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Forum “Our Cultural Heritage”

Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina

March 12, 2020

Panelist: Senada Demirović Habibija, urban planning senior advisor within the Urban Planning Department in the City of Mostar

Presentation:

Mostar was awarded the Aga Khan Prize in 1986 for its attitude towards cultural heritage, and in 2005 it was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Since its inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List, Mostar has become a member of the Organization of World Heritage Cities and through the Regional Office for Southern Europe and the Mediterranean is involved in a number of projects in the field of protection and presentation of cultural and historical heritage.

Mostar has the opportunity to further develop in the field of cultural and historical heritage. The decision of the Commission to Preserve the National Monuments of Bosnia and Herzegovina from June 2019, which revalued the previous Decision, in accordance with the modern view of the area, declared Mostar a Historic Urban Landscape. This additionally provides an opportunity and new perspectives when it comes to the cultural and historical heritage of Mostar.

On 11 November 2011, the UNESCO General Assembly adopted the Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscapes (HUL) as an additional tool of existing doctrines and approaches to protection, integrating policies and practices for the preservation of built-up areas with a balanced relation to the urban development needs, respecting inherited values and traditions of different urban contexts.

UNESCO adopts a comprehensive approach to the management of historic urban landscapes that integrates the goals of preserving urban heritage and those of social and economic development. This method sees urban heritage as a social, cultural and economic tool for urban development.

The Historical Urban Landscape (HUL) advocates the idea that historical context and development can “communicate” and interconnect their roles and meanings. Such an approach to the management of historic urban landscapes is integral because it treats the goals of preserving urban heritage as well as those of social and economic development.





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This approach requires increased sustainability in planning taking into account the existing built environment, immovable and movable heritage, cultural diversity, socio-economic and environmental opportunities, as well as the values of the local community.

