



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

Regional Bureau  
for Science and Culture  
in Europe



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Regional Centre for the  
Safeguarding of Intangible  
Cultural Heritage in  
South-Eastern Europe under  
the auspices of UNESCO

# 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the South-East European Experts Network on Intangible Cultural Heritage

**Intangible Cultural Heritage in emergencies:  
Responding to the COVID-19 pandemic**  
*Addressing questions of ICH and resilience in  
times of crisis*

Online, 26 June 2020



**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

## Country representatives

<b>Albania</b>	Meri Kumbe	Deputy Minister, Ministry of Culture
	Bendis Pustina	Ministry of Culture
<b>Bosnia and Herzegovina</b>	Aleksandra Sorajić	Senior cultural specialist, Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina
	Mirela Šečić	Senior Adviser, Coordinator for Intangible Heritage, Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
	Božena Đuzelović	Ministry of Education and Culture, Republika Srpska
<b>Bulgaria</b>	Venzislav Velez	Adviser to the Minister of Culture
	Silva Hacheryan	Head of Regional Activities Department, Ministry of Culture
<b>Croatia</b>	Vesna Pascuttini Juraga	Head of Conservation Department, Ministry of Culture
<b>Cyprus</b>	Loukia Loizou Hadjigavriel	President, Cyprus National Commission for UNESCO
	Thekla Papantoniou	Cyprus National Commission for UNESCO
<b>Greece</b>	Stavroula-Villy K. Fotopoulou	Director, Modern Cultural Heritage, Ministry of Culture
	Iannis Drinis	Modern Cultural Heritage Directorate, Ministry of Culture
<b>Malta</b>	Mario Azzopardi	Director of Culture, Ministry of National Heritage, Arts and Local Government
	Melanie Ciantar Harrington	Intangible Cultural Heritage Office, Ministry of National Heritage, Arts and Local Government
<b>Montenegro</b>	Milica Nikolic	Secretary General, National Commission of Montenegro for UNESCO

<b>North Macedonia</b>	Meri Stojanova	National Representative in the General Assembly of the Regional Center for Safeguarding of ICH in South-East Europe
<b>Republic of Moldova</b>	Marinana Mischevca	Main consultant, Cultural Heritage Department
<b>Romania</b>	Ioana-Otilia Baskerville	National Commission for the Safeguarding of the ICH
<b>Serbia</b>	Danijela Filipovic	Senior Expert, Center for the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Serbia
<b>Turkey</b>	Evrin Olçer Ozunel	Member of the Specialized Commission of Intangible Cultural Heritage, Turkish National Commission of Unesco
	Ahu Uçar Sever	Expert at the General Directorate for Research and Training, Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Turkey
<b>Austria*</b>	Gabriele Detschmann	ICH Specialist and Facilitator, Austrian Commission for UNESCO
<b>Italy*</b>	Elena Sinibaldi	Focal point for the 2003 Convention, Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities and Tourism

\*Observer country

## Accredited facilitators

(in addition to those participating as country representatives)

<b>Panayiota Andrianopoulou</b>	Greece
<b>Chiara Bortolotto</b>	Italy
<b>Naila Ceribašić</b>	Croatia
<b>Adina Ciubotariu Hulubas</b>	Romania
<b>Jorijn Neyrinck</b>	Belgium ( <i>Meeting facilitator</i> )
<b>Tamara Nikolic Deric</b>	Croatia ( <i>Meeting facilitator</i> )
<b>Andrei Prohin</b>	Republic of Moldova
<b>Saša Srećković</b>	Serbia
<b>Velika Stojkova</b>	North Macedonia
<b>Benedetta Ubertazzi</b>	Italy
<b>Nikolai Vukov</b>	Bulgaria
<b>Valentina Zingari</b>	Italy
<b>Meglana Zlatkova</b>	Bulgaria

## UNESCO

<b>Ana Luiza Thompson-Flores</b>	Director, Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe
<b>Timothy Curtis</b>	Chief, Living Heritage Entity
<b>Sinisa Sesum</b>	Head of Antenna in Sarajevo, Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe
<b>Matteo Rosati</b>	Programme Specialist, Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe
<b>Helena Drobna</b>	Programme Specialist, Living Heritage Entity
<b>Juliette Hopkins</b>	Associate Programme Specialist, Living Heritage Entity
<b>Yue Shen</b>	Associate Project Officer, Living Heritage Entity
<b>Zhi Ye</b>	Trainee, Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe

**Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage  
in South-East Europe (Sofia, Bulgaria)**

<b>Irena Todorova</b>	Executive Director
<b>Nadejda Ilieva</b>	Expert
<b>Iliyana Rousseva</b>	Expert
<b>Mirena Staneva</b>	Expert
<b>Chayana Istatkova</b>	Expert

## Annex: Biographies of participants

\* received by 26 June 2020

**Adina Ciubotariu** is a senior researcher within The Romanian Academy, Iași Branch. She received a PhD degree in 2009, with a thesis on initiation rites traceable in Romanian literary folklore. She published several books on documents gathered in The Folklore Archive of Moldavia and Bucovina, which was established in 1970. She was a member of The Romanian National Commission for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage from 2014 to 2019. In 2017 she joined the Global Network of Facilitators, and two years later co-organized a workshop in Sofia, Bulgaria.

**Ahu Uçar Sever**, Expert. She was born in 1983 in Ankara Turkey. She graduated from Hacettepe University Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, Department of Public Administration. She has have been working at Ministry of Culture and Tourism Directorate General of Research and Training Department of Intangible Cultural Heritage as an Expert since 2010.

**Ana Luiza Massot Thompson-Flores** (Brazil) is Director of the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe based in Venice (Italy). Ms. Massot Thompson-Flores has 30 years of progressively responsible professional experience within the UN Common System. In 1987, she began her career in the Human Resources Department of the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and joined the World Food Programme (WFP) in 1995. In 2004, she was seconded to the UN Development Programme (UNDP) in New York, as Chief of the Human Resources Policy Unit, returning to the WFP in 2005. In 2008, she joined UNESCO as Deputy Director of the Bureau of Human Resources Management and in 2011 was promoted to the post of Director. She held the post of Assistant Director-General for Strategic Planning in 2015 prior to joining this regional bureau.

**Andrei Prohin** – graduate of the Moldova State University, PhD in History of the Romanians. Scientific secretary at the National Museum of Ethnography and Natural History (Chișinău, Republic of Moldova). Member of the National Commission for the Safeguarding of the ICH of Republic of Moldova. Main scientific interests: traditional culture, literary folklore, medieval culture, historical thought, Christian theology. Publishes scientific papers and reviews in academic journals from Moldova and Romania. He has translated into English several articles and books dedicated to ethnography and cultural heritage.

**Anja Jerin**, MA, is a museum curator working in Slovene Ethnographic Museum in the Department for Intangible Cultural Heritage. Jerin earned her MA degree with a dissertation entitled Documentary value of the work of Fran Vesel, a photographer from the beginning of the 20th century (2014). Her research focuses mainly on intangible cultural heritage and photography.

**Bendis Pustina**, MA in Linguistics is an expert in the Sector of Programs for Development of Intangible Cultural Heritage and Creative Industries, Ministry of Culture, Albania, where she has been working since 2004. She has contributed to various MoC projects in the field of preserving, protecting and promoting intangible cultural heritage and has published several articles on cultural identity. Bendis is also a member of the National Council for Intangible Cultural Heritage.

**Benedetta Ubertazzi** is a UNESCO-accredited Facilitator for the global capacity-building programme for the effective implementation of the 2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH). She is also the legal expert and programme/policy evaluator for several ICH elements and programmes including “traditional violin craftsmanship in Cremona”; “Celebrations of big shoulder-borne processional structures”; “Falconry, a living human heritage”; “Tocati, programme for the safeguarding of traditional games and sports” and “AlpFoodway - a cross-disciplinary, transnational and participative approach to Alpine food cultural heritage”. She is the legal adviser for the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation for the UNESCO multinational negotiations of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. Lastly, she is a Full Tenured Aggregate Professor at the University of Milan-Bicocca and a Contracted Associated Professor of International Intellectual Property and UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage Law at Saint Petersburg State University.

**Evrin Ölçer Özünel**, PhD is associate professor at Ankara Hacı Bayram Veli University, Department of Turkish Folklore. Özünel lectures museology of intangible cultural heritage (ICH), creative cities, urban folklore, sustainable development, gender, storytelling, and cuisine culture. She is a member of ICOM and the coordinator of Ankara Intangible Cultural Heritage Museum. Özünel is a member of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Committee at Turkish National Commission for UNESCO, UNESCO Silk Road Online Platform, and she is also a UNESCO-accredited ICH facilitator. She conducted many international field works and projects, published articles in international journals and books on safeguarding and museology of intangible cultural heritage.

**Gabriele Detschmann**, programme specialist for the ICH and curator based in Vienna. Gabriele



has worked with ICH stakeholders over the last six years, developing skills as a mediator, facilitator and presenter. Since 2016, she has coordinated the work of the Division for ICH in the Austrian Commission for UNESCO in close collaboration with ICH stakeholders and the Austrian Government. Her interests focus on linkages between ICH and sustainable development, particularly with regard to agricultural practices and knowledge, craftsmanship, health and natural hazards.

**Irena Todorova** has a BA in Political Science and a MA degree in Diplomacy and International relations from the New Bulgarian University, Sofia. She received her PhD in Political Science in 2011 from New Bulgarian University. Since 2012 she is a senior assistant in the department of Political Science. In 2016, she won a scholarship from the US Department of State to specialize in American Political Thought. One of the large-scale projects where she participated is "The Quality of Democracy in Bulgaria". Author of many articles and studies on the topics of political participation and culture and a co-author of the monograph "Political Conservatism" published in 2017. From 2014 to 2016 she works as advisor in the political cabinet of the Minister of Education and Science. In the period 2016 - 2017 she is advisor of the Minister of Foreign Affairs. In May 2018, she was elected as Executive Director of the Regional Center for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in Southeast Europe under the auspices of UNESCO.

**Jorijn Neyrinck** (1978<sup>o</sup>) is comparative anthropologist. Main achievements in her course consist in developing participatory living heritage practices and policies. Jorijn coordinates the expertise centre on heritage participation tapis plein in Belgium since 2003, which transformed into 'Workshop intangible heritage' in 2017. From 2003 on, the organization started taking a leading role in the field regarding the development of policies and network cooperation around ICH. A recent accomplishment is the ICH and Museums Project (IMP) in Europe 2017-2020. Jorijn is active in the Global Network of facilitators for the UNESCO 2003 Convention, and a member of the Evaluation Body (2020-2023). Jorijn takes a role as cultural broker in the field, building bridges between governments, institutions, ICH communities and groups, civil society... Selected assignments: Vice-president Flemish UNESCO Commission, ICH Commission (NL), Flemish Commission ICH, Strategic Advisory Board Culture Flanders, ICH NGO Forum Steering committee (2012-2018). In capacity as independent expert, Jorijn contributed to the 2019 Council of Europe Report "Safeguarding and enhancing intangible cultural heritage in Europe".

**Juliette Hopkins** is an Associate Programme Specialist in the Secretariat for UNESCO's 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. She works in the Capacity Building and Heritage Policy Unit, where she supports the development the Convention's global

capacity-building programme and its facilitators network. She is the focal point for issues relating to intangible cultural heritage and emergencies in the Living Heritage Entity and member of the UNESCO Culture Sector's taskforce on COVID-19.

**Loukia Loizou Hadjigavriel.** With Diplomas in History of Art and Archaeology for the University Paul Valery Montpellier and Museum Management from the Smithsonian Institute USA, she began her museum career in 1984 when she was appointed as Director-Curator of The Leventis Municipal Museum of Nicosia, responsible not only for setting up a new museum but also creating and establishing its collections. The Leventis Municipal Museum of Nicosia was awarded in 1991 with the European Museum of the Year award. Loukia Hadjigavriel was asked in 2007 to take on the project of the new A. G. Leventis Gallery – then still at the design stage – leading and coordinating the museological and art-historical study of the Collections. With the Gallery's completion, she took on the post of its first directorship, in 2012. She is a member of the experts committee of the European Museum Academy since 2016 and President of the Cyprus National Committee for UNESCO since 2007. She has curated various exhibitions in Cyprus and abroad and published several volumes linked to the history and cultural heritage of Nicosia. She is also the author and editor of numerous museum catalogues and temporary exhibition publications.

**Mariana Mischevca**, superior consultant, Department of cultural heritage, Ministry of Education, Culture of Research (MECR). The most important tasks: Elaboration of the legislative and normative documents on museum policies and intangible cultural heritage; Coordination and monitoring of the policies implementation in the field of intangible heritage and museums; Secretary of the National Commission on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage; Focal point of the 2003 Convention; National Coordinator for the Republic of Moldova for European Heritage Days Program (Council of Europe). She holds a master degree in History at the Moldova State University. During the activity in the MECR, she worked in different national and international projects related to the safeguarding and promotion of ICH.

**Mario Azzopardi** is the Director of Culture within the Maltese Ministry for National Heritage, the Arts and Local Government. Among the responsibilities of the Culture Directorate is the National Inventory of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. Malta ratified the 2003 UNESCO Convention in 2017. During the past three years, the Unit responsible for ICH (managed by Melanie Ciantar Harrington) has worked hard to get communities involved in the safeguarding of the different elements which characterize the Maltese community. The Unit made use of media, including social media, and meetings with communities to raise awareness and promote safeguarding. Today, the National Inventory is made up of eleven elements. These elements are recognised

after a thorough authentication by the National Board. Furthermore, Malta has so far proposed two elements (one in 2019 and one in 2020) for consideration on the Representative List of the ICH of Humanity.

**Matteo Rosati** is an expert on international cooperation for the protection and promotion of culture. After experiences with other bilateral and multilateral development agencies, he joined UNESCO in 2005 and is currently assigned as Programme Specialist to the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe, where he works at the conceptualization, coordination and implementation of the Bureau's programme in the field of Culture, with special geographical focus on South-East Europe. His expertise spans cultural heritage protection and management, cultural cooperation, intangible cultural heritage, the diversity of cultural expressions, and the role of culture for sustainable development. Matteo Rosati holds a master degree with honours in communication sciences and international relations. He is member of several scientific and advisory boards, and guest lecturer in six master programmes on cultural heritage management. His previous work experiences include assignments with UNDESA, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the International Management Group, and the World Bank.

**Meglana Zlatkova**, PhD is Associate Professor in Social Anthropology and Head of the Department of Ethnology, University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarsky", Bulgaria. Her teaching, research and publishing activities are in the fields of Ethnology and Anthropology, Intangible Cultural Heritage, Visual Anthropology, Urban Studies, Migration, Borders and Cultural Heritage, Cultural Heritage Projects. She is experienced in the Region of South Eastern Europe and the various communities. Her recent interests are in the field of ICH and education. Her main publications are the books: *Ethnosociology of the City. The case of Plovdiv* (2012). *Urban Heritage across the Border – Edirne, Turkey and Tzarevo, Bulgaria* (2016), as well as the collective publications: *Migration, Memory, Heritage: Socio-cultural Approaches to the Bulgarian-Turkish Border*, (2012), *The New Diversity of Family Life in Europe. Mobile Ethnic Groups and Flexible Boundaries*. Citlak, B., Kurtenbach, S. Lueneburg, M., Zlatkova, M. (2018), *Transforming village*, (eds. Zlatkova, M. Antonov, S. Penkova, T., Mitev, T) (2019).

**Naila Ceribašić** is ethnomusicologist, scholarly advisor in the Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Research, Zagreb, Croatia, adjunct professor at the University of Zagreb, member of the Executive Board of the International Council for Traditional Music and its representative at UNESCO (including service in the Consultative Body and the Evaluation Body 2013–2015), and a secretary of the ICH NGO Forum Steering Committee. On a national level, she is involved in the work of several expert committees, including the committee on ICH at the Ministry of Culture.

Her most recent publications addressing the programme of intangible cultural heritage include “On Engaging Up and Expertise in Ethnomusicology: The Example of Expert Services in the Programme for Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage” (in *Ethnomusicology Matters: Influencing Social and Political Realities*, Vienna 2019) and “Rights, Resources, Affect, and Music: Comparing the Programs of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Croatia, Southeast Europe, China, and Elsewhere” (in *TheMA 8/1–2*, 2020).

**Nena Židov**, PhD is a museum counsellor and curator of social culture at the Slovene Ethnographic Museum. In 1997–2003, 2009–2011, and 2015–2019 she has acted as editor of the museum's periodical publication *Etnolog*, and she has edited the book collection *Library of the Slovene Ethnographic Museum* for several years. Židov earned her PhD degree with a dissertation entitled *Alternative medicine in Slovenia - The Ethnological Aspect* (1996). She has published the following books *Rovaši = Tally sticks* (2010), *Ljubljanski živilski trg* (1994) and *Občina Ljubljana Bežigrad* (1991). She has also published a range of scientific articles in Slovenia and abroad. Her research focuses mainly on folk and alternative medicine, intangible cultural heritage, common law, and customs.

**Nikolai Vukov** is Associate Professor at the Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with the Ethnographic Museum in Sofia. He has a Ph.D. in folklore studies (Bulgarian Academy of Sciences) and a Ph.D. in history (Central European University – Budapest). His research, teaching, and publications are related to Traditional Epic Songs and Verbal Folklore; Memory and Commemorations; Monuments and Museums; Migrations and Cultural Heritage. Alongside with numerous articles and studies he has published in journals and volumes on these topics, Nikolai Vukov has participated in the preparation of several edited volumes and monographs on the maintenance and transmission of cultural heritage within immigrant communities. Nikolai Vukov represented Bulgaria at UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for ICH (2014-2017). He has prepared needs assessments and facilitated training workshops on ICH safeguarding in several countries – Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Slovenia, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

**Panayiota Andrianopoulou**, born in 1973, studied Archaeology (Athens University 1991-1995) Ethnology (EHESS- Paris 1996-1998) and Folklore (Athens University 1998-2001). Her fields of interest are the social practices and festivities in transborder Northern Greece and the social function of traditional dance both in rural and urban framework. Practically carrying participatory fieldwork concerning folk dance and post-folk expressions and representations in Athens, she envisages a PhD thesis on the significance of traditional dance in Athens during 2009-2015. She

has participated in the Konitsa Summer School of Cross-Border Network (July 2018). She has lectured in several conferences on matters of heritage, urban culture, and social practices. She was scientific assistant and curator in the Jewish Museum of Greece (1998-2002), and participated in various research projects of the Centre of Greek Folklore, the National Research Foundation and relevant scientific institutions. Since 2006 she worked in the Hellenic Ministry of Culture, dealing with intangible and tangible cultural heritage (ICH), concerning raising awareness and safeguarding measures. Since February 2018 she is appointed Head of the Department of Collections, Research and Documentation of Folk Art and Deputy Director of the national Museum of Modern Greek Culture. She is responsible for the scientific documentation of the new museological project of the Museum and also coordinates the interrelation between museum and ICH. In 2011, she was trained as an ICH UNESCO facilitator, having facilitated capacity building workshops in Bulgaria, Kosovo, Romania, Croatia, Uzbekistan, French Reunion and Bosnia-Herzegovina. In October 2018 she has co-ordinated the 12th Annual Meeting of the South East European Regional Network of ICH Experts (Ljubljana, Slovenia).

**Saša Srećković** Ethnographer and curator of the Ethnographic Museum in Belgrade. Organizer of big number of cultural events (around 1000). Served for many years as the manager of the International Festival of Ethnological Films in Belgrade and the museum PR officer for 10 years. Author of several ethnographic documentaries. He published a series of papers on the topics such as applied anthropology, museum management, visual anthropology and ethnographic film, crafts, cultural tourism, intangible cultural heritage. He was awarded with several grants (for projects in Germany and USA). Carried out various international projects (Spain, Germany, China), part-time lecturer at the university in Moscow, Russia, etc. Former president of the Serbian national committee for intangible cultural heritage. UNESCO trainer-facilitator for intangible cultural heritage; former member of the UNESCO Evaluation body for the international lists of intangible cultural heritage. Recently involved in the activities and projects related to heritage&sustainable development across institutional and NGO sectors.

**Silva Nalbantyan-Hacheryan** is the Head of the 'Regional Activities' Department at the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Bulgaria and part-time lecturer at the University of Sofia 'St. Kliment Ohridski'. She is a Doctor of Science in the professional field of 'Sociology, Anthropology and Cultural Sciences' and a Doctor of Education Theory. She is the author of a number of scientific articles and of the books 'Intangible Cultural Heritage – Policies and Practices for its Safeguarding', 'Cultural Institutions and Intercultural Education', 'Educational Possibilities of the Cultural Institutions for integration of the ethnic communities in the Republic of Bulgaria' and

'Pieces' (a book of short stories). She has translated and compiled books with Armenian folk tales. She is also a scriptwriter of documentaries. The scientific and professional interests of Silva are related to the research, development and implementation of policies in the field of cultural heritage, cultural integration, cultural diversity, human rights and more.

**Stavroula-Villy K. Fotopoulou** was born and grew up in Kalamata, Greece. She got her Bachelor's Degree in Archaeology from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. She got a Master's Degree in Contemporary History from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, on collective memory and management of cultural heritage. She got a Master's Degree in Folklore from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, on life-stories and gender. Her speaking and writing skills in English are excellent, while she has a moderate communicating ability in French and Spanish. She works in the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports, after graduating from the National School of Public Administration. She has served in various positions since 1996; she is Director of Modern Cultural Heritage since 2014. She has represented the Ministry of Culture in UNESCO, the EU and several bi-lateral or regional meetings as expert in relevant fields of cultural management.

**Tamara Nikolić Đerić** (1983) holds degrees in Ethnology/Cultural anthropology and Indology/Oriental studies. Since 2008 has been working as curator for the Ethnographic Museum of Istria. Along with other Museum activities she started and still runs the first Ethnographic film festival in Croatia, ETNOFILM, dedicated to visual documentation and interpretation of ICH. Since 2014 Nikolić Đerić has been acting as professional program manager of Ecomuseum Batana (UNESCO Register of Good safeguarding practices, 2016) and since 2017 collaborates with UNESCO (ICH sector) as trainer for the implementation of the 2003 Convention. She is PhD candidate at the Department for Ethnology and Cultural anthropology at the University of Zagreb researching topics on working women. Nikolić Đerić is author of scientific and professional articles and exhibitions. Her field of interests comprises community-based heritage management/ecomuseology, intangible cultural heritage, visual and feminist anthropology.

**Thekla Papantoniou** holds a Bachelor Degree in Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies (University of Cyprus) and an MPhil in European Literature and Culture (University of Cambridge). She is currently an officer of the Cyprus National Commission for UNESCO (2010-present) and her main responsibilities include the implementation of the 2003 Convention in Cyprus (inventorying, preparation of nominations to the Representative List, collaboration with practitioners and communities for the implementation of safeguarding measures, programmes on education and ICH). She also works closely with the national focal points of the UNESCO



Convention for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (2005) and the Associated Schools Project Network in Cyprus. She has also worked as an assistant at the Permanent Delegation of Cyprus at UNESCO (2008-2009).

**Timothy Curtis**, PhD has been Chief of the Living Heritage Entity of UNESCO and Secretary of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage since January 2016. He has been working in the field of culture in international contexts for over twenty years firstly as a cultural anthropologist and then for UNESCO on numerous international programmes related to culture in the fields of heritage, cultural industries, cultural policies and culture and development. From 2000 until 2002, he worked as a consultant for UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage Section at UNESCO, primarily on the design and implementation of intangible heritage projects as well as on the launching of the UNESCO Proclamation of Masterpieces of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2001. In 2003, he joined the Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems (LINKS) Project in the UNESCO Science Sector, before moving to Dar es-Salaam, Tanzania in 2004, where, as the Programme Specialist for Culture, he oversaw UNESCO's Culture Programme in Tanzania, Madagascar, Comoros, Mauritius and Seychelles. In 2009, he was appointed as head of the Culture Unit in UNESCO Bangkok office, with the responsibility to coordinate and implement UNESCO's Culture Programme in South East Asia. Dr Curtis received his PhD in Cultural Anthropology from the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies at the Australian National University, where he wrote a thesis entitled 'Talking about Place' on the relationship between oral history and place amongst the Na'hai speakers of Malakula in the Republic of Vanuatu.

**Valentina Lapicciarella Zingari** is a PhD Cultural Anthropologist. She is A UNESCO-accredited Facilitator for the global capacity-building programme for the effective implementation of the 2003 Convention. Since 1990 she develops ethnographical and community-based approaches in the process of heritage-making, in the fields of local museums, oral history, audio-visual documentation, the social uses of sound archives and ICH. Since 2009, for the Italian Society for Museum and Heritage Anthropology - SIMBDEA, she follows the processes related to the implementation of the UNESCO ICH Convention and the dialogue between the ICH accredited NGOs in the context of the ICH NGO Forum. She is developing innovative approaches to the ICH safeguarding, improving and activating processes, projects and dialogues at different levels: from the local grassroots to the national and multinational. Since 2016, she is coordinating the multinational safeguarding process "Tocati, a shared programme for the safeguarding of Traditional Games and Sports", as a model and inspiring laboratory for the safeguarding of ICH

in general. This project aims at using the Register of Good Safeguarding practices as a tool to safeguard ICH by impacting cultural policies and strengthening community participation in the arena of heritage regimes. She is coordinating participatory inventories of ICH in Italy and Europe, developing creative safeguarding experiences.

**Vesna Pascuttini-Juraga**, PhD is Head of the Conservation Department in Varaždin at the Ministry of Culture of the Republic Croatia, Directorate for the Protection of Cultural Heritage (since February 2019). She works on the protection and conservation of cultural heritage (movable, immovable and intangible); evidencing, researching and monitoring intangible cultural heritage elements in the region of Varaždin and Međimurje County; preparation of the texts and reports on ICH elements inscribed on the UNESCO's Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage from the Varaždin County Area. In 2019, she was a Chairperson of the General Assembly meeting of the Regional Center in Sofia. In the fourth meeting of UNESCO 2th category centers held in Paris, France on 2-4 June, 2016, she participated as a representative of the Executive Committee of the Regional Center in Sofia. From May 2015, she has been the representative of Republic of Croatia in the General Assembly of the Regional Center for the protection of Intangible cultural heritage in Sofia. She holds a PhD in Postgraduate doctoral study in Humanities, at University of Zadar and a MA in History of Art and Ethnology/Cultural Anthropology, University of Zagreb at University of Zagreb.