

## Report of the DAAD Programme “Summer Academies in Germany”



**Project title:** International Academy Cottbus: Understanding Heritage (ISAC)  
*“Conflict-Solving Strategies in Heritage Studies”*

**Project reference number:** 57163320

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**Reporting period:** 01.01.2015 – 31.12.2015

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## Goals and Objectives of the Project ("Target")

The main aim of the project was to implement the fourth of five consecutive interdisciplinary Summer Academies (ISAC) at BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg, which have in turn had the goal of establishing the research field of *Heritage Studies*, developed in 2010 within the framework of the PhD programme. Based on the general theoretical framework, participants of the first Summer Academy in 2012 formulated the "*Cottbus Declaration on Heritage Studies*". The second Summer Academy followed in 2013 with reflections on theoretical approaches to understanding sustainability in *Heritage Studies* and its corresponding disciplines. The third Summer Academy, 2014, dealt with the topics of participation and empowerment, while in this Summer Academy, participants identified the diversity of conflicts that face heritage and presented corresponding conflict-solving strategies.

During the two-week course programme, the international participants of the 2015 academy were to identify the root causes of conflicts that affect heritage and to offer disciplinary and interdisciplinary conflict-solving strategies. The thematization of conflict-solving strategies aimed to further develop the concepts of sustainable protection and use of heritage in the sense of the

UNESCO Conventions and at the role and meaning of heritage for sustainable and human development.

Along with the goals of the DAAD call for proposals, the four international academies aimed to enable the participants to develop conflict-solving strategies for the current conflicts to which heritage is exposed, to reflect on these theoretically by means of the holistic approach of Cottbus *Heritage Studies*, link with one another and apply the findings to their own research projects. These objectives were reached through a combination of expert lectures, discussions and participant presentations. The academy furthermore aimed to build international scientific cooperation and networks between the participants of the ISAC, students of the “World Heritage Studies” Master’s programme, PhD students of the *International Graduate School: Heritage Studies at Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus-Senftenberg* (hereafter *IGS Heritage Studies*), academics involved at BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg as well as national and international guest speakers. The international experience serves again as a starting point for joint research projects and publications.

The overarching subject of conflicts and conflict-solving strategies was divided into five thematic areas (detailed description, see Appendix A):

1. Heritage in the Event of War and Terrorism.
2. Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) as a Tool for Solving Conflicts.
3. Conflict Solving Strategies in the Context of Historic Urban Landscapes.
4. Climate Change and Natural Disasters as Challenges for Natural Heritage.
5. Cultural Landscapes in Conflict: Challenges and Solutions.

## Implementation of the Event

The fourth International Academy in Cottbus (ISAC) took place in 2015 with the title, “*Conflict-Solving Strategies in Heritage Studies*” and was implemented under the auspices of the German Commission for UNESCO from 30 November until 12 December at the BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg. As described in the proposal, this academy aims to identify and develop solutions to the diverse potential conflicts with which the heritage of humanity is currently confronted. The following BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg colleagues have supported the programme and its implementation:

- Prof. Marie-Theres Albert, *UNESCO Chair in Heritage Studies*, Director of *IGS Heritage Studies*, Faculty 3, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg
- Prof. em. Inken Baller, Chair Design – Contextual Design, Faculty 2, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg
- Prof. Claus Lewerentz, Director of Information, Communication and Media Centre (IKMZ), BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg
- Prof. Heinz Nagler, Chair Urban Design, Faculty 2, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

- Prof. Thomas Raab, Chair Geopedology and Landscape Development, Faculty 4, Director of the Graduate Research School (GRS), BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg
- Prof. Wolfgang Schuster, Chair Building Construction and Architectural Design, Faculty 2, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg
- Prof. Silke Weidner, Chair Urban Management, Faculty 2, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg
- Dr. Katharina Kriegel-Schmidt, Chair Intercultural Studies, Faculty 3, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg
- Dariya Afanasyeva, PhD, Chair Intercultural Studies / *UNESCO Chair in Heritage Studies*, Faculty 3, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg.
- Mohammad Ravankhah, Chair Environmental Planning, Faculty 4, PhD Candidate, *IGS Heritage Studies*, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg
- Robert Rode, M.A., Manager of the Graduate Research School (GRS), BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg
- Stefan Simon, Chair Intercultural Studies / *UNESCO Chair in Heritage Studies*, Faculty 3, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg
- Dipl.-Ing. Christoph Wessling, Chair Urban Design, Faculty 2, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg
- Solmaz Yadollahi, PhD Candidate, *IGS Heritage Studies*, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

The programme offered a thematically oriented sequence consisting of lectures, discussions, excursions, working groups and public evening lectures. Nationally and internationally recognized experts conducted these along with diverse keynote speeches. Alongside the research focuses, the invited students had the daily opportunity to present and discuss their topics with one another, supervised by professionally recognized experts. With the evening lectures, ISAC 2015, like ISAC 2014, spoke to a target group beyond the university audience. The offer of *IGS Heritage Studies* was gladly accepted by the general Cottbus public as well as by interested Berliners.

The following nationally and internationally proven experts in the field of Heritage Studies were secured for the programme. In addition to financial support from the DAAD, they were funded by university and other acquired project funds.

- Prof. Markus Hilgert, Director of the Museum of the Ancient Near East, Berlin, Stiftung Preussischer Kulturbesitz (Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation)
- Prof. Friedrich Schipper, Director of the Competence Center for Cultural Heritage and Cultural Property Protection, University of Vienna, Austria, Member of the Austrian Committee of the Blue Shield
- Matthias Ripp, World Heritage Coordinator, UNESCO-World Heritage Site Old Town of Regensburg with Stadtamhof

- Dr.-Ing. Michael Kloos, Chair and Institute for Urban and Regional Planning, RWTH Aachen University
- Prof. Christina Cameron, Chair, Canada Research Chair on Built Heritage, School of Architecture, Faculté de l'aménagement, Université de Montréal
- Dr. Ana Pereira Roders, Assistant Professor, Department of the Built Environment, Eindhoven University of Technology
- Prof. Helaine Silverman, Department of Anthropology, University of Illinois
- Dr. Marie Luise Frey, Director, Welterbe Grube Messel gGmbH
- Prof. Klaus Hüfner, former President and Honorary Member of the German Commission for UNESCO, Honorary Member of UNESCO World Heritage Sites Germany
- Dr. Chang Liu, Project Manager, China Academy of Urban Planning and Design, Beijing
- Dr. Shina Erlewein, Coordinator, Digital Society Institute Berlin
- Dipl.-Ing. Carola Simon, Founder of ALEPPO \* Strategies to Rebuild Aleppo
- Dipl.- Arch. Lena Wimmer, Founder of ALEPPO \* Strategies to Rebuild Aleppo

## Excursions

The thematically conceptualized excursions offered participants the opportunity to reflect on the fundamental contents of the course programme in light of their practical application and to discuss the conflict-solving strategies with respect to different local contexts.

The thematic area “Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) as a Tool for Solving Conflicts” and “Cultural Landscapes in Conflict: Challenges and Solutions” were accompanied by an excursion to Dresden. It was possible to discuss questions regarding decision-making processes and strategies that could have prevented the withdrawal of World Heritage status from the cultural landscape of the Dresden Elbe Valley in 2009. In the framework of this excursion, the facets of Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) as a tool for identifying conflict areas were exemplified and investigated through the example of the adverse effects of the Waldschlößbrücke on the visual integrity of the Dresden Elbe Valley.

The thematic area “Conflict-Solving Strategies in the Context of Historic Urban Landscapes” was accompanied by insightful excursions to Berlin and Eisenhüttenstadt. Participants traced the urban development of Berlin and conflict areas in the context of the Historic Urban Landscape approach. A central point of the discussion was the question of balance between urban development and preservation of properties and values that are linked to the history, environment and collective memories. The excursion to Eisenhüttenstadt aimed at urban planning challenges and conflicts in the preservation of the city as a model city of the former GDR and the socio-economic development of Eisenhüttenstadt in the context of structural

changes after the reunification. The participants discussed the dualism of historic preservation of building fabric and simultaneous use of the city, which is geared to the current social demands of the residents.

The excursion to the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve in Spreewald was connected to the thematic area “Climate Change and Natural Disasters as Challenges for Natural Heritage”. This excursion aimed at discussion of the impact of lignite mining for the Spreewald Biosphere Reserve as well as the conflict potential of protection and economic use of the Spreewald.

## **Certification**

At the conclusion of ISAC 2015, participants of the programme received a certificate with 6 ECTS credit points, which they can have transferred to their home universities according to the Bologna criteria.

## **Participants**

The *IGS Heritage Studies* published a successful call for applications and received 30 applications, of which 22 candidates were identified. 11 were then accepted after the final review. The application process had two stages: first the candidates were asked to submit the application form, a current resume, a letter of motivation, an abstract and proof of enrolment. The abstract was based on the content of the 15-minute presentation that the participant should prepare for the ISAC. In the second step, those candidates who were ultimately selected by the expert commission of the ISAC were asked to submit an essay of up to 2,000 words on the topic of their 15-minute presentation. Two participants who would otherwise have received a stipend made a last minute cancelation. At that point, awarding the remaining stipends other participants was no longer possible.

In total, 20 young academics took part in the academy, of which all 20 were international students. The Master’s and PhD students of the study project co-moderated the workshops and working groups during each day of the ISAC.

	Composition of the group of 14 external participants	Composition of the 6 Master's and PhD students of the study project
Male	3	
Female	11	6
<b>Status</b>		
Master	12	4
PhD students	6	2
Research assistants	2	
<b>Origin by country</b>		
<b>Africa</b>		
Tanzania	1	
<b>America</b>		
Columbia		1
USA		2
Argentina		1
<b>Arab States</b>		
Iran	1	1
Jordan		1
Palestine	1	
Egypt	3	
Syria	1	
<b>Asia</b>		
China	3	
South Korea	1	
<b>Europe</b>		
Italy	1	
France	1	
Russia	1	

## Promotion

To achieve the goals and objectives, the website used for ISAC in 2014 was updated. The website presented key information about the goals and objectives, content, programme, participating university lecturers, application, target group and certification<sup>1</sup>. The website was viewed 4,377 times in over 80 countries worldwide. Likewise, the “Call for Applications” was published on the websites of the *International Graduate School: Heritage Studies*<sup>2</sup>, the Chair Intercultural Studies<sup>3</sup> and the Institute Heritage Studies<sup>4</sup>.

Once the conditions for effective promotional activities were established, the *IGS Heritage Studies* sent the call to its international cooperation partners (see Appendix A). The invitation was sent to Forum UNESCO as well as the DAAD and the World Heritage Centre in Paris. It was also sent to 39 international chairs of the UNESCO Chair Programme and to over 50 further chairs dealing with the topic of heritage, with the request that they forward the call to colleagues, students and other interested persons. The programme announcement could be circulated further thanks to the auspices of the German Commission for UNESCO.

In addition to the above-mentioned measures, social networks were used to promote exchange between and among the participants. The invitation was published on the *Heritage Studies* Facebook page<sup>5</sup>. Diverse target groups also had the opportunity to follow the progress of the ISAC on this page, where current “impressions of the day” were regularly posted. In time the video recordings of the opening session, keynote addresses and panel discussion will be published on the official website of the ISAC and thus accessible worldwide.

## Assessment of Achievement of Objectives (“Target-Actual Comparison”)

The objectives of the fourth Summer Academy were 100 percent achieved. The implementation of the two-week course programme on conflicts with which the heritage of humanity is confronted in the 21<sup>st</sup> century along with disciplinary and interdisciplinary conflict-solving strategies took place at the highest international level.

Participants of the 1<sup>st</sup> group, “Heritage in the Event of War and Terrorism”, actively discussed the impact of armed conflict on built monuments and on intangible heritage. As a result, context-specific solutions and strategies were proposed. At the same time, the participants and experts

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<sup>1</sup> <https://internationalacademycottbus.wordpress.com/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.tu-cottbus.de/projekte/de/gradschool/heritage-studies/int-academy/isac-2015.html>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.tu-cottbus.de/fakultaet3/de/interkulturalitaet/activities/lehre-forschung/projekte.html>

<sup>4</sup> <http://heritagestudies.eu/international-academy-cottbus-isac-2015/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/HeritageStudies/>



addressed the importance of prevention strategies and capacity building in the field of the protection of heritage in the event of great force (such as war, terrorism, invasion, hostility).

The participants of thematic Group 2, “Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) as a Tool for Solving Conflicts”, discussed the importance of HIA methods for the preservation of heritage values. The participants and experts identified weaknesses of the model and suggested improvements. They evaluated it as a new instrument that makes it possible to respond effectively to conflicts between development and the protection of cultural heritage. This instrument should be integrated early in the planning process, since an adequate impact assessment can significantly improve the resilience of tangible and intangible heritage in the face of future development.

Thematic Group 3, “Conflict Solving Strategies in the Context of Historic Urban Landscapes”, dealt with the advantages and possible limitations of the *Historic Urban Landscape* approach. This approach was seen as very positive for achieving a balance between development and preservation of urban heritage. Concerns were expressed in terms of authenticity and integrity. Still, it was seen as a forward-looking approach for the identification, assessment, conservation and management of the historic urban landscape because it, among other things, adequately considers urban identity and values.

Participants and experts of Group 4, “Climate Change and Natural Disasters as Challenges for Natural Heritage”, identified the impact of climate change on natural heritage and explained possible strategies to predict and alleviate this (if possible). They formulated the hypothesis that strategies to combat climate change must aim at two things: “avoidance” and “adaptation”. The avoidance (prevention) strategy attempts to reduce contributions to global emissions and human-caused pressures through (inter)national policy. Adaptation strategies, however, are based on the integration of climate change in development and management plans. These strategies also aim at promoting the resilience of ecosystems and investment in clean energy technologies. The main goal is to find a reasonable balance between harm reduction, or mitigation, of the risk and the possibility of flexible adaptation.

Thematic Group 5 “Cultural Landscapes in Conflict: Challenges and Solutions” discussed strategies for the conservation of cultural, natural and intangible values of cultural landscapes. This topic dealt with issues relating to negotiation of conflicting interests in local communities, indigenous populations and as to whether and how sustainable partnerships can be promoted. It was noted that cultural landscapes are dynamic and constantly changing. Conservation and management strategies should be designed and implemented accordingly to take into account these changes and natural developments along with local aspects, such as environmental concerns, the preservation of cultural values and the interests of local communities.

The detailed results and reflections by the ISAC participants for each thematic area were summarized by the students of the study project in the form of a final report (see Appendix C).

## Evaluation

The high quality of the contributions of university lecturers from BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg as well as the keynote and guest speakers were unanimously praised by the participants. The academy was also well received by the external experts in attendance, whose presentations contributed significantly to the success of the ISAC.

The participants and the experts of the ISAC agreed that *Heritage Studies* serves as a platform for enabling a holistic understanding of the different facets of *heritage*. In this context, the series of Summer Academies provides young international academics a forum for scholarly exchange with one another and with other experts in the field of *heritage*. Last but not least, because of the extensive insights that the participants received through research at BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg, the fourth Summer Academy now also represents an important contribution to the perpetuation of *Heritage Studies* in Cottbus.

Listed below are some brief comments submitted by participants of ISAC 2015, which were submitted via an online survey<sup>6</sup> (see detailed overview in Appendix D):

- „Wonderful lectures, qualified participants, excellent teamwork and kindly and helpful organizers.”
- “It met my expectations and I liked it a lot.”
- “It was very good because, the professors were very well prepared to deliver knowledge to participants.”
- “It was so balanced between the academic knowledge and the professional experience.”
- “I think it covered the topic in a comprehensive and accurate way.”
- “A lot of efforts has been put into the participant presentations.”
- “Well equipped facilities, high level of technical support.”
- “Extremely friendly and supporting team.”
- “Thank you so much for your efforts.”
- “I appreciate the diversity Students participation I liked and enjoyed very much the excursions, other than the one in Cottbus it was raining and just didn't pay off well Some lectures had professionals with insightful ideas and/ experiences.”
- “It was compelling.”
- “It is wonderful experience. All the lectures and excursions are organized perfect.”

## Sustainability

The *IGS Heritage Studies* intends – as before<sup>7</sup> – to publish the results of this fourth ISAC. A call for papers is being prepared. The following persons have stated their willingness to edit this

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<sup>6</sup> <http://www.surveio.com/survey/d/S7G3C1E2D1M9Y5M9K>

publication: Prof. Markus Hilgert (Director of the Museum of the Ancient Near East, Berlin, Stiftung Preussischer Kulturbesitz (Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation), honorary professor at the Universities of Heidelberg and Marburg) and Sabine von Schorlemer (Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in International Relations, Dresden University of Technology, member of the German Political Science Association (DVPW)).

We are thus convinced that the fourth ISAC has advanced the international visibility *Heritage Studies* research in Cottbus and we look forward to the future academies.

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<sup>7</sup> Information about the Heritage Studies Series:  
<http://heritagestudies.eu/category/veroeffentlichungen/reihe-heritage-studies/>

## Appendix A: Announcement of ISAC 2015

# CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

**International Academy Cottbus: Understanding Heritage (ISAC) 2015**  
**30 November – 12 December 2015, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg, Germany**

**Deadline for applications is August 25, 2015**

The **International Graduate School: Heritage Studies** under the direction of the UNESCO Chair in Heritage Studies is offering its fourth International Academy Cottbus: Understanding Heritage (ISAC) under the title:

***“Conflict-Solving Strategies in Heritage Studies”***

The ISAC is supported and funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)

### **SUMMARY**

The theoretical input for ISAC 2015 is based on the scientific approaches in Heritage Studies. The aim is to develop conflict-solving strategies towards the protection and use of heritage. In the course of two weeks, participants of the Academy will immerse themselves into disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches towards identifying the reasons and solutions of heritage-related conflicts. Among others, the Academy will address such crucial issues as heritage in the event of armed conflict and terrorism, the impact of modernization and gentrification on historic urban landscapes, tools for the protection of contested cultural landscapes, natural heritage and climate change, and heritage impact assessment.

With this in mind, and also taking into account the recommendations of the 2015 Bonn Declaration on World Heritage, ISAC 2015 will contribute to the identification of heritage-related conflicts and to the elaboration of innovative multilevel approaches for solving them. As fundamental component of conflict-solving strategies, they will take into consideration the interests of various authorities, institutions, organizations and other actors. From the theoretical perspective, such approaches are fundamental for the advancement of Heritage Studies. At the same time, they will develop practical, context-based tools that will enable different stakeholders to achieve mutually satisfying decisions in questions related to all aspects of heritage protection, use and development.

## **CONTENT**

ISAC 2015 covers five thematic areas:

### **Conflict-solving strategies in the context of historic urban landscapes**

The past decades have seen a number of serious disputes arising around heritage sites worldwide, particularly in relation to historic urban landscapes, whose authenticity and visual integrity often becomes compromised by the construction of new high-rise buildings, or traffic infrastructure and by rapid city growth and gentrification. The speakers will discuss the reasons and effects of such developments, and will seek possible solutions towards the enhancement of communication between different actors, which can facilitate decision-making in relation to urban policies, planning and management of historic urban landscapes.

### **Cultural landscapes in conflict: challenges and solutions**

Cultural landscapes present a complex phenomenon, expressed in both the tangible and the intangible components. Given the speed and scope with which cultural landscapes develop and change in the modern world, they often become “battlefields” of interest between various stakeholders, whose conflicting agendas impede the balanced and well-informed decisions with regards to their protection and use. The speakers will look into the possible causes and effects of conflicts in relation to cultural landscapes and will discuss the tools that can be applied for solving such conflicts.

### **Heritage in the event of war and terrorism**

Abundant examples of destruction of cultural properties in the event of armed conflict and terrorist attacks over the past decades demonstrate that heritage presents a highly sensitive target. The speakers will present examples of heritage involved in war action and endangered by possible terrorist attacks. They will elaborate on the background and the impact of these destructive activities and will discuss possible solutions in the context of heritage.

### **Climate change and natural disasters as challenges for natural heritage**

Apart from armed conflicts and terrorism, there also exist other, long-lasting and highly hazardous factors that jeopardize the safeguarding of the world’s natural heritage, through the conflicts they attract. These include climate change and various natural disasters, which have far-reaching implications for societies worldwide, with effects on social relations and economic activities. Speakers will discuss the causes and effects of these hazards on the world’s natural heritage and the tools for their mitigation.

### **Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) as a tool for solving conflicts**

The aim of HIA lies in assessing the impacts of the threats to heritage properties from various large-scale developments, as well as of inappropriate constructions, renewals and demolitions that do not take into consideration the original layout and fabric of these properties. HIA also assesses threats related to natural heritage, such as changes in land-use policies. The speakers will present examples of successful implementation of HIA in different heritage contexts and will

discuss the ways in which it can contribute to the alleviation of conflicts between various stakeholders involved in the protection and development of heritage sites.

### **TARGET GROUP**

ISAC 2015 aims at international Master's and PhD students in Heritage Studies or related fields. During the two-week programme, participants will receive comprehensive insights into research on the most relevant and innovative approaches to conflict-solving in the broad field of heritage.

## Appendix B: Programme of ISAC 2015

### Monday, 30 November 2015

**09:00 Registration**

Venue: Information, Communication and Media Centre (IKMZ), 7th Floor

**11:00 Welcoming**

Venue: Information, Communication and Media Centre (IKMZ), 7th Floor

- Prof. Marie-Theres Albert, UNESCO Chair in Heritage Studies and Director of the International Graduate School: Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg
- Prof. Wolfgang Schuster, Dean of Faculty 2: Architecture, Civil Engineering and Urban Planning, Head of Chair Building Construction and Architectural Design, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg
- Prof. Claus Lewerentz, Director of Information, Communication and Media Centre (IKMZ), BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

**12:00 Keynote**

Moderation: Prof. Marie-Theres Albert, IGS Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

- Prof. Markus Hilgert, Professor of Assyriology/Sumerology at Heidelberg University, Director of the Museum of the Ancient Near East, Berlin  
*"Sustainable World Heritage: Political Challenges for the Protection of Heritage in the Event of Armed Conflict"*

**Questions & Answers**

**13:00 Lunch Break**

**14:00 Reception & ISAC Poster Session**

Venue: Foyer of the Central Lecture Hall (ZHG – Zentrales Hörsaalgebäude)

Moderation: Students of the Study Project "ISAC 2015"

- Poster Presentation of the Participants of the International Summer Academy

**16:30 Excursion to Cottbus City Centre**

- Guided Tour through the Historic City Centre of Cottbus & Exploring the City

### Tuesday, 1 December 2015

#### Thematic Area: Heritage in the Event of War and Terrorism

**09:30 Morning Session**

Venue: Information, Communication and Media Centre (IKMZ), 6th Floor

Moderation: Dariya Afanasyeva, PhD, Chair Intercultural Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

Thematic Guidance: Allison S. Thompson

### **Introduction into the ISAC 2015 by Dariya Afanasyeva**

- ISAC 2015 Goals and Expectations; Requirements for Credits; Content, Structure and Organisation of ISAC
- Questions and Answers

### **Lecture & Discussion**

- Prof. Friedrich Schipper, Competence Center for Cultural Heritage and Cultural Property Protection, University of Vienna, Austria, Member of the Austrian Committee of the Blue Shield  
*"The 1954 Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. Implications for Conflict-solving Strategies"*

**12:00**

### **Lunch Break**

**14:00**

### **Afternoon Session**

Venue: Information, Communication and Media Centre (IKMZ), 6th Floor

Moderation: Dariya Afanasyeva, PhD, Chair Intercultural Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

Rapporteurs: Hannah Laub, Fereshteh Hassani, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

### **Workshop**

Presentations of the Participants on the Thematic Focus of the Day:

- Allison S. Thompson, Master Student, World Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg  
*"Youth and Heritage in Armed-Conflict Zones: Impacts and Possible Solutions for the Long-term Protection and Sustainability of Intangible Heritage Values"*
- Yara Moualla, PhD Candidate, Architecture, Technical University Berlin  
*"Protecting Cultural Heritage in the Event of Armed Conflict – The Case of Syria"*

**15:00**

### **Short Break**

**15:30**

### **Evening Lecture & Podium Discussion**

Venue: Information, Communication and Media Centre (IKMZ), 6th Floor

Moderation: Prof. Marie-Theres Albert, IGS Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

Introduction: Allison S. Thompson, World Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

### ***"Heritage in Conflict: Destruction of Cultural Heritage in Syria"***

- Prof. em. Inken Baller, Chair Design - contextual design, BTU Cottbus - Senftenberg, Grantholder of the EU Tempus-Project "Rehabilitation of Historic Islamic Cities"  
*"The Historic centre of Aleppo after War: Challenges and Potentials"*



- Prof. Heinz Nagler, Chair Urban Design, BTU Cottbus - Senftenberg  
*“Planning Culture in the City of Aleppo”*
- Dipl.-Ing. Christoph Wessling, Head and Scientific Coordinator of the Middle East Cooperation Unit (MEC), Lecturer and Coordinator Master Program: Urban Design - Revitalization of Historic City Districts, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg  
*“The Aleppo Archive in Exile“*

**Podium Discussion**

***“Heritage Destruction - Its Effects on Identity and the International Community”***

The following Speakers will be part of the Podium Discussion:

- Prof. em. Inken Baller
- Prof. Heinz Nagler
- Dipl.-Ing. Christoph Wessling
- Allison S. Thompson
- Mayis Avetisyan
- Dipl.-Ing. Carola Simon
- Lena Wimmer

**18:00 End of the Day**

**Wednesday, 2 December 2015**

**Thematic Area: Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) as a Tool for Solving Conflicts**

**09:30 Morning Session**

Venue: Information, Communication and Media Centre (IKMZ), 6th Floor

Moderation: Prof. Marie-Theres Albert, IGS Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

Thematic Guidance: Fereshteh Hassani

**Lecture & Discussion**

- Mohammad Ravankhah, PhD Candidate, IGS Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg  
*“Towards a more integrated methodology of Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment in a Multi-threat Context”*
- Matthias Ripp, Senior Heritage Manager, World Heritage Coordinator Regensburg  
*“Crisis: an Opportunity for Historical Cities - Built Cultural Heritage as a Factor of Urban Resilience”*

**12:00 Lunch Break**

**14:00 Afternoon Session**

Venue: Information, Communication and Media Centre (IKMZ), 6th Floor

Moderation: Prof. Marie-Theres Albert, IGS Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

Rapporteurs: Allison S. Thompson, María Leonor Pérez, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

### **Workshop**

Presentations of the Participants on the Thematic Focus of the Day:

- Fereshteh Hassani, Master Student, World Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg  
*“HIA as a Tool for Developing Risk Mitigation Strategies in Kharraqan Tomb Towers, Iran”*
- Valentina Torelli, Master Student, Architecture, University of Ferrara  
*“Integration of the UNESCO H.I.A Device into the Major Infrastructure Project Design Procedures in Italy. Case study: The High Speed Train (TAV) and the Cultural Landscape of the City of Vicenza and the Villas of the Veneto”*
- Baharak Seyedashrafi, Alumna, World Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg  
*“Assessing Impact of Urban Development on Cultural Heritage Properties: the Case of Golestan Palace, Tehran, Iran”*
- MennatuAllah Hendawy, M.Sc., Integrated Urbanism and Sustainable Design, Teaching Assistant, Ain Shams University in Cairo  
*“Conflict-solving Strategies in the Historic Area of Maspero: Parallel Practice and Rights-Based Approaches”*

**16:00**      **Short Break**

**16:30**      **Evening Lecture and Discussion**

Venue: Information, Communication and Media Centre (IKMZ), 6th Floor

Moderation: Prof. Marie-Theres Albert, IGS Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

Introduction: Fereshteh Hassani, World Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

- Dr.-Ing. Michael Kloos, UNESCO Chair in World Cultural and Urban Landscape, RWTH Aachen  
*“The Role of Heritage Impact Assessment in Relation to the Visual Integrity of World Heritage Urban Landscapes – the Case Study of Dresden”*

**18:00**      **End of the Day**

## **Thursday, 3 December 2015**

**08:15**      **Excursion to Dresden**

Meeting Point: Former Swimming Pool of BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg, Siemens-Halske Ring

Coordination: Stefan Simon, Chair Intercultural Studies, IGS Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

- Visit of the Dresden Elbe Valley accompanied by Michael Kloos and Guided Tour through the Historic City Centre of Dresden

**Friday, 4 December 2015**

**Thematic Area: Conflict Solving Strategies in the Context of Historic Urban Landscapes**

**09:30 Morning Session**

Venue: Information, Communication and Media Centre (IKMZ), 7th Floor

Moderation: Prof. Marie-Theres Albert, IGS Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

Thematic Guidance: Zain Hajahjah

**Lecture & Discussion**

- Prof. Christina Cameron, Head of Canada Research Chair on Built Heritage, School of Architecture, Université de Montréal  
*"World Heritage in the Global Geopolitical Perspective: Challenges and Solutions"*
- Dr. Ana Pereira Roders, Professor at the Technical University of Eindhoven  
*"Conflict Solution Strategies in the Context of Urban Politics / Urban Planning"*

**12:00 Lunch Break**

**14:00 Afternoon Session**

Venue: Information, Communication and Media Centre (IKMZ), 7th Floor

Moderation: Dariya Afanasyeva, PhD, Chair Intercultural Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

Rapporteurs: María Leonor Pérez, Fereshteh Hassani, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

**Workshop**

Presentations of the Participants on the Thematic Focus of the Day:

- Zain Hajahjah, PhD Candidate, IGS Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg  
*"A Comprehensive Management Plan for the Old City of As-Salt: Towards a Sustainable Urban Touristic Destination"*
- Matatizo Kastamu, Master Student, Tourism, Culture, Society, University of Iringa  
*"Urban Tourism as User-Group Interest Reconciliation Strategy in Historic Urban Landscapes: The Case of Iringa, Tanzania"*
- Sufiya Agisheva, PhD Candidate, Architecture, Kazan State University of Architecture and Engineering  
*"Creation of World Cultural Heritage Buffer Zone as a Tool for Management of Cultural Heritage Protection and Urban Development in a Context of Historic Urban Landscape"*
- Xiaojuan Zhu, PhD Candidate, Institute of Architectural History, University of Stuttgart  
*"Conflicts in the Urban Heritage Reconstruction: A Critical Study of Daming Palace in the City of Xi'an"*
- Ahmed Moustafa, Doctoral Candidate, Bauhaus-University Weimar  
*"The Conservation of Historic Urban Landscapes in Context: A Critical Inquiry into the"*

*Adaptation of the HUL Approach to the Local Context of Alexandria, Egypt*

**16:00 Short Break**

**16:30 Evening Lecture and Discussion**

Venue: Information, Communication and Media Centre (IKMZ), 7th Floor

Moderation: Prof. Marie-Theres Albert, IGS Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

Introduction: Zain Hajahjah, PhD Candidate, IGS Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

- Prof. Helaine Silverman, Department of Anthropology, University of Illinois  
*"The Inca in the Plaza: Change and Continuity in a World Heritage Historic Urban Center"*

**18:00 End of the Day**

**Saturday, 5 December 2015**

**8:45 Excursion to Berlin**

Meeting Point: Cottbus Railway Station

Coordination: Stefan Simon, Chair Intercultural Studies, IGS Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

- Guided tour *"Old and New, East and West - City Planning in Berlin"* by Prof. Wolfgang Schuster, Head of Chair of Building Construction and Design, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

**Sunday, 6 December 2015**

**Day off**

**Monday, 7 December 2015**

**08:15 Excursion to Cottbus lignite coal mine**

Meeting Point: Former Swimming Pool of BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg, Siemens-Halske Ring

Coordination: Stefan Simon, Chair Intercultural Studies, IGS Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

- Visit of the Lignite Coal Mine Welzow-South and the Recultivation Site Wolkenberg

**Excursion to Biosphärenreservat**

- Visit of the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Spreewald in Burg

**16:30 Evening Lecture and Discussion**

Venue: Information, Communication and Media Centre (IKMZ), 6th Floor

Moderation: Anca Claudia Prodan, PhD, Chair Intercultural Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

- Shina Erlewein, PhD, Alumna of IGS Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg; Coordinator, Digital Society Institute Berlin, ESMT  
*"Intangible Heritage, Media and Technology: Representation as a Site of Struggle"*

**18:00**            **End of the Day**

**Tuesday, 8 December 2015**

**Thematic Area: Climate Change and Natural Disasters as Challenges for Natural Heritage  
Cultural Landscapes in Conflict: Challenges and Solutions**

**09:30**            **Morning Session**

Venue: Information, Communication and Media Centre (IKMZ), 7th Floor

Moderation: Dariya Afanasyeva, PhD, Chair Intercultural Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

Thematic Guidance: Hannah Laub, María Leonor Pérez

**Lecture & Discussion**

- Prof. Thomas Raab, Director of the Graduate Research School (GRS) at BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg, Head of Chair Geopedology and Landscape Development, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg  
*"The Destruction of Cultural Landscapes by Open-cast Lignite Mining in Lower Lusatia"*
- Dr. Marie Luise Frey, Director, Messel Pit WHS gGmbH  
*"Conflict Solving Strategies in the Context of Natural Heritage – A Case Study on Public Access, Partnerships, Collaboration & Popularisation as Tools at Messel Pit WHS, Germany"*

**12:00**            **Lunch Break**

**14:00**            **Afternoon Session**

Venue: Information, Communication and Media Centre (IKMZ), 7th Floor

Moderation: Dariya Afanasyeva, PhD, Chair Intercultural Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

Rapporteurs: Allison S. Thompson, Fereshteh Hassani, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

**Workshop**

Presentations of the Participants on the Thematic Focus of the Day:

*Climate Change and Natural Disasters:*

- Hannah Laub, Master Student, World Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg  
*"The Preparation of Natural and Mixed World Heritage Sites for Climate Change:"*

*Challenge and Opportunity“*

- Mohamed Ramadan Elsharouny, Master Student, Environmental Design and Planning, Cairo University  
*“Climate Change: Challenges and Response for Natural Heritage in Developing Countries. Vulnerability Assessment of Coastal Natural Heritage in Egypt”*

Cultural Landscapes in Conflict:

- María Leonor Pérez, Master Student, World Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg  
*“Cultural Landscapes: Contemporary Challenges of Interpretation and Meaning Making”*
- Nourah Sammar, Master Student, Democratic Governance/Democracy and Human Rights in the MENA Region, Birzeit University  
*“Archaeological Cultural Heritage in Neo-liberal Conflict: Challenges and Solutions”*
- Cécile Mattoug, M.Sc. Student, Building & Planning in Euroregions, National High School for Architecture, Strasbourg  
*“Dwell in the Time of Garden Cities”*

**16:00 Short Break**

**16:30 Evening Lecture and Discussion**

Venue: Information, Communication and Media Centre (IKMZ), 7th Floor

Moderation: Dariya Afanasyeva, PhD, Chair Intercultural Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

- Prof. Silke Weidner, Head of Chair Urban Management & Solmaz Yadollahi, PhD Candidate, IGS Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg  
*“Transformation of Historic City Centres in the Process of Modernization”*

**18:00 End of the Day**

**Wednesday, 9 December 2015**

**Thematic Area: Cultural Landscapes in Conflict: Challenges and Solutions**

**09:30 Morning Session**

Venue: Information, Communication and Media Centre (IKMZ), 7th Floor

Moderation: Dr. Katharina Kriegel-Schmidt, Interim Professorship, Chair Intercultural Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

Thematic Guidance: María Leonor Pérez

**Lecture & Discussion**

- Robert Rode, Manager of the Graduate Research School (GRS), BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

*"Indigenous Peoples' Sacred Natural Sites"*

- Dariya Afanasyeva, PhD, Academic Assistant, Chair Intercultural Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg  
*"Contested Cultural Landscapes – A Case Study from Bakhchisaray District in Crimea"*
- Margarita Gómez Salas de Schetter, PhD candidate, IGS Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg  
*"Citizen Participation in the Process of Place Identity Construction on the Island of Mozambique"*

**12:00 Lunch Break**

**14:00 Afternoon Session**

Venue: Information, Communication and Media Centre (IKMZ), 7th Floor

Moderation: Dr. Katharina Kriegel-Schmidt, Interim Professorship, Chair Intercultural Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

Rapporteurs: Allison S. Thompson, Zain Hajahjah, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

**Workshop**

Presentations of the Participants on the Thematic Focus of the Day:

- Hyun Kyung Lee, Junior Research Fellow, International Centre for Korean Studies, Seoul National University  
*"Gyeongbokgung Palace and the Japanese Government-General Building (JGGB): Power Struggles and the Contested Cultural-scape of Korean National Identity"*
- Shaobo Zhang, Master Student, School of Geography, Beijing Normal University  
*"Solving the Conflict: The Renewal of a Historic Community in the Old City of Beijing, China"*
- Yang Liu, PhD Candidate, Communication, University of Macau  
*"Agenda Setting Effects Among Government, Media and Public in Conflict Solving - In Case of the Historic Centre in Macau"*

**16:00 Short Break**

**16:30 Evening Lecture and Discussion**

Venue: Information, Communication and Media Centre (IKMZ), 7th Floor

Moderation: Anca Claudia Prodan, PhD, Chair Intercultural Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

- Prof. Klaus Hüfner, former President of the German Commission for UNESCO  
*"Heritage and Sustainability: Presenting the Results of the Leipzig Symposium 2015: Steps Towards the Implementation of the Global Strategy in Germany"*

**18:00 End of the Day**

## Thursday, 10 December 2015

### 08:15 Excursion to Eisenhüttenstadt

Meeting Point: Former Swimming Pool of BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg, Siemens-Halske Ring

Coordination: Stefan Simon, Academic Assistant, Chair Intercultural Studies, IGS Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

- Guided tour through the city centre of Eisenhüttenstadt and visit of the steelwork ArcelorMittal Eisenhüttenstadt

### 16:30 Evening Lecture and Discussion

Venue: Information, Communication and Media Centre (IKMZ), 6th Floor

Moderation: Dariya Afanasyeva, PhD, Chair Intercultural Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

- Chang Liu, PhD, Project manager, China Academy of Urban Planning and Design, Beijing  
*"Urban Acupuncture and Sustainable Revitalization of Historic District in Dashilar (Beijing)"*

### 18:00 End of the Day

## Friday, 11 December 2015

### 09:30 Morning Session

**open end** Venue: Information, Communication and Media Centre (IKMZ), 7th Floor

- Preparation of the final presentations by the working groups

## Saturday, 12 December 2015

### Conclusion

### 09:30 Morning Session

Venue: Information, Communication and Media Centre (IKMZ), 7th Floor

Moderation: Dariya Afanasyeva, PhD, Chair Intercultural Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

Rapporteurs: Hannah Laub, María Leonor Pérez, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

### Final Presentations

- Presentations of the working groups and conclusions

### 12:00 End of Winter Academy 2015





Brandenburgische  
Technische Universität  
Cottbus - Senftenberg

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International Summer Academy Cottbus:  
Understanding Heritage (ISAC)  
“Conflict-Solving Strategies in Heritage Studies”  
30 November – 12 December 2015

### Thematic Area Summaries

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#### **Conflict-solving strategies in the context of historic urban landscapes**

**Author:** Zain A. Hajahjah

##### **Introduction**

This thematic area has been presented by 5 participants from around the world (Jordan, Russia, China, Tanzania and Egypt), with different perspectives and approaches. During ISAC 2015, participants tried to reach a common understanding of the HUL approach, through discussing the theoretical perspective of HUL, as well as practically through lectures and 3 site visits (Dresden, Berlin, and Eisenhüttenstadt).

The speakers discussed the different challenges and disputes that have been arising around heritage sites worldwide, particularly in relation to Historic Urban Landscapes. The authenticity and visual integrity of these contexts often becomes compromised by rapid city growth, mass tourism and the pressures of modernization and globalization trends. This has led to continuous overcrowding and deterioration of its built heritage and infrastructure and begun to intrude and replace the traditional character of its contexts.

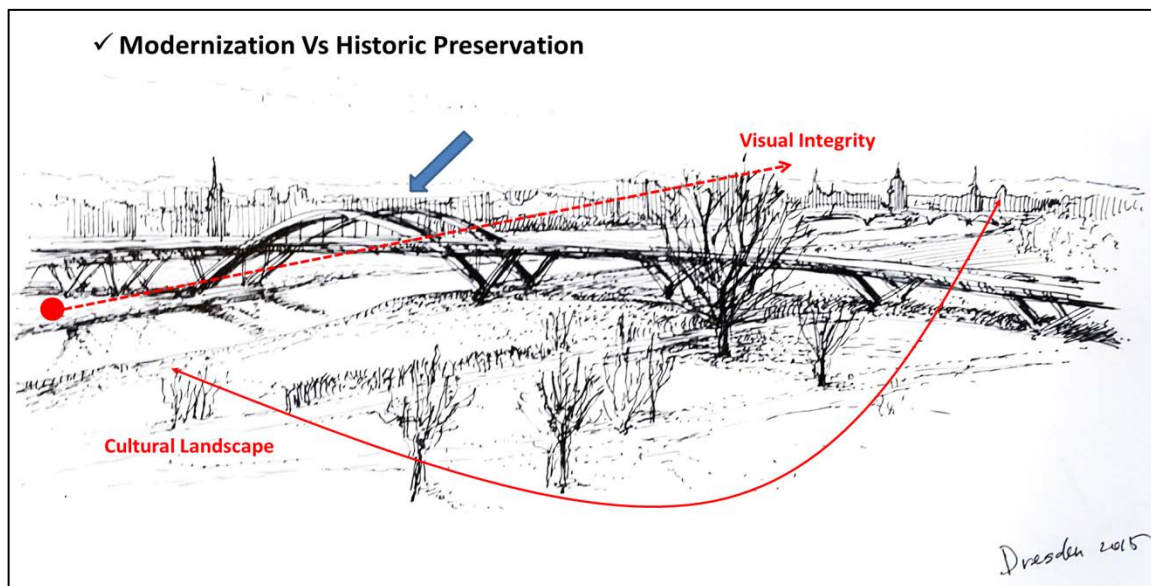
In fact, Historic Urban Landscapes are dynamic, liveable and constantly changing environments and consist of a layering and interconnection of natural and cultural, tangible and intangible, international and local values. Such a perspective on cultural landscape and the challenges it faces was firstly triggered by the 2005 Vienna Memorandum, which then led to the Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape (HUL) that was adopted on 10 November 2011 by UNESCO's General Conference.

HUL addresses contemporary issues within historic urban contexts and aims to increase the sustainability of urban development by integrating the environmental, social and cultural concerns into the planning. This approach has had very positive results on creating balance between development and protection of urban heritage. However, some concerns have arisen with specific regard to authenticity and integrity. This fact addresses the need for integrated strategies to achieve the sustainable development of urban contexts and solve the conflict

between these interrelationships. A comprehensive and integrated approach for the identification, assessment, conservation and management of these historic urban landscapes that take into account urban values and identity is called for.

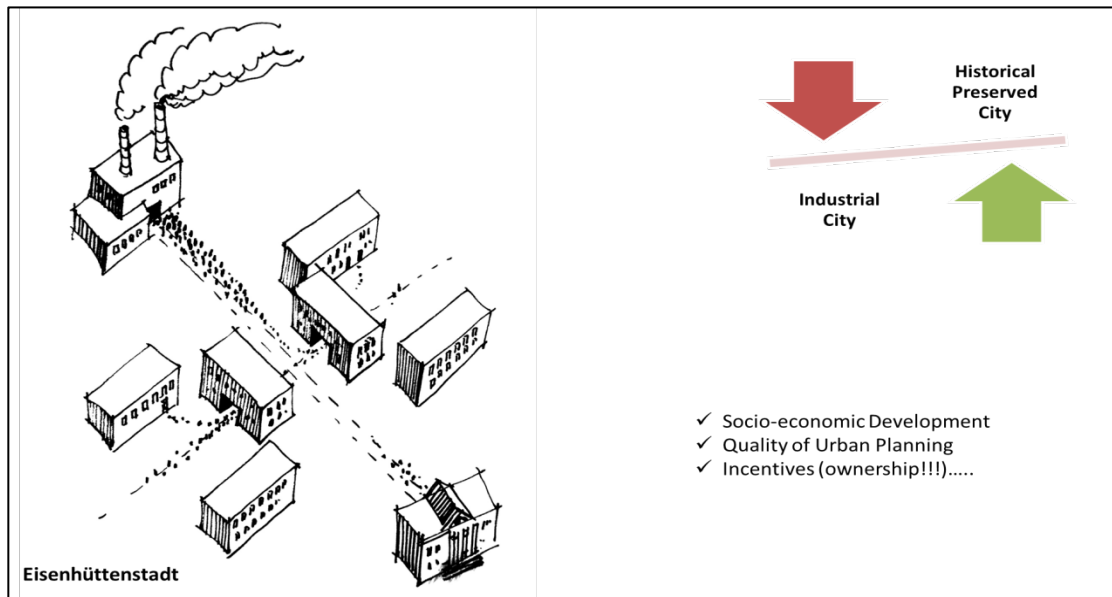
### **Discussion and Reflection**

Different case studies were discussed under this area, which are mainly related to themes such as political perspective, urban planning and policies, sustainable tourism, heritage management, stakeholders' participation and historic preservation. For example, during the site visit to Dresden, we have seen the conflictive relationship between historic preservation and city modernization. It became more complicated when stakeholder participation and political perspective were also involved. The construction of a modern bridge across the valley definitely impaired the visual integrity and cultural identity of historic city centre and accordingly led to the city being booted off UNESCO World Heritage List. However, we all agreed that we cannot just stop cities from growing and responding to the needs of local community (transportation networks, new buildings, facilities etc.), but this needs to respect the city identity and uniqueness. Moreover, we have to stress the idea that labelling a site as on the "World Heritage List" is not the only effective tool for protecting a city's heritage. And we need to seek possible solutions towards the enhancement of communication between different actors, which can facilitate decision-making in relation to any other future projects.

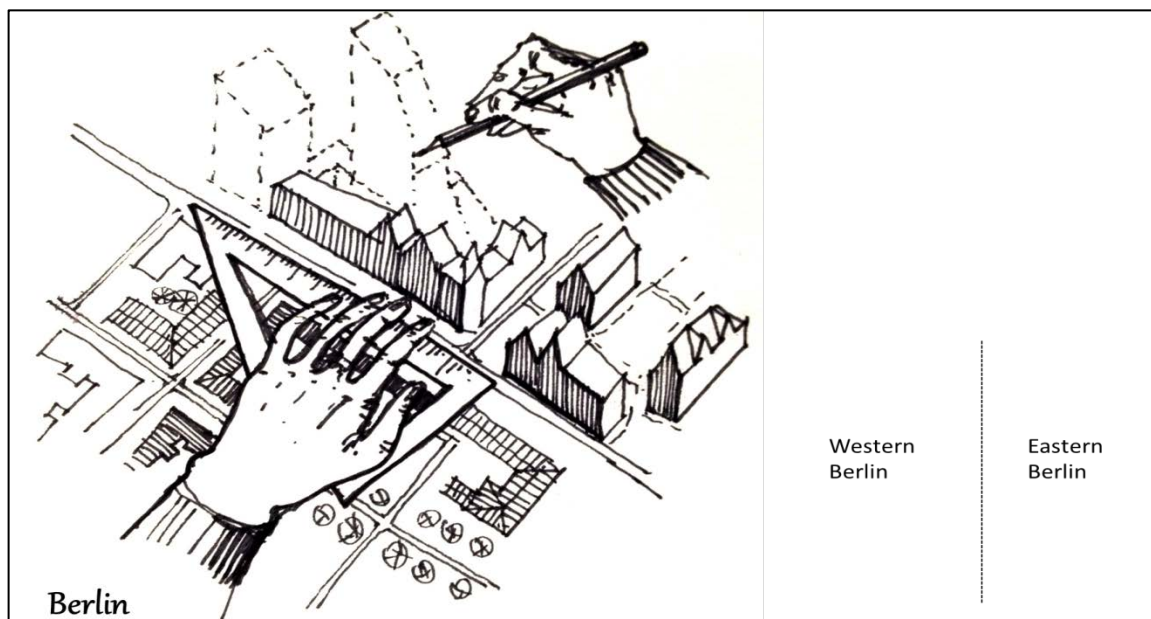


While the case of Eisenhüttenstadt is a model for a historical, preserved city (50 years of GDR) and at the same time an industrial city that has to find a balance between the socio-economic development of community and the preservation of its resources. We have seen clearly the multiple layers of the city including the infrastructure, open spaces and urban fabric. In particular, we saw the attempts to reflect the cultural identity of the city into the urban planning policy, which focused on the adaptation of the built environment while respecting the uniqueness of the city (functions, colours, material, height of buildings, streets' width etc.). However, the lack of

activities and the ownership problem have forced 50% of the community to leave the city. And this draws attention to think about not only the quality of built environment but also the quality of social infrastructure (education, entertainment, future plans).

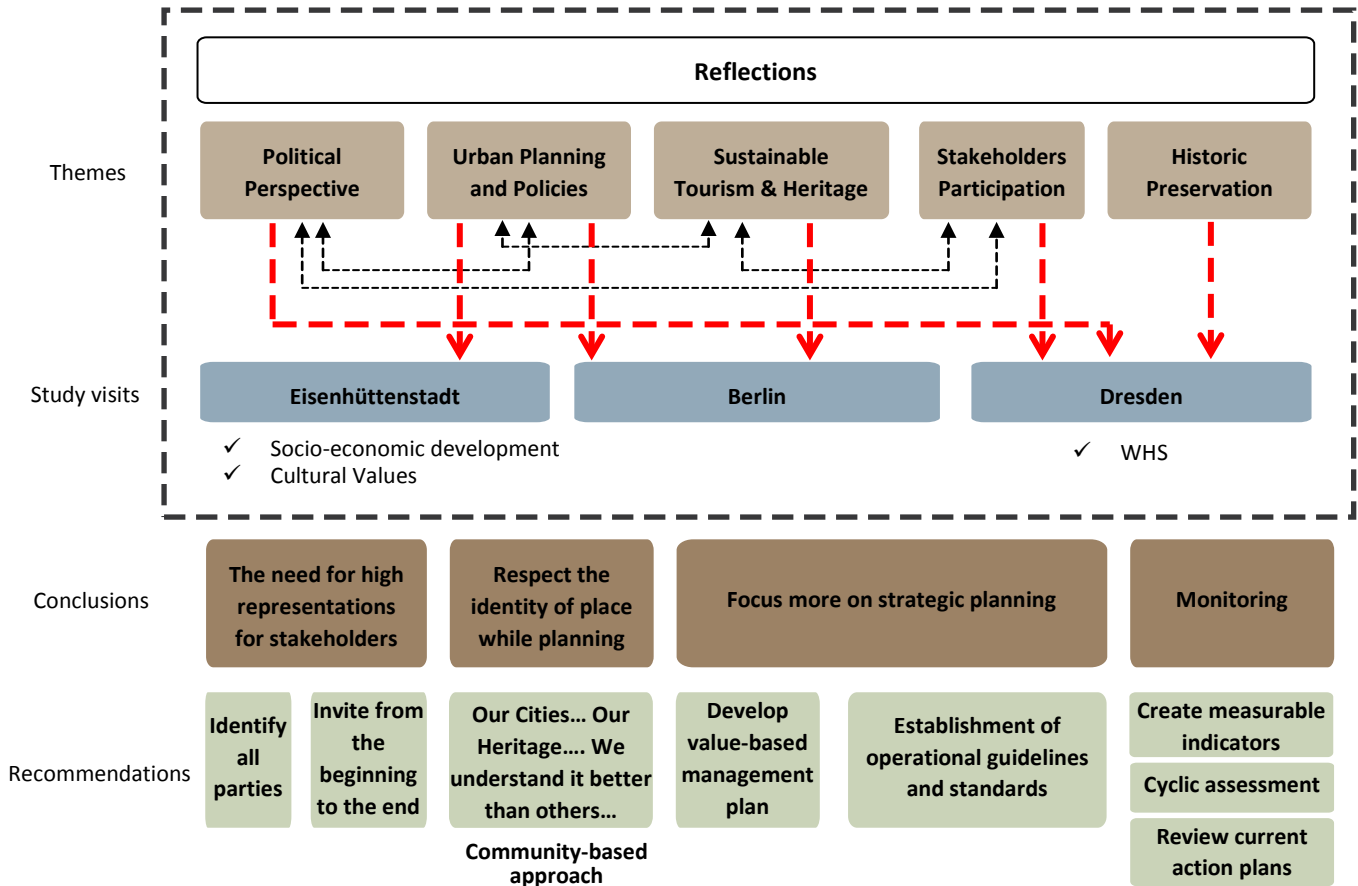


In Berlin, we can generally conclude that the city and Historic Urban Landscapes cannot stop any transformation to ensure only heritage preservation to the detriment of development progresses due to demands of new cultural, social, political and economic requirements. In this regard, conflict-solving strategies in HUL have to lie within the concept of “managing changes” to provide sustainable urban development and cultural heritage protection based on the concept of historic continuity.



## Conclusions / Recommendations

As a conclusion, a holistic landscape approach that integrates urban conservation into the wider socio-economic development the HUL could be a tool to resolve conflicts.



Therefore, some recommendations have been proposed:

- Considering high number of stakeholders' representations, who affect or being affected by the HUL. Accordingly, they need to be identified and involved in each step from the early stage of planning to the last stage of evaluation
- Developing a value-based management plan that reflects the uniqueness of the city and the different needs of local communities
- Creating a cyclical monitoring system with clear, measurable indicators to observe the heritage assets, its development, challenges and the new demands.
- Focusing more on strategic planning
- Development of value-based management plan
- Establishment of operational guidelines and standards
- Creating measurable indicators to guide the monitoring process, which shall be followed by cyclical assessment and revision for current action plans.

## **Cultural landscapes in conflict: challenges and solutions**

**Authors:** María Leonor Pérez R. and Margarita Gomez Salas de Schetter

### **Introduction**

The thematic area of cultural landscapes included the contributions of seven participants from 6 different countries (Colombia, Palestine, France, Korea, China, Argentina), who approached issues of cultural landscapes from different perspectives and provided solutions and tools for facing current challenges of this category of World Heritage sites.

Cultural landscapes are dynamic and ever changing places that represent the most vivid and outstanding evidence of the interactions between man and its environment. Since the World Heritage Committee adopted this category in 1992, the concept has been widely discussed and to a certain extent controversial, as cultural landscapes do “represent the combined works of nature and man” (UNESCO, 1972), but have also been defined as the manifestations of the dynamic interactions between man and the forces of nature, the living representation of the changes within a society (Antrop, 2005), and “cultural processes that reflects human actions within the time” (Taylor, 2012). Besides the variety of conflicting definitions, contemporary circumstances like globalization, urbanization and development have posed new challenges for the management of cultural landscapes, and have also brought a series of threats that put at risk their outstanding characteristics. This has resulted in a more open discussion in which Western and Eastern views contradict each other, leading to a continuous revision of the concept and its definition.

Even though at some level the discussions are still concerned with the challenges of managing and maintaining the conditions of Authenticity and Integrity of a Landscape, the recent debate has been focused on the development of strategies to manage change within the landscapes, the preservation of cultural, natural and intangible values, the meaning and interpretation of a site in permanent state of change, the negotiation of conflicting interests of local communities and indigenous populations, and the development of partnerships and networks to share views and best practices regarding preservation and conservation issues.

The constant evolution and change of cultural landscapes should not always be seen as threats, but as an opportunity to reflect upon the importance and meaning of the cultural landscapes in our contemporary societies. In this sense, the current discourse is focusing on the need to re-define a more suitable approach to preserve and manage cultural landscape, which takes into account different perspectives and new views on conservation and preservation, land use, human interaction and site conservation.

The first presentation on cultural landscapes presented an alternative response to the issue change and evolution of cultural landscapes, by suggesting that through interpretation and the development of narratives, the values and attributes of cultural landscapes could have continuity

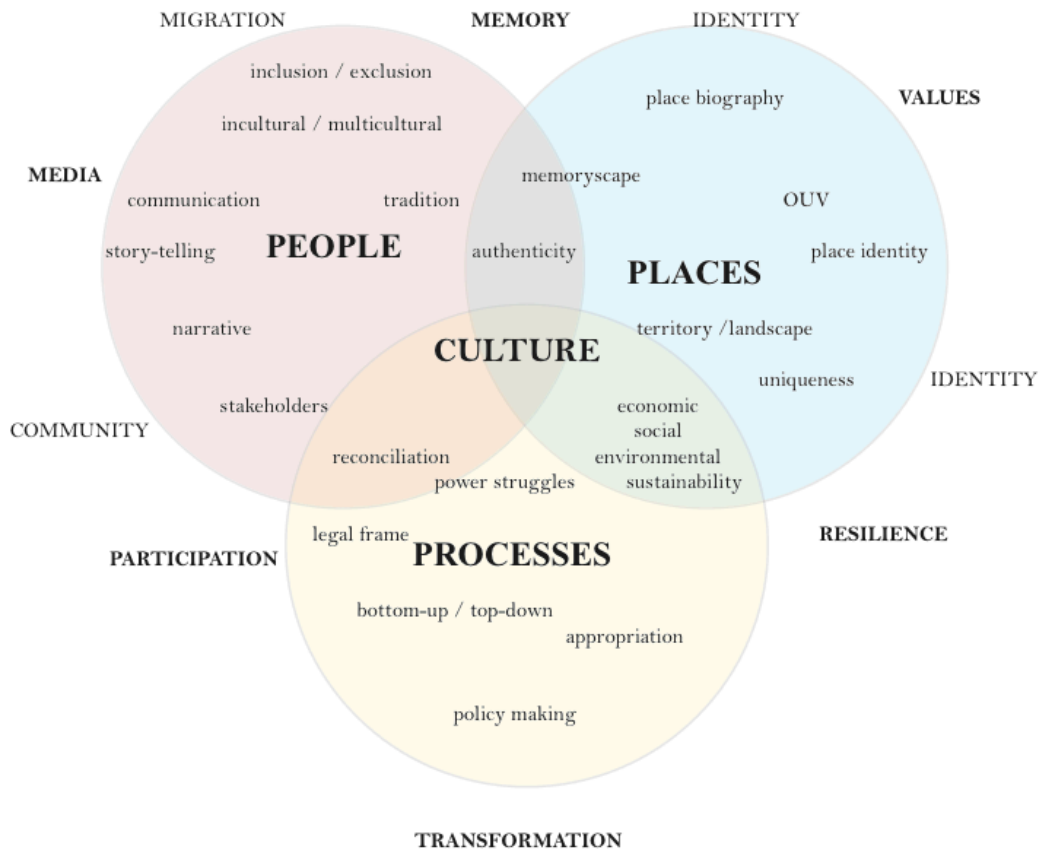
within contemporary societies. Another participant presented her views on how in the neo-liberal societies; archaeological heritage is at risk of falling in the hand of corporations and other stakeholders that will not look after the heritage values. She also mentioned the relevance of incorporating concepts like dignity and governance in the new developments discussions regarding heritage and sustainable development. Following the discussion about cultural landscapes and political issues, a participant from the International Centre for Korean Studies of Seoul National University presented her research about the Gyeongbokgung Palace and the Japanese Government-General Building (JGGB), and highlighted the impact that the power struggles that took place in this cultural landscape had in the development of Korean national identity. These presentations were relevant for understanding how political issues and power struggles have and keep influencing the meaning and interpretation of cultural landscapes.

The presentations that followed approached the topic of cultural landscapes in relation to issues of city development and urban planning, incorporating concepts of the historic urban landscape approach. A Master's student from the National High School for Architecture in Strasbourg, presented her views on the relevance of narratives to incorporate the meaning of garden cities as cultural landscapes, and involve local communities in creating meanings that makes this process possible. Another participant highlighted the relevance of community involvement to prevent political decisions that would put at risk the values and integrity of cultural landscapes, and a student from Macau in China talked about how the government, the media and the local communities interact and engage in conflict solving strategies to protect the historic centre of Macau and its heritage values. A final participant proposed the Limits of Acceptable Change as an instrument for the management of the cultural landscape on the Island of Mozambique.

### **Discussion and Reflection**

Analyzing the topics and the examples presented during the Winter Academy, as well as the discussions that took place after each presentation, we concluded that there are three elements that are common to cultural landscapes and therefore need to be taken into account when proposing conflict solving strategies for these category. These elements are: **People**, **Processes** and **Places**. **People** means the actors involved in different decisions and **processes** concerning cultural landscapes, including all stakeholders and its different or convergent interests; **processes** also involve the continuity and dynamics of the landscapes; and **places** are the geographically defined area in which all the elements, tangible and intangible, that form cultural landscapes converge and interact.

It is also relevant to mention that in this context, people, processes and places are strongly connected with issues of identity, memory, values, as well as different economic, social and environmental developments that transform the landscape. The developments and changes are continuous in cultural landscapes and it makes evident the permanent interaction between nature and people as well as the immense capacities of nature to be resilient and of culture to adapt and transform, and also keep re-creating itself without putting at risk the landscape's attributes and values.



In general, the presentations gave valuable insights on the different types of cultural landscapes and the conflicts they face. In addition, we debated new instruments to approach its management, like the notion of the Limits of Acceptable Change, which involves the different ways that managers can approach changes within a landscape and benefit from its dynamic character. During the discussions, we also debated about issues of memory and how it is relevant to use interpretation as a tool to present the values of the site, tell its stories and promote awareness raising activities to advocate for its protection. Presenters also provided examples of practical attempts to manage and revalorize heritage and cultural landscapes within vulnerable areas; and the need to involve communities within every step of the management process was reinforced by mentioning that participation as a transversal instrument for inclusion, governance and management should be based on a bottom-up approach.

The excursion to the city of Eisenhüttenstadt, a socialist model planned city in the 1950's, was an interesting example to evidence the conflicts in the management of a heritage site dealing with social and economic transformations. It evidences once more that cultural landscapes are a multifaceted phenomenon, expressing an intimate relationship between people, their environment and culture; therefore it is important to understand them as a whole, including its variables and the implicit processes and respecting its local circumstances

## **Conclusions / Recommendations**

- As evidenced in the different presentations, cultural landscapes are dynamic and changing environments which involve diverse aspects. Therefore, the different management strategies to approach its issues need to consider the changes and its natural evolution, as well as relevant aspects like environmental concerns, the preservation of cultural values, the meaning and interpretation, and the interests of local communities, indigenous populations and other stakeholders, whose views on the site could be conflicting.
- If considered that in a way, the majority of World Heritage sites have been somehow shaped by an interaction between man and nature, the management approaches to World Heritage sites should consider different aspects that are now being taken into account when facing issues within cultural landscapes. These include: change management, local communities involvement, governance, awareness raising and development of a more dynamic interpretation that includes the different stories that make part of the history of the site and constitute its values.
- The evolution and constant change that is natural to cultural landscapes should not be seen as a threat, but as an opportunity to review its values and give it a new meaning for the local communities. When it comes to safeguarding measures, there is a need to re-define a more sustainable approach to preserve and manage cultural landscapes, one that is flexible and takes into account traditional approaches to land use, human interaction and site conservation.
- In the face of recent developments in the discourse and concepts related to the Historic Urban Landscapes approach, it would be relevant to research ways in which HUL strategies of management could contribute to the safeguarding of cultural landscapes. It would also be interesting to assess the need for the development of this approach, considering that historic urban landscapes are also representations of a historical interaction of man and nature and how men has been able to adapt and transform nature to develop urban settlements.

## ***References***

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Antrop, Marc. 2005. *Why landscapes of the past are important for the future*. In *Landscape and Urban Planning*. V. 70, Issues 1-2.

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## Heritage in the event of war and terrorism

**Author:** Allison Thompson

### **Introduction**

This thematic area of ISAC 2015 aimed to identify the challenges facing heritage in armed-conflict zones and areas affected by terrorism. Two participants (United States of America and Syria) discussed the impact of these destructive activities on both built and intangible heritage and presented possible solutions for safeguarding and protection.

Following the unprecedented destruction of cultural heritage during the Second World War, the 1954 Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict was the first international treaty focused exclusively on the safeguarding of heritage in the event of conflict. Complemented by additional protocols adopted in the 1970s and 1990s, the Hague Convention not only sets standards for how both State and occupying powers must protect cultural property, but it also prohibits the destruction of cultural property as a means of intimidation or retaliation. In the more than sixty years since its adoption, the reasons behind the creation of the 1954 Convention have only become more evident. Armed conflicts in the Balkans, Iraq, Afghanistan and Syria are painful reminders that the wanton destruction of heritage is widespread and being used as a tool to humiliate and eradicate entire cultures.

As more sites become threatened with destruction, heritage professionals, institutions and government bodies play an increasingly important role in protecting both the built and intangible heritage. Heritage sites, traditional knowledge and skills, language and music all serve to represent not only the history of a community, but also its' identity. The freedom to practice our own self-identified heritage is not only an essential component of international human rights, but it also key to the sustainability of a culture. Unfortunately, it is the aim of groups such as ISIS to destroy all traces of cultures that not their own by completely wiping their heritage and thus histories off of the map.

The current discourse concerning heritage in armed conflict zones is focused mainly on re-building after demolition and/ or 3-D documentation, so that destroyed heritage is not lost forever. Looking to the future, as the sole UN agency whose mandate it is to protect cultural property and heritage, it is vital that UNESCO devises pro-active steps that can be acted upon before destruction.

### **Discussion and Reflection**

The Winter Academy "Conflict Solving Strategies on Heritage Studies" provided a background to share concerns as well as strategies to solve situations of heritage destruction in the events of conflict and war. Over the course of the Academy, speakers presented various examples of heritage destruction in the event of armed conflict and discussed possible impacts and solutions. Some of the key concepts presented during the past two weeks were relevant to our

understanding of not only the current situation but also the nature and causes of these conflicts. In his key-note address, Markus Hilgert highlighted the relevance of understanding the concepts of sustainability and resilience, as well as the relevance of creating human networks that can support efforts to preserve heritage in situations of conflict.

To begin the discussion on heritage in armed conflict zones, Friedrich Schipper talked about the importance of prevention strategies and capacity building for professionals. He believes that this is the best way to ease the impacts of armed conflict and the transition processes to peace.

Some of the questions raised during the presentations included the potential role that youth could play in the safeguarding of intangible heritage, as discussed by one participant in her presentation “Youth and Heritage in Armed Conflict Zones,” in which she suggested advantages of the implementation of youth based cultural development programmes to achieve the long term protection of intangible heritage. Furthermore, another participant explained the causes of targeting cultural heritage during war, and she emphasised the values and meanings that cultural heritage could provide to the communities in the process of rebuilding their identities, especially in the case of Syria. Both students raised the very crucial point of the important that the community plays in both rebuilding and safeguarding. This human component is critical is there is to be any success following periods of armed-conflict and mass destruction of heritage.

It is important to note here that the current expert discourse is focused on the destruction of tangible sites and not on the relevance of the human tragedy. Participants discussed in-depth how heritage could be used as a tool to rebuild the social fabric and mobilize communities towards protection and possible reconstruction efforts. The panel dove into the ongoing situation of cultural heritage in Syria, which is currently one of the most pressing issues facing the heritage community and UNESCO. Unfortunately, during the podium discussion, there was again a disparate focus on tangible culture or the built fabric of society. Perhaps this was due to the fact that many of the speakers, including Inken Baller, Heinz Nagler, Lena Wimmer and Carola Simon all have a history in architecture and urban planning. Even when audience members and other members of the panel tried to discuss the human element, the conversation always made its way back to the physical buildings. However, as was pointed out, these buildings will have no significance if the people are no longer living there because their livelihoods were attacked and they were forced out of their communities. Possible problems in the current discourse were discussed, including this idea that it is mainly focused on rebuilding and reconstructing lost tangible heritage, instead of focusing on the equally if not more important intangible aspects of heritage. Participants put special emphasis on issues such as cultural heritage education and identity building for local communities that still live in the affected areas. The relevance of developing re-integration programs for affected communities was also discussed.

## **Conclusions / Recommendations**

The working group agreed on the following recommendations:

- International efforts should focus more on capacity building and education regarding issues of the safeguarding and conservation of heritage. These efforts must be aimed at the local community, whose heritage is being destroyed, including youth, internally displaced persons and refugees. Furthermore, these capacity building and education programs should directly focus on the intangible heritage values.
- UNESCO should work towards the consolidation of an active international network for support and expert knowledge sharing, in order to work with countries at war during and after conflict. In this sense, UNESCO could also be the leading organization to coordinate the international efforts to support countries who are facing war and conflict, or going through a reconsolidation/reconstruction process. This is due to the fact that heritage must play a central role in the rebuilding process, which should include not only monuments, but also societal fabric and national identity.
- Main priority should be given to affected or local communities in any efforts to protect or reconstruct heritage. In this sense, the initiative to reconstruct the sites that are being destroyed or not have to come from the people and not by a group of experts. It should also be the decision of the local communities to decide what significance or meaning they will give to the places that have been affected by war or conflict.
- Looking to the future, as the sole UN agency whose mandate it is to protect cultural property and heritage, it is vital that UNESCO devises pro-active steps that can be acted upon before destruction. Although various conventions are currently in place, there needs to be a renewed effort at realizing the implementation of these conventions. How can/ should UNESCO put these legal documents into practice?

### ***Further Reading***

Lambert, S. and Rockwell, C. (eds.) 2011. *Protecting Cultural Heritage in Times of Conflict*. Rome, Italy, ICCROM.

UNESCO. 1954. *Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict*. Paris, UNESCO.

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## Climate change and natural disasters as challenges for natural heritage

**Author:** Hannah Laub

### **Introduction**

This thematic area of ISAC 2015 aimed to identify challenges of climate change for natural heritage. Two participants (United States of America and Egypt) presented specific cases of climate change impacts and strategies at natural World Heritage sites, in Egypt, in Germany and globally.

While absolutely current and pertinent, this thematic area received the least attention and lowest level of discussion during the academy. It seems there is a gulf between natural and cultural heritage professionals, who formed the majority in this case. There were neither scientific experts as guest lecturers for this thematic area, nor excursions focusing on the topic. Even so, it was possible to bridge the two ends of the spectrum by citing links between climate change and topics addressed during presentations, lectures and excursions.

The current trend in dealing with the enormous, global issue of climate change on a local scale has been to turn from prevention to adaptation, focusing for example on fostering ecosystem resilience and site-specific climate change adaptation strategies. And yet, it is evident that most natural and mixed World Heritage nominations do not contain specific strategies (preparation) for what is projected to become the greatest threat to these sites. In Egypt, sea-level rise and water acidification threaten the natural heritage of coastal regions, and in Germany, increased precipitation threatens Riesling production.

Although some climate change does occur naturally, in recent times humans have accelerated the process to the point of great concern. Even if emissions were completely halted, climate change would continue to impact natural heritage in the future. Because climate change is a global and local issue, it requires global and local solutions. Awareness, assessment, avoidance, adaptation and cooperation are a few key ways to address the challenges.



(Photos: Public domain. Left: W.C. Alden, courtesy of USFS Photo Library. Right: Dan Fagre, courtesy of USGS.)

### **Discussion and Reflection**

One important aspect of addressing the challenge of climate change is awareness-raising. It is important for cultural heritage colleagues to understand how climate change cross-cuts many sectors. Climate change risks can be paired with each of the thematic areas. For instance, flooding from changing precipitation patterns can threaten the heritage of Dresden and its tourism and inhabitants' livelihoods. Desertification can result in armed conflict over access to natural resources, rising temperatures melt outstanding-universal-value-carrying glaciers and sea-level rise could overtake the small Island of Mozambique. The result is a complicated network of interrelations between causes and effects.

Assessment is the primary means of addressing current and future climate change scenarios. This involves identifying vulnerabilities and sensitivities, adaptive capacities of communities and ecosystems and strategies for avoiding and adapting to risks and consequences of climate change. It is necessary to address climate change within a strategic framework, of which there are many approaches. Climate change could also be incorporated in frameworks identified in other thematic areas presented during the academy, Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) and Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA).

Strategies for addressing climate change are two-fold, focusing on avoidance and adaptation. Avoidance deals with reducing contributions to global emissions through (inter)national policies and mitigating human induced pressures on natural heritage. Nature, too, can mitigate the effects of climate change. Afforestation could provide a carbon sink and prevent erosion. Strategies can have extensive benefits, from economic to social to ecological. Adaptation addresses the inevitable. Adaptation strategies could include integrating climate change in development and management plans. Strategies could also include fostering ecosystem resilience, specific site-based actions and investing in clean energy. In sum, it is important to find a balance between mitigation and adaptive flexibility.

**Conclusions / Recommendations**

Avoid	Adapt
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (Inter)national policy for reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions</li> <li>• Mitigation of human induced pressures on natural heritage</li> <li>• Investing in nature</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mitigation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deal with the inevitable</li> <li>• Integrate climate change strategies in management</li> <li>• Foster ecosystem resilience</li> <li>• Invest in clean energy</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Flexibility</b></p>

It became clear during the academy and our resulting discussions that different sectors need to cooperate. What happens in cities has an impact on nature and vice versa. Urban planners, for example, can play a role in dealing directly with climate change and with its effects. Land-use planning could possibly accelerate the problems if not careful, but it could also help to mitigate or adapt to climate change. One challenge with heritage is to balance between preserving the past and allowing future change. In terms of climate, change is the key word. It will not be possible to preserve things exactly as they were. Humanity and heritage will have to adapt, to change. It is up to us how we do it.

## Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) as a tool for solving conflicts

**Author:** Fereshteh Hassani

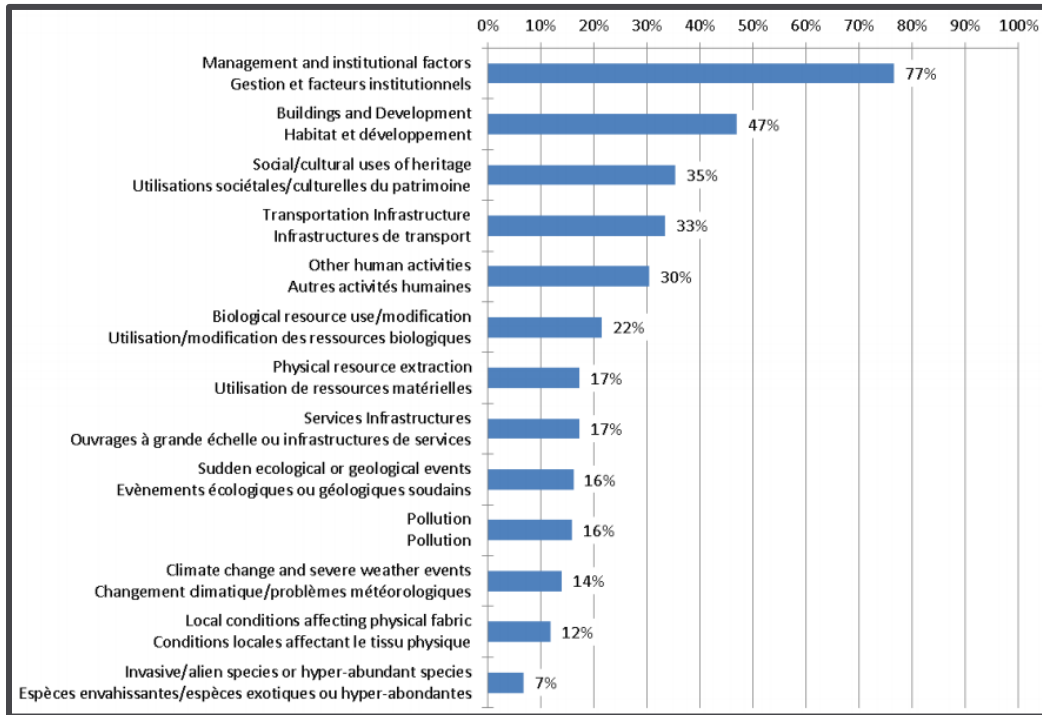
### **Introduction**

The aim of this thematic area was to introduce and discuss the utility of Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) as a conflict-solving means in the issues arising from the need to develop and the need to preserve the values of cultural heritage. In the morning session of the HIA-themed day, Mohammad Ravankhah, a PhD candidate at BTU gave a thorough introduction about HIA, in particular in multi-threat context. In the afternoon session, four different controversial case studies, from three different countries of Iran, Italy and Egypt were presented to study the application of HIA as a requirement of each project with impacts on heritage properties. These presentations were followed by a lecture from Michael Kloos on the role of Heritage Impact Assessment in relation to the visual integrity of Dresden Elbe Valley.

ISAC 2015 attempted to draw attention to the importance of the recently developed HIA methodology in protecting heritage values. While Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has been recognized and used since 1970 to evaluate the impacts of development on the environment, HIA is quite a new trend to specifically emphasize on the impact of development projects on heritage sites. For a long time, the values of cultural heritage were not considered a priority in the EIA process. The increased number of World Heritage properties affected by various development projects and the risk of loss of their Outstanding Universal Values (OUV) led heritage organizations such as ICOMOS to introduce the concept of Heritage Impact Assessment as a conservation tool to reduce the negative impacts of the current and proposed projects on cultural heritage properties.

HIA is “the process of identifying, predicting, evaluating and communicating the probable effects of a current or proposed development policy or action on the cultural life, institutions and resources of communities, then integrating the findings and conclusions into the planning and decision making process, with a view to mitigating adverse impacts and enhancing positive outcomes” (Sagnia, 2004).

HIA focuses on the human-induced threats, specifically large-scale development projects such as “infrastructure development, new buildings, urban renewal and changes to the land use some of which are insensitive or inappropriate” (Wijesuriya and Hong, 2012: 12). Figure 1 shows that the major factors having the greatest negative impact on the cultural heritage properties are mismanagement and urban development.



**Figure 1: Percentage of properties affected by various primary factors between 1979 and 2013 © Veillon & UNESCO World Heritage Centre, 2014: 16.**

## **Discussion and Reflection**

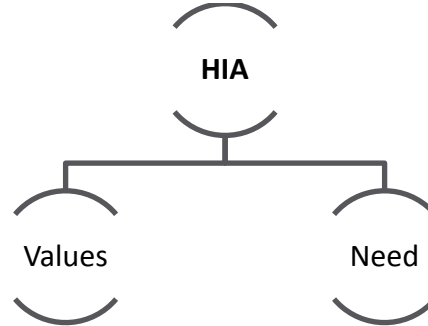
As mentioned previously, the thematic area “HIA” of ISAC 2015 was introduced and considered as a tool for solving conflict between the development and protection of heritage values.

Different speakers of this thematic area highlighted the identification of the threats and their associated impacts as the main step in the HIA process. A variety of human-induced threats were studied in different case studies. The problem of construction of new high-rise buildings in the vicinity of World Heritage Property of Golestan Palace in Tehran; the new large-scale infrastructure in the case of Villa La Rotonda, Italy; and the impact of mismanagement and inappropriate intervention in Kharragan Towers, Iran; and the impact of policy making on the urban development in Cairo, Egypt, and finally the example of the construction of Waldschlösschen Bridge in Elbe Valley, Dresden were discussed using HIA.

These cases have been facing various adverse impacts such as loss of the traditional knowledge, ceremonies and living heritage of the sites, as well as the integrity and authenticity of these cultural heritage assets. In fact, all these case studies illustrated the existing conflict between the new development and Heritage conservation. Therefore, we assume that HIA, if applied at the right time prior to decision making, could be an ideal assessment methodology to bridge the gaps between the needs and values by improving the communication and accordance between different stakeholders and reducing the negative impacts of a project. This will result in



a balance between the needs of the contemporary society and preservation of their heritage values.



**Figure 2: HIA creates a balance between the needs for development of a contemporary society and its Heritage values**

### **Conclusions / Recommendations**

ISAC 2015 emphasized the necessity for further study and improvement of HIA as a new tool in order to be able effectively respond to the problems resulting from conflicts between development and protection of heritage. This tool still needs to be integrated in not only the management plan but also the design procedure. An appropriate HIA can improve the resilience of tangible and intangible heritage in the face of future development. An important issue, which is often neglected, is to consider local community and encourage participatory methods in the application of HIA where it can positively rebind local communities with their values. In addition, further effort is required to support HIA by local administrations and state parties through the development of legal mandates for the implementation of HIA in heritage protection actions.

### ***References***

Sagnia, B. K. (2004). *Cultural Impact Assessment Project, Framework for cultural impact assessment*. Dakar: *International Network for Cultural Diversity (INCD)*.

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WIJESURIYA, G. and Hong, L. (2012). *Introduction to the HIA Framework; Overview of the 1st session of International Training Course on Heritage Impact Assessments*. Organized by WHITRAP1 and ICCROM. China. [Online] Available at: <http://www.whitrap.org/index.php?classid=1462&id=177&action=download&t=show> [Accessed: 16 December 2014].

## Appendix D: Evaluation of ISAC 2015 (Online Survey)

Quelle: <http://www.surveio.com/survey/d/S7G3C1E2D1M9Y5M9K>

### 1. What is your overall impression about this winter academy?

	Number of answers:
Excellent	6
Good	10
Fair	4
Poor	0

#### Comments:

“Wonderful Lectures, qualified participants, excellent teamwork and kindly and helpful organizers.”

“It met my expectations and I liked it a lot.”

“Everything went well, however more participants should be invited in order to get more taste.”

“It was a perfect timing for the discussed issues.”

“Less lectures, more discussion. need more time to digest what we have learnt.”

### 2. What is your impression regarding the quality of the different lectures?

	Number of answers:
Excellent	3
Good	16
Fair	1
Poor	0

#### Comments:

“It was very good because, the professors were very well prepared to deliver knowledge to participants.”

“It was so balanced between the academic knowledge and the professional experience.”

“I think it covered the topic in a comprehensive and accurate way.”

“Excellent quality of lectures by professionals but need to reduce the number of lectures”.

**3. How would you evaluate the quality of other participants' presentations?**

	<b>Number of answers:</b>
<b>Excellent</b>	4
<b>Good</b>	14
<b>Fair</b>	2
<b>Poor</b>	0

**Comments:**

“A lot of efforts has been put into the participant presentations.”

“Some were better than others including some excellent ones!”

“Some were great, some were lacking.”

**4. How satisfied are you with the level of technical support from the side of the organizers?**

	<b>Number of answers:</b>
<b>Excellent</b>	13
<b>Good</b>	7
<b>Fair</b>	0
<b>Poor</b>	0

**Comments:**

“Extremely friendly and supporting team.”

“They are efficient, qualified and friendly.”

“Well equipped facilities, high level of technical support.”

**5. Please rate the following aspects of the event**

	<b>Number of answers</b>			
	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Poor</b>
<b>Working atmosphere</b>	9	11	0	0
<b>Location of the academy</b>	13	6	0	1
<b>Organisational support</b>	12	8	0	0
<b>Scheduling and timing</b>	7	12	1	0
<b>Clarity of the programme</b>	9	11	0	0

## 6. Which parts of the programme did you find particularly interesting?

"I really enjoyed the lectures by Prof. Schipper and Mathias Ripp. They brought perspectives that were realistic, not sugar coated. I think it's important to remember that preservation involves compromise."

"Climate change Cultural Landscapes in Conflict, HUL, HIA."

"The discussions always coming up after the presentations!"

"Heritage at the event of war and terrorism".

"I appreciate the diversity Students participation I liked and enjoyed very much the excursions. Some lectures had professionals with insightful ideas and/ experiences."

"Lectures on heritage protection in the event of armed conflict, Excursion to Berlin, Dresden and Eisenhüttenstadt, Round table discussions."

"The excursions and the following discussion are thoughtful."

"Cultural landscapes."

"Thematic excursions, which help me better digest the theoretical learning."

"The students' presentation, the evening lectures followed by discussion."

"Markus Hilgert, Friedrich Schipper (Heritage in War), Klaus Hufner, Matthias Ripp."

"Lectures, excursion to Dresden and Berlin."

"Everything concerning the urban problematics".

"The morning lectures and the key note speaker."

"The combination of lectures on problematic subjects and then site visit (e.g. Dresden valley)."

"Morning Lectures and Excursions."

"I found the presentations on 'Cultural landscapes in conflict' very interesting."

"The lectures, Berlin excursion and Eisenhüttenstadt excursion."