestine), Artist and photographer
- o Mr Mohamed Elghazal (Libya), Entrepreneur and founder of Nez3a Aber Campaign
- o Ms Reme Sakr (Syria), Partnerships and Communications Manager within the NGO Syria Trust for Development
- o Mr Aymen Gharbi (Tunisia), Artist and architect, co-founder of Doolesha and Interference Projects

Discussion

16:00-16:30

Coffee break

16:30-17:45

Working Groups

17:45-18:15

Working Groups report back – sessions 1 and 2

DAY 2 : Thursday 2 March 2017

SESSION 3

Cultural heritage, (social) media and outreach

The session will analyze the added-value of media and social media in facilitating access to and enjoyment of cultural heritage. It will also discuss the influence of social media in building open cultural identities and participatory safeguarding strategies.

Expected output: The powerful influence of social media and media on heritage promotion and protection is discussed, with a view of facilitating new narratives and initiatives involving young cultural heritage activists, city managers and professional associations.

Facilitator: Mr Ahmed Zaouche, UNESCO Headquarters, Social and Human Sciences Sector

09:00-11:00

Inspirational speaker: Mr Dervis Hadzimuhamedovic (Bosnia Herzegovina), Co-founder of the International Heritage Summer School.

Plenary panel:

- o Ms Zain Hajahjah (Jordan), PhD Candidate in Heritage Studies at Brandenburg University of Technology
- o Mr Emin Turki (Tunisia), Architect and founder of platform and online campaign "Winou El Patrimoine"
- o Mr Benjamin Perrot (France), Participative design artist, founder of El Warcha Project
- o Ms Nahla Naili Bouhired (Algeria), Artist, Founder of Jeunesse éveillée
- o Ms Mounya Boulaarassi (Morocco), Intangible heritage expert, PhD Candidate at Casablanca university.

Discussion

11:00-11:30

Coffee break

11:30-13:00

Working Groups

13:00-14:00

Lunch break

SESSION 4

Arts, heritage education and intercultural dialogue

The session will showcase how arts and heritage education could raise awareness about cultural diversity and plural identities, while promoting new behaviors and competences for intercultural dialogue among youth.

Expected output: Identification of successful practices tapping on heritage and arts education as a way to promote cohesion, intercultural dialogue and plural identities, including within schools and cities.

Facilitator: Ms Jana El Baba, UNESCO Cairo Office, Social and Human Sciences Sector

14:00-15:30

Inspirational speaker: Mr Timothy Kaldas (Egypt), Writer, Communications Specialist at Munathara Initiative and professor at Nile University.

Plenary presentations:

- o Mr Karim Kattan (Palestine), Founder of el-Atlal, artists' residency in Jericho.
- o Ms Nujaida Al Maskrai (Oman), Member of the Connecting Cultures Programme, Former coordinator of the Omani Mission to cultivate Palestine
- o Mr Shiran Ben Abderrazak (Tunisia), Political Scientist, Cultural Operator, Manager of Dar Eyquem
- o Mr Rachid Andaloussi (Morocco), President of Casamémoire (Morocco)
- o Ms Amina Menia (Algeria), mixed-media artist

Discussion

15:30-16:00

Coffee break

16:00-17:30

Working Groups

17:30-18:00

Working Groups report back – sessions 3 and 4

DAY 3 : Friday 3 March 2017

SESSION 5

Youth contribution to heritage protection at local level

This session aims at building a consensus on a youth-driven vision for heritage protection and promotion at local/municipal level.

Facilitator: Ms Seiko Sugita, UNESCO Beirut Office, Social and Human Sciences Sector

09:00-11:00

Inspirational speaker: Ms Nada El Feituri (Libya), Architect, member of NET-MED Youth Project

Plenary discussion: with representatives of municipalities from the region

- o Général Hussein Lakis (Lebanon), Mayor of Baalback
- o Mr Zoubeir Mouhli (Tunisia), Director General, Association de Sauvegarde de la médina de Tunis
- o Mr Pierre Baillet (France), Permanent Secretary of the International Association of Francophone Mayors
- o Mr Foued Zefri (Morocco), Advisor to the Mayor of Tangiers
- o Mr Ahmedou Sidina Bock (Mauritania), Representative of Tévragh-Zeina District, Nouakchott
- o Ms Aya Rebai (Tunisia), Project Manager, Arts Education, NGO l'Art-Rue

Indicative questions:

How could youth engagement for heritage protection be fostered at local/municipal level?
What should be the priority interventions and which support could be provided by city managers and mayors?

11:00-11:30

Coffee break

11:30-12:30

Closing by Mr Khaled Salah, UNESCO Representative in Maghreb, Director of UNESCO Rabat Office

Discussion of outcomes, recommendations and way forward

12:30-14:30

Lunch