



BOKELJSKA MORNARICA KOTOR

Pjaca od kina br. 372
85330 KOTOR
Crna Gora (Montenegro)
Tel.
E-mail : bokeljskamornarica@t-com.me
Web

Kotor, May 16th 2019

Црна Гора
МИНИСТАРСТВО КУЛТУРЕ
Цетиње

Примљено: 12.05.2019.			
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Mr Ernesto Ottone Ramirez
Assistant Director General for Culture

Mr Tim Curtis
Secretary of the 2003 Convention

UNESCO - The Intangible Cultural Heritage Section
(CLT / CRE / ITH)
7, Place de Fontenoy
75352 Paris 07
France

Dear Mr Ramirez and Mr Curtis,

We have received your letter forwarding the material sent by Mr Deković, and we were said to observe that Mr Deković is attempting to use UNESCO and Montenegro's current nomination as a space for personal, malicious and inaccurate observations on different topics.

We would like to remind that Mr Deković is not a member of the Boka Navy, nor has he ever been involved in any subject of significance for its history, tradition or preservation, save for his recent attempts to politicize the topic.

For us, such an approach is unacceptable, and we would like to use this opportunity to reiterate our clearly expressed attitudes found in the Nomination Dossier, which were also further expanded in our previous reply, based on expertise, science and facts.

We are sad to see this nomination being used to needlessly prolongate a non-existent discussion; the whole organization has a clear attitude on the topic, and we shall make ourselves available to Mr Deković or any other citizen for further education on this matter. In that regard, we recommend using our website www.bokeljskamornarica.com, visiting our spaces in the heart of the Old Town Kotor, where one could get introduced to our comprehensive body of literature, as well as visiting the Maritime Museum of Montenegro and the Historical Archive of Kotor, where some of our most important documents are kept. We would also recommend that he carefully study our previous letter, because the text of his letter clearly demonstrates that he neither carefully read nor understood our letter.

We find it useful to inform you that on May 17th this year, an exhibition *Boka Navy; 1210 years of history, spirituality and culture* will be opened in the exhibition space of the Ministry of Culture of Montenegro. This shall be the biggest and the most representative exhibition about the Navy that has ever been organized. It will feature numerous documents, books, ship

models, paintings of ships and naval battles, icons, portraits of sailors, uniforms, photographs, decorations. The exhibition was prepared by the Boka Navy Kotor, the Maritime Museum Kotor, the Ministry of Culture of Montenegro, the Kotor Municipality, the Catholic Diocese of Kotor, the Historical Archive of Kotor and the Museums of Kotor. A catalogue was made, featuring texts in Montenegrin and English languages, as well as descriptions and photographs of exhibition pieces, which all serve to provide further information on the Navy. The material can be found the following link <https://we.tl/t-ikdl1Gjcj9>.

On the end, let us stress out that our governing bodies have decided that we shall not answer on similar letters which impugn our right to nominate our Organization for the inscription on the Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. We are assured that we have presented all relevant materials and arguments which are sufficient for UNESCO to take a meritorious decision, based on our nomination. Having said that, we will not answer on similar letters in the future, but we stand ready to provide any possible clarifications, if necessary, that may come from UNESCO, in order to help in better understanding.

Respectfully,
Antun Sbutega
Boka Navy Admiral

