Regionalni seminar o podvodnoj baštini
Regional Seminar on Underwater Heritage
Hotel Kolovare, 1. - 4. 10. 2009. Zadar, Croatia
Regional Seminar on Underwater Heritage
Zadar, 1st - 4th October 2009

as the implementation of the Declaration from the Ministerial Conference A Bridge
Towards a Shared Future held in Zadar in 2007

Organizers
- International Centre for Underwater Archaeology, Zadar
- Ministry of Culture of Republic of Croatia

Supported by
- UNESCO-BRESCE

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Program of the Seminar

1st day, Thursday, 1 October 2009

Entire day
- Arrival and reception of the participants at Welcome desk in hotel Kolovare

14:00 - 18:00 Short field trip to City Museum in Nin where famous conserved ships Serilia and Condura are presented with a survey of the Zaton site (departure from hotel Kolovare)

Venue: Premises of International centre for underwater archaeology

19:00 - 20:00 Promotion of the book about underwater archaeology dedicated to the late colleague dr. sc. Mario Jurišić

20:00 – 20:30 Opening of the new building of the ICUA by the Minister of Culture of Republic of Croatia mr.sc. Božo Biškupić and opening of the exhibition “Archaeological finds from recent excavations of the post-medieval shipwrecks in Croatia”

20:30 - 21:30 Welcoming cocktail

2nd day, Friday, 2 October 2009

Venue: Hotel Kolovare

9:00 – 10:00 Opening of the Seminar by the Minister of Culture of Republic of Croatia mr. sc. Božo Biškupić, the representative of UNESCO Office in Venice Marie Paule-Roudil, session leader mr. Jasen Mesić, and Acting Director of the Centre mr.sc Luka Bekić

The 1st part of the Seminar

Topic: The ratification and implementation of the UNESCO’s Convention on the Protection of Underwater Archaeological Heritage in the countries of the East Mediterranean and South East Europe.

10:00 – 10:15 Jasen Mesić
UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage

10:20 – 10:35 Katrin de Martimprey (Koeller)
The Current Status of the UNESCO 2001 Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage

10:40 – 10:55 Hristina Angelova and Kalin Dimitov
The UNESCO Convention and the Underwater Cultural Heritage of Bulgaria - Problems Related to Research, Conservation, Communication
11:00 – 11:20 Coffee break

11:20 – 11:35 Katerina Dellaporta
*Underwater Archaeology in Greece: Protection and Management*

11:40 – 11:55 Sergei Voronov and Victor Vakhonieiev
*Features of the Right Mechanisms of Protection of Underwater Heritage in Water Area of Black and Azov Seas*

12:00 – 12:15 Hanz Gunter Martin and Peter Winterstein
*Year One After Ratification. The Situation in Germany and the Input of NGOs*

12:20 – 12:35 Magdalena Petrič
*Slovenia’s Position Regarding the 2001 UNESCO Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage*

- Discussion

Venue: Hotel Kolovare

13:00 – 15:00 Lunch for all of the participants arranged by the Organizers in Hotel Kolovare

The 2nd part of the Seminar

**Topic:** The best examples of projects on the protection of underwater cultural goods and examples of international cooperation.

15:00 – 15:15 Pasko Kuzman
*Prehistoric Settlement above Water on Lake Ohrid with a Presentation of the Reconstructed Part of a Palafitte Settlement in the Bay of the Bones at Gradište, Ohrid Region, Republic Of Macedonia*

15:20 – 15:35 Valentina Todoroska
*Site "Vrbnik" - Prehistoric Pile Dwelling Settlement on Lake Ohrid at Struga, Republic Of Macedonia*

15:40 – 15:55 Jonathan Benjamin
*The Submerged Prehistory of Europe: Current and Future Studies In Underwater “Stone Age” Archaeology*

16:00 – 16:15 Hakan Oniz
*Antalya- Kemer Underwater Research and the Excavation of the Harbours of Istanbul Bathonea Ancient City*

16:20 – 16:35 Surja Lela
*A Survey of Albanian Seaside*

- Discussion
16:40 – 17:00 Coffee break

17:00 – 17:15 Snježana Vasilj
Archaeological Complex of Desilo - Hutovo blato

17:20 – 17:35 Harun Ozdas
Shipwreck Inventory Project of Turkey

17:40 – 17:55 Vasif Sahoglu
Current State of Research on Underwater Archaeology in Turkey and Activities of Ankara University Research Center for Maritime Archaeology

18:00 – 18:15 Andrej Gaspari
Research and Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage in Slovenia (1884–2009)

18:20 – 18:35 Attila J. Toth
Underwater Cultural Heritage in Hungary – How To Save Our River Heritage?

- Discussion

Venue: Restaurant “Stipe”

20:00 - 22:00 Congress Dinner for all of the participants arranged by the Organizers

3rd day, Saturday, 3 October 2009

Venue: Croatian conservation institute, Section for Conservation of Underwater Archaeological Finds

8:30 – 11:30 Workshop on the restoration and conservation of underwater archaeological finds in the workshop of the Croatian Conservation Institute in Zadar

12:30 – 14:30 Lunch break

Venue: Hotel Kolovare

14:30 – 14:45 Alison Hamer
Achieving Partnership in England’s Maritime Heritage Research and Management

14:50 – 15:05 Lenka Bulatović and Ivana Medenica
Current Results of Archaeological Survey of the Montenegrin Seabed
15:10 – 15:25  Nicolo Bruno  
Research, Protection and Evaluation of Sicilian Underwater Cultural Heritage in an International Perspective: The Soprintendenza Del Mare of Sicily

15:30 – 15:45  Fabio Ruberti  
Szent Istvan – A U/W Archaeology as an Instrument of Contemporary History

15:50 – 16:05  Eleni Loizides  
The Conservation of Underwater Heritage in Cyprus: Current and Future Challenges

16:10 – 16:25  Helena Barba Meinecke  
Underwater Archaeology in the Gulf of Mexico, Studying a 18th Century Shipwreck

- Discussion

16:30 – 17:00 Coffee break

The 3rd part of the Seminar  
Topic: Future activities of the International Centre for Underwater Archaeology – UNESCO Category II Centre in Zadar; Long-term program proposals, priorities and examples of international cooperation.

17:00 – 17:15  Igor Miholjek  
Project: Sv. Pavao Shipwreck from 16th Century near the Island of Mljet

17:20 – 17:35  Zdenko Brusić, Mate Parica, Mato Ilkić  
Research, Protection and Presentation of Late Antique Sarcophagi in the Bay Pocukmarak on Silba

17:40 – 17:55  Gordana Karović  
Searching for Šajka

18:00 – 18:15  Erbprem Vatcharangkul  
Underwater Archaeology Training Centre in Thailand

- Discussion

18:20 – 18:40 Coffee break

18:40 – 18:55  Constantin Chera  
Regional Cooperation for Underwater Heritage Research in the Black Sea

19:00 – 19:15  Iana Morozova
The Role of Universities in Exploration, Study and Protection of Underwater Heritage of Ukraine

19:20 – 19:35  Albert Hafner and Daniel Gutscher
Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage in Inland Waters. The UNESCO World Heritage Candidature “Pile Dwellings around the Alps”

- Discussion

20:00  Reading of Declaration (the Conference conclusions)

4th day, Sunday, 4 October 2009

Venue: Zadar's old city centre

9:00 – 12:00 Guided tour through the city of Zadar, with visits to the Archaeological Museum and the Museum of Antique Glass

- departure of the participants
Abstracts

The 1st part of the Seminar

Topic: The ratification and implementation of the UNESCO’s Convention on the Protection of Underwater Archaeological Heritage in the countries of the East Mediterranean and South East Europe.

Session leader: Jasen Mesić, Croatia

Time: Friday morning

Venue: Hotel Kolovare

UNESCO CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE UNDERWATER CULTURAL HERITAGE

Jasen Mesić, Ministry of Culture, Croatia

Drafting of this international legal document and its ratification opened many possibilities for cooperation on the protection and research of the underwater heritage. Croatia has, by its long-term efforts, contributed to the creation of the platform in South-East Europe based on the Convention aiming at the mutual projects on protection. Especially important are some of the regulations from the Document, (e.g. Annex) that create universal standards of the approach to the underwater heritage which is per se the most universal aspect of heritage.


Katrin de Martimprey (Koeller), UNESCO, Section of Museums and Cultural Objects

“How can you call this planet earth, when it is quite clearly water?”

While over the last century, archaeological sites on land have yielded an abundance of information on the development of civilizations, the oceans, which cover the larger part of our planet, still retain many of their secrets. Underwater cultural heritage is as important as cultural heritage on land and certainly not less rich than this. Nonetheless, looting of underwater cultural heritage and the destruction of its context are increasing rapidly and threaten to deprive humanity of this heritage.

On 2 January 2009, the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage entered into force, three months to the day after being ratified by a 20th State. ‘From now on, it will be possible to offer legal protection to the historical memory in underwater cultural heritage, thus curtailing the growing illicit trade by looters,’ rejoiced UNESCO Director-General Koichiro Matsuura.

The UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage enables States to better protect humanity’s underwater heritage. In the course of the year 2009, a lot of progress has already been made. The ratification process went on steadily, to date there are 26 States Parties – a major participation can be observed from Eastern Europe.
In March of this year, the States Parties to the Convention came together for their First Session of the Meeting of States Parties at UNESCO headquarters in Paris. They adopted the Rules of Procedure of the Meeting, created the Scientific and Technical Advisory Body and adopted its Statutes. The Second session of the Meeting, which will elect the Members to the Advisory Body and discuss Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the Convention, is already under preparation for 1 - 3 December 2009.

**THE UNESCO CONVENTION AND THE UNDERWATER CULTURAL HERITAGE OF BULGARIA – PROBLEMS RELATED TO RESEARCH, CONSERVATION, COMMUNICATION**

Hristina Angelova, Centre for Underwater Archaeology, Bulgaria
Kalin Dimitrov, Centre for Thracology, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria

The presentation will focus on the protection, preservation and investigation of the underwater cultural heritage in Bulgaria and the legislative framework developed in accordance with the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage.

The Centre for Underwater Archaeology is the competent authority in Bulgaria responsible for the protection and preservation of the Bulgarian underwater cultural heritage. It is a state cultural institute – a legal entity with a subsidiary budget to the general budget of the Ministry of Culture. The activities of the Centre for Underwater Archaeology are aimed at: investigation, recording and protection of the underwater cultural heritage of Bulgaria (the Bulgarian Black Sea coast, rivers and lakes) by applying multidisciplinary scientific research methods; scientific processing and interpretation of the data and finds acquired as a result of underwater archaeological research; scientific, informational and expert activities and consultancy in the field of underwater archaeological research; organization of national and international events in the field of underwater archaeology; organization of exhibitions, promotion of cultural heritage and publishing activities in Bulgaria and abroad; training in the field of underwater archaeology.

A special attention will be paid to the underwater archaeological research of the Centre: diving surveys, geophysical prospecting, archaeological excavations (the first international underwater archaeological excavation of a sunken ship in the Black Sea in 2000-2003 in the southern bay of Kiten in collaboration with the Institute of Nautical Archaeology, Texas, USA; the most successful underwater excavations of inundated prehistoric settlements of Late Chalcolithic /end of the Vth. mill.B.C./ and Early Bronze Age /IIIrd mill.B.C./ discovered all along the Bulgarian coast (Durankulak, Shabla, more than 13 settlements in the Lakes of Varna, Atiya, Sozopol, the Ropotamo River outflow, Kiten). The problems they pose are related to the palaeoclimate changes of the Bulgarian Black Sea coast as well as to sea level changes and coastal migrations in time and require the application of a multidisciplinary approach in their study and the involvement of specialists from many different fields: geophysics, geology, geomorphology, micro- and macro-palaeontology, dendrochronology, C14 dating, etc. Some of the main results will be presented, as well as the Centre’s current projects and future perspectives.

**UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGY IN GREECE: PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT**
Katerina Dellaporta, Ministry of Culture, Greece

The problems of protecting underwater antiquities are different from and greater than those of antiquities found on dry land. The difficulties of managing and protecting underwater archaeological sites are due in great part to the following factors:
1) The natural environment. We have the difficulty of identifying, defining/fencing off, and therefore guarding underwater archaeological sites, in contrast to those on dry land;
2) The geomorphology of Greece. A country whose seas contain 3,500 islands and island clusters and an intricate expanse of coastline around 17,000 kilometers long that corresponds to 25% of the total shoreline of the Mediterranean, second in size in Europe only to Norway.
3) The idiosyncratic nature of underwater antiquities. In the case of shipwrecks, these have the disadvantage of being numerous and scattered throughout Greek waters, and their cargo, usually amphorae, of lying free on the surface of the sea bottom and consequently more exposed to danger from human intervention.

FEATURES OF THE RIGHT MECHANISMS OF PROTECTION OF UNDERWATER HERITAGE IN WATER AREA OF BLACK AND AZOV SEAS

Sergiy O. Voronov, Institute of Archaeology of National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Department of underwater heritage of Ukraine
Victor V. Vakhonieiev, Institute of Archaeology of National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Department of underwater heritage of Ukraine

Department of underwater heritage of Ukraine is the main scientific organization of Ukraine in the sphere of underwater archaeology, on which it is fixed control after quality and expedience of leadthrough of underwater archaeological researches and their co-ordination on all territory of Ukraine, leadthrough of scientific archaeological examination and planned underwater-archaeological research. The research program of consist of five-year, stage-by-stage research of the historical and archaeological known and recently discovered sites which are submerged within the limits of national jurisdiction. The program foresees the complex study Black sea shelf while bringing in specialized scientific Ukrainian and foreign establishments.

Analysis of research in the period from 2001 to 2009 allows us to establish that large-scale plunder of underwater sights goes in an aquatorium that belong to jurisdiction of Ukraine. Dismantling of sights is conducted two basic directions: those which have diving equipment private enterprises and private tourist firms (diving centers). Lately, to the process of destruction of objects the row of the specialized state enterprise was added which conduct diving operations on rendering and deactivation explosive from 1and 2 World wars and USSR times. From 2000, facts of wide plunder of objects are fixed at depths 100-120 m.

The Program of Department is organization of study and maintenance of the opened underwater sights, exposure of archaeological territories for realization of account of cultural heritage, popularization unique underwater-archaeological complexes, the realization of International Convention UNESCO on the protection of underwater cultural heritage. Strengthening of urbanization in the second half of XX
century, natural decomposition of considerable part of the sights, active geological processes and changes of hydrological terms, increase of volume of harmful upcasts, numerous violations of current legislation (plunder and elimination of objects), many known sights led that tested serious damaged. Next to that there are all necessary pre-conditions for creation of mechanism them the effective use as objects domestic and international underwater-archaeological tourism, with subsequent direction of money from exploitation of sights on their maintenance and preservation.

The research result is creating the deep underwater sector in modern Ukrainian archaeology. Findings and expedition discoveries initiated founding of Marine Museum of Ukraine with underwater exhibits, which in turn created the civilized area for underwater tourism.

**1YEAR ONE AFTER RATIFICATION. THE SITUATION IN GERMANY AND THE INPUT OF NGOS**

Hanz Günter Martin, DEGUWA, Germany
Peter Winterstein, DEGUWA, Germany

The DEGUWA is a NGO with activities in excavations, teaching, publishing and promoting all aspects of underwater archaeology (see [www.deguwa.org](http://www.deguwa.org)). We followed the process of the forming of the UNESCO convention attentively and participated at the final Paris session in 2001. Since then we started our lobby work in order to convince German politicians to ratify the convention. We didn't have immediate success, since Germany is not among the first 20 states that ratified the convention.

Therefore in January 2009 we launched a public campaign aiming a citizen’s petition. We found numerous help and collected more than 5000 signatures of supporters to that petition. It was presented to the German parliament in August, 25th. We have encouraging signals that Germany may ratify the convention.

**SLOVENIA’S POSITION REGARDING THE 2001 UNESCO CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION OF UNDERWATER CULTURAL HERITAGE**

Magdalena Petrič, Ministry of Culture, Cultural Heritage Directorate, Slovenia

National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia ratified the 2001 UNESCO Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage (hereinafter: Convention) on 19 September 2007, Slovenia deposited the instrument of ratification on 18 September 2008 and became State Party to the convention on 2 January 2009 at the time the Convention entered in force. With this ratification Slovenia became State Party to all UNESCO conventions in the field of protection of cultural heritage. Slovenia is also State Party to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (revised). With ratifying international contracts we attain better legal base for protection of underwater cultural heritage, with prescribed measures in the conventions the protection will become more effective.

The Convention provides for reports, information, declarations or notifications of State Party. Up to now only few States Parties have transmitted declarations and communications requested by the Convention. Like many other States Parties, Slovenia has not submitted either mandatory declaration or optional declarations.
Slovenian sea is rich on underwater cultural heritage. This heritage like other cultural heritage under state’s jurisdiction enjoys protection under Cultural Heritage Protection Act. The presentation describes how is underwater cultural heritage protected in existing national law, what should be changed regarding the implementation of the Convention, issues in implementing some provisions of the Convention, some views of further elaborations of Convention in operational guidelines.

**The 2nd part of the Seminar**

**Topic:** The best examples of projects on the protection of underwater cultural goods and examples of international cooperation.

**Session leader:** Jasen Mesić, Croatia

**Time:** Friday afternoon and Saturday afternoon

**Venue:** Hotel Kolovare

**PREHISTORIC SETTLEMENT ABOVE WATER ON LAKE OHRID WITH A PRESENTATION OF THE RECONSTRUCTED PART OF A PALAFITTE SETTLEMENT IN THE BAY OF THE BONES AT GRADISHTIE, OHRID REGION, REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA**

Pasko Kuzman, Cultural Heritage Protection Office, Ministry of Culture, FYRO Macedonia

In the past couple of years were discovered three Prehistoric pile-dwelling settlements along the eastern coast of Lake Ohrid.

In 1997 were performed the first underwater archaeological investigations at the site Plocha Michov Grad in the Bay of the Bones along the south coast of Gradishtie peninsula. At a depth of 3.00-4.00 m we discovered numerous wooden piles pinned at the lake bed and numerous movable archaeological material, chronologically belonging to the end of Bronze and beginning of Iron Age. In the following years, until 2006, the second campaign of underwater research at this site had been performed. We discovered, numbered, measured and positioned more than 6.000 piles. We brought to the surface from the lake bed movable archaeological material, mainly ceramic – integral and fragmented ceramic vessels. They were marked according to the position of the numbered piles.

In the course of the same year, in November, we discovered remains of another pile-dwelling settlement at the site Nadol in the Bay of the Swank. At a depth of 7.00-9.00 m under the water surface we registered wooden piles and movable archaeological material (ceramics, ceramic tools). We also performed test underwater investigations consisting mainly of surveying and photo-documenting of the remains of this settlement. According to the character and the specifics of the finds, it had been determined that this settlements dates to the end of Bronze Age as well.

In July 1999 we discovered the third settlement along the eastern coast of Lake Ohrid. In this case, it is an area comprising the northern shoreline of the village of Peshtani in part of the so-called Bay of the Bombs. The discovery occurred by an
accidental find of a wooden pile on the coast, as well as of numerous fragmented ceramics, which is typologically almost identical with the ceramic production from the previous two pile-dwelling settlements.

There is a presumption for the existence of yet another Prehistoric settlement in the waters of Lake Ohrid and namely, at the shore and in the lake at the site “Vojna plaza” (or “Military Beach”), located to the west of the monastic complex of St. Nahum.

On the 8th of December 2008 we promoted the reconstruction of 8 prehistoric houses placed on a wooden platform on piles in the Lake. In this manner we performed the planned investigation, protection, conservation and revitalization program for the entire area and the shoreline.

SITE "VRBNIK" - PREHISTORIC PILE DWELLING SETTLEMENT ON LAKE OHRID AT STRUGA, REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

Valentina Todoroska, FYRO Macedonia

UNESCO Convention on the protection of underwater cultural heritage was created in Paris, France on November 2, 2001.

Law on Protection of Cultural Heritage of the Republic of Macedonia applied from January 1, 2005 and covers the protection of underwater heritage in Macedonia. Republic of Macedonia became a member of UNESCO on June 28, 1993 god. Under the protection of the organization here is the Ohrid region with its cultural, historical and natural rarities. Ohrid basin is naturally divided into two parts: Ohrid and Struga region, surrounded by high mountains which extend to 2,000 meters. Data and traditions left by many historians, travelers, chroniclers and explorers confirmed the existence of archaeological artifacts on the shore, but also in the waters of the lake that are today more or less known to the public.

One of the less known and excavated is the site Vrbnik. The first findings on this site date from the 80s of the last century, when the locals noticed wooden poles in the lake. Excavations that started in 1988 were conducted by the Museum of Macedonia in cooperation with the Struga Museum and the Union of diving associations of R. of Macedonia and they continue with interruptions until 2003.

The excavations have shown that Vrbnik is a settlement (800 x 200 meters). Movable archaeological material consists of fragments and whole ceramic vessels, objects made of bronze and iron, which were discovered in a layer of mud.

Besides archaeological importance, Vrbnik is important because of diverse flora and fauna. I should mention some of its specifics:
- this area is known as a spawning site of fish carp,
- this is a unique place in whole Macedonia where Lokvan plant exists, and
- this area is one of the largest complexes of cane on the coast of Lake Ohrid.

Because of the complexity of the site, its size and known facts, Vrbnik deserves to be presented at the international level and through the implementation of the UNESCO Convention for the protection of underwater cultural heritage, the need for its ratification in Macedonia would be expressed.

THE SUBMERGED PREHISTORY OF EUROPE: CURRENT AND FUTURE STUDIES IN UNDERWATER ‘STONE AGE’ ARCHAEOLOGY
Jonathan Benjamin, University of Edinburgh, Scotland, UK

Major events of human prehistory, such as the post-glacial recolonization of Northern Europe and the spread of agriculture though the Mediterranean, took place across landscapes that are now, at least partially, underwater — the consequence of global sea-level rise and regional crustal subsidence since the Late Pleistocene. Much of the submerged landscapes lie at depths accessible to divers and can be investigated archaeologically. Prehistoric underwater research has emerged in recent decades from the western Baltic to the eastern Mediterranean and methodology can be applied to coastal regions throughout Europe and its surrounding environs. Moreover, there is a growing awareness of the potential for underwater archaeology to transform our ideas about key events in prehistory. Regionally, the Adriatic is an important location for future study. Between 7000 BC and 5400 BC (the period of the Mesolithic/Neolithic transition) the Adriatic Sea rose 15 meters from -20m below present MSL to -5m. Coastal sites older than 5400 cal BC are likely to have been submerged during the transgression. Underwater archaeology has the potential to transform our ideas about the transition from foraging to farming, in this region and throughout Europe. This paper will examine existing practices and discuss new developments in the field of submerged prehistoric landscapes.

ANTALYA- KEMER UNDERWATER RESEARCH AND THE EXCAVATION OF THE HARBOURS OF ISTANBUL BATHONEA ANCIENT CITY

Hakan Oniz, Selcuk University, Dept. of Underwater Archaeology, Konya – Turkey

Teams from Eastern Mediterranean University, Cyprus International University and Selcuk University of Konya have realized two underwater studies at the coast of Turkey in the summer of 2009. First study is an underwater research between Kemer and Adrasan of Antalya-Turkey. Two ancient shipwrecks and a lot of archaeological remains have been found by side scanning and standard underwater survey methods. Second one is the excavation of the harbors of Bathonea Ancient city (Istanbul - Kucukcekmece Lake). These two harbors have been found under the vegetation and in the lake waters in 2008. Some remains from Neolithic, Helenistic, Roman, Byzantion and Ottoman periods also found on the Peninsula of Kucukcekmece Lake. This lake had a wide connection to the Marmara Sea and it was safety natural harbour for ships on the rotation between Aegean and Black seas. International teams from Kocaeli University, Istanbul University, Eastern Mediterranean University and Lahey University have started to the excavations in 2009 on the historical peninsula.

A SURVEY OF ALBANIAN SEASIDE

Surja Lela, Archaeological Service Agency, Albania

Albania remains the less studied country of West Mediterranean regarding the search and study of maritime archaeology, although it’s potential historical and political context. On 11.12.2008 Albania ratified “The Convection for the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage (Paris 2001)”.
The first steps of the Albanian underwater archaeology map
A survey of the Albanian seaside as an attempt to create the Albanian underwater
archaeology map started on 2007. The first faze of the project was focused on the
southern Albanian coast from the Stillo Cape to the south to the Bay of Saranda to
the north. The scan of the seaside made possible the first 3-D underwater maps. The
first year of the project resulted very productive. The scan discovered 14 medieval
and modern relics. Another one was dated at IV – III century B.C.
The scan of the seaside continued to the north of the Bay of Saranda during 2008.
This season corresponded with discover of two relics dated at VI and IV century B.C.
The 3-D underwater archaeology map was further elaborated during the 2009
campaign.

Methodology
Vessels: 33-m R/V Hercules and Plan B
Scanning through survey multibeam echosounder.
Model type EM3002D of Kongsberg Maritime Division.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL COMPLEX OF DESILO - HUTOVO BLATO

Snježan Vasilj, University of Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina

The lake Desilo is an underwater archaeological site in Bosnia and
Herzegovina. It was registered for the first time in 1972 but the real researches
started in 2007 and 2008 and that is when we realized its complete significance. After
3 underwater researches lot of interesting materials were found, so now we can treat
Desilo site as a site where we can observe its cultural layers continuously from
prehistory to late middle age. Although all questions still can’t be answered, we are
expecting that some mysteries will be solved with the research of the fort and
settlement and necropolis that is located very near to the lake. All this is located quite
close to Narona, which seems to be crucial site from the last centuries BC for the
area of Neretva and Hutovo blato. Desilo lake is a great example of this direct
connection with Narona.

SHIPWRECK INVENTORY PROJECT OF TURKEY

Harun Ozdas, Dokuz Eylul University, Institute of Marine Science and Technology,
Turkey

Underwater archaeology in Turkey began in 1960 with the Gelidonya
shipwreck excavation. Since that time, twelve shipwrecks have been excavated and
over a hundred shipwrecks discovered. Eleven of these excavations were done in
conjunction with the American Institute of Nautical Archaeology. Over the last fifty
years, Turkey has acquired more experience in underwater archaeology than most
countries and has collected an enormous amount of data about Mediterranean and
Aegean underwater cultural remains. The Bodrum Underwater Archaeological
Museum was founded as a natural result of the large amount of underwater research
that has been conducted in Turkey.

There is currently a project sponsored by Dokuz Eylul University, Institute of
Marine Sciences and Technology, which is creating an inventory and scientific
archive of underwater cultural heritage. The project is called the “Shipwreck Inventory
Project of Turkey”. A national underwater cultural heritage GIS system and scientific
database has already been created, and underwater surveys have been conducted to locate and record shipwrecks and other findings. This project was initiated in 2005 and still continues today. It remains one of the most important projects related to the cultural heritage of Turkey that is supported by The Scientific & Technological Research Council of Turkey. When the results of this project have been obtained, sustainable economical models for the preservation of underwater heritage can be established. During the course of this work, Turkey is open to any kind or level of international cooperation.

CURRENT STATE OF RESEARCH ON UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGY IN TURKEY AND ACTIVITIES OF ANKARA UNIVERSITY RESEARCH CENTER FOR MARITIME ARCHAEOLOGY (ANKÜSAM)

Vasif Şahoğlu, Ankara University, Research Center for Maritime Archaeology, Turkey

Turkey is one of the countries which boast of a rich underwater cultural heritage. Besides being surrounded by sea on three sides, the fact that it has been home to many and varied civilizations throughout its history is the prime reason for this richness. Due to this variety and affluence, first archaeological excavations underwater were carried out in the Turkish territorial waters and numerous underwater research projects are currently being undertaken by various foundations and establishments.

Unfortunately one of the biggest problems concerning underwater cultural heritage is the scarcity of sufficient work for inventorying this heritage and the difficulties concerning and inadequacy of protective measures. Similar problems have certainly been faced throughout the world, and despite the fact that some headway has been made there underwater still remains a lot of ground to cover. This paper will outline the history and current position of underwater archaeology in Turkey and will then focus on research of Ankara University Research Center for Maritime Archaeology (ANKÜSAM).

The starting point for the foundation of ANKÜSAM was the underwater excavations carried out at Liman Tepe, located in Urla district of Izmir. The aim for founding such a centre was to counterbalance the deficiencies in the field of underwater archaeology in Turkey as well as to develop and put into practice national and international policies in this field. Liman Tepe excavations, which have been headed by Prof. Dr. Hayat Erkanal of Ankara University within the framework of Izmir Region Excavations and Research Project (IRERP), have also included underwater excavations and research since 2000. The underwater excavations started in cooperation with Haifa University (Israel) but are being independently carried out by ANKÜSAM since 2006. These excavations have focused on a massive pier and associated breakwater as well as within the harbour itself. As a result of our research, two harbour floors dating to the 6th and 4th centuries BC have been identified, with further stratified levels beneath. Excavations to date the construction of the massive pier are still underway.

Geomorphological research concurrent with the underwater excavations is trying to document coastline changes throughout history and interpret possible effects these changes had on the settlement. This research, headed by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Joe Boyce of McMaster University (Canada) has so far established that the oldest coastline yet documented lies some 400 m to the north under the current sea level. Higher topographic features were also encountered during this research, which may
be the remains of ancient settlements. These features will also be investigated in future years.

Another subject which is of utmost importance for ANKÜSAM is the training of qualified personnel which is currently very scarce. An educated and experienced team composed of academic staff and students from Ankara University has already been formed and plans are currently being formulated to extend this training countrywide.

RESEARCH AND PROTECTION OF UNDERWATER CULTURAL HERITAGE IN SLOVENIA (1884–2009)

Andrej Gaspari, Military Museum of Slovenian Armed Forces, Slovenia

Despite the fact that one of the earliest interventions at underwater archaeological sites took place in Ljubljanica riverbed near Vrhnika, ancient Nauportus, in 1884, the path towards the organized governmental body dealing with the research and protection of underwater cultural heritage at Slovenian coast of Adriatic and continental waters seemed leading nowhere till 2003. Episodic nature of interventions between 50ies and 80ies was then upgraded with the institution of Group for Underwater Archaeology and in this framework a small team of archaeologists-divers managed to conduct numerous projects despite chronically underfunding and lack of personnel. The majority of research was of preventive character as rescue surveys and excavations in rivers and seabed before infrastructural construction building as ports, bridges, power plants etc. Major endeavors include multi-beam sonar measurements of Roman ports and fisheries in the Adriatic, recording and documentation of shipwrecks from different periods, discoveries of Mesolithic hunters’ camp site, Roman cargo vessel and numerous logboats in Ljubljanica and its tributaries, Bronze Age warriors cult place at the outflow of the world famous Bled Lake, medieval sword in Lahinja river and a lot more. Raising of public awareness through inclusion of local divers communities and through media campaigns represent another issue where Group in engaged with. We should not forget the well accepted publications and television documentaries, as well as our openness for international collaboration in the field of promotion underwater cultural heritage.

UNDERWATER CULTURAL HERITAGE IN HUNGARY – HOW TO SAVE OUR RIVER HERITAGE?

Attila Toth, National Office of Cultural Heritage, Hungary

Hungary is an inland state so our heritage sites covered by rivers and lakes, which is a different environment to maritime archaeology. The currents and the poor visibility make researches difficult, but they also protect our sites. The first efforts to organize underwater excavation was made in the mid 80’s near Bőlcske, at a Roman fortified landing post, in the Danube river. But we have no institutional background for underwater archaeology.

The national office of Cultural heritage has a general responsibility for archaeological heritage, and the network of regional museums covers the whole country neither these institutions nor the newly founded “Field Service for Cultural Heritage” has no underwater archaeological division. There is no underwater
archaeologist as a profession in Hungary. The Underwater Archaeological Division of the Hungarian Archaeological and Art-Historical Society is a non-profit civil organization, which collect underwater archaeologist and divers, who would like to save our heritage.

The surveys, carried out in a number of locations by the Division present us wide spectra of sites, and problems of heritage protection. Our rivers are so riches in underwater sites (logboats, wrecks, bridges, ports, wooden architecture, and old garbage concentrations) that the weight of river archaeology is more impressive in archaeological science as we supposed before. The present day violent climatic events highlight the importance of the river environment in cultural, economical, political developments of the past.

In our presentation we will show some examples of Hungarian achievements in the field of underwater heritage protection: the Queen Mary project, and a possibility of a river archaeological center; the Argonauts Program and the cross-border cooperation; the early 17th c. Solt wreck and the importance of civilian cooperation for better protection.

Hungarian politics are not joined to UNESCO Convention, but an active group of professionals and civilians accepts it, and uses it in their practice!

ACHIEVING PARTNERSHIPS IN ENGLAND’S MARITIME HERITAGE RESEARCH AND MANAGEMENT

Alison Hamer, English Heritage, United Kingdom

In the seven years since English Heritage assumed some responsibilities for the historic environment of England’s seared, many advances have been made in the physical management of the submerged heritage. To date 46 shipwrecks have legal status under The Protection of Wrecks Act 1973 ranging from the remains of Late Bronze Age cargo scatters to early 20th Century submarines. Partnerships have been formed with Government Departments and Agencies, and a number of key organisations to ensure maritime heritage is high on their agendas. This presentation will summarise English Heritage’s work to promote maritime heritage research and management through a series of effective and sustainable partnerships. Examples from case studies will identify successes and failures.

CURRENT RESULTS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE MONTENEGRIN SEABED

Lenka Bulatović, Center for Archaeological Research of Montenegro
Ivana Medenica, Center for Archaeological Research of Montenegro

This presentation covers a short history of the exploration of Montenegrin seabed and includes and overview of the hitherto evidenced underwater archeological sites in this country. Considering the presently unsatisfactory condition of underwater archaeology in Montenegro, the study stresses importance of an organised systematical approach to this problem and the necessity of urgent actions towards improvement of its state.
RESEARCH, PROTECTION AND EVALUATION OF SICILIAN UNDERWATER CULTURAL HERITAGE IN AN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE: THE SOPRINTENDENZA DEL MARE OF SICILY

Nicolo Bruno, Soprintendenza del Mare, Italy

Sea is not only a great biological reservoir, but also an immense historical and cultural archive whose benefits should invest not only the scholars but also all citizens. Today underwater archaeological research is an highly technological task that must give answer to the requirements of historical research as well as to the spirit of knowledge of the people. Moreover we have to limit the practice to rescue objects from the bottom of sea. Our museums are full of amphorae, anchors and other paraphernalia coming from the sea bed, today UNESCO guidelines teach to protect cultural heritage in situ, for the valorization of underwater sites. On the other side a major cultural sensibility should be taught to the divers that want to exploit the happiness of a dive in a beautiful sea. In order to avoid illegal activity against cultural underwater heritage we have to fight on different fields. Educative programmes must be addressed mainly to those people that have close connections with sea activity such as charters and diving companies, as well as clubs and associations. Those are the best guards of the cultural underwater heritage because it is on this field that they can optimise and increase their commercial offer.

In Sicily we selected some underwater archaeological sites and entrusted them to such associations or single divers with a regular annual contract. Those divers or association are allowed to lead the divers around the sites, but they have the responsibility of the archaeological objects and contexts left on the sea bed. Many underwater guided tours are made for divers, and a virtual visit is possible by a remote control webcam system, available in internet too.

It is worth to be remembered that Sicilian Soprintendenza del Mare is not dealing only with underwater archaeological heritage, but also with more recent heritage up to modern period. Now days diving and sea activities show a great appeal. We realized that it will be very important to organise the underwater archaeological sites allowing a controlled visit through the help of diving associations and companies.

Underwater cultural heritage management is rapidly increasing, but till some years ago this important aspect of our heritage was left behind. First of all we are controlling seas around Sicily with the help of Coast Guard, Carabinieri and Guardia di Finanza in order to avoid sacking and controlling new and old sites. Thirdly we are building a GIS of underwater cultural heritage of Sicily that till now shows about 1000 sites. Beside all we organize also an intense activity of scientific education towards school and people in order to spread the respect and knowledge of underwater cultural heritage. Different archaeological missions, in collaboration with local authorities, are operating in Turkey, Libya and Japan, according international cooperation.

SZENT ISTVAN PROJECT – THE U/W ARCHAEOLOGY AS AN INSTRUMENT OF CONTEMPORARY HISTORY

Fabio Ruberti, IANTD Expeditions, Italy
The Szent Istvan Project represents good examples not only of an international cooperation, but of a profitable cooperation between a Government Institution and a private enterprise as well.

In fact, the project has been developed by the Italian company IANTD S.r.l. with the appointment and support of the Croatian Ministry of Culture – Restoration Department.

The Szent Istvan project until now organized and carried out three expeditions on the wreck of the Austro-Hungarian Battleship Szent Istvan, sunk on 10 June 1918 by Italian Navy torpedo boats. The shipwreck has a huge importance for many European countries that fought each other in World War One and now cooperate in the construction of a common and shared European identity.

The shipwreck lies in 60 meters of depth in front of the Dalmatian island of Premuda, it has been explored and measured by divers using modern techniques of mixed gas diving.

The necessity to implement U/W Archaeology to study and preserve also modern and contemporary wrecks is very important to support the History researches as well, to better understand historical facts and events of those ages. The Polluce affaire in Italy unveiled this true necessity, the politics adopted by the Croatian Culture Ministry has been revealed wise and proper.

During several campaigns and the three IANTD Expeditions in 2003, 2005 and 2009 the Szent Istvan’s shipwreck has been studied, measured to create a 3D reconstruction of the site and numerous artifacts have been rescued and restored.

THE CONSERVATION OF UNDERWATER HERITAGE IN CYPRUS: CURRENT AND FUTURE CHALLENGES

Eleni Loizides, Department of antiquities, Cyprus

This presentation will aim to highlight the challenges faced by the Department of Antiquities in the field of Underwater Heritage in Cyprus. Its main focus will be the initial steps taken towards the conservation and preservation of finds from underwater sites concentrating on a pilot programme for the conservation of amphorae lifted from the site of Mazotos on the South coast of the island.

UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE GULF OF MEXICO, STUDYING A 18TH CENTURY SHIPWRECK

Helena Barba Meinecke, National Institute of Anthropology and History, Mexico

The National Institute of Anthropology and History has developed works for Protection, Conservation, Research and Dissemination of the Cultural Underwater Heritage, in the western waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Among the most outstanding results are the localization, register and interpretation of more than a hundred submerged archaeological sites e.g. ships and isolated elements like cannons, anchors, pottery and lithic (Centuries 17th to 20th).

Within this framework, multidisciplinary research was done in the wreckage “El Pesquero”. This is the most ancient, identified and analyzed one in the region. Its systematic research consisted on underwater prospection, remote sensing, biological and archaeological recording, submarine excavation, and documentary research.
The 3rd part of the Seminar

**Topic:** Future activities of the International Centre for Underwater Archaeology – UNESCO Category II Centre in Zadar; Long-term program proposals, priorities and examples of international cooperation.

**Session leader:** Jasen Mesić, Croatia

**Time:** Saturday evening

**Venue:** Hotel Kolovare

**PROJECT: SV. PAVAO SHIPWRECK FROM 16TH CENTURY NEAR THE ISLAND OF MLJET**

Igor Miholjek, Croatian Conservation Institute, Croatia

Within the collaboration between the diving centers and the Ministry of Culture on the protection of cultural heritage the Diving centre „Medveščak-Sava” from Zagreb organized in 2006 a diving camp on the island of Mljet. The intention of the camp was to educate new members on values and significance of protected cultural goods, cultural heritage and to raise ecological awareness. While diving in shallow waters of St. Paul the group of divers found on the depth of 40 m remains of a modern age shipwreck. Since they were for many years associates of Ministry of Culture and Croatian Conservation Institute they reported the location to authorized institutions.

The professional inspection was done by Department for Cultural Heritage Protection Inspection of Ministry of Culture and the Department for Underwater Archaeology of Croatian Conservation Institute as well as by Harbormasters’ office from Dubrovnik and by divers from the Special Police. The inspection confirmed that the site was intact. They noticed 6 bronze cannons and a large number of ceramic, glass and metal artifacts as well as remains of wooden ship. The research on this valuable and well preserved archeological site began in 2007 by an urgent action of raising the cannons and all other artifacts noticed at the site. The systematic investigation was continued during 2008 and 2009 and as result two more cannons and more than 300 different artifacts were raised from the sea. Professional expertise of raised objects indicated that ship carried luxurious cargo from the workshops in Orient into one of the European ports.

The archeological findings of the shipwreck can be dated in 16th century. It is important to mention that in these two, organizationally and financially demanding archeological investigations several organizations were included. For the needs of research the National Park Mljet provided his research base, several diving centers participated as well as several diving companies. Worth mentioning are also the divers of the Special Police and of Section for the Conservation of Underwater Archaeological Findings in Zadar where the artifacts were desalinated, conserved and one part was restored.

In the future we plan to include international experts who have shown great interest for the participation on the projects because such a unique and valuable site should be investigated within the international scientific projects.
RESEARCH, PROTECTION AND PRESENTATION OF LATE ANTIQUE SARCOPHAGI IN THE BAY POCUKMARAK ON SILBA

Zdenko Brusić, University of Zadar, Croatia
Mate Parica, University of Zadar, Croatia
Mato Ilkić, University of Zadar, Croatia

Sarcophagi (from Greek sarkos = meet and fageîn = to eat, the one who eats meet), stone coffins with covers, sometimes with rich relief decorations were used in the antique as tombs. They were used more often in the Early Christian Times from the 4th to the 6th centuries, when the decoration were often reduced to the symbol of cross.

Simple Early Christian sarcophagi on Croatian coast and islands were mainly manufactured on the island of Brač and were ordered by richer members of Christian community.

On the island of Silba a Liburnian settlement was identified above the inlet of Vele Stene. The territorial side of the settlement was protected by a stone mound, and the sea side by sloping cliffs. Today visible remains of drystone constructions at the top of the sloping cliff and numerous pottery fragments are the only material culture remains of the Liburnians who lived on the silvan island (whose name Silva was to derive from that term) and were engaged in livestock breeding. Through the port in today inlet of Sv. Ante and with their vessels they were connected to neighboring settlements on the islands and coastal area, more than a hundred of which have been identified by now.

At the end of the first millennium B.C. the Rome established its governance over the Liburnians who accepted the acquisitions of the antique civilization, mainly new building techniques, usage of mortar, ceramic elements and other products of the advanced manufacture economy, while the market for their stock products (livestock, dry meet, wool, cheese, ect.) was wide open. The settlement above Vele Stene was abandoned and during the first or the second century A.D. the farm rural facility at the inlet of Pocukmarak hinterland was built. Today it is barely recognizable by few mortar ashlar stones and pottery fragments in long ago cleared land of the later Silba inhabitants.

The christian communities, that went through heavy prosecutions during the first centuries of the Empire, gained fully freedom and started building churches at the fourth century. Therefore, enriched and Romanized Liburnians, according to new Christian doctrine, built in Silba a church for their community. We can assume that the church was built at the part of today sacristy of St. Marko’s church at Silba's cemetery and was devoted to the same saint. In and around the church a necropolis (cemetery) was formed, and one or more enriched Silban families, during the 5th and 6th century ordered sarcophagi for the funeral of their family members and placed them inside the church itself ot in its close proximity.

Political changes that took place in the Empire foretold its nearly end, and it came even before the great movement of the people changed the idyllic picture of this part of the Empire. The part of the inhabitants escaped to the islands and further via Italy and new immigrants, the Croats who accepted the Christianity and invaded the coastal area, reached Silba and other islands. The Old Christian title of St. Marko was preserved in the name of the later church, as well as in the name of the little port of Pocukmarak.
The new population used the sarcophagi and their covers as good building material for a little mole in the inlet of Pocukmarak. The sarcophagi were covered by stone pile and preserved until today. Therefore, after the exploration we present these Early Christian tombs under the sea, so an ordinary swimmer with just a a mask could meet the small part of Silban and Croatian heritage.

SEARCHING FOR ŠAJKA

Gordana Karović, Aqua et Archaeologia, Serbia

After a brief retrospective on the current situation in the field of underwater archaeology in Serbia and information of where we are in the process of ratification of the UNESCO Convention on the protection of underwater cultural heritage, a project “Searching for šajka” is going to be presented in main features. “Searching for šajka” is the project of historical and archaeological investigation and documenting of sunken historical ships in our rivers and is expected to present a support to the policy of the protection of underwater archaeological sites in Serbia. Our final goal is to find material remains of šajka and, as this was a type of ship that navigated along the Middle and Lower Danube area and along its main tributaries, we will use this regional meeting to invite for cooperation and try to make this project an international one.

UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGY TRAINING CENTER IN THAILAND

Erbprem Vatcharangkul, The Thai Underwater Archaeology Division, Thailand

Since the beginning of the archaeological investigation of shipwrecks in 1974 up to present, 64 shipwrecks could be exactly located both in the Gulf of Thailand and Andaman Sea, Indian Ocean. The Thai Underwater Archaeology has operated by 12 experienced divers. The permanent office is in Chanthaburi, 250 Km. Southeast of Bangkok, Thailand.

From 1979 to 1981, the Government of Thailand offered to host a special training programme was arranged in co-operation with SPAFA (SEAMEO Project in Archaeology and Fine Arts). They were six classes with total of 56 students, including archaeologist and technician from SEAMEO member countries (Philippine, Malaysia, Vietnam, Laos, Indonesia and Brunei Darusalam).

Also from 1997 to present, they were three training courses with 50 volunteers in the underwater archaeology volunteer training courses. In addition, the Students’Committee in Silapakorn University, with Underwater Archaeology Division arranged another Underwater Archaeology training programmes. They were nine classes with total of 122 students.

The year 2009, the Thai government and UNESCO Bangkok agreed to set up the Foundation courses and Advanced courses in Thailand. This project was formulated in response to the recommendation of delegates and experts during the Asia-Pacific Regional Workshop to discuss the 2001 Convention, held in Hong Kong, SAR, November 2003.

There would be 16 trainees from Asia-Pacific member countries participating in the first Foundation Courses, which is starting from 27 October 2009.
REGIONAL COOPERATION FOR UNDERWATER HERITAGE RESEARCH IN THE BLACK SEA

Constantin Chera, Museum for National History and Archaeology Constanta, Romania

Scientific underwater research in the Black Sea area has until now been performed only occasionally, though preliminary studies in Turkey, Ukraine, Bulgaria and Romania have shown that a great variety of sites are present here. The Museum for National History and Archaeology in Constanta initiated a large array of contacts with responsible institutions to promote a common approach regarding scanning and mapping the locations of interest for the underwater heritage.

Thus, our institution has participated in different scientific meetings in Italy, Greece, Turkey and Bulgaria to identify potential cooperation with scientists and technicians, able to participate in a coordinated effort to identify the underwater patrimony for all historical periods, lying either on the continental shelf or in deep waters in the Black Sea basin.

To this purpose the museum has signed Memorandums of Understanding with the Restoring Ancient Stabiae Foundation – Dipartimento archeologia subaquea in Castellammare di Stabia (Italy), the Hellenic Centre for Marine Research in Athens, Greece and the Centro di Formazione Professionale in Palermo, Italy. Our representatives have also signed the Declaration on the Cultural Heritage of the Mediterranean Sea in December 2007. A great deal of valuable information on the subject was exchanged with the Institute of Oceanology in Varna, Bulgaria and with the Bodrum Museum of Underwater Archaeology in Turkey.

The museum was also implied in UNESCO initiatives, promoted by the Romanian Culture Ministry, regarding the Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage (Paris, 23 November 2007).

Former fishing and diving training activities on the Romanian coast have resulted in a series of archaeological patrimony objects brought to surface and now exhibited in our museum. A good cooperation exists between our institution and NGO Marine Exploring and Protection Society – Oceanic Club in Constanta.

THE ROLE OF UNIVERSITIES IN EXPLORATION, STUDY AND PROTECTION OF THE UNDERWATER HERITAGE OF UKRAINE

Iana Morozova, Centre for Underwater Archaeology, Kiev National Taras Shevchenko University, Ukraine

The Kiev National Taras Shevchenko University is so far the only one Institution of Higher Education in Ukraine dealing with problems in underwater archaeology and underwater heritage protection. To fulfill these tasks the Centre for Underwater Archaeology (the CUA) was founded within the University of Kyiv. The Centre’s activities comprise educational and research programmes.

The roles of the CUA as a University structure in the underwater archaeological heritage protection field include but are not limited by:

Training and education programmes for students who will be employed for the administration bodies in the field of the Cultural Heritage Protection and Management, in particular Underwater Archaeological Heritage management bodies. The Department of Archaeology and Museum Studies of Kiev University in
cooperation with the Centre develops curriculum and practical trainings in Museology for future museums’ personnel.

Close contacts with the local authorities, making them partners in solving problems concerning protection and guarding the underwater heritage sites.

The public involvement into research and educational projects of the Centre. A number of volunteers from the different professional spheres, educational and national backgrounds are involved in the CUA’s current research, such as the excavation of the shipwreck in the Crimea, coastal surveys.

Helping local museums to create their archaeological collections and displays in order to raise interest in history and archaeology among the local community. Besides the Centre organize an annual exhibition, displaying results and new finds from underwater archaeological excavations.

Searching, exploring, evaluating and studying underwater archaeological sites in the Black Sea and in the Ukrainian rivers and lakes. It is significant part of work toward underwater archaeological heritage protection. After surveying and gathering essential information CUA’s archaeologists present reports to the relevant authorities who are responsible for management and protection of the National Cultural Heritage.

Working in close cooperation with the Ukrainian Federation of Underwater Sport and Underwater Activities. The director of the CUA is heading a national scientific committee of CMAS. He is also a member of the CMAS International Scientific Committee.

Disseminating archaeological information to the public; TV documentary and short films, articles in popular journals and magazines, such as “Neptune XXI century” – a magazine for divers, book “Underwater archaeology of Crimea” where the big portion of the information is addressed to sport-divers and amateurs.

Despite of the list of achievements and successfully fulfilled tasks there are a number of obstructions and difficulties that will be discussed at the Regional Seminar in Zadar.

PROTECTION OF UNDERWATER CULTURAL HERITAGE IN INLAND WATERS. THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE CANDIDATURE «PILE DWELLINGS AROUND THE ALPS»

Albert Hafner, Archaeological Service of the Canton of Berne, Switzerland
Daniel Gutscher, Archaeological Service of the Canton of Berne, Switzerland

Prehistoric lakeside settlements, dating between 5000 and 500 BC in the Alpine region count among the most important archaeological cultural assets in Europe. The nomination as a UNESCO World Heritage site will further increase the awareness of this extraordinary cultural heritage among the wider public. In addition, the international exchange of knowledge and experience with regard to the protection and presentation of pile dwelling sites will be promoted in the context of the candidature.

The international candidature is being staged under the auspices of a Swiss committee. All Alpine countries – Germany, Austria, Slovenia, Italy, France, as well as a total of 15 Cantons in Switzerland – are involved. The Association «Palafittes» was established specifically for the coordination of the tasks in hand.

The first ideas to prepare a UNESCO world heritage candidature about the Neolithic and Bronze Age lake-dwellings of Switzerland emerged in 2004, when pile-
dwelling research had its 150th anniversary. In the same year the idea was transformed into action because all state parties of the world heritage convention had been asked to establish a tentative list of all sites with a world heritage potential.

In Switzerland an expert group checked all 35 candidates for the tentative list and chose five projects. The aim was to inscribe only projects with a real chance for success. And, all candidatures should coincide with the Global Strategy for a Balanced, Representative and Credible World Heritage List, launched in 1994 by the World Heritage Committee. The overall aim of the Global Strategy is to ensure that the List reflects the world’s cultural and natural diversity of outstanding universal value. In December 2004, the Swiss government inscribed the pile-dwellings project on the Swiss tentative list.

An inventory of all sites around the Alps consists actually of about 1000 pile-dwelling sites. From this total a choice of about 150 are foreseen for inscription as a serial object. These prehistoric settlement remains would be the first World Heritage under water on the actual World Heritage List.

More information: www.palafittes.ch
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