

## Basic Information



**Our Association is a non-profit and volunteer world association, based on a global network of Cultural Heritage stakeholders. It does not have any political affiliations, religious or national inclinations, and will maintain total neutrality**

### **It's General Objectives are:**

To contribute to the safeguarding of tangible Cultural Heritage and to develop an early detection system against risks of destruction, vandalism, illicit trade, looting, pillaging before, during and after conflict

### **It's Specific Objectives are:**

To foster the safeguarding of cultural Heritage according to criteria set by the Hague Convention, by:

- Providing support and assistance in the documentation of CH,
- Implementing appropriate training programs,
- Raising public awareness & participation,
- Encouraging peaceful resolutions,
- Promoting intercultural dialogue,
- Providing interdisciplinary expertise,
- Developing and assisting in contingency planning,
- Disseminating information
- Creating and maintaining contacts with Military

## To Join Us

You can send an application form that can be downloaded from [www.eyeonculture.net](http://www.eyeonculture.net).

Supporters interested to sponsor the Association activities, can get information also writing to:

[info@eyeonculture.net](mailto:info@eyeonculture.net)



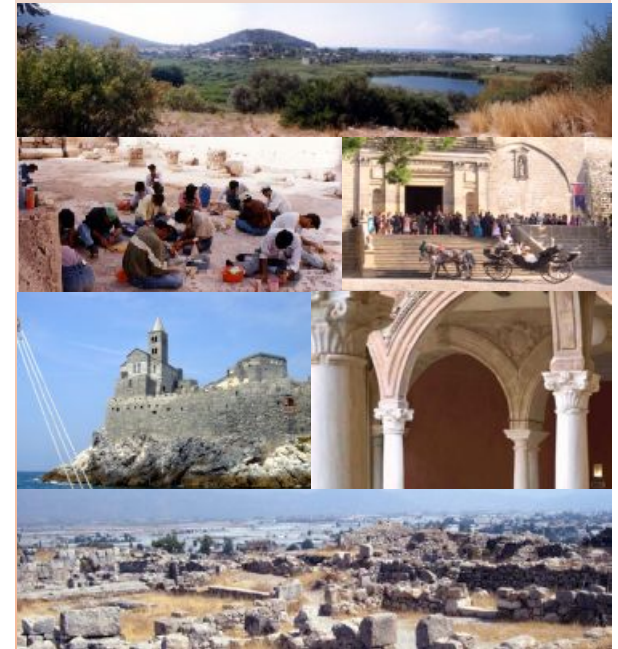
**WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF TANGIBLE AND INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN TIMES OF ARMED CONFLICTS**

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

**Today's societies require appropriate environments to protect their cultural diversities, tangible and intangible cultural heritage ...**



**... this is why, to contribute to the achievement of this objective, we created our Association.**

**The conservation of cultural heritage (CH) is a “real and primary investment” on sustainable development of Nations.**

Cultural heritage, must not be looked at as the property of a single nation, regardless of the moral, racial and religious rationale, that we utilize to justify ownership.

Nations and Cultures who physically “own” a monument or an artefact are entrusted with the responsibility of its protection for the benefit of all. Our duty is to safeguard the inheritance our forefathers have left, so we can hand it over to future generations.

**War, armed conflicts and terrorism, that seem to trigger them, have detrimental and irreversible effects on CH.**

**After humanity witnessed the huge destruction of CH during World War II the need for a more responsible approach in the protection of CH during armed conflicts became a shared perception within the world communities’. As a result the UNESCO-Hague Convention 1954 and its First (1954) and Second (1999) Protocols were signed by several state parties of UNESCO.**

The organized civil society (NGOs) including ICOM, ICOMOS, ICA, IFLA, with ICCROM and ICRC and lately the Blue Shield, among others, contribute to the efforts made to contrast the illicit trade or the destruction of cultural properties during peacetime and in areas of turmoil.

However, despite their noble and concentrated efforts, at the onset of the new millennium, we continued to witness the huge destruction of CH in the Balkans, Afghanistan, the Gulf War and the Iraq War, and at the time when this brochure is issued 29 conflicts are reportedly ongoing around the world.

The idea of the foundation of the World Association for the Protection of Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage in Time of Armed conflict was born at the “Second International Conference on Archaeology and Conservation” held by the Hashemite University, Queen Rania Institute of Tourism and Heritage (under the patronage of Queen Rania Al Abdullah of Jordan and UNESCO) on 7-11 December 2003 in the Dead Sea, Jordan).

Based in Rome (Italy), the Association was officially registered on December 2005.

The Association was initially joined by a group of 40 founder Cultural Heritage experts and stakeholders from 19 countries.

They are mostly officials, members of international or national organizations, scholars or individual private CH professionals, civilians and/or militaries.

## **WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF TANGIBLE AND INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN TIMES OF ARMED CONFLICTS**

**In view of the escalation of tensions during the last two decades, especially but not only, in the Euro Mediterranean region, it was decided to found a new NGO in order to contribute plan and carry out realistic, measurable and effective actions to protect the cultural heritage within areas of actual and potential conflicts.**

**All the members of our Association join it on a personal level and a volunteer basis.**

**The mission of our Association is to help securing Cultural Heritage to the future, in a proactive coordination with all the other local and international actors engaged in the field.**

