ESEMPI DI ARCHITETTURA

edA

2021

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Esempi di Architettura

Diplomacy in the Age of the Internet: Challenges for the World Heritage Convention

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Abstract

We are living in a time where the status quo of our existence has fundamentally changed in critical ways since the time of the drafting of the 1972 Convention. After 50 years of many changes in both technology and collective appreciation of heritage and new cultural paradigms seek to reshape how heritage protection is viewed, prompting many countries to re-examine their own politics toward preservation of cultural heritage. With it, so have the nature of threats to cultural heritage and the framework that governs its protection. In this paper we will examine the evolution of internet-led diplomacy, its effects on the perception of cultural identities and the need for a renewed understanding of the obligations to preserve and protect cultural heritage as understood under the 1972 Convention. This paper was discussed at the International Conference "50 Years World Heritage Convention: Shared Responsibility – Conflict & Reconciliation" Internationale Akademie Berlin, June 22, 2021.

Keywords: 1972 World Heritage Convention, Cultural Diplomacy, Heritage, International Law, Governance; UNESCO; Twiplomacy; Threats; Cultural Heritage

Introduction

The latter twentieth century was a time of taking stock to rebuild, from ground-up, the values that had deteriorated in the course of the two world wars. We witness a great boom in the evaluation of core human values, different from State-specific individualism. This culminated in the establishment of important institutions, conclusion of accords and agreements, and paved a way to engage in constructive discourse between seemingly different points of view in a newly post-colonial world. While there are many lenses to observe the evolution of the present international framework on the protection of cultural identities, the renewed importance to

cultural identity, its definition, and its evolution is vital. The 1972 Convention is a first important document to create a universal, inclusive view of cultural heritage.

Tweets by former US President Donald J. Trump in January 2020, threatening to set military targets on Iran's cultural property have raised heightened scrutiny on State conduct toward the preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage. The Tweets are particularly concerning since they were made by a (then) sitting head of State of the United States – a permanent member to the United Nations.

It is in context that we might view the renewed importance of the 1972 World Heritage Convention. The unique feature of the Convention is that it recognizes the importance of cultural heritage as comprising identities of all mankind. It specifically acknowledges the universal "outstanding interest" in cultural heritage "for mankind as a whole" in its Preamble.[1] According to the Convention's Preamble, all cultural heritage across the world possesses "outstanding universal value" requiring protection, safeguarding and preservation, to inform the cultural identity of "all peoples of the world." Preservation conveys the collective "heritage of mankind as a whole" and contains an undertaking to preserve through resources both from individual States and through international effort. In this way, human identity is inherently intertwined with cultural heritage.

2022 celebrates 50 years since the inception of the Convention. In the timescale of human existence, 50 years is an insignificant blip. A quick, insignificant second of thousands of years. Yet in this short time, much of the world has already changed. At the time the Convention's text was drafted, there was no sign of the internet, which would be invented nearly 17 years after, in 1989-90. In the history of the world, culture has been the central energy that has produced important developments and opened intercultural dialogues. The discoveries and the interest for the knowledge built the first network among different communities. Today, the new technologies allow to continue this path with other methodologies and the communication on cultural heritage has assumed a central role in international relations.

The 1972 Convention puts back to centre, the value to the Culture. Culture is the element that both helps us recognize our common humanity and differentiates our experiences in fascinating and wondrous ways. Each cultural expression has its own special, precious value. The drafters envisioned the Convention's governance system to be focused on the preservation of cultural heritage as the primary goal, establishing the World Heritage Committee ("WHCommittee") under its auspices; whose members are appointed by the UNESCO General Assembly. Non-governmental organizations ICOMOS and IUCN, and intra-governmental organization ICCROM are "Advisory Bodies" to the WHCommittee.

We will examine the governance system to analyze the objectives, role, assignment of responsibility and obligations in the Convention, of the WHCommittee and the Advisory Bodies. We attempt to discern whether the current system addresses issues concerning threats to cultural property from member States to the Convention where the destruction appears imminent and the threat, credible.

Organizational structure of and the functions carried out by the World Heritage Convention. The Administrative System: UNESCO and the World Heritage Committee

The responsibility of ensuring continued preservation of earmarked sites and property is undertaken through the World Heritage Committee ("WHCommittee") established through the Convention and whose membership is elected by the UNESCO General Assembly. Therefore, while the WHCommittee is a central unit of the Convention, it is also a direct organ of the UNESCO because of the means by which its membership is determined. Non-governmental organizations ICOMOS and IUCN, and the inter-governmental organization ICCROM had assisted UNESCO in drafting the Convention and intentionally defining its scope of application.[2] Thus, they hold the position of "Advisory Bodies" to the WHCommittee, working closely and directly with an organ of UNESCO. In order to present a complete overview of the organizational hierarchy of these various bodies, we have included following *Figure I* to display the inter-connected hierarchal structure centered around the Convention.

Fig.1. [Chart created by the authors based on an understanding of the connection between UNESCO and the World Heritage Convention, and in turn the World Heritage Committee, from the text of the World Heritage Convention]

The central aim of the Committee is to implement the Convention and its objectives through a wide range of substantive, administrative and procedural functions. The Convention's scheme envisions several functions for the Committee, including the establishment and periodic maintenance of the World Heritage List ("WHList"). The World Heritage Center is the Secretariat to the WHCommittee and acts as its liaison office with the UNESCO.

This administrative and hierarchical structure exclusively includes expert opinions and support in the decision-making process of the committee.

Functions carried out by the World Heritage Committee

The Convention "establish[es] an international regime which deals with the protection of world cultural and natural heritage as a non-transboundary problem and is characterized by an emphasis on cooperative aspects."[3] There are two central functions carried out by the WHCommittee. First, it is in-charge of including a specific heritage site on the WHList or, as necessary, to the List of World Heritage in Danger; and second, it determines the allocation of resources made available through the World Heritage Fund. In the following *Figure II*, we provide a detailed overview of the functions performed by the WHCommittee within the scheme of the Convention and its supporting documents.

As can be gathered by the detailed chart in the Figure II, the functions carried out by the Committee directly further the central goals of the Convention – to recognize international cultural heritage by placing them on the World Heritage List and to assist with conservation and preservation of such heritage through financial assistance from the World Heritage Fund. The provisions of the Convention are styled and drafted in a manner that accords a wide range of powers and abilities to the WHCommittee. For instance, the WHCommittee can determine for itself, the order of priorities for its operations and determine for itself the Rules of Procedure it is to be bound by. These functions are not determined by the UNESCO and thus, the WHCommittee has the ability to make determinations based on the issues existing at the time of the committee's deliberation.

Figure II. *Key Functions of the WHCommittee*

Advisory Bodies
Arts. 8(3), 13(7), 14(2)

- Int'l Council on Monuments and Sites (**ICOMOS**)
- Int'l Union for Conservation of Nature (**IUCN**)
- Int'l Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (**ICCROM**)

World Heritage Committee

(21 members sit on the Committee for 4-year terms each, elected by the UNESCO General Assembly from the States party to the Convention)

Art. 11(2) "establish, keep up to date and publish, under the title of "**World Heritage List**," a list of properties forming part of the cultural heritage and natural heritage…"

Art. 13(1), (3), (6) consider "requests for **international assistance**", decide on the request, and determine how the resources of the World Heritage Fund will be used.

Key functions

World Heritage Center
A liaison office between the Committee and UNESCO serving as the Committee's secretariat that supports the administrative activities of the Committee and its Bureau

Other functions

Arts. 10(1), 21(1)
Adopt its own Rules of Procedure and create necessary consultative bodies to perform its

Art. 11(5)
Define the criteria for inclusion of cultural heritage. Adopt and revise Operational Guidelines

Art. 13(4)
Determine an order of priorities for its operations

Arts. 13(6), 15(4)
Determine how resources of the World Heritage Fund will be used

Art. 11(4)
Establish, publish, and update a "list of World Heritage in Danger"

Art. 11(7)
Periodic monitoring of and reporting on the state of conservation of properties on the WHList

Art. 29(2)
Periodic review and evaluation of the implementation of the Convention. Committee will then submit a report of its activities to UNESCO.

Fig.2. [Chart created by the authors based on the text of the World Heritage Convention]

ISSN 2035-7982

Figure III. *Select discretionary powers of the WHCommittee*

I.E.25: develop strategic objectives which are periodically reviewed and revised to define the goals and objectives of the Committee to ensure that new threats placed on world heritage are addressed effectively (last revised in 2002)

Art. 10(2): May at any time invite public or private organizations or individuals to participate in its meetings for consultation on particular problems

I.H.38: may call on other international and non-governmental organizations to assist in the implementation of its programmes and projects

Art. 10(3): May create consultative bodies as necessary for the performance of its functions

II.A.49: defines the criteria for the inscription of properties on the World Heritage List

Art. 11(4): May at any time, in case of urgent need, make a new entry in the List of World Heritage in Danger and publicize such entry immediately

I.H.38: may call on other international and non-governmental organizations to assist in the implementation of its programmes and projects

Art. 13(7): For the implementation of its programmes and projects, may call on ICCROM, ICOMOS, and IUCN, as well as on public and private bodies and individuals

Under the Convention

World Heritage Committee

The Operational Guidelines

III.E.147: may request ICOMOS and IUCN to carry out thematic studies to evaluate proposed World Heritage properties in their regional, global or thematic context

Art. 15(4): May accept contributions to be used only for a certain programme or project, provided that the Committee shall have decided on the implementation of such programme or project

III.G.153: decides whether a property should or should not be inscribed on the World Heritage List, referred or deferred

Art. 26: Negotiate terms in the agreements with States receiving assistance from the Committee

III.G.160: may decide to defer a nomination presented to it for more in-depth assessment or study, or a substantial revision by the State Party

Art. 23: May provide international assistance to national or regional centres for the training of staff and specialists at all levels in the field of identification, protection, conservation, presentation and rehabilitation of the cultural and natural heritage

IV.B.177 & 183: may inscribe a property to the List of World Heritage in Danger; shall develop and adopt a "Desired state of conservation for the removal of the property from the List of World Heritage in Danger" and a programme for corrective measures

VI.B.212: develop capacity building within States Parties in conformity with its strategic objectives and the World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy

VII.C.235 & 238: coordinate and allocate international assistance in response to State Party requests in conformity with priorities and programmes

[Chart created by the authors based on the text of the World Heritage Convention and its Operational Guidelines]

Discretionary powers of the Committee

The Committee also enjoys significant autonomy although it relies on the expert advice rendered by the ICOMOS, IUCN, and the ICCROM. It determines the criteria required for including sites, monuments, and heritage on the WHList and it can establish sub-committees as necessary for studying specific issues presented to it. In many ways, the WHCommittee enjoys significant discretionary powers as can be traced in the *Figure III* above.

While the Operational Guidelines are in place to help facilitate the implementation of the Convention. We can see this from the power of the Committee to develop and determine its objectives periodically, subject to revision specifically to identify new threats to world heritage. This flexibility allows the WHCommittee to make decisions in consideration of the particular circumstances concerning an issue while continuing to honour the commitments undertaken by States Parties through the Convention. It enables decision-making based on prudence and urgency while continuing to exercise diligent supervision. For instance, the WHCommittee can request assistance from international and non-governmental organizations other than the Advisory Bodies in the implementation of its programmes and projects. Similarly, while the WHCommittee determines the allocation and means of expenditure of the World Heritage Fund, it can also exercise prudence in negotiating the terms of the agreements it enters into with States receiving such assistance. Thus, the wide-ranging discretionary powers enjoyed by the WHCommittee comprise of its ability to make specific decisions while continuing to retain a supervisory role in the execution of such decisions.

The Changing Nature of Diplomacy; new threats to cultural property

Diplomacy has generally taken the form of transmission of messages through phone calls, or exchange of letters, between heads of State or diplomatic personnel, away from public view. Within public view, it has been structured in the form of inter-governmental conferences and meetings between delegations or a congress. However, "this narrative of diplomats managing international relations among each other and out of view of the public eye has become increasingly at odds with reality.[4]

Through the widespread acceptance of the 1972 Convention, "cultural investments" have become a popular vehicle of *cultural diplomacy* through the international development agencies and grant programs of many developed countries. Development banks, too, embrace this strategy by investing in programs designed to stimulate tourism in heritage destinations while also improving local living conditions and reinforcing intangible traditions.

It is also important to clarify the distinction between *cultural diplomacy* and *soft power*. *Soft power* is strictly connected to economic aspect of engagement primarily through investment either through economic means or through other influential means.[5] An example of *soft power* might be cited in the worldwide consumption of US media which tends to project the US as a beacon of modernity with its values of openness, mobility, individualism, pluralism, voluntarism, and freedom. Media engagement thus emboldens efforts to strengthen economic power through an almost colonial type of overbearing projection of superiority and not one that is cultural. Its effects are thus soft.

By contrast, cultural diplomacy promotes an intercultural dialogue in a manner that does not rely on any hierarchies. All engagement is on an even platform, indicating a set of actions that favour the exchange of knowledge, research, exchange of information through cultural development programs. An interesting and small-scale example might be observed in the outcome from student exchange programs across the world where young minds engage in academic exchange and continue to benefit from intercultural dialogue.

A central issue with soft powers attempting to masquerade as genuine cultural exchange is that its goals do not focus on establishing an equal footing between cultures, rendering the unfavourable outcome of stereotyping cultures, unfortunate negative portrayal of cultures or peoples, or using cultural indicators as a means to an unrelated end.

While it is clear that we must make intentional strides in choosing to engage through cultural diplomacy instead of relying on soft power actions, we must also recognize the changing landscape of diplomacy as we understand it. A novel addition to contemporary diplomacy has been the use of social media by political figures in communicating with each other amid public view. [6] Indeed, over the course of the last decade, "social media has led to a paradigm shift in the craft of diplomacy" itself because it has greatly facilitated discussion of pressing issues "that consequently shape public opinion."[7] As with much of the internet, diplomacy is increasingly taking place within public view. One benefit of this stage of evolution, is the ability for observers to exercise greater scrutiny of "the history, techniques, and effects of diplomatic engagements with foreign audiences."

Chief among social media tools is the microblogging website, Twitter. Twitter has played a key tool for 'soft' diplomatic communication. Twitter is used by government officials for communication with their electorate and with their counterparts in other parts of the world. For instance, the Iranian Foreign Minister Javad Zarif and the then US Secretary of State John Kerry both employed Twitter to announce the release of ten mariners on two US Navy patrol boats who had wandered into Iranian waters in January 2016.[8] The flipside, however, is that the employment of social media tools in communication carries controversy with it.

President Paul Kagame of Rwanda has been involved in several exchanges with journalists particularly criticizing their description of him[9] including allegedly using a Twitter ghostwriter.[10] In another example from 2012, the former Estonian President Toomas Ilves criticized Paul Krugman for Krugman's take on Estonia's economic recovery with a series of sarcastic and pointed Tweets.[11] Over the last decade, world leaders on Twitter have embraced the ability to comment. For example, leaders of Senegal, Botswana, El Salvador, and Ghana Tweeted responses[12] to reports that President Donald Trump derided immigrants from African and Central American nations,[13] in addition to other responses via traditional diplomatic channels.[14] Similarly, Chilean President Sebastian Piñera made pointed jabs at the White House.[15]

How political leaders speak to and about each other outside the UN paradigm is a key means of judging the health of diplomacy between those nations. Particularly, the tone, tenor, and outlook presented by a head of State, or State officials provides significant insight into their view of important issues. Given the use of social media by political figures across the internet, there is merit in closely inspection as to their content. One concerning set of Tweets relating to cultural heritage, of many others, were made by the former US Preside Donald J. Trump in January 2020 when he acknowledges that US military has set cultural sites in Iran as military targets. The Tweets warned Iran against taking retaliatory measures for US killing of Iran's top military commander. The threat being, should Iran retaliate, the US would destroy targeted cultural sites in Iran. Through his

Tweets, President Trump specifically and openly admitted that the US Government has set cultural sites in Iran as military targets, in contravention to nearly every international treaty, agreement, and convention on the safeguarding and protection of cultural heritage. The International Council of Monuments (ICOM) and the International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) jointly issued a statement strongly condemning "the destruction of cultural heritage" and reminded that both States are parties to the 1972 World Heritage Convention.[16]

Adapting the Convention to meet novel challenges

Surely the 1972 Convention, in contemporary key, favours new approaches; and so, the strategies and criteria represented in the Convention allows for the exploration of new frontiers, risks, threats, and issues affecting cultural heritage and its continued protection for future generations. As noted in the previous section, the Convention is indeed equipped to consistently re-evaluate how to preserve the richness of the world's cultural assets and reverse a trajectory of environmental harm, deliver opportunities to local communities and offer a new spectrum of investment choices.

The objective of the Convention is clear – the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of cultural and natural heritage of Outstanding Universal Value. (Operational Guidelines I.B.7). The seriousness of the former US President, Donald Trump's Tweets is not one to be overlooked. By threatening to destroy cultural heritage of another State, specifically one whose landmarks have been included on the World Heritage List, the Tweets demonstrate an abject disregard for the vision of the 1972 Convention, its allied documents and its noteworthy predecessor instruments of international cooperation. The Tweets also indicate an evolving dynamic to the idea of diplomacy that has thus far shaped State to State relationships, and relations with the 1972 Convention.

One way to address this changing dynamic is to encourage a conscious investment from States party to the Convention, into cultural diplomacy. Over time, many definitions for "cultural diplomacy" have been theorised by scholars and academics.[17] Two elements likely summarize these variety of ideas: (i) it is a tool to advance general foreign policy objectives, and (ii) it employs cultural activities, promotes an exchange of ideas, information, and art with a view to facilitate an exchange of cultural values. Yet, the idea of cultural diplomacy is not without its flaws and criticisms. Most notably, it "is often identified with *Cultural Propaganda*, and it is indeed Propaganda as far as culture is not exposed for culture but for certain political goals."[18] One example of this can be traced back to one of the consequences of colonialism, where the culture of the coloniser was used as a means of persuasion, a tool of branding used to show the "benefits of Roman civilization."[19] Yet it is possible to veer away from this unfortunate interpretation of cultural diplomacy and embrace the vein of genuineness underpinned by creating opportunities for a community with unique cultural practices to be able to represent their culture without reinterpretation by a mediating party. "Cultural Diplomacy is not only soliciting admiration and sympathy through the showcasing of national cultural achievements. It is about building trust. Its purpose is to establish mutually beneficial cooperation and partnership."[20] It is this foundation of mutual trust and respect that seems to be missing from contemporary diplomatic discourse; one evidenced by increasingly hostile confrontations and communication amongst and from political leaders across the world.

Therefore. a key agenda for the 1972 Convention and the WHCommittee should consider employing its existing framework of its governance system and its wide-ranging scope of functions in order to help facilitate dialogue in a manner that benefits cultures while continuing to protect heritage. As is, in the face of President Trump's threats, while the international community was quick to condemn the threats, there was no decisive consequence placed on the US, its participation in world affairs, or a serious investigation into the credibility of the threats. Should the current climate of derogation of cultural heritage and identity continue, the threats posed by ill-informed and hasty diplomacy will only continue to increase. Of course, this is not to say that an investigation of any scale would be warmly welcomed or easy to achieve, but it is certainly beyond doubt that rebukes and condemnation via mere statements is a tepid response to a serious problem.

Conclusions and next steps

Learning about our communality through the unique qualities of each particular place and culture makes life richer and helps us to value the multiplicity and diversity of the human experience. Communities throughout the world have long cherished their heritage and cultural assets as irreplaceable sources of identity and pride. In the world's most vulnerable places - overwhelmed by rapid urbanization, political conflicts, catastrophic events and dramatic populations shifts - historic built environments are most at risk. For this reason, now the 1972 Convention helps us to understand the different meaning of cultural heritage in the world and to define local cultural policies where the quality of education is an important factor to guarantee the future of our heritage.

The world's converging health, social, and economic crises are unfolding against the backdrop of climate change and the existential threat it poses. This confluence of crises has engendered a sense of urgency that is being transformed into action across many fronts. Cultural Heritage and Human Heritage (Community) are the locus of both concern and promise and 1972 Convention must be reread with new eyes. While both community awareness amongst officials of a State as to the importance of choosing the correct language to describe cultural property must certainly be an effort, it cannot exist in isolation. It certainly cannot be expected to yield results on its own in terms of refreshing the landscape that is already provided by social media platforms.

Thus we must necessarily ask ourselves whether the 1972 Convention might be able to act as a medium to first, establish the necessary dialogue between States in a manner that discourages targeting or holding cultural heritage or property as collateral in a conflict. From an examination of the WHCommittee's powers and functions, we can surmise that such an agenda is well within the right of the committee to set and address. Particularly because twiplomacy and quick comments across social media have a tendency to quickly catch on with civilians anywhere. The danger is, that a questionable and precarious comment may likely swell into a storm, moving civilians to disregard the notion of protecting and safeguarding heritage. A second question we might examine, is whether the WHCommittee, in an exercise of its discretionary powers might set up a sub-committee to monitor the ways in which social media platforms are changing the way diplomacy functions, particularly concerning the protection of cultural heritage. Of course, much has been done to promote positive messaging and celebrating heritage. Yet, much can be done in actively dissuading hateful or incendiary communications across the internet since such comments pose a direct threat to safeguarding heritage.

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Notes

1   See generally O'Keefe, R (2004). World Cultural Heritage: Obligations to the International Community as a Whole?, *International & Comparative Law Quarterly*, (53), 189-209.

2   Zacharias, D (2008). The UNESCO Regime for the Protection of World Heritage as Prototype of an Autonomy-Gaining International Institution, *German Law Journal* 9(11), 1833-1864, 1836.

3   Zacharias, D (2008) *id.* at 1838 (citing Zacharias, D (2006). Cologne Cathedral Skyscrapers – World Heritage Protection as Archetype of a Multilevel System, *Max Planck Yearbook of United Nations Law (Max Planck UNYB), 10*, 318-22, 273-366.

4   Helmers, H (2016). Public Diplomacy in Early Modern Europe: Toward a new history of news, *Media History*, 22 (3-4), 401-420, 40. *See generally* Yepsen, E.A. (2012). *Practicing Successful Twitter Public Diplomacy: A model and case study of U.S. efforts in Venezuela*, (Paper 6) CPD Perspectives on Public Diplomacy, https://uscpublicdiplomacy.org/sites/uscpublicdiplomacy.org/files/useruploads/u35361/2012 Paper 6.pdf.

5   Lucian Jora L. (2013). New Practices and Trends in Cultural Diplomacy. *Political Sciences and International Relations*, 10(1), 43-52 (2013)

6   *See generally* Collins S.D., DeWitt, J.R., & LeFebvre R.K (2019). Hashtag diplomacy: twitter as a tool for engaging in public diplomacy and promoting US foreign policy. *Place Branding and Public Diplomacy* 15, 78-96. *See also* Jesse Lichtenstein J. (2010, July 16). Digital Diplomacy. *The New York Times* https://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/18/magazine/18web2-0-t.html (describing the efforts of the U.S. State Department "to bring diplomacy into the digital age, by using widely available technologies to reach out to citizens, companies, and other nonstate actors.")

7   Chhabra, R (2020, January 20). Twitter Diplomacy: A Brief Analysis. *Observer Research Foundation* https://www.orfonline.org/research/twitter-diplomacy-a-brief-analysis-60462/#_ftnref1.

8   *See* (2016, January 13-14). Iran's Revolutionary Guards release 10 US Sailors detained after straying into territorial waters. *ABC News* https://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-01-13/iran-revoluntionary-guards-release-us-sailors/7087470. *See also* discussion of this incident in Duncombe, C. (2017). Twitter and transformative diplomacy: social media and Iran-US relations. *International Affairs*, 93(3), 545-562.

9   *See e.g.* (2011, May 11). Rwanda's Paul Kagame hits back at Twitter critic. *BBC News* https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-13425287; *see also* Birrell, I (2011, May 16). My Twitterspat with Paul Kagame. *The Guardian* https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2011/may/16/my-twitterspat-with-paul-kagame.

10 *See* Adam Taylor, A. (2014, March 7). A stray Tweet may have exposed Paul Kagame's Twitter ghostwriter, and maybe much more, *The Washington Post* https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2014/03/07/a-stray-tweet-may-have-exposed-paul-kagames-twitter-ghostwriter-and-maybe-much-more/. All this while continuing to "rigorously suppress" the media in its coverage of him as President *see* Muvunyi, F. (2019, May 2). Opinion: Rwanda's Paul Kagame – an enemy of the media parading as a statesman, *Deutsche Welle* https://www.dw.com/en/opinion-rwandas-paul-kagame-an-enemy-of-the-media-paradingas-a-statesman/a-48562042.

11 The Reliable Source (2012, June 7). Estonian president hammers Paul Krugman on Twitter. *The Washington Post* https://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/reliable-source/post/estonian-president-hammers-paul-krugman-on-twitter/2012/06/07/gJQApU0zLV_blog.html.

12 Twiplomacy Study 2018, https://twiplomacy.com/blog/twiplomacy-study-2018/.

13 *See* Watkins, E. & Phillip, A. (2018, January 12). Trump decries immigrants from 'shithole countries' coming to the US. *CNN Politics* https://edition.cnn.com/2018/01/11/politics/immigrants-shithole-countries-trump/index.html. *See also* Haltiwanger, J. (2018, May 1). Trump doesn't deny calling African countries 'shitholes' while meeting with Nigeria's president. *Business Insider* https://www.businessinsider.in/politics/trump-doesnt-deny-calling-african-countries-shitholes-while-meeting-with-nigerias-president/articleshow/63979573.cms.

14 Stoddard, E. & Mfula, C. (2018, January 12). Africa calls Trump racist after 'shithole' remark. *Reuters* https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trump-immigration-reaction/africa-calls-trump-racist-after-shithole-remark-idUSKBN1F11VC

15 @sebastianpinera (Jan. 31, 2017, 12:37pm EST). Twitter Account of Sebastian Piñera. *Twitter* https://twitter.com/sebastianpinera/status/826484680258179074. (Original in Spanish "Donald Trump eligió a

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Mickey Pence como Vicepresidente. O sea, EEUU está gobernado por Donald y Mickey. Lo habrá soñado Walt Disney?"; translating to mean: "the US is ruled by Donald and Mickey, Would Walt Disney have dreamt of it?").

[16] ICOM and ICOMOS. (2020, January 6). *ICOM and ICOMOS jointly and strongly condemn any deliberate destruction of cultural heritage* [Press release] https://icom.museum/en/news/icom-and-icomos-jointly-and-strongly-condemn-any-deliberate-destruction-of-cultural-heritage/.

[17] Pajtinka, E. (2014). Cultural Diplomacy in Theory and Practice of Contemporary International Relations. *Politické Vedy*, 17(4), 95-108, 99-100.

[18] Lucian Jora L. (2013). *Supra note 5* at 44.

[19] Lucian Jora L. (2013). *Id.*

[20] Lucian Jora L. (2013). *Id*. at 45.

12

50 Years World Heritage Convention:
Shared Responsibility – Conflict & Reconciliation
Programme and Biographies

Moderation: Roland Bernecker

Welcome Speeches

11.00 - 11.15	**Marie-Theres Albert** (project leader)
	Roland Bernecker (moderator)

Keynotes

11.15 - 11.40	50 Years World Heritage Convention – Founding ideas and implementations - What has been promised – What has been achieved – What has not been achieved/ Q&A
	Birgitta Ringbeck, Federal Foreign Office
11.40 - 12.05	Responsibility – A guiding principle of the World Heritage Convention - Perception - Implementation – Future/ Q&A
	Marie-Theres Albert, Institute Heritage Studies (IHS-INA)
12.05 - 12.10	**Break**
12.10 - 12.35	Reconciliation – A guiding principle of the World Heritage Convention - Perception – Implementation – Future/ Q&A
	Birgitta Ringbeck, German Federal Foreign Office
12.35 – 13.00	Sustainability – A guiding principle of the World Heritage Convention - What has been achieved – What is missing - What is the future perspective/ Q&A
	Constanze Fuhrmann, Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt (DBU)
13.00 - 13.30	**Break**

Roundtable Discussion

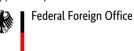|	
13.30 - 14.00	Round Table: World Heritage Implementation – Transformation from an expert-dominated concept for the people it is made for. Strategies to be reflected upon – Participation and community involvement
	Blue Shield Deutschland - Elisabeth Korinth
	International Association of World Heritage Professionals e.V. - Klaus Zehbe
	Italian Youth Association for UNESCO – Giulia Tomasi
	World Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg - Isabelle Rupp
	World Heritage Volunteers - Juan Carlos Barrientos García
14.00 - 14.15	Questions and Answers

Summary

14.15 - 14.30	Summary and outlook on the next day
	Anca Claudia Prodan, Institute Heritage Studies (IHS-INA)

Programme: 22 June 2021, 11.00 – 15.45 (CET Berlin time)
11.00 – 14.00: Parallel Sessions on Six Conflict Areas

Conflict Area: Global Governance
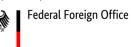**Location: Room Global Governance**
Moderation: Nicole Franceschini

11.00 - 11.10	Welcome speeches **Marie-Theres Albert** (project leader) **Nicole Franceschini** (moderator)
11.10 - 11.35	Keynote with Introduction and Outlook/ Q&A **Roland Bernecker** & **Nicole Franceschini**
11.35 - 12.00	Coloniality, Natural World Heritage and Indigenous People: a Critical Analysis of World Heritage Cultural Governance/ Q&A **Irene Fogarty**
12.00 – 12.10	**Break**
12.10 - 12.35	Diplomacy in the Age of the Internet: Challenges for the World Heritage Convention/ Q&A **Olympia Niglio, Eric Lee** & **Ramya Ramachanderan**
12.35 - 13.00	Governing World Heritage – Taking stock of the structures that determine the protection and preservation of World Heritage Sites/ Q&A **Eike Schmedt**
13.00 – 13.10	**Break**
13.10 - 13.30	World Heritage, Civil Society and Global Governance/ Q&A **Students of BTU World Heritage Studies: Al Hasan, Bonnici, Capdepon de Bigu-Poirrier, Choi, Hoffmann, Knoles, Negredo, Rupp** & **Willhalm**
13.30 - 14.00	Key Reflections and Outlook / Q&A **Maritta Koch-Weser** & **Christina Cameron**
14.00 - 14.45	**Break and End of the Parallel Sessions**

14.45 – 15.45: Roundtable, Summary and Outlook
Location: Plenary Room

Programme: 22 June 2021, 11.00 – 15.45 (CET Berlin time)
11.00 – 14.00: Parallel Sessions on Six Conflict Areas

Conflict Area: Urban Transformation
Location: Room Urban Transformation
Moderation: Plácido González Martínez

11.00 - 11.10	Welcome speeches **Marie-Theres Albert** (project leader) **Plácido González Martínez** (moderator)
11.10 - 11.35	Keynote with Introduction and Outlook/ Q&A **Matthias Ripp**
11.35 - 12.00	The Politics of Shared Heritage: Contested Histories and Participatory Memory Work in the Post-colonial Urban Landscape/ Q&A **Jan Küver**
12.00 – 12.10	**Break**
12.10 - 12.35	Temporary Uses as a Toolkit for Heritage-led Sustainable Urban Development/ Q&A **Mariko Ikeda**
12.35 - 13.00	Reflecting on and Rethinking Tourism in the Festivalization of Heritage Cities/ Q&A **Zachary Jones**
13.00 - 13.10	**Break**
13.10 - 13.35	Defrosting the Freezer. The Experience of Krakow on the World Heritage List 1978-2020/ Q&A **Jacek Purchla and Marek Świdrak**
13.35 - 14.00	Sustainable Urban Heritage vs Heritage Orthodoxy/ Q&A **Dennis Rodwell**
14.00 - 14.45	**Break and End of the Parallel Sessions**

14.45 – 15.45: Roundtable, Summary and Outlook
Location: Plenary Room

Programme: 22 June 2021, 11.00 – 15.45 (CET Berlin time)
11.00 – 14.00: Parallel Sessions on Six Conflict Areas

Conflict Area: Technological Change
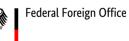**Location: Room Technological Change**
Moderation: Ping Kong

11.00 - 11.10	Welcome speeches **Marie-Theres Albert** (project leader) **Ping Kong** (moderator)
11.10 - 11.35	Keynote with Introduction and Outlook/ Q&A **Alexander Siegmund**
11.35 - 12.00	Mineral Extractive Industries in the Context of European World Heritage Cultural Landscape Conservation & Management/ Q&A **Friederike Hansell**
12.00 – 12.10	**Break**
12.10 - 12.35	Cultural Landscape Compatibility Study Upper Middle Rhine Valley – A Pro-Active Tool for Preventive Monitoring of Complex World Heritage Landscapes/ Q&A **Michael Kloos**
12.35 - 13.00	Change in Water Technology in Anatolia: From Use to Energy, Conflicts to Climate Action/ Q&A **Yonca Ercan**
13.00 – 13.10	**Break**
13.10 - 13.35	Digital Geo-heritage to Support Heritage Authorities/ Q&A **Mario Hernandez**, **Philippe de Maeyer, Luc Zwartjes,** & **Antonio Benavides Castillo**
13.35 - 14.00	Utilizing New Age Technology for Sustainable Tourism in World Heritage Sites in the COVID Era: Case Study of Greece/ Q&A **Pankaj Manchanda, Fergus T. Maclaren**, **George N. Zaimes** & **Valasia Iakovoglou**
14.00 - 14.45	**Break and End of the Parallel Sessions**

14.45 – 15.45: Roundtable, Summary and Outlook
Location: Plenary Room

Programme: 22 June 2021, 11.00 – 15.45 (CET Berlin time)
11.00 – 14.00: Parallel Sessions on Six Conflict Areas

Conflict Area: War and Terrorism
Location: Room War and Terrorism
Moderation: Peter Stone

11.00 - 11.10	Welcome speeches **Marie-Theres Albert** (project leader) **Peter Stone** (moderator of the session)
11.10 - 11.35	Keynote with Introduction and Outlook/ Q&A **Friedrich Schipper**
11.35 - 12.00	Palmyra: Bridging Past and Future/ Q&A **Zeina Elcheikh**
12.00 – 12.10	**Break**
12.10 - 12.35	Towards Countering the Narratives of Destruction: Textual Evidence and the Tradition of Heritage Preservation in Islam/ Q&A **Azeez Olaniyan** & **Akeem Bello**
12.35 - 13.00	Fighting Terrorist Acts against UNESCO World Heritage, Theft and Illegal Trafficking – An integrated Approach/ Q&A **Sabine von Schorlemer**
13.00 – 13.10	**Break**
13.10 - 13.35	The Role of Heritage in Post-war Reconciliation: Going beyond World Heritage Sites/ Q&A **Kalliopi Fouseki, Lorika Hisari** & **Kristen Barrett-Casey**
13.35 - 14.00	Mathildenhöhe Darmstadt/ Q&A **Jennifer Verhoeven**
14.00 - 14.45	**Break and End of the Parallel Sessions**

14.45 – 15.45: Roundtable, Summary and Outlook
Location: Plenary Room

Programme: 22 June 2021, 11.00 – 15.45 (CET Berlin time)
11.00 – 14.00: Parallel Sessions on Six Conflict Areas

Conflict Area: Climate Change
Location: Room Climate Change
Moderation: Thomas Raab

11.00 - 11.10	Welcome speeches **Marie-Theres Albert** (project leader) **Thomas Raab** (moderator of the session)
11.10 - 11.35	Keynote with Introduction and Outlook/ Q&A **Claire Cave**
11.35 - 12.00	The Highest Mountain in the Shadow of Climate Change: Managing Tourism and Environment in WH Site Mount Everest/Sagarmatha National Park, Nepal/ Q&A **Kurt Luger**, **Robin Boustead** & **Sushma Bhatta**
12.00 – 12.10	**Break**
12.10 - 12.35	Climate Action and World Heritage: Policy Conflict or Confluence?/ Q&A **Cathy Daly**
12.35 - 13.00	Conflict Areas and Solution Strategies in the Conservation of Ecosystems and their Services/ Q&A **Nahuel Schenone** & **Esteban Avigliano**
13.00 – 13.10	**Break**
13.10 - 13.35	Historic Gardens as a Cultural Task: Responsibility - Climate Adaptation Strategies – Values/ Q&A **Michael Rohde**
13.35 - 14.00	Climate Change and Heritage: Assessing the Vulnerability of World Heritage Sites to Climate Change Impacts using a Value-Based Approach/ Q&A **William Megarry**
14.00 - 14.45	**Break and End of the Parallel Sessions**

14.45 – 15.45: Roundtable, Summary and Outlook
Location: Plenary Room

Programme: 22 June 2021, 11.00 – 15.45 (CET Berlin time)
11.00 – 14.00: Parallel Sessions on Six Conflict Areas

Conflict Area: Commodification of Heritage
Location: Room Commodification
Moderation: Carsten Wergin

11.00 - 11.10	Welcome speeches **Marie-Theres Albert** (project leader) **Carsten Wergin** (moderator of the session)
11.10 - 11.35	Keynote with Introduction and Outlook/ Q&A **Thomas Schmitt**
11.35 - 12.00	Commodification of World Heritage or Local Value Transfer/ Q&A **Lia Bassa**
12.00 – 12.10	**Break**
12.10 - 12.35	Natural and Cultural Heritage in Danger. Native Forests and Sustainability from the Post-materialistic Perspective of a New Generation of Scientists, Activists and Entrepreneurs in Argentina/ Q&A **Claudia Lozano**
12.35 - 13.00	Shifting Scales in the Honghe Hani Rice Terraces: Traditional Knowledge, Commodification and Community Participation/ Q&A **Fabienne Wallenwein**
13.00 – 13.10	**Break**
13.10 - 13.35	Cultural Spaces in Colonial Port Towns: Heritage of Penang and Singapore beyond Commercialisation/ Q&A **Ziming Huang**
13.35 - 14.45	**Break and End of the parallel sessions**

14.45 – 15.45: Roundtable, Summary and Outlook
Location: Plenary Room

14.45 – 15.45: Roundtable, Summary and Outlook
Location: Plenary Room

Roundtable Discussion

Moderation: Marie-Theres Albert

14.45 – 15.30	Round Table Summary
	Nicole Franceschini
	Matthias Ripp
	Alexander Siegmund
	Friedrich Schipper
	Claire Cave
	Thomas Schmitt

Summary

15.30 – 15.45	Summary and Outlook
	Marie-Theres Albert