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Prof. Andrzej Rottermund
President of the Polish National
Commission for UNESCO

A Few Words About Our Activities Last Year

As in years past, so in 2013 Polish National Commission for UNESCO dedicated much of its effort to cultural events and issues associated with the protection and promotion of cultural and natural heritage. It was therefore with great joy that we received the news of our success at the 19th session of the General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention, at which Poland was elected a member of the World Heritage Committee for a four year term.

Our satisfaction was that much greater as it became the crowning success of a two year long campaign run by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in unison with the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage in close co-operation with our Commission. The role of Poland's delegation in the work of the World Heritage Committee comes down to a responsibility on setting heritage protection standards throughout the world that requires the commitment of eminent Polish experts, able and willing to serve the international community with their knowledge and experience.

All the more so as we will be jointly responsible for World Heritage List nominations, which many unique historic and natural sites aspire to join every year. We ourselves achieved great success in that respect, when in June 2013, following years of hard work,

16 Orthodox churches located in the Polish and Ukrainian Carpathian region, as well as the Bochnia Salt Mine – an extension of the Wieliczka Salt Mines site – were added to the World Heritage List. I feel privileged and obligated to thank all those who worked with such determination to ensure our applications were debated by the World Heritage Committee.

We also managed to have the Paris based Towarzystwo Historyczno-Literackie (Polish Library in Paris) and the peace treaties between the Kingdom of Poland and the Ottoman Empire – from the mid fifteenth century to the end of the eighteenth century – added to the equally prestigious Memory of the World Register.

On several occasions in the past year we worked with the World Heritage Centre in areas aimed at setting protection conditions for World Heritage sites in Poland. The Polish government approached UNESCO experts on three occasions for an opinion in connection with current investments undertaken at or near such sites that might threaten their Outstanding Universal Value (OUV). Opinions issued by the Centre were very helpful in determining courses of action that reconciled the interests of all parties as well ensuring that objects of historic interest are adequately protected. Whilst Poland has reason to be proud of its fourteen World Heritage Sites that encompass 27 objects and 12 positions on the Memory of the World Register, there is at the same time a recognition of a need to re-think the present heritage protection system ensuring a more thorough implementation of the principles set in the 1972 Convention.

In that context it is appropriate to mention – from amongst a great number of activities – a conference organised jointly by our Commission and the Polish Parliament. Last year's conference dealt with the question of "Why and how to protect our cultural heritage by modern means", convened in the Polish Parliament on February 25th, 2013. The main thrust of the debate dealt with the need to improve laws governing the protection of Poland's cultural heritage. Polish National Commission for UNESCO contributed to the debate by publishing "Recommendations relating to the implementation of UNESCO legislation into Polish law"; a post-conference publication appeared in print in the first half of 2014.

With regard to activities undertaken in the area of heritage protection, I would also note the workshops organised jointly with the Commission of the Republic of Belarus for UNESCO in Nesvizh for restorers operating in the Republic of Belarus and the region. Nine Polish restorers shared their knowledge and experience with thirty workshop participants. We very much hope that such meetings will be run at regular intervals, because sharing expertise in the conservation field decidedly contributes to raising world heritage protection standards.

From amongst the many visits that took place last year, I would like to point out a studio visit by journalists from Libya end of November, beginning of December. Six leading journalists involved in the social

and political transformations taking place in that country, came to Poland to study Poland's modern media market, learn about the role and workings of the press, radio and television in a modern democracy. Our guests attended numerous meetings at major editorial offices and media institutions.

Dear Readers, in this short introduction I have been able to mention only the most prominent activities undertaken by Polish National Commission for UNESCO. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Foreign Affairs Ministry and the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, as well as the Polish Parliament and the Office of the President of Poland, the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of National Education, the Ministry of Science and Higher Education, the Ministry of Sport and Tourism, Polish Academy of Sciences and Polish Television for their help and co-operation. ●

Prof. Andrzej Rottermund

President of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO

UNESCO

Programme Priorities for the Coming Years

The 37th session of UNESCO's General Conference (Paris, November 5-20, 2013) adopted the Medium-Term Strategy for the years 2014-2017 (37 C/4) and the Programme and Budget for the years 2014-2017 (37/C5). Draft decision relating to both documents were prepared following consultations with all Member States, negotiated during earlier Executive Board sessions.

The General Conference is UNESCO's highest decision making body, composed of representatives of 195 Member States. Anguilla, a dependent territory of the United Kingdom, most recently brought the number of Associate Members taking part in the session to 9.

The General Conference recognized peace and sustainable development as UNESCO's overarching objectives, that will guide all of the Organisations activities

Countries having suffered from conflicts and natural disasters will continue to number amongst the organisation's central concerns.

The Draft Medium-Term Strategy was passed with a few minor changes. Its adoption implies that UNESCO's activities will for the next eight years be subject to the following nine strategic aims to:

- Support Member States in developing education systems designed to foster quality lifelong learning opportunities for all;
- Empower learners to be creative and responsible global citizens
- Continue efforts aimed at implementing the Education for All Programme and shaping the future education agenda;



Opening ceremony of the 37th Session UNESCO General Conference, November 5th, 2013.

Photo: © UNESCO / Emilien URBANO

- Promote the interface between science, policy and society as well as ethical and inclusive policies for sustainable development;
- Strengthen international science cooperation for peace, sustainability and social inclusion;
- Support inclusive social development and promote intercultural dialogue and the rapprochement of cultures;
- Protect, promote and transmit heritage;
- Foster creativity and the diversity of cultural expression;
- Promote freedom of expression, media development and universal access to information and knowledge.

The global priorities remain Africa and gender equality. Youth matters were recognised as an issue requiring special attention. Conclusions of the Youth Forum, held October 29-31, 2013, were presented to Member States during the General Conference session. **The four-year-plan will concentrate on implementing five** programmes that reflect the organisation's fields of competence. Each programme's activity area has been determined in accordance with the above mentioned strategic objectives. Financing programme implementation has been planned from budgetary and non-budgetary sources for the next two years.

Programme I. Education

Main activity areas (corresponding to strategic objectives):

- 1) Supporting Member States to develop education systems to foster high quality and inclusive lifelong learning for all.
- 2) Empowering learners to be creative and responsible global citizens.
- 3) Advancing education for all (EFA) and shaping the future international education agenda.

Programme II. Natural Sciences

Main activity areas:

- 1) Strengthening STI policies, governance and the science – policy – society interface.
- 2) Building institutional capacities in science and engineering.
- 3) Promoting knowledge and capacity for protecting and sustainably managing the ocean and coasts.
- 4) Fostering international science collaboration for earth systems, biodiversity, and disaster risk reduction.
- 5) Strengthening the role of ecological sciences and Biosphere reserves.
- 6) Strengthening freshwater security.

Programme III. Social and Human Sciences

Main activity areas:

- 1) Mobilizing future-oriented research, knowledge and policy-making to support social transformations, social inclusion and Intercultural Dialogue.

- 2) Empowering Member States to manage the ethical, legal, environmental and societal implications of scientific and technological challenges with a view to achieving inclusive and sustainable social development.
- 3) Building policies through a participatory process with stakeholders in both the fields of youth and of sports; supporting youth development and civic engagement and promoting human rights based approach in UNESCO's programmes.

Programme IV. Culture

Main activity areas:

- 1) Protection, conservation, promotion and the transfer of heritage, culture and history in support of dialogue and development (especially by implementing the 1954, 1970, 1972 and 2001 UNESCO Conventions);
- 2) Supporting and promoting the diversity of cultural expressions, the safeguarding of the intangible cultural heritage, and the development of cultural and creative industries.

Programme V. Communication & Information

Main activity areas:

- 1) Promoting and enabling environment for freedom of expression, press freedom and journalistic safety, facilitating pluralism and participation in media, and supporting sustainable and independent media institutions, (amongst others via the International Programme for the Development of Communication IPDC).
- 2) Enabling universal access and preservation of information and knowledge (especially via the Memory of the World Programme and the Information for All Programme).

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Member States agreed that UNESCO's overriding aim for the next couple of years will be the search for global solutions. Support for individual countries, especially in drawing up public policy in a given area, will only be possible if and when such countries apply for such assistance and if the necessary financial resources are available. Assistance beneficiaries will be the least developed and Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States.

The General Conference decided to undertake work on two recommendations. One relates to the protection and access to documentary heritage, the other – to museums and museum collections. Decisions were also adopted on changes to already existing UNESCO recommendations in the fields of education and higher education. These recommendations pertain to adult education, technical and vocational education as well as the status of academic teachers.

The fundamental reference point for all debates at the General Conference was the time horizon beyond 2015, which marks the deadline for the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), adopted

in 2000 by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), and the Education For All (EFA) programme jointly implemented by several UN agencies (with UNESCO playing a leading role), to be completed. The Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, in which UNESCO played a leadership role, ends in 2014, and will be continued within the framework programme to be implemented in 2015. It was agreed that in preparing the development agenda not only should the role of education be taken into account, but also that of culture, science, communication and information.

Resolutions adopted in accordance with the new initiatives include

International Day of Sports and Physical Activity, decreed by the United Nations General Assembly as April 6th, and the International Year of Light, to be proclaimed for 2015.

The General Conference decided to re-elect Irina Bokova for a second four-year-term as Director General, thereby indicating their acceptance and support for the reform programme of the Organisation she initiated during her first term.

As a result of elections to the World Heritage Committee, Poland became a member of this prestigious body for the years 2014- 2017. The election took place during the 19th General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention, meeting from 19 to 21 November 2013 at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris. The Committee numbers 21 states selected out of 191 States Parties.

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What We Dealt with in 2013

As every year, we place in your hands the Bulletin of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO. We thereby wish to update you on the most important events that took place at UNESCO last year, as well as to inform you about activities undertaken by our Commission, in pursuance of the ideas and programmes of the Organisation.

The most important event for UNESCO was the 37th Session of the General Conference, held in November 2013, which took decisions on strategy and programmes for the coming years, in the light of the organisation's budget, reduced by nearly one-quarter. The Conference adopted a "Medium-Term Strategy (2014-2021)". For the first time UNESCO adopted a four year rather than the usual two year programme, whilst the executive plan was prepared based on expectations of the financial situation in the years 2014-2015. UNESCO's strategic objectives, in accordance with agreed decisions, will focus on: developing education systems to foster quality lifelong learning opportunities for all; empowering learners to be creative and responsible global citizens; shaping and supporting the future education agenda; promoting the interface between science, policy and society and ethical and inclusive policies for sustainable development; strengthening international science cooperation for peace, sustainable development and against social exclusion; promoting intercultural dialogue and the rapprochement of cultures; protecting and promoting heritage; fostering creativity and

diversity of cultural expressions; promoting freedom of expression, supporting the development of free media and universal access to information and knowledge. The commitment to UNESCO's overarching objectives of peace and sustainable development that bind all its activities, was reaffirmed. Africa and gender equality remain the global priorities. In addition, it was agreed that youth affairs should receive special attention. During the session, 195 Member States decided to elect the current Director-General of UNESCO, Ms Irina Bokova, for a second four year term. More about the adopted documents – defining UNESCO's aims and objectives for the coming years – on page 8.

It is worth underlining that the General Conference also decided to start work on a recommendation concerning the preservation of and access to documentary heritage. This is closely linked to the proper positioning of UNESCO's Memory of the World Programme as well as the positioning of documentary heritage, among other conventions and programmes, setting standards for world heritage protection in this field. Poland and our Commission have intensively supported the programme since its inception and the need to strengthen it, so as to ensure that historical sources and contemporary documents, including digital data, are protected, as a necessary step in the process of building an information society.

The 19th Session of the General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention, held in Paris in November 2013, ended with a great success for Poland. After many years of efforts and thanks to the successful promotional campaign, in which our Commission actively participated, Poland was elected to the elite group of members of the Intergovernmental World Heritage Committee (WHC). With a four year mandate, i.e., until 2017, we have joined a very prestigious group of 21 countries and thereby attained a highly influential position within UNESCO. We have equally undoubtedly taken on a serious commitment towards the countries that voted for Poland. The World Heritage List (WHL), which the WHC determines, is UNESCO's most spectacular showpiece. Membership of the WHC not only provides opportunities to promote our cultural and natural heritage, and achievements in the conservation or archaeology fields, but also to shape modern conservation doctrine, and thus contribute to works for the preservation and dissemination of the cultural and natural heritage of mankind throughout the regions of the world. Though the WHL contains nearly a thousand entries, many countries from regions such as Africa, are not represented.

Every time we followed the deliberations of the WHC, we became ever more aware of the important consequences of inscription for many states and communities. At the last, 37th Session of the WHC, which took place in June 2013 in Cambodia, we also had reason to celebrate. The Committee decided to inscribe new Polish sites, an international (along with Ukraine), serial nomination, numbering 16 orthodox churches, situated in the Polish and Ukrainian Carpathian

region, and a national one, entailing an extension of the 1978 inscription of the Wieliczka Salt Mine, to include the Bochnia Salt Mine, together with the Saltworks Castle in Wieliczka. You can read about these places, and see how they have acquired global status, in articles by Katarzyna Piotrowska and Mariusz Czuba on pages 43 and 46. Thanks to these decisions, Poland now boasts 14 entries on the WHL, covering 27 objects.

The above-mentioned UNESCO Memory of the World Programme

also boast a documentary list of the most valuable documents for the world, successfully managed since 1997, that from year to year enjoys a growing prestige. Last year, two new items, proposed by Poland, were added to the international Register gathering the documentary heritage of exceptional value: the documentary collections of the Historical and Literary Society in Paris (Polish Library and the Adam Mickiewicz Museum in Paris), and peace treaties (ahdnames), concluded between the second half of the fifteenth and the late eighteenth century between the Kingdom of Poland and the Turkish Empire, presently held at the Central Archives of Historical Records. On the UNESCO Memory of the World Register Poland already has 12 entries, thereby numbering among the group of countries with by far the largest number of documents highlighted in this manner. You can read more about this interesting topic in Dr Marek Konopka's article on page 55 of this Bulletin.

The Polish National Commission for UNESCO devotes particular

attention to the dissemination and implementation in Poland of the Conventions, programmes and of other UNESCO documents, recognising these objectives as consistent with Poland's national development interests. Observations mainly concerning the practical application of the principles of the 1972 Convention, particularly in relation to the legal protection of World Heritage Sites in Poland, as well as the need to implement the 2003 Convention and the 2011 UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape, persuaded the Commission to review Poland's heritage protection legislation – from a perspective of UNESCO documents ratified by Poland. Drawn up in 2012, at the request of and in cooperation with the Commission, an expert legal opinion formed the basis for the organization – with the support of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage – of a conference "How and Why Should Cultural Heritage be Protected by Modern Means", which took place in the Sejm (Polish Parliament) on 25 February 2013. The conference was attended by the Sejm's Deputy Speaker, Jerzy Wenderlich, Secretary of State at the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, Piotr Żuchowski, Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of the Environment, Janusz Zaleski, Undersecretary of State at the Chancellery of the President of Poland, Maciej Klimczak, and Members of the Sejm, Małgorzata Kidawa-Błońska and Iwona Śledzińska-Katarasińska. A whole list of conditions governing the application of existing legal provisions was put forward, and expected changes, presented by various institutions

and experts in the field of tangible and intangible heritage protection and cultural diversity. More than 200 participants of the meeting adopted the conference's conclusions, a closing document in which the necessity to improve the situation in this respect was stressed, with suggestions of the need to develop new, comprehensive legislation to regulate the protection of cultural heritage in Poland – with due regard to the provisions of UNESCO Conventions. The document was, among others, sent to government institutions and the relevant Parliamentary Committees, as well as published on the web. Consequently, the Commission participated in consultative meeting, organized by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, to review a draft National Programme of the Protection and Guardianship of Monuments for 2013-2016. We provide more information on this issue in an article on page 21. Details of conference proceedings were published in 2014, and included contributions, lectures of eminent specialists, who present the issues behind the concept of a holistic approach to the protection of historic monuments, such as Professor Bogusław Szmygin, whose précis article is published on page 25 of this Bulletin. The post-conference materials also included articles that touch on completely new areas requiring protection, to which Professor Leszek Kolankiewicz devotes his attention in his paper (page 32) on implementing the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage. This Convention was not ratified by Poland until 2011; no wonder that it still not only needs to be promoted, but that the nature of the provisions of this UNESCO document, assuming a broad perspective on intangible heritage, needs to be continuously clarified. The task is all the more urgent, bearing in mind that last year our country initiated the creation of a national register of intangible heritage, a process in which local communities have a fundamental role to play, seeing how they cultivate given elements of cultural heritage, which makes it all the more important that these communities, above all others, should be well informed about the rules and inscription criteria.

The 2005 UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions is of fundamental importance to the formulation of national cultural policy. The Convention clearly indicates the important contribution of culture to shaping development policy, something that is increasingly recognised and openly spoken about in different regions of the world, including at events such as the international culture congress "Key to Sustainable Development", held in Hangzhou, China in 2013. I write about the 2005 Convention, as a tool of cultural policy and development, on page 63.

Sustainable development issues, in combination with a reflection on man's nearest natural and cultural environment, were the themes of a Conference organised on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network (ASPnet) in Poland. The issues raised were close to those dealt with at the global celebrations

that took place in the Korean city of Suwon under the theme of "ASPnet for a Global Citizenship: Education for Peace and Education for Sustainable Development". We gave the conference in Poland the title of "Educating in Dialogue with the Environment". The Polish National Commission for UNESCO organized the conference together with the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of National Education, for teachers of 102 schools that belong to the UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network in Poland. ASPnet coordinator, Maria Belina-Brzozowska, writes about this event, the problems discussed, and the problems faced by the Polish network, on page 90, whilst in an article on page 77 the author of the inaugurating conference lecture, Dr Anna Kalinowska, deliberates on the human capacity for dialogue with the environment. By referring to examples from the past, she tracks how modern societies are maturing to the idea of sustainable development. Magdalena Machinko-Nagrabecka writes on page 85 of this Bulletin, about how to teach young people in school, and provide them with the appropriate knowledge to shape environmentally friendly attitudes that will ensure an adequate quality of life, for present and future generations.

Protecting the environment and the wider biosphere was the objective behind establishing the UNESCO Man and Biosphere-MAB Programme, a framework for the worldwide network of biosphere reserves. Poland already has 10 such reserves, of which the greatest achievement of recent year includes the creation of the Western Polesie Transboundary Biosphere Reserve in 2012. It was established thanks to a tripartite agreement between the Governments of Poland, Belarus and Ukraine, signed after many years of work, with a significant input from the Polish MAB Committee, chaired by Professor Alicja Breymeyer. In the previous Bulletin, we reported on the certification ceremony for the newly established reserve, in the presence of UNESCO's Director-General Irina Bokova. Biosphere reserves, particularly the ones covering such large areas as Western Polesie, are not only very important to the study of ecosystems, especially in terms of climate change, but they also promote the development of cross-border and regional co-operation, serving as model examples of sustainable development and of partnerships between local communities. Dr Zygmunt Krzeminski writes about these issues and problems related to the management of biosphere reserves on page 94.

A vital area of interest for the Polish National Commission for UNESCO in recent years, has been the promotion of the Euro-Arab Dialogue, within the framework of the Task Force of the National Commissions for UNESCO's Euro-Arab Dialogue, which we preside over on behalf of European countries. In November 2013, in the Portuguese Algarve village a conference "Our Common Shared Values" was held, devoted to the preparation of a concept and initial format of an educational toolkit for promoting the Euro-Arab Dialogue. The conference was initiated and jointly organized by

the Polish and Portuguese Commissions and UNESCO's Secretariat. Our expert delegation, together with twelve other delegations representing the remaining countries and organizations from the two regions: Europe and the Arab countries, actively worked towards implementing a plan of action, for the adoption of an education toolkit in the coming years. More about the meeting and other Commission activities in support of inter-cultural dialogue and the development of democracy around the world, on pages 72-76, where E-A Dialogue Project Coordinator, Ilona Morzół shares some of her thoughts on these issues. Among activity events worth mentioning was a study visit to Poland, organized by our Commission in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Free Speech Association (SWS), of a group of six journalists from Libya, engaged in their countries ongoing socio-political transformation processes. The purpose of their visit was to get acquainted with the modern Polish media market, study the roles and mechanisms of how the press, radio and television function in a democracy, and learn from the Polish experience of the transformation that took place in the 1990s, the history and principles involved in creating democratic media in our country.

In October 2013, our Commission, in cooperation with the Belarusian National Commission for UNESCO organized an international workshop for professionals from the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, dealing with monuments protection and restoration. The workshop took place in Nesvizh in Belarus. The event was made possible thanks to the involvement of the Interacademic Institute of Conservation and Restoration of Art of the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw and Kraków and the Ciechanowiecki Foundation, and, from the Belarusian side, the Belarusian State Academy of Arts in Minsk. The workshop was attended by eminent specialists from Poland and approximately 30 students and lecturers from Belarus and Lithuania. A scientific and arts co-operation agreement was signed in Minsk, between the Warsaw's Academy of Fine Arts and the Belarusian State Academy of Arts. I write more about this on page 53.

The Scholarship Programme for young scientists from developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America ranks among the most important undertakings of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO. Scholarships, co-sponsored by UNESCO and the Government of the Republic of Poland (Polish Ministry of Science and Higher Education), number among UNESCO's top priorities and include support for engineering science and technology. In the past year, within the framework of the UNESCO/Poland Co-Sponsored Fellowships Programme, our Commission disbursed scholarships to 50 scientists, on fellowship programmes mostly at the AGH University of Science and Technology in Kraków. Chairholder of the AGH-UNESCO Chair for Science, Technology and Engineering Education, Professor Janusz Szpytko, writes more on page 101.

Recipients of the other type of fellowships, disbursed by the Polish National Commission for UNESCO, are scientists mainly from the countries of Central and Eastern Europe as well as from developing countries, who carry out research projects of several months duration in Polish scientific research facilities. Under this programme, 61 young scientists completed fellowships programmes at 10 Polish universities. Research projects covered a variety of study areas, including: historical sciences, international relations, biology and environmental protection, veterinary medicine, archaeology, specialist teaching, economics and economic policy, construction and architecture, geography and spatial planning, psychology and engineering sciences. The largest group of 24 fellowship recipients were received at the University of Warsaw, followed by the Academy of Special Education, Warsaw University of Life Sciences (SGGW), University of Rzeszów, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Lublin University of Technology, Jagiellonian University in Kraków, Pomeranian University in Słupsk, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń and the already mentioned AGH University of Science and Technology in Kraków. In total, we disbursed around 300 so-called person-months.

The Commission continues to remain highly active in the area of communication and information. The Polish Committee for UNESCO Information for All Programme (IFAP) at the Polish National Commission for UNESCO, continues to deal with current issues related to information access and expanding media and information capacity in areas such as access to public resources, practical aspects of digitisation, and the restoration of audiovisual heritage, as well as access to audiovisual digital content or progress of the government's "Digital School" Programme. A seminar was held in March 2013 "The Processes of Digitisation of Audio-Visual Resources (Film and TV Production)", organized by the Polish National Commission for UNESCO and the Polish Committee for UNESCO Information for All Programme under the patronage of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage, in cooperation with the Head Office of State Archives. The meeting was devoted to reviewing and sharing experiences on the currently implemented digitisation projects that deal with audiovisual heritage. The seminar also provided an opportunity to look at how to optimize future activities in the field of digitisation, storage, sharing and promotion of Poland's analogue audiovisual heritage. More about this and the review conference of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) on page 106.

Coordinating the international agenda of the UNITWIN / UNESCO Chairs Programme, numbers among the Commission's important tasks in the education field. The International UNESCO Chair on Lifelong Guidance and Counseling was founded in 2013 at the Institute of Pedagogy of the University of Wrocław. The purpose of the Chair – about which more in an account on page 104 – is to promote an integrated system of research, training, information and

documentation in the field of educational and vocational guidance. Its activities also open new opportunities for cooperation between researchers at world-renowned universities and higher education institutions in Europe, Africa and Latin America.

An evaluation of existing UNESCO Chairs around the world was completed in 2013. The main objective was to assess the activities of existing institutions to date, in order to develop common rules for their functioning, in line with UNESCO's founding principles. The evaluation led to the creation of a new list of UNESCO Chairs. Twelve Polish Chairs were successfully vetted and figure on the new list among 783 UNESCO Chairs around the world.

We are pleased that after several years work, begun in 2010, Kraków was admitted to UNESCO's Creative Cities Network, as City of Literature, in October 2013. The Commission supported Kraków in its membership bid for this worthy title, seeing in this extraordinary city, whose old town has been on the World Heritage List since 1978, not only a centre of a great variety of literary and publishing initiatives, but also of visual arts, theatre and film. We hope that in the near future other Polish cities will join the ranks of this very prestigious group that UNESCO Creative Cities Network unites, and find a place – and an opportunity, to develop in areas such as music, film, the media and even gastronomy. We write- about Kraków's membership in the UNESCO Creative Cities Network on page 61.

In 2013, the Polish National Commission for UNESCO also supported a number of initiatives undertaken by various institutions and non-governmental organizations, implementing UNESCO's programmes and principles. We granted patronage to such ventures as: a workshop dedicated to music education, an accompanying event of the XIII World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates; the ninth edition of the Brave Festival – Against Cultural Exile; the fifth edition of "Poetry Connects People. My Favourite Poem" contest, held simultaneously in Poland, Bulgaria and Germany; the European finals of the European BEST Engineering competition (EBEC) – the largest engineering competition in Europe aimed at students of Europe's 83 major technical universities; the European Academy of Music Festival, organized by the European Foundation for the Development of Culture; a film project "Warsaw 1935" – digital reconstruction of a part of pre-war Warsaw, a Muzeum Utracone (Lost Museum) project, organised by the Ad Artis Art Foundation SAR; the inauguration of the Europe-Far East Gallery at the MANGGHA Museum of Japanese Art and Technology in Kraków; the fifth edition of the "Polish Village – The Heritage and the Future" competition, organized by the Foundation for the Development of Polish Agriculture. In addition to participating in other competition committees or honorary committees, a representative of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO has for several years worked with the jury responsible for awarding the annual Foundation in Support of Local Democracy Prize – under the patronage of our Commission

– to local government entities and individuals, for achievements in developing local democracy in Poland, building up relationships and local traditions, and energising local communities to work together. More about several of these initiatives, on page 114 of our Bulletin.

Of necessity, in this Bulletin we can only bring to your attention the most important events that set the tone for our activities in 2013. We wrote about the many projects begun in previous years in last year's Bulletin, likewise in next year's issue you will more than likely read about many initiatives inaugurated in 2013. I hope that the undertakings and initiatives presented in this third issue of the Bulletin will arouse enough interest in you, our Readers, that you will want to join us in the great task of disseminating and implementing UNESCO's programmes and ideals. We encourage you to visit the website of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO at www.unesco.pl where you will find up to date information on our and UNESCO's activities. ●

Prof. Sławomir Ratajski
Secretary-General

Why and How to Protect Cultural Heritage by Modern Means?

Conference on 25 February 2013

Recognising the need to review Polish regulations and their practical application, from the perspective of how these interrelate with norms and standards set out in UNESCO normative acts, Polish National Commission for UNESCO prepared a legal expert opinion titled "Recommendations Relating to the Implementation of UNESCO Legislation into Polish law" and organised a conference on "Why and How to Protect Cultural Heritage by modern means". The conference was held on February 25th, 2013 in the Sejm (Polish Parliament) seat, under the high patronage of the Speaker of the House, Ms Ewa Kopacz, jointly organised with the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage.

In a legal analysis, prepared at the behest and in cooperation with Polish National Commission for UNESCO, Dr Katarzyna Zalasinska undertakes a review of UNESCO conventions and recommendations and how these are incorporated into Polish law. Results of this analysis lead the author to conclude that "the introduction of a new protection paradigm into Polish law" would be highly desirable.

The need for a new approach to the protection of tangible and intangible cultural heritage in Poland and a reassessment of some of the regulations, was something that was noted by all conference

participants. Their shared position was that UNESCO conventions and recommendations could help define the direction of necessary changes. Conference participants made several assertions, that merit further analysis in pursuance of the best possible conditions for the protection of our national heritage, with due regard to current social and economic circumstances.

In his welcoming speech Professor Andrzej Rottermund, President of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO, explained how the term "modern" fits into the context of protecting cultural heritage. It is above all a matter of social awareness, equally of the governing as the governed, the role of heritage in a country's development and in the building of tomorrow's society (...). Professor Jacek Purchla also pointed out that "today we stand before an urgent necessity to create an effective heritage management system in Poland; a system credible enough for local communities so that together with the owners and users of monuments they might become the key links in the heritage care chain". The address by Ms Dorota Wodnicka, Director of the Culture and Education Department at the Marshal's Office in Łódź, attempted to offer an answer to the question about the role of provincial administrations;

whether they possess the necessary instruments to realise the wide ranging development policies pertaining to safeguarding tangible and intangible cultural heritage. The Małopolska (Lesser Poland) Provincial Conservator, Mr Jan Janczykowski, and the Mayor of Zamość, Mr Marcin Zamoyski who is also the Chairman of the UNESCO League of Polish Towns and Sites, indicated how the shortage of both statutory and financial instruments handicapped any efforts at implementing effective protection measures of urban complexes included on the World Heritage List. The Małopolska Conservator more particularly indicated the difficulties with protecting panoramic vistas and views and the setting up of buffer zones in accordance with the Operational Guidelines of the 1972 Convention.

A particular challenge relates to the effective application of UNESCO's most recent 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage that became legally binding in Poland as of November 2011. Intangible cultural heritage attracted two speakers and presentations at the conference – Professor Leszek Kolankiewicz's titled "The Concept of Intangible Cultural Heritage in the 2003 UNESCO Convention", and Dr Hanna Schreiber's titled "Intangible Cultural Heritage – the Missing Link in the Cultural Heritage Protection System in Poland." Poland has not ratified the 2001 UNESCO Convention on the protection of the underwater cultural heritage yet. The Conventions' main principles were presented at the Conference by Dr Jerzy Litwin, Director of the National Maritime Museum in Gdańsk.

In 2011 UNESCO's General Conference unanimously adopted a Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape. The document proposes a landscape orientated approach to the conservation of Urban Heritage, encouraging the development of new methods and tools aimed at maintaining the value of that heritage in a manner that is responsive to the needs of modern society. The Commission asked Professor Bogusław Szmygin, chairman of the Polish National Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), to introduce this new document to the conference, who also spoke extensively on the current situation regarding the protection of Monuments and Sites in Poland. Professor Krzysztof Pawłowski recalled

the document's origin in his speech devoted also to activities undertaken within the Pro-Rovita programme developed in Łódź.

Mr Piotr Żuchowski, Secretary of State at the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, informed the assembly that issues relating to heritage protection would be addressed in a comprehensive programme document – the National Programme of the Protection and Guardianship of Monuments – to be subject to a wide-ranging public debate and consultations. Mr Janusz Zaleski, Under Secretary of State at the Ministry of the Environment, reported on plans to combine the efforts of the historic monument and environment protection, because – as he intimated – landscape, cultural heritage and nature cannot be treated separately. Touching, amongst others, on the link between the protection of values, linked to cultural heritage and economic development, Mr Zygmunt Niewiadomski, chairman of the Codification Commission for Building Law, underlined that investors do not expect these values to remain unprotected, even "if legislators apply stringent criteria to protecting higher values", as long "as the rules are clear". The speaker concluded, that defining the rules of the game, promotes both economic development and the protection of higher values.

A full text of all conference contributions was made available in a post-conference publication. An electronic version is also available at www.unesco.pl. Papers titled "Recommendations Relating to the Implementation of UNESCO Legislation into Polish law", and "UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape", with an introduction by Professor Jacek Purchla, are included as annexes to the above mentioned publication. A CD-ROM recording of the conference discussions has also been added to the publication.

The conclusions of the debate are included on the neighbouring page.

Extracts of Professor Leszek Kolankiewicz's and Professor Bogusław Szmygin's extensive articles can be found in this Bulletin on pages 32 and 25. •

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Conference Conclusions

“Why and How to Protect Cultural Heritage by Modern Means”, presented on February 25th, 2013

The debates and discussions clearly indicate that we should aim to draw up a new heritage protection law, that would encompass both tangible and intangible heritage, in accordance with 1972 and 2003 Conventions, with due regard to the 2011 UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape. The new law would represent a more wide-ranging approach, of a more comprehensive and spatial character towards tangible heritage, whilst bearing in mind the specific nature of intangible heritage. The law would more precisely define the notion of protecting objects and landscape or of a specific cultural space, embracing intangible heritage. It would constitute the fulfilment of the state's duties in accordance with Article 5 of Poland's constitution, which deals with the obligation to protect national heritage, which in the light of the current debate would be understood to include tangible and intangible heritage, as well as Article 6 of Poland's constitution, which defines national heritage as the source of the nation's identity, its survival and development. Development, by implication sustainable, in accordance with principles defined in Poland's constitution, as well as principles adopted by the UN and UNESCO. Sustainable development demands, amongst others, respect for the environment, understood to mean a group of interlinked elements of the natural environmental as well as tangible and intangible culture, that make up man's environment.

The environment in which people live and grow-up, exert a significant influence on their perception of quality of life and thereby determines the nature and growth of social capital. It is an important determinant of peoples association with a place, the growth and nature of local communities, the feeling of belonging, as well as community integration. To what degree people identify themselves with their national heritage is a determinant of their understanding and relationship with local heritage, whose value is largely dependant on local social

needs. Heritage thus defined fulfils an important role in motivating people to participate in the democratic processes, through their involvement in local non-governmental organisations, elections, etc. These processes also include a readiness to negotiate, an essential tool in the management of heritage, defining value in accordance with social needs that reconciles the interests of all interested parties. Such conduct clearly is a testimony to the efficacy both of UNESCO documents and practices.

Such identity recognition and identification with both place and heritage (and as a consequence with the country) favours multiculturalism, in accordance with UNESCO's 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. The multinational European Union is based on similar principles, as defined in the Lisbon Treaty, which oblige states to promote multiculturalism as well as to undertake activities of an educational nature.

A heritage protection law would constitute a fundamental reference point, of an intersectoral nature, for the protection of heritage, which stems from the nature of the UNESCO conventions and from a holistic approach. This is also linked to, what I wish to once again emphasize, the proposed departure from the concept of a monument to a concept of heritage and an approach based on area and landscape in accordance with the already mentioned 2011 Recommendation as well as the European Landscape Convention raised during discussions. This would mean a change in determining the need to develop new and relevant legislative instruments. Shortcomings of the current protection system became most apparent during the first and second part of our conference, whilst panel discussions in the last part pointed towards new solution possibilities.

The new law would be the axis of the field under discussion as it applied to regulations contained in the following laws:

Building, spatial planning and development, environmental protection, nature conservation and real estate management.

We hope that this new, broader and more flexible approach to the protection of cultural heritage, which stems from the conventions and other UNESCO documents, will help to bridge the dichotomy between the protection of natural and cultural heritage. Furthermore that it will help

reconcile the interests of all parties, all at once according a key front line role to local communities, conscious of their heritage. Finally, that the application of new, more efficient legislative tools and practices, will offer new perspectives on the harmonious development of civilization and improvements in the quality of life. ●

Prof. Sławomir Ratajski

UNESCO conventions, recommendations and declarations

One of UNESCO's functions is to create guidelines and set international standards in fields falling within its remit. UNESCO conventions, recommendations and declarations in the field of culture are all documents generated as a consequence of a complex process of consultations and negotiations. Their adoption was possible because an overwhelming majority of Member States decided that working on them is necessary and desirable from the perspective of challenges existing throughout the world. First document drafts are prepared by experts, but their final shape is determined by ongoing discussions in fora representing the governments of Member States – conferences of governmental experts, Executive Board sessions, and General Conference commissions.

In the course of work on the perception of individual issues in the drafts of conventions, recommendations and declarations UNESCO seeks to achieve the fullest acceptance of the proposed provisions. Difficulties sometimes arise in negotiations due to differences in how concepts and terms are perceived in different languages as well as to the variety of approaches to certain

cultural phenomena in different cultures. Concerns usually relate to potential conflicts of interest or costs to be incurred by Member States. Negotiations also cover the scope of the subject area covered by a given document. The agreed convention, recommendation or declaration texts, are voted upon at General Conference sessions.

Conventions come into force after first 20 or 30 countries have ratified, accepted or accessed them (the number is specified in the convention text), and on the territory of individual states, within three months after ratification, acceptance or access. Recommendations and declarations are legal instruments or acts termed "soft law". They are a set of rules and standards; a source of guidance that should be taken into account by the State in setting cultural, education and development priorities and policies. Convention ratification implies the accession to a multilateral international agreement and an acceptance by the State Party of obligations arising both from the convention text and operational guidelines, which are successively adopted by the signatories in view of the convention's implementation. ●

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Protecting Our Heritage – Contemporary Approach

According to the currently recognised subjective concept of heritage, cultural heritage is anything we recognize as cultural heritage. In practice – from a contemporary view of conservation theory – there are no traits that could disqualify any elements of tangible and intangible culture from being regarded as cultural heritage. Therefore, any non-contemporary artefact represents – or in someone’s opinion may represent – ‘historic, scientific and artistic value’*.

This approach is naturally not an invention of conservation theory, but a consequence, characteristic of the current development stage of civilization. Never before have elements of tangible culture lost their usefulness so quickly – neither were they destroyed so quickly. That is why, never before have so many elements of tangible culture become historic artefacts, subject to protection as cultural heritage. The subjective understanding of cultural heritage is therefore primarily a response to rapid civilizational changes taking place under conditions of universal unification and globalization. It is not without significance, that such an approach is very democratic and affirmative of cultures, regions and historical periods. Yet, the inevitable consequence is that a vast realm of tangible and intangible reality falls under the term of cultural heritage. Thence emerges the

problem of selecting elements worth preserving for the future. In practice, such a vast undertaking naturally falls beyond any possibility of analysis, control and protection by conservation institutions – equally so in Poland as around the world.

Concentrating on the Polish system of historic monument

protection, we need to narrow the concept of cultural heritage down to the elements this system explicitly identifies. For we need to assume that this asset should be identifiable. The basic list of Polish historic monuments is found in the Register of Objects of Cultural Heritage (*Rejestr zabytków*). This collection, recorded in tomes, similar to those used at the land registry, is undoubtedly widely recognized. The vast majority of entries comprise objects which can be categorised in some way, such as for example, sacral, public, industrial and defence. This collection is quite clearly described – enabling an assessment of its technical condition, financial needs, and thereby the adoption of necessary policies and conservation measures. Yet, this collection also encompasses urban areas, including urban planning layout, districts and estates, and heritage landscape conservation areas. In practice these include extensive built up areas of old and traditional buildings, located mainly in our city centres; tens, hundreds and even thousands of historic buildings, and examples of urban development. Register entries about these areas are sparse – often only a map, rarely accompanied by any list of objects. So, there is little or no statistical data about this collection, yet these sites undoubtedly amount to tens of thousands of urban and architectural elements, an integral part of our cultural heritage. And yet, register entries by no means exhaust the richness and variety of building and landscape sites. In accordance with the 2003 “Act on the Protection and Guardianship of Monuments”, local development plans also afford a measure of protection; areas with such a plan assumed therefore to include elements that can be recognised as cultural heritage.

Depending on the character of these elements – recognized as

cultural heritage – landscape conservation areas are identified, or recommendations for key areas formulated, and included in the local development plan. Thus, further thousands of urban, architectural and archaeological elements are deemed to be heritage assets. As before, no statistical data exists about this resource.

A further group of cultural heritage objects are items documented in

records. Article 22 of the 2003 law, requires local authorities, voivodships and national institutions, to maintain records of historic monuments in their jurisdiction. Current data about these assets is not widely circulated, it is therefore difficult to ascertain to what degree recorded objects are actually listed. At the end of 2007 the archives of the National Centre of Research and Documentation of Historic Monuments had approximately 135 thousand entries for historical architectural monuments and buildings. It is worth stressing here that in accordance with regulations issued in 2010, any work on these objects must be cleared, as is required in the case of registered

objects. Thus, this is yet another collection of thousands of objects that benefit from the protection accorded to historic monuments.

Yet another group of objects comprises a collection of vernacular architecture, which have been documented for decades in the form of notes on so-called address cards. This collection is estimated to number around 600,000 objects. The greater part of this collection has not survived; all the more reason to have the remainder investigated and safeguarded.

Archaeological monuments – as defined by law – make up a large part of our cultural heritage. The legal definition is quite wide-ranging (art. 3, para. 4 of the 2003 law), but for the sake of simplicity, this group can be included with archaeological sites, thereby facilitating an assessment of this group of objects. The Archaeological Picture of Poland, a project, aimed at identifying archaeological sites, which has been running since 1978, using surface research, has identified around 400,000 sites. These archaeological sites should be treated as historic monuments, recorded, and therefore subject to conservation protection measures.

The next group comprises so-called “contemporary cultural objects”. This is definitely the most rapidly growing category of cultural heritage. According to the law on Spatial Planning and Land Development (art. 2), this group of cultural objects is to be treated as cultural heritage that needs to be analyzed, recorded and protected. In bigger cities – including Warsaw, Szczecin, Łódź, Olsztyn, Lublin, Katowice and Białystok – a list of such cultural phenomena has been drafted. Each city has listed dozens of objects, complexes and urban planning schemes. In total, yet another group of thousands of cultural assets, potentially cultural heritage. Since no selection or definition method to ascertain the value of these objects has been adopted, their precise number nationwide has not been determined.

All the above listed groups do not exhaust the breadth of Poland’s cultural heritage assets; formally, this is a much wider group. Contemporary conservation theory and our laws, also deem cultural heritage to include cultural landscapes or the great variety of post-industrial heritage (The Council of Europe plans 2015 to be ‘Industrial Heritage Year’). Nonetheless, certain conclusions can be formulated on the basis of enumerated – and thereby potentially identified – groups of cultural heritage assets.

Poland has hundreds of thousands of objects, complexes and areas, which the law recognises as valuable and can therefore be regarded as cultural heritage. This asset is very diverse, which makes it difficult to categorize. It cannot therefore be divided into categories having consistent characteristics (key to working out consistent objectives and action plans). At the same time, no comprehensive methodology has been worked out enabling cultural heritage to be identified – which is why the total number of cultural heritage objects remains unknown. Only one conclusion remains: a clear definition of Poland’s cultural heritage asset is not possible

under the present system and consequently neither its proper management and protection.

What then can the current response be, to questions about how to deal with a historic monument? In the past the answer was obvious – the underlying objective was their protection. The general aim of protecting historic monuments, was to pass them on to future generations unchanged, which is why traditional conservation theory aimed to maintain historical form and substance, that is to preserve those elements that determine the monument's nature. Today the situation is totally different.

The above transformation, from a definite, limited, and countable set of historic monuments, to an indefinite, unlimited, and non-quantifiable cultural heritage collection, has brought about a radical axiological change. Cultural heritage cannot be appropriated by one – conservation – value system. Numerous groups compete for space and buildings – so called stakeholders (owners, occupiers, traders, local government, developers, investors, etc.). Conservators have no right, no authority, no means or arguments, to impose their value system (that is objectives), in this conflict of interests. Meanwhile, when it comes to cultural heritage, numerous, often mutually contradictory objectives, are formulated. Conservators want to preserve cultural heritage, by prioritising the preservation of an object's historic values, in all instances. They aim to issue opinions on the historic objects condition and on the work to be undertaken at the site. But people who live in historic buildings often represent a different point of view. They view their homes primarily in terms of utility. They want to update them, adapt, and adjust them, to current technical, aesthetic and functional standards. Furthermore, owners of historic properties want to maximise profits. They want to be able to develop their building plots, freely, to raise existing buildings, extend them, adapt their function. Local government perceives historic objects and landscape based on their own objectives. They want to be rid of troublesome properties, limit their expenses and financial obligations. Many more examples could be cited, but all of them lead to one conclusion, that as regards cultural heritage, all the objectives of all the individual stakeholders, cannot be met. We want to believe that a compromise is attainable. But in practice that would mean that someone would have to give in. Presently, more often than not, it is conservators who are forced to give ground. This imposes a conclusion that needs to be stated, that there are presently no common objectives with regard to historic assets. Moreover the lack of such objectives is reflected in contemporary conservation theory.

Conservation theory attempts to adapt to this new reality, above all by sanctioning the inevitable. That in effect means that the overriding conservation objective is no longer purely historic monument protection, but rather the management of change. While in situations, when even this becomes an objective impossible to attain there is talk, that protection may come down to documenting. Luckily, the

extent to which the objectives of conservation theory have been liberalised, has not yet been formally defined. Discussions are still in progress. Decisions have not yet been taken. That is why the belief is that we are now at a phase of a change of the conservation theory paradigm.

With a heritage environment so fluid, as to prevent, any possible definition of its extent, or possible agreement on common cultural heritage objectives, it becomes obvious that various methods of dealing with historic monuments need to be applied. And so – as in the case of defining conservation objectives – a number of approaches can be identified. The smallest group comprises conservation-theorists, who strive to preserve a traditional approach to historic monument protection. They treat monuments as unique carriers of unrepeatable values, and thereby continue to seek to defend regulations set out in the Venice Charter. This approach entails a full acceptance of conservation and restoration methodology, in the traditional sense – minimum interference to ensure the preservation of historic substance and form. A more numerous group comprises restorers who accept the inevitability of some change, transformation, and a possible loss of some cultural heritage assets. This second group predominantly includes conservation services (national and local), operating under great pressure, and necessarily having had to accept that contemporary protection, of a widely defined cultural heritage, comes down to managing change. In practice this means protecting selected elements of historic objects – whilst to a greater or lesser degree accepting the inevitable need to modernise, reconstruct, adapt and restore. The largest group comprises the remaining stakeholders – all those who have some dealings with historic monuments. Their key objective is not the conservation of cultural heritage – for they are driven by functional, technical, financial considerations, fashion, etc. This group simply wants the right to adapt cultural heritage. They see cultural heritage as a resource to be used freely, for the achievement of their immediate needs. They want to have the right to renovate, adapt, extend, convert, stylize, and if need be, to demolish. Evidence of the application of all the above approaches and methods can be found in practice, though the degree to which this happens, may vary. There is no doubt that such a diversity of methods cannot be contained within any framework. As a consequence, no method can be deemed as appropriate or inappropriate – as was the case in traditional conservation.

It is for this reason that contemporary conservation theory – in doctrinal conservation documents – does not define any cultural heritage management method as appropriate.

The above outline answer to questions about understanding, objectives and methods of dealing with monuments, and about the coherence of these three elements, is a synthetic attempt at describing the contemporary issues governing cultural heritage protection. Unfortunately, this attempt reveals a situation that is unclear,

unstable, experiencing a period of dynamic change. Today the great, complex, and multi-faceted nature of cultural heritage prevents us from preparing a proper record, or undertaking any analysis, for research and registration purposes. Thus, we are all the more so, unable to control and protect that heritage (even if we have a good idea of what we want to protect). There is no doubt then, that this indiscipline has turned into a crisis. We need to call it for what it is, for when old definitions, objectives and methods no longer apply, and the current reality is that new ones have not emerged, then what we find ourselves in is a discipline crisis. This is in fact, one of many areas of human activity that are falling apart in this post-modern reality, in an uncontrollable, often oblivious manner.

The sources, mechanisms and symptoms of this ongoing crisis in cultural heritage conservation, are worldwide in character and are becoming increasingly noticeable. But the places, where these sources and mechanisms have given rise to a special concern, as well as brought about an international reaction, are cities inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List. At the beginning of the last decade it turned out that in many outstanding historic cities – from the very UNESCO List – transformations had significantly threatened their heritage. The main and most visible problem involved new developments, responsible for brutally transforming historic areas, and which protection agencies were powerless to limit or control. The authorities of cities on UNESCO's World Heritage List were fighting a losing battle with investors, yet the problem began to win international attention because of their world heritage status. As reports of successive city transformations began to be discussed on the forum of the World Heritage Committee, so the world finally began to react. No country wanted to be shown not to care for their most precious cultural heritage – the very threat of being removed from the World Heritage List appealed to their imagination. But in practice, city authorities wanted to have their cake and to eat it; to benefit from both investments and their UNESCO List status, which is why the 2005 Vienna conference attempted to discuss and lay down rules governing future building projects in historic areas. In practice, the conference was about finding a compromise between preserving the cities historic diversity – those elements that constitute its cultural heritage – and meeting the needs of contemporary development, whilst ensuring the widest participation of interest groups in the cities management. An attempt was made to determine how to reconcile cultural heritage needs and objectives with those of the multitude of cities' interest groups. The voice of investors, city managers and architects proved strongest, as they promoted a more open approach to the needs of contemporary development in historic cities. The conference adopted the Vienna Memorandum, a document that essentially accepted the need to include historic sites in contemporary development processes. The document prescribed – as already noted above – that the protection

of historic areas in towns cannot be subject to an axiology, imposed by one dominant conservation value system. Inhabitants of historic town areas make up a diverse group of stakeholders, who all have a right to realise their goals. The Memorandum was a starting point for further work on formulating solutions to this problem. In November 2011, after years of work and international discussion, UNESCO's General Conference adopted the new Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape. This document elaborated and endorsed the approach presented herein, warranting the presentation of a synthesis of the recommendations:

- a historic city not only comprises physical buildings, but also tangible and intangible culture, in all its forms (an all embracing contemporary understanding of cultural heritage);
- the main aim of any undertaking in a historic city is not conservation, but sustainable development – conservation is to be linked to economic, financial, social, local, etc. objectives (diversity and equality of objectives);
- all stakeholders have a voice in deciding on a historic cities future – no one (including Conservators of Historical Monuments) has the final word.

The wording of the Recommendation clearly promotes a new understanding of cultural heritage, and of its protection in a contemporary development context. How this works out in practice – the Recommendation does not stipulate. Practice will however show whether this document strengthens or weakens heritage protection.

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Edited version of an article "Problems of conservation of historic monuments – the current situation and the UNESCO's Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape" in a post conference publication "Why and How to Protect Cultural Heritage by Modern Means", published by the Polish National Commission for UNESCO, Warsaw 2014, pp. 49-60. Electronic version at www.unesco.pl



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Intangible
Cultural
Heritage

The Concept of Intangible Cultural Heritage in the 2003 Convention

“Intangible cultural heritage” implies the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills – as well as the instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces associated therewith – that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognize as part of their cultural heritage. This intangible cultural heritage, transmitted from generation to generation, is constantly recreated by communities and groups in response to their environment, their interaction with nature and their history, and provides them with a sense of identity and continuity, thus promoting respect for cultural diversity and human creativity”.

The above definition of intangible cultural heritage, adopted in the UNESCO 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage, will be analyzed herein based on the official Polish translation, with occasional references – to aid understanding – to the authoritative English version text.

In general, the Polish translation raises no serious reservations. Perhaps in case of the following four notions certain modifications may be considered:

“Przekazy” constitute a specific, but excessively one-sided interpretation of the English “expressions”; perhaps a translation following the Russian version (*formy wyrażenia*) would be more appropriate, that is, “*formy ekspresji*”.

“Instrumenty” – an apparently obvious translation of the English ‘instruments’ – could be misleading, because the meaning quite clearly refers to all kinds of tools, devices, implements and instruments; therefore, “*narzędzia*” or even “*narzędzia i instrumenty* [tools and instruments]” might be a better choice.

“Przestrzeń kulturowa” – a counterpart of the English ‘cultural spaces’ – could be replaced with the plural form “*przestrzenie kulturowe*” or, if the plural is awkward, then translated as “*obszary kulturowe*” – because the definition refers to many different spaces – as a testimony to cultural diversity.

“Ludzka kreatywność” – an evident calque of the English expression ‘human creativity’, is today primarily associated with the skills of advertising agency staff and could be replaced by “*inwencja twórcza ludzi*” or even “*twórcze działania ludzi*”.

It is also worth noting that **“praktyki”** – the translation of the English ‘practices’, referring to “activities, measures, accepted methods, techniques, action strategies” – were in some foreign language versions given in the narrower sense of ‘customs’. “*Wyobrażenia*” (in English ‘representations’, but the Russian *formy przedstawienia*) seem to be better than the – theoretically possible – “*przedstawienia*”, because the latter could be misleading here, if understood narrowly as “spectacles, shows, displays”.

Thus in line with the above somewhat modified definition, intangible cultural heritage implies practices or customs, representations, expressions, knowledge and skills. Firstly, such a definition is practically a direct quote from Edward B. Tylor’s classical definition of culture: “Culture, or civilization, taken in its broad, ethnographic sense, is that complex whole which includes knowledge, belief, art, morals, law, custom, and any other capabilities and habits acquired by man as a member of society”¹. While secondly, it inextricably links – in the concept of intangible cultural heritage – that which in social practice is perceived as spiritual, extrasensory with the sensory, material supports or carriers (tools and instruments, articles, artefacts) or spatial vessels (cultural spaces) for these ephemeral (intangible) practices.

Yet the key element of this definition is that these practices – and only such practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills – including tools and instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces or areas are taken into account, which communities, groups, and in specific circumstances, also individuals themselves, have indicated and consider as a part of their own cultural heritage. It is the core of this definition, and the Convention’s principal concept, that has to be clearly understood.

“Within the framework of its safeguarding activities of the intangible cultural heritage, each State Party shall endeavour to ensure the widest possible participation of communities, groups and, where appropriate, individuals that create, maintain and transmit such heritage, and to involve them actively in its management.” (art. 15).

¹ After E.B. Tylor “Primitive Culture”, 1920 [1871], New York: J. P. Putnam’s Sons. Vol. 1, p. 1;.

For the goal is not to have a list of outstanding cultural or artistic endeavours recognized by the States Parties – something akin to a world ranking of works of intangible creativity. Though through 2001–2005, UNESCO altogether accepted 90 proclamations of so-called Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity, and thereby implemented a programme formerly outlined in 1997. These proclamations were later transferred (in accordance with art. 31 of the Convention), to the more aptly named Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Neither does the Convention aim to have some organ at national level, a part of a state's apparatus, decide in a top-down and arbitrary manner, what intangible cultural heritage should or should not be listed. The point is that such organs should avail themselves of the "assistance of communities, groups and appropriate non-governmental organizations" when taking essential steps to ensure the protection of intangible cultural heritage which is present in the territory of Poland. Firstly by identifying it, that is, determining and defining its various elements, and then as a consequence preparing one or more registers of these elements. This issue has been the subject of repeated discussions and addressed in a separate article.²

The importance of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage by the very communities, groups and individuals that create, preserve and pass it on to the next generation, is the key issue. Every effort to ensure the survival of this heritage, encompassing its "identification, documentation, research, protection, promotion, enhancement and transition, especially through formal and non-formal education, as well as the revitalization of various aspects of such heritage", should come from close, lively and, if possible, cordial interactions. But in all cases – in a spirit of "mutual respect between communities, groups and individuals".

We should keep in mind that the goal of the Convention is not only to safeguard, but also "to ensure respect for the intangible cultural heritage of communities, groups and individuals", "raise awareness of the importance of intangible cultural heritage at regional, national and international levels, as well as "to ensure mutual respect for this heritage", which taken together, should contribute to a greater appreciation of cultural diversity and of human creativity in general.

These goals can only be achieved with the participation of communities, groups and individuals, those who co-create this heritage, preserve it and pass it on to subsequent generations – those who actively participate, in the broadest sense – lest we forget – in the management of intangible cultural heritage. Today both local and regional, as well as central government is beginning to appreciate and understand the value of cooperation in partnership with non-

² See p. 42 of this Bulletin

governmental organizations – civic organizations acting out of their own initiative, on behalf of a chosen public interest.

The duty of implementing the 2003 Convention, which came into force in the Republic of Poland on 16 August 2011, is the best opportunity for all public administration bodies to once again appreciate the nature of their mission, with regard to society as a whole; towards the communities that make it up, diverse local groups, and finally individual citizens. Service is their mission. Just as officials as such are not pressed upon to be creative, their objective is nonetheless to nurture and develop creative activities, even if only by extending state patronage. It is however not for them to relieve communities, groups and individuals of the duty to preserve and pass on their heritage, to successive generations: because intangible cultural heritage must be continuously relived, by those whom it endows – in relation to their own history and environment – with a feeling of continuity and identity.

Not only officials may seek to simplify the identification procedure and definition of different elements of intangible cultural heritage present in Poland, so as to speed up the preparation of a Polish register of these elements, and submit it as early as the first periodic report that Poland is obliged to submit in 2017 to the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. But they are not alone in their way of thinking. Also activists from different organizations are equally determined to prepare a national register, as quickly as possible. This transpired from a discussion at a workshop of experts from non-governmental organizations, carried out in Warsaw by the Polish Ethnological Society, and the Association of Folk Artists, on 18 June 2012.

For officials the fact of having set up the register – which is indeed an obligation of a State Party under the Convention – could mean one more job out of the way. For activists, inscription in the register gives the feeling that they can cease to worry that an element of their heritage, that they are promoting, will pass unobserved, unidentified, undistinguished, and unappreciated. For these two reasons, the mere preparing of a national register of intangible cultural heritage, presenting it to the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, and finally submitting proposals for inscription of individual elements onto the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity or the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding – could lead to a mistaken understanding of the Convention's goals.

The Secretary-General of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO, Sławomir Ratajski, referred to this situation at an international conference on "Intangible Cultural Heritage: Sources – Values – Protection", organized on 25-26 October 2012 by the National Heritage Board of Poland and the Cultural Studies Institute of the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, combined with

the second part of the workshops for experts of non-governmental organizations. The Secretary-General observed that:

"The Lists themselves cannot be the main task of the Convention, despite their popularizing aspects and undoubted appeal, though one that occasionally also leads to harmful forms of competition. The Lists should serve to create models of proper protection of intangible cultural heritage, regardless of whether a given element is listed or not. The most threatened elements need to be treated with most care, notwithstanding their capacity to compete with those better "publicized" phenomena cultivated by communities more numerous and resourceful"³.

To illustrate the five domains singled out in the Convention, I will cite some of the elements already inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity and the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding. I will also refer to particulars prepared for the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage and the National Heritage Board of Poland, by the Expert Group for Intangible Cultural Heritage, which I presided over until recently⁴. Three of these domains require a fuller discussion.

The first domain mentioned in the Convention encompasses "oral traditions and expressions, including language as a vehicle of the intangible cultural heritage". This cultural formation was until relatively recently referred to as 'orature'. Naturally, this not only relates to African cultures, but to the culture of all societies, which Lévi-Strauss described as being based, to a larger degree than others, on personal relations between individuals, which is why, as this anthropologist suggested, they deserved to be described as authentic. In such societies, all cultural domains are so closely intertwined that distinguishing any one seems entirely artificial, threatening to distort the holistic character of all the practices or customs, representations, expressions, knowledge and skills of which that culture is essentially composed. Examples of orature, which encompass riddles, sayings, stories and recitations, as well as song, dance, drama and spectacles, but are more than mere synthesis' of art⁵, give a better idea of how language should be understood: a vehicle of intangible cultural heritage. The spirit of the Convention calls for language to be safeguarded, not so much as a system, but as a tool used among others to initiate relationships. These relationships

³ S. Ratajski: *The Concept of Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage in the UNESCO Convention*, "Bulletin. Polish National Commission for UNESCO Review" 2012, p. 39. The cited article is a revised version of a paper presented at the said conference.

⁴ The Expert Group was appointed by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage (Decree no. 12 of 30 April 2010) in order to implement the decisions of the UNESCO 2003 Convention. The said particulars are included in the minutes of the third meeting of the Expert Group for Intangible Cultural Heritage (6 July 2012). The Group's mission ended with the appointment – ministerial decree of 18 September 2013 – of the Council for Intangible Cultural Heritage.

⁵ According to P. Ntuli, orature is "the conception and reality of a total view of life" and a "flow of a creative spirit".

are characterized by lively, familiar and cordial contacts, essential to the functioning of society. Orature is not a formal category in some classification of word art, but a word and cultural outlook that describes a type of relationship – one based on face-to-face contact, dialogue, traditionality and improvisation, synthetic performance and showiness.

The domain of oral traditions and expressions includes varieties of oral folklore such as faith stories, fairy tales, legends, reminiscences, historical songs, sayings, riddles, New Year carols, Nativity plays, harvest songs, ritual recitations, wedding orations, dirges, funeral orations, lullabies, quackish remedies, prayers, shepherd calls, trade cries, military songs.

The Representative List includes the tradition of Vedic chanting, that is, ritual practices of oral performance of the oldest texts of Hinduism; songs of the Huachipaeri tribe, indigenous to the tropical forests of the Amazon, performed in the Harákmbut language, in the main applied to magic practices; diverse epic stories, including the Khirghiz story of Manas' great expedition. The List, on the one hand includes the art of the meddahs – Turkish storytellers, and on the other that of the Palestinian Hikaye, a household tradition centuries old, of aged women narrating stories to other women and children about women's fate. There are also poetic competitions, like the Tsiattistá, impromptu poetry in the Greek Cypriot dialect performed as a kind of aoidos "joust". Finally, a curiosity – a whistled language, called *silbo*, from the island of La Gomera of the Canary Islands, composed of two vowels and four consonants, used by thousands of islanders, to communicate over longer distances in the less accessible mountain valleys, as well as during local religious feasts and ceremonies, and taught in local schools since 1999.

The second domain – interlinked to the first, as can be seen in the already mentioned example of the Turkish meddahs or let alone the Bengalese Baul, about which more below, is represented by "*sztuki widowiskowe*", a direct and apt translation of the English 'performing arts' used in the authoritative English version of the Convention, confirmed by the French "*les arts du spectacle*" and Spanish "*los artes del espectáculo*". The issue needs clarification only as far as the ambiguity of the English verb 'to perform' and its participle 'performing' and noun 'performance' are concerned, an ambiguity observed and exploited by theoreticians of the so-called performative turn in the humanistic and social sciences, and in contemporary artistic practice. The English 'performing arts' has a different Polish counterpart as well: "*sztuki wykonawcze*" (*ispolnitielskije iskusstwa* in the Russian authoritative text of the Convention). *Art Spectacles / Performing arts* as a rule include dramatic theatre, opera, operetta, musicals, music concerts, pantomime, puppet and shadow theatre, cabaret, variety shows, circus, happenings, spectacles (according to some definitions the category also includes art based on technical means of expression: sound art, film art, video art, digital art).

In this domain, the Expert Group for Intangible Cultural Heritage singled out music traditions: vocal, instrumental and dance, as well as religious shows, annual and also carnival, that is – perceived in a wider context than the already mentioned art spectacle – cultural performances: *widowiska kulturowe*. It is worth noting that in many cases cultural spectacles, which are performances, that is, shows or presentations to be viewed, are associated – for example like carnival shows – with an active involvement of all participants.

The most classical forms of oriental theatre are inscribed on the Representative List: the Kutiyattam Sanskrit theatre from Kerala, one of India's oldest theatrical traditions, a direct continuation of the Sanskrit theatre from about two thousand years ago; the Mudi yettu ritual theatre and dance drama, yet another form of theatre from Kerala; the late 18th century Peking opera ("jīnghù, literally "capital theatre"), which contrary to the comparatively narrow European meaning of the term, also includes singing, melodrama, pantomime, dance, acrobatics and elements of the martial arts; the Japanese Nōgaku theatre, practiced uninterruptedly from the 13th century, combination of a Nō tragedy and Kyōgen farce in one evening performance; the Japanese Kabuki theatre, and Ningyo Johruri Bunraku puppet theatre; the Indonesian Wayang puppet theatre from Java; the Turkish shadow Karagöz theatre, that reaches back to the 16th century, with performances that include funny skirmishes between Karagöz, the audience's favourite village idiot, and the educated and haughty Hacivat.

Religious shows also made it to the List – such as the ritual Ramlila, staging selected episodes of the Ramayana, with the active involvement of all festival participants; Iranian ritual dramatic art of Ta'zīye; Baul songs, improvised performances of poetry sung by mystic minstrels from Bangladesh and India's West Bengal, which in reality are acts of unorthodox mysticism from the borderline of Hinduism and Islam, yet distinctly different from them, a tradition that can be traced back to the 15th century.

Of the widely recognised performing arts, the Representative List includes, among others, the Tango, traditional performances of which are organized in the dance halls of Buenos Aires and Montevideo; Andalusian Flamenco; Portuguese Fado; Mexican Mariachi. However, the first dance inscribed on the List was the Lakalaka (literally means "to step briskly") from the Pacific islands of Tonga, a blend of choreography – with arrangements danced by hundreds of dancers, men and women, taking mincing steps and making smooth sweeping arm motions – oratory and vocal and instrumental polyphony and recitation. A circular breathing technique used in Mongolia to perform "long songs", also found a place on the List of Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding, in fact used to play the Limbe flute that accompanies these songs; skilled musicians rendering continuous, long-drawn melodies 12 to 25 minutes long. At the time of the inscription, the difficult art of circular breathing was practiced by only 14 performers.

“Social practices, rituals and festive events”, make up the third domain. The Polish translation, once again requires a commentary. “*Zwyczaj* [customs]” – is an alternative translation of the English ‘social practices’, understood as “adopted methods, techniques, action strategies”; the authoritative Spanish text gives “*los usos sociales*”, “social customs”; hence perhaps the phrase “*społeczne praktyki i zwyczaje* [social practices and customs]” possibly best reconciles all these versions. “*Obrzędy świąteczne*” are a translation of the English ‘festive events’; but the Russian authoritative text quite simply gives “*prazdnjestwa*”, that is “ceremonies, festivities, celebrations”. In place of “festive events” it would be better to insert “feasts and festive celebrations”, adding “celebrations” to the rituals category – as an equivalent of the English ‘rituals’, which as we know has a double meaning. Thus, this section of the Convention might be rephrased, and read as social practices and customs, celebrations and rituals, feasts and festive events.

The Expert Group for Intangible Cultural Heritage intimated rites of passage as an example of this domain, e.g., baptisms, weddings, funerals, local and community ceremonies, church fairs and pilgrimages, games and child folklore. Many of the rituals, festivals and official celebrations take on the form of cultural performances. It is therefore purely arbitrary whether variants of ritual theatre, like Ramlila or Ta’ziye, both mentioned above, are classified as performance art, while ritual performances, like the Semah and Voladores dances, discussed below, are categorised as rituals and ceremonies.

Yet it is sometimes difficult to distinguish the domain of social practices and customs, rituals, feast days and festive events, from that of oral traditions and expressions. A case in point is the four-voice vocal polyphonic singing of the Aka pygmies – based on ostinato variations which are improvised with the application of a characteristic yodeling technique, to the beat of enzeko drums, and the sound of geedale-bagongo harps, and the mbela single-string bow, combined with vibrant hand-clapping – inscribed as a tradition of oral expression, yet inseparable from the rituals of hunting, honey-gathering, building new campsites and the funeral rite. Another tradition of oral expression on the List are the Yoruba all-night dances, in painted and carved Gelede masks, to the sound of four tam-tams; performed every year after the harvest, but also during important life events like the birth of a child, a marriage or funeral, as well as during disasters such as droughts and epidemics.

Rituals inscribed on the Representative List include Nestinarstvo, a syncretic cult, of which the most important practice is a barefoot dance on smouldering embers, performed by people in a trance, surrounded by a circle of dancers doing the traditional horo, to the sound of the sacred drum and bagpipes, practiced in south-eastern Bulgaria; Semah, a ritual from the 13th century, a collective dance of the Mevleviye or whirling dervishes, performed to singing and music

on the ney pipe, rebab three-stringed lute, twin kudum drums and kanun zither, as a practice of Sufi mysticism; Voladores (“Flying Men”) a ritual dance performed by the Totonac people, in which the dancers, having climbed a pole 30–40 metres high, launch themselves off a platform, tied with ropes by their ankles, and gradually glide down to the ground, to the accompaniment of a flute and drum, and singing: to the sun, the four winds and four corners of the earth.

Carnivals probably make up the largest group of Representative List entries. The Carnival of Binche and the Aalst Carnival, Belgium; the carnival parade called Schemenlaufen in Imst, Austria; the Carnival Bell-ringers pageant in Kastav, Croatia; the Busó Carnival parade in Mohács, Hungary; the Carnival of Barranquilla, and the Carnaval de Negros y Blancos in San Juan de Pasto, Columbia; the Carnival of Oruro, Bolivia. ‘Black fast’ Carnival celebrations in the villages of the Hlinecko region, in the eastern Czech Republic, in fact involve little more than carolling, of the same kind as is common in Poland. Elements from the Brazilian Carnival on the List include Frevo dancing shows, performed during the Pernambuco Carnival in Recife, and the Samba de Roda of the Recôncavo of Bahia; both of these should not be confused with the samba, treated as a social dance, associated with carnival celebrations as much as with the ritual capoeira, an Afro-Brazilian martial art.

The Jemaa el-Fna, the largest square in the Marrakesh medina, was inscribed on the Representative List as a cultural space, peopled by story-tellers, dancers, acrobats and gnaoua musicians, snake charmers and monkey-trainers, fire-eaters and glass-eaters, people extracting teeth and providing medical advice, henna tattooist, fortune-tellers, where fresh orange juice is sold as well as water, by traditionally dressed water sellers from the Rif mountains. But the List also includes the gastronomic meal of the French – as a traditional form of festive meeting around a table, associated with important events in the lives of individuals and whole communities, characterized, among others, by an established meal structure. The French system of learning a trade, called “*compagnonnage*”, a network for on-the-job transmission of knowledge and identities, used by stonecutters, carpenters, blacksmiths, saddlers, weavers, bakers, cooks etc., was also inscribed on the List, as was the five-year apprenticeship in the crafts, encompassing the learning of techniques and group customs, professional initiation rituals, and a tour of workshops around the country. The List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding includes the Yaokwa ceremony, celebrated by the Enawene Nawe tribe of the Amazon, which brings together practical knowledge of hunting and agriculture, house building and river dam construction, sewing dresses, tool and musical instrument making, all in an effort to preserve the cosmological and social order of a tribe that presently numbers no more than 350 members.

The Yaokwa ceremony inadvertently touches on the fourth intangible cultural heritage domain that composed of “knowledge and practices

concerning nature and the universe". The only term in the Polish translation of the cited definition given by the Convention that requires commentary is "*praktyki*" – the translation of the English 'practices' meaning "activities, measures, adopted methods, techniques, action strategies", because here also, the authoritative text in Spanish ("*los usos*") and the Russian ("*obyczai*"), suggest "customs"; therefore, the formula "*praktyki i zwyczaje*" the English 'practices and customs' may also be most appropriate here.

What practices and customs? The Expert Group for Intangible Cultural Heritage clarified the issue by further designating traditional healing methods, folk meteorology, love charms, medical charms and traditional understandings of the universe.

Probably nothing illustrates this domain better than acupuncture and moxotherapy (a treatment with smouldering moxa sticks of dried mugwort), a traditional Chinese medical practice; the ancestral medical herbal practices of the Kallawaya, also called Yatiri, descendants of the healers of the Inca kings, the native Indian shamans of the Andes versant in the botanical knowledge of about 980 species and a rich cosmovision, incidentally expressed in ritual dancing, that accompanies the therapy, intended to gain the spirit's help and favour. The Ifá divination system, practiced among Yoruba communities, uses sacred palm-nuts or cauri shells, and a divination chain, made of bean halves, that together form 256 possible combinations called *odù* that are subsequently interpreted by a proficient Ifá priest or Babalawo. The Mediterranean diet was also inscribed on the List (a joint inscription of Cyprus, Croatia, Spain, Greece, Italy, Morocco and Portugal), understood as implying everything between the landscape and the table: plant cultivation, harvest, fishing, food storage and processing, preparing and above all consumption of meals composed of olive oil, grains, fresh or dried fruit, fish, dairy products and meat, in limited quantities, with many herbs and spices, washed down – depending on traditions linked to religion – with either wine or herbal infusions.

This example bridges the gap to the fifth domain, which is "abilities linked to traditional craftsmanship". The official Polish translation is lacking at this point: it is missing the adjective "traditional" (English traditional craftsmanship, analogously in all of the cited authoritative language versions). There is no need to labour the point; suffice it to present a few examples.

And so, silkworm breeding and silk production, and Indonesian batik; Alençon needle lace in France; lace art practiced in Pagu, Lepoglava and Hvar in Croatia, and the Cypriot Lefkara lace tradition; Ugandan textiles, made of wood bark. Moreover – falconry, submitted by as many as thirteen countries (Saudi Arabia, Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Spain, Qatar, Morocco, Mongolia, Republic of Korea, Syria, Hungary and United Arab Emirates). Next to Chinese and Mongolian calligraphy – sand drawings, from the Vanuatu islands, created by skilled artists, with one finger in the sand, volcanic ash or

clay, constituting a form of communication between representatives of approximately 80 different language groups, a repository of this societies history: from the mythical to the technological, closely connected with tales, songs and rituals. At Italian behest the Representative List includes traditional violin-making from Cremona – but the aim was not the individual violins of Amati, Stradivarius or Guarneri, for these are only instruments – artefacts; the intention first and foremost, was the preservation of practices, knowledge and skills, of a still living tradition, of the craft of making and restoring these musical instruments.

I was a member of the Polish delegation, which participated as an observer in the 7th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in Paris, at the beginning of December 2012, when this inscription was approved. I well remember the joy and emotions of all those gathered there, as subsequent entries were inscribed, one after the other. Mankind recognized itself then, in each jointly recognised element of cultural heritage. It was a real festival of the creative spirit, diversity and reciprocity. ●

Prof. Leszek Kolankiewicz

The article is an abbreviated version of a text published under the same title in the proceedings of the conference: "Why and How to Protect Cultural Heritage by Modern Means", published by the Polish National Commission for UNESCO, 2014, p. 61 – 104.

Wooden Orthodox Churches (Tserkvas) of the Polish and Ukrainian Carpathian Region on the World Heritage List

For many years wooden buildings have been the object of special attention to restorers around the world, as an element of a cultural landscape that is particularly at risk. Wood as a construction material is most prone to damage, and requires regular care and maintenance, which presents a major challenge to users of buildings erected in this technology. Civilisational changes, and ever-present natural disasters, are leading to the stock of wooden historic buildings – universally regarded as temporary or even as a primitive form of architecture – to shrink at an alarming rate, with not even the most elite group, i.e. temples and churches, being spared. The legal protection and conservation of this group of historical structures, as well as overcoming unfavourable stereotypes, presents a constant challenge to institutions responsible for heritage protection.

One of the earliest tools helping to protect endangered cultural heritage of universal importance was the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, adopted in Paris by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on 16 November 1972. It formed the basis for creating a list of world heritage sites, which includes places that are of particular importance, and whose preservation is in the interest of the international community. The UNESCO's World Heritage List was inaugurated in 1978, with the inclusion of the first 12 sites.

The first wooden monument, an example of sacral architecture – the church in Urnes, Norway – was added to UNESCO's World Heritage List as early as 1979. The church is one of the most valuable among the few preserved stave churches

(*stavkirke*), typical of medieval Scandinavian sacral architecture. There were initially approximately a thousand such structures. Towards the end of the 20th century the number had shrunk to 28 buildings. In 1990, UNESCO's protection was extended to the complex of wooden Orthodox churches located on the island of Kizhi on Lake Onega – one of the last groups of wooden Orthodox churches in Russia, preserved in situ; whilst in 1994, the unique Finnish church in Petäjävesi was added to the List. Later additions, more of a serial nature, covered groups of buildings, that constitute representative examples of the most characteristic and particularly valuable groups of monuments, sharing common origins and artistic characteristics, included: wooden Orthodox churches in the Romanian part of the Maramure (1999), Lutheran Churches of Peace in Świdnica and Jawor (2001), and medieval wooden churches in south Lesser Poland (Małopolska) (2003). A group of wooden sanctuaries in Slovakia was added to the UNESCO List in 2008, and included local examples of different types of wooden sacral monuments (Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant churches).

Complementary listings marked out wooden sacral architecture, as a particularly important and fascinating part of mankind's cultural heritage. By 2008, the UNESCO List included the most characteristic European types of wooden sacral structures, both in terms of their construction, inception, as well as religious affiliation. Structures from Central and Eastern Europe are exceptionally well represented, following submissions from Poland, Romania and Slovakia, where the greatest number of wooden sacral structures

on the continent are situated. However, the total number of protected World Heritage sites, revealed a significant under-representation of very numerous and valuable buildings, to be found in the Polish and Ukrainian Carpathians – wooden Orthodox churches, a legacy of the Greek Catholic Church. Having survived in this region, what characterises these wooden Orthodox churches, are their unique variety of forms and types, whilst simultaneously retaining a common ideological and spatial layout pattern. What distinguishes these from earlier UNESCO listed World Heritage examples of wooden sacral architecture, is the unique complexity of applied design solutions, not seen anywhere else; tailored to the changes of stylistic building features over time, all at once a combination of universal and local building traditions. Consequently, the wooden Orthodox churches, to be found in the Polish and Ukrainian Carpathians, had no counterparts among the total number of World Heritage sites on the UNESCO List, though they are original and unique. This fact gave impetus to efforts aimed at expanding the List, with a representative group of preserved wooden Orthodox churches, to be found on both sides of the Polish-Ukrainian border. The intention of those behind this initiative, was not only to contribute to the global popularisation of the richness and uniqueness of these surviving monuments, but also to afford them proper protection.



Two Orthodox churches – in Chotyniec and Radruż – out of sixteen, entered on the World Heritage List in June 2013.
Photo: ©2013 Mariusz Czuba

Work on the necessary documentation for listing

this group of Orthodox churches, located in the Polish and Ukrainian Carpathians, as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, was initiated by the KOBiDZ or National Centre for Research and Monuments Documentation (now the National Heritage Board of Poland [NID]) in early 2009. Partners of KOBiDZ on the Ukrainian side were – within the framework of the International Centre for the Protection of Cultural Heritage in Zhovkva: the Scientific Monuments Research Institute in Kiev and the State Historical-Architectural Reserve in Zhovkva. The group of Polish and Ukrainian experts completed their work within three years and in February 2012 submitted a trans-national Polish-Ukrainian application, entitled “Wooden *Tserkvas* of the Carpathian Region in Poland and Ukraine”, to the World Heritage Centre in Paris. The proposal essentially aimed to reflect the development of the Orthodox church building craft over the centuries, as preserved in the Polish and Ukrainian Carpathians, whilst paying particular attention to their unique stylistic and regional diversity. Following a multi-stage selection process, and after thorough analysis, 16 monuments were selected, 8 from each country.

The oldest preserved wooden churches in the

Polish and Ukrainian Carpathians survived from the turn of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. A characteristic feature of this group is the roof shape over the nave; a pyramidal framework peak, placed on an open square layout, reinforced with wooden beams, ideologically suggestive of the spherical domes of the brick built Kievan Rus Orthodox churches. Best examples of this type number among



the Orthodox churches included in the application proposal: in Potelych, Radruż and Rohatyn; the oldest surviving European examples of wooden built domed Byzantine places of worship. Seventeenth century churches essentially represented a continuation of earlier solutions, however, both architectural forms per se, as well as the ever richer repertoire of decorative elements, taken from the Renaissance and Baroque periods, references to clearly discernable Western architecture. This phenomenon is further highlighted, towards the end of the sixteenth century – within the Polish Commonwealth, which included the Polish and Ukrainian Carpathians – by the conclusion of a union between the Catholic Church and the Orthodox Church (Union of Brest, 1596). It is this period that shaped the final form of the characteristic partition altar or the iconostasis, which is now one of the dominant attributes of Eastern Rite church interiors. The best examples of churches from that period include the monumental Orthodox church of St. Jura in Drohobych and several smaller churches in Chotyńiec and Zhovkva.

Mountainous terrain, separated by ranges of inaccessible peaks, dense forests and wide rivers, favoured the isolation of local cultural enclaves, such as the Lemko and Hutsul ethnic minority groups. Despite a common liturgy, and ideological patterns of tri-partite domed Orthodox churches of the Byzantine style, the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries witnessed the development of local forms, adding to the Orthodox churches of the Carpathians a unique tone. Thus, Orthodox churches – in areas inhabited by the Hutsul highlanders – developed a centralised, domed church, around a Greek cross-plan, as in the Orthodox churches of Nyzhniy Verbizh and Yasynia, whilst Boyko churches remarkably built on traditional solutions developing tri-partite churches surmounted by quadrilateral, offset slanting roofs, best exemplified by Orthodox churches in Matkiv and Smolnik.

Built on the cultural border, with Roman Catholic churches developing in parallel, Orthodox churches soon began to adopt elements found in the latter. The best examples of this trend appear in churches built by the Lemko community. The structure of Lemko Orthodox churches was based on the traditional tri-partite spatial plan, with the chambered wooden towers (bell steeples) characteristic of the Catholic

churches of southern Poland, built on top of or girdling the women's gallery space. Best examples can be seen in Powroźnik, Kwiatów and Owczary, or in free-standing towers in direct proximity of the church, as in the case of the church in Turzańsk. Towards the end of the eighteenth and beginning of the nineteenth century, the merging of different influences of the cultural heritage of East and West led to changes never seen before in the history of Orthodox church building; both structural and architectural, that also impacted the church's internal décor and furnishings. This process ultimately led to the gradual Latinisation of Orthodox architecture, which can best be observed in the churches of Brunary where the traditional tri-partite character of the interior is indistinct.

Susceptibility to external inspirations, progressively influencing the evolution of forms and types, uniquely differentiates the wooden Orthodox churches in the Polish and Ukrainian Carpathians, from Europe's remaining wooden churches, inscribed on the prestigious UNESCO World Heritage List. The contribution of wooden Orthodox churches from the Polish and Ukrainian Carpathians to the development of European wooden architecture cannot be underestimated. The inclusion of wooden Orthodox churches, of the Polish and Ukrainian Carpathian region, which became a reality in June 2013, not only complements and completes the earlier thematic entries, covering wooden sacral monuments, but more precisely shows the multifarious nature and richness of Central and Eastern Europe's cultural heritage. The great success of the application also undoubtedly contributed to the establishment of a closer, more durable relationship between the Polish and Ukrainian communities; keener to appreciate the importance of both nation's centuries old, common cultural heritage. ●

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Wieliczka and Bochnia Royal Salt Mines on UNESCO World Heritage List

(...) He will not easily admire the famous Carrae of the Arabs, near which, according to Pliny, stand buildings of salt blocks bonded with water; or India's Oromenos mountain, where salt blocks are cut as in a rock quarry (to which numerous authors allude in their writings), he who has seen Sarmathian Wieliczka or Bochnia. In both places rock salt is excavated, since populous towns were founded there, and thanks to the huge labour potential. The nearer one is called Wieliczka, some 8000 paces from Kraków, the other, Bochnia, no more than 30,000 paces away, with a very fine castle, where the saltern supervisor, in their tongue 'żupnik', resides (...)¹

Joachim Vadian (1484-1551)

On 23 June 2013, the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, at its 37th session in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, approved the extension of the Wieliczka Salt Mine inscription, to include the Bochnia salt mine and the Saltworks Castle in Wieliczka – historical seat of Kraków's salt mine management which had administered both mines. The site was given the joint name of the Wieliczka and Bochnia Royal Salt Mines. The World Heritage List, created within the framework of UNESCO's 1972 Convention

concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, is the best recognized international list of sites of outstanding value for culture and science and of universal significance for safeguarding the natural and cultural heritage of the world. The List is open. Inscription on it is a special ennoblement and distinction, which many sites aspire to achieve. After 35 years, in 2013, the World Heritage List includes 981 sites in 160 countries: 759 cultural, 193 natural and 29 mixed, cultural and natural sites.

A site can be inscribed independently, as part of a serial property, or by extension of a World Heritage site. In every case, however, the exercise is laborious, requiring the applicant to provide evidence of the site's Outstanding Universal Value and to demonstrate the implementation of a working management system, sufficiently efficient to ensure the permanent preservation of the site's Outstanding Universal Value. The process demands proper preparation of the site as well as elaboration of appropriate documentation. As a whole, it is a complex and by its very nature, interdisciplinary undertaking. Two teams were engaged with preparing the strategy and documentation of the submission for extending the Wieliczka Salt Mine inscription. The first was a monitoring team, which negotiated the strategy and coordination policies, of the different units charged with safeguarding the site. The second, a working group, whose objective was to work

¹ Source: *Dwie najstarsze relacje łacińskie o Żupach Krakowskich z XVI w.* [The oldest two Latin reports on the Kraków Saltworks from the 16th century] (translated into Polish by Anna Smaróń) [in:] "Studia i materiały do dziejów żup solnych w Polsce" [Studies and Materials on the History of Saltworks in Poland], vol. XI, Muzeum Żup Krakowskich Wieliczka 1982, p. 117–134.

on the concept and to formulate the application². Thanks to the efficient organization of this work process, the concepts that emerged and the final document that was prepared and submitted led to the positive end result, while the site management gained a fresh insight into the nature of the site which had an impact on its conservation strategy.

The Kraków Salt Mines – a little bit of history³

The Kraków salt mines made up the largest industrial complex in the time of the First Republic in Poland, and one of the largest in Europe. They operated for close to half a millennium, without substantial organizational changes, in fact right up to the first partition of Poland in 1772; composed of the Wieliczka and Bochnia salt mines, affiliated saltworks, along with the whole salt extraction and

processing infrastructure. Salt sales generated the largest single source of revenue for the Polish state. There is an old Polish saying *“Without Bochna and Wieliczka Poland’s not even worth the tallow candle”*.

Rock salt was discovered in Bochnia in the middle of the 13th century, during the deepening of a saline well. Reworking the well into a mining shaft called for greater skills than local craftsmen possessed, so the Prince of Kraków and Sandomierz, Bolesław the Chaste (1226-1279) brought in the Cistercian monks from Wąchock, granting them mining freedoms and relevant privileges in 1249. This move led to regular rock salt exploitation and processing that began in 1251, as well as the founding of a separate prince’s establishment engaged in the production and sale of salt from the local mine and saltworks. By 1253, it was already known as a saltern and operated under a so called *“żupnik”* or supervisor, directly answerable to the prince.

Regular large-scale mining of the Wieliczka rock salt began in the 1280s. As in Bochnia, so in Wieliczka, developments led to the founding of the town of Wieliczka by Prince Przemysław II in 1290. Shortly thereafter, the Bochnia and Wieliczka salterns were transformed into a single complex, known as the Kraków Saltworks; until the partition of Poland in 1772, when this part of Poland fell under Austrian rule. The establishment was supervised by a *“żupnik”*, an official who managed the entire salt industry, resided in the Saltworks Castle in Wieliczka and was directly answerable to the king, who owned the salterns. At first, the *“żupnik”* administered the salterns as a royal

² The monitoring team included: Professor Antoni Jodłowski, Director, Wieliczka Kraków Salt Mines Museum; Dr Kajetan d’Obyrn, Chairman of the Board, “Wieliczka” Salt Mine S.A.; Krzysztof Zięba, Director, “Bochnia” Salt Mine State Company; and the Director of the National Heritage Board of Poland in Warsaw (a change at the director’s post took place in the course of writing this article). The working group was made up of Andrzej Siwek, National Heritage Board of Poland (project coordinator); Józef Charkot, Wojciech Gawroński, Klementyna Ochciak-Dudek and Dr Józef Piotrowicz from the Wieliczka Kraków Salt Mines Museum; Jarosław Chwałek and Jan Kucharz, “Wieliczka” Salt Mine; Wiesław Kowalczyk and Tomasz Migdas, “Bochnia” Salt Mine, and Anna Marconi-Betka and Dr Katarzyna Piotrowska, National Heritage Board of Poland.

³ The historical section of this article is based on materials prepared by the staff of the Wieliczka Kraków Salt Mines Museum, for submission with the institution’s application to extend the Wieliczka World Heritage List inscription. Working version of the application, “Wieliczka and Bochnia Royal Salt Mines: Proposed Extension of the Wieliczka Salt Mine World Heritage Property, inscribed on the WH List in 1978”. Own materials, unpublished.



Side altar in the Chapel of St Kinga in the Bochnia Salt Mine.

Photo: © 2013 Katarzyna Piotrowska



Impressive wooden casing of the Michałowice Chamber in the Wieliczka Salt Mine.

Photo: © 2013 Katarzyna Piotrowska

official; later he usually leased the mines, paying a regular fee to the royal treasury. He had two deputies, called *podzupek*, one each at Wieliczka and Bochnia.

The development and technical supervision of underground exploitation was in the hands of mine managers, or foremen (*Bergmeisters* in German). These were initially contractors who financed the deepening of the shafts. The practice of private financing of shaft building ended in the second half of the 14th century, when the whole risk of the enterprise was taken on by the owner, that is, the king. During this period the individual mining fields were gradually joined into a single mining complex. The Kraków salt mines were worked by diggers (*stolniki*), furnace-workers, those involved with salt deposit exploration, carpenters and porters. Guilds of diggers and potters started to operate in the mines in the 14th century; in the salterns, workers evaporating salt also set up their own trade organization. From the middle of the 14th century miners suffering accidents were assured health care in miner's hospitals; in Bochnia from 1357 and in Wieliczka from 1363.

The first codification of mining activities in the two mines was issued in 1368 by King Casimir the Great. This "statute", among others, established 60 digging units ("stolnictwa"), each in Wieliczka and in Bochnia and set an annual production cycle, from St Martin's Day (11 November) to Whitsunday (Pentecost), and also required regular accounts from the saltworks. Some of these provisions changed over time. The rulers of Poland exercised their supervisory role as owners, especially in later ages – when the salterns were for the most part leased out – by issuing "Economic regulations for the Kraków Royal Salt Mines". They also appointed royal commissions, which carried out comprehensive reviews of the salt enterprises on site, and where necessary issued appropriate remedial instructions to deal with any shortcomings (several such review protocols have survived). However the "Brief But Reliable Description of the Management System and Current State of the Salt Mines in Wieliczka and Bochnia Around AD 1518" remains the oldest detailed inventory of a mining complex in Europe. The document details the functioning of the two mines, as it evolved up to the beginning of the 16th

century, and remained practically unchanged until the 18th century.

In the first centuries of mining exploitation, employment and production in the two mines remained on a par. By the middle of the 14th century approximately 200 people worked in each mine, and annual salt production oscillated between five and ten thousand tons. By the end of the 15th century the number of workers had grown to 500 people at each mine and annual salt production respectively to about 15,000 tons. Differences in employment levels, and more especially in output, were noted in the second half of the 16th century. Mine capacity and exploitation methods were dependent on the geological structure of the salt beds and natural conditions. The nature of the deposits and the depth at which they were found determined the exploitation method, as well as tools and equipment. Owing to its geological structure, the Bochnia mine was forced to exploit salt beds at considerable depths, thus increasing production costs, chiefly those connected with bringing the mined salt to the surface. By the end of the 16th century the Wieliczka mine employed about 1,000 miners and produced over 15,000 tons of salt per year, while the Bochnia mine had 600 miners producing just 5,000 tons per year. In subsequent centuries, employment and production levels for the two mines remained stable.

Once the salt reserves had been fully exploited, the mines became tourist and health resorts. Surviving records, the old mining galleries, installations and infrastructure are also used for education purposes. The historical value of the two mines and of the Saltworks Castle led to their registration as Historic Monuments of special significance to Polish culture.⁴

⁴ The subterranean galleries of both mines are legally protected by the Act of 23 July on the protection and guardianship of monuments (Journal of Law, 2003, No. 162, item 1568 with later amendments). The underground galleries of the Wieliczka salt mine were registered as a historic monument in the Malopolska province in 1976 (reg. no. A-580 of 2.04.1976), being granted Monument of History status in 1994 (Presidential decree of 8 September 1994, Monitor Polski 1994 no. 50 item 424). The Bochnia subterranean salt mine galleries were registered in 1981 (reg. no. A-238 of 11.12.1981) and granted Monument of History status in 2000 (Presidential decree of 26 September 2000, Journal of the Laws, 2000, no. 93, item 938). The Wieliczka Saltworks Castle received full conservation protection under the law, following its registration as a historic monument in 1988 (reg. no. A-579 of 15.03.1988). The law places supervisory powers for the preservation

Justifying the application for extension of a World Heritage Site – a success strategy

The subterranean salt mining galleries in Wieliczka were inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1978. The inscription encompasses the horizontal galleries and vertical communication and ventilation shafts, from level I through to level V, that is, 218 chambers and 190 complexes of galleries and chambers, at depths from 57 metres to 199 metres. The galleries are from 2,200 metres to 5,500 metres long and from 340 metres to 1,450 metres wide. The Wieliczka salt mine was the first industrial site in the world to achieve this unique status. Despite such a good start, post-industrial heritage is still a relatively weakly represented group on the List. As a rule, objects of this kind are aboveground, classified as cultural industrial landscapes, whereas underground objects, including natural caves, constitute a small group.

Despite this fact, Poland submitted a proposal to inscribe the Bochnia salt mine as an extension of the existing inscription of the Wieliczka Salt Mine and not as a separate inscription, following the adoption of the 1994 "Global Strategy for a representative, balanced and credible World Heritage List", and the current concept of the List⁵. Beside seeking to maintain the diversity of heritage, representing Outstanding Universal Value, the List is aimed at establishing sets representative of given kinds, categories or groups, selected on the basis of a comparative regional and trans-national analysis. That means that if one type of heritage is already listed, then another, of the same or a very similar kind, has an extremely limited chance of being inscribed. This is not to imply that a given site does not have Outstanding Universal Value, but rather that it does not fulfil current inscription criteria established by the World Heritage Committee⁶. Consequently a decision was taken

that the Bochnia salt mine, which is undoubtedly of "outstanding universal value", and merits World Heritage status, could be granted such a status, but only as an extension of the existing Wieliczka salt mine inscription; the history and quality of the two sites gave strong arguments in favour of such an approach.

In its commendation of the Wieliczka salt mine nomination – reviewed in the process of evaluating the Polish government's 1978 justification of the site's inclusion on the World Heritage List – the International Council on Monuments and Sites ICOMOS, an advisory body that evaluates candidatures for the List, justified its position by stating that:

"The salt mines of Kraków furnish the example of a large industrial establishment, administratively and technically well organized, the existence of which has been assured by the process of adaptation since the Middle Ages. The evolution of the mining processes throughout the centuries is perfectly illustrated there, in all their stages, due to the consolidation and conservation of the old galleries with the installations peculiar to each. A complete collection of tools, exhibited inside the mine, constitutes, as such, a valuable and complete material witness to the evolution of mining technology covering a long period of European history."⁷

Despite the much less rigorous nature of the analysis and evaluation of nominations, in force in the early phases of the List's creation, the ICOMOS opinion aptly summarised the essence of the Kraków Saltworks – a huge and extremely well organized industrial establishment that had evolved over the ages, preserved impressive old galleries with peculiar installations as well as a collection of tools. The original evaluation of the importance of the Wieliczka salt mine, from an international perspective, and in view of current requirements with regard to candidate eligibility, formed the basis for justifying the extension of the existing

of historic values of registered monuments in the competence of the Provincial Conservator of Historic Monuments.

⁵ For more information on the subject, go to: <<http://whc.unesco.org/en/globalstrategy/>>

⁶ The 1972 Convention clearly stipulates that the World Heritage Committee, made up of 21 States, elected for terms of several years duration, has the mandate to create and determine criteria for inscription on the World Heritage List (art. 11, section 5). At the same time it accepts the sovereign right of States Parties to determine which

sites are of outstanding universal value (art. 3) and makes it clear that the fact that a site is not inscribed on the List does not mean that the site does not have such outstanding universal value (art. 12).

⁷ Excerpt from the formal review of the nomination for inclusion on the World Heritage List, prepared by ICOMOS in 1978. Access protocol: <http://whc.unesco.org/archive/advisory_body_evaluation/32ter.pdf> [30 November 2013].

inscription. Each nomination submitted today has to prove supranational value and meet integrity and authenticity conditions⁸. The nomination's authors argued that the World Heritage site would be more complete and better meet the conditions of integrity, were it extended. The argument was that not all areas and components determining its Outstanding Universal Value and importance were to be found within its current boundaries. If for no other reason than because the Wieliczka salt mine is – as outlined in the ICOMOS justification – only part of a “large industrial establishment”, and not all the preserved “old galleries with the installations peculiar to each” have been included within its boundary. It was the Kraków Saltworks, of which the two mines were an integral part that made up one of Europe's largest industrial plants to have operated for close to half a millennium. The different character of the two mines, resulting from different salt bed formations and exploitation history, was noted by those visiting the mines over the ages, such as, for example, the 16th century Swiss humanist and professor at the university in Vienna, Joachim Vadian – who praised the spaciousness of the Wieliczka galleries and their mostly horizontal course, in contrast to the largely vertical shafts in the Bochnia mine, a bottomless abyss. Nonetheless it was the addition of the Saltworks Castle that turned out to be the keystone that emphasized the coherence of the organization and functioning of this former industrial enterprise.

The underground salt mines in Bochnia, inscribed on the World Heritage List, as in Wieliczka, include horizontal galleries and vertical communication, ventilation and technical shafts, eight exploitation levels in all, at depths from 70 metres to 261 metres. These galleries are 3,600 metres long, from east to west, and a maximum of 250 metres wide, from north to south. The Saltworks Castle, was the only aboveground feature to be included within the boundaries of the World Heritage Site. Remnants of the earliest, 13th century defences,

can be traced in the present structure, as well as fragments of 14th century architecture, defence walls and the north-western tower, the 15th century House among the Saltworks and the 19th century classicist coach house, with the later upper floor, provided office space for engineers responsible for the mine buildings and installations. Repeated fires, war damage, and rebuilding have, over time, significantly influenced the present day architecture.

What next?

World Heritage Site listing is a huge success, whilst all at once an important international obligation of the State Party – to preserve the site unchanged, as much as possible. On the one hand, World Heritage status honours the cultural achievements of previous generations. On the other hand, it is an important indicator for the future, defining value and highlighting a given site's most significant features; its future directly dependent on effective protection and efficient management.

The nature of the subterranean technical achievements are key to understanding the outstanding character of the salt mines in Wieliczka and Bochnia. For years the mines were managed to procure specific products and generate income. Today, with the mines transformed into tourist attractions, with conservation protection, the objective is to preserve and maintain their character whilst ensuring safety of the mines as well as of the people visiting them. This is being carried out in the face of a constant threat of orogen activity⁹. The specific nature of the underground part of the site means that any change of objectives and work methods is only possible if the character of a mining establishment – operating within a structure determined by the requirements of geological and mining law¹⁰ – is maintained.

⁸ World Heritage listing criteria are set down in the “Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention”. There are ten criteria, which are periodically verified and updated. Besides justifying at least one of the ten criteria, a candidate site must meet conditions of integrity and authenticity, and have effective management (“Operational guidelines”, art. 77 and 78).

⁹ The original salt orogen has largely disintegrated geomechanically. The consequence of a long and intensive exploitation, accelerating the natural closing of old mining galleries (voids left following salt extraction). Underground water entering the galleries through leaking casings of closed or active mining shafts poses the greatest threat. This phenomenon is detrimental to the preservation of post-exploitation chambers, functioning pavements and surfaces, as it weakens the durability of salt beds making up the mine framework and simultaneously increases the geodynamic threat.

¹⁰ Law of 4 February 1994. Geological and mining law (Journal

Responsibility for a World Heritage site lies primarily

with its owners and managers. The underground parts of both mines are state property, whilst the respective institutions charged with their administration and care are the “Wieliczka” Salt Mine S.A., Museum of Kraków Mines in Wieliczka, and the “Bochnia” Mine Salt Co. Ltd. The Saltworks Castle is administered by the Museum of Kraków Mines in Wieliczka, which is a state cultural institution. The process of transforming the Wieliczka industrial mine into a tourist attraction began in 1964, with the ending of salt extraction. Finally in 2007, the “Wieliczka” mining works were transformed into a wholly state-owned company, founded by the State Treasury. The “Wieliczka” Salt Mine Capital Group is made up of the “Wieliczka” Salt Mine Co. Ltd, S.A. and two subsidiaries, The “Wieliczka” Salt Mine Tourist Route Co. Ltd., and The “Wieliczka” Salt Mine Mechanical Unit Co. Ltd.

The “Bochnia” Salt Mine State Company operated

as an industrial unit until the end of the 1980s. It was placed in liquidation by the Minister of Industry once the salt layer had been exhausted. Since then the liquidation process has proceeded in two stages. The first stage involves technically safeguarding the lowest levels of the mine, the second, adapting the historic part of the mine to meet tourist and health needs; in 2013, a company was set up, along the lines of one operating in the Wieliczka mine, as a state-owned commercial entity.

Safety is a key issue for the management of both

mines. The chief source of funding for keeping the mines going, and carrying out maintenance work, are government grants from the minister competent for economy¹¹. However at the same

time the legal protection extended to historic excavation – on the strength of laws governing historic monument protection and guardianship – requires all work to be carried out in accordance with good conservation principles and practices. The principles were worked out in the 80s of the 20th century by museum and mining experts. In 1985 Kraków’s Municipal Office for the Protection of Historic Monuments issued a document, “The Basic Guidelines for the Work of Restoration in the Historic Salt Mine in Wieliczka”, which clearly indicated how to deal with galleries located within the boundaries outlined in the Historic Monuments Register. In 1975–1987 the Kraków Salt Mines Museum completed a comprehensive inventory of the historic galleries. In 1995, the galleries of greatest historic value were selected for preservation¹². Conservation principles were also worked out for the salt mine in Bochnia and drawn up in a study prepared by the Museum of Kraków Salt Mines, “The Historic Mining Galleries in the Bochnia Salt Mine – Historic Monument from a Conservation Perspective”¹³.

Despite years of experience and good substantive

fundamentals, proficient study of source materials, the adoption of effective safety measures and application of quality conservation standards, as well as good organization and effective management of the two historic mines, the authenticity of the two sites is barely satisfactory. In its statement on Outstanding Universal Value¹⁴, which determines the site’s value as well as the most important components of that value, the World Heritage Committee stated that most of the preserved mine structures date from the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries, whereas knowledge of earlier phases is based not so much on direct evidence as on studies

of Laws, 2005, No. 228 item 1947 with later amendments), which established the legal grounds for executing mining works in underground galleries of both mines, determined mining work plans, carried out in keeping with the law, and supervision by the District Mining Office in Kraków, which is responsible for mine safety, and the observation of principles governing the mine’s operation.

¹¹ Law of 30 August 2013 on subsidies for some entities (Journal of Laws, 2013, item 1160) determines the rules for granting budget subsidies, which are a principal source of financing for maintenance work, and the preservation and safeguarding of historic parts of the “Wieliczka” and “Bochnia” mines. The law came into force on 1 January 2014. Until then the financial side of maintaining the two mining works was regulated by the Law of 17 February 2006 on subsidising certain entities (Journal of Laws, 2006, No. 64, item 446). In the case of the “Wieliczka” Salt Mine, the annual state budget subsidy

for decommissioning works and preserving underground galleries is an estimated 80 million zlotys; the sum for the “Bochnia” Salt Mine is of approx. 15 million zlotys p.a.

¹² In the case of the “Wieliczka” Salt Mine, principles adopted earlier were updated and implemented formally, as conservation recommendations issued by the Małopolskie Province Historic Monuments Conservator in 2010.

¹³ The Delegation of the Provincial Office for Monument Protection in Tarnów confirmed the necessity to apply the above mentioned rules in writing.

¹⁴ When inscribing monuments on the World Heritage List, the World Heritage Committee approves a “Statement of Outstanding Universal Value”, which is considered a key document, constituting a reference for all future protection and management decisions concerning the site. This is explained in art. 51 of the “Operational Guidelines”.

of archival materials and reconstructions based on these materials. With these observations in mind, the Committee urged greater caution with regard to architectural conservation and the restoration of historical technical elements. Care should also be taken to avoid inaccurate reconstructions and the risk of over-interpretation of existing remains¹⁵. There is hope that work on the proposal and reflection on the Committee's observations will help to protect the Wieliczka and Bochnia Royal Salt Mines from adverse transformations.

Inscription on the World Heritage List is proof of efficient administration of World Heritage. In the case of sites administered by a number of bodies, the issue of cooperation in the areas of protection, conservation and promotion, remains open. In its decision to extend the inscription, the World Heritage Committee expressed appreciation for the effective protection and successful management of the individual elements of the Wieliczka and Bochnia Royal Salt Mines complex. However, the Committee also pointed to the need to monitor and coordinate the work of all the component units, as well as to the urgent need to set up an appropriate Monitoring and Coordination Group with a clearly defined remit¹⁶. The mines are currently a prime tourist and health resort destination. The Wieliczka salt mine attracts over a million tourists every year, half of these foreigners. The Bochnia mine welcomes an average of 150,000 visitors, of which only 5% are foreigners. This large disproportion stems from differences of access and the technical capacities of the two sites. Extending the inscription on the World Heritage List will certainly raise the mines international profile and increase tourist throughput in both. Cooperation however is the key to developing a joint and coordinated strategy, aimed at facilitating access, and thereby presenting this unique World Heritage site to the widest possible world audience.

Conclusion

Inscription on the World Heritage List is undoubtedly a great honour and international

promotion for a site, highlighting a country's individual contribution to the cultural, economic and social development of the region and the world. It is likewise a huge responsibility and an obligation, taken on by the state, its various services, local-government and managers in charge of preserving world heritage with that much more care, in view of its importance to mankind. Professor Andrzej Tomaszewski recalls the answer of the WHC director who, questioned about UNESCO's financial aid to world heritage sites, concluded that though "Inscription on the World Heritage List may not bring gold, it does give the city fathers and their communities a golden key"¹⁷. This golden key opens a treasure trove of possibilities that come with international recognition of a given site's value and importance. Listing obliges a site to be open and suitably prepared to receive visitors, whose number should grow with the publicity and thus open, in this case before the residents of Bochnia, new chances and opportunities. One should also bear in mind the threats that come with fame. Preserving a site without needlessly changing it, avoiding the temptation to "over conserve" and "over-interpret" something that has already passed the test in terms of quality and general appeal, is well worth the effort. ●

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D. Sc. in architecture and urban studies, specialist in landscape architecture; for many years employed in the Historic Monuments Documentation Centre in Warsaw (now National Heritage Board of Poland); member of the Committee for World Heritage in Poland; member of ICOMOS; author of articles, studies and expertise on the protection of historic monuments and landscape.

¹⁵ Decision of the World Heritage Committee 37COM 8B.41 <<http://whc.unesco.org/en/decisions/5171>> [30 November 2013].

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ After: A. Tomaszewski, "Ku nowej filozofii dziedzictwa" [Toward a New Heritage Philosophy], Międzynarodowe Centrum Kultury [International Cultural Centre], Kraków 2013, p. 300–301.

Workshop for Restorers in Nesvizh

In October 2013 an international workshop was organised in Nesvizh, Belarus, for restorers from Central and Eastern Europe. The project was a joint initiative of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO and the Commission of the Republic of Belarus for UNESCO. The event was co-organised with art schools from Warsaw – Academy of Fine Arts, and from Minsk – Belarusian State Academy of Arts together with the Interacademic Institute of Conservation and Restoration of Art of the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw and Kraków. Funding was provided by the UNESCO Participation Programme, the Ciechanowiecki Foundation Collection at the Royal Castle in Warsaw, and the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage.

The workshop was attended by around 30 young future painting, sculpture and paper conservation experts from Belarus and other countries of the region, and nine eminent Polish conservators, who restore historic objects. The aim of the training was to familiarize participants with modern conservation methods in historic buildings, examples of which are available in Nesvizh and the region, in the fields of: architecture, murals and sculptures, fabric conservation, furniture and wood products, glass, ceramics, metal objects,

restoring traditional craft pieces, oil paintings and the protection and preservation of landscapes and parks. The training program included lectures, workshops and study tours, especially focused on the practical implementation of principles of the 1972 UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. The venue was deliberately chosen for both the National Museum “National Historical and Cultural Museum-Reserve Nesvizh” and the Architectural, Residential and Cultural Complex of the Radziwill Family in Nesvizh, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Cooperation agreement was signed in Minsk between the Belarusian State Academy of Arts and the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw, on the eve of the workshop, with Polish staff in attendance. The Secretaries General of both National Commissions, patrons of the whole event, were also present. Rector of the Belarusian State Academy of Arts in Minsk escorted his Polish guests through a very interesting exhibition, showcasing the achievements of students from various faculties. Painting, sculpture, graphic arts and new media exhibits showed great skill, and engendered optimism as to possible areas of cooperation between the Belarusian and Polish Academies of Art.

Warsaw University Professor Tadeusz Bernatowicz inaugurated the Nesvizh workshops with a lecture on XII-XVIIth century art on the territory of today's Belarus, pointing to the merits of Mikołaj Radziwiłł "Sierotka" who contributed most significantly to the development of art here towards the latter part of the sixteenth century. He founded a castle, church and city, and thereby initiated a European model of art civilization in the area. Proof of the importance of this historical complex is its inclusion on the UNESCO World Heritage List. A presentation of the artistic traditions of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania and its trade ties with Western Europe, proved an appropriate introduction to conservation issues, the main theme of this year's workshops. Staff members of Warsaw's Academy of Fine Arts, Professors Helena Hryszko, Janusz Smaza, and Janusz Mróz presented issues related to the conservation of textiles, and monuments of stone and metal. The workshop covered issues relating to diagnosing an object's condition, the causes and extent of any damage, and risk assessment methods. Classes also included discussions about conservation work guidelines, with due regard to the object's functions, work programme, work log, and conservation documentation. Agnieszka Pawlak and Dr Ewa Świąćka led classes on easel painting and wall painting. Care for museum collections in storage and preventive conservation, numbered among the many other issues covered during the workshops. Professor Jan Marczak presented the various laser technique conservation options, including surface cleaning and the removal of secondary strata. Nanotechnology,

the use of modern portable instruments, such as digital microscopes with a computer and projector link, numbered among numerous other modern conservation techniques, presented during the workshops. Dariusz Subocz, expert in the field of paper conservation, dealt with paper-related technology issues, paper disinfection, and storage systems, but attracted most attention with his presentation on how to secure collections against floods and fires.

All classes ended with a lively discussion and a question and answer session, giving both students and teachers the satisfaction of a job well done, and of the need to meet again. The workshop in Nesvizh, jointly organized with Belarus, undoubtedly initiated a cycle of meetings enabling Polish and Central and East European restorers to exchange experiences, as well as created an opportunity for the exchange of Polish and Belarusian art school students. ●

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The Architectural, Residential and Cultural Complex of the Radziwiłł Family in Nesvizh, inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2005. Photo: © 2013 Tadeusz Bernatowicz



Anamnesis Re-minding

“Herodotus of Halicarnassus here presents his research, so that human events do not fade with time. May the great and wonderful deeds – some brought forth by the Hellenes, others by the barbarians – not go unsung”¹

Herodotus

Without the Rosetta Stone, on which this same text was written down in three ancient languages, we would never have deciphered Egyptian hieroglyphs, not to mention that impressive symbol from the dawn of civilization, found today in the form of the pyramids, which would otherwise remain a mute memorial, built under unknown circumstances. If not for the early discovery of the written word, the Middle Kingdom of China would probably never have built its original civilization. This large area, of many different cultures and traditions, owes a debt of gratitude to the development of the written word, for the sake of Chinese culture and language and a means in which to communicate. Additional examples of the significance of various documents for the development of cultures and important civilizations could be listed here, but even the hermetic and inaccessible language of early medieval Scandinavian Runic societies, is a good example of how important symbols and the ability of writing them down for communication happens to be, for the construction of identity and internal social stability. However, only in the last decade of the 20th century – 20 years after the adoption of the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage – back in early 1992 was the Memory of the World Programme (MoW) created,

¹ Herodotus, *The Histories* [in]: “Landmark Herodotus”, ed. Robert B. Strassler, transl. Andrea Purvis. Random House, 2007.

under the name, accurately identifying its objective, which was, and remains, to protect that part of heritage, in which the memory of the world is to be preserved, and thus that branch of knowledge, identifying whence human being has come from, how culturally diverse we are, and the nature of humankind's common cultural history and civilisation.

In 2013, from among 55 new entries on the international Memory of the World Register, two new Polish collections were added. The first, the "Collections of the 19th century of the Polish Historical and Literary Society / Polish Library in Paris / Adam Mickiewicz Museum", a collection in the making since the 1830's. This collection was listed as a testimony of Poland's role and the unique contribution of its expatriate community during the nineteenth century, and in particular, the role of the Historical-Literary Society, as a centre of intellectual life; so important for the liberation movements of the 19th century, and the intellectual life of Paris of that day. For Poles, however, this collection stands first and foremost as a testimony to the activities of this vital institution in exile, one-of-a-kind, due to its impact on the preservation of Poland's sense of national identity, and the role it played in the recovery of Poland's independence after 123 years of being partitioned. The uniqueness of the Society's collection is also the fact of its continuity, and relevance through the many challenges faced by the expatriate community, up to the present day.

The other Polish entry in the World Register, the twelfth, was the "Peace Treaties (ahdnames) concluded from the mid-15th century to late-18th century, between the Kingdom of Poland and the Ottoman Empire", kept by the Central Archives of Historical Records (AGAD) in Warsaw, as part of the "Warsaw Crown Archives". This collection has thereby been recognized as a collection of exceptional importance to the history of late medieval and early modern times. Polish-Turkish peace treaties are an example of mutual tolerance and the recognition of common values in international relations by radically different states, both from cultural and religious points of view. The first of these treaties was concluded after a period of bloody military campaigns in the 15th century, which brought both parties to both defeat and victory. The reign of Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent was unique, as was that of kings Sigismund the Old and Sigismund Augustus. A work of particular importance is the "Perpetual Peace" treaty, concluded in 1533, which can be seen as a consolidation of an important moment in the development of modern and contemporary international politics, aimed at ensuring lasting peace in relations between states, despite their religious differences. A unique document from this period is also the correspondence of Roxelana, the wife of Sultan Suleiman, with King Sigismund Augustus, after the death of Sigismund the Old; testimony of the unconventional relationship between the Polish and Turkish monarchies.

The enlargement of the Memory of the World Programme Register in 2013 by 55 items inclines one to reflect on the meaning, and

extent, to which it corresponds to the objectives that were at the root of the decision to cooperate internationally in the field of the protection of documentary heritage.

The objective of the Memory of the World Programme are actions aiming at preserving and making accessible the documentary heritage. Like the World Heritage List, created as a result of the proclamation of the 1972 Convention with regard to tangible heritage, thus the Memory of the World Register's primary purpose was also to draw attention to the existence and importance of such documents, often threatened, or inadequately protected. It has been exactly 20 years since the Register's role was defined. It was in Poland, in the town of Pultusk, that during the first meeting of the Memory of the World Programme International Advisory Committee in 1993, a definition of documentary heritage was adopted. This definition includes different types of testimonies: archival documents and fonds, manuscripts held in libraries and museums, prints of special documentary value, inscriptions, audiovisual documents, both digital and analogue.

In 2013, the Advisory Committee of the Memory of the World Programme recommended as many as 55 proposals to be added to the International Register, enlarging it by almost a quarter. One immediately notices the variety of record types. Numerous are the collections and documents of immense importance for societies, equally so the other identifying documents, essential to the formation of states in the modern era. Of such importance for Egypt are the manuscripts of the "Mamluk Qur'an Collection" from 1250-1517, when the Mamluk State was the political centre of Islam, as for the heritage of Russia, the "Laurentian Chronicle" from 1377 onwards. Treasures of similar importance to other states include: an archive of descriptions and travel-related illustrations from the 47 year rule of the Emperor of Brazil, Pedro II (1840-1913); the "Kanjur" – a collection of 1600 Buddhist texts from India and Tibet, written down with ink made of powdered pearls, noble ores and stones; wonderfully illustrated renaissance-period Jewish manuscript from the 15th century Northern Italy, called "Rothschild Miscellany" – a jewel of Israel's cultural heritage, as well as letters of the Chinese Diaspora from the 19th and 20th centuries. Document records of the most important values for different cultural circles and regions of the world have an important universal message to convey, attesting to the rights of societies to self-determination and the expression of their identity.

A distinct group of documents appears among the latest entries, relating to the formulation and defence of human rights. Among them the "Eleanor Roosevelt Archive", of the wife of the President of the United States, consisting of letters, speeches and audiovisual material from 1945-1954; a testimony of years of hard work that ultimately led to the adoption by the United Nations of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948.

The international Memory of the World Register also lists a collection of Czech and Slovak underground publications from the period spanning the years of the Communist regime 1948-1989, as well as the archives of

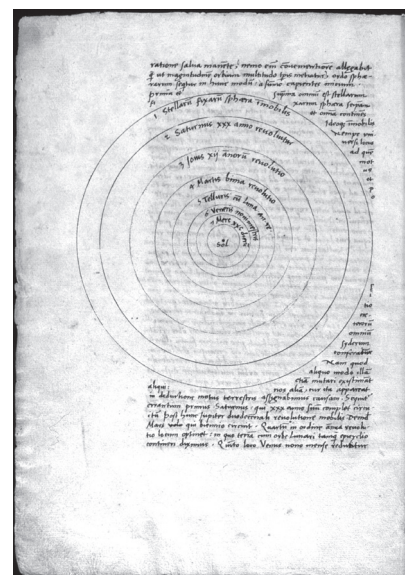
the "CODESA (Convention for a Democratic South Africa)" – documenting the negotiations in South Africa 1991-1992, that led to the abolition of apartheid and the granting of full political rights to the indigenous African population. Among this group of exemplary documents, there is also a Polish entry, namely the "Archives of the Literary Institute in Paris (1946-2000)" that served as a National Library in exile, during a period when Poland had disappeared from the map of Europe.

The Register also contains a group of documents that testify to the events and intellectual currents that are perceived as having influenced the history of the world in an often ambiguous manner. These include manuscripts of "Communist Manifesto" and Volume I of Karl Marx's "Das Kapital", nominated for inclusion jointly by the Netherlands and Germany.

Medieval documents listed on the Memory of the World Register are often extremely important texts, one might say of a "precedential" nature for future legal acts and regulations that have only recently been properly interpreted and developed. The Register has made possible the display of these documents kept in the European archives and on other continents. Among them, two entries deserve a special mention: the Spanish "The Decreta of León" of 1188 and the "Golden Bull" of Emperor Charles IV nominated for inclusion by Austria and Germany. The first is a group of documents that contains the earliest known recorded information on the functioning of a parliamentary system in Europe. It describes this original model of government and administration, within the framework of medieval Spanish institutions, in which the presence of town representatives was formalized at higher decision-making levels, together with the King, the Church hierarchy and the aristocracy, and for the first time, by the election to the Royal Council ("Curia Regia"). The second is an Act establishing rules for the election of the head of the largest European empire of that time – the Holy Roman Empire, by electors from the Empire's constituent countries, which stabilised the political system for several centuries. If one were to recognise negotiations and peace treaties as legal forms of solving international conflicts in the 20th century – in place of military conflicts – then the peace treaties of the early-modern era between Poland and Turkey from the mid-15th to the end of the 18th century, can be seen as precursors in this area.

Another group of medieval and early-modern documents, listed on the Memory of the World Register, include sailors' log books and those of the commanders of maritime expeditions. They were of the utmost importance for a widening view of the world, by the contemporary inhabitants of the Far East and Europe, and influenced the development of both contacts between civilizations and trade, constituting a significant factor in the area's economic development. There are also the diaries of Japanese Admiral Fujiwara no Michinagi – from the second half of the eleventh century, the war diary of Korean Admiral Yi Sun-siu – from the end of the 16th century, and a description of Vasco da Gama's first trip to India, 1497-1499.

Archival entries documenting the works of great artists and inventors are also noteworthy. The Register includes the architectural legacy of



A page from Nicolaus Copernicus "De revolutionibus", featuring the Solar System.

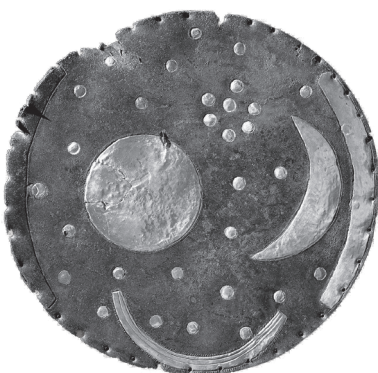
Photo: © Jagiellonian Library in Kraków.

The photograph is published by courtesy of the copyright owner.

Oscar Niemeyer, creator of “the city of the future” – Brasília, as well as the legacy of the jazz music festival in Montreux, Switzerland, where Jazz was actually and symbolically introduced to Europe. The entry includes 5,000 hours of recordings from the years 1967-2011, by the most prominent representatives of this type of music, including a musical audiovisual library – a chronological record of styles and influences. After Chopin, Beethoven and Schoenberg, the World Register was enriched by the legacy of another composer, representing an ancient culture, namely the manuscripts of Aram Khachaturian from Armenia, as well as by a manuscript of the 12th-century epic poem “Knight in the Panther’s Skin”, by the Georgian poet Chota Rustaveli, which had a similarly significant impact on shaping the culture of his people as did the great Romantic poets on the development of Polish culture. The poem also illustrates how the cultures of Georgia, China, India, Persia and Europe have intermingled. Among the entries documenting important scientific discoveries, it is worth mentioning the work of the Canadian Nobel laureates, John James Richard Macleod and Frederick Banting, who invented insulin in 1923.

In the context of the above entries, it is worth looking at some of the existing Polish entries in the Memory of the World Register. The first place undoubtedly goes to Nicolaus Copernicus’ masterpiece “De revolutionibus” manuscript, a significant entry, amongst others due to the large number of determining criteria, including uniqueness, universality, time and social values. A document which by today’s standards we would classify as falling into the domain of human rights is “The Confederation of Warsaw of 28th of January 1573” document, the earliest European legal act establishing the principle of religious tolerance, as an integral part of a country’s political system. Of similar character, though stressing non-acceptance of any violations of those rights, are the wooden tablets of the “Twenty-One Demands, Gdansk, August 1980”, as well as the underground “Warsaw Ghetto Archives (Emanuel Ringelblum Archives)”. In turn, the “Archive of Warsaw Reconstruction Office” (BOS), documents the massive reconstruction effort of Warsaw after World War II, covering the reconstruction of Warsaw’s Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage site, as an example of a uniquely meticulous, near-perfect reconstruction of historical objects destroyed during the barbaric actions of World War II. The “Archives of the Literary Institute in Paris (1946-2000)”, included in the Register in 2009, belong to the group of documents related to the realm of freedom, peace, and conflict-resolution without military action, as does the Polish Library collection, added in 2013.

A remarkable document was added to the Register in 2013, specifically and symbolically related to Nicolaus Copernicus’ achievement, namely the “Nebra Sky Disc”, nominated by Germany. This documental piece represents an exception in the Register, as it is not a written document, but a symbol; a bronze disk, 31 cm in diameter, made around 1600 B.C., using golden marquetry featuring the sun or the full moon, the new moon and the stars. This symbolic piece is tangible evidence of



The Nebra Sky Disc.
 Photo: © Landesamt für
 Denkmalpflege und Archäologie
 Sachsen-Anhalt, Juraj Lipták.
 The photograph is published by
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astronomical observations made at the time, probably significant for concepts associated with the cult of nature. The object was found in Saxony-Anhalt, in Nebra, near Mittelberg by treasure hunters, and thanks to a proficient restoration was then added to the museum collection. One can loosely assume that it represents an understanding of the forces of nature and natural phenomena that gave the impulse for the building of megalithic structures found in England and France. The most famous of these, Stonehenge, is a UNESCO World Heritage site. Nicolaus Copernicus' discoveries were based on observations recorded over many years by his predecessors at the Jagiellonian University. The Nebra find represents one of the earliest examples of such observations, undertaken and documented by man.

The Memory of the World Register, with over 300 entries, is the result of the identification of the most important heritage collections and documents that meet criteria that identify them, as having had a far reaching impact on world history, or as a record of great past events and achievements. Archives around the world, however, include immeasurably more important and valuable artefacts, that demand protection than the Register – albeit constituting an important representation – can ever accommodate. The Register is a means of increasing the attractiveness of such historical documents, providing publicity and arguments for the need to protect other such works. For the most part, these artefacts are not well known, and often enough cannot be made as accessible to the public, in their original form, as e.g. the historical monuments on UNESCO's World Heritage List, so that only a small proportion ever becomes tourist attractions. A key task of the Memory of the World Programme should therefore obviously be to promote and publicise this documentary heritage; its extraordinary qualities and how it testifies to the achievements of peoples and cultures past, lest these be forgotten. Such an effort can be labelled as the maintenance of memory, to avoid forgetting about issues vital to the identity of modern societies; an effort best described as the 'art of anamnesis' – restoring to memory or re-minding. This constitutes yet another dimension of the Memory of the World Programme, which is visible in every country in which the MoW enjoys the proper acknowledgement and the social importance it deserves. "We should practice the art of re-minding (from Greek: anamnesis) every day, for by rescuing the historical evidence of our past we fulfil one of our most important responsibilities as creators and members of the social community." – wrote Jacek Ślusarczyk, artistic director of the International Historic Festival in Wrocław, November 2013. ●

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Kraków

– UNESCO City of Literature

After three years of endeavours, Kraków received the title of UNESCO City of Literature in October 2013 and thereby joined the group of six creative cities in the world bearing the prestigious title, next to Edinburgh, Melbourne, Iowa City, Dublin, Reykjavik and Norwich.

To become a UNESCO City of Literature, the candidate needs to meet a number of criteria linked to the quality and diversity of literary and publishing initiatives. The city should present a creative development vision, embracing numerous forms of creative activities, from literature, through visual arts, film, video games, interactive exhibitions, to cultural tourism. The application calls for the development of a coherent urban strategy, of an ambitious development programme, as well as the presentation of a full variety of publishing and book related projects, that all contribute to a literary city image.

The preparatory work on Kraków's application was co-ordinated by the Kraków Festival Office and included a broad public and international consultation process. The resulting guidelines have become an integral element in a long-term programme that constitutes one of the priorities of the city's cultural policy. Kraków's application was supported by the city Mayor and the Polish National Commission for UNESCO. The application was also examined by an external team of experts who prepared a letter of recommendation for UNESCO's Director-General, who ultimately decided to grant Kraków the title.

Kraków's efforts were also supported by a national and international community of writers, publishers and translators, including, amongst others, Wisława Szymborska, Adam Zagajewski, Derek Walcott, Herta Müller, Mario Vargas Llosa, Amos Oz and Pascal Quignard.



Kraków – UNESCO City of Literature. Photo: © Tomasz Wiech for the Kraków Festival Office

An important step in Kraków's efforts to become UNESCO City of Literature was the "Creative Cities and Regions" conference held in October 2012 with the participation of UNESCO's creative cities in the field of literature, as well as cities in the process of applying for the title. Kraków's advantages include thriving institutions associated with book publishing and reading, and a wealth of international level festivals and literary projects that bring together artists from different generations, among which it is worth mentioning the Czesław Miłosz Literary Festival, the Joseph Conrad Festival, or the Kraków International Book Fair. Since 2011 Kraków is a member of the International Cities of Refuge Network (ICORN), and together with International PEN Writers in Prison Committee the city organized a conference on freedom of expression, which further enhanced Kraków's chances of success.

The title of UNESCO City of Literature is primarily a matter of prestige; an expression of appreciation by international opinion for the city's efforts, potential and literary traditions. Network membership enables the international group of cities to

co-operate on implementing literature related projects, based on creativity and innovation.

UNESCO Creative Cities Network was established in 2004 to promote the cities' economic, social and cultural development. The network presently unites 41 cities that share their experiences and best practices in the field of cultural development, whilst promoting their own economic and cultural industries and thereby creating new development opportunities for their cities.

UNESCO distinguishes creative cities in seven categories: music (Seville, Bologna, Glasgow, Ghent, Bogota, Brazzaville), literature (Edinburgh, Melbourne, Iowa City, Dublin, Reykjavik, Norwich, Kraków), film (Bradford, Sydney), crafts and folk art (Santa Fe, Aswan, Kanazawa, Icheon, Hangzhou, Fabriano, Paducah), design (Buenos Aires, Kobe, Montréal, Nagoya, Seoul, Shenzhen, Shanghai, Berlin, Saint-Etienne, Graz, Beijing), media arts (Lyon, Enghien-les-Bains, Sapporo) and gastronomy (Popayán, Chengdu, Östersund, Zahlé, Jeonju). ●

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Kraków – UNESCO City of Literature. Photo: © Tomasz Wiech for the Kraków Festival Office



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Diversity of
Cultural Expressions

UNESCO 2005 Convention A Tool of Cultural Policy

“Let’s put culture on the agenda now!” – we read in the Hangzhou Declaration of June 2013, adopted by the International Congress of Culture “A Key to Sustainable Development”, that took place not long ago in the Chinese city of the same name. The Congress attempted to answer questions raised in the past few years that increasingly demand to be answered. Are there any modern states who can afford to marginalise culture? Can socio-economic development planning take place without drawing on the benefits of the cultural resource? UNESCO conventions and other documents of international institutions, particularly those of the European Union, clearly show the significance of the wider cultural landscape in shaping development policy. Especially the EU, as it faces the task of creating a harmoniously developing knowledge-based society, where the natural, obvious context is that of the coexistence of many cultures and religions. The increasing role of a roots-based identity becomes increasingly important when it comes to the need to shape attitudes of openness and an acceptance of disparate options. What needs to be stressed, therefore, is the importance of identifying with the local environment in which people live, as the most private, personal and most recognizable; one combining the elements of both tangible and intangible heritage along with the natural environment. Is it possible to advance the cause of a pro-social education and national identity without such awareness; without that sense of local community affiliation, based on named elements that make up an integrated environment, that fulfils every human being’s need for growth? What is needed in order for our modern, global civilization to develop dynamically, is paradoxically, more diversity. Based on

the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and other universally recognized instruments of the United Nations, the UNESCO General Conference resolution, adopting the 2005 Convention addressing the need for the protection of the diversity of cultural expressions, states that “culture takes diverse forms across time and space, and that this diversity is embodied in the uniqueness and plurality of the identities and cultural expressions of the peoples and societies making up humanity”¹.

The Convention recognises “the importance of traditional knowledge as a source of intangible and material wealth, and in particular the knowledge systems of indigenous peoples, and its positive contribution to sustainable development, as well as the need for its adequate protection and promotion”². The significance of culture then, lies in the social cohesion and development role of interaction between cultures, based on freedom of thought, expression and information, as well as media diversity, the importance of linguistic diversity, and the vitality of cultures, including that of minorities and indigenous peoples, “as manifested in their freedom to create, disseminate and distribute their traditional cultural expressions and to have access thereto, so as to benefit them for their own development”³.

The adoption of the Convention in 2005 was the consequence of a process of international activity, based on analyses made by intellectuals from around the world, to determine the role of culture in the modern world, in the widest sense. The key Article 13 states that the “Parties shall endeavour to integrate culture in their development policies at all levels”⁴.

Poland ratified the Convention in 2007. Seven years later the need for publicity and the mobilisation of interested parties remains particularly important to the development of the audiovisual sector, cultural industries, as well as national cultural policy.

It is worth taking a look at the directions cultural policy is taking, as defined by the implementation process of the 2005 Convention, largely dedicated to formulating this policy. An important role in this process was the adoption of the Operational Guidelines in 2009 with the noteworthy subtitle “Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions”, which contributes to a clarification and understanding of the terms used in the Convention. The basic pillars of the idea of promoting diversity of cultural expressions involves culture having a role in development and thus cultural policy playing a part in shaping and implementing development policies at the national and local levels. One must however admit, as in the case of the other conventions, that the implementation of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions is a long-term process, where it happens that the principles of the Convention, as formulated in article 2⁵; are misunderstood by governments and certain milieus all the more so, seeing how this process requires the breaking

down of stereotypes, related to the promotion of national culture and a simultaneous acceptance and promotion of cultural diversity, as defined in article 4⁶.

Valuable aids to understanding the Convention, the area of its application, and the need for effective implementation, can be found by reviewing the Periodic Reports, which in 2013 were presented for the first time by the Member States since the UNESCO Convention came into force. Also deserving special attention is an analysis of the implementation of the cultural policy provisions of the Convention (Article 5)⁷, integrated within the national policies of States and set to strengthen international cooperation. In accordance with Articles 6-8⁸ and the requirements of the respective legal regulations as adopted by individual States Parties, the conservation and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions includes: the creation, production, dissemination, distribution of cultural goods and cultural services and benefits therefrom, the development of cultural industries, the exchange and free flow of ideas and cultural expressions; the encouragement of creativity and entrepreneurship, associated closely with the promotion of artists; respect for intellectual property rights and copyright laws; promoting diversity in the media; equalizing opportunities and assuring access to culture for women, minorities and various social groups, including indigenous peoples, and access to various forms of cultural expressions from other countries. Article 7⁹ of the Convention, requires States to enable various social groups to create, produce, disseminate, distribute and have access to the diversity of cultural expressions.

The inclusion of culture in development policy is an essential element in the strategic planning and implementation of sustainable development. The participation of civil society is an essential element in the creation and implementation of development policy, which as referred to in Article 11¹⁰, is culture-driven. To ensure the participation of culture in the identity-building process, both at national and local levels, whilst recognizing the importance of education in the spirit of tolerance and acceptance of cultural identity, requires an input by the State. Thus Article 10¹¹ requires states to set up appropriate education and training programmes for teachers, in the creative professions, including both formal artistic education and training, as well as teaching systems in the field of cultural industries, and the creation of conditions for their exchange, also in the domain of film.

During a Periodic Reports assessment, a team of UNESCO experts analysed the tools and policies applied to creating favourable conditions for the production and distribution of cultural goods and services – within the cultural industries framework – and identified the following issues: direct grants for the production of indigenous cultural products, support for innovation and the functioning of production infrastructure and individual units, such as companies

or other cultural industry chains, training workshops to improve production and individual business skill levels, tax systems facilitating reinvestment in the area of national manufacturing/production of cultural products, systems encouraging international cooperation. Important issues in the analysis of cultural policies, carried out by individual States Parties to the Convention, include public access to culture, social media and cultural ability levels, participation prospects of minorities, local communities, young men and women, the elderly, as well as efforts to reduce price barriers, such as VAT rate reductions (as in the EU and EU Member States). International exchange participation levels were also evaluated, with a particular focus on the importance of the mobility of artists and culture-sector professionals, particularly in the South, and a balanced flow of cultural goods and services. The Intergovernmental Committee assigns great importance to the implementation of Article 21 of the Convention¹² which deals with cooperation efforts within the framework of international and regional organizations. Of particular interest are dialogues at ministerial level in the EU, the Euromed Partnership and the Eastern Partnership, as well as within the Visegrad Group. In the case of trade agreements – as they relate to preferential terms for industry at the bilateral, regional and multilateral levels, aimed at facilitating market access for emerging economies – the European Union serves as a useful example with the “Protocol on Cultural Cooperation”, that promotes the principles of the 2005 Convention and its implementation in the context of bilateral trade negotiations. The Protocol provides for the exclusion of audiovisual services from regional or bilateral trade negotiations, leaving them to be dealt with under separate agreements (e.g. EU-Central America Association Agreement, EU-US trade negotiations).

The European Union, recognizing the major role of the 2005 Convention in shaping development policies in a spirit of creativity and diversity, ratified it as an international organization, in addition to the 126 States Parties to the Convention.

An important implementation issue of the 2005 Convention relates to the participation of cultural industries in sustainable development, in particular those contributing to economic development and the achievement of a dignified life. Worthy of note are some of the tools used by governments of several States Parties to support the development of entrepreneurship in areas such as: marketing assistance and promotion; start-up assistance and in the first development phase of micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises in the cultural sector; help with the implementation of art projects; initiatives aimed at strengthening the human capital base of cultural industries. Poland has in this instance been held up as an example with its “National Development Plan 2007-2013” and the “Poland 2030” document, which stresses the importance of culture in sustainable development.

Supporting creativity is a prerequisite for the creation and development of basic values in art and culture, whilst vital to the implementation of this objective is art education in schools, including adult and social education, both formal and informal, in cultural centres – at national and local levels – as well as in various non-governmental organisations and religious centres, library networks and other social institutions, with a particular focus on small towns. In evaluating educational programmes and education programmes for teachers in the creative professions, equal attention was paid to both the formal artistic education, and training systems, used in the cultural industries. Policies and the tools applied in the context of creating the conditions for the production and distribution of cultural goods and services, in the framework of the cultural industries, were also analyzed. The following examples often recurred: direct grants for the production of indigenous cultural products; support for innovation and the functioning of production infrastructure as well as individual units – such as companies or other cultural industry entities; training workshops, raising skill levels in the production and individual business fields; tax systems facilitating reinvestment in the area of national craft industries.

An important issue noted by experts evaluating the Periodic Reports, was the participation of civil society in the process of the Convention's implementation. Existing international organizations, such as the members of the International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity IFCCD and, above all, the European – International Coalition for Cultural Diversity, should attract the involvement of the Polish non-governmental organizations, whose aims are in line with those of the 2005 Convention. One of such organizations in Poland is, set up in 2009, Citizens of Culture Movement, whose goal, as indicated by the experts mentioning the Movement's activities among the good practices examples, is to ensure universal and equal access to cultural life for all, with due regard to the increasing availability of culture in small towns, and growing civic awareness. The movement's effectiveness in involving the government in cultural affairs was highly rated by way of, among others, the signing of the "Cultural Pact" by the Prime Minister in 2011.

The assessment of Periodic Reports brought the issue of building awareness of the important role of culture in economic development processes, and its impact on GDP growth, to the fore. The rationale for the development of suitable indicators, to estimate the actual impact of cultural policy, pursued at various levels, was stressed, as well as the importance of allocating appropriate public funds, in accordance with the objectives of the cultural sector. The link between culture and trade in international negotiations was examined, including problems with market access, the lack of cross-sector coordination in decision-making at government level, the fragmentation of competences in the public sector, and the insufficient level of public-private partnerships; the dissemination

of Convention aims via various media, especially as a means of reaching various civil society organizations. The role of National Commissions for UNESCO in the process was also noted.

In accordance with Article 12 and 14¹³, seeing the great need to create conditions for dialogue and cooperation on economic development and poverty reduction, the 2005 Convention places special emphasis on international cultural cooperation and the exchange of cultural goods, activities based on, among other areas, the development of local cultural industries, related to local intangible heritage, and access to the global market and international distribution networks, supporting creative work and facilitating the mobility of artists and cultural operators, especially in developing countries. Aid assistance can play a significant supportive role within the cooperation framework between developed and developing countries, among others in the audiovisual industry, music and cinema, as well as the performing arts. The International Fund for Cultural Diversity was formed to this end (a multi-donor fund, i. a. from voluntary contributions by Member States) and 1,288,805 USD was allocated in 2013 to financing projects (up to 100,000 USD each) in developing countries. An analysis of project funding criteria clearly indicates the Intergovernmental Committee's funding preferences, which among others include: culture as a development engine, the participation of the audiovisual industry in the economy, the development of an audiovisual micro-industry, supporting the creativity and cultural industries at the local level, management and marketing training, supporting local community women's entrepreneurship and creating opportunities for local business start ups. The Fund's main objective is to support projects leading to structural improvements, through the introduction and development of policies and strategies, having a direct impact on the creation, production, distribution and access to the diversity of cultural expressions, and strengthening of an institutional infrastructure; prerequisites for the development of cultural industries, both at local and regional levels. The principle behind setting up the Fund and the funding of projects from accumulated resources, largely determine the current policy of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of Diversity of Cultural Expressions, in accordance with the spirit of the 2005 Convention. Though the Convention does not foresee the creation of corresponding lists – as is in the case of the 2003 Convention¹⁴ or of the World Heritage List created in accordance with the 1972 Convention¹⁵ – the Fund's policy, similarly to the directives on the protection of sites and elements inscribed on the above mentioned Lists, shapes the protection, promotion and development principles of the cultural heritage created today and in the past. The Fund's main objective is the financial support of projects leading to structural change, through the introduction and development of policies and strategies that directly impact the creation, production, distribution and access

to diverse cultural expressions, including cultural goods, services and cultural activities, as well as by strengthening institutional infrastructure, key to the development of cultural industries, both at local and regional levels.

As stated in the documents adopted in 2013, at the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the 2005 Convention, and from the moment of its proclamation, the Convention has been playing a growing role in providing answers to the challenges of the new millennium. The promotion of an integrated approach to cultural policy – with due regard to different value systems and cultural management structures that include both government institutions and non-governmental organizations – requires the creation of conditions that meet both individual needs and those of social groups, minorities and local communities, as well as actions to overcome barriers arising from cultural diversity. The implementation of a development vision, in which culture fulfils a vital role in driving the national economy, contributes to social cohesion, which in effect influences the quality of life, requires the cooperation of various government departments and institutions. There is thus a need to develop new forms of cooperation, bilateral and multilateral, aimed at promoting cultural industries and creativity, in order to facilitate their participation in the global circulation of cultural goods and services. At the international level cultural exchanges simplify procedures and facilitate the mobility of artists and cultural actors. Ultimately, they represent the main link in the whole process of creation and circulation of cultural goods. Respect for creative individuality, both of individuals and social groups, is a fundamental principle, key motivator for the development of the 2005 Convention. Hence, the term “diversity” which became the leitmotif for all policy actions in the sphere of culture, in most of the submitted reports. The most frequently mentioned policies and measures for the implementation and promotion of creativity include: direct financial support of artists, legislation on the status of artists, development support system to help young artists, facilitating the mobility of artists, providing jobs and lodging, improving copyright enforcement. A new challenge in the making relates to the sharing and distribution of cultural products in digital form. The universal availability of such products on the Internet makes this a particularly difficult problem to solve, all the more so as respect for copyright laws provides this creative sector with the means to survive and prosper.

Full implementation of the 2005 Convention requires a continuous effort to find answers to newly emerging challenges linked, among others, to the development of new communication technologies. The most important and increasingly current conclusion however remains that in today’s world there is no development without creativity, born of a dialogue and respect for cultural diversity. ●

Prof. Sławomir Ratajski

¹ The UNESCO Convention on the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions, <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/culture/themes/cultural-diversity/diversity-of-cultural-expressions/the-convention/convention-text/>

² Ibid

³ Ibid

⁴ Article 13 – Integration of culture in sustainable development. Parties shall endeavor to integrate culture in their development policies at all levels, for the creation of conditions conducive to sustainable development and, within the framework, foster aspects relating to the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions.

⁵ Article 2 – Guiding principles

1. Principle of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms

Cultural diversity can be protected and promoted only if human rights and fundamental freedoms, such as freedom of expression, information and communication, as well as the ability of individuals to choose cultural expression, are guaranteed. No one may invoke the provisions of this Convention in order to infringe human rights and fundamental freedoms as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights or guaranteed by international law, or to limit the scope thereof.

2. Principle of sovereignty

States have, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to adopt measures and policies to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions within their territory.

3. Principle of equal dignity of and respect for all cultures

The protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions presupposes the recognition of equal dignity of and respect for all cultures, including the cultures of persons belonging to minorities and indigenous peoples.

4. Principle of international solidarity and cooperation

International cooperation and solidarity should be aimed at enabling countries, especially developing countries, to create and strengthen their means of cultural expression, including their cultural industries, whether nascent or established at local, national and international levels.

5. Principle of the complementarity of economic and cultural aspects of development

Since culture is one of the mainsprings of development, cultural aspects of development are as important as its economic aspects, which individuals and people have the fundamental right to participate in and enjoy.

6. Principle of sustainable development

Cultural diversity is a rich asset for individuals and societies. The protection, promotion and maintenance of cultural diversity are an essential requirement for sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations.

7. Principle of equitable access

Equitable access to a rich and diversified range of cultural expressions from all over the world and access of cultures to the means of expressions and dissemination constitute important elements for enhancing cultural diversity and encouraging mutual understanding.

8. Principle of openness and balance

When States adopt measures to support the diversity of cultural expressions, they should seek to promote, in an appropriate manner, openness to other cultures of the world and to ensure that these measures are geared to the objectives pursued under the present Convention.

⁶ Article 4 – Definitions

For the purposes of this Convention, it is understood that:

1. Cultural diversity

“Cultural diversity” refers to the manifold ways in which the cultures of groups and societies find expression. These expressions are passed on within and among groups and societies.

Cultural diversity is made manifest not only through the varied ways in which the cultural heritage of humanity is expressed, augmented and transmitted through the variety of cultural expression, but also through diverse modes of artistic creation, production, dissemination, distribution and enjoyment, whatever the means and technologies used.

2. Cultural Content

“Cultural Content” refers to the symbolic meaning, artistic dimension and cultural values that originate from or express cultural identities.

3. Cultural expressions

“Cultural expression” are those expressions that result from the creativity of individuals, groups and societies, and that have cultural content.

4. Cultural activities, goods and services

“Cultural activities, goods and services” refers to those activities, goods and services, which at the time they considered as a specific attribute, use or purpose, embody or convey cultural expressions, irrespective of the commercial value they may have. Cultural activities may be an end in themselves, or they may contribute to the production of cultural goods and services.

5. Cultural Industries

“Cultural Industries” refers to industries producing and distributing cultural goods or services as defined in paragraph 4 above.

6. Cultural policies and measures

“Cultural policies and measures” refers to those policies and measures relating to culture, whether at the local, national, regional or international level that are either focused on culture as such or are designed to have a direct effect on cultural expressions of individuals, groups or societies, including the creation, production, dissemination, distribution of and access to cultural activities, goods and services.

7. Protection

“Protection” means the adoption of measures aimed at the preservation, safeguarding and enhancement of the diversity of cultural expressions.

“Protect” means to adopt such measures.

8. Interculturality

“Interculturality” refers to the existence and equitable interaction of diverse cultures and the possibility of generating shared cultural expressions through dialogue and mutual respect.

⁷ Article 5 – General rules regarding rights and obligations

1. The Parties, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations, the principles of international law and universally recognized human rights instruments, reaffirm their sovereign right to formulate and implement their cultural policies and to adopt measures to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions and to strengthen international cooperation to achieve the purpose of this Convention.

2. When a Party implements policies and takes measures to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions within its territory, its policies and measures shall be consistent with the provisions of this Convention.

⁸ Article 6 – Rights of Parties at the national level

Article 7 – Measures to promote cultural expressions

Article 8 – Measures to protect cultural expressions

⁹ Article 7 – Measures to promote cultural expressions

1. Parties shall endeavor to create in their territory an environment which encourages individuals and social groups:

(a) to create, produce, disseminate, distribute and have access to their own cultural expressions, paying due attention to the special circumstances and needs of women as well as various social groups, including persons belonging to minorities and indigenous peoples;

(b) to have access to diverse cultural expressions from within their territory as well as from other countries of the world.

2. Parties shall also endeavour to recognise the important contribution of artists, others involved in the creative process, cultural communities, and organizations that support their work, and their central role in nurturing the diversity of cultural expressions.

¹⁰ Article 11 – Participation of civil society

Parties acknowledge the fundamental role of civil society in protecting and promoting the diversity of cultural expressions. Parties shall encourage the active participation of civil society in their efforts to achieve the objectives of this Convention.

¹¹ Article 10 – Education and public awareness

Parties shall:

a) encourage and promote understanding of the importance of the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions, *inter alia*, through educational and greater public awareness programmes;

b) cooperate with other Parties and international and regional organizations in achieving the purpose of this article;

c) endeavor to encourage creativity and strengthen production capacities by setting up educational, training and exchange programmes in the field of cultural industries. These measures should be implemented in such a manner which does not have a negative impact on traditional forms of production.

¹² Article 21 – International Consultation and coordination

Parties undertake to promote the objectives and principles of this Convention in other international forums. For this purpose and, Parties shall consult each other, as appropriate, bearing in mind these objectives and principles.

¹³ Article 12 – Promotion of international cooperation

Parties shall endeavour to strengthen their bilateral, regional and international cooperation for the conditions conducive to the promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions, taking particular account of the situations referred to in Articles 8 and 17, notably in order to:

(a) facilitate dialogue between Parties on cultural policy;

(b) enhance public sector strategic and management capacities in cultural public sector institutions, through professional and international cultural exchanges and sharing of best practices;

(c) reinforce partnerships with and among civil society, non-governmental organizations and the private sector in fostering and promoting the diversity of cultural expressions;

(d) promote the use of new technologies and encourage partnership to enhance information sharing and cultural understanding, and foster the diversity of cultural expressions;

(e) encourage the conclusion of co-production and co-production agreements.

Article 14 – Cooperation for development

Parties shall endeavour to support cooperation for sustainable development and poverty reduction, especially in relation to the specific needs of developing countries, in order to foster the emergence of a dynamic cultural sector by, *inter alia*, the following means:

a) the strengthening of the cultural industries in developing countries through:

- (i) creating and strengthening cultural production and distribution capacities in developing countries;
- (ii) facilitating wider access to the global market and international distribution networks for their cultural activities, goods and services;
- (iii) enabling the emergence of viable local and regional markets;
- (iv) adopting, where possible, appropriate measures in developed countries with a view to facilitating access to their territory for the cultural activities, goods and services of developing countries;

(v) providing support for creative work and facilitating the mobility, to the extent possible, of artists from the developing world;

(vi) encouraging appropriate collaboration between developed and developing countries in the area, *inter alia*, of music and film;

b) capacity-building through the exchange of information, experience and expertise, as well as the training of human resources in developing countries, in the public and private sectors, relating to, *inter alia*, strategic and management capacities, policy development and implementation, promotion and distribution of cultural expressions, small-, medium- and micro-enterprise development, the use of technology, and skills development and transfer;

c) technology transfer through the introduction of appropriate incentive measures for the transfer of technology and know-how, especially in the areas of cultural industries and enterprises;

d) financial support through:

- (i) the establishment of an International Fund for Cultural Diversity, as provided in Article 18;
- (ii) the provision of official development assistance, as appropriate, including technical assistance, to stimulate and support creativity;
- (iii) other forms of financial assistance, such as low interest loans, grants and other funding mechanisms.

¹⁴ The UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage. ./. <http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich/index.php?lg=en&pg=00006>

¹⁵ The Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, <http://whc.unesco.org/en/conventiontext/>.

Intercultural Education Workshops for Teachers

In 2013, as in previous years, we continued to develop the intercultural education project “In the World of Islam”, initiated by the Polish National Commission for UNESCO in 2005 and continuously developed since then. Last year, two more regional workshops were organized on intercultural education for teachers at all levels of the school education system (primary and secondary, lower and upper), this time for the Warmian-Masurian and Lublin regions. The two-day classes (day of lectures and workshop day) held April 12-13, 2013 at the Warmian-Masurian Teacher Training Centre in Olsztyn attracted forty two participants, whilst a gathering at the Teacher Training Centre

in Lublin, October 18-19 2013, was attended by 93 teachers.

From the start of this phase of the project in 2010 we have already managed to organize seven regional workshops, for a total of more than 500 teachers. Previous events took place in November 2010 in Białystok for the Podlasie region, in April 2011 for the Lubusz region, in October 2011 for the Silesian region in March 2012 for the Podkarpacie region, and in November 2012 for West Pomerania.

Classes consist of a day of lectures and a practical workshop day, devoted to Islamic culture and the problems of multiculturalism in a school



Classes during regional workshops of intercultural education for teachers in Olsztyn (April 2013) and Lublin (October 2013).
Photo: © 2013 Ilona Morżoń

environment. During the project, the Polish National Commission for UNESCO works closely with professors and young members of the academic staff of the Faculty of Oriental Studies at the University of Warsaw, the Faculty of Psychology at the Jagiellonian University and of the Warsaw School of Economics.

The running of regional workshops for teachers – both in this and in previous years – was made possible thanks to the financial support of the Ministry of National Education. Further two workshops are planned in 2014 for the Lower Silesian and the Kuyavian-Pomeranian regions.

In previous years, within the “In the World of Islam” project, we organised: 27 workshops for the UNESCO Associated Schools Project in Poland with the participation of more than 900 students (2005–2008), two-day workshops for Polish teachers of Associated Schools (Warsaw, 2008), two-day workshops for teachers from the Baltic states, as well as from Ukraine and Belarus (2009), the publication of teaching materials for the “In the World of Islam” project (2007) and their expanded English version (2009).

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Libyan Journalists on a Study Visit to Poland

The Polish National Commission for UNESCO together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Free Word Association (*Stowarzyszenie Wolnego Słowa*), organised a study tour for six Libyan journalists, involved in the socio-political transformation that began after the overthrow of Muammar Gaddafi’s regime. The purpose of the visit was to get acquainted with the modern Polish media market, and acquire a better understanding of the role, mechanisms and function of the press, radio and television in a democracy. Finally

to obtaining an understanding of the Polish experience following the transformation period of the 1990s towards the end of the twentieth century. The Libyan journalists were in Poland from 27 November to 8 December 2013.

The project was made possible thanks to the support of UNESCO in Paris, within the framework of the Participation Programme, as well as with the help of the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which funded the participants travel expenses. The group included press and television journalists



Libyan journalists visiting Białystok (left) and in the National Opera building in Warsaw. Photo: © 2013 Ilona Morzół

from Tripoli and Benghazi: Ahmad Muftah Saad (journalist at the «Alwatan» newspaper), Abdel Aziz Said Saleh Al Kazani (journalist at the «Fezzan» newspaper), Maher Salem Mouemen Bou Bakir (speaker on the “Libya International” channel), Najwa Ohaiba and Khaled Said (both announcers on the “Al Nabaa” television Channel), and Mohamad Fathi Abdulgader (announcer on Libya’s national TV channel).

The Libyan journalists study visit was divided into two stages: a 9-day stay in Warsaw and a 3-day stay in Podlaskie Voivodeship – the most multicultural Polish region. In Warsaw, the guests followed a program of meetings and talks in the capital’s editorial press, radio and television offices, as well as at government institutions and non-governmental organizations. They also attended meetings with the editorial and management teams of television channels: TVP-Info, TVN, Polsat, radio stations: Polish Radio 1, Radio TOK FM, Catholic Radio Warszawa-Praga, the IAR or Radio News Agency (*Informacyjna Agencja Radiowa*) and newspapers: «Gazeta Wyborcza» (GW), «Rzeczpospolita» and the weekly «Polityka».

They also visited and held talks at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Polish National Commission for UNESCO, the National Broadcasting Council (*Krajowa Rada Radiofonii i Telewizji*) and the Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights (HFHR). The participants expressed great interest in the activities of the last two institutions – KRRT and HFHR – because of the lack of such equivalent institutions in Libya.

Meetings and talks were also held with people connected with the democratic opposition from the period of Poland’s political transformation.

In Warsaw, the group of Libyan journalists also visited the Old and New Towns, Warsaw Cathedral, the church of Saint Stanislaus Kostka, and the grave of Fr. Jerzy Popiełuszko, the mosque construction site, Warsaw’s Royal Castle, the Łazienki Park, and the Warsaw Uprising Museum, where they were especially moved by the showing of the documentary film “City of Ruins”. Thanks to the kindness of the Director of the National Opera in Warsaw, the group visited the National Opera building and watched a modern ballet performance.

During December 4-6 the Libyan journalists visited Białystok and the Podlasie Voivodeship, where they learned about the workings of both public and private local media. Visits included: the editorial offices of the local Białystok edition of the «Gazeta Wyborcza» daily newspaper, Polish Radio Białystok, and private radio stations JARD and Radio Racja (as in ‘right’ or ‘reason’) – an independent radio station broadcasting from Białystok in Belarusian, which aroused particular interest among the visitors. A special meeting with the spokesmen of the Mayor of Białystok was devoted to the city’s information policy of and their contacts with the media.

On the last day of their stay in the Podlasie region our Libyan guests visited Bohoniki – the home of Polish Tatars since the seventeenth century. During a traditional lunch, prepared by one of the residents of Bohoniki, they met the local Muslim community and the imam Aleksander Bazarewicz, who recounted the history of the Tatar settlement on Polish territory, dating back to the fourteenth century, and the current multicultural reality of the Białystok region. Our Libyan guests also took part in Friday prayers at Bohoniki’s historic mosque.

During their numerous visits to newsrooms, both in the capital and in Białystok, the Libyan journalists gave several interviews, broadcast live or recorded for later broadcasting, among others for TV Polsat, Radio Racja and Radio JARD.

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Euro-Arab Dialogue Conference “Our Commonly Shared Values” held in Algarve

During November 25-26 a conference was held under the banner of “Our commonly shared values” in the Portuguese town of Algarve, organized within the framework of the Euro-Arab Dialogue Initiative – an international project organised at the behest of UNESCO National Commissions. The conference was devoted to the preparation of the concept and initial scenario for an educational

toolkit, promoting the Euro-Arab Dialogue. The meeting, funded by the MBI Al Jaber Foundation, was attended by representatives of UNESCO’s National Commissions and experts from Algeria, Yemen, Kuwait, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Tunisia, Greece, Germany, Norway, Poland and Portugal, as well as representatives from UNESCO’s Paris based Secretariat. Mr Éric Falt, Assistant Director-General



Participants of the Conference on Euro-Arab Dialogue “Our Commonly Shared Values” in Algarve (Portugal), 25-26 November 2013. Photo: © MBI Al. Jaber Foundation

for External Relations and Public Information, and Carolyn Perry Director of the Al Jaber Foundation participated in the conference. Poland was represented by two experts: Professor Halina Grzymala-Moszczyńska from the Jagiellonian University (UJ) in Kraków, and Ms Ilona Morżoń, coordinator of the Euro-Arab Dialogue Project in the Polish National Commission for UNESCO. Professor Halina Grzymala-Moszczyńska chaired one of the three round-table discussions during the second day of the conference, devoted to the substantive content of the planned toolkit. The other two discussed strategy, namely to identify the groups to which the kit – as an educational tool – should be addressed, as well as about the choice of tools that are already available in individual countries, and potentially useful to the kit's development.

The plenary day session – preceding the round-table discussions – included a reminder of the twelve-year history of the E-A Dialogue initiative, launched in 2001, during the 46th session of the International Conference on Education in Geneva, to promote dialogue and mutual understanding through education, exchange of experiences and the development of cooperation between Arab countries and Europe. The most important stages in the development of this initiative were duly presented, including plans for a comparative study of history textbooks from Arab and European countries, an initiative to develop co-operation between schools of the Associated Schools Project Network (ASP) and UNESCO Clubs from both regions, the establishment in January 2010 of a Task Force of the National Commissions for

UNESCO for E-A Dialogue in order to revive the initiative and develop an action plan for the future, and finally a Conference in Vienna in May 2012 entitled "Euro-Arab Dialogue: Contribution to a New Humanism".

The Algarve conference adopted a work plan on the education kit for the coming year to include the appointment of an editorial team, composed of a small group of expert-educators, responsible for collecting, assessing and reporting on the substantive content of materials received from member countries. Professor Halina Grzymala-Moszczyńska was invited to join this expert group. A draft version of the education kit should be presented at the next E-A Dialogue conference. ●

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Conference session on the Euro-Arab Dialogue "Our Commonly Shared Values" in Algarve (Portugal), 25-26 November 2013. Photo: © MBI Al. Jaber Foundation



Prof. Halina Grzymala-Moszczyńska summing up the workshop session. Photo: © MBI Al. Jaber Foundation



Contemporary Man In Dialogue With The Environment?

Following numerous reports on the reckless clearing of tropical forests, climate change or the growing mountain of waste floating over the ocean, it is only natural to ask whether contemporary man can be in dialogue with the environment. While considering a plausible answer, it is reasonable to begin with the first part of the question, i.e.: What does it mean to be in dialogue? An Encyclopaedia definition suggests that “Dialogue is a conversation between two entities on a shared topic”.

The world's largest organisation dealing with man's relationship with the environment – The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) – has adopted two ancient Peruvian figurines, representing dialogue, as a symbol for its committee of experts on education. Both identical, they reflect an equal partnership, facing each other in a posture suggestive not only of a conversation, but also of a keenness to listen. A dialogue that involves listening, as well as an ability to respond to the other's message, is what is needed between man and the environment.

Contemporary man's inability to dialogue with the environment may also imply that people who came before were capable of such dialogue, and that it is us, the people of today, who have lost that ability. Is this true? Let us attempt an answer, by investigating what

happened on Easter Island. A small Pacific Ocean island, devoid of any forest, 2,000 kilometres from the nearest mainland, coveted by tourists, ready to forget the high costs of getting there to admire human-like statues carved in stone, or rather volcanic tuff. The task of erecting these statues, along the coast long ago, required enormous effort from a mysterious civilisation long gone. Scientists have tried to re-create the Island's history and to learn the cause of the disappearance of its residents – the founders of these gigantic sculptures. An examination of pollen layers, at the bottom of the island's water reservoirs, indicates that the first inhabitants, probably from Polynesia, arrived on a densely forested island around 500 A.D. The first white man to reach the island was Captain Jacob de Roggeveen, on Easter Sunday 1722, onboard a tall Dutch ship. At the time he could see fields and substantial forests, and the local inhabitants who greeted him, seemed to be well fed. A mere half a century later, when the famous Captain James Cook arrived on the Island in 1774 – already known as Easter Island – he found the inhabitants well worn and forests thinned, though the huge statues were already standing. These had been transported from quarry to shore, rolled down on tree trunks. By the early 19th century no single tree survived. There was no timber, not even to build boats to leave the Island. Famine was prevalent, since no crops could be grown, deforestation having left the soil unprotected against erosion; washed away from fields to sea by rain water, whilst a lack of any tree shadow caused the soil to dry out. The islanders themselves were responsible for their sad end; unable to resist destroying the last tree, unwilling to stop building their majestic statues, blind to ongoing environmental changes, and an inevitable disaster, that after all, did not happen overnight.

The history of Easter Island is a warning that tells us what could threaten the entire Earth, should people neglect environmental feedback, the consequence of uncontrolled consumption and an inevitable depletion of natural resources; a possible interpretation of man's dialogue with the environment. The environment sends numerous warning signals, and while people often suffer the consequences, do they actually respond? These messages include a drastically decreasing fish catch that alarms fishermen and researchers alike, and includes the once widespread Baltic cod, or air quality, shrinking drinking water reserves, or soil pollution. These also include the disappearance of so many species from the face of our planet, preceded by a rapid decrease of their respective populations. Climate change however remains the most spectacular message of all, because all of us feel the consequences. The above list of 'alarming messages' is by no means exhaustive. People have many response options, depending on the particular threat, be it a temporary fishing moratorium, or the setting of catch limits, and then complying with them, in order to allow the over-fished species to recover; the installation of water treatment plants, or the banning of hazardous

substances. A possible response to an observed decrease of a species' population is to add it to IUCN's Red List of Threatened Species, to encourage the adoption of protective measures in good time.

But in order to dialogue with the environment, one has first to get to know the partner by 'listening' to the way nature functions. A relatively new branch of science, has since as late as the second half of the 19th century, been dealing with the study of laws governing the relationship between living organisms (which inevitably includes us, people) and the environment. In 1869, Ernst Haeckel, a zoology professor at the University of Jena called it ecology. Ecology, in a nutshell, is the investigation of all that assures the preservation of a dynamic balance of the complex network of life, dependent on a continuous energy supply from the Sun, all at once limited by a finite supply of the building blocks of all organisms, and space. Not unlike Easter Island, life on 'Spaceship Earth' cannot count on any external replenishment of its resources; uniquely green plants use direct solar energy, within this network of interdependencies. Animals absorb it from plants – unable to draw it directly – in their turn to be eaten by other animals. And thus, energy from the sun, is transferred via the eaters to those that eat them, further along down the food chain. In this process, known as the circulation of matter, the death of one group of organisms generates elements that are reclaimed by a group of micro organisms, to be absorbed by plants, and thereby recycled in a process, that unlike mankind's activities, knows no waste.

People are obviously fully dependant on plants and animals for their food, while what we eat rarely reminds us of any living organism. Since space is limited, it is also an object of competition between the species. As the human species, we are ruthless in this respect, seizing the living space of other species, not always to our benefit, as we shall see later. Humanities expansion is visible in all environments: on land, in fresh and salty waters, while our own knowledge of dialogue with nature, which could help us determine "how far we should go", still remains wanting. And even when we have it, it is in practice often ignored. And even when we become roughly aware of a natural process, we prefer to respond once we detect symptoms of a balance threatened or distorted. This process of listening to environmental warning signals is called natural monitoring. The very listening, in the literal meaning of the word, to nature's voice, can in this instance be regarded as a catalyst that initiated contemporary man's dialogue with the environment on an international scale. It was Rachel Carson, American scientist and populariser of natural science, whose concern about the lack of spring trills and warbles in gardens and orchards – a silence caused by bird poisoning through excessive pesticide use – led to the publication of her book, "Silent Spring", in 1967. The book documents how the pursuit of profit, without regard to the impact on nature, leads to dramatic levels of environmental contamination. Similar research papers began to appear almost in parallel, like the

famous Club of Rome Report, indicating the ecological and social consequences of a wasteful use of natural resources, devoid of any reflection. The issue of dangerous environmental change and the depletion of global natural resources eventually reached the UN General Assembly. The UN Secretary General at that time, Sithu U Thant, commissioned a report, "Man and His Environment", presented in 1969, and acknowledged as a watershed event in man's global dialogue with the environment. The United Nations Conference on Human Environment, held in Stockholm in 1972, clearly demonstrated the need to look for an alternative philosophy to the one that had caused so much environmental degradation. Work on the concept was entrusted to a commission under the then Norwegian Prime Minister, Gro Haarlem Brundtland. The Commission published its report, "Our Common Future" in 1987; a manifesto outlining a new approach to development, aimed at reconciling environmental interests and social and economic development concerns. Described as Sustainable Development, the manifesto was to ensure the sustainability of nature and its resources, equally for the benefit of future generations. The guidelines for a sustainable development were officially adopted during the following UN Conference on Environment and Development, in Rio de Janeiro, in 1992. The conference adopted several documents (The Rio Declaration, Agenda21, The Framework Convention on Biological Diversity, The Framework Convention on Climate Change and The Statement of Principles on Forests), indicative of the adopted direction, not only a recommendation, but an explicit requirement to dialogue with the environment. The new philosophy, while looking for ways to satisfy at least the basic requirements of existence, especially in relation to the poorest, at the same time reminds us of the need to respect environmental capacity restrictions. The necessity to respect them is obvious to those who, due to their work, have learnt to listen to the voice of the environment. The idea of sustainable use of natural resources was first developed by foresters, who had observed, in practice, that in order to preserve forests, one could not cut more trees than the number being replanted. They were prepared to listen to the forest's message that you must not upset nature's balance and then to apply the message to forest management.

Unfortunately, this message failed to take root in numerous other fields, and so once again it was up to a UN conference on sustainable development, to search for a balance between environmental protection and improved quality of life. "The World Summit on Sustainable Development" ("The Rio+10 Conference") in Johannesburg in 2002, under the slogan "People, Planet and Prosperity", provided some of the answers. Indeed, one of its conclusions was the need to raise public awareness of what sustainable development was, and how to implement it in practice. The fruit of that conference was an announcement of The UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development: 2005-2014. During that

Decade, another conference, during a UN Summit, was again held in Rio de Janeiro, on the 20th anniversary of the first Conference on Environment and Development. Unfortunately, despite those 20 years, progress on implementing sustainable development rules proved disappointing. This does not, however mean, that little changed for the better during that time.

First and foremost, many partners now better understand the need for dialogue with the environment. Furthermore, there is much evidence that these groups are not only interested in achieving environmental stability, but also in economic development, social justice, protection of tradition and cultural variety, and are consequently beginning to notice that their objectives cannot be achieved without responding to environmental signals. Arguments for dialogue can be found via an approach to nature based on the Convention on Biological Diversity. The Convention links all the earth's life resources (at all levels: genetic, species and ecosystems) with human life. Humanities quality of life depends on all our planet's living resources. This is closely correlated with the principle of sustainable development: only moderate use of that diversity of resources assures its sustainability, and the preservation of that living network for future generations. At the same time, preserving biological diversity is as much an economic necessity, as a health, cultural and religious one. This involves listening attentively to the voice of the environment, i.e. constantly monitoring the status of the living resource network, as well as respecting natural and cultural bonds. In order to not only convince naturalists, the Convention introduced the notion of benefits stemming from biological diversity, defined as ecosystem rendered services. The full variety of these service types makes us aware of how much each and every field of our lives depends on the world of living organisms.

Supply services defines everything we receive from nature to keep us alive – the vitality of plant and animal origin, not to mention the role of bacteria and fungi in that process. This also includes the provision of building materials, such as timber, thatch or bamboo, clothing materials, such as leather, wool or cotton, and medical supplies (millions of patients saved thanks to aspirin or antibiotics).

The loss of control services would be hard to imagine until they failed. Forest cover protects soils against erosion (as residents of Easter Island learned only too late), and marshy ecosystems, that retain water by absorbing any surplus like a sponge, decreases the threat of floods, and act as a purification plant at the same time. The salutary impact of mangrove forests was recognised in all those places, where the 2004 tsunami caused least damage. Services supporting agriculture include, among others, pollination of many plant species by insects, without which there would be no crops. Wherever pollinating insects have died out, farmers incur enormous losses. For example, in Nepal, where bees were poisoned with pesticides, orchards had to be pollinated manually; a single

swarm of bees replaced by the painstaking effort of several dozen workers. Economic services and their social significance can best be illustrated by closer analysis of a coral reef ecosystem. Financial benefits come from tourism development, supply of fry to fisheries, and the provision of nourishing foods and natural medical products to over 500 million people. Coral reef tourism-related income in East Asia alone generates over \$ 2,700 per hectare, per annum. Reef ecosystems provide a source of income and preserve the cultural identity of local communities, not to mention their buffer role, protecting coasts and easing the impact of waves, storms, and floods.

Ecosystem services also offer innumerable non-financial benefits.

These include scientific research sites, field education, recreation, entertainment, and creative inspiration. The concept of ecosystem services also represents a form of dialogue with the environment, a dialogue with a “bargaining” element; based on a valuation system of gains and losses: what do we gain from an ecosystem’s preservation against any loss we suffer following its destruction – loss of a potentially important service to mankind. In this “bargaining process” man often underestimates nature’s services, only to pay for it most dearly later, as in the case of flood damage, as occurred in the foothills of the Himalayas, following their deforestation.

When we respond to signals from a single environmental component

we also sometimes tend to forget that nature functions as a whole interlinked network of ecological connections. The history of the oil palm-tree, a case in point: Climate protection specialists recommended the replacement of fossil fuels with bio-fuels. Palm-tree oil was to provide a cheap, biomass based, renewable source of energy. In many tropical countries, especially Indonesia, the establishment of a profitable oil palm-tree plantation involved cutting down or burning thousands of hectares of rain forests, regarded as a “not very useful” energy source. That action however entailed the destruction of innumerable species and the degradation of biological diversity. In Borneo, the establishment of oil palm plantations has led to such destruction and thus deprived the orang-utan, an endangered species, of its environment.

There is however another voice in this dialogue: an informed

consumer movement. Many consumer organisations urge people to boycott products that include palm oil. Harmful to nature, fuel bio-components are beginning to be withdrawn. One could quote many more such double-edge solutions, besides palm oil. What remains important to remember however is that consumers can and will take part in this dialogue, once it becomes clear that a solution to one problem in fact generates another. In our dialogue with the environment, we must perceive it as a whole and bear in mind that anyone, no matter to what tiny extent, is responsible for biodiversity across the globe. One can respond to signals about a decreasing population of pollinating insects in many ways, for example by creating a dedicated habitat or by promoting the growth of melliferous

flowers. Concerned scientists and honey bee breeders continue to pressure the European Union. This has led to the adoption of a ban (in the form of a Directive) on the use of some of the most hazardous pesticides. It is also worth noting that environmental signals are today picked up, by all sorts of monitoring systems: at the global level these, among others, include a very large international scientific research initiative, the Millennium Global Ecosystem Assessment initiated at the behest of UN Secretary General Kofi Annan at the beginning of the 21st century. Relevant information is gathered by, among others, the Secretariat of The Convention on Biological Diversity, UN agencies (UNEP, UNESCO, FAO and WHO) and hundreds of scientists all over the world, as well as ecology organisations.

Large scale, periodic nature assessment projects apart, data is gathered continuously. In Europe, the task is performed by the Copenhagen based European Environment Agency. At the national level – in Poland – it is the Chief Inspectorate of Environmental Protection together with Provincial Inspectorates of Environmental Protection. Observation by civil organisations is becoming an increasingly important part of the process of listening to the voice of the environment. This involves data gathering by ecology organisations, and by volunteers monitoring the spring bird count, chamois count in the Tatra Mountains or patrolling sea mammals on the Baltic coast. Observation by schoolchildren is also important, carried out within the framework of international environment monitoring programmes, such as GLOBE (data added to NASA's database), or the BEAGLE Program, where observations of the phenology of trees may provide evidence of climate change. The European Union has appreciated the significance of these activities, by adding an item to the "EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020", on the need to develop a citizen observation system; so-called citizen science.

It is finally noteworthy to return to the initial question of whether contemporary man is capable of being in dialogue with the environment. The answer, as to man's ability to "listen in" on the environment and hear its voice, is affirmative. Never in human history has a system, recording environmental change, been more developed, or benefited from such an extensive range of observation methods. The second part of the dialogue question, however, i.e. the practical response to environmental signals, fares far worse. There are many failures to report, as for example the case of failing to slow the rate of biodiversity loss by 2010, despite numerous initiatives. That is not to imply that there have been no changes for the better. There has been an increase in the number of protected areas, and certain pesticides have been banned in the EU. In order to stimulate further positive trends, the UN General Assembly has declared 2011-2020 United Nations Decade on Biodiversity. At the same time public awareness surveys show that the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, which is to end in 2014, has led to a better understanding of sustainable development. The majority of

European countries have recorded increasing levels of awareness of biodiversity, and in Poland a growing awareness of the need to protect the environment, and the consequences of climate change.

One is nonetheless forced to accept that the achievement of a full understanding of the importance of sustainable development, and thus a readiness to dialogue with the environment, is a long and painstaking process. Despite failures however, one should not lose hope. There is an undoubted need to search for more effective educational and public communication methods, for as Mr. Sha Zukang, Secretary General of the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio said:

Sustainable development is not an option. Sustainable development is not an opportunity. It is the only path that allows all of humanity to share a decent life on this planet, the only planet we have. ●

Dr Anna Kalinowska

Biologist – ecologist, Director of the University Centre for Environmental Study and Sustainable Development. Author of many papers and books on nature conservation, environmental policy and education. Member of several national and international institutions, advisory committees and NGOs, such as REC, CCMS/NATO, and The World Conservation Union (IUCN).

Opening lecture delivered to a Conference of the Polish UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network, debating under the motto: "Educating in Dialogue With the Environment", Warsaw, October 25-26, 2013. An account of the Conference is published on p. 90 of this Bulletin.

How to Teach on Sustainable Development?

In order to answer the question: "How to teach on sustainable development?" one firstly needs to clarify some apparently well-known terms. We must first know what sustainable development is, and secondly, define what we mean by education. What issues education for sustainable development covers, and how to select optimal work methods in order to achieve the best possible end results.

Sustainable development is not easy to define as a term, due to its highly complex nature. According to UNESCO, sustainable development is based upon four pillars: environment, society, economy and culture.

Education is a notion variously defined. According to one definition, it is "a body of processes aimed at changing people, according to ideals and educational objectives that prevail in a given society." The process involves the acquisition of knowledge and skills, as well as a need to inspire an open, creative attitudes and independent thinking. Teaching on sustainable development we must therefore bear in mind that learning is not a passive process. The learner must be pro-active, for a close correlation exists between his attitude and an active process of knowledge generation and processing.

Though ecology-related topics were introduced into official curricula as early as the second half of the 20th century, this proved insufficient. A new look at the

future of all mankind, and the quality of life of each and every one of us, an ecology education saturated with a sustainable development philosophy, all led to the UN adopting a "Decade of Education for Sustainable Development" plan.

Education for sustainable development presently has a place in both formal and informal education curricula. The Core Curriculum includes provisions that deal with sustainable development, as well as sustainable production and consumption. In the case of natural science subjects, direct provisions are included, under learning objectives that can also be found in science and humanities subjects. This facilitates the introduction of sustainable development topics into many subjects, the integration of knowledge from many fields, and the building of a holistic picture of the world during the teaching process.

The aims of sustainable development education are both knowledge transfer to the learner, and teaching the learner how to think and act, thereby supplying the young generation with the necessary tools to build a better future for our planet's inhabitants, and thus assure a better quality of life for all.

By presenting an exceptional programme run by the UNEP/GRID-Warsaw Centre, operating within the framework of the United Nations Environment Programme, I would like to share our experiences to

date of teaching sustainable development. For the last 22 years the Centre has been carrying out work supporting efficient environmental management through the application of geoinformation technologies (gathering and analysing spatial data, providing information about the environment) at national, regional and global levels. One of the Centre's statutory objectives is the promotion of pro-active ecological education in society, with the use of modern technologies, including IT.

The UNEP/GRID-Warsaw Centre achieves its statutory objectives, within a framework of projects directed to various target groups, by a variety of methods. We educate both children and adults. Our activities are aimed at students, teachers, local government officials, as well as members of the business community. We run educational projects and public campaigns, prepare reports and present ecological and social issues during science picnics.

Participation in the process of shaping our future in a sustainable development spirit requires the mastering of several skills. Those most frequently mentioned include: perspectival multi-dimensional thought, interdisciplinary knowledge, and the ability to participate and influence public decision-making processes. I hope that the projects run by the UNEP/GRID-Warsaw Centre described below, provide a good example of sustainable development teaching, in line with the above principles.

Sustainable development projects, involve various partners: learners, teachers, parents, local communities, local government, and the business community. They are aimed at examining and solving local problems, within a global context. They focus on the development of critical thinking skills among the participants. In our educational activities, we apply pro-active, modern education methods that maximise the potential of the net generation.

Modern education, as everything else around us, is subject to continuous and rapid change. Young people – the main recipients of education services – are the digital generation, the net generation, keen to profit from the social, interdisciplinary, educational benefits that give them free access to contemporary technologies. Net participation, so popular with the young, is a great lesson in social responsibility, whilst modern technological

solutions, an ideal bridge between education and entertainment. All the above directly impact the methods we apply in our sustainable development education projects.

The GLOBE Programme (Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment) – Climate Research Campaign

www.globe.gridw.pl

The GLOBE Programme is an international education initiative, bringing together a global community of learners, teachers, scientists and citizens, working together towards a better understanding of how to sustain and improve the Earth's natural environment, at local, regional and global levels. A network of schools from 111 countries operating within the Programme framework, research natural environmental issues, and share results with the international community.

The Programme's mission is to enhance research skills among young people, in physics, chemistry, biology, geography and mathematics. Its objective is also to promote a scientific approach to the study of natural phenomena, and to increase participants' ecological awareness through pro-active participation in interdisciplinary observations of their local environment. These contribute to a better understanding of the world, and the development of skills that are needed to change behaviours and lifestyles for a sustainable future.

Modern educational methods applied by the Programme, like learning by discovery and Inquiry Based Science Education, teach how to think and work together, instead of just memorising dry rules. They serve young people, by encouraging them to sustain their cognitive curiosity, stimulate reflection about the world around us, thus shaping a problem-based approach to research, as well as a sense of responsibility.

Learning by taking measurements and making observations, valuable from a scientific perspective, formulating questions and testing hypotheses,

learning about the significance of measurement accuracy, consistency and discipline, analysing data and taking part in scientific research – all these tasks acquaint students with the various stages of the research process. The application of observation and experiment results, taking measurements, asking scientific questions and modern methods of interpreting findings (fieldwork, laboratory, and computer classes), develop student's imagination and creativity. Such an interdisciplinary approach integrates knowledge and skills from various education subject areas. The Programme promotes an understanding of global environmental issues, by examining its components, and portrays the Earth as a coherent system of interrelated phenomena and processes. Understanding interactions between the atmosphere, the hydrosphere, biosphere, geosphere and cryosphere, contributes to an understanding of global earth processes. Students record observations of groundcover, seasonal changes, and make measurements of selected climate, hydrologic and soil indicators.

The use of modern instruments (satellite navigation and images, the internet, various measuring devices) and ICT technologies, make the process of learning natural sciences' more attractive. The application of interesting methods of interpreting findings, including on-line three-dimensional natural data visualisation and social networking interactive website platforms, adds variety to student classes.

The Programme is, on the one hand, a response to the challenges that face our information society; by generating, storing, processing and transferring information, making it available to all. On the other hand, it exploits and promotes features that (according to Don Tapscott) the digital generation greatly values (cooperation, interaction, entertainment, a fast pace, innovation). Being involved in the information resource creation process, and sharing Internet content as a means of coping with a complicated world, effectively also increases the degree of social involvement. Attractive ways of information transfer, a fast pace, partly due to modern technologies, entertain – a major need of the net generation – but also support creativity.

Apart from fundamental research and observations

undertaken by the GLOBE Programme, numerous other activities target students and teachers (workshops, conferences and sub-project research). These, for example, include educational field activities for young people of several days duration: GLOBE GAMES, educational sub-projects and research campaigns, such as the Climate Research Campaign or Regional Research Projects.

Climate change is an exceptional topic; most often

discussed in a global context, yet the consequences of which are most often visible at the much smaller, local level. Global climate conditions have a direct impact on local weather conditions. The latter largely determine changes occurring in a given region's natural environment. Additional education initiatives – an extension of the GLOBE Programme formula, designed in Poland, within the framework of the Climate Research Campaign, based on the Programme's experience and together with scientists – include the following three study modules:

Module A. Identifying and Countering Flood Damage

Based on locally available data on potential flood damage, and the students' own findings – analysis of the physical and chemical parameters of water and soil – participants develop practical recommendations to alleviate the effects of flood damage in a given area, with due regard to the proper use of soil in the catchment area.

Module B. Aerosol Pollution Research

The impact of aerosols on climate is complicated and controversial. The limited number of measuring stations makes the research process even more difficult. By examining aerosol content in the air, and making basic atmospheric observations, students find answers to research questions. They thereby contribute to the development of the measuring network, and provide data for further scientific study.

Module C. Satellite Climate Lesson

Scripted lessons on the Earth's climate are being developed with the use of satellite data, including the European Space Agency Satellite Image School

Atlas. The application of satellite information in the context of climate research, enables students to extend their knowledge on the functioning of the Earth's atmosphere, while getting them acquainted with modern climatology instruments and techniques.

RES Project Enlightens Your School

www.oze.gridw.pl

Rational use of river, wind, solar radiation, geothermal or biomass energy is one of the key components of sustainable development, that bring tangible ecological and energy benefits. The development of energy from renewable sources (RES) is becoming an important challenge of our times, but one that faces many barriers. The level of public awareness in Poland of possible ways of using renewable energy is unsatisfactory. To begin education at school level is the best way to bring up a new generation aware of the facts.

The objective of the Project was to improve young people's awareness, and thereby that of respective local communities, including parents and local government officials, of sustainable development and energy management at school. Another Project aim was to raise public awareness of the need to value energy resources and wherever possible to make use of renewable energy. A national public campaign was launched in Poland to focus on these issues. The key component of the promotional and educational action project was a contest for secondary school children. An initiative aimed at shaping pro-active attitudes towards environmental protection, combined with a learning process through practical activities (taking measurements and analysing findings), in order to save energy at school. Participants had an opportunity to reduce energy consumption at school as well as to fit modern lighting in their classrooms. They performed lighting audits unaided, and assessed what needed to be done to decrease energy consumption and lighting costs. By analysing the research findings, they learned that more efficient energy use can not only benefit

the environment, but the economy as well. Lower energy consumption equals lower costs. Students used electronic measuring devices (pyrometers, discriminators, luxmeters), and an interactive portal with electronic forms, to enter and analyse data. The final part of the Campaign was a science picnic, on conservation, and renewable energy sources, with educational stalls on which young people helped scientists perform experiments.

Geo-consultation and Public Participation for Sustainable Development

www.geokonsultacje.edu.pl

Public consultations on projects implemented in Polish municipalities are an important element in the life of the local community. Modern local government faces challenges that not only include infrastructure and economic development, but also planning with public participation, based on sustainable development principles, and respect for the natural environment.

The school's key task in the process is not only to teach syllabus subjects, but more importantly, to develop the necessary skills to apply what has been learned, into practice.

The project's objective is to promote civic responsibility among young people; to get them interested in the environment and the protection of nature, especially in the sustainable spatial planning of their neighbourhood. Participants were tasked with developing and presenting their idea of a dream capital project. Young people invited the local community, local government officials and institutions in charge of protected areas, into the consultation process. One of the tasks included an appreciation of existing or planned infrastructure components, as well as of the natural value of adjoining areas. Yet another involved an attempt at assessing the existing provisions of the local spatial development plan. Irrespective of their individual interests and skills, all students found a place in one or other of the project teams.

Having noted the achievements of our educational initiative, it is also worth adding that reaching out

to young people is proving increasingly difficult, and requires a considerable degree of inventiveness. What can be done then to improve the attractiveness of studying sustainable development? Simply making the education process more attractive clearly bears remembering. The application of modern, pro-active educational methods, centered on an Inquiry Based Science Education, the exploitation of modern technologies, tools and scientific achievements, will also ensure greater project attractiveness. An interdisciplinary approach to phenomena and processes, treating the world around us as an interconnected system, and pro-active involvement, are all equally significant elements.

It is important to exploit the potential of a "net generation" – at the forefront of information and communication technologies – ever more

capable of critical thinking. The level of awareness of sustainable development is higher among children and young people than among adults. It is thus appropriate to harness the young to reach out to the adult members of our society. ●

Magdalena Machinko-Nagrabicka

Head of the Ecological Education Department at the UNEP/GRID Warsaw Centre, Acting National GLOBE Programme Coordinator, Member GLOBE Europe and Eurasia Board, <http://www.gridw.pl/globe/>

The above paper is an extended version of a presentation made during the Conference of the Polish UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network: "Educating in Dialogue with the Environment", held in Warsaw, 25-26 October 2013. More on the Conference on p. 90.



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



UNESCO Associated Schools

Educating in Dialogue with the Environment

Conference on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network (ASPnet)

The UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network (ASPnet) was founded in 1963. On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Network, with a membership of 9,566 educational institutions in 180 countries, National Commissions around the world have organized events, designed to showcase the achievements and determine future plans.

Sustainable development, understood as a process that meets the development aspirations of the present generation in a manner enabling the next generations to fulfil their own aspirations, as well as the challenges facing education in the sustainable development context, were the subject of a Conference which the Polish National Commission for UNESCO organized together with the Ministry of the Environment, with the support of the National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management and the Representation of the European Commission in Poland. The conference "Educating in Dialogue with the Environment" was organized on 25-26 October 2013 in Warsaw, at the Ministry of the Environment. It was held under the honorary patronage of the Minister of National Education, Krystyna Szumilas and the Undersecretary of State at the Ministry of the Environment, Chief Nature Conservator, Janusz Zaleski.

The Conference was attended by teachers from the Polish UNESCO Associated Schools Project

Network, currently numbering 102 members, and from Forestry Schools whose governing body is the Ministry of the Environment. The Conference was attended by a total of 120 participants.

The opening speeches were delivered by Minister Janusz Zaleski, Minister Tadeusz Sławewski, Secretary of State at the Ministry of National Education, Rafał Rudnicki, Head of the Department of Information and Communication in the Representation of the European Commission, and Professor Sławomir Ratajski, Secretary General of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO.

The conference began with a presentation prepared by Maria Belina-Brzozowska, National Coordinator of UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network in Poland, about ASPnet's 60-year history around the world, the participation of Polish schools in the education for peace initiative, intercultural education, education for sustainable development, and about actions undertaken by the United Nations.

Ilona Morżoł from the Polish National Commission for UNESCO, had a presentation in which she described the history of the sustainable development concept, from Agenda 21, to the Rio +20 Conference. Dr Anna Kalinowska, director of the University Centre for Environmental Study and Sustainable Development at the University

of Warsaw gave a lecture "Is Contemporary Man Capable of a Dialogue with the Environment? Decade of Change or Decade of Failure?", in which she presented the principles and importance of man's dialogue with the environment. She also discussed the consequences of an unsustainable exploitation of the earth's biodiversity and the successes and failures of initiatives undertaken so far to try to save those resources. The text of Dr Anna Kalinowska's lecture can be found on page 77 of this Bulletin.

Modern teaching methods of sustainable development were discussed in an address by Magdalena Machinko-Nagrabecka, Head of the Ecological Education Department at the UNEP/GRID Warsaw Centre and acting National GLOBE Programme Coordinator, run by the GRID (Global Resource Information Database) World Network Centre. The centre implements UNEP's mission in Poland, related to environmental protection and sustainable management of the earth's natural resources, through effective environmental management, with the application of geospatial technologies and active environmental education, using modern information technology. The text of Magdalena Machinko-Nagrabecka's address is published on page 85 of this Bulletin.

Nina Dobrzyńska, Director of the Department of Forestry and Nature Conservation at the Ministry

of the Environment, talked about Poland's Forestry School system, run by the Ministry of the Environment, and about the importance of educating foresters in maintaining a balanced forest management system.

Representatives of Polish UNESCO Associated Schools and Forestry Schools proceeded to present examples of projects run in their respective schools. Secondary Schools in Wrocław presented WrocMUN – simulation of a UN debate. The II Secondary School in Tomaszów – participated in the "This is our time" project – a 24-hour on-line conference during which students from different regions of the world discussed global issues. The Dorotka Arts and Theatre Preschool presented a wide range of projects related to intercultural education, while the II Secondary School in Katowice highlighted the result of their participation in the Baltic Sea Project (BSP). Examples of activities related to sustainable development and environmental education were also presented by the Cyprian Godebski Primary School in Raszyn and Forestry Technical Schools in Tuchola and Staroscin.

The second day of the conference was devoted to workshops: "Methods Used in Teaching on Sustainable Development", prepared and run by coaches from the Wrocław based UNESCO Initiatives Centre. Interactive workshop activities focused on three key aspects of sustainable development:



Polish UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network Conference, 25-26 October 2013 in Warsaw, Poland.
Photo: © 2013 Ilona Morżoń

economic growth and equitable distribution of benefits, protecting natural resources and the environment, and social development. Trade and production mechanisms were discussed, as well as the significance of both the environmental and social dimensions of sustainable development, as much for the welfare of individuals as of entire societies. A part of the workshops were devoted to discussions about the processes determining the formation of stereotypes and cultural prejudices and the link thereof to the issue of social marginalization.

The conference provided an opportunity for new contacts, useful for the implementation of joint projects in the future. Teachers were also able to catch up on the latest information and teaching developments; concrete methods to apply in the knowledge that global education is the starting point for educating students to engage with society and thus participate in shaping the reality in which they live.

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Lectures and workshop activities at the Polish UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network Conference, 25-26 October 2013 in Warsaw. Photo: © 2013 Ilona Morżoń

ASPnet for Global Citizenship

International Forum in Suwon

An International Forum “UNESCO ASPnet for Global Citizenship: Peace Education and Education for Sustainable Development”, organized by the Korean National Commission for UNESCO, was one of the key events of the 60th anniversary of UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network. The gathering in Suwon, South Korea, 7-9 September 2013, attracted 250 participants from 74 countries.

The main objective of the Forum was to assess the key achievements of the ASPnet over the last decade at school, national, regional and international levels and to develop a new Strategy and Plan of Action for 2014-2021. During the three day ASPnet Forum national coordinators, teachers and students had the opportunity to exchange experiences, establish new contacts, strengthen existing ones, and identify priority areas. The main task for the coming years of UNESCO’s Associated Schools Project Network is the promotion of Global Citizenship, consistent with the direction set by the UN Secretary General – as announced during the 67th Session of the UN General Assembly (2012) “Global Education First Initiative” – as well as with the general need for an education system capable of meeting

the needs and challenges of the 21st century. Associated Schools are tasked with completing projects in four main interest areas: peace and human rights, intercultural learning, education for sustainable development (including disaster risk reduction, climate change, biodiversity) and the role of the UN in solving world problems. ●

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Forum session in Suwon (South Korea), 7-9 September 2013.
Photo: © 2013 Korean National Commission for UNESCO



Forum participants in Suwon (South Korea), 7-9 September 2013.
Photo: © 2013 Korean National Commission for UNESCO



Poland and the Global Network of Biosphere Reserves

Biosphere reserves have been established around the globe as within the framework of the intergovernmental, interdisciplinary Man and the Biosphere Programme – MAB, formally initiated at the 16. session of the UNESCO General Conference in 1970. The adoption of this programme was preceded by a meeting of the representatives of Member States and NGOs in 1968, dedicated to addressing threats to the biosphere, which at the time was increasingly seen as a major issue. A report published in 1969 and presented by United Nations Secretary General U Thant, “Man and His Environment”, showed the scale of the world-wide risks, associated with the degradation of our planet’s environment.

The initial goal of the MAB Programme was to set up protected areas, representative of the world’s major ecosystems. These areas were referred to as “biosphere reserves” and received protected status aimed at demonstrating the possibility of establishing a balanced relationship between conservation and sustainable use. Scientific observations and the monitoring of biological diversity were to

be carried out in these areas, thereby enabling an assessment to be made of ecological changes occurring in the entire biosphere. Another programme goal was to sensitize societies to the relationship – changes and challenges – between biological and cultural diversity.

Not unlike all other programmes, the Man and the Biosphere Programme has been perfected over the years and continues to be aimed at supporting interactive cooperation between biosphere reserves; members of UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR).

Network membership has reached 621 biosphere reserves in 2013, including 12 transboundary sites, in 117 countries on five geographical regions (Africa, the Arab countries, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and North America, Latin America and the Caribbean). At the request of the interested UNESCO-MAB National Committees, new areas are being successively added to the World Network of Biosphere Reserves, following a positive assessment by the International Advisory Committee and the International Coordinating Council – advisory bodies to the Man and the Biosphere Programme.

The biosphere reserves operate according to the Statutory Framework of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves, drawn up at a UNESCO conference of experts in March 1995 in Seville, and adopted by UNESCO's General Conference in November 1995. The document includes criteria applicable to all sites.

Currently, biosphere reserves represent the best example of international action, undertaken in pursuit of sustainable development, recognized by local populations and implemented on the basis of concrete scientific practices. Work is underway in these designated areas, attempting to link biodiversity conservation efforts with cultural activity – as well as economic and social development – through a partnership of people and nature. This represents an innovative approach to sustainable development on a local, regional and global level, all thanks to an international network that created a framework of cooperation, as well as mutual relationships between the reserves.



Cranes at the West Polesie Transboundary Biosphere Reserve. Photo: © 2013 Zygmunt Krzeźmiński

Zones are established, employing integrated management systems,

thanks to the introduction of planning, based on the integration of preservation techniques and a sustainable use of resources within the biosphere reserves. This division into zones – so called zoning – assures an effective means of protecting the reserves' natural resources, promotes their balanced use, and enlarges the knowledge base, thanks to integrated management and closer cooperation.

Zoning is applied to all UNESCO biosphere reserves on the following basis:

1. **core** zone – in effect the inner zone of the reserve, also called the proper part. Biological diversity is assured and the following activities allowed: scientific research – without disturbing the natural environment, monitoring, ecology education – for special interest groups and certain ecosystem-related services;
2. **buffer** zone – usually surrounds the core zone. Scientific research is allowed, along with non-disruptive commercial activities, in accordance with best practices along ecological guidelines, also ecology educational activity and eco-tourism;
3. **transition** zone – is where sustainable development principles are put into practice, within the scope of commercial activities (such as agriculture, forestry, fishing, etc.), whilst local, social and administrative institutions, scientists, NGOs, cultural groups, commercial and other interested parties, cooperate in jointly managing the area, and thus assure the zone's sustainable, balanced development.

Biosphere reserves encourage cross-border cooperation, regional

development and, in the wider context, North-South and South-South cooperation. Such an approach encourages cooperation on different levels, in areas of knowledge-sharing, best practices and experience in dealing with environmental change. Such an approach also promotes the integration of people and natural resources, ensures sustainable development, while preserving cultural values.

Reserve	Name	Designated (year)	Periodic Review (year)	Area (hectares)
POL 01	Babia Gora (mountain massif)	1976	2000; 2013	11,797
POL 02	Bialowieza (primeval forest)	1976 (extended 2005)	1998; 2013	92,399
POL 03	Luknajno Lake	1976	2014	1,342
POL 04	Slowinski (coastal)	1976	1998; 2013	21,573
POL-SLO-UKR 01	East Carpathians (mountains)	1992	2013	108,938
POL-SLO 01	Tatra (mountains)	1992	2013	21,197
CZE-POL 01	Karkonosze (mountains)	1992	2012	5,575
POL 05	Puszcza Kampinoska (Kampinos Primeval Forest)	2000	2013	70,604
POL 06	West Polesie (lowland landscape)	2002,	No evaluation to date	139,917
POL 07	Tuchola Forest	2010	No evaluation to date	319,500

*) Source: Polish National Committee for UNESCO-MAB

The International Coordinating Council is the governing and coordinating body for the biosphere reserves, established within the framework of the Man and the Biosphere Programme, functioning according to a statute approved by UNESCO's General Conference. The Council has broad powers to, inter alia, review proposals for the setting up of biosphere reserves to be incorporated into the World Network of Biosphere Reserves, and to receive recommendations arising from periodic reviews undertaken at the reserves. The Council consists of representatives of the 34 Member States who are elected for a four year term during UNESCO's General Conference sessions.

The International Advisory Committee supports the Council's work.

Ten chosen experts assess applications from biosphere candidate areas as well as reports from periodic reviews.

Plans to set up biosphere reserves in Poland began in the first half of the 1970's, immediately after UNESCO's adoption of the "Man and the Biosphere" Programme. UNESCO designated Poland's first four submissions in 1976. Poland currently has ten reserves on UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves list.

Periodic reviews, a vital part of the system of performance

evaluation and implementation of goals for biosphere reserves, play an important part in ensuring the effectiveness of such internationally significant sites. Evaluations take place no more than once every ten years and include an assessment of the functioning of the reserve, the preservation of its area and zoning status – which should be reflected in the management and zoning plans. Periodic reviews are a requirement of the Statutory Framework for the World Network of Biosphere Reserves and are carried out on the basis of a report, prepared by each site's managing body, in accordance with an appropriate documentary form. Transboundary reports however, are drawn up jointly by managers of each of the biosphere reserves. Reports from these reviews are then considered by the International Advisory Committee, which prepares recommendations for the individual areas to be further examined and adopted by the International Coordinating Council.

Periodic reviews provide an opportunity to carry out qualitative assessments of ongoing activities, gauge their results, as well as the progress of work carried out at each biosphere reserve – especially when it comes to the application of current knowledge and skills in managing resources and ecosystems. The reviews provide an opportunity to assess the functioning of the zoning system and its relevance, by examining the reserve's objectives and management policy, addressing international cooperation issues and above all improving cross-border cooperation. The main objective of the review is to improve the quality of biosphere reserves and their functioning as places in which the relationship between man and his environment, in the sustainable development context, can be examined. So far, 293 assessment reports from the periodic reviews of biosphere reserves have been prepared of which 15 reserves have been rated for a second time.

In 2012, the UNESCO Secretariat designated 55 biosphere reserves for a periodic review, 6 of which are located in Poland, namely: Babia Gora, Bialowieza, Transboundary East Carpathians, Puszcza Kampinowska, Slowinski, and the Transboundary Tatra Biosphere Reserves. The management offices for the National Parks, located within the limits of the named biosphere reserves, prepared reports in a set format, which were submitted to UNESCO's Secretariat via the Polish National Committee UNESCO-MAB.

In March 2013, the International Advisory Committee made an assessment of these biosphere reserves and developed a draft recommendation which was accepted by the International Coordinating Council. Detailed evaluation of the Polish reserves varied, though they pointed to the following key issues and needs to:

- develop management plans for biosphere reserves;
- determine biosphere reserve managers;
- focus less on the core zones and more on the other zones, especially those in which sustainable development is being implemented;
- strengthen partnerships at transboundary reserves.

In preparing a substantive response to the recommendations of the International Coordinating Council of the UNESCO-MAB Programme, the Polish UNESCO-MAB National Committee, together with the Ministry of the Environment, organized a seminar in October 2013 for managers of biosphere reserves under review. Zoning related issues were also discussed, as well as the progress achieved in preparing cartographic documentation for the sites. The "Luknajno Lake" Biosphere Reserve, designated in 1976, was discussed during the seminar, and the need noted for necessary adjustments to be made, for it to meet current criteria requirements, as set out in the Statutory Framework for the World Network of Biosphere Reserves. Work is currently underway on enlarging the Luknajno Lake Biosphere Reserve and on designating a transitional zone. An application will also be submitted to UNESCO requesting enlargement approval for the site. The Polish government is working closely with the relevant local governments on this matter. All interested parties plan to meet shortly, in order to draw up a joint application to submit to UNESCO.

A very important event for Polish biosphere reserves during the last decade, as well as for our eastern neighbours was the signing of an agreement between the Government of the Republic of Poland, the Government of the Republic of Belarus and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on the establishment of the West Polesie Transboundary Biosphere Reserve. The establishment of this reserve was preceded by years of concerted work by the UNESCO Secretariat and participating countries.

Both the West Polesie Biosphere Reserve, on the Polish side of the border, and the Szacki Biosphere Reserve on the Ukrainian side were designated in 2002. Shortly thereafter, Belarus began working on the creation of the Polesie Nadbuzanskie Biosphere Reserve, which earned its designated international status in 2004. The organization

of a meeting by UNESCO's Secretariat that brought together representatives from Poland, Belarus and Ukraine in 2004, proved to be an important event. Their aim was the establishment of the West Polesie Biosphere Reserve, within the framework of a tripartite agreement, under the UNESCO-MAB Programme; UNESCO and Japan co-financed this initiative. As a result of these actions UNESCO's Director General granted the biosphere reserve an official certificate, during an International Conference held in Warsaw and Urszulin on 5-6 September 2012, attended by all the interested parties. In addition to the official part of the Conference, there were also substantive presentations from all the countries concerned, including representatives of local communities and NGOs operating in the region.

The establishment of the Coordination Council for the West Polesie

Transboundary Biosphere Reserve proved to be an important event, for the practical implementation of the said agreement. The Council's first sitting took place on 12-13 December 2013 in Brest, Belarus. Shortly thereafter followed the establishment of working groups to determine an action plan for 2014, prepare a management blueprint, and establish a scientific review group. During the meeting, the Polish delegation also announced that the Polesie National Park will, on receipt of supplementary data from the representatives of Belarus and Ukraine, develop and publish a map of the Transboundary West Polesie Biosphere Reserve, bearing a key in the three national languages and in English, and will supply each of the interested parties with the map.

An article published in 2011 by Professor Alicja Breymeyer, President

of the Polish National Committee of UNESCO-MAB, "Biosphere Reserves and the Polish National Committee of UNESCO-MAB: A Presentation of Current Issues", includes proposals for the setting up of new transboundary biosphere reserves, namely:

- Roztocze Transboundary Biosphere Reserve;
- Bialowieza Forest Transboundary Biosphere Reserve;
- Polish, Lithuanian and Kaliningrad Oblast Transboundary Biosphere Reserve.

The Roztocze Biosphere Reserve on the Ukrainian side was

established in 2011, parallel work was carried out on the Polish side of the border. However the work was put on hold, due to the establishment of a Natura 2000 area in the Lublin Voivodeship, part of which was to have been incorporated into the biosphere reserve. Currently, the boundaries of the Natura 2000 area have been finalized and work is underway – together with the Ukrainian side – on preparing a joint application to UNESCO aimed at establishing the Roztocze Transboundary Biosphere Reserve. Work on preparing the formal documentation and application to UNESCO has been entrusted to Poland's Roztocze National Park, which will be the proposed site's core zone.

The Bialowieza Biosphere Reserve was designated in 1976. It

included the Bialowieza National Park, while in 2005 the entire

area of the Białowieża Forest, on the Polish side, was added. On the Belarussian side, the Białowieża Biosphere Reserve was designated in 1993. The reserve does not have transboundary status, though both countries can initiate procedures aimed at obtaining such a status. Efforts are presently under way to prepare an agreement between Poland and Belarus to address this issue.

The creation of a Transboundary Biosphere Reserve in Poland, Lithuania and Kaliningrad Oblast is a new proposal, initiated by the Russian Federation. Working out of a joint action plan will be the first step to achieve this objective. ●

Dr Zygmunt Krzemiński

Author and co-author of over forty popular science publications and numerous specialist papers in the nature conservation and environmental protection fields. Coordinator of several nature conservation projects, financed by the British Know How Fund (KHF). Deputy Director and later Director of the Department of Forestry and Nature Conservation at Poland's Ministry of the Environment (1990 – 2007).



West Polesie Transboundary Biosphere Reserve.
Photo: ©2013 Zygmunt Krzemiński



UNESCO/Poland Co-Sponsored Fellowships at the UNESCO Chair for Science, Technology and Engineering Education at the AGH University of Science and Technology in Kraków, Poland

The AGH-UNESCO Chair for Science, Technology and Engineering Education (www.unesco.agh.edu.pl) in Kraków, was established in 2010, under an agreement between UNESCO and the Senate of the Stanisław Staszic AGH University of Science and Technology. The Chairholder is Prof. Dr hab. C. Eng. Janusz Szpytko.

The AGH-UNESCO Chair for Science, Technology and Engineering Education is one of thirteen UNESCO Chairs in Poland. It is the first such institution in Poland run under the auspices of UNESCO, supporting training at university level in engineering, inspiring and coordinating an integrated system of research and training, as well as supporting the exchange and transfer of engineering know-how and practices. The international offering of the AGH-UNESCO Chair is addressed primarily to developing countries in Asia, Africa, South America and other regions of the world. The activities of the AGH-UNESCO Chair match the priorities of UNESCO and the AGH-UST.

The Stanisław Staszic AGH University of Science and Technology in Kraków, is a public technical university which has been serving science, the economy and society for almost 100 years. A higher

learning institution geared to educating students, enhancing the skills of teaching staff, and research (around 38,000 students, 54 fields of study, over 200 specializations at B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D. levels). Apart from the traditional faculties, associated with mining, engineering and metallurgy, the university provides education in computer sciences, telecommunications, automatics, robotics, mechanical engineering, electric engineering, new materials, technical physics, applied mathematics, and management and sociology.



Meeting of AGH-UNESCO Chair Fellowship holders with the authorities of the AGH-UST and the Polish National Commission for UNESCO.

Photo: © Zbigniew Sulima/ the AGH-UST Bulletin

The AGH University of Science and Technology numbers amongst Poland's most prestigious universities and for years has appeared in newspaper rankings – evaluating the quality of state-funded university-level technical schools – amongst the best. A leading Polish university in the field of new technologies, also highly rated internationally. The University comprises over 2,000 teaching and research staff, including approximately 550 senior academic staff members. Currently over 2,000 research projects are being carried out, both in Poland and abroad.

Achieving quick, permanent and sustainable economic growth in developing countries is also possible thanks to technology-transfers and improving engineering (technical) education methods. These lead to improvements in the quality of engineering (technical) education for all, support experimentation, technical practices, innovativeness, as well as create an appropriate working environment for technical and engineering staff. Economic development potential depends to a great degree on the knowledge, expressed as human capital, and the ability thereof to adapt to new circumstances, the consequence of globalisation processes and new technologies. When it comes to the competitiveness of a given country, education potential is key. Initiatives undertaken by the AGH-UNESCO Chair fit in with the idea of building a learning community, without borders or barriers; cooperating on the development of a technical (engineering) and scientific education, innovativeness, and technology-transfers.



Fellowship holders from Madagascar, Pakistan, Sierra Leone and Mali in Automated Transportation Systems and Telematics Laboratory at the AGH-UST.
Photo: © Prof. Janusz Szpytko/AGH-UNESCO Chair

From October, 2013, at the initiative of the AGH-UNESCO Chair, a group of around 50 young scientists – on short fellowship programmes (6 month study visits) and doctoral studies, from 23 developing countries– Bangladesh, Benin, Brazil, Burundi, Cameroon, Cuba, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Kosovo, Laos, Madagascar, Mali, Mongolia, Nepal, Niger, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Togo, Uzbekistan and Ukraine – have been staying at the AGH University of Science and Technology in Kraków. Over 100 young scientists applied for the UNESCO/ Poland Co-Sponsored Fellowship Programme in Engineering – cycle 2013 offered by the AGH-UNESCO Chair.

Young researchers, fellowship holders at the AGH-UNESCO Chair, carry out research projects in cooperation with teaching and research staff, members of the following faculties of the AGH-UST: Electrical Engineering, Automatics, Computer Science and Biomedical Engineering, Mining Surveying and Environmental Engineering, Geology, Geophysics and Environmental Protection, Mining and Geoengineering, The Humanities, Materials Science and Ceramics, Mechanical Engineering and Robotics, Metals Engineering and Industrial Computer Science, Drilling, Oil and Gas.

The programme for fellowship holders at the AGH-UNESCO Chair in Kraków includes:

1. The completion of around 24 projects in the following fields: Automation and Monitoring, Earth Sciences, Economic Geology, Economic Sociology, Environmental Protection Engineering and Biotechnology, Geotourism, Mechanical Engineering, Mining Engineering, Transport



AGH-UNESCO Chair Fellowship holders during thematic workshops.
Photo: © Zbigniew Sulima/the AGH-UST Bulletin

- Engineering, Mining and Gas Engineering, Mining and Geological Engineering, Software Engineering, Metallurgy;
2. Participating in 29 subject classes taught in English (30-45 hours of lectures, laboratory experience, exercises, projects) in: Advanced Analysis Methods, Applied Geology, Basic Experiment Solid State Physics, Biotechnology, Chemistry, Cognitive Robotics, Computer Graphics, Electrical Engineering, Energy and the Environment, Global Society and International Institutions, Hard Rock Mining, Intercultural Management, Introduction to Material Science, Introduction to Biochemistry, Materials News, Mathematics, Mechanical Metallurgy, Modelling and Simulation of Systems, Modern Techniques of Material Analysis, Operational Research in Engineering, Petrophysics, Physics, Principals of Soil Protection, Sedimentology, Sociology and Politics of Internet, Surface Engineering, Theory and Practice of Ceramic Processes, Transport Engineering, and Uncertainty Analysis in Engineering;
 3. Participating in a Polish language course (72 hours);
 4. Participating in numerous conferences, seminars and thematic workshops organized or initiated by the AGH-UNESCO Chair or others, including: The IXth International Conference on Drive Systems in Transport Devices, The UNESCO Interregional Engineering Conference in Technology and Education – on Global Benchmarking and Monitoring; The AGH-UNESCO Chair Workshop on Innovation and Technology Transfer to Emerging Countries in the Frame of the UNESCO Activities; Multicultural AGH-UNESCO Meetings; and The AGH-UST Open University;
 5. Meetings and thematic debates with the authorities of the Stanislaw Staszic AGH University of Science and Technology in Kraków, the Polish National Commission for UNESCO, of the region, and facultative visits and specialist meetings with representatives of industry;
 6. Meetings, facultative visits and projects, aimed at introducing fellowship holders to: the culture and heritage of the Lesser Poland region (*Małopolska*) and Poland, the tourist potential of Kraków and the region, Polish traditions and

customs, and technical business circles, as well as to the customs and traditions of the academic community.

One of the objectives of the AGH-UNESCO Chair fellowship programmes is to identify the needs of developing countries in the field of engineering education, science and technology. The aim is also to encourage the exchange of know-how and experience, in pursuance of an integrated approach to education, technology and innovativeness, for a sustainable global development. Numerous debates have helped conclude that the objectives of international cooperation should lead to the use of the world's dispersed resources, based on interregional cooperation, preceded by a thorough analysis of the technological support needs of developing countries.

The project's noteworthy achievements are: an integration of the international engineering environment, identification of the local potential of developing countries in the field of technology and their future needs; the construction of a platform for future cooperation in education and science; the promotion of best practices in engineering, technology and innovation.

Participants of the fellowship programme, co-sponsored by UNESCO/Poland cycle 2013 at the AGH-UNESCO Chair in Kraków, expressed their great admiration for the university's research potential, for the standard of laboratory equipment, as well as for the study conditions and social infrastructure. They also expressed their admiration for the professionalism of AGH University of Science and Technology staff, their passion for research and education. For the programme participants, their stay at the Stanislaw Staszic AGH University of Science and Technology in Kraków became an inspiration to review their own educational and scientific development ambitions in the field of technical science. The stay of fellowship holders at the AGH-UNESCO Chair in Kraków also needs to be viewed in terms of their personal development, thanks to which participants enrich their knowledge and practical skills, technical culture, intellectual and emotional development, moreover acquire skills enabling them to adapt to new conditions and environments. ●

Prof. Dr hab. C. Eng. Janusz Szpytko
AGH-UNESCO Chairholder



The International UNESCO Chair on Lifelong Guidance and Counseling

**was founded on March 8th 2013
at the Institute of Pedagogy of
the University of Wrocław.
The Chair is headed
by Prof. Jean Guichard,
whilst Drs Violetta Podgórna
and Marek Podgórny
are coordinators
of the Chair in Poland.**

The purpose of the Chair is to promote an integrated system of research, training, information and documentation in the field of educational and vocational guidance. Its activities will promote cooperation between researchers at world-renowned universities and higher education institutions across Europe, Africa and Latin America, especially those dealing with lifelong career guidance, particularly the issue of equal opportunities in life, the development of necessary skills needed throughout a working life, professional mobility, as well as the evaluation of the effectiveness of various counselling programmes. Conferences and scientific meetings organised by

the Chair will provide an opportunity to present, popularize and exploit the results of its activities.

The international scientific conference, inaugurating the activities of the UNESCO Chair of Lifelong guidance entitled "Career Guidance, Counselling and Dialogue for a Sustainable Human Development", was held under the patronage of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO on 26-27 November 2013 in the Aulia Leopoldina Assembly Hall of the University of Wrocław. Conference participants from 16 countries had the opportunity to present major advances and practical solutions in the field of vocational guidance, aimed at increasing equal opportunity prospects, improving standards, facilitating access to labour markets and encouraging local innovation in the areas of education, employment and development. •

AP

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There were 13 UNESCO Chairs in Poland at the end of 2013, out of the total number of 783 in the world.



Towards Knowledge Societies, for Peace and Sustainable Development:

The First International Review Conference of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS +10)

It fell to UNESCO to host the first WSIS+10 Review Event (25-27 February 2013) at UNESCO headquarters in Paris. This multidisciplinary conference, organized jointly by UNESCO, ITU, UNDP and UNCTAD, opened the process of reviewing the conclusion's implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS: Geneva 2003-Tunis 2005). Around 1450 participants from 130 countries had the opportunity to comment about any aspect of the implementation of the WSIS recommendations during 83 sessions, thematic workshops and forums. The main outcome of the conference was the "Final Statement. Information and Knowledge for All: an Expanded Vision and a Renewed Commitment", which after a discussion was unanimously adopted by the gathering, and in November 2013 was officially endorsed by the 37th Session of UNESCO's General Conference. The document formulates concrete points and

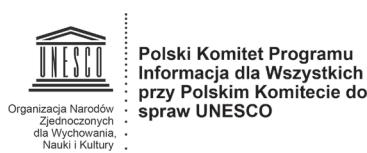
recommendations, and highlights the promotion of key principles for the upholding of human rights and the development of an information society, such as freedom of expression and journalist security (clearly referring this requirement to the situation of internet journalists, bloggers and human rights activists), privacy protection, as well as the need for multistakeholder approach in dealing with issues relating to knowledge societies and information society. The final document of the Paris conference will influence further stages of the WSIS +10 review process to be implemented by 2015.

The conference provided a good opportunity to reflect on the current state of the information society, new phenomena, trends and problems, ever more apparent in the various areas of social life; the consequence of communication and information technology developments. Among the many social issues raised during the proceedings – in addition to human rights, ethical challenges, security, inequality of access to information and cultural and linguistic diversity – were challenges that relate to media and information literacy education. Challenges that require education

systems to adapt to civilisational changes as well as to a new mentality brought about by the development of social communications media, new expression possibilities and access to information. Changes that put learners as active agents at the centre of the educational process.

Tomasz Komorowski from the Polish National Commission for UNESCO attended the conference, and participated in the activities of the open-ended drafting group, which prepared the final statement.

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The Processes of Digitization of Audio-Visual Resources (Film and TV Production)

Seminar in Warsaw, 20 March 2013

Access to a large part of the information, culture and history heritage, amassed over the last hundred years, for both the present and future generations, depends on digitization, i.e., the transfer of analogue audiovisual assets to a digital format. The size and quantity of these assets, that continue to suffer inevitable and irreversible losses, as well as the diversified,

often unpredictable nature of the demand for digitalised materials (e.g., quality and cost of copies in turn dependant on the nature of their subsequent application), technical, financial, and legal challenges, all makes digitization exceptionally complex; a process still in its infancy, yet nonetheless an urgent task.

In Poland, as in other countries, the process involves a wide variety of public and private entities – the government and government agencies, heritage institutions, specialized companies, artists and experts. The already noted complexity of digitizing audiovisual heritage requires coordinated strategies, good communication between all parties, experts capable of discussing and solving problems as they emerge; an optimized approach and action plan. Awareness of these issues and needs, was the reason behind organizing – within the framework of the Polish National Information for All Programme (IFAP) Committee – both an expert seminar "The Processes of Digitization of Audio-visual Resources (Film and TV Production)"



Seminar participants "The Processes of Digitization of Audio-Visual Resources (Film and TV Production), Warsaw, 20 March 2013.
Photo: © 2013 The Head Office of the State Archives

in 2013, at the Head Office of the State Archives and previous meetings in 2009 and 2010¹.

The expert seminar “The Processes of Digitization of Audio-visual Resources (Film and TV Production)” was organized under the patronage of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage, by the Polish National Commission for UNESCO and the Polish IFAP Committee, in cooperation with the Head Office of the State Archives. The seminar was devoted to reviewing and exchanging opinions on ongoing audiovisual heritage digitization projects. The aim was also to consider ways of optimising future methods of digitization, storage, and the sharing and promotion of Poland’s analogue audiovisual heritage. The meeting brought together over 70 participants – representatives of government agencies, responsible for shaping audiovisual heritage policy, institutions responsible for the allocation of public funds for the digitization of audiovisual heritage, institutions-beneficiaries of these funds, as well as technology and electronic media

companies involved in their implementation. The recommendations that emerged from the seminar were forwarded to the authorities and state institutions, responsible for formulating and implementing audiovisual heritage digitization policies.

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Opening of the Warsaw seminar “The Processes of Digitization of Audio-visual Resources (Film and TV Production)”. From left: Prof. Sławomir Ratajski, Secretary General of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO; Prof. Małgorzata Omilanowska, Undersecretary of State at the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage; Prof. Władysław Stępniański, General Director of the State Archives; Marek Hołyński, President, Polish National Information For All Programme (IFAP) Committee. Photo: © 2013 The Head Office of the State Archives.

¹ For further information on these meetings and on IFAP and its national committees – see: Polish National Commission for UNESCO Review. Bulletin No.1, 2011, pp. 36-37.

Karol Jakubowicz passed away



Dr Karol Jakubowicz died on April 28th, 2013. He was a prominent media expert and long-time associate of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO. During 2008-2010 Chairman of the Intergovernmental Council of the Information for All Programme (IFAP) and the main driving force behind founding the IFAP Polish Committee. Karol Jakubowicz’s death is a painful loss that was noted and documented during the 37th session of the General Conference as well as in several speeches given during the session of the General Conference and Executive Board. The funeral was attended by Evgeny Kuzmin (Russia), current chairman of the IFAP Intergovernmental Council.



Laureats of the 13th edition of the Scholarship Project: Dr Magdalena Król, Dr Małgorzata Zawadzka, Dr Agnieszka Łoboda, Małgorzata Urbańska, Joanna Miszkiel. Photo: © 2013 L'Oréal Polska

The 13th Edition of the L'Oréal Poland for Women in Science Project

With the Support of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO

October 14, 2013 the Museum of Modern Art in Warsaw was the venue for the awards ceremony – an annual scholarship prize – for the laureates of the thirteenth edition of the L'Oréal Poland for Women in Science Project, with the support of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO. Laureates included:

POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Dr Magdalena Król, Warsaw

Subject: Veterinary medicine, Experimental Oncology

Study area: "Tumour Microenvironment Interactions"

Location: Department of Physiological Sciences, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Warsaw University of Life Sciences

Dr Agnieszka Łoboda, Kraków

Subject: Molecular Biology

Study area: "The Role of HIF Transcription Factors, Antioxidant Proteins and miRNAs in the Regulation of Gene Expression"

Location: Department of Medical Biotechnology; Faculty of Biochemistry, Biophysics and Biotechnology, Jagiellonian University in Kraków

Dr Małgorzata Zawadzka, Warsaw

Subject: Neurobiology

Study area: "Modulating the Function of Glial and Neural Stem Cells in Central Nervous System Injuries"

Location: Laboratory of Molecular Neurobiology, M. Nencki Institute of Experimental Biology, Polish Academy of Sciences

DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Joanna Miszkiel, Kraków

Subject: Neuropharmacology

Study area: "The influence of serotonin 5-HT_{1B} receptor ligands, on amphetamine self-administration in rats"

Location: Laboratory of Drug Addiction Pharmacology; Institute of Pharmacology Polish Academy of Sciences

Małgorzata Urbańska, Warsaw

Subject: Cellular Neurobiology

Study area: "Defining the Mechanism of GSK3 dependent regulation of mTOR kinase activity in neurons in physiology and pathology"

Location: Laboratory of Molecular and Cellular Neurobiology, International Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology, Warsaw

The L'Oréal Poland-UNESCO for Women in Science

Scholarship Project, organised with the support of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO since 2001, is the first local initiative, inspired by the cooperation agreement "For Women in Science", concluded in Paris between the L'Oréal Group and UNESCO. The Commission supports the competition as an initiative favouring the promotion of women in science which makes a good example of the private sector's commitment for the common good – all the more valuable as it is a systematic commitment of a dozen years standing. Currently, programmes like the one implemented in Poland, are conducted in different regions of the world by L'Oréal's fifty subsidiaries, in cooperation with National Commissions for UNESCO. Over 1,500 young women – scientists have been honoured in this way, of which 65 in Poland.

Chairperson of the thirteen member jury is Prof.

Ewa Łojkowska, whilst further members include Prof. Mieczysław Choraży, and Włodzimierz Zagórski-Ostoja, delegated by the Polish National Commission for UNESCO, as well as Prof. Maciej Nałęcz from UNESCO's Paris based Natural Sciences Sector.

The awards ceremony on October 14, 2013 took

place under the patronage of the Minister of Science and Higher Education, Prof. Barbara Kudrycka. The occasion also had a special character because

the Minister of Science and Higher Education, the President of L'Oréal-Poland, Jean-Charles Bondy, and the President of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO, Prof. Andrzej Rottermund, signed an agreement welcoming the Ministry's participation in the project. Significant modifications have been introduced beginning with the thirteenth edition of the awards. Scholarships will now be awarded annually to three postdoctoral researchers in the process of completion of their theses, and two doctoral students, instead of as to date, to three doctoral students and two postdoctoral researchers. Starting 2013, the doctoral scholarship will amount to 27,000 PLN (approx. 6,500 EUR), whilst at post doctoral level to 32,000 PLN (approx. 7,700 EUR). Current information about the project can be found online at <http://www.lorealdlakobietinauki.pl/> International cooperation between UNESCO and L'Oréal has also led to annual research fellowships, awarded to doctoral students chosen through a competition, as well as to special prizes distributed to distinguished women representatives of science around the world.

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The awards ceremony: laureates of the 13th edition of L'Oréal Poland for Women in Science Scholarship Competition Project, with the support of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO. The ceremony was attended by the Minister of Science and Higher Education, Prof. Barbara Kudrycka (third from right), President of the jury, Prof. Ewa Łojkowska (second from right), President of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO, Prof. Andrzej Rottermund (fourth from left) and President of L'Oréal Poland, Jean-Charles Bondy (first from right). Photo: ©2013 L'Oréal Poland

Under the Patronage of UNESCO

International Conference “Children Migrants and Third Culture Kids. Roots and Routes”, held June 7-9, 2013 at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków by the Institute of Psychology and the Institute of Religious Studies at the Jagiellonian University with the participation of representatives from 17 countries. UNESCO Director-General, Ms Irina Bokova sent a letter to conference participants, which was read during the opening ceremony.

5th Edition of “Poetry Connects People - My Favourite Poem”. The competition takes place simultaneously in Poland, Bulgaria and Germany. During the awards ceremony, which took place in Warsaw (June 13, 2013), a message from UNESCO Director-General was read out to gala participants. The competition was organized by the Evens Foundation.

9th Edition of Brave Festival - Against Cultural Exile (7-12 July 2013, Wrocław and other cities of Lower

Silesia). The festival, which for the sixth time gained the patronage of UNESCO's Culture Sector, held under the slogan “Lost Rhythm” was attended by 180 artists from 20 countries. Unique musical traditions from around the world were presented.

Finals of the European BEST Engineering Competition (EBEC) - the largest engineering competition in Europe, addressed to students of 83 major European technical universities, organised by the Board of European Students of Technology - an international students organization that brings together technical universities. (Warsaw University of Technology, 1-8 August 2013).

“Musica Electronica Nova 2013: Stage and Movement” Project (Wrocław, 19-26 October 2013). The watchword of this year's festival: “Stage and motion” refers to the multi-dimensional nature of electronic music and its association



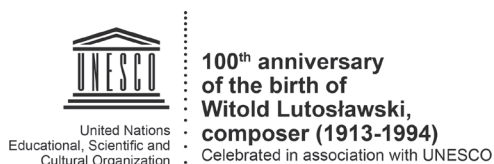
Participants of the European BEST Engineering Competition (EBEC) in front of the Warsaw University of Technology building, 9 August 2013. Photo: © 2013 Josías Rodríguez de Vega

with other means of expression, such as theatre, dance and cinema. Apart from concerts there was an extensive program of accompanying events, lectures, discussions and workshops. Organized by the Wrocław Philharmonic.

Workshop dedicated to music education, accompanying the 8th World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates (October 23, 2013, Teatr Wielki-Polish National Opera). The programme includes master classes and concerts. Organised by EMMA for PEACE (Euro Mediterranean Music Academy) – an organization committed to promoting cultural education and diplomacy.



Finals of the European BEST Engineering Competition (EBEC), held under honorary patronage of UNESCO, in the Warsaw University of Technology building, 1-9 August 2013.
Photo: © 2013 Josías Rodríguez de Vega



Anniversary of Witold Lutosławski Celebrated Under the Auspices of UNESCO

In 2013, the 100th anniversary of the birth of Witold Lutosławski was celebrated under UNESCO's auspices. The inclusion of the anniversary on the list of events celebrated under the auspices of UNESCO is a recognition of Lutosławski's international standing, as one of the twentieth century's most significant composers, as well as an acknowledgement of the importance of his work for world culture. The coordinators of the anniversary events, associated with the anniversary celebrations – the consequence of the Sejm (Polish Parliament) proclaiming 2013 as the Witold Lutosławski Year – were the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage and the Music and Dance Institute. The celebrations provided an opportunity to showcase Lutosławski's work to both domestic and international audiences. The occasion also encouraged the holding of many events commemorating the artist, including symphonic and chamber concerts,

recitals, conferences, symposia and the issuing of numerous publications, records and other multimedia.

Key events included a concert at the Warsaw Philharmonic, inaugurating the celebrations, with the participation of Anne-Sophie Mutter accompanied by the National Orchestra and Choir of Poland, conducted by Antoni Wit. Another important event was the 10th anniversary edition of the Łańcuch ("Chain") Festival, which among others, included performances by the Lutosławski Quartet and the Sinfonia Varsovia. Warsaw also hosted the IX Witold Lutosławski International Cello Competition. Many educational, popularising and publishing projects were also run throughout the year, including the issue of a six-record "Lutosławski/World" collection, showing the composer's artistic achievements in a broader cultural, social and civilisational context.

• JM



The 9th Edition of Brave Festival Against Cultural Exile, titled “Lost Rhythm”

was held during July 7-12, 2013, and was dedicated to the traditions of music and dance, in which rhythm – a universal power of expression – that often connects very different cultures, binds people’s external environment and spiritual world. The festival presented a wide range of unique musical traditions, singing and dancing, such as the Moroccan Addal dance or South African Umngqokolo split tone song, revealing a wealth of cultures and a distinct rhythmic world of artistic traditions from Europe, Africa and Asia. The festival programme was further enriched by films (screened as part of the 8th Brave Festival Film Review), exhibitions, workshops and meetings, that allowed viewers to explore the music traditions of a “dying world”, as well as to broaden their knowledge base and achieve a greater openness towards other cultures. The Festival played an important role in promoting Wrocław on the international arena, especially in connection with the upcoming events associated with Wrocław status as the European Capital of Culture 2016. Integral to the event was the 4th edition of the Brave Kids Project, an educational programme, implemented in the form of art workshops, aimed at children from different countries (including India, Laos, Zimbabwe, Czech Republic, Georgia, Poland, Uganda).



**Opening of the 9th Brave Festival in Wrocław under the patronage of UNESCO (7-12 July 2013).
Photo: © Sławek Przerwa**



Bachu Khan performing at the 9th Brave Festival in Wrocław (7-12 July 2013). Photo: © Sławek Przerwa

Polish National Commission's Honorary Patronage 2013

Conferences

- Polish National Socioterapy Conference "Simply Together", organized by the Alternative Education Centre, (Łódź, 16-17 March 2013).
- International conference "European and Educational Dimension of Heritage", organized by the County of Mikołów, (23-24 April 2013).
- Conference on the "Significance of Jazz in the European Culture of the 20th Century" combined with the presentation of the "Report on Jazz and Popular Music Education in Poland", organized by the Jazz Jamboree Foundation, Polish Jazz Association and the Institute of Music and Dance, (30 April 2013).
- Polish National Socioterapy Conference "Dilemmas of the Modern World – Mature Adults, We Need You", organized by the Alternative Education Centre, (Ślesino, 11-13 October 2013).
- "Digitizing Sound Archives", conference organized by the Institute of National Remembrance on the occasion of the World Day for Audiovisual Heritage, (Warsaw, 28 October 2013).
- International Scientific Conference "Career Guidance, Education, and Dialogue for Sustainable Human Development", organized by the Institute of Pedagogy, University of Wrocław; inaugural conference of the UNESCO Chair, (Wrocław, 26-27 November 2013).
- Sixth International Scientific Conference "Respect for Human Rights and Freedoms: A Global Context", organized on the occasion of Human Rights Day; Faculty of Organization and Management, Silesian University of Technology, (Zabrze, 10 December 2013).

Competitions and Olympiads

- Sixth edition of the Foundation of Local Democracy Annual Prize, granted to local governments and individuals for their achievements in the development of local democracy in Poland, building relationships and local traditions and energizing local communities to work together. Included initiatives undertaken in 2012-2013.
- Twentieth edition of the Human Rights Olympiad; Faculty of Law and Administration, Nicolaus Copernicus University, (Final: 19 April 2013).

- Fifth edition of the competition "Polish Village – The Heritage and the Future", organized by the Foundation for the Development of Polish Agriculture. The competition rewards inspiring and innovative countryside development initiatives. (Promotion of the prizewinning publications: June 2013).
- Twenty-Seventh Olympiad on Ecology, Katowice, (7-9 June 2013).
- Polish Young Physicists Tournament 2014, organized by the Polish Physical Society – patronage, and financial support for participants of the International Young Physicists Tournament.
- Fifth edition of the "A Second Life for E-waste" competition, for all levels of Polish schools, organized by the European Recycling Platform, Poland SA, and the Green Horizon Foundation, (15 November 2012 – 7 June 2013).
- Literary competition for the young, "Adventure Comes by Itself – A World Without War, Nazism and Violence", organised by the Polish-Russian "Common Task" ("Wspólna Sprawa") Foundation, Lubniewice, 5 July 2013.
- Nationwide campaign "It's Worth Being Good", organised by the "Friendly School" ("Przyjazna Szkoła") Association, (September 2013 – June 2014).
- Second national competition for secondary school students and teachers "Standardization and Me", organized by the Polish Committee for Standardization.
- European Academy of Music Festival, organized by the European Cultural Development Foundation, (Warsaw, 1-5 May 2013).
- Open Gardens Festival: Józefów (24-26 May), Podkowa Leśna (7-9 June), Sadyba, Warsaw, (7-9 June 2013).
- XXIII International Festival of the Fine Arts "Color Art": "Folklore From the Four Corners of the World"; continuation of the International Festival of Children's Artistic Creation, (Goleniów, 28 May-2 June 2013).
- VI Summer Jazz Academy, organized by the Wytwórnia Foundation, (Łódź, 4 July-30 August 2013)

Other projects

- Celebrating 60th anniversary of the restoration of Warsaw's Old Town organized by the capital's Chief Conservator Office (July – August 2013).
- "Warsaw 1935" film project – digital reconstruction of a portion of pre-war Warsaw. Produced by Studio Newborn Ltd.; premiered at Warsaw's Iluzjon Cinema, (15 March 2013).
- Celebrating World Telecommunication and Information Society Day; organized by the Polish Information Processing Society, (17 May 2013).
- The Lost Museum project, realised by the Ad Artis Art Foundation SAR. The aim of the project is to popularize interest in heritage lost, especially treasures lost during World War II. A show of the missing collections presented during Warsaw's Museums Night, (18 May 2013).
- VII World Fairytale Days, Olsztyn (May 31 – June 9, 2013), including the "III Interdisciplinary Academic Conference "Fairytale in Academic and Educational Sphere", (8-9 June, University of Warmia and Mazury).
- English Language Summer Camps: in Toruń, Tczew and Załęcze Wielkie; commercial undertaking, in cooperation and with the involvement of

Festivals

- Twentieth edition of the International Festival "Masters and Youngsters" Jazz Festival in Kraków", organized by the Art Education Association "Jazz Krakow", (Kraków, April-May 2013).
- Second edition of the Katowice Jazz Festival (Katowice, 26 April – 3 May 2013), organized by Katowice's Cultural Institutions – City of Gardens.
- Mokotów Jazz Fest, organized by Radio Jazz FM, Jazz Press, Warsaw Music Society and the Mokotów District of Warsaw, (30 April 2013).

teachers and assistants from the New York based Kosciuszko Foundation, (July 2013).

- Unveiling ceremony of the “Eternal Love” – Message of Peace, from Wieluń to the World sculpture by Wojciech Siudmak. The project is the artist’s tribute to the residents of Wieluń, commemorating the massacre carried out by the German army on the city’s defenceless inhabitants (Wieluń, 31 August 2013).
- Photo Exhibition of the Tuchola Forest “Beautiful, Nearly Unreal” (photographs taken from albums published in recent years by the Tuchola Nature Park and Tuchola Forest Biosphere Reserve), organized by the Centre for Contemporary Art in Toruń, (exhibition opened 20 September 2013).
- Film trailer production for “Hot Heart Story”, with promotional campaign from September to December 2013. A film about solidarity and cooperation among people from different continents and cultures coping with problems that Africa faces today.
- “Ruby [40th] Anniversary” of the Poznań University of Technology Folk Dance Ensemble “Poligrodzianie”. The jubilee included celebrations of the 200th anniversary of Hipolit Cegielski’s birth. Gala concert “Akuratnie jak w Poznaniu: Fyrtel u Ceglorza”¹, organized in Poznań under the patronage of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO, (5 October 2013).
- “21. Solidarity Decalogue”; exhibition (opened on December 11th at the National Maritime Museum in Gdańsk) with a documentary “People in the Shadow of the Boards”, produced to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the inclusion of the 21 Gdańsk Demands in UNESCO’s international Memory of the World Register (film produced by Video Studio, Gdańsk).
- Inauguration of the Europe-Far East Gallery Project, at the Museum of Japanese Art and Technology in Kraków *MANGHA*. Inauguration of a modern centre promoting the culture, art and technology of the Far East; opening planned for November 2014.

Events organized by UNESCO’s Associated Schools

- XIX National Competition for the “Literary Arbuz² Laurel”, organized by the II Secondary School in Tomaszów Mazowiecki, (November 2013).
- II Interschool Competition About Zabrze, organized by the II Secondary School in Zabrze, (November 2013).
- International Art, Sport and Media Workshops for young people, organized by the No. 8 Combined Schools in Legionowo, (14-19 October 2013).

¹ „Akuratnie jak w Poznaniu: Fyrtel u Ceglorza” is a play on words. “Ceglorz” is the name of Hipolit Cegielski’s former factory in Poznań, also a colloquial phrase describing an employee; “Fyrtel” describes a ‘corner’, a ‘district’. Thus the event title loosely translates: “Precisely As (Only) in Poznań: Ceglorz Employee in the (Best) District”.

² “Arbuz” as in ‘Watermelon’, a colloquial phrase describing a ‘big-head’, i.e. someone with a ‘knowledgeable head’.

We Were There

The first international review conference of the World Summit on the Information Society “Towards Knowledge Societies for Peace and Sustainable Development”, organized at UNESCO headquarters in Paris, by UNESCO, ITU, UNDP and UNCTAD. The conference, attended by about 1,450 participants from 130 countries, opened the process of reviewing the implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society’s recommendations (WSIS Geneva 2003 – Tunis 2005). The meeting issued a closing document “Final Statement. Information and Knowledge for All: an Expanded Vision and a Renewed Commitment”, (25-27 February 2013). (Read more on page 105 of this Bulletin).

“The Processes of Digitization of Audio-Visual Resources (Film and TV Production)”, a seminar held in Warsaw under the patronage of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage, organized by the Polish National Commission for UNESCO and the Polish National IFAP Committee, in cooperation with the Head Office of the State Archives. The Seminar, dedicated to reviewing and exchanging experiences as to the current implementation of digitization projects, in the field of audiovisual heritage, brought together 70 participants. The Polish National Commission for UNESCO was represented by the Secretary General, Professor Sławomir Ratajski and Tomasz Komorowski, (20 March 2013). (Read more on page 106 of this Bulletin).

“Child Soldiers: The Exploitation of Children in Armed Conflicts”; a scientific conference at the University of Zielona Góra, included a speech “Children in Armed Conflicts: A UNESCO

Perspective” by the National Coordinator of UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network in Poland, Maria Belina-Brzozowska (Zielona Góra, 25 April 2013).

“Safety of Journalists - Current Challenges”; a scientific conference organized in Warsaw by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Institute of International Affairs and the embassies of Austria and Switzerland in Poland. The conference was attended by a UNESCO representative from Paris, Ms Sylvie Coudray, head of the Division of Freedom of Expression and Media Development, (23-24 April 2013).

“Reading Sacred Texts – A Source of Division or a Medium for Positive Encounter?”; a conference organized on the World Day for Cultural Diversity at the Jesuit University Ignatianum in Kraków by the Bielsko Artistic Association Grodzki Theatre and the Centre for Culture and Dialogue in Kraków. The conference dealt with intercultural and interreligious dialogue and was organized within the BASICS project: “Bibliodrama as a Way of Intercultural Learning for Adults” supported by the European Commission. Ms Ilona Morżoł participated in the meeting on behalf of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO and gave a speech in the opening session, (21 May 2013).

“Children Migrants and Third Culture Kids: Roots and Routes”; international conference organized under the auspices of UNESCO at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, by the Institutes of Psychology and Religious Studies. The conference was opened with a speech by the Secretary General of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO, Prof. Sławomir Ratajski, who also read a letter from UNESCO’s Director-General, addressed to participants from

17 countries, including Australia, Iran, Japan and Canada. The meeting was also attended by Ms Ilona Morżoł, intercultural educational projects and the E-A Dialogue project coordinator in the Polish National Commission for UNESCO, (June 7-9, 2013).

International Forum on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the UNESCO Associated Schools Network; organized in Suwon (South Korea). The Forum was attended by the National Coordinator of UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network in Poland, Maria Belina-Brzozowska, (6-10 September 2013). (Read more on page 93 of this Bulletin).

“Internet and Socio-Cultural Transformations in Information Society”; international conference organized by the Russian IFAP Committee in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk (Russian Federation). The conference was attended by: Marek Hołyński, President of the Polish National IFAP Committee and Maciej Groń, director of the Department of Information Society at the Ministry of Administration and Digitization, and Jarosław Lipszyc, president of the Foundation “Nowoczesna Polska” (Modern Poland) and member of the Polish National IFAP Committee, who both addressed the conference. Conference conclusions were contained in the “Sakhalin Declaration on Internet and Socio-Cultural Transformation”, (8-12 September 2013).

UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network

Conference in Karlsruhe (Germany); coordinators from numerous countries were invited including Poland. Conference participants exchanged experiences and established contacts, aimed at continuing present international cooperation initiatives as well as establishing new ones. There were also workshops for coordinators and teachers on teaching business and economics in schools (Financial Literacy), commissioned by the OECD, (25-28 September 2013).

World Meeting of Experts on the Ethical Aspects of the Information Society, held in Riga and organised by IFAP UNESCO, the Latvian National Commission for UNESCO, Latvia’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Latvian Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development. The meeting was

attended by Marek Hołyński, President of the Polish National IFAP Committee, and Tomasz Komorowski, representing the Polish National Commission for UNESCO, who both made speeches and participated in the preparation of the final document “Riga Guidelines on Ethics in the Information Society”. The meeting brought together over 60 participants from 20 countries from different parts of the world, (16-17 October 2013).

“Knowledge of Climate Change – How to Talk With the Public?”; international conference organized by the Institute for Sustainable Development in cooperation with the Polish Academy of Sciences, The Heinrich Böll Foundation, and the Climate Coalition, in the premises of the Polish Academy of Science in Warsaw, (24 October 2013).

“Euro-Arab Dialogue: Our Commonly Shared Values”; conference held in Algarve (Portugal), devoted to the preparation of an educational toolkit aimed at promoting interregional and intercultural dialogue. Poland was represented by Prof. Halina Grzymała-Moszczyńska (Jagiellonian University in Kraków), an expert in the field of intercultural education, who also moderated the debate of one of the three round table discussions, and Ms Ilona Morżoł, the E-A Dialogue project coordinator in the Polish National Commission for UNESCO, (25-26 November 2013) (Read more on page 75 of this Bulletin).

Ceremony for the awarding of the Lithuanian

National Memory of the World Register certificates and meeting of the MoW Programme’s Lithuanian National Committee; inclusion on the National MoW Register of two works written by the first poet to write in Lithuanian – Kristijonas Donelaitis, who lived in Lithuania Minor (Ducal Prussia) in the eighteenth century, attracted great interest. Other new entries to the Register included i. a. a manuscript from 1564 of the Second Statute of Lithuania. Tomasz Komorowski attended the ceremony, on behalf of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO, and the Polish Committee of the Memory of the World Programme, and in his speech emphasized Poland’s and Lithuania’s common historical heritage and values, (27 November 2013). ●

Members of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO



Prof. Andrzej Rottermund; President of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO (since 2011), art historian, Director of the Royal Castle in Warsaw, Chairman of the Association of Art Historians (1987-1991), President of the Polish National Committee of ICOM (International Council of Museums) (1990-1996). Correspondent Member of the Polish Academy of Sciences. Author of more than a hundred books, articles and essays on the history of art, Polish architecture and the Royal Castle collection.



Prof. Jacek Purchla; Vice-President of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO (since 2011). Head of UNESCO Chair in Heritage and Urban Studies and Chair in Economic and Social History at Kraków University of Economics, Chair in European Heritage at Kraków's Jagiellonian University. Founder and Director of the International Cultural Centre in Kraków (since 1991).



Prof. Sławomir Ratajski; Secretary-General of the Polish National Commission for UNESCO. Chairholder at the Faculty of Media Art of Warsaw's Academy of Fine Arts, Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to Argentina (2001-2005), Secretary of State at the Ministry of Culture (1997-1999).



Dr Henryka Mościska-Dendys, Undersecretary of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Director of the European Policy Department (2012-2013) and Deputy Director of this Department, responsible for institutional affairs and Northern Europe (2011-2012). Served as 1st secretary and later as counsellor at the Polish Embassy in Berlin (2007-2011).



Prof. Jacek Guliński, Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry of Science and Higher Education, Professor of Chemistry at Adam Mickiewicz University (UAM) in Poznań, Vice-President of the Poznań Science and Technology Park – UAM Foundation, Director of the University Centre for Innovation and Technology Transfer (2004-2008).



Ewa Dudek, Undersecretary of State at the Ministry of National Education, Deputy Director of the Centre for Education Development in Warsaw (2012-2013); previously Head of the Project Division in the Department of General Education and specialist in the Department of Structural Funds in the Ministry of National Education.



Piotr Żuchowski, Secretary of State at the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage (since 2008) and Chief Monuments Conservator (since 2010). Previously an Iława County Councillor, member of the county management team, Deputy-chief executive of Iława County, Deputy-Governor of the Warmian-Mazurian Voivodship (2003-2008). A National Executive Committee Member of the Polish Peasant Party (PSL).



Marcin Korolec, Secretary of State at the Ministry of Environment and Government Plenipotentiary for Climate Policy. Lawyer, long-standing government administration worker and negotiator. Minister of the Environment (2011-2013). Undersecretary of State at the Ministry of Economy, responsible for horizontal European issues (energy, the single European market, competitiveness, foreign trade and climate change) (2005-2011).

Prof. Ewa Bartnik, biologist, researcher at the Institute of Genetics and Biotechnology of Warsaw University's Faculty of Biology, and at the Polish Academy of Sciences Institute of Biochemistry and Bioethics. Member of the UNESCO International Bioethics Committee (IBC). Represented Poland on the UNESCO Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee, IGBC (2005-2009).



Juliusz Braun, Ph.D., Chairman of the Board of Polish Television (since 2011), President of the National Broadcasting Council (1999-2003), Solidarity Citizen's Committee Member of Polish Parliament (1989-1999), Chairperson of the Culture and Media Committee (for two terms). Publicist, author of numerous publications on culture and the media. Head of the Information Commission at the Polish National Commission for UNESCO (since 1992).



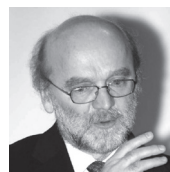
Prof. Mieczysław Choraży, head of the Tumour Biology Department at the Centre for Translational Research and Molecular Biology of Cancer, Maria Skłodowska-Curie Memorial Cancer Centre and Institute of Oncology, Gliwice Branch (1951-1995), Ordinary Member of the Polish Academy of Science, and Full Member of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences, former President of the Polish Society of Oncology and Vice-President of the European Association for Cancer Research. Holder of *honoris causa* degrees from two Medical Universities.



Małgorzata Dzieduszycka-Ziemilska, co-organiser of the Wrocław International Open Theatre Festival (1973-1981). Consul-General of the Republic of Poland in Montreal (1992-1996), Permanent Delegate of the Republic of Poland to UNESCO in Paris (2000-2003), Minister Plenipotentiary for Polish-Jewish Relations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Chairperson of the Polish Council of the European Movement.



Prof. Leszek Kolankiewicz, Director, *Centre de civilisation polonaise* in Paris and Professor of Slavonic Studies at the Paris-Sorbonne (Paris-IV) University, Director of the Warsaw University Institute of Polish Language and Culture (2005-2012), President of The Committee on Cultural Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences (2007-2011). Headed team of experts on Intangible Cultural Heritage, established by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage (2010-2012).



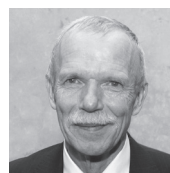
Prof. Michał Kleiber, President of the Polish Academy of Sciences (since 2007), Minister of Science and Information Technology (2001-2005), formerly director of the Institute of Fundamental Technological Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences, President of the State Committee for Scientific Research and Chairman of the Governmental Committee for Offset Contracts. *Pro bono* advisor to the President of the Republic of Poland on science and technology (2006-2010).



Prof. Andrzej Paszewski, geneticist, head of The Genetics Department at the Institute of Biochemistry and Biophysics of the Polish Academy of Sciences (1981-2008), Institute Director (1982-1984), President of the Polish Genetics Society (1995-1998), and Chairperson of the Warsaw Scientific Society (2001-2007), Member of the Bioethics Committee of the Polish Academy of Sciences.



Prof. Edmund Wnuk-Lipiński, sociologist. Rector (2006-2012), Honorary Rector (since 2012) of *Collegium Civitas* in Warsaw, co-founder and Chair of the Department of Sociology (since 2012). Founder, first head and currently President of the Scientific Council of the Polish Academy of Sciences Institute of Political Studies. Participated in the Round Table Talks of 1989, advisor to the Citizen's Parliamentary Caucus Party (OKP) (1989-1991).



Prof. Marek Ziolkowski, sociologist. Senator of the Republic of Poland (since 2005), Deputy Speaker of the Senate (2005-2011), Head of the Social and Human Sciences Commission in the Polish National Commission for UNESCO (since 1992), Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Council of the UNESCO Management of Social Transformations (MOST) Programme (1999-2003). Chairman of the Sociology and Political Science Section in the State Committee for Scientific Research (1991-2000).



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