

Young scientists' workshop on

UNESCO World Heritage and the Sustainable Development Goals

UNESCO-Chair in International Relations | TU Dresden | February 4, 2019

The implementation of the Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is a challenging societal transformation process. The role of culture – despite the holistic approach of the SDGs – has so far received little attention. Although the understanding of culture as a driver and an enabler of sustainable development, as advanced by UNESCO, is now firmly anchored in the international discourse, it still remains vague as a concept. It is therefore important to provide scientific impulse to promote the implementation of the SDGs by taking into consideration the factor of culture and cultural heritage.

Cultural transformation

The implementation of the 2030 Agenda can only succeed if it is perceived as an overall transformation process. In addition to the development and dissemination of new technologies, this includes the “cultural embracement” of innovations. The role of culture is to be given greater consideration, also by moving beyond the concept of a *culture of sustainability*. Technological developments are dependent and embedded in a cultural environment, they need not only be created by people, but also accepted and internalized.

Access to cultural resources and heritage

Cultural heritage is increasingly perceived not only for its own virtue, but also in its human rights dimension. The recognized right of access to cultural heritage is currently threatened in many ways: through deliberate destruction in

and out of conflict, but also through climate-, environment- and globalization-related developments.

In the context of the SDGs, access to resources and goods is central to the implementation of the Agenda 2030. Here, the right to access to cultural resources and to cultural heritage must be considered.

Participation and cultural governance

Cultural rights include the right to participate in the identification, interpretation and development of cultural heritage, as well as in the formulation and implementation of safeguards and programs. This concerns both tangible and intangible heritage. The participation of affected individuals and groups (indigenous people and communities, minorities) is also an essential feature of sustainable UNESCO World Heritage management. From the perspective of urban planning, it is important to examine the role of culture and cultural participation in sustainable development in urban areas. Equally relevant is the participatory design of national cultural policies, as called for by the 2005 UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions.

The UNESCO Chair in International Relations invites interested researchers and practitioners to discuss these and other related questions. Please register for the workshop with Ms Sylvia Maus, Scientific Coordinator of the UNESCO Chair: sylvia.maus@tu-dresden.de by 1 February 2019.



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UNESCO Chair in International Relations

Prof. Dr. Dr. Sabine von Schorlemer

Conference program

9:00 – 9:15 **Welcome Address and Keynote Input**

Prof. Dr. Dr. Sabine von Schorlemer, UNESCO Chair in International Relations

Keynote: Dr. Lutz Möller, German Commission for UNESCO

9:15 – 11:30 **Cultural heritage: questions of access and governance**

Role of Culture in Sustainable Development

Fraz Arshed Butt, Iqra University, Islamabad, Pakistan

What are the challenges of access to cultural heritage in the face of climate change (SDG 13) and changing circumstances under water (SDG 14) and on land (SDG 15)?

Mohsin Zahid Khan, Bahria University, Islamabad, Pakistan

Young people's perspectives on World Cultural Heritage - a Contribution to Education for Sustainable Development?

Verena Röhl, Leibniz Universität Hannover

Environmental Innovations and Technological Development in a Social-Ecological Paradigm

Dr. Paul Stadelhofer, NetPhilTech e.V., Dresden

11:30 – 13:30 Lunch break, guided tour of the University's collections (optional)

13:30 – 15:30 **Participation of local communities and indigenous groups**

Colonial history, local handcraft and cultural expression. Revisiting heritage conservation for community livelihoods in Iringa, Tanzania.

Jan Küver, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg/University of Iringa, Tanzania

The role of non-state actors in the development and implementation of the rights of indigenous peoples to "free, prior and informed consent" (FPIC)

Finn Robin Schufft, Graduate Institute for International and Development Studies, Geneva Switzerland

Transforming the Legacies of Non-Sustainability of Conservation and the Role of Indigenous Peoples: Lessons from Tanzania and Kenya

Robert Rode, BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg

15:30 – 16:00 **Findings and results**

Sylvia Maus, LL.M., scientific coordinator, UNESCO Chair in International Relations