

Image: Ballerina Statue, Budva Old Town
Beach House, Budva. Picture by Minas
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**European
Heritage
Hub**

European Heritage Hub Forum

EU Enlargement: Cultural Heritage as a Key Resource for Cities & Civil Society

3-4 April 2025 | Hybrid | Budva, Montenegro



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NOSTRA**



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European Heritage Hub Forum

EU Enlargement: Cultural Heritage as a Key Resource for Cities & Civil Society

Organised by

ICLEI Europe - Local Governments for Sustainability
Europa Nostra – the European Voice of Civil Society
Committed to Cultural and Natural Heritage

In the frame of

The European Heritage Hub EU-funded pilot project

In partnership with

The European Heritage Hub project consortium

With the cooperation and support of

European Commission | Municipality of Budva |
Tourist Organisation of the Municipality of Budva |
Bankada Foundation

Special thanks to

Hotel Avala Resort & Villas |
Citadela Restaurant & Lounge Bar | Gulliver Travel Agency

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European Heritage Hub Forum

EU Enlargement: Cultural Heritage as a Key Resource for Cities & Civil Society

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Concept

The third edition of the European Heritage Hub Forum will explore the critical intersection between sustainable development and social inclusion within the framework of EU enlargement. It builds on the success of previous Forums in Venice, that focused on green transformation, and Bucharest, which highlighted the need to promote a responsible and human-centered digital transformation.

Organised as part of the [European Heritage Hub](#) EU-funded pilot project, and powered by [ICLEI Europe](#) and [Europa Nostra](#) in their capacity as Co-beneficiary and Project Leader of the Hub, with the support of the Municipality of Budva, the Tourism Organisation of the Municipality of Budva and the Bankada Foundation, the two-day event will gather cities, civil society organisations, heritage experts, and policymakers. Participants will delve into the pivotal role cultural heritage plays in promoting social cohesion and inclusion, reconciliation, education, as well as sustainable development and regional cooperation in the framework of EU enlargement, with a special focus on the Western Balkans.

The Forum comes at a crucial time for Montenegro and the broader region of the Western Balkans, as they navigate significant political, social, cultural, environmental and economic dynamics, and as they face numerous urban and rural development challenges in the framework of their paths towards full integration in EU processes. The event aims to spotlight how cultural heritage can act as a driving force for positive and responsible social transformation, showcasing best practices and innovative approaches that use heritage to foster inclusivity, resilience, sustainable development, and citizens engagement.

Objectives and Outcomes

- Highlight and promote the vital intersection between sustainable development and cultural heritage;
- Champion and enhance community engagement through heritage-driven initiatives;
- Foster social cohesion and inclusion through cultural heritage across the Western Balkans, as part of the EU Enlargement agenda;
- Facilitate knowledge-sharing and networking among cities, civil society organisations, heritage experts, and policymakers with a view of strengthening the spread of representation and effectiveness of the European Heritage Alliance.



Programme

• Prelude to the Hub Forum | 2 April | 19:00 - 21:00

Venue: [Citadel of Budva](#)

Heritage Dialogues: 'Cultural Heritage for Empowering Communities: Civil Society and Activism in Safeguarding Europe's Heritage', followed by networking reception

The fourth edition of Heritage Dialogues will focus on the vital role of local communities in safeguarding their cultural and natural heritage, featuring successful campaigns led by activists and civil society. Focusing on three sites listed in the 7 Most Endangered programme, we will explore how activism drives sustainability, environmental justice, cultural preservation, and democratic engagement, as well as the crucial role of civil society in shaping sustainable development policies to protect Europe's heritage.

The event is organised in collaboration with the **7 Most Endangered Programme** of Europa Nostra and the **EIB Institute**, and with the support of **Hispania Nostra**.

Please, [register](#) for this event.

19:00 - 19:05

Welcome and Introduction

Antigoni MICHAEL, 7 Most Endangered Programme Manager

19:05 - 20:05

Panel Discussion

Moderator: **Antigoni MICHAEL**, 7 Most Endangered Programme Manager

Panelists:

- **Blažo KAŽANEGRA** and **Dijana RADJENOVIĆ** - Citizens' campaign related to Sveti Stefan, Montenegro (7ME 2023)
- **Mary TZIRAKI**, Elliniki Etairia - Safeguarding the Cycladic Islands, Greece (7ME 2024)



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— **Vesna MARJANOVIĆ** - The Generalštab Modernist Complex,
Serbia (7ME 2025)

20:05 - 20:25

Audience Q&A Session

20:25 - 20:45

Closing Remarks

Sneška QUAEDVLIEG-MIHAILOVIĆ, Secretary General of Europa Nostra & Project
Leader of the European Heritage Hub

20:45 - 21:30

Networking reception



• Hub Forum Day 1 | 3 April | 09:00 - 17:00

Venue: [Panoramic Lounge Hotel Avala](#)

09:00 – 09:30

Registration and welcome coffee

09:30 – 11:00

Opening session

Master of Ceremony: **Manon RICHARD**, Project Manager - European Heritage Hub, Europa Nostra

Welcome and Introductory remarks

- **Sneška QUAEDVLIEG-MIHAILOVIĆ**, Secretary General of Europa Nostra & Project Leader of the European Heritage Hub

Special Video Message

- **Glenn MICALLEF**, European Commissioner for Intergenerational Fairness, Youth, Culture and Sport

Opening Addresses

- **Boško KOVAČEVIĆ**, State Secretary, Ministry of Culture and Media of Montenegro
- **Nikola JOVANOVIĆ**, Mayor of Budva, Montenegro

Keynote Address

- **Ruud SCHUTHOF**, Deputy Regional Director, ICLEI Europe, a key member of the European Heritage Hub Consortium

11:00 – 11:15

Coffee break

11:15 – 12:30

Panel discussion 1: Cultural heritage as a driver for social cohesion and intergenerational dialogue

This panel will explore the vital role of cultural heritage in shaping social narratives within the context of contemporary debates on social transformation. The panel discussion will delve into how cultural heritage can function as a powerful catalyst for social cohesion, also fostering youth engagement and intergenerational dialogue. Speakers will share insights and case studies illustrating successful integration of cultural heritage initiatives that promote social equity and collective identity, and highlighting the importance of preserving and celebrating diverse heritages in driving meaningful social change.

Moderator: **Komal POTDAR**, Expert, Built environment, culture and heritage, ICLEI Europe

Speakers:

- **Daniele MOSCHETTI**, La Paranza Cooperativa, laureate of a 2022 European Heritage Award / Europa Nostra Award in the category Heritage Champions
- **David RADOVIĆ**, European Heritage Hub Facilitator for Montenegro, Studio Prostor
- **Joke QUINTENS**, 'This is Us. This is Brussels' Project, Social Designer, Wetopia & Moving*Marseille, and member of the Advisory Council of the European Heritage Hub
- **Sorina NEACSU**, President of ESACH (European Students Association for Cultural Heritage), an associate member of the European Heritage Hub Consortium

Reaction: **Eugen VAIDA**, Asociatia Monumentum and co-founder of the Ambulance for Monuments project, laureate of the Public Choice Award of the 2020 edition of the European Heritage Award / Europa Nostra Award

12:30 – 13:30

Lunch break

13:30 – 14:45

Panel discussion 2: Cultural Heritage as a Catalyst for Sustainable Development and Social Equity

Panellists will emphasise the transformative potential of cultural heritage in bridging the green, digital, and social dimensions of Europe's future. By examining case studies and strategies that integrate heritage with contemporary challenges, the panel aims to inspire participants to envision a future where cultural heritage actively contributes to sustainable development and social equity, reimagining its significance in a rapidly evolving world.

Moderator: **Cristina GARZILLO**, Head, Built Environment, Culture and Heritage, ICLEI Europe

Speakers:

- **Lorena ALDANA**, Head of External Relations and Advocacy, Europeana, a key member of the European Heritage Hub Consortium
- **Pavlos CHATZIGRIGORIOU**, Citizens Engagement & Awareness-raising, Jury Member & Chair of the Selection Committee, European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards
- **Martin EFREMOVSKI**, Board Member of the Macedonian National Committee of ICOMOS, recipient of the European Heritage Hub Small Grants Scheme for the project "Monitoring of Modernist Heritage in North-Macedonia"
- **Manos VOUGIOUKAS**, Secretary General of the European Cultural Tourism Network

Reaction: **Andrew POTTS**, Heritage and Climate Action Advisor, Europa Nostra, Preserving Legacies Programme of the National Geographic Society

14:45 – 15:15

Coffee break

15:15 – 16:30

Panel discussion 3: Advocacy in Action - Civil Society as the Champion of Heritage-Driven Transformation

This session will explore the intersection of environmental sustainability, digital innovation, and social equity, highlighting the vital role of heritage in shaping resilient futures. Experts will discuss how civil society organisations can advocate for heritage preservation while driving transformative change, showcasing initiatives and strategies that use cultural heritage to foster green and digital progress for sustainable development.

Moderator: **Vesna MARJANOVIĆ**, Secretary General, Europa Nostra Serbia and Council member, Europa Nostra

Speakers:

- **Lydia CARRAS**, Founder and President, ELLINIKI ETAIRIA and Spokesperson of the Europa Nostra Heritage Hub in Athens (video message)
- **Patrick CALLEJA**, Executive President, Din l-Art Ħelwa – National Trust of Malta, and Council member of Europa Nostra
- **Vedran KOSOVIC**, President, Society of Friends of Dubrovnik Antiquities. Laureate of the Grand Prix 2024 in the category Heritage Champions, European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards
- **Veron TARA**, Executive Director, EDUCO - Recipient of the European Heritage Hub Small Grants Scheme for the project “HeritageReady: Emergency Planning for Cultural Preservation”

Reaction: **Aleksandra KAPETANOVIĆ**, Expeditio, Center for sustainable spatial development, Kotor

16:30 – 17:00

Day 1 - Final remarks

Speakers:

- **Angela ATZORI**, Team Leader for Cultural Heritage, Directorate General for Education and Culture, European Commission
- **Jacek PURCHLA**, President of the Society of Friends of Kraków History and Heritage, Vice President of Europa Nostra and Chair of the European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards Jury



• Hub Forum Reception | 3 April | 19:00 – 21:00

Venue: [Citadel of Budva](#)

“Next Station” - Musical Performance by the Meraki String Quartet, Serbia

Organised in the frame of the **EU-funded [MERITA Platform](#)** coordinated by Le Dimore del Quartetto, of which Europa Nostra is a proud partner. The concert will be performed by the String Quartet Meraki from Serbia and is followed by a **networking reception**.

Doors open at **18:15**. The concert will start at **19:00**. Please, note that the concert will be standing - a few chairs will be available.

Why not leave the chairs, music stands and scores behind and make music in a different way?

The 4 musicians of the String Quartet Meraki take the audience on a journey of encounters and little bubbles of life, through joy and fear of the unknown, gentle bickering and reconciliation, joyful stops and moments of humour. A story of friendship, told without words but in the universal language of music. It's a fun way to discover some of the finest pages in the classical repertoire, from Bartok to Griffes, Villa Lobos, Slavenki, Debussy, Strauss, Glazunov... for everyone, aged 2 to 102!

In this project, they wanted to connect their passion for traditional music, and working with the audience through an interactive concert. This concert is going to include movements from famous string quartets and arrangements of pieces showing a vast variety of traditions in music.

- **Camille Saint Saens** - Danse macabre (arr. for string quartet)
- **Heitor Villa Lobos** - String Quartet No.1 - Brincadeira
- **Luigi Ricci** - Tarantela Napoletana (Italian folk song arr. for string quartet)
- **Charles Griffes** - 2 Sketches based on Indian (Native American) Themes, A.99 - Allegro giocoso
- **Alexander Glazunov** - 'Orientale' for string quartet
- **Manuel De Falla** - Seven Spanish Folk Songs VII Polo
- **Josip Slavenki** - String Quartet no.5 - Uzicka



- **Claude Debussy** - Clair de Lune (arr. for string quartet)
- **Johann Strauss** - Pizzicato polka
- **Josip Slavenski** - String Quartet no. 5 - Kokonjesce
- **Antonin Dvorak** - String Quartet No.12 Op.96 IV Finale: Vivace ma non troppo
- **Dmitri Shostakovich** - Waltz no. 2
- **Bela Bartok** - Romanian Folk Dances (arr. for string quartet)

• Hub Forum Day 2 | 4 April | 09:00 - 12:30

Venue: [Panoramic Lounge Hotel Avala](#)

09:00 – 09:30

Welcome coffee

09:30 – 10:30

Putting Cultural Heritage at the heart of the EU Enlargement

Master of Ceremony: **Vanessa FRAGA-PROL**, Advocacy and Partnerships Manager, Europa Nostra

Welcome and Introductory remarks

- **Sneška QUAEDVLIEG-MIHAILOVIĆ**, Secretary General of Europa Nostra & Project Leader of the European Heritage Hub

Keynote addresses

- **Jermína STANOJEV**, Research Coordinator at KU Leuven, a key member of the European Heritage Hub Consortium
- **Gala-Alexa AMAGAT**, Project Manager, ALIPH Foundation

Reactions

- **Johann SATTLER**, EU Ambassador to Montenegro
- **Predrag ZENOVIĆ**, Montenegro's Chief Negotiator with the European Union

10:30 – 11:15

Panel discussion 4: Cultural Heritage and the EU Enlargement - the cities' perspective

This session will explore how cultural heritage can serve as a unifying force in the region's integration efforts, focusing on cities. Discussions will highlight the Enlargement Agenda of the European Union and its implications for preserving and promoting Western Balkan cultural heritage. This includes

focusing on culture as a means of social change and recognising its role in their urban (economic, social, environmental) development. Panelists will engage in discussions on effective methods for complementing and/or coordinating action to recognize and honour national and regional diversity while bringing Culture Heritage to the fore; alignment through policy dialogues and monitoring to ensure alignment with EU standards and strategies for leveraging cultural heritage as a catalyst for regional cohesion and development.

Moderator: **Julie HERVÉ**, Head of Culture, EUROCITIES, a key partner of the European Heritage Hub Consortium

Speakers:

- **Dejan CRNEK**, Deputy Mayor of Ljubljana and Chair of the Eurocities Culture Forum
- **Jelena BOROVIĆ BOJOVIĆ**, President of the Municipal Council of Podgorica
- **Georgia ANTONOPOULOU**, Head of the Cultural Heritage Department of the City of Athens
- **Vladimir JOKIĆ**, Mayor of Kotor, Montenegro

11:15 – 12:15

Panel discussion 5: Cultural heritage as a Key Resource for Cross-border Collaboration

As the EU advances its Enlargement Agenda, cultural heritage plays a crucial role in strengthening ties with neighbouring regions, particularly the Western Balkans. The ongoing threats of climate change, digital transformation, and social inequalities, combined with the need to overcome the legacy of conflicts, require a comprehensive approach that integrates cultural heritage into policy and practice. This panel will explore how heritage can drive social transformation, promote inclusivity, and serve as a bridge between communities. By leveraging best practices, fostering cross-border collaboration, and enhancing policy frameworks, we can ensure that cultural heritage remains a dynamic force for sustainable development, reconciliation, and regional cooperation.

Moderator: **Amra HADŽIMUHAMEDOVIĆ**, Director of the Centre for Cultural Heritage, International Forum Bosnia NGO

Speakers:

- **Dušan MEDIN**, Bauo NGO, PhD candidate in Archeology, Assistant Professor University of Donja Gorica, Podgorica
- **Saša Dobričić**, Representative from GO! 2025 - Nova Gorica/Gorizia - European Capital of Culture 2025 (online)
- **Milena IVKOVIĆ**, CEO, Placemaking Western Balkans
- **Siniša SEŠUM**, Head of Office, Antenna in Sarajevo, UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture (online)

12:15 – 12:30

Final remarks

Speakers:

- **Angela ATZORI**, Team Leader for Cultural Heritage, Directorate General for Education and Culture, European Commission
- **Cristina LOGLIO**, Vice-President, Europa Nostra

12:30 – 13:15

Lunch break

- **Site excursions | 4 April | 13:30 – 20:00**

Short and long guided tours (optional)

With Experts: **Blazo KAZANEGRA, Slobodan MITROVIC, Aleksandra KAPETANOVIĆ**, in cooperation with the Gulliver Travel Agency, Budva and Museums of Kotor

Participants can choose to join one of the two organised guided tours to experience the culture and heritage of Montenegro. These sites have been selected as they highlight the efforts towards strengthening cooperation for the preservation of cultural heritage (in danger) and also highlight the link to the social dimension, thus complementing the themes and topics discussed at the conference.

Important information: Both tours will depart from Hotel Avala at 13:30. The pick up location is located at a 5-minute walk from the hotel and guides will escort the groups. The tour is free of charge. We recommend participants to take snacks / water with them on the tour. For those visiting Kotor, there will be a 30-40 minute break in which participants can buy snacks.

The visit to the endangered site of Sveti Stefan will be carried out from the mainland as entrance to the site is restricted.

These are walking trips including some parts with no paved roads and light inclines. We recommend wearing comfortable shoes and bringing essentials such as hats, drinking water, and weather-appropriate clothing (e.g., a coat or umbrella in case of rain).

Option 1: Short field trip to Sveti Stefan - Miločer park [Budva Old Town optional], 13:30-15:30 or 16:15

- **13:30 – 13:45** – drive from Budva to Sveti Stefan
- **13:45 – 15:15** – exploring Sveti Stefan and the area
- **15:15 – 15:30** – drive from Sveti Stefan to Budva
- **15:30 – 16:15** – guided tour in Budva Old Town (optional)

Option 2: Long field trip to Sveti Stefan - Kotor, 13:30-20:00

Note: The group will split in three in Kotor and conduct the same visit in rotation

- **13:30 - 13:45** - drive from Budva to Sveti Stefan
- **13:45 - 15:15** - tour with Blazo Kazanegra
- **15:15 - 16:00** - drive from Budva to Kotor
- **16:00 - 16:20** - welcome speech by Sandra Kapetanovic
- **16:20 - 16:40** - Dobrota lace presentation
- **16:40 - 19:15** - guided tour in Kotor followed by free time
- **19:15 - 20:00** - drive from Kotor to Budva



Practical information

Venues:

Forum on 3 & 4 April:

[Panoramic Lounge, Hotel Avala Resort & Villas](#)

Heritage Dialogue on 2 April, Concert & Networking Reception on 3 April:

[Citadela, Budva](#)

WiFi

Open Network: Avala Resort (no password)

Dresscode

During the Forum, concert and receptions, the dress code is business casual. Please, note that you are required to wear your participant badge at all times. Badges can be collected at the registration desk at Avala Hotel as of 09:00 on 3 and 4 April. A cloakroom will be available.

For the site visits, we recommend wearing comfortable clothing and footwear suitable for extended periods of walking, as well as taking water and weather-appropriate clothes in case of rain.

Transportation

How to get to Budva from:

- Tivat Airport - Taxi 37 mins
Palma Taxi, WhatsApp +382 68 019 577
- Podgorica Airport - Taxi 1h 6 mins
PG Taxi, WhatsApp +382 68 850 710

Local transportation in Budva:

Uber/Bolt doesn't operate in Montenegro. You can use Terrae taxi

- Message via WhatsApp or Viber at the phone number +382 67 17 88 88
- SMS message at the phone number +382 67 17 88 88
- By calling the phone numbers 19717 or +382 67 17 88 88
- By calling the free phone number 080 033 033 (for numbers from Montenegro)

Phone & roaming

To avoid expensive roaming charges, you can download the [Airalo app](#) and purchase an e-sim card in advance.

Currency

Euro €

Passport and Visa

If you are an EU Member State national you can travel to Montenegro with an ID if your stay is shorter than 30 days, no need for a passport.

If you are a Non-EU citizen with a residence permit in an EU Member State or the Schengen Area, you can travel without a visa if your stay is shorter than 30 days.

If you are a Non-EU citizen and don't have a residence permit in an EU Member State or the Schengen Area, you might still be able to enter Montenegro without a visa, depending on your nationality. You can check if this applies to you in this [link](#).

Weather

Weather in Budva in April is generally mild. It is recommended to bring a jumper or light jacket and be prepared in case of rain.

Emergency phone number(s)

122 - **Police**

123 - **Fire department**

124 - **Ambulance**

List of Speakers

Lorena ALDANA

Gala-Alexa AMAGAT

Georgia ANTONOPOULOU

Angela ATZORI

Dr. Jelena BOROVINIĆ BOJOVIĆ

Patrick CALLEJA

Lydia CARRAS

Pavlos CHATZIGRIGORIOU

Dejan CRNEK

Saša DOBRIČIĆ

Martin EFREMOVSKI

Vanessa FRAGA PROL

Cristina GARZILLO

Amra HADZIMUHAMEDOVIĆ

Julie HERVÉ

Milena IVKOVIĆ

Vladimir JOKIĆ

Nikola JOVANOVIĆ

Sandra KAPETANOVIĆ

M.Sc. Simonida KORDIĆ

Vedran KOSKOVIĆ

Boško KOVAČEVIĆ

Cristina LOGLIO

Vesna MARJANOVIĆ

Dušan MEDIN

Glenn MICALLEF

Daniele MOSCHETTI

Sorina NEACSU

Komal POTDAR

Andrew POTTS

Prof. Dr Jacek PURCHLA

Sneška QUAEDVLIEG-MIHAILOVIĆ

Joke QUINTENS

David RADOVIĆ

Manon RICHARD

Johann SATTLER

Ruud SCHUTHOF

Siniša SEŠUM

Jermina STANOJEV

Veron TARA

Eugen VAIDA

Manos VOUGIOUKAS

Dr. Predrag ZENOVIĆ



Lorena ALDANA

**Head of External Relations and
Advocacy, Europeana Foundation**

Lorena is Europeana's Head of External Relations and Advocacy, where she focuses on cultivating impactful relationships with EU policymakers, positioning Europeana as a leader on key digital heritage and policy issues, and enhancing its visibility and influence within both cultural and political spheres.

Prior to joining Europeana, Lorena gained extensive experience in EU cultural affairs, having worked with non-governmental, international, and intergovernmental organisations, including the European Commission and the OECD.

With a BA in International Affairs and an MS in Cultural Economics and Arts Management, Lorena brings over 10 years of international experience in advocacy and policy, project management, and strategic communication.



Gala-Alexa AMAGAT

Project Manager, ALIPH Foundation

Gala-Alexa Amagat is a project manager at ALIPH.

The International alliance for the protection of heritage (ALIPH) is the main global fund exclusively dedicated to the protection and rehabilitation of cultural heritage impacted by war, climate change, and natural disasters. It works in conflict, post-conflict, and crisis areas. To date, ALIPH has supported over 500 projects in 42 countries. ALIPH finances concrete initiatives carried out on the ground, hand in hand with local authorities, communities, and partners. Through its mission, it contributes to peace-building and sustainable development.

Prior to joining ALIPH, Gala-Alexa Amagat worked in the field of cultural diplomacy and international museum cooperation.



Georgia ANTONOPOULOU,
Head of the Department of Cultural
Heritage, Directorate of Town
Planning and Urban Environment,
Municipality of Athens, Greece

Georgia Antonopoulou holds a degree in History and Archaeology from the University of Athens, an MSc in Conservation and Restoration of Historic Buildings and Monuments from the National Technical University of Athens, and a PhD in Art History.

Her expertise lies in the documentation, conservation, and promotion of outdoor sculptures, funerary monuments, and historical sites within the Municipality of Athens. She has been actively involved in research, educational, and pilot projects on cultural heritage, contributing to its study and preservation.

Additionally, she oversees the placement of artworks in Athens' public spaces, ensuring their integration into the urban environment. Her recent work focuses on reviving Athens' urban heritage and historical memory through cultural routes, landmark enhancement, and oral history initiatives, in both physical and digital environments.



Angela ATZORI

**Team Leader for Cultural Heritage,
Directorate General for Education and
Culture, European Commission**

Angela Atzori is the new team Leader for Cultural Heritage in DG EAC, at the European Commission. A professional with over 20 years of experience worldwide on culture and heritage in/for development, Angela Atzori previously held multiple positions as in the European Commission at DG NEAR and DG INTPA, as Head of Sector Maghreb and as Trust Fund Manager of the EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian Crisis (DG NEAR) and Cooperation Officer, Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO).

Before joining the European Commission, she has worked at various organisations including UNESCO, the World Monuments Fund and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

She holds a PhD in Archaeological Sciences from the University of Padova (Italy) and multiple Masters, including a Master of Business Administration from EuroMBA Consortium.



Dr. Jelena BOROVINIĆ BOJOVIĆ

President of the Municipal Council
of Podgorica

Dr. Jelena Borovinić Bojović, a specialist in internal medicine and subspecialist in pulmonology, has been the President of the Capital City Assembly of Podgorica since December 2024. She previously held this position from April 2023 to November 2024. Additionally, from January 2024 to November 2024, she served as the President of the Assembly of the Union of Municipalities of Montenegro. She is a member of Montenegro's Delegation to the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe.

She served as the Minister of Health of Montenegro (2020–2022), achieving significant results, including increasing healthcare workers' salaries and improving vaccine accessibility.

Dr. Borovinić Bojović graduated from the University of Belgrade Faculty of Medicine, completed her specialization and subspecialization with top marks, and is currently pursuing a PhD in internal medicine. She has worked as a physician at the Clinical Center of Montenegro (KCCG), served as the Head of the Pulmonology Department, and was a lecturer at the University of Montenegro Faculty of Medicine.

She is actively engaged in international and inter-municipal cooperation, organizing panels and initiatives on key social issues. She is the author of numerous scientific papers, a participant in various international conferences, and a forensic expert in internal medicine and pulmonology.

She is married and is a mother of two children.



Patrick CALLEJA

**Executive President, Din l-Art Ħelwa –
National Trust of Malta, and Council
member, Europa Nostra**

Patrick Calleja graduated in both architecture and civil engineering from the University of Malta in 1989. He worked at the Renzo Piano Building Workshop in Paris before being appointed Head of the Civil Engineering section at the Department of Civil Aviation in Malta.

In 1995 he set up his own practice and a partnership with Architects Studio. His portfolio includes the restoration and conversion of numerous heritage buildings and residences including the Lombard Bank Branch in Sliema, Lombard Bank Legal Office in Valletta, Maltapost Museum in Valletta and the structural design of the Malta Millenium Project, St. James Cavalier Centre for Creativity, Valletta.

In 2024 he decided to wind down his private practice but was coincidentally presented with the opportunity to take on the voluntary role of executive president for Din l-Art Ħelwa National Trust for Malta; a role which he now practically and happily performs on a full time basis.

His other main interests are travel, literature, arts, current affairs, hiking and most sports.



Lydia CARRAS

**Founder and President, ELLINIKI
ETAIRIA and Spokesperson of the
Europa Nostra Heritage Hub in Athens**

Lydia Carras studied Sociology and International Relations, and holds a MA in Byzantine civilization (Sorbonne and University College London).

In 1972, she co-founded, with Costa Carras, ELLINIKI ETAIRIA – Society for the Environment and Cultural Heritage – of which she has been President since 2017. Since 2004, she has been an artistic Director at the Panorama of Ecological Films.

Lydia Carras directed 16 internationally awarded documentaries (Chicago, Thessaloniki and MediMed Film Festivals, EU awards): “Sinai God Trodden Mountain” which sales financed the Refectory restoration, “Sir Steven Runciman: Bridge to the East,” “The Song of the Monk Seal,” “Beyond the Barbed Wires” and “Voice of the Aegean.”

In 2009, she won the Academy of Athens award for her life’s work in Heritage and Environment. In 2015 she was the curator of the exhibition “Marathon: Cultural Landscape,” at the Unesco Headquarters (Paris). She received the European Heritage Award as the founder of the “Greek Paths of Culture” Programme in 2019. She edited in 2021 the bilingual publication “Fragile Earth”.



Pavlos CHATZIGRIGORIOU

**Citizens Engagement &
Awareness-raising, Jury Member &
Chair of the Selection Committee,
European Heritage Awards/Europa
Nostra Awards**

Pavlos Chatzigrigoriou is a Civil Engineer with a Master's in Protection, Conservation, and Restoration of Monuments, a Master's in Environmental Planning, a PhD in Architecture (digital cultural heritage), and a postdoc in Digital Heritage at the University of the Aegean.

In 2015, his research project HERMeS earned him the prestigious European Union Prize for Cultural Heritage Europa Nostra. The Council of Europe has recognized HERMeS as part of the Best Practices for Strategy 2021 and is currently being expanded to several historic cities. He has been invited as a guest speaker at international events, including the EU Cultural Forum, Best in Heritage, EU Best Practices in Public Administration, Digital Heritage, and Strategy 2021. Pavlos was a Marie Curie Postdoctoral Fellow at the UNESCO Chair for Digital Heritage at the Cyprus University of Technology.

Currently, he teaches digital cultural heritage at the University of the Aegean, serves as Chairman of the Jury for the European Heritage Awards—Europa Nostra in the category Citizens' Actions and Raising Awareness of Society, and is the Co-founder of the non-profit NGO Heritage Management e-Society (HERMeS) for the digital management of heritage. He is also Chairman of the Syros Institute's board of directors and Project Officer for EU Funding in the South Aegean Region.

Since June 2024, he has been appointed Managing Director and Scientific Responsible for the Historical Museum of Hermoupolis, a collaborative initiative of HERMeS NGO and the Lyceum of Greek Women of Syros. In this role, he oversees the development of innovative, inclusive activities, positioning the museum as a centre for Syros's knowledge and cultural heritage.



Dejan CRNEK

Deputy Mayor of Ljubljana and Chair
of the Eurocities Culture Forum

Dejan Crnek, Deputy Mayor of Ljubljana and Chair of the Eurocities Culture Forum, was born in Ljubljana and attended Vič Elementary School and Vič Grammar School. His personal motto, shaped by a lifelong dedication to sports and community work, reflects his passion for leadership and collaboration. At just fifteen, he became a guide for Slovenia's oldest sports organization, Narodni Dom, where he later led groups on outdoor excursions. After completing his studies at the Faculty of Sport, Dejan taught at Dravljje Elementary School and the Secondary Carpentry School in Ljubljana before co-founding a company with a friend.

His leadership and contributions to sports have earned him recognition as President of the Narodni Dom Sports Association, Slovene Sokol Association, and Vice President of the Gymnastics Association of Slovenia and the Slovene Sport Association. In addition to his work in sports, Dejan has held key positions in education, including serving as President of the Parents' Council and School Board at multiple institutions.

As President of the Šmarna Gora Community Council, Dejan is now in his third term. Under his leadership, numerous infrastructure improvements have been implemented, including road renovations, enhanced public transportation, and the development of a much-anticipated new community centre.

Dejan is currently serving his third term as Deputy Mayor of Ljubljana, where he oversees vital areas such as local self-government, health and social care, and municipal services. His work, in collaboration with Mayor Zoran Janković, has played a significant role in Ljubljana's transformation into Europe's leading green capital. As Chair of the Eurocities Culture Forum, Dejan continues to focus on initiatives that enhance the quality of life in Ljubljana, fostering a city that is green, vibrant, and culturally enriched.



Saša DOBRIČIČ

Representative of GO! 2025 - Nova
Gorica/Gorizia - European Capital of
Culture 2025

Saša Dobričić is a Full Professor of Architecture at the University of Nova Gorica, Slovenia, which is part of the ACROSS network of European Cross-Border Universities. She serves as the Director of the doctoral program in Cultural Heritage Studies and the Joint Master's program in Economics and Techniques for the Conservation of Architectural and Environmental Heritage, conducted in collaboration with the IUAV University of Venice, Italy.

In 2024, she was elected President of UNISCAPE, the European network of universities dedicated to landscape research and education according to the European Landscape Convention (www.uniscape.eu) with the mandate from 2024 to 2028. She is also a member of the Slovene UNESCO Commission. She has been appointed as the principal advisor of the Green Regenerative Spatial Strategy for the Nova Gorica/Gorizia European Capital of Culture 2025.

She has been actively involved in numerous international research and educational initiatives focused on heritage conservation, planning, and management, recognizing heritage conservation culture as a key driver of sustainable development. Her research interests focus on sustainable urban regeneration, nature-based solutions, and the circular and adaptive reuse models.



Martin EFREMOVSKI, M.Sc. Arch.

Board member, Macedonian National
Committee of the International
Council on Monuments and Sites
(ICOMOS)

Martin Efremovski is an architect and MSc of Conservation of Monuments and Sites. He obtained his Master in Science degree from the Raymond Lemaire International Centre for Conservation (RLICC), KU Leuven.

He previously completed in 2012 his Architecture studies at the Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, North Macedonia. Since 2019 he is a guest lecturer at the RLICC, KU Leuven on the practices and challenges in conservation of Modern Heritage. EPWG National Coordinator 2020-2023 and a board member of the Macedonian National Committee (ICOMOS) – North Macedonia tenure 2024-2027.

Since 2013 he has been working professionally in Belgium and North Macedonia in restoration and conservation of protected monuments. He contributed to the preparation of the State of Conservation (SoC) and Heritage Impact Assessments (HIA) at several World Heritage properties including the Mausoleum of Khoja Ahmed Yasawi and Historic Centre of Bukhara.

He is the co-author of the book “Artemuskin and Skopje”, documenting the built heritage in Skopje in the Interwar period. Currently he is the manager of the project “Monitoring of the Macedonian Modernist Heritage”.



Vanessa FRAGA PROL

Advocacy and Partnerships Manager,
Europa Nostra

Vanessa Fraga Prol is the newly appointed Manager of Advocacy and Partnerships at Europa Nostra, the European voice for civil society committed to heritage. Prior to this, she was the Head of Programmes at Cultural Emergency Response (CER), where she led initiatives focused on emergency aid, expert training, the development of regional hubs, and advocacy for heritage protection.

With over 15 years of experience in the United Nations system, Vanessa has worked on disarmament and peacebuilding. In 2013, she contributed to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), which was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for its efforts to eliminate weapons of mass destruction.

A PRINCE2® certified project manager, Vanessa holds master's degrees in World Heritage and Management of Heritage Projects for Development from ITC-ILO and in Information Sciences from Complutense University in Madrid. She is dedicated to bridging heritage preservation, humanitarian aid, and peacebuilding globally.



Cristina GARZILLO

Head, Built Environment, Culture and
Heritage, ICLEI Europe

Cristina Garzillo Leemhuis is Head of Built Environment, Culture and Heritage at ICLEI. Having more than 20 years of experience working in and for local governments, Cristina is recognised for her work as expert in local sustainability processes, culture and cultural heritage, integrated management and governance as well as author of numerous publications in the field of local sustainability, knowledge brokerage and transition.

Cristina has been appraiser and expert for the URBACT Programme, the Urban Innovative Actions Initiative, the European Committee of the Regions and United Nations. She is currently member of the European Commission's Expert Group on Culture and Cultural Heritage; expert for UNOPS; member of the Partnership on Culture and Cultural Heritage of the Urban Agenda for the EU and the New European Bauhaus community.

Cristina can also draw on a wealth of academic experience gained from her previous role as contract professor at the University of Parma. She joins the editorial board of the European Journal of Creative Practices in Cities and Landscapes.



Amra HADŽIMUHAMEDOVIĆ

Director of the Centre for Cultural
Heritage, International Forum Bosnia
NGO

Amra Hadžimuhamedović has been the leading heritage expert in the process of implementation of Annex 8 of the Dayton Peace Accord for Bosnia and Herzegovina, and managing diverse projects of integrating cultural heritage into postwar recovery in Bosnia, Kosovo, Palestine, and Iraq.

She has worked as a consultant for UNESCO, ICCROM; World Bank, ICOMOS International, OSCE, Europa Nostra, ARC-WH, Welfare, etc. She taught History of Architecture and Architectural Conservation at the International University of Sarajevo (2010-2019), guest-lectured at the universities in USA, Europe, Arab Region, and published widely, including the books: Heritage Reconstruction and People. Integrated recovery after trauma (ed.); Heritage, War and Peace; Human Rights and Destruction of Cultural Memory (ed.); Bosnia: Destruction of Cultural Heritage (co-author).

She is a founder of HIDR (House of International Dialogue and Research) which includes ISSYH, a school for sustainable, inclusive, resilient and holistic recovery of heritage.



Julie HERVÉ

Head of Culture, EUROCITIES

Julie Hervé is head of culture at Eurocities, the largest network of European cities.

Julie specialises in local cultural policies and manages Eurocities activities on culture, cultural heritage and architecture. These include policy work, project development and implementation (capacity-building activities on culture for cities through peer-learning activities, visits, coaching activities, thematic working groups) and developing knowledge sharing activities for Eurocities 200+ member cities.



Milena IVKOVIĆ

CEO, Placemaking Western Balkans

Milena Ivkovic is a public space designer and civic participation innovator, specializing in place-led urban renewal. Milena's experience includes working on holistic public space design strategies for various Dutch and international consultancies and think tanks.

Since 2024, Milena has been an expert on integrated and participatory urban planning for the URBACTs capacity-building program for European cities. Because of her dedication to fostering civic experimentation and new forms of social innovation in cities, she has been a jury member of the prestigious European Commission's EISMEA 2023 and 2024 European Capital of Innovation Awards.

Since 2021, she has led Placemaking Western Balkans, a nonprofit think tank based in Belgrade and Rotterdam. Since its inception, Placemaking W. Balkans has been awarded several EU cross-border collaboration projects on developing various co-design tools to enhance the natural, social and cultural values of public space.

Next to leading the Placemaking WBalkans, Milena is the creative director of BLOK 74 studio based in Rotterdam. BLOK 74 is a digital design collective with expertise in serious games and gamified simulations. BLOK 74 has developed digital and analogue methodologies for engaging diverse actors in public space co-design, delivering projects across Europe and beyond.



Vladimir JOKIĆ

Mayor of Kotor, Montenegro

Vladimir Jokić was born on 24th January 1988 in Kotor, where he completed Elementary School and Gymnasium, both with honours. He graduated from the Law School of Belgrade University, at the Theoretical Law Department. He speaks English, but he can also communicate in Italian.

He was one of the organizers of the seminar entitled “Job Opportunity” held in October 2017. He underwent training and apprenticeship with “Ernst&Young” in Belgrade in 2012, being involved in the activities related to labour, commercial and fiscal law. In the period from 2010 to 2014, he worked as a lawyer associate with “Petković” Law Office in Belgrade, where he specialized for the area of commercial and sport law. In 2014, he carried out law-related activities with the accounting agency “Jokić 4V” DOO from Kotor.

As of 2012, he has been a co-owner of the “ABPM Sport Agency” DOO from Belgrade, a company offering consulting services in the area of sport, law and economy and develops Internet start-up projects. He acted as a Co-Chair to UNESCO International Coordination Group.

In the period from 2017 to 2019, he held the office of the Mayor of Kotor for the first time. He is the President of the Municipal Board of “Democratic Montenegro” – Kotor, member to the Main Board of “Democratic Montenegro” and a member of the Presidency of “Democratic Montenegro”.



Aleksandra KAPETANOVIĆ

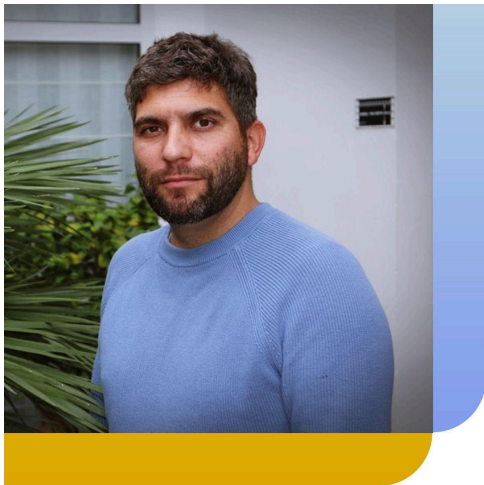
Expeditio, Center for sustainable
spatial development, Kotor

Aleksandra Kapetanović is a conservation architect based in Kotor, Montenegro. She is one of the founders of the nongovernmental organization EXPEDITIO Center for Sustainable Spatial Development and serves as the coordinator of its cultural heritage sector.

She graduated from the Faculty of Architecture at the University of Belgrade and completed postgraduate courses in cultural heritage in Slovakia and Italy, as well as other international training programs on cultural heritage, including those organized by ICCROM and UNESCO. She is currently pursuing a PhD in geography at the University of Zagreb, focusing on the cultural landscape of katuns (seasonal mountain settlements).

She completed her internship at the Regional Institute for Cultural Heritage Protection in Kotor and spent two years as a project assistant with the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) at the Environmental Geography Laboratory (GEODE) at the University of Toulouse-Jean Jaurès.

With over 20 years of experience in the NGO sector, Aleksandra has been involved in implementing multidisciplinary and participatory projects in the fields of architecture and cultural heritage. Her main research interests include cultural landscapes, traditional architecture, and World Heritage, with a particular focus on participatory processes in cultural heritage protection.



Vedran KOSOVIC

President, Society of Friends of Dubrovnik Antiquities. Laureate of the Grand Prix 2024 in the category Heritage Champions, European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards

Vedran Kosović is President of the Society of Friends of Dubrovnik Antiquities. He was born June 21, 1986, and he is married and the father of two children.

He graduated in Civil Engineering from the University of Zagreb in 2009. Currently, he is an expert in professional supervision and project management at the Institut IGH. In addition to his role at the Institut, Vedran has been actively involved with the Society of Friends of Dubrovnik Antiquities since 2010, becoming president in 2022.

Apart from his professional life, Vedran enjoys sailing and has a profound interest in cultural heritage.



Boško KOVAČEVIĆ

State Secretary, Ministry of Culture
and Media of Montenegro

Boško KOVAČEVIĆ is State Secretary at the Ministry of Culture and Media of Montenegro, Manager and director of several regional and domestic companies, Member of the Parliament of the Capital City, and Member of the Board of Directors of Water Supply in Podgorica.



Cristina LOGLIO

Vice-President, Europa Nostra

Born in 1953, Cristina holds degrees at the Milan University and at the Piccolo Teatro Dramatic Art School in Milan. She's an active promoter of European cultural policies, having contributed to their creation at the European Parliament and to treasuring them in Italy, as Advisor to the Minister of Culture, with tasks including Jury Member for the Italian Capital of Culture (2017-2022).

As chair and member of different European Think Tank for culture aiming to the European CCSs, she's actively contributing to European networks, being in particular Europa Nostra Vice President, active member of Culture Action Europe and connected with PEARLE-Live Performing Arts. She's invited as a lecturer by academic and professional fora, in Europe and in the USA.

She loves theater, cultural heritage, art and education, with a civil spirit and managerial attitude. Based in the USA and in Italy, Cristina is a truly frequent flyer.



Vesna MARJANOVIĆ

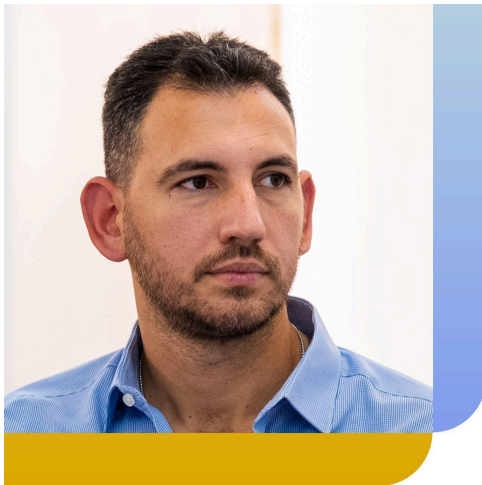
Secretary General, Europa Nostra
Serbia and Council member, Europa
Nostra

Vesna was a political activist when, after years of conflict, democratic reforms started in Serbia witnessing the hopes and frustrations of a changing society that did not succeed in placing cultural policies into mainstream government strategies. Member of the Serbian Parliament and Chair of the Parliamentary Committee on Culture and the Media (2007-2011, 2012-2016). Member of the City Council of the City of Belgrade and Chair of the Board of the Belgrade International Film Festival – FEST (2011-2012). She was the Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (2012 to 2016) where she held the position of Vice-Chair of the Committee on Culture, Education, Science and Media and Vice-Chair of the Sub-Committee on Culture, Diversity and Heritage. She was Rapporteur on “Europe’s Endangered Heritage”, “Culture and Democracy” and for the Council of Europe Museum Prize.

Since 2021, she is active as Secretary General of Europa Nostra Serbia. Since then, the country representation of Europa Nostra in Serbia has launched the Heritage Heroes Award Scheme with the EU Delegation in Serbia, for dedicated service in the field of cultural heritage and has organised a first civil society international Belgrade Heritage Forum in Belgrade, in May 2023 in partnership with Europa Nostra, EU Delegation in Serbia and the Delphi Economic Forum.

Founder of the Center for Democracy Foundation, Belgrade, Serbia.

Vesna believes that cultural heritage has an infinitely important democratic role to reach far, educate all and give us a better understanding of humanity. She graduated from the Belgrade University Law School.



Dušan MEDIN

Bauo NGO, PhD candidate in
Archeology, Assistant Professor
University of Donja Gorica, Podgorica

Dušan Medin is an archaeologist and culture manager, PhD candidate both in archeology and art theory. Teaching assistant at the Faculty of Culture and Tourism and Faculty of Arts at the University of Donja Gorica, Podgorica. Executive director of the Association for Cultural Development “Bauo”, Petrovac na Moru, which deals in the field of culture and heritage, research, non-formal education, event management, and publishing. Executive director of MM Digital Ltd Creative Agency, Budva.

He independently or as co-author wrote numerous scientific and professional publications, articles, reviews, texts for the media and other works, and edited more than 50 publications. He also expressed himself as a (co)author of the concept, curator and organizer of several exhibitions in Montenegro and Serbia. Also, he initiated, organized and participated in numerous local, national and international cultural and scientific projects. Recipient of several awards, recognitions and scholarships.

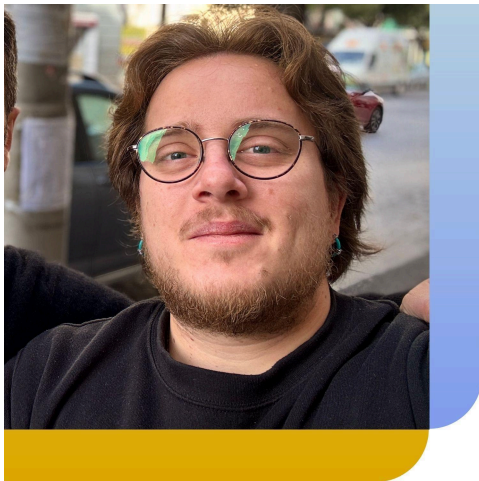


Glenn MICALLEF

European Commissioner for
Intergenerational Fairness, Youth,
Culture and Sport

Glenn Micallef is a Maltese politician who serves as European Commissioner for Intergenerational Fairness, Youth, Culture, and Sport since 2024. He leads efforts on developing strategies for intergenerational fairness, coordinating youth policy dialogues, improving the working conditions of artists and cultural professionals, and advancing the European Sport Model. He also heads initiatives on cyberbullying and child rights, and works on strategic foresight to prepare for future challenges.

Glenn Micallef has held senior positions in the Maltese government, including as Director General at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister, where he negotiated major EU legislation and secured significant EU funding for Malta. He holds advanced degrees in European Politics, Law, and Economics from the University of Malta.

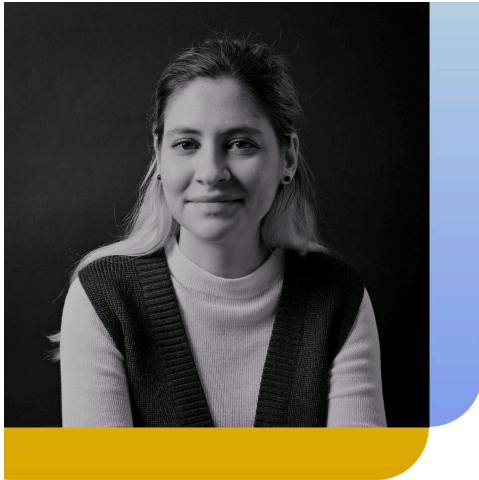


Daniele MOSCHETTI

**La Paranza Cooperativa, laureate of a
2022 European Heritage Award /
Europa Nostra Award in the category
Heritage Champions**

Danielenrico Moschetti is a member of the Strategic Planning Office of the La Paranza Cooperative interested in Cultural Heritage at the service of society as a booster for community development and empowerment.

Together with Salvatore Illiano, he works for La Paranza Cooperative active in the Rione Sanità district, for decades forgotten and marginalized in the heart of Naples (Italy), nowadays resurged through its Cultural Heritage and the sense of belonging fueled up by the community engagement led by the cooperative.



Sorina NEACSU

**President of ESACH (European
Students Association for Cultural
Heritage)**

Sorina is a cultural manager with a passion for engaging youth in cultural heritage. With a strong background in heritage management and the NGO sector, she has developed expertise in youth and volunteer engagement, museum education, project coordination, and art history. She is dedicated to fostering youth-led initiatives that enhance awareness and appreciation of cultural heritage, ensuring its relevance for future generations.

Committed to making heritage more accessible and visible, Sorina actively promotes the role of young people in safeguarding and advocating for cultural heritage. Since December 2020, she has been a driving force in the European Heritage Youth Ambassadors Programme as part of the ESACH (www.esach.org) coordination committee and now serves as the President of the network. She also represents the Cultural Association "Patrimoniul pentru Viitor" (www.patrimoniul-viitor.ro) and, as of October 2024, has joined the Europa Nostra Council, reinforcing her commitment to youth engagement in heritage preservation and advocacy.



Komal POTDAR

Expert, Built environment, culture
and heritage, ICLEI Europe

Komal Potdar is a Conservation Architect from India, with professional experience spanning across the Netherlands, Israel, the U.K., the U.S.A., and currently, Germany. She is associated with the ICLEI Europe Secretariat as an Expert with the Built Environment, Culture, and Heritage team.

Komal's technical expertise, work experience, and passions range in the spectrum (and beyond) of cultural conservation, heritage urbanism, and spatial sustainability and engaging research and development projects at building, urban, and metropolis scales. Her work largely revolves around UNESCO heritage conventions, local legislation, and contextualizing the international guidelines of UNESCO Historic Urban Landscapes and the UN-HABITAT New Urban Agenda.

In the past, she has engaged professionally as a consultant with various State and National Governments and Urban Local bodies for projects for cultural conservation, development plans of villages, interpretation, and tourism management projects, nationally and internationally. Having been awarded several grants, scholarships, and internships internationally with reputed institutions and organizations, she has a wide network and first-hand experience in practices, technical know-how, and state of art methods. These include the Charles Wallace India Trust fellowship in UK 2019-20, an internship with the US-ICOMOS International Exchange Programme 2017, research grant with INTACH Heritage Academy Research Grant 2016-17. Her volunteer work includes being the Core team member for the Our World Heritage Initiative in 2021 and contributing to the report on Information Technology for World Heritage matters.

She is currently also finishing her Doctoral journey with the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant. As an Early-Stage researcher, she conducted her research with TU Delft, The Netherlands and Bezalel Academy of Architecture, Israel. Through her research, she is exploring applied research methods of datascaping to adapt the Historic Urban Landscape recommendations for cities with contested landscapes to achieve spatial sustainability.



Andrew POTTS

Heritage and Climate Action Advisor,
Europa Nostra, Preserving Legacies
Programme of the National
Geographic Society

Andrew Potts is the Community of Practice Director for the National Geographic Society-funded Preserving Legacies project which works to support locally-led, “plural knowledge system”-based, values-driven climate adaptation for heritage sites around the world. The project includes the Heritage Adapts to Climate Alliance (HACA), which is working to support implementation of the cultural heritage thematic target of the new UN Global Goal on Adaptation framework.

Potts also serves as Heritage and Climate Action Adviser to the Europa Nostra European Heritage Hub. He was the lead author of Europa Nostra’s 2021 European Cultural Heritage Green Paper.

In the United States, Potts served on the Expert Advisory Committee for the United States Advisory Council on Historic Preservation during the administration of former President Joseph R. Biden.

Andrew founded and coordinated the Secretariat of the Climate Heritage Network and in 2024 helped launch its Mellon Foundation-funded project “Imagining Low Carbon, Just, Climate Resilient Futures Through Culture and Heritage.”

Previously Andrew served as the Coordinator of the ICOMOS Climate Change and Heritage Working Group and in 2021 served on the Operating Committee of the IPCC-ICOMOS-UNESCO International Co-Sponsored Meeting on Culture, Heritage and Climate Change.

A policy and finance for development (FfD) lawyer by training, Andrew’s law practice originally focused on arranging public and private finance for the adaptive reuse of historic buildings. He has made culture and climate change policy his focus since 2015.



Prof. Dr Jacek PURCHLA

**President of the Society of Friends of
Kraków History and Heritage, Vice
President of Europa Nostra and Chair
of the European Heritage Awards /
Europa Nostra Awards Jury**

Vice-President of Europa Nostra since 2018. Polish Art Historian and Economist, Professor of Humanities, a member of the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences. Founder of the International Cultural Centre in Kraków and its director since its inception in 1991 until 2018. For many years he was the head of the Department of Economic and Social History and the UNESCO Chair for Heritage and Urban Studies at the Kraków University of Economics.

Prof. Purchla specialises in urban studies, social and art history, as well as the theory and protection of cultural heritage. Between 2016 and 2017 he was the President of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee.

Member of many organisations and associations including The Society of Friends of Kraków History and Heritage (operator of the Europa Nostra Heritage Hub in Kraków), of which he is currently president. He is the author of over 500 academic works, including a number of books published in many languages.



Sneška QUAEDVLIEG-MIHAILOVIĆ

Secretary-General of Europa Nostra &
Project Leader of the European
Heritage Hub

Sneška Quaedvlieg-Mihailovic has dedicated her life to championing Europe's shared values and shared cultural heritage, working for Europa Nostra for over three decades and assuming the role of Secretary General in 2000. She regularly interacts and works closely with all EU institutions, the Council of Europe, UNESCO and numerous public and private bodies committed to cultural heritage at all levels of governance, from local to global.

A prominent figure in the European cultural and cultural heritage circles, Sneška is the leader of the pioneering EU-funded European Heritage Hub pilot project and serves as a spokesperson for the European Heritage Alliance. She also serves on the EC Expert Group on Cultural Heritage. Her multi-faceted activities extends to culture-based climate action as regional co-Chair of the Climate Heritage Network. She is a member of the EUYO Advisory Council and a member of the Council of the [European Music Centre](#) in Bougival.

Before joining Europa Nostra, Sneška worked for the EU Institutions in Brussels and Belgrade. She was one of the founders and first Secretary-General of the European Movement in Yugoslavia. Sneška holds a graduate degree in International Law (Belgrade, former Yugoslavia) and a postgraduate degree in European Law and Politics (Nancy, France).

In 2022, [Sneška was elevated to the rank of Knight of the national order of the Legion of Honour](#) for her “unreserved commitment to the preservation of heritage in Serbia and more widely in Europe” and “dedication and commitment to the cultural dimension of the European project”.

In 2024, Sneška was appointed as a foreign member of the Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti, a prestigious academic institution that for almost 200 years has promoted science, humanities and the arts in Venice and Italy as well as in Europe and globally.



Joke QUINTENS

**'This is Us. This is Brussels' Project,
Wetopia & Moving*Marseille, and
member of the Advisory Council of the
European Heritage Hub**

Joke Quintens is a social designer, regenerative development practitioner, and founder of Wetopia, a platform that builds new alliances to unlock the potential of neighbourhoods and other places. She works across Brussels, Marseille and Cape Town, co-creating initiatives such as Girls Make the City, empowers young women to shape their urban environment by creating spaces where they feel free, safe, and connected.

"This is Us. This is Brussels" reflects her commitment to cultural heritage as a driver for community resilience. This ambitious project serves as a human archive capturing the essence of Brussels in the 2020s. By collecting and preserving 1,000 personal stories from a diverse cross-section of the city's residents, the project highlights Brussels' superdiverse, multilingual, and ever-evolving identity. Through a network of trained heritage brokers, these narratives not only document the past and present but also help create a "new us", shaping what we share and how we see ourselves as a community.

A historian by training, Quintens has a background in oral history and migration. She also curates design challenges and learning tours, fostering participatory city-making.

At the conference, she will share insights on how new heritage narratives can emerge by amplifying the voices of diverse and representative citizens. By engaging people from all walks of life, we can uncover untold heritage stories and reshape collective memory for a more inclusive future.



David RADOVIĆ

Youth Special Task Force Europa
Nostra Heritage Hub in Athens

David Radović is a Montenegrin architect, conservator, and PhD candidate in architecture and urbanism, specializing in innovative frameworks for heritage planning in protected landscapes as dynamic spatio-temporal entities. Radović's work integrates professional practice, scientific research, mentorship and advisory roles, with an emphasis on incorporating critical heritage thinking into governmental policies and academic discourse across the Balkan region.

As a collaborator of Europa Nostra and Elliniki Etairia, Radović actively contributes to international heritage initiatives. His expertise encompasses architectural design, spatial planning and urbanism challenges in heritage contexts, design quality control, as well as interdisciplinary approaches to the preservation and revitalization of built heritage.

Radović is the founder of Future Heritage, an initiative that fosters design research and critical thinking to shape tomorrow's legacy. His work challenges conventional boundaries, advocating for progressive methodologies to safeguard, reimagine, and create heritage.



Manon RICHARD

Project Manager - European
Heritage Hub, Europa Nostra

Since 2023, Manon has been the project manager of the EU-funded European Heritage Hub pilot project. In this position, she ensures the successful implementation of the project, liaises with institutional and civil society partners, as well as focuses on the broadening and amplification of the Hub activities in EU neighbouring countries. Manon first joined Europa Nostra in The Hague in 2015 and has been working in networking, communication and policy/advocacy activities.

In 2020, she joined the Brussels Office of Europa Nostra to further nurture relations with a number of civil society and institutional partners, particularly the EU Institutions.

In 2023, Manon worked for an NGO in the food safety sector as a project and policy coordinator.

Manon holds a BA in Applied Foreign Languages and Business Studies (Université de Lorraine, Nancy, France) and a MA in European and International Political Science (Sciences Po Strasbourg, France). As part of her studies, she completed a traineeship at the Council of Europe (PACE, sub-committee on culture, diversity and heritage) in Strasbourg in 2014.

She enjoys traveling, discovering new cultures and making gastronomic experiences. In her free time, she practices long distance running and CrossFit.



Johann SATTLER

European Union's Ambassador to
Montenegro

Ambassador Johann Sattler serves as the European Union's Ambassador to Montenegro since 1 September 2024.

Previously, he worked as Head of the EU Delegation and European Union Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

He graduated from Innsbruck University in 1994 with a Master in Political Science and Slavic Languages and holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced International Studies from the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna. He completed his PhD in Political Science at the University of Vienna in 2008.

Throughout his career, including his more recent experience as Austrian Ambassador to Albania and EU Ambassador in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ambassador Sattler had a particular focus on the Western Balkans. In 1996, he joined the Austrian Ministry for Foreign Affairs in the Human Rights Department.

In 1997, he joined the European Community Monitoring Mission, where he was posted to Sarajevo and Tirana. He worked for the Stability Pack for South East Europe in Brussels and as a political counsellor for the Austrian Embassy in Washington DC. He also served as Head of the Western Balkans Directorate at the Austrian Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

He took up ambassadorial duties in Albania in 2016. Apart from native German, Ambassador Sattler is fluent in English, French and Russian, and proficient in Bosnian/Croatian/Montenegrin/Serbian and Albanian.



Ruud SCHUTHOF

Deputy Regional Director, ICLEI
Europe

Ruud Schuthof has been working with ICLEI since 2008. He is Deputy Regional Director and was leading ICLEI Europe's Communication and Member Relations team until 2023. Engaged in ICLEI Europe's strategic political and partnership work, he has extensive experience in awareness raising and city mobilisation on sustainable urban development. Amongst others he has been involved in the European Mobility Week, the European Conferences on Sustainable Cities and Towns and related campaigns and the European Green Capital Network.

Ruud has obtained 25 years of work experience in the area of public governance and has been involved in projects with funding from UNEP, UNDP, the European Commission, GIZ and national ministries. More recently he has been engaged with the B40 Balkan Cities network, obtaining observer member status for ICLEI.



Siniša ŠEŠUM

Head of Antenna office in Sarajevo of
the Regional Bureau for Science in
Culture, UNESCO

Siniša Šešum is the Head of Antenna office in Sarajevo of the Regional Bureau for Science in Culture.

He has more than 29 years of experience with UNESCO within the Region of South Eastern Europe, in all segments of UNESCO mandates. Since 1996, he is part of some flagship UNESCO initiatives in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in the Region, including reconstruction of the Old Bridge and rehabilitation of the Old City of Mostar, building foundation for establishment of still existing cultural cooperation platform Council of Ministers of Culture of South East Europe – Enhancing culture for sustainable development, the Re-Establishment of a Joint Permanent Exhibition in Block 17 of the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum and many other, aimed at the promotion of the role of the culture in celebrating cultural diversity of the region.

Siniša Šešum has a civil engineering education background.



Dr. Jermina STANOJEV

Research Coordinator, KU Leuven

Dr. Jermina Stanojev is a policy and research expert and lecturer in cultural heritage and international cultural relations. She serves as an individual expert to the European Commission expert group on cultural heritage. Dr. Stanojev has extensive experience in policy development, evidence-based research, and the implementation of international projects. She has collaborated with institutions such as KU Leuven, Uppsala University, Una Europa, UNESCO, Europa Nostra, the European Commission, and Goethe-Institut Brussels. Her work focuses on culture-led policy development to address global challenges through various governance frameworks. She advises on the role of culture and cultural heritage in international relations within the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance in the Western Balkans and supports the EU Strategy for International Cultural Relations.

She is an expert advisor to the European Heritage Green Paper and a member of the CHARTER advisory board. She co-authored the report “Skills, Training and Knowledge-transfer in the Traditional and Emerging Heritage” from the Structured Dialogue with the European Commission. Dr. Stanojev co-chairs the EIT Culture & Creativity Strategic Topic Group on Cultural Heritage in Green and Digital Transitions for Inclusive Societies. She serves as an expert assessor for the European Urban Initiative – Innovative Actions – New European Bauhaus projects, vice-chair for the Creative Europe programme, and a European Heritage Awards jury member.



Veron TARA

**Executive Director, EDUCO - Recipient
of the European Heritage Hub Small
Grants Scheme for the project
“HeritageReady: Emergency Planning
for Cultural Preservation”**

Veron Tara is an architect and an expert in Cultural Heritage, holding a degree from the University for Business and Technology in Pristina as BSc. Architect and as MSc. Building Restorer/conservator.

His experience in the heritage field began in 2017, participating in the Management Plan for the Historic Center of Prizren as a field researcher. He has been involved with numerous organizations, including Cultural Heritage without Borders Kosova (CHwB Kosova), focusing on the Restoration/Conservation of monuments in Kosovo, and as a professional staff at the Regional Center for Cultural Heritage – Prizren in the Restoration/Conservation area. He has worked in the private restoration office in Prizren and has been appointed as the Head of the Cultural Heritage Council for the Historic Center of Prizren in 2023.

He is the creator of the Digital Platform for the Historic Center of Prizren and a researcher in the Development of the Conservation Plan for the Historic Center of Janjeva. Certified by UNDP as a cultural guide and certified in dark tourism by the European Association of Tourist Guides – FEG, he is also actively engaged in citizen initiatives and part of many civil society networks aimed at raising civic awareness and from 2023 as a co-founder and executive director of NGO – Education for Development and Cultural Outreach – EDUCO in Prizren.



Eugen VAIDA

Architect, Asociația Monumentum and co-founder of the Ambulance for Monuments project, laureate of the Public Choice Award of the 2020 edition of the European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Award

Eugen Vaida is an architect at Asociația Monumentum, which has been a member organisation of Europa Nostra since 2019. He is a graduate of the Faculty of Architecture at the University of Architecture and Urban Planning "Ion Mincu", in Bucharest.

Among his many projects, Eugen coordinated the Daia Heritage Valorization Plan, developed by the Global Heritage Fund in 2017-2018 and co-founded The Ambulance for Monuments project, which won an Award and the Public Choice Award at the European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards 2020. In his role of director for The King's Foundation in Romania he had a defining role in the development of the summer school movement in Romania which has its key mission in educating young architects and students. Eugen Vaida published numerous literary works on cultural heritage, including "Saving the Culture of the Other" (Alțiina, 2021) and "The Architectural Guidebook For Contextual Planning in the Saxon Area" of the Order of Romanian Architects (The Rural Working Group).

He became an Ashoka Fellow in November 2021, benefitting from a lifetime bursary to continue his work in the field of heritage from the world's leading social entrepreneurship organisation. For its dedicated efforts in the education of the public of all generations, Asociația Monumentum, led by Eugen Vaida, was knighted by The Romanian Presidency in 2021.



Manos Vougioukas

**Secretary-General of the European
Cultural Tourism Network (ECTN)**

Manos Vougioukas is Secretary-General of the European Cultural Tourism Network (ECTN) non-profit international association registered in Brussels, Belgium, the only pan-European Network that brings together the cultural, heritage, travel and tourism sectors to work together for sustainable cultural tourism development and promotion since 2009.

He has established, managed, and coordinated 15 EU co-funded projects on sustainable and cultural tourism during the past 28 years. He is the main author of the ECTN 'Charter for Sustainable Cultural Tourism' launched in 2014 and currently under major updating. He established the ECTN Awards 'Destination of Sustainable Cultural Tourism' in 2014, which has operated jointly with Europa Nostra since 2018.

He served as a member of the Stakeholders Committee for the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018, selected by the European Commission DG EAC. He holds BSc and MSc degrees and a Diploma in Economics. He has worked in transport planning consultancy in several countries in Europe and internationally. He has served as an advisor and evaluator for the EU Cohesion Fund, External relations and Interreg programmes. He is a member of the Tourism Society, Europa Nostra, Interpret Europe, Europeana Network, as well as a Fellow of the Institute of Travel and Tourism.



Dr. Predrag ZENOVIĆ

Montenegro's Chief Negotiator with
the European Union

Dr. Predrag Zenović, born in 1986, is a Montenegrin political scientist and academic. He graduated from the Faculty of Political Sciences at the University of Belgrade and earned a master's degree in international law and human rights from the Riga Graduate School of Law. He completed his doctoral studies in political theory and European studies through the Erasmus Mundus program at LUISS Guido Carli University in Italy and the University of Geneva in Switzerland.

Following his PhD, he was a postdoctoral fellow at the New Europe College in Bucharest, Romania, focusing on citizenship and constitutional identity, which included a study visit to the Wissenschaftskolleg in Berlin, Germany. In 2020/2021, he was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship for a research project in feminist political theory at The New School for Social Research in New York City.

Dr. Zenović has authored two books in the field of political theory and over thirty academic papers in national and international journals, covering topics such as citizenship, constitutionalism, identity, and gender studies. He serves as a lecturer and researcher in political science at the Humanistic Studies of the University of Donja Gorica in Podgorica, Montenegro. Additionally, he is involved with the Faculty of Legal Sciences and the Faculty of Culture and Tourism at the same university.

In December 2023, Dr. Zenović was appointed as Montenegro's Chief Negotiator with the European Union. In this role, he collaborates with colleagues from the Ministry of European Affairs to advance Montenegro's EU integration process, aiming for the country to become the next member state of the European Union.



String Quartet Meraki

Violeta Ćirić, violin
Nada Šarković, violin
Julia Kotarba, cello
Magdalena Matic, viola

String Quartet Meraki was founded by Violeta Ćirić, Nada Šarković, Ena Vaganek and Magdalena Matić and they have been performing together since 2020. Since its founding Meraki quartet has held more than 60 performances in Serbia (Belgrade, Novi Sad, Kragujevac, Smederevska Palanka, Arilje, Vršac, Negotin, Sombor) and abroad (Norway, Austria, Malta, Bosnia and Herzegovina, France), both individual concerts and as part of several festivals.

Their most prominent performances include concerts in the big hall of Kolarac Endowment as part of concert series Belgrade promenade (2022, 2023), SKC (2021, 2022, 2023), Gvarnerius as part of concert series FMU and Gvarnerius awards (2021, 2022), performances in music festivals ARLEMM (2021, 2022), Toppenkurset and Festspillene Helgeland in Norway (2022, 2023), Chamber music festival in Vršac (2022, 2023), Art Occupation in Sombor (2022), Malta Piano Academy (2022), Prkos Fest in Bosnia and Herzegovina (2023), and others. They cooperated with pianists Milica Lawrence, Ana Ćuković, Nicholas Carthy, Kristina Sočanski. As the only Serbian quartet, together with 37 other quartets from 27 European countries, the quartet was chosen in 2023 to join the MERITA platform, the Creative Europe project. As part of the project, and with the cooperation of the ProQuartet organization, the quartet had a training at an artistic residency in France with mentors Francesca Bonato and Violaine Fournier.

In 2024, at the International Chamber Music Competition "Olivera Đurđević " won the first prize (category winners). The quartet was also awarded a concert by Radio Beograd 2 as a part of the concert series: Season of Young artists. Also, in 2024, String quartet Meraki became the resident quartet of Jeunesses Musicales Serbia, Belgrade.

In addition to the before mentioned, the Meraki quartet also worked with professors Nataša Petrović, Mirjana Nešković, Ladislav Mezei, Tomasz Pokrzywinski and Vida Vujić. The members of the ensemble are currently enrolled at the Doctoral academic studies at the Faculty of Music in Belgrade, Chamber music department, under mentorship of professor Katarina Popović.

About

ICLEI Europe

ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability is a global network of more than 2500 local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development and is active in 125+ countries. ICLEI Europe supports local governments in implementing the European Green Deal, the overarching EU strategy for climate neutrality, to build more resilient and equitable communities.

Europa Nostra

Europa Nostra is the European voice of civil society committed to safeguarding and promoting cultural and natural heritage. It is a pan-European federation of heritage NGOs, supported by a wide network of public bodies, private companies and individuals, covering more than 40 countries. Founded in 1963, it is today recognised as the largest and the most representative heritage network in Europe, maintaining close relations with the European Union, the Council of Europe, UNESCO and other international bodies. Europa Nostra serves as the co-Chair of the Climate Heritage Network Europe Region.

Europa Nostra campaigns to save Europe's endangered monuments, sites and landscapes, in particular through the 7 Most Endangered Programme. It celebrates excellence through the European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards. Europa Nostra actively contributes to the definition and implementation of European strategies and policies related to heritage, through a participatory dialogue with European Institutions and the coordination of the European Heritage Alliance.

European Heritage Hub

The European Heritage Hub is a two-year EU-funded pilot project bringing together heritage actors and initiatives across Europe to support the green, digital and social transformation of our society. Officially launched in May 2023, the pilot phase of the Hub will run until June 2025.

The Hub's mission is to build the resilience and capacity of the European heritage ecosystem, enabling it to effectively respond to the challenges resulting from the triple transformation while ensuring the sector's contribution is recognised. Its activities are amplified across the whole of Europe, including EU neighbouring countries with a special focus on Ukraine, Moldova, the Caucasus, and Western Balkans.

The European Heritage Hub is led by a consortium of 20 partners, with Europa Nostra as the Project Leader. Europa Nostra and ICLEI Europe, co-beneficiary of the Hub, jointly coordinate this forum in collaboration with the project consortium.



European
Heritage
Hub



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European Heritage Hub Partners

European Heritage Hub Forum

EU Enlargement: Cultural Heritage as a Key Resource for Cities & Civil Society

Booklet

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