Heritage of Humanity and European Cultural Heritage.  
Finding Common Grounds.

Panel Discussion, 21 June 2018, 10:00-13:00 h

The panel discussion is a contribution to the European Cultural Heritage Summit “Sharing Heritage – Sharing Values”, Berlin, 18–24 June 2018.

The European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018 emphasizes the cultural diversity of our present and our past in order to strengthen the importance and the values of a united and peaceful Europe. It highlights our cultural heritage as a resource for today’s creativity and as a basis for a common future in an ever more intertwined yet also increasingly fragmented world.

At the same time, tensions are growing within the European community between national and common European narratives. A cultural sense of belonging is increasingly drawn from national or regional contexts, while Europe is mainly perceived as a purely political confederation and a legal-administrative entity.

UNESCO has created a framework of conventions and programmes that highlights the global significance of heritage and sets it apart from exclusively local and national references by promoting a shared international responsibility for heritage. The heritage of humanity of UNESCO promotes international understanding, multiple identifications, and positive associations and supports inclusive and democratic models of society.

The panel discussion shall address the opportunities and challenges that the heritage of humanity of UNESCO provide for strengthening a common understanding and, ultimately, cohesion in Europe in all its diversity.

Welcome

10:00  
Kai Uwe Peter, Board Member of the Foundation Stiftung Brandenburger Tor

Wolfgang Kaschuba, Board Member of the German Commission for UNESCO and Director of the Institute for Empirical Migration and Integration Research of the Humboldt University

Isabelle Anatole-Gabriel, UNESCO World Heritage Centre (Video message)
Keynote
10:20    Heritage of Humanity: Experiences of UNESCO, Opportunities for Europe
Roland Bernecker, Secretary-General of the German Commission for UNESCO

Debate
10:40    Roland Bernecker, Secretary-General of the German Commission for UNESCO
Carl Grouwet, cultural manager and politician, Office of the Spokesperson of the FDP for cultural policies
Christoph Heinrich, Director of the Conservation Department, WWF Germany
Marc Jacobs, UNESCO Chair of Critical Heritage at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Keynote
11:40    Heritage and Diversity in Europe: Challenges and Future Perspectives
Bénédicte Selfslagh, President of ICOMOS Belgium and Chairperson of the European Heritage Label Panel

Debate
12:00    Wolfgang Kaschuba, Director of the Institute for Empirical Migration and Integration Research of the Humboldt University
Marielies Schelhaas, Secretary-General of the Netherlands National Commission for UNESCO
Bénédicte Selfslagh, President of ICOMOS Belgium and Chairperson of the European Heritage Label Panel

Reception
13:00

Moderation: Katja Römer, Spokesperson of the German Commission for UNESCO