

## Part I: Introduction

### Chapter 1 Introduction into the Overall Message of the Book: Destruction of Heritage is Destroying Identity - Shared Responsibility is Therefore our Common Task for the Future

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#### Abstract

The Introduction to the book “50 Years World Heritage Convention: Shared responsibility – Conflict & Reconciliation” sets the stage by presenting the key message, background and content of the book. The identity-building function of heritage and its sustainable protection assume a central role. Accordingly, the chapter provides an overview of policy tools and academic debates engaging with this matter, while emphasizing the critical issues undertaken with the volume at hand. These are to reflect on whether the goals and content of the World Heritage Convention have been implemented accordingly; on the conflicts that have been affecting it over time and the need for sustainable strategies; and on perspectives for the future. This chapter further emphasises the requirements for diversity, arising from the World Heritage Convention and the variety of heritage properties, and it is reflected in the thematic, geographic and disciplinary diversity of the contributions in this book. For illustration, the chapter provides brief descriptions of conflicts affecting heritage, categorized into six areas, as well as summaries of the chapters composing them.

**Keywords:** Heritage; Sustainability; Identity; Responsibility; Diversity; Conflict.

### Chapter 2 50 Years World Heritage Convention: Founding Idea(s) and Implementation – Reflections on Important Developments over Time

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#### Abstract

The World Heritage Convention has the highest ratification rate in the world. Not only quantitatively, but also conceptually and politically, the World Heritage programme can be regarded as a great success. Based on the principle of equality of all cultures and societies, it combines the protection of the world’s cultural and natural heritage; regardless of state borders, the preservation of these unique properties should be secured by international cooperation and assistance. This programme is not static, but rather evolves with what we continually redefine as heritage from different technical and political perspectives. Even if the members of the World Heritage Committee do not always advocate for the conservation principles of the Convention, the annual Committee meeting has become the heritage forum for the global community and has proven to be a viable platform for the safeguarding of heritage.

**Keywords:** World Heritage; Commitment; Political Attention; Preconditions; Conflicts and Challenges

## Part II: The Destruction of Heritage is Multidimensional – Theoretical Reflections

### 3. Global Governance

#### Chapter 3.1 UNESCO's World Heritage Convention and Global Governance

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**Nicole Franceschini**, Independent heritage practitioner

##### Abstract

The World Heritage Convention is increasingly exposed to criticism mainly due to its “infection by politics”. The transforming dynamics of the World Heritage system reflect broader transformations in global governance. As an international organization, UNESCO does not escape the continuous weakening of multilateralism. States parties to the 1972 convention are getting used to dealing with it mainly as a proxy for power and international conflict (Meskell). The global narrative of World Heritage is slowly being corrupted. The authors argue that in order to understand developments in the World Heritage system we need to develop a broader perception of the transformations in international relations, and to make the best use of the still emerging concept of global governance.

**Keywords:** Governance; Multilateralism; Civil society; International relations

#### Chapter 3.2 Coloniality, Natural World Heritage and Indigenous Peoples: A Critical Analysis of World Heritage Cultural Governance

**Irene Fogarty**, University College Dublin, School of Archaeology (World Heritage Major)

##### Abstract

This essay analyses synergies and antagonisms of World Heritage cultural governance in respect of Indigenous peoples' participation and rights. In tandem with recognition of nature-culture interlinkages, the World Heritage Committee has demonstrated a growing concern with rights-based approaches, moving Indigenous peoples' rights to a more normative position in the Convention's implementation. However, the Convention follows a Statist approach and adheres to a Eurocentric conceptualisation of nature, reproduced through World Heritage cultural governance. These issues can result in power asymmetries, coloniality of knowledge and the relegation of Indigenous peoples' worldviews and rights.

**Keywords:** Coloniality; Cultural Governance; Natural Heritage

#### Chapter 3.3 Governing World Heritage – Taking Stock of the Structures that Determine the Protection and Conservation of World Heritage Sites

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##### Abstract

The World Heritage Convention combines efforts of heritage protection and conservation on the global, national and local level. It has been adopted by almost 200 countries and has a complex governance system with actors on every level. While these actors are critical to the protection and conservation of World Heritage Sites, very limited research is available that assesses their role and the

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importance of governmental and managerial structures on a holistic level. This study assesses different governance structures and illustrates how they influence protective efforts. The World Heritage Site Index, which is a comprehensive database of information from almost 900 World Heritage Sites, creates a unique perspective that allows for the comparative assessment of sites regardless of their designation or typology. Utilizing a mixed-methods approach, the study reveals clear governance structures that influence the protection of World Heritage Sites and offers a perspective on potential steps toward ensuring that these structures work for and not against the protection and conservation of these sites.

**Keywords:** Heritage governance; Mixed methods; Comparative assessment; Community involvement; Governance communication

### Chapter 3.4 World Heritage and Global Governance: Thematic Reflections

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**Christina Cameron**, Professor Emeritus at Université de Montréal

**Maritta Koch-Weser**, World Heritage Watch

**Lynn Meskell**, Department of Anthropology, School of Arts & Sciences, and Weitzman School of Design; Penn Museum, University of Pennsylvania

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#### Abstract

The article compiled by Roland Bernecker and Nicole Franceschini presents the personal reflections of several experts and young professionals on global governance and on how its evolution is affecting the implementation of the World Heritage Convention. Webber Nodoro reflects upon the distinction between local and global forms of governance, considering an African perspective on the colonial bias of World Heritage. Christina Cameron emphasizes the need and opportunities for a more inclusive governance based on broader participation of stakeholders not foreseen in the Convention. Based on her experience in the institutional limits of international cooperation, Maritta Koch-Weser develops five recommendations for adjusting the system. Lynn Meskell builds her analysis on 5Cs, in response to those elaborated in the context of the Convention, and addresses the power of politics in the implementation of the Convention. These contributions are complemented with that of a group of master's students, who discuss the impact of civil society initiatives on the governance of the World Heritage system.

**Keywords:** Global governance; Local communities; International cooperation; Civil society

### 4. Urban Transformation

#### Chapter 4.1 Urban Transformation and Related Conflicts at UNESCO World Heritage Sites

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##### Abstract

Cities are constantly changing. Today, policy-makers all over the world are discussing how to create the conditions for developing green, healthy and safe cities where people meet and innovations are created. There is a great need to change to a climate-smart society with people at the centre. Urban cultural heritage is also constantly changing; however, the World Heritage Convention and its tools take their starting points in the preservation of monuments and ensembles. This introduction to section four presents the emerging scientific concept of urban transformation, relates it to conflicts at UNESCO World Heritage Sites and discusses possible ways forward in the overall frame of this book.

**Keywords:** Urban transformation; City; World Heritage; Development processes

#### Chapter 4.2 Temporary Uses as a Toolkit for Heritage-led Sustainable Urban Development

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##### Abstract

This paper reconsiders the possibilities for heritage conservation through everyday practices found in temporary uses as relevant and cost-effective tools in a constantly transforming urban environment, contributing to a more sustainable urban development. For this aim, three of the author's previous case studies of temporary uses in the city of Berlin are reconsidered from the perspective of heritage conservation through everyday practices and citizen participation. Berlin, with its rapidly changing urban environment since 1989, has been an experimental hub for countless temporary uses in a short period of time and therefore provides useful insights into the viability of temporary uses for urban heritage conservation from a variety of perspectives. This paper shows that temporary uses, especially ones that develop into permanent businesses, help to protect buildings from decay, revitalize neglected urban areas, contribute to the realization of the SDGs, and provide affordable spaces for cultural and social activities.

**Keywords:** Urban heritage; Temporary use; Everyday practices; Ruin; Gentrification; Berlin

#### Chapter 4.3 Going Beyond Tourism Attraction in the Festivalisation of World Heritage Cities

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##### Abstract

Tourism has long been noted as a double-edged sword for World Heritage cities that can lead to a wide range of socio-economic benefits while also introducing many stresses that both physically damage sites and affect local communities through gentrification and other socio-economic changes. Festivals, events and cultural mega-events are often framed with a focus on growing tourism, but they can also provide unique opportunities to align heritage with Sustainable Development Goals. This chapter explores these dynamics by looking at three trends that the festivalisation of heritage cities can lead to: establishing and promoting heritage-based city images; spreading out events to reduce stresses;

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expanding traditional definitions of heritage through involving local communities. Several examples from across Europe that have hosted the Expo, European Capital of Culture (ECoC) and the UK City of Culture (UKCoC) demonstrate varying alignments with the Historic Urban Landscape (HUL) approach, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the UNESCO 5Cs to promote the sustainable development and inclusion of historic environments in broader city strategies. The chapter concludes by calling for a more integrated governance approach that can reframe approaches to go beyond just tourism attraction while anticipating and avoiding the potential range of risks of festivalisation.

**Keywords:** Cultural heritage; Cultural mega-events; Festivalisation; Mass tourism; Sustainable development

### Chapter 4.4 Sustainable Urban Heritage vs Heritage Orthodoxy

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#### Abstract

The Covid-19 pandemic has served to highlight the inherent vulnerability of historic cities to heritage orthodoxy. Whereas the 1972 World Heritage Convention did not anticipate heritage branding, commodification, or mass tourism, the simplistic, abstracted, and carefully distilled definitions of cultural heritage in the Convention coupled with the ongoing understatement of the compendium of values in successive editions of the UNESCO Operational Guidelines, effectively distances urban heritage from the communities that are its primary, secure, long-term custodians and stakeholders. There is a lack of attention to the commitment under Article 5 of the Convention, expanded in the contemporaneous 1972 UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Protection, at National Level, of the Cultural and Natural Heritage. Ongoing challenges include synchronisation with today's global agendas, including the 2030 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Such discordances contribute to the widespread *reductio ad absurdum* that urban heritage is object-focused and justifies its survival primarily as a raw material for high-end urban regeneration and tourism. Vulnerabilities include displacement of communities and gentrification, aggressive *contemporary* interventions, financial downturns, and pandemics. The sustainability of urban heritage demands a far more substantive foundation. This chapter presents the case for the recognition of the compendium of social, cultural, economic, and environmental values of urban heritage, to consolidate its sustainability and spread and minimise the risks.

**Keywords:** Authenticity; Community; Continuity; Inheritance; Resource; Sustainability

### Chapter 4.5 The Politics of Shared Heritage: Contested Histories and Participatory Memory Work in the Post-Colonial Urban Landscape

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#### Abstract

Shared heritage is a concept that serves to address cultural ties between countries or people that emanate from colonial history, including conflicts and contestations as well as connections and commonalities. This contribution evaluates the potential of shared heritage to work as a tool for a transformative heritage management practice through exploring the post-colonial heritage landscape of Iringa, Tanzania. The historical dynamics of colonialism have left various tangible and intangible traces throughout Iringa Town and Region. Combining ethnographic and historical methods, this paper examines historical narratives of different social groups, representations of these trajectories in the

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regional museum, and community responses to buildings and sites of colonial origin in the cityscape. In line with UNESCO's Historic Urban Landscape (HUL) approach, observed applied conservation activities are discussed in the light of local development processes. I argue that shared heritage can serve as a viable concept to grapple with the colonial legacy vested in the HUL while at the same time using the discursive energy provided by these conflicts to support the cultural, social, and economic development of communities.

**Keywords:** Shared heritage; Colonial history; Historic Urban Landscape; Iringa – Tanzania

### 5. War and Terrorism

#### Chapter 5.1 UNESCO World Heritage and Cultural Property Protection in the Event of Armed Conflict

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##### Abstract

Bamiyan, Palmyra, Timbuktu are examples of iconic toponyms of ancient civilization that have been used as headlines in international media coverage of the Islamist extremists' war – including the Taliban, Daesh, and Ansar Dine – against World Cultural Heritage as listed by UNESCO. Further, more sites are being inscribed on UNESCO's list of *World Heritage in Danger* or referred to in the reports of ICOMOS' *Heritage at Risk programme* because of the imminent threat posed by current armed conflict, for example, in Afghanistan, Armenia and Azerbaijan, Iraq, Libya, Mali, Syria, Yemen, and other countries struck by war or the violent consequences of political instability. Nowadays, war, terrorism, vandalism, and iconoclasm pose an equal threat to cultural heritage. This poses a series of questions to heritage as well as conflict studies.

**Keywords:** Cultural property; Armed conflict; Blue Shield

#### Chapter 5.2 Palmyra: Bridging Past and Future

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##### Abstract

Targeting and destroying Syria's cultural heritage have become a common concern, especially in the case of Palmyra. The ruined city enjoyed a significant position in the country's history and bore a large share of the violence in Syria's protracted tragedy. Since 2014, militants of ISIS (Islamic State in Iraq and Syria) have committed many acts of terrorism, claiming thousands of lives and shattering others, looting antiquities and destroying historic sites, including World Heritage sites. In 2015, ISIS extremists destroyed Palmyra's major monuments, and, since then, this destruction has been the focus of debates on the academic and professional levels and in the media. This chapter has two parts. The first part briefly reviews Palmyra's long history, in which monuments have been subject to selective narratives and official instrumentalisation. The second part looks at the current debates on Palmyra's heritage loss in the light of the actual conflict, in which the local community has been unheeded. This chapter suggests that future efforts need to (re)consider the role of local communities in heritage debates and the right(s) to their heritage to bridge the discontinuity between the past and the future caused by the terrorism and conflict.

**Keywords:** Palmyra; Heritage targeting; ISIS; Media; Local communities; Human rights

### Chapter 5.3 Countering the Narratives of Destruction: Textual Evidence and the Tradition of Heritage Preservation in Islam

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#### Abstract

The relationship between Islam and cultural heritage preservation continually comes under scrutiny. This is because of vicious attacks on heritage and artefacts by groups laying claim to Islamic tenets and texts to justify their action. Thus, under this pretext, heritage sites and cultural actors and icons, are eliminated. Why is this so? What is the position of Islam on heritage preservation? How can the narratives of destruction be countered? This chapter interrogates these questions. It argues that the narratives of destruction derive from poor interpretations of the texts and traditions of Islam in respect of cultural heritage. Several monuments in the Islamic world also predate the establishment of Islam. The study brings out textual facts and traditions to counter the narratives of violent elements such as Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS), Al-Qaida, Boko Haram, Islamic State in West Africa Province (ISWAP) and Al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM).

**Keywords:** Preservation, Destruction, Culture, Heritage, Islam

### Chapter 5.4 The Role of Heritage in Post-War Reconciliation: Going Beyond World Heritage Sites

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**Kalliopi Fouseki**, UCL Institute for Sustainable Heritage

#### Abstract

It is widely acknowledged that reconciliation and sustainable development are processes that necessitate involvement from local, national and international actors. However, with the attention of international actors overwhelmingly focused on World Heritage sites, this chapter seeks to examine the potential consequences of the disparity in treatment between those sites on the World Heritage List and those that are not but are still significant for their local communities. Kosovo and Iraq are the two cases we use to explore the role, use and treatment of heritage in post-war recovery and reconciliation and how this is affected by World Heritage status. Through an examination of heritage as a political process, we can approach a more in-depth understanding of how heritage shapes and reshapes the politics of post-war memory, inter-community relations, and the extent to which the international community uses World Heritage in these communities to mandate their own politics of remembrance. We argue that heritage can have a “pacifying” role and contribute to peacebuilding, but this will need active, transformative actions from UNESCO which go beyond the Convention and, if possible, beyond politically influenced decision-making. This chapter seeks to fill a gap in the literature of how the local, national and international interact in the post-war environment, as well as the true impact of potential inequalities created by World Heritage.

**Keywords:** World Heritage Status; Post-war heritage; Reconciliation; Kosovo; Iraq; World Heritage Convention

### Chapter 5.5 Fighting Terrorist Attacks against World Heritage – An Integrated Approach

**Sabine von Schorlemer**, Saxon State Minister for Higher Education, Research and the Fine Arts (retd.); Chair of International Law, European Law and International Relations; UNESCO Chair in International Relations, Technische Universität Dresden

#### Abstract

This contribution will examine intentional acts of terrorist groups and organised networks directed against cultural heritage as a challenge for international law, e.g., by creating grey zones. In particular, it will be asked to what extent criminal law enforcement can be identified as a *missing link* in the system of the legal protection of cultural property, including World Heritage. It is seen as necessary to strengthen criminal sanctions for possession and sale of illegally trafficked cultural objects. In that respect, it will be argued, the Nicosia Convention on Offences Relating to Cultural Property, adopted by the Council of Europe in 2017, may give new impetus to criminal law as a tool in the fight against offences against cultural property, helping to reduce lawless areas. Cultural heritage protection, it is emphasised, requires a robust, legally integrated approach, including criminal prosecution for plundering, smuggling, and destruction.

**Keywords:** Organised networks; Terrorism; Illicit trade; Criminal law; Nicosia Convention; Complementarity

## 6. Climate Change

### Chapter 6.1 Climate Change and World Heritage: An Introduction

**Claire Cave**, UCD School of Archaeology, University College Dublin

#### Abstract

The rapid acceleration of science and technology has enabled people to make unprecedented changes to their environment and to alter the global climate. The changing climate, together with biodiversity loss, now pose significant threats to people and their heritage. This chapter provides an introduction to the impacts that climate change is having on World Heritage and how those impacts are being addressed. It considers the conflict that can be created between interventions to protect against climate change and the conservation of heritage values. Effective on-site management is an important tool in addressing climate change impacts and should be supported by states parties together with local engagement and national and international collaboration. World Heritage sites should not be viewed in isolation from their surrounding environment, and a strong World Heritage Climate Change policy is required to guide future management and implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

**Keywords:** Climate change; Mitigation; Adaptation; Monitoring; Adaptive Management

### Chapter 6.2 The Climate Crisis, Outstanding Universal Value and Change in World Heritage

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#### Abstract

Climate change is the greatest threat facing global natural and cultural heritage. All World Heritage (WH) properties will be impacted over the coming century, and our ability to adapt will often be limited. Yet climate change was a threat never envisioned by the drafters of the World Heritage

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Convention (WHC). This chapter considers how concepts central to the WHC may need to adapt to a rapidly changing world, to reflect three uncomfortable realities of the climate crisis and its impacts on heritage sites. Firstly, climate change is and will continue threatening and invalidating the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of many properties, and there may be little we can do to stop this. Secondly, climate change knows no borders and existing mechanisms may need to be rethought to reflect this. Thirdly, these challenges will, like climate change, disproportionately impact marginalised and indigenous communities in the Global South. It is suggested here that more precise and explicit guidance, which considers local climate modelling and an inclusive approach to values, within the existing proactive mechanisms of the WHC Operational Guidelines would result in a more consistent consideration of climate change impacts at WH properties, that reflects the spirit of the WHC.

**Keywords:** World Heritage Convention; Climate change; Managing change; Climate justice; Climate vulnerability

### Chapter 6.3 Climate Action and World Heritage: Conflict or Confluence?

**Cathy Daly**, School of History & Heritage, University of Lincoln, UK

#### **Abstract**

In 2007, the *Policy Document on the Impacts of Climate Change on World Heritage Properties* was adopted by the World Heritage (WH) Committee, and a revised policy document, the *Draft Policy Document on Climate Action for World Heritage*, was released in 2021. An English word search on terms related to potential conflicts between WH and climate change was undertaken and utilised as a starting point for an exploration of developments over the 14 intervening years. Four themes were defined and explored, namely, mission, change, loss, and responsibility. In many cases of perceived conflict, professionals and policy makers have been actively working to find solutions. In others, there is the potential for developing new and creative approaches that will ensure the relevance of heritage in an uncertain future.

**Keywords:** Climate change; Climate Action; World Heritage; Heritage policy

### Chapter 6.4 Conflict Areas and Solution Strategies in the Conservation of Ecosystems and Their Services: A Holistic Approach

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#### **Abstract**

Natural environments and biodiversity are negatively affected by climate change and non-sustainable human activities around the world. Different management strategies have been implemented to mitigate the loss of habitat and ecosystem functions. Nevertheless, many of these have failed because, in general, they focus on protected areas. The loss of habitat and, thus, biodiversity occurs outside these areas and does not receive attention. Often, the conservation strategies go against the needs of the communities in the surroundings of the protected areas, generating a series of conflicts between the local governments, conservationists, and residents. In this sense, it is necessary to carry out holistic

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conservation strategies that consider human beings and their socio-cultural complexity within the environment to overcome the effect of climate change on biodiversity loss. This chapter empirically shows how it is possible to apply conservation strategies integrating scientific and political capacities and uniting governmental and non-governmental organizations for the execution of socio-environmental, educational, and research actions. This holistic approach contributes to the restoration of the environment and its services and to the mitigation of climate change in subtropical regions.

**Keyword:** Atlantic Forest; Non-protected areas; Holistic model; Policy makers; Biodiversity hotspot

### Chapter 6.5 Historic Gardens as a Cultural Task: Climate Adaptation Strategies and Understanding of Nature

**Michael Rohde,** Gardens Direktor SPSG / Prof. h.c. TU Berlin, ILAUP

#### Abstract

The cultivation and preservation of gardens, parks and cultural landscapes as fine art have been expressions of culture for millennia and are becoming essential tasks of cultural property protection in times of climate change. This is because the visible effects of climate change are increasingly threatening the historical aesthetics and current uses of historic gardens. Strategies for climate adaptation require not only thorough and networked experiential knowledge in the field of conservation and restoration sciences but also specific and interdisciplinary research expertise. Gardens as cultural assets must become scientific model laboratories to understand cultivation and conservation as essential cultural tasks of our societies. These challenges must lead to a new understanding of nature that initiates and perpetuates a responsible, humane sense of life through the gardens.

**Keywords:** Climate change; Gardens; Garden art; Garden preservation; Cultural task; Nature

### Chapter 6.6 The Highest Mountain in the Shadow of Climate Change: Managing Tourism and Conservation in a World Heritage Site: Sagarmatha National Park, Nepal

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**Robin Boustead,** Great Himalaya Trail

**Kurt Luger,** UNESCO Chair Cultural Heritage and Tourism, University of Salzburg

#### Abstract

The unique diversity of the world's highest flora and fauna is a sacred landscape for the resident Sherpa communities, but climate change has been casting a threatening shadow over World Heritage Sagarmatha (Mt Everest) National Park (SNP) for years, causing rapid and pronounced impacts. Tourism is a key driver to the local economy but is exacerbating the impacts of climate change. Through extensive community and individual surveys in major villages, combined with a wealth of data from other studies, we focus on how the impacts of climate change and tourism development can be countered by measures at the local level. We identified two sources of conflict that need to be addressed: (1) conflict between tourism businesses and park management and (2) a lack of awareness of the need for an overarching conservation strategy among residents and stakeholders. To solve these issues, site management needs considerable enforcement and support from the State Party.

**Keywords:** Sagarmatha; Everest; Tourism; Climate change

## Part III: The Destruction of Heritage is Multidimensional – Case Studies and Narratives

### 7. Technological Change

#### Chapter 7.1 Technological Change – Risk or Opportunity for UNESCO World Heritage?

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**Anca Claudia Prodan**, Institute Heritage Studies at the Internationale Akademie Berlin (INA) gGmbH

##### Abstract

This chapter provides reflections on the consequences of technological change in relation to World Heritage properties. While technological change is a core means of human adaptation and survival, it becomes a risk if the pace is too fast. This has increasingly affected societies worldwide since the industrial revolution, resulting in many negative consequences for people and the environment. Technological change is also associated with positive developments, such as those brought about by digital technology. Insights into both risks and opportunities are given in this chapter, and they are illustrated with examples, such as mining and digital geomeia. Technological change appears as a double-edged sword, but there is currently no methodology for assessing its consequences for World Heritage properties. Therefore, the chapter turns to lessons learnt from the Historic Urban Landscape approach, the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Programme, and from impact assessment methods. While these provide useful inspiration and a basis for further reflection, the chapter concludes by emphasizing the necessity of a methodology for assessing the impacts of technological change on World Heritage properties against the background of the Sustainable Development Goals.

**Keywords:** Geotechnology; Sustainable development; Impact assessment; Technological innovation

#### Chapter 7.2 Change in Water Technology in Anatolia: From Use to Energy, Conflicts to Climate Action

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##### Abstract

World Heritage properties in Anatolia show a great variety in their land use morphologies as a response to their environmental differences, developing different ways of managing water for daily use and agricultural irrigation. History testifies to the many conflicts and wars that occurred in defending and/or accessing these important water resources. The remnants of this infrastructure form part of invaluable cultural heritage and present opportunities for the embodied traditional knowledge to mitigate the impacts of climate change. However, ruthless water regimes (i.e. hydroelectric plants), which disregard the importance of water for communities, have prioritized water as a source of energy over its value for daily and agricultural use and have impacted the environment and climate, which directly affects both tangible and intangible cultural heritage. Dried creeks leave water-related infrastructure and equipment without a purpose and people deprived of water. In the age of

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Anthropocene, such an approach victimizes people through the idea of taking over nature while at the same time making people the victims of nature's response. In return, new regional conflicts are instigated, and migration becomes inevitable, diminishing neighbourly peace and also aggravating climate change, causing negative impacts on cultural heritage and jeopardising many of the SDGs.

**Keywords:** Water heritage; Dams; Hydroelectric plants; Climate action; World Heritage

### Chapter 7.3 Mineral Extractive Industries in the Context of European World Heritage Cultural Landscape Conservation and Management: The Case Study of the Erzgebirge/Krušnohoří Mining Region

**Friederike Hansell**, World Heritage Desk Officer, Saxon State Office for the Conservation of Monuments

#### Abstract

Current prospection activities lead not only to the opening of new mines but also to a revival of activity in historic mining areas that are partly in or close to protected areas. Consequently, the issue of mining and its potential negative impact on protected areas, including natural World Heritage sites in particular, has increased over the past two decades. Considering that attributes and values assigned to natural World Heritage sites differ from those assigned to cultural World Heritage sites, the paper focuses on the evaluation of the potential impact of mining activities on cultural World Heritage sites and outlines management and conservation strategies as well as recommendations for the assessment of potential negative and positive impacts of mining activities on the OUV.

**Keywords:** Mining heritage; Historic mining regions; Cultural landscapes; World Heritage Sites; Mining resumption; Mining impacts

### Chapter 7.4 Cultural Landscape Compatibility Study Upper Middle Rhine Valley – A Proactive Tool for Preventive Monitoring of Complex World Heritage Landscapes

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#### Abstract

In recent years, many “living” cultural and urban landscapes on a large scale were inscribed on the World Heritage List. However, such complex World Heritage properties generate frequently challenges concerning their management due to transformations caused by to pressure to change. As a result, there is a need for new proactive systematic approaches to assess such transformations combining innovative technical solutions with a systematic approach to using attributes and values conveying their Outstanding Universal Value. Taking the World Heritage cultural landscape *Upper Middle Rhine Valley* as a case study, this paper investigates such a systematic instrument to monitor transformations and to assess their impact on the OUV and integrity of UNESCO World Heritage properties. It is concluded that such systematic technical instruments can be helpful to support strategies for an integrated management combining preservation and sustainable development. However, an in-depth theoretical knowledge of sites' OUVs and attributes and values related thereby, as well as a sound integration in existing legislative frameworks and the participation of stakeholders on various levels is indispensable to guarantee their full effectiveness.

**Keywords:** UNESCO; World Heritage; Sustainability; Sustainable Development; Heritage Impact Assessment.

### Chapter 7.5 Geoheritage to Support Heritage Authorities: Research Case Studies on Maya Archaeological Sites

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**Philippe De Maeyer**, Ghent University, Department of Geography, Ghent, Belgium

**Luc Zwartjes**, Ghent University, Department of Geography, Ghent, Belgium

**Antonio Benavides Castillo**, Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia (INAH), Campeche, México

#### Abstract

Since the adoption of the World Heritage Convention (1972), modern technologies have significantly changed the way our society behaves and operates, with an increased demand for energy, fast and reliable communications, etc. Some modern technologies might contribute to negative impacts on heritage sites, e.g. through climate change and/or excessive tourism; however, modern digital technologies can also be extremely beneficial for heritage activities. In this paper, we focus on how modern digital geo-science and geo-technology can support heritage authorities' daily work. We introduce herein the concept of digital Geoheritage, which can help heritage authorities to discover and understand the enormous benefits that geomatics can provide for their daily heritage activities. This research case, implemented through an interdisciplinary scientific approach, originally aimed to support the preservation, restoration and management of a cultural heritage site; however, it was later expanded to also support archaeological research, stability risk assessment, planning, design, education, dissemination and promotion. The use of digital geo-sciences for the benefit of the local Maya communities living around a heritage site is also illustrated. Our objective, within the current book, was to present a paper that is oriented toward heritage authorities, and, therefore, technical language has been avoided.

**Keywords:** Cultural heritage; Modern technologies; Applied geomatics; Citizen science; Geosciences; Community participation

### Chapter 7.6 Adopting Digital Tools & Technology to Evolve Sustainable Tourism at World Heritage Sites: Case Studies from India and Greece

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#### Abstract

There is a strong interconnection between tourism and World Heritage Sites. This interconnection, on the one hand, can have a positive impact by presenting these sites to the public and helping generate conservation funds, but, on the other hand, if done unsustainably, can lead to their degradation. The adoption of digital technologies in tourism has made travel and visitations, even in remote areas, relatively easy. The adoption of new technologies at World Heritage Sites can also prove to be beneficial and help evolve a more sustainable tourism model at these venues. Furthermore, the new conditions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, while having a detrimental impact on global tourism, provide an opportunity to remotely promote and generate revenue to preserve a regions' tangible and

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intangible heritage. A technology-based intervention, if adopted correctly, can help to develop sustainable visitation capacity and management at World Heritage Sites while also enhancing and enticing visitation at lesser-known sites. Case studies from Greece and India are presented to demonstrate how to increase visitation to lesser-known sites and enhance the overall tourism experience at these sites. A variety of digital tools are presented, from simplistic to technologically advanced ones. These digital tools could be adopted and used globally for other World Heritage Sites to enhance visibility and sustainability.

**Keywords:** Ecotourism; Virtual interactive maps; Eco-routes; Augmented reality; Intangible cultural heritage; Geo-location

### 8. Commodification of Heritage

#### Chapter 8.1 The Commodification of World Heritage: A Marxist Introduction

**Thomas M. Schmitt**, Heidelberg Center for Cultural Heritage (HCCH), University of Heidelberg, Germany

##### **Abstract**

The commodification of World Heritage potentially takes place in various contexts or “markets”, such as tourism markets, media markets, but also in the sessions of the World Heritage Committee as an inscription market. Loosely following Marxian categories, but based on a broader range of scholars, for example, from philosophical anthropology, several problem areas in the commodification of World Heritage can be distinguished: first, exploitation (e.g. of a World Heritage title, heritage values or of the environment of a site), second, alienation (of residents and visitors towards a site, or between residents of a site and its visitors) and, third, a possible “fetishism” around the title. The article offers a systematic conceptual approach for the analysis of commodification phenomena related to heritage and especially the World Heritage system.

**Keywords:** World Heritage; Commodification; Critical Theory; Alienation; Heritage tourism; Heritage studies

#### Chapter 8.2 Tourism without Commodification at a Hungarian World Heritage Site

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##### **Abstract**

This study – based on a concrete example of a Hungarian World Heritage site, the Millenary Benedictine Abbey of Pannonhalma and its Natural Environment – focuses on the topic from the point of view of heritage value, providing attraction and a special experience for visitors without harming local traditions, and contributing to the improvement of the local economic situation, where the outcome is the safeguarding and raising public awareness of the Outstanding Universal Value of a unique site.

**Keywords:** Heritage tourism; Benedictine traditions; Presentation; Meaningful visit; Safeguarding; OUV

### Chapter 8.3 Natural Heritage in Danger. Native Forests, New and Old Forms of Extractive Activities and Sustainability from the Perspective of a New Generation of Scientists, Activists and Entrepreneurs in Argentina

**Claudia Lozano**, Independent Scholar, Member of the Social Science Advisory Board, Network of Argentinean Scientists in Germany (RCAA)

#### Abstract

This article aims to address conflictive projects and their pathways of resolution in the field of land use and territorial and natural resource management in Latin America in relation to one of the protected areas of Argentinean Patagonia, Los Alerces National Park (PNLA), inscribed by UNESCO as a Natural World Heritage Site in 2017. I argue that the changes driven by the commodity boom (2000–2014), i.e., the development of extractive activities, deforestation and the expansion of grain and mineral exports, have had and continue to have a high environmental impact. Since the 2000s, the continent has experienced a series of protests that brought to light the unease caused by projects based on the development of large-scale extractive activities, which impacted legislation and reinforced the implementation of restrictive regulations for territorial management and land use, as seen from the nomination of the PNLA as a Natural World Heritage Site. The article shows that the legislative changes, as well as requirements of the PNLA inscription, provide fundamental legal support to the formulation, management and technical implementation of a new agro-silvo-pastoral culture capable of reconciling the conservation of scenic value (vii), biodiversity (x) and sustainability in protected areas. This proposal opens up the possibility of expanding the protected areas within the framework of the Andean-North Patagonian Biosphere Reserve.

**Keywords:** Natural World Heritage; Extractive Activities; Commodification; Parque Nacional Los Alerces

### Chapter 8.4 Shifting Scales in the Honghe Hani Rice Terraces: Traditional Knowledge, Commodification and Community Participation

**Fabienne Wallenwein**, Heidelberg Centre for Transcultural Studies, Heidelberg University, Germany

#### Abstract

In rapidly transforming Asian environments, traditional agricultural heritage systems struggle with increasing development pressure and out-migration. Drawing on the Chinese cultural landscape of the Honghe Hani Rice Terraces as a case study, the paper investigates how the concepts of scale and “politics of scale” can be fruitfully mobilised for critical heritage theory and provide practical solutions to overcome conservation–development tensions. In processes of ethnic tourism development and cultural commodification, government authorities pursue different scalar strategies to harness natural and cultural resources for heritage-led regeneration schemes. Such strongly tourism-oriented agendas, as prevailed in the initial stages of development, privilege natural and selected cultural values over social values, thereby contrasting with local inhabitants’ aspirations to improve their living conditions. To encourage participation and sustainable cultural landscape management, the study suggests “upscaling” traditional knowledge and local interests.

**Keywords:** Cultural heritage; Cultural landscape; China; Commodification; Community participation; Politics of Scale

### Part IV: The World Heritage Convention – The Day after Tomorrow

#### Chapter 9 Shared Responsibility – A Guiding Principle of the World Heritage Convention – Perception – Implementation – Future

**Marie-Theres Albert**, Institute Heritage Studies at the Internationale Akademie Berlin (INA) gGmbH

##### Abstract

Responsibility is a central category required for the protection of human heritage. But what does responsibility mean for the protection of our heritage today? Who was and is responsible for which form of responsibility, and how is it communicated? These central questions are derived from the theoretical basis of Hans Jonas' approach to our ethical responsibility for the consequences of technological development and Max Weber's approach to our political responsibility, which arises from the role of the state as a legitimised system of rule. Last but not least, reference is made to Hannah Arendt, who argues for individual human responsibility based on human morality. For the learning of responsibility and its implementation, reference is made to education on the basis of international conventions.

**Keywords:** Personal responsibility; Social responsibility; Political responsibility; UNESCO mandate; Education

#### Chapter 10 World Heritage and Reconciliation

**Birgitta Ringbeck**, Federal Foreign Office, World Heritage Coordinating Body (retired November 2022)

##### Abstract

The series of World Heritage sites that have been attacked demonstrates that the reconstruction of cultural properties after conflicts and crises is more than the rebuilding and restoration of material and substance; ideally, it is a recovery process regaining social cohesion and cultural identity, which leads to reconciliation in post-trauma societies. If this succeeds, reconstruction is a value and an attribute for authenticity. Thus, the World Heritage program contributes to the constitutional mandate of UNESCO and to reconciliation and peace as a central mission.

**Keywords:** World Heritage, Reconstruction, Recovery, Reconciliation

#### Chapter 11 Sustainability – A Guiding Principle of the World Heritage Convention – What has Been Achieved – What is Missing – What is the Future Perspective

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##### Abstract

The World Heritage Convention (WHC), as the premier charter for heritage protection, has long adopted sustainability as a core principle. With today's understanding of heritage management as an important driver of economic growth, social capital and environmental protection, its reconciliation with sustainable practices is inevitable. Fifty years on, the WHC faces new challenges concerning promoting and supporting sustainable development. With the broad adoption of SDGs, heritage actors working under the WHC framework frequently encounter conflicting objectives. While in theory, the social, ecological and economic dimensions of sustainable development can be reconciled, in practice, this often requires finding viable and balanced trade-offs. The growing awareness for climate change

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in the last ten years results in the need to reprioritise the different dimensions and can lead to hard choices that have been framed as dilemma situations. This paper takes a closer look at those dilemma situations and discusses how the WHC can help tackle these and make the right decisions in the face of complex sustainability choices.

**Keywords:** World Heritage Convention; Sustainability; Sustainable development; Sustainable Development Goals; Dilemma; Conflicts

### **Chapter 12 World Heritage Education and the Next 50 Years of the Convention: Current Pitfalls and Future Potentials of World Heritage Education**

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**Klaus-Christian Zehbe**, Institut Allgemeine Erziehungswissenschaft und Berufspädagogik, TU-Dortmund

#### **Abstract**

Since its adoption in 1972, the World Heritage Convention has proven to be a remarkable global success story. Despite educational programmes being anchored from the outset in the World Heritage Convention (1972, Art. 27), UNESCO's own 1994 World Heritage Education Programme (WHEP) has not been as successful as the World Heritage Convention itself. WHEP's lack of grounding in educational theory, practical implementation and links to current educational debates cast serious doubts on the programme's relevance for the next 50 years of the World Heritage Convention, potentially even threatening the continued protection of World Heritage properties. This chapter examines the status of education in the implementation of Article 27 of the World Heritage Convention and offers some foundations in educational theory to tap the potential of World Heritage Education (WHE) in the wider framework of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and Global Citizenship Education (GCEd).

**Keywords:** World Heritage Education; Education for Sustainable Development; World Heritage Paradoxes; Minimal Morality; Modular Approach

### **Chapter 13 Young Professionals' Perspectives on World Heritage – Transformation from an Expert-Dominated Concept to a Project for the People it is Made for**

**Roland Bernecker**, Brandenburg University of Technology, Chair of Cultural Management

**Juan Carlos Barrientos García**, European Heritage Volunteers - World Heritage Volunteers

**Elisabeth Korinth**, Blue Shield Germany

**Isabelle Rupp**, World Heritage Studies, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

**Giulia Tomasi**, Italian Youth Association for UNESCO

**Klaus-Christian Zehbe**, International Association of World Heritage Professionals (IAWHP e. V.)

#### **Abstract**

In this roundtable discussion, emerging heritage experts address their personal involvement with the World Heritage Convention, their assessment of achievements and failures of the 50 years of its history, and perspectives of future developments as seen by the younger generation. The discussion reveals a strong emphasis on more convincingly participatory procedures, community involvement, global equity and sustainable development. Heritage is what we take from the past to shape our future. From this conceptual stance, the emerging experts develop their claim of a far more substantial involvement of the younger not only in conceptual perspectivizations of heritage, but also in decision-

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making bodies. This would allow them to transform and shape the institutions they are working with to be sustainable, diverse, inclusive and future oriented.

**Keywords:** Heritage; Youth involvement; Governance; Sustainability

### Chapter 14 Outlook

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**Claire Cave**, UCD School of Archaeology, University College Dublin

**Anca Claudia Prodan**, Institute Heritage Studies at the Internationale Akademie Berlin (INA) gGmbH

**Matthias Ripp**, Organisation of World Heritage Cities/City of Regensburg, Germany

#### Abstract

The chapter “Outlook” brings together the main messages of this book; formulates concluding comments and reflects on the way forward. Out of the many conflicts affecting World Heritage, the chapter highlights some, which appear as obstacles that must be overcome for a sustainable protection. The unequal geographical distribution of World Heritage properties and of the decision-making bodies; and the difficulty to reconcile economic interests with conservation and development needs are two examples. Further examples refer to the discrepancies in the interpretation of the meaning of World Heritage between experts and the civil society; and the climate and biodiversity crises, which require full participatory and inclusive approaches that integrate culture and nature protection. In light of these examples, the chapter concludes by underlining that the future of the World Heritage Convention can only be envisioned if such challenges were confronted and resolved.

**Keywords:** Future perspectives; Development; Sustainability; Equality; Justice; Participation.