



WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF TANGIBLE AND
INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN TIMES OF ARMED CONFLICT

'Risk Preparedness and Listed World Heritage'

*Setting Strategies to Achieve Enhanced Protection for Cultural Heritage
in accordance with the*

*Draft Guidelines issued by the Committee for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event
of Armed Conflicts for the Implementation of the 1999 Second Protocol to the Hague
Convention of 1954
"Guidelines"*

WATCH in Action - Summer 2009

Call for Proposals

1. Relevant Provisions

In cooperation with all the relevant International Organisations and International NGOs, WATCH intends to help concerned authorities in creating strategic plans and policies to safeguard the cultural property within their territory and to define those measures required for the enforcement of the International Conventions.

- *The 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflicts:*

Article 3. Safeguarding of Cultural Property

The High Contracting Parties undertake to prepare in time of peace for the safeguarding of cultural property situated within their own territory against the foreseeable affects of an armed conflict, by taking such measures as they consider appropriate.

Article 7. Military Measures

1. The High Contracting Parties undertake to introduce in time of peace into their military regulations or instructions such provisions as may ensure observance of the present Convention, and to foster in the members of their armed forces a spirit of respect for the culture and cultural property of all peoples.

2. The High Contracting Parties undertake to plan or establish in peace-time, within their armed forces, services or specialist personnel whose purpose will be to secure respect for cultural property and to co-operate with the civilian authorities responsible for safeguarding it.

- *The 1999 Second Protocol to the 1954 Hague Convention:*

Articles 5 (Protective measures); 10 (enhanced protection); 27 (Committee and NGOs activities) and 30.3b (Development and application of training during peace



time).

2. Call for Proposals

2a. Purpose

WATCH calls on the wider concerned Cultural Heritage community to identify and propose a site to be selected to conduct a strategic study aimed at the enforcement of the 1954 Hague Convention in accordance with the Draft Guidelines to the 1999 Second Protocol of the Hague Convention issued by the Committee for the Protection of Cultural Property in the event of Armed Conflicts¹.

This initiative will aim to:

- produce the necessary supporting documentation for the local authorities to apply for the enhanced protection status as Listed World Heritage (LWH);
- introduce a milestones for a methodological approach in the design of protective strategies and implementation of policies aimed at establishing preventive measures for LWH during times of crisis; and
- offer grounds for further development of the set strategies and the possibility to apply them to different sites in various countries and circumstances.

2b. Description of the implementation of the Initiative

A multidisciplinary² and multicultural Team of up to 15 International Experts³ will conduct a comprehensive strategic study on the selected heritage site for the specific purpose of this Call for Proposals. The International WATCH Team will subsequently produce the relevant documentation, outlining the measures that must be undertaken before applying for the enhanced protection of the proposed LWH according to the criteria set in the 1954 Hague Convention, its two Protocols and in line with the indications provided in the Draft Guidelines issued by the Committee for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflicts.

A limited number of international young scientists and professionals (maximum five) in their Master or PhD studies, who are WATCH members, will be part of the International WATCH Team. They will be recommended and supported by their respective Universities.

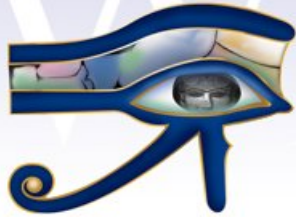
During its mission, the International WATCH Team will offer several workshops on risk

¹ http://portal.unesco.org/culture/en/files/37170/12206033821draft_guidelines_en.pdf/draft_guidelines_en.pdf; and

http://portal.unesco.org/culture/en/files/37170/12206033823additional_chapters_en.pdf/additional_chapters_en.pdf

² Fields of expertise of the International Experts will include e.g. International Cultural Heritage Science, Sciences, ICT, Military Strategy, Environmental Sciences, Humanitarian Law, Logistics, Risk, and Site Management, Documentation and Conservation, and Civil Protection, etc.

³ The International Experts of the International WATCH Team adhere to the Initiative only on a voluntary basis.



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management of endangered LWH and the implementation of the 1954 Hague Convention. The Workshops target qualified representatives of the local authorities, scholars and relevant Cultural Heritage public and private experts to increase awareness and know-how, and to further discuss the initiative and its expected results. This will contribute to give the most comprehensive picture of the selected heritage site, the threats it faces and the responses to be set to prevent danger and maintain the site under the enhanced protection status as LWH.

The language of the Initiative is English. All the activities and documentation will be produced in English. All parties of this Initiative must be fluent in English.

An independent International Scientific Committee (SC) of eleven experts, selected by WATCH, will review all proposals and finally decide on the proposed heritage site to study for the Initiative. Both Parties will submit their respective lists of experts to the SC at least 30 days prior to the beginning of the Initiative. The SC will take the final decision on the International and National Experts who will volunteer to implement the strategic study.

2c. Selection criteria

The proposals will be evaluated on the basis of the following selection criteria:

- Priority will be given to applications submitted by **the State Parties to the 1954 Hague Convention**;
- The proposed heritage site must be **one of the LWH of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention located in a country facing a latent danger of conflict⁴**; and
- Priority will be given to the LWH which involves Heritage Collections, Catalogues, Libraries, Archives or Museums.
- Proposals will be considered eligible only if the Owner (and the relevant National/Local Hosting Authority or the Promoter if different from the Owner) grants full access and studying capacity in and around the proposed LWH to the International WATCH Team.

2d. Minimum Requirements

- Applications will only be considered eligible if the Owner (or the relevant National/Local Hosting Authority or Promoter if different from the Owner) signs the Preliminary Agreement attached in the Application package;
- The National/Local Hosting Authority will ensure that the International Watch Team will be seconded for the entire duration of the Initiative by at least:
 - A group of National Cultural Heritage Experts (maximum 5 persons);
 - Three high-ranking military officers (at least a Lieutenant-colonel) specialised in

⁴ <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list>



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- Cultural Affairs, Humanitarian Law and/or Civil Military Relations;
 - Three executive representatives of the Civil Protection specialised in Logistics, Humanitarian Operations, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) or Humanitarian Law; and
 - A maximum of three qualified volunteers representing Local Civil Societies (Non-Profit Associations, Non-Governmental Organisations, etc.) who will be admitted to take part to the Initiative.
- The National/Local Hosting Authority (or the relevant authorities if other) will ensure that all members of the International WATCH Team will be granted the status (privileges & immunities) of the personnel operating under article 26 of the First Geneva Convention 1949 (other Voluntary Aid Societies duly recognized and authorized by their governments) and articles 15 to 17 of the Hague Convention 1954 (personnel engaged in the protection of Cultural Property) and 21 of its Regulations.

2e. Specific Arrangements

- The Owner (or the relevant National/Local Hosting Authority or Promoter if different from the Owner) will grant to the International WATCH Team full access and studying capacity in and around the proposed heritage site;
- The relevant authorities would make sure that all members of the International WATCH Team will also be exempted from the payment of any visas or other locally applied taxes or contributions; and
- Access to and exit from the country of the equipment brought in by the International Experts potentially required for the implementation of this Initiative will be free from any taxes and/or custom duties. No custom duties (or temporary deposits) can be pretended by the local authorities, at any title, on equipment, materials and tools entered under a temporary import status; and
- The Owner (or the relevant National/Local Hosting Authority or Promoter) will take care of local transportation, accommodation (lodging and boarding) and logistics for all members of the International WATCH Team. It will not be the responsibility of the Owner (or the relevant National/Local Hosting Authority or Promoter) to provide financial support to cover travel and/or insurance costs for the International Team.

Deliverables

The documentation collected in the form of reports and guidelines will be delivered in English as follow:

1. Improved protection of the endangered LWH site from threats in a time effective and consistent way;
2. Produced records of the strategic study for its circulation to promote awareness and transfer of know-how; and



3. Set a virtuous model of interactions between high contracting parties and CSOs for the definition of standards protocols of intervention under the 1954 Hague Convention and its two Protocols (1954 and 1999).

How to Apply

Application: To propose a heritage site to this Initiative, applicants must fill in the application form Part 1 and 2 and email them on a digital support to: info@eyeonculture.net.

In addition, the application must also be sent on hard copy by regular mail (or by courier or directly handed) to WATCH HQ in Rome as indicated in the detailed instructions provided in the file '**How to fill in the Application Form**' Annex in the Call for Proposals.

Timing

Deadline for reception of applications is June 15, 2009. Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered eligible. The proposal must be accompanied by the three original Declarations contained in the Application Form Part 2 to be signed.

Queries: Applicants may contact for any queries and further information needed before June 5, 2009: l.anguilano@eyeonculture.net

Evaluation of the proposals: The SC will do a first screening of the proposed heritage sites by June 26, 2009. If needed, the Owner (or the relevant National/Local Hosting Authority or Promoter if different from the Owner) of the shortlisted heritage sites will be invited by the SC to submit further detailed documentation.

Final selection: Only one proposal will be finally selected and announced by July 10, 2009. An **Agreement** will be finalised and signed by July 20, 2009.

Duration of the strategic study: The field strategic study will be carried out within ten working days tentatively planned for September-October 2009. The overall study will be normally completed in about 160 working days since the beginning of the field strategic study.

Disclaimer

This initiative is launched by WATCH in line with its statutory mission and especially its commitment to neutrality as a non-political, non-confessional and a non-profit association⁵.

Moreover, the expertise that will be deployed by WATCH within the framework of this Initiative (through its voluntary member associates and selected international volunteers), will

⁵ <http://www.eyeonculture.net/Statute.html>



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only be effective if the conditions mentioned above in this Call for Proposals and the overall mission of the association are met by the applicant. WATCH will not be responsible for any projects proposals that will be considered ineligible, weak or in contrast with its statutory mandate.

Furthermore, the Local Hosting Authority is and remains the sole responsible for the submission and successful completion of the procedures for the request of enhanced protection to the Committee for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflicts. Therefore, WATCH cannot be hold responsible for mishandle follow-up of the procedures to any extent.

Applicants can download the complete *Call for Proposals* which is available online at:

<http://www.eyeculture.net/call.html>