

CALL FOR CASE STUDIES

theme #3 INTERPRETATION & PRESENTATION

theme #4 DISSONANT MEMORIES

HERITAGE PLACES AND MEMORY

In the framework of the "Our World Heritage" programme (see the website) our approach covers one of the 12 themes of the programme: "Heritage Sites and Memory". On the occasion of the presentation of our work, next September, we intend to identify some examples of good practice that can help public authorities and managers in charge of cultural and natural heritage.

GENERAL APPROACH

All heritage sites can, to a greater or lesser extent, be considered as sites of memory, bearers of intangible values and testimonies of the universality of human experience in time and space. Nowadays, it is recommended to had better bring the intangible values of these sites to light.

New methods and techniques of interpretation allow a much richer appreciation of the diverse heritage values by the general public. They also make it possible to interpret heritage sites dynamically in line with the rapidly changing views of the past and in relation with contemporary concerns.

Memories associated with a heritage site can be plural and, sometimes, dissonant. For example, there may be the case for sites requiring better consideration of the voices of indigenous populations and cultural minorities, or for sites of discrimination and colonial domination, or even for sites of recent conflicts. An inclusive approach to their interpretation offers possibilities to overcome differences and strengthen social cohesion and dialogue between cultures.

All cultural and natural heritage properties can be issued, whether recognized at the international, the national or the local level, and whether inscribed on the World Heritage List or not. It is recommended World Heritage sites being served as exemplary reference.

OBJECT OF REQUEST

With our partners, we seek to collect some examples of good practice implementing inclusive interpretation. This can be added to existing case studies. A synthesis document will be made widely accessible and would present these examples, with web links for further study.

The participants are invited to specify which of the two issues below they are addressing:

- **GENERAL INTERPRETATION** of a site: How interpretation communicates the values and significance of a site for all stakeholders and the general public, including how interpretation links with contemporary concerns.
- **DISSONANT MEMORIES**: Cases addressing issues of discrimination against minorities, of colonial domination or of recent conflicts, using an inclusive approach.

The general framework for submitting exemplary practice in inclusive interpretation would be as follows:

- (a) Status of the heritage site (World Heritage, national, local)
- (b) Main themes associated with the site (one page)
- (c) Current interpretation at the site (short description)
- (d) Does the site interpretation address: values and intangible values, various meanings and narratives, connection with contemporary social concerns?
- (a) Site-based communication (theoretical issues, images, video, audio,...)**

- The general presentation of the case is submitted in **English**.
- A selection of interpretation material related to the site can be presented in **the national / local language**.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

The documentation should be submitted by **July 31, 2021, 23:59 UCT0**.

STEPS OF THE PROCESS

1. A synthesis of good practices will be produced by mid-August, 2021.
2. A webinar presentation is scheduled for the month of September, 2021:
 - September 6th, general issues of interpretation and presentation;
 - September 23th, heritage sites with dissonant interpretations.

The two webinars will share these submissions with a global audience and highlight the most innovative practices.

3. Before the end of the year, a publication will be produced and put online.

Any request for clarification can be addressed to the **Preparatory Office for International Centre for the Interpretation and Presentation of World Heritage Sites under the auspices of UNESCO**, where the documentation will be collected.

Email: Heritage Places and Memory (plural.memory.owh@gmail.com)

To apply, fill in the case study [application form](#).