



Empowerment of civil society for the protection of cultural heritage in conflict and post-conflict areas

“Syria, Iraq, Yemen, Palestine, Sudan, Lebanon and Libya”

Date: 28-29/05/2025

Time: 13:00 – 19:00 CET time zone (+01:00 GMT)

Location: Virtual | Zoom Platform

Moderator(s): Heritage for Peace Organization

Registration link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_pa872k9SQDiTr-Y8um27Tw

Abstract

This conference will highlight the work of the Arab Network of Civil Society Organizations to Safeguard Cultural Heritage (ANSCH), showcasing its efforts to protect cultural heritage across the Arab region. It will focus on the experiences of civil society organizations in conflict-affected countries, with contributions from Syria, Palestine, Lebanon, Libya, Iraq, Yemen, and Sudan. Experts and funding agencies will also provide insights and recommendations. Heritage for Peace will present ANSCH's past projects and future strategies. The event will share findings from a recent survey assessing the needs and challenges of CSOs working in heritage protection, aiming to foster dialogue, partnerships, and capacity building in times of crisis and recovery.

Note: Sessions will be held in English and translations in Arabic will be available.



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First day Wednesday 28.05.2025 13:00-19:00 PM time zone (+01:00 GMT)

Welcome and opening

Presenting the conference agenda, ANSCH's projects, working methods and logistics

Chair: Isber Sabrine, The Milá and Fontanals Institute for Humanities Research (CSIC),
Heritage for Peace (H4P) 13:00 – 13:10

Plenary sessions

Speakers from Syria	13:10– 15:10
Dr. Anas Zaidan, Director of DGAM in Syria	13:10– 13:20
Eyad Ghanem, Friends of Museums and Archaeological Sites Association	13:20 -13:30
Luna Rajab, ICOMOS Syria	13:30-13:40
Khaled Alfaham, Syrian for Built Heritage Association	13:40 – 13:50
Ayman al-Nabou, Idlib Antiquities Center	13:50 – 14:00
Dr.Mahmoud Almasri, The Syrian Association for Preservation of Archaeology and Heritage	14:00 – 14:10
Souraya Zureick ,Sour Society	14:10 – 14:20
Mouhammad Hilal, Rafekatuna initiative (an initiative of Heritage for Peace)	14:20 – 14:30
Mohammad Abood Alkadro, Hiropolis initiative (an initiative of Heritage for Peace)	14:30- 14:40
Hasan Ali, Palmyrene Voices (an initiative of Heritage for Peace)	14:40– 14:50
Ristam Abdo, Orient Association for the Protection of Syrian Heritage	14:50 – 15:00
Lama Abboud, Turathuna Foundation	15:00 – 15:10
Coffee Break	15:10– 15:20

Speakers from Palestine

15:20 – 16:10

Jihad Yaseen, General Director of Excavations and Museums in Palestine	15:20 – 15:30
Tahani Youssef Ghayyad, Mayasem Association for Culture and Arts	15:30 – 15:40
Fadel Alotel , Première Urgence International, Inteqal	15:40 – 15:50
Issam Juha Centre for Cultural Heritage Preservation - CCHP	15:50– 16:00
Shatha Safi, Riwaq- centre for architectural conservation	16: 00– 16:10

Speakers from Lebanon

16:10 – 16:50

Sarkis El-Khoury, Director General of Heritage and Archaeology in Lebanon (<i>TBC</i>)	16:10– 16:20
Mohammed Ayoub, Founder and director of NAHNOO	16:20– 16:30
Joanne Farchakh Bajjaly, Director of Biladi NGO	16:30– 16:40
Alia Fares, Founder and Director of Heritage Education Program	16:40– 16:50

Coffee Break

16:50– 17:10

Needs Assessment of Civil Society Organizations

Presenting gaps, and assessment of needs

17:10– 17:25

Presentation: Isber Sabrine and Mariam Abdullatif, Heritage for Peace (H4P)

Funding agencies

Moderator: Gaiane Casnati

Will Raynold, Program Director of Heritage Conservation Program

17:25– 17:40

Dr. Elke selter, International Alliance for the protection of cultural heritage in conflict areas (ALIPH).

17:40– 17:45

Stephanie Grant, Cultural Protection Fund, British Council, UK

17:45– 18:00

Freddie Thomson, Cultural Emergency Response

18:00 -18:15

Martin Perschler , Director of U.S. Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation

18:15 – 18:30

- Jeanne Crampett, Project Coordinator of the Heritage Protection, ICOM

18:30 – 18:45

Wrap up Day 1

- Isber Sabrine, The Milá and Fontanals Institute for Humanities Research (CSIC), Heritage for Peace (H4P)

18:45 – 19:00

Second day Thursday 29.05.2025 13:00-19:00 CET time zone (+01:00GMT)

Welcoming and introduction

Isber Sabrine, The Milá and Fontanals Institute for Humanities Research (CSIC), Heritage for Peace
13:00 – 13:10

Plenary sessions

Speakers from Libya 13:10– 14:00

Dr.Saleh Alqab Abdulah, Ambassador of Libya to UNESCO	13:10– 13:20
Dr.Ahmed Issa Farag, Rpresentive of Heritage Authority in Libya	13:20– 13:30
Wanis Saad Abdullah, Apollonia Organization for Heritage and Culture	13:30– 13:40
Kasem Yosha, Ghadames Association for Heritage and Manuscripts	13:40 – 13:50
Dr. Muhammad Omar Abd Rabbo, Pentapolis Heritage Organization	13:50 – 14:00

Speakers from Iraq 14:00 – 14:50

Dr. Jafar Aljothari, Alqadisyha University	14:00 -14:10
Ali Rahim Al-Jubouri, Sumerian Descendants Team	14:10– 14:20
Dr. Omar Jassam Fadel, Lamassu Cultural Organization	14:20– 14:30
Baraa Yasir Hamza, Mosul Heritage	14:30 – 14:40
Saqer Al Zakaria, BytnaFoundation for Culture, Arts and Heritage	14:40– 14:50

Coffee Break	14:50 – 15:05
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Speakers from Yemen	15:05 – 16:05
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Dr.Mohamad Jumei , Ambassador of Yemen to UNESCO	15:05 – 15:15
Ramzi AL-Doumini, Director of Museums at Directorate of Heritage in Taiz	15:15 – 15:25
Mazen Sharif, Aden Again	15:25 – 15:35
Dr. Yasser Alhiagi, Yemeni Center for Heritage and Tourism (MYTS)	15:35 – 15:45
Anis Yasser Ghilan , Waeyy organization for heritage and development	15:45 – 15:55
Ahmed Aldali, Save Yemen Organization	15:55 – 16:05
Waddah Abdulqader Al-Adeeb, Eram Foundation for Cultural and Media Development	16:05– 16:15

Speakers from Sudan	16:15 –17:05
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Dr.Ghalia Jar Alnabi, Director General of National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums (NCAM)	16:15– 16:25
Dr.Ikhlal Abdulatif, Director of Museums at NCAM	16:25- 16:35
Dr.Salah Mohamed Ahmed, Former Director General of NCAM	16:35-16:45
Dr.Ismail Alnour, Sudan Heritage Protection Initiative	16:45-16:55
Dr. Geoff Emberling ,the Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, University of Michigan	16:55 – 17:05

Coffee Break	17:05- 17:20
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Practical recommendations from International Institutions

Moderator: Xavier Casanovas

Expert discussion: Challenges and Opportunities **17:20 - 18:20**

Dr. Emma Cunliffe, Blue Shield International 17:20 –17:30

Richard Dwerryhouse, Turquoise Mountain 17:30– 17:40

Kristen Hopper, EAMENA project 17:40– 17:50

Dr. Imad Sawla, Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization 17:50 -18:00

Dr-Bilel chebi , Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO) 18:00-18:10

Hiba Alkadri, World Monuments Fund (WMF) 18:10-18:20

Darren Ashby, the Program Manager for ASOR's Cultural Heritage Initiatives 18:20-18:30

Muhsen Albawab, Petra National Trust 18:30-18:40

Gianluigi Mastandrea Bonaviri , Heritage International Institute 18:40-18:50

Group discussion

18:50- 19:00

Presenting ANSCH's future proposal to empower Civil Society Organizations

Open plenary discussion