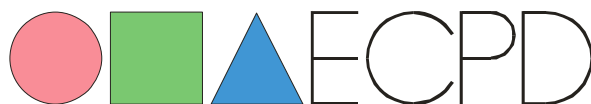




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SECOND REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON INTEGRATIVE PROTECTION

“MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO INTEGRATIVE PROTECTION – THEORY AND PRACTICE”

Banja Luka, 29-30 October 2007

CONCLUSIONS

The conclusive session of the Second Regional Conference on Integrative Protection summarized the successful outcome of the event and stated that with its multidisciplinary approach, diverse structure of participants and a wide range of topics including cultural landscape, protection of ethnic cultures, threats to cultural heritage and ways of avoiding them, it established a valuable basis and opened new perspectives for the next year Conference.

Professor Yves-Rastimir Nedeljković from the ECPD highlighted the diversity in the approaches to the issue of cultural heritage and emphasized the need to follow the trend of multidisciplinary approach to the research of this complex field in the region of the Balkans.

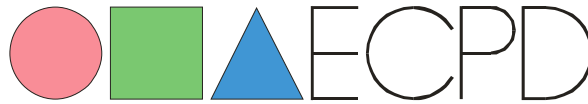
Mr Alfredo Cammara, Vice-President of the European Society for Culture (Venice, Italy) emphasized the importance of enhancing the inter-cultural dialogue in the Balkans and starting joint actions in view of intensifying the reconciliation process and developing the sense of belonging to the common cultural heritage as a pre-requisite for peace and stability, not only in the context of the two entities in Bosnia and Herzegovina but in the ex-Yugoslav area as a whole.

In her capacity of Head of the Organisational Committee of the Conference, **Ms Milica Kotur** stressed that the Second Regional Conference continued the positive trends of the First Regional Conference held in 2006, by gathering representatives from EU and non EU-countries, coming from governmental, non-governmental and academic institutions. The 2007 Conference introduced several highly topical issues such as the legal protection of cultural heritage and the need for shaping the national policies according to the regional experiences and the EU trends.

Professor Josip Korošec from the Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage of Slovenia stressed the holistic aspect of the issue of integrative protection of cultural heritage and the general aspect of the research in related fields, while the ECPD **Professor Anika Skovran** mentioned the need to observe the Balkan cultural heritage as a part of European cultural heritage.



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As a longstanding diplomat and a professor at the Faculty for Diplomacy (Gorizia, Italy), **H.E. Pasquale Baldozzi** called upon the geographical and cultural “Europeanity” of the Balkan region and the need for university collaboration as a channel for strengthening links between nations and states.

H.E. Albert Maes, former EU ambassador and professor at the University of Namur (Belgium) defined the protection of cultural heritage as an active step towards peace and reconciliation in the area of the Balkans.

The need for strengthening the regional cooperation in the field of the protection of cultural heritage, fostering the sense of common cultural heritage as a step towards peace and stability and the need to observe the cultural heritage of the Balkans as a part of Europe and world cultural heritage was unanimously acclaimed by the attendants of the session.