



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



European Union

TOGETHER FOR
HERITAGE

European Young Heritage
Professionals Forum

Zadar, Croatia | 20 - 24 May, 2019



WEBINAR SESSION: EUROPEAN YOUTH AND HERITAGE

23 April 2021, 14:00 to 15:30 CET

Zoom Link: <https://unesco-org.zoom.us/j/95534288346>

In 2019, the European Young Heritage Professionals Forum brought together 28 young heritage professionals from across Europe and innovatively addressed with them for the first time, tangible and intangible cultural heritage in tandem and explored synergies and challenges of their safeguarding in the European context.

Through intercultural learning and capacity building in the field of heritage, the Forum was successful in building a network of 'Cultural Heritage Messengers' at the European, national and local levels, through the commitment of the participants. Nearly two years since the Forum, this network remains active and vibrant today, promoting the message of heritage in Europe, and is committed to encouraging young people across the EU to play an active role in heritage protection and safeguarding.

Supporting and celebrating the commitment of these Cultural Heritage Messengers, the [European Youth and Heritage Webinar](#) is being organized by UNESCO on [23 April 2021, from 14:00 to 15:30 CET](#), to facilitate a wider youth interaction on heritage, at the European level. The webinar aims to provide an opportunity for youth and young heritage professionals to learn about the outcomes of the European Young Heritage Professionals Forum and exchange with the Forum participants, so they can explore future synergies and opportunities for engaging in heritage projects, and expanding the networks.

In addition to encouraging the discourse on heritage, the webinar will also be the chance for the participants to discover among others, two [Success Stories](#) – youth led projects from the participants of the Forum, which have developed from small passion projects to successful heritage initiatives in Europe, today.

The European Young Heritage Professionals Forum was organized by UNESCO in the framework of the UNESCO-EU joint project 2018 European Year of Cultural Heritage: Engaging Youth for an Inclusive and Sustainable Europe, and took place in Zadar, Croatia, from 20 to 24 May 2019. The Forum was hosted by the Croatian Commission for UNESCO and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia in close cooperation with the NGO Diadrisis.



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Here is a quick glance on the projects in highlight:

Dissonance as an asset: Preserving the Buzludzha monument

Ms Dora Ivanova

<http://www.buzludzha-project.com/>

Motivated by its tremendous potential for future reuse, a team of international experts and volunteers is working to preserve the Buzludzha monument in Bulgaria. As part of this grassroots initiative, the team is creating a Conservation Plan and implementing first Emergency Measures. Buzludzha monument is not just a masterpiece of architecture, engineering, and art, but it is also one of the most iconic and significant buildings of post-war modernism in Europe. As a dissonant and controversial site from the socialist period, the monument has been subjected to neglect. However, the team believes that this very dissonance is its unrevealed exceptional asset, as it has the power to provoke dialogue, allow open discussion, enhance education and tolerance, and foster mutual understanding.



Engaging young people: lessons through the Dutch network Erfgoed Jong and ICH research

Ms Susanne Verburg

<https://www.erfgoedjong.com/>



Through the webinar, youth across Europe will be able to explore the heritage journeys of Dora, Susanne and the rest of the participants of the Forum, and share their own, building and expanding the ever-growing network of our Cultural Heritage Messengers.



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PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME: EUROPEAN YOUTH AND HERITAGE

23 April 2021, 14:00 – 15:30 CET

14:00 – 14:10 Opening Remarks from the UNESCO World Heritage Centre

Jyoti Hosagrahar

Deputy Director, World Heritage Centre

14:10 – 14:20 Opening Remarks from the European Commission

Catherine Magnant

Head of Unit, Cultural Policy

14:20 – 14:35 Presentation of the Forum and its outcomes

UNESCO WHC and LHE

14:35 – 14:50 Success Stories emerging from the Forum: Project Presentation 1

Dora Ivanova

Dissonance as an asset: Preserving the Buzludzha monument

14:50 – 15:05 Success Stories emerging from the Forum: Project Presentation 2

Susanne Verburg

Engaging young people: lessons through the Dutch network Erfgoed Jong and ICH research

15:05 – 15:25 Interactions with the youth participants

Moderated by UNESCO

15:25 – 15:30 Closing Remarks

UNESCO and the European Commission