

HERITAGES, SPACES, BORDERS

Ljubljana (Slovenia), March 30–April 3, 2020
The ZRC SAZU (Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts)
Institute of Slovenian Ethnology (Ljubljana, Slovenia)
announces the meeting of the SIEF WG Cultural Heritage and Property
Ljubljana, April 1–3, 2020

BORDER AND BOUNDARIES IN/OF HERITAGES

This conference invites reflections on the mutually constitutive interplay between boundaries, borders and heritage as a metacultural process. Boundaries, borders, limits and divisions and their multiplicative effects can be focal points of transition, encounter and conflict. They include *territorial boundaries* (between settlements, regions, countries); *borders that mark identity* at the level of local, ethnic, national or religious communities; *administrative boundaries* that delimit matters linked to the definition, legitimization and regulation of heritage; and *classificatory boundaries*, which mark distinctions between tangible and intangible heritage, between natural and cultural heritage, between laymen and experts.

The first possible point of departure is linked to **territorial – local, regional or national – borders**, which can inform, inspire or disrupt heritage strategies and practices. Numerous elements – such as military structures and infrastructures linked to the Iron Curtain – were once symbols of separation and repression. However, with the Schengen border, such elements have become markers of a bygone era, redefining relations between inhabitants of formerly separate states and facilitating multiple ways of heritagization and transnational projects (e.g., the Iron Curtain Cycling Route).

A second possible starting point is related to the significance of border heritage as a basis for (local, regional, ethnic, national) **identity/identification strategies and practices**. How is border heritage invented/produced, appropriated or internalized? In what ways does heritage have the potential for contesting, marking, eliding or transcending boundaries? What heritage elements enable self-recognition and/or differentiation and how do these processes unfold at a transnational level in the context of emigration?

The third theme linked to boundaries and heritage concerns **actors (including governmental institutions, museums, institutes, or professional experts, ethnologists, historians)**, their various roles, competencies, social power and agendas in the creation and preservation of heritage. An important issue concerns the interactions between actors that enact top-down and grassroots approaches, between actors who confer heritage status and those who practice heritage. Another involves exploring the limits of legitimacy and legitimacy competences as well the exercise of power on the part of diverse actors – including cases of regulation practices, be they national registers or international ones such as UNESCO.

A final point of departure is linked to border practices, which are associated with diverse **forms of classifying heritage as an instrument of power** by way of which significant actors – including knowledge/expert/institutions communities and heritage communities – define and cross/transgress boundaries

between cultural and natural heritage, between tangible and intangible heritage, between “originals” and reconstructions, and between expert and layperson.

PAPER SUBMISSION

Please submit the title of your paper, an abstract of no more than 250 words and brief CV of no more than 150 words, together with your name and academic affiliation.

The language of the conference is English.

SCHEDULE

- January 15, 2020:** Paper submission by e-mail borders2020@zrc-sazu.si
- February 15:** Notification of acceptance / rejection of paper proposals
- February 28:** Final program
- March 1–25:** Registration open
- March 30–April 1:
(Optional) Guests are welcome to register the SIEF WG Space-Lore and Place-Lore Conference at the same venue
- April 1–3, 2020:** CONFERENCE – BORDERS AND BOUNDARIES IN/OF HERITAGES

ORGANIZERS: ZRC SAZU, Institute of Slovenian Ethnology and the SIEF WG Cultural Heritage and Property

CONFERENCE VENUE: ZRC SAZU, Novi trg 2–5, Ljubljana
<https://tinyurl.com/s6qyxru>

CONFERENCE FEE 90 € (Coffee breaks and Dinner on Thursday)
135 € for both conferences

The organizers do not provide any transportation, accommodation (<https://www.ljubljana.info/accommodation/>), nor preferential registration fees.

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