



Sites of Memory and Heritage – Online Session 09 / 06 / 2022

Argentine Time 12 – 14 hs // German Time / CET 17 – 19hs

ZOOM link: <https://iacberlin.zoom.us/j/81093377276?pwd=WkNGYW5SR21WZExjQVJGRUdQejZDdz09>

Passcode: 256340

TOPIC: In a globalized world, matters such as cultural diversity, the protection of natural and man-made heritage, social conquests and memory are prioritized and considered urgent. The development of communications since the second half of the 20th century has fostered the notion of a multicultural society and the concept of a universal culture to support these values. Such consensus is unquestionable. However, some tensions remain with regard to these values.

World Heritage sites need to be preserved as part of the heritage of humankind as a whole, so questions arise regarding the circumstances in which sites associated with memories of recent regional or local conflicts might be seen to have a commonality for the whole of humankind and be relevant for the wider global community.

Fundamental issues relating to the purpose and scope of the narratives of recent memories and whether their values can be defined as universal are also of significance. We intend to discuss different paths or experiences that lead or are leading to different outcomes such as Auschwitz-Birkenau, listed in 1979 as World Heritage by UNESCO, the Île de Gorée, a center of the slave trade on the African coast, declared a World Heritage Site in 1978 or Museo Sitio de Memoria ESMA (ESMA Museum and Site of Memory), currently applying to become part of the list.

Tomasz Michaldo, is head of department “Methodology of guiding” at the Memorial and Museum Auschwitz-Birkenau. Graduated from history, with specialisation in modern Jewish history at the Jagiellonian University in Cracow and Postgraduate Museum Studies at the Jagiellonian University. Has been involved with the Auschwitz Museum as a guide since 2011, and since 2013 also in the Methodology of Guiding. He is responsible for cooperation with guides, training and recruitment of candidates for guides, as well as for the development of qualification for guides cooperating with the Museum.

Eloi Coly, Chief curator of the „Maison des Esclaves“ and cite manager of Gorée Island, a World Heritage Site; consultant on the project of Revitalization of the House of Slaves, founded by the Ford Foundation (USA) and the Senegalese state, conducted by the „International Coalition of Sites of Conscience“ of which he is a founding member and lecturer; Eloi Coly worked over 35 years in the field of African cultural heritage included memorialization as specialist and is expert at the „African Union Human Rights Memorial“ (AUHRM)).

Mayki Gorosito, Executive Director of the ESMA Memory Site Museum, former Clandestine Center for Detention, Torture and Extermination. She holds a degree in Education Sciences and is an expert in international cooperation and Latin American regional integration. In 2019, she was appointed Coordinator of International Cooperation of the candidacy of the ESMA Memory Site Museum, former Clandestine Center for Detention, Torture and Extermination to the Unesco World Heritage List. Since April 2022 she is the Executive Director of the Museum.

Mauricio Cohen Salama, Director of Contents and Museographic Production of the ESMA Memory Site Museum, former Clandestine Center for Detention, Torture and Extermination. He is an expert in Organizational Development and as such was part of the team that created the ESMA Memory Site Museum between 2013 and 2015, and has contributed to the management of the institution since its inauguration. When the Argentine government decided to promote the candidacy of the ESMA Memory Site Museum to the UNESCO World Heritage List, he was appointed general coordinator of the work plan.

Moderación: Dr. Vivian Valencia, Assistant Professor at Wageningen University. She is a food systems expert, member of the Global Diplomacy Lab (from 2016–2018 on the Advisory Council) and participated in the Lab on Mass Atrocity Prevention at Museo Sitio de Memoria ESMA in 2015.

The session will be held online via Zoom in Spanish with simultaneous translation to English, and will later be shared on YouTube. The event is open to public, free of charge and will include a Q&A part.