



October 25, 2023

*Conference*

# **CULTURAL DIPLOMACY: heritage science as a bridge for dialogue**



Il Centenario del CNR è realizzato con il contributo della Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri e con il Patrocinio di Rai

# CULTURAL DIPLOMACY: heritage science as a bridge for dialogue



## PROGRAM

The activities that CNR, through the **Institute of Heritage Science (ISPC)**, has been carrying out for a long time in various countries of the world have a strong scientific and cultural value.

In addition to the archaeological missions in the national territory, the bilateral projects, the training activities, and the temporary mobility programs aimed at acquiring skills in the field of Heritage Science, it is abroad that CNR ISPC fully expresses its soft power: cultural diplomacy directly related to **science diplomacy**. With its 56 projects, more than half of which are supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, CNR ISPC is widely present in 21 European and non-European countries.

Cultural Diplomacy thus becomes the **expression of an interdisciplinary approach to support the knowledge, protection and enhancement** of different territories and different peoples, and in some circumstances, also in favor of Peace. Indeed, by sharing and exchanging ideas, values, languages, and practices related to intangible heritage, CNR ISPC researchers foster the promotion of dialogue, respect for diversity and mutual understanding between peoples and nations, in support of a broader action of political and economic cooperation at the international level.

Today we are increasingly oriented towards a logic of strategic, methodological, and social **co-creation, characterised by the application of collaborative and community approaches to research, musicalisation and the enhancement of Unesco and non-Unesco sites, as well as to management and development of socio-economic plans of the territories.**

*But how can all these goals be achieved? What asset does the CNR put at our disposal? What skills are needed? And what are the critical issues in the organisational chain of a scientific and cultural diplomacy activity?*

The projects and activities of CNR ISPC will answer all the above questions while offering a current and analytical panorama for the theme of "Peace and Scientific Diplomacy" giving an explicit vision of what Cultural Diplomacy in our intentions is.

All of this, supported by an **online and on-site multimedia application**, will be presented through a **Conference to carry out a transversal analysis aimed at joint debate** starting from the bilateral projects, the archaeological laboratories and all those activities which fall under the umbrella of "third mission" for public engagement and know-how transfer in Cultural Heritage, scientific and cultural cooperation.



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## PROGRAM

10:15

### Session 1 "Knowledge: declination of a concept"

The search for fundamental scientific results for the advancement of knowledge has long been confronted with the presumed cultural hegemony of the Western world, the notion of progress and the narratives of ancient societies as parameters for judging other cultures. Today, the new forms of knowledge from the past are increasingly inclusive and participatory in ISPC international projects: consolidated methods and innovative technologies allow for a genuine sharing of approaches, themes and procedures with our fellow researchers and university professors, often co-directors of missions. The concerted actions with the countries in which ISPC operates aim at creating a system based on new paradigms through the contamination of knowledge, ideas, and cultural diversity while sharing the scientific method. The comparison is active on several fronts, not only in the study of the modern and ancient landscape of sites and monuments but also in the process that from knowledge leads to the fruition and sustainable development of the material and immaterial Cultural Heritage, which represents the memory and the identity of the countries in which ISPC works.

#### Moderator

**Silvana Di Paolo**, CNR ISPC Senior Researcher

#### Talks

1. **Carla Sfameni** - Knowing together 'in depth': excavation as an experience to bring different peoples and cultures together (A. Angelini, M. Botto, G. Capriotti, D. Roubis)
2. **Nicola Masini** - Knowing without digging: non-invasive intervention as a shared approach to Cultural Heritage (N. Abate, L. Aberti, E. Gigliarelli, R. Lasaponara, P. Merola, T. Pedrazzi, M. Sileo, C. Sfameni)

#### Discussant

**Isabella Caneva**, Professor, University of Salento; Director of the Italian Archaeological Mission at Yumuktepe-Mersin in Turkey

**Jan Driessen**, Professor Emeritus Greek Archaeology UCLouvain, Head of the AEGIS research group UCLouvain and hon. Director Belgian School at Athens

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## PROGRAM

11:00

Session 2 "Conservation: memory of the Past to build the Future"

This session will deal with issues related to the conservation of sites, objects, and monuments, both in a material sense and in their role for the construction of collective memory. The role of exchange in this field is fundamental, not only as it concerns the aspect of physical heritage conservation (in which the use of the most advanced technologies often puts us in a position of strength to the foreign partner) but also for the understanding, from our part, of the meaning that the conservation of tangible and intangible heritage can have for the local community.

### Moderator

**Antonella Pautasso**, CNR ISPC Research Director

### Talks

1. **Tommaso Ismaelli** - Preserving to read the past and know the present: methods and experiences (G. Cantoro, F. Colosi, A. Pautasso, T. Pedrazzi, O. Pulvirenti, S. Rizza, A. Sansonetti)
2. **Gianluca Cantoro** - Preserving historical landscapes for a shared memory (F. Colosi)

### Discussant

**Alison Heritage**, Project Manager, Strategic Planning and Research ICCROM

11:45

Coffee Break

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## PROGRAM

12:15

### Session 3 "Valorisation and dissemination: traditional methods and new approaches"

This session will deal with the valorisation of the knowledge acquired during the work of the mission. The enhancement ranges from the simple transmission of knowledge through the dissemination of results (both in the scientific field and through seminars and lessons, preferably in the countries where we work) and through the identification of suitable forms for the fruition of Cultural Heritage by the local community and beyond.

ISPC will present the cases where it has played a significant role and the significance that the different forms of virtual "reality" can have in this field for example in enhancing sites in critical areas.

#### Moderator

**Tatiana Pedrazzi**, CNR ISPC Researcher

#### Talks

1. **Francesca Colosi** - The enhancement of archaeological sites: the role of ISPC (L. Alberti, C. Sfameni)
2. **Daniele Ferdani** - Virtual museums and their role in the enhancement of the past in crisis areas (B. Fanini, E. Scopinaro, A. Vecchione)

#### Discussant

**Alessio Re**, Secretary General Fondazione Santagata for the Economics of Culture, Italy

**Rita Lichaa**, Directorate General of Antiquities, North Lebanon and Akkar District and CNR ISPC student for Fondazione Scuola Beni Attività Culturali, MiC, Italy

13:00

*Lunch Break*

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## PROGRAM

14:30

### Session 4 "Young generations: training, involvement, exchanges"

Training as a tool for dialogue and cooperation between people and different countries represents one of the primary forms of Cultural Diplomacy, which ISPC continuously takes care of. In the context of planning and international training programs, ISPC has pursued innovative approaches for promoting knowledge, conservation, and enhancement of Cultural Heritage. Thanks to an open (two-way learning) and interdisciplinary approach, the Institute has directed its actions towards various levels of users. From institutional capacity building to the training of scholars of different age groups and levels, up to the broader public, through the promotion of experiences of social participation in the various countries involved. All of that, through summer schools in both Italian and foreign contexts, workshops, and bilateral exchanges of ISPC personnel. Finally, the active participation of local communities was valued as a crucial moment for sharing and exchanging knowledge. The debate and analysis of issues related to the concepts of knowledge, conservation and enhancement of Cultural Heritage must necessarily be shaped in the light of local knowledge. In this sense, public engagement represents a strategic action by ISPC to establish and strengthen stable relations of dialogue and collaboration with civil society, pursuing the development of new skills, the acquisition of values, the improvement of research purposes and the promotion of forms of co-planning.

#### Moderator

**Giulio Lucarini**, CNR ISPC Researcher

#### Talks

1. **Heleni Porfyriou** - Institutional training programs and summer schools as experiences of active and mutual knowledge (L. Alberti, P. Brunori, G. Cacciaguerra, L. Genovese, S. Piro, A.P. Pola, M. Realini, S. Ribichini)
2. **Laura Genovese** - Public engagement experiences as moments of sharing and collaboration with civil society (L. Alberti, A. Angelini, G. Capriotti Vittozzi, G. Lucarini, I. Oggiano)

#### Discussant

**Alessandra Vittorini**, Director of the Fondazione Scuola Beni Attività Culturali, MiC, Italy  
**Monica Hanna**, Dean, the Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport, Aswan, Egypt

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## PROGRAM

15:15

### Session 5 "Diplomacy and archaeology: the results of ISPC international projects and the collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation "

The CNR and ISPC in particular, have numerous agreements with foreign institutions, which for the archaeological field take the form of bilateral projects, the so-called joint archaeological laboratories, and projects co-financed by the MAECI-Archaeology Sector.

In this session, the results of these agreements and activities will be presented above all from the point of view of institutional relations with the countries involved, with a particular focus on scientific-academic relations, on legislative issues in the broadest sense and on social results for local communities involved.

Two foreign scholars who have been scholarship holders at ISPC will attend the session. They will talk about how the period spent at ISPC was beneficial to their professional careers, particularly for diplomatic relations between the respective countries. The conclusions will outline the prospects of ISPC scientific-diplomatic activity, also following the lines dictated by other Italian institutions involved.

#### Moderator

**Lucia Alberti**, CNR ISPC Senior Researcher

#### Talks

1. **Gian Luca Bonora** - CNR ISPC research results (L. Alberti, A. Allegrini, A. Angelini, G. Capriotti, F. De Luca, P. Merola)
2. **Tatjana Koprivica**, Senior Researcher of the Historical Institute of the University of Montenegro, Montenegro
3. **Moez Achour**, Conservateur en chef de patrimoine, division de la sauvegarde des monuments et des sites à l'Institut National du Patrimoine, INP, Tunisia

#### Discussant

**Gianluca Biscardi**, Head of archeological section - Office VI, Direzione Generale Diplomazia Pubblica e Culturale, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy

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## PROGRAM

16:00 Presentation of the *D\*Cult* application

Projects and activities related to "Peace and Scientific Diplomacy" at the CNR ISPC will be accessible through an interactive multimedia application available online by 2023. This system will serve as a "gateway" to digital content that will assist anyone interested in gaining a better understanding of how researchers operate in various locations, engage with communities, and interact with tangible and intangible local heritage. During the event, a prototype of this application will be presented to illustrate the extent of the CNR ISPC research activities.

### Represented countries

Albania | Bolivia | China | Georgia | Greece | Egypt | Jordan | Iraq | Iran | Kazakhstan | Lebanon | Macedonia | Morocco | Montenegro | Peru | Poland | Syria | Spain | Tunisia | Turkey

### Talks

**Ivana Cerato**, CNR ISPC Researcher

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## PROGRAM

### 16:30 Conclusions and perspectives: arrival and starting points

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After so many topics discussed, it's time to wrap up the day! To do that, the directors of the leading institutions representing Italy abroad will be involved in the debate: the Italian Archaeological School of Athens (SAIA), the International Association for Studies on the Mediterranean and the Orient (ISMEO), and the Italian Archaeological School of Carthage (SAIC).

#### Moderator

**Ida Oggiano**, CNR ISPC Research Director

#### Discussant

**Emanuele Papi**, Director of the Italian Archaeological School of Athens, SAIA

**Adriano Rossi**, President of the International Association for the Studies on the Mediterranean and the Orient, ISMEO

**Attilio Mastino**, President of the Italian Archaeological School of Carthage, SAIC

### 17:15 Greetings and Final remarks

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