SIEF WG Cultural Heritage and Property (2017-2019)

**SIEF Congress Roundtable**

**UNESCO and entanglements of intangible cultural heritage** (Heri02). Track Changes: Reflecting on a Transforming World. SIEF 14th Congress. Santiago de Compostela, April 2019.

SIEF is reaccredited NGO to the UNESCO 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. How does this alignment define or, in turn, complicate our field? What kind of opportunities does it entail for SIEF? What kind of constraints does it generate?

**WG Members’ Publications**


**Involvement in UNESCO Issues**

**SIEF’s (re)accreditation to UNESCO 2003 Convention** (2018)

Based on WG members’ experience in critical inquiries on policy making and legislation, in leading policy impact studies and providing research based policy advice, WG initiated reaccreditation of SIEF in order to actively contribute to international debates and decision making on intangible cultural heritage safeguarding.

**UNESCO Chair on Critical Heritage Studies and Safeguarding the Intangible Cultural Heritage** (Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium, Prof. Marc Jacobs) 2014

The specific objectives of the chair are to develop, jointly with partners, an interlocking set of (frameworks for) codes of ethics in safeguarding cultural heritage, focusing first on intangible heritage and then connecting it to other model codes of ethics in the field of culture, as well as other fields.

**UNESCO Chair on Intangible Cultural Heritage Policy and Law** (Latvian Academy of Culture, Dr. Anita Vaivade) 2017

The chair brings together scholars and students from both cultural studies (i.e. cultural anthropology, cultural sociology) and legal studies (i.e. legal history, international law, comparative law) to contribute to understanding national policies and legislation in the field of intangible cultural heritage.

**UNESCO Chair on Applied Studies of Intangible Cultural Heritage** (University of Tartu, Estonia, Prof. Kristin Kuutma) 2018

This is a unit of research and international postgraduate teaching on master and doctoral levels, with a goal to build a bridge between the academic world, civil society, local communities, and policy-making. It trains specialists who are well versed in scholarly approaches to intangible cultural heritage, and competent to use this expertise creatively in academia and beyond.

**International Research Projects**

**CoHERE Critical Heritages: performing and representing identities in Europe** (2016-2019)

Consortium member, principal investigator Prof. Ulrich Kockel research.ncl.ac.uk/cohere

The CoHERE project seeks to identify, understand and valorise European heritages, engaging with their socio-political and cultural significance and their potential for developing communitarian identities. CoHERE addresses an intensifying EU Crisis through a study of relations between identities and representations and performances of history.


Project co-director Dr. Anita Vaivade dpc.hypotheses.org/fk-projet-osmose

This research project aims at analysing the diversity of manners for translating in national laws the contemporary preoccupation to safeguard intangible cultural heritage. It’s interest is to give tools for comparison that would be useful for the reflection on the implementation of public policies based on legal instruments.

**UNESCO Frictions Heritage-making across global governance**

Principal investigator Dr. Chiara Bortolotto (2016-2019) frictions.hypotheses.org

This project explores cultural heritage policies in the era of global governance, focusing on their most recent and debated domain, that of intangible cultural heritage, and on its controversial key development, namely, the ‘participation’ of ‘communities’ in heritage identification and selection.

**Contact information**

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See also SIEF WG website Santiago de Compostela, April 2019

Photo by Anita Vaivade in Petrykivka, Ukraine, February 2018