



Seminar Impact of tourism on archaeological sites May 16-18, 2023

Organized by

- International Center for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property - [ICCROM](#)
- Instituto del Patrimonio Cultural de España-Ministerio de Cultura y Deporte ([IPCE](#))
- Coordinación Nacional de Conservación del Patrimonio Cultural – Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia de México ([INAH](#))
- Real Academia de España en Roma ([MAEC/AECID](#))

Dates and times

16, 17 and 18 May 2023

From 15:00 to 18:00 (CET) and from 7:00 to 10:00 (Mexico)

Format

It will be held in a **hybrid** format, with both in-person and on-line presentations.

The **in-person** part will be held at the Real Academia de España en Roma:

Piazza di S. Pietro in Montorio, 3, 00153 Roma RM. Free admission until full capacity is reached.

To participate **online** in the Zoom platform, please register [here](#)

You can also follow the live broadcast on YouTube:

May 16, 2023: https://youtu.be/yb_BC_RK3KQ

May 17, 2023: <https://youtu.be/Yx-TWgi3Lts>

May 18, 2023: <https://youtu.be/CFq0wL9I9SY>

Background

This Seminar is proposed with the aim of expanding and focusing the vision gathered at the "*Congress on experiences in risk management for cultural heritage in Ibero-America*", held online from November 15 to 19, 2021, organized by the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM) and the Coordinación Nacional de Conservación del Patrimonio Cultural– Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia of Mexico (INAH).

The Congress analyzed the way in which the countries of Ibero-America are dealing with the risks affecting the region by developing reduction mechanisms with systems for detecting new risks, prevention, mitigation, response and recovery for cultural heritage and their communities.



In order to give continuity to this initiative, this seminar will focus on the problems posed by the impact of visitors on archaeological sites, both in terms of conservation, management and interpretation. A series of representative case studies, selected both in Latin America and in the Mediterranean Area, will be presented, reflecting different problems and corrective actions. The presentations will be followed by a space for debate to unify criteria and methodologies.

Working Group and Publication

During the Seminar, we will suggest the formation of a working group to devise a consensus-based action and management protocol. Additionally, we will publish the papers presented and the outcomes of the roundtable discussions.

Languages

Spanish, English and Italian, with simultaneous translation.

Objectives and contents

This Seminar on "Management and Conservation of Archaeological Sites with Visitor Impact" aims to evaluate the preservation of archaeological sites with a large number of visitors, and to present management, interpretation and maintenance strategies to mitigate the effects of visitors.

The sessions will be structured around the following thematic blocks:

- The impact of visitors on the conservation of archaeological sites
- The impact of visitors on the management of archaeological sites
- The impact of visitors on the interpretation of archaeological sites.

Each paper will develop one or more of the aspects described below.

Block 1: The impact of visitors on the conservation of archaeological sites

- Damage caused by the influx of visitors
- Methods for impact measurement
- Proposals to mitigate damages
- Relationship between the number of visitors and the state of conservation, loading capacity, methods for determining thresholds
- Relationship between type structure and its vulnerability to the influx of visitors

Block 2: The impact of visitors on the management of archaeological sites

- Loading capacity of the site and control of the number of visits (by hours, days or areas). Evaluation of the results
- Mapping of alternative routes for the preservation of archaeological sites
- Restriction of visits versus universal access. Ethical issues
- Community involvement in site management and its positive impact



Block 3: The impact of visitors on the interpretation of archaeological sites.

- Damage control by the public through guided tours
- Design of tours to minimize visitor impact
- Heritage education as a tool for preservation. Methods to evaluate public response. Best practice cases.
- New interpretive resources for the preservation of cultural heritage
- The interpretation of archaeological heritage as a social and economic engine for local communities.



PROGRAM

Day 1 - May 16, 2023

Opening

15:00-15:30

Opening and presentation of the seminar

Ángeles Albert de León, Director, Real Academia de España en Roma

María del Carmen Castro Barrera, National Coordinator, Coordinación Nacional de Conservación del Patrimonio Cultural-Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia
Marta Hernández Azcutia, Deputy Director General, Instituto del Patrimonio Cultural de España

Valerie Magar, Programmes Unit Manager, ICCROM

Session 1: The impact of visitors on the conservation of archaeological sites

Moderator: Valerie Magar, ICCROM

15:30-15:45

M^a Paz Pérez Chivite, Conjunto Monumental Ciudad de Mérida, Spain

Conservation actions in the orchestra of the Roman Theater of Mérida

15:45-16:00

Maria Mertzani, Ministry of Culture, Greece

Visitors' footprint: mitigation practices

16:00-16:15

Dina Bakhoun, post-doctoral researcher, Institut français d'archéologie orientale (Ifao) and Centre d'études et de documentation économiques, juridiques et sociales (Cedej), Egypt

Condition assessment survey: a powerful tool for the management and conservation of archaeological heritage sites. The case of the royal tombs in the Valley of the Kings

16:15-16:30

Alfredo Prada Freixedo, Museo Nacional y Centro de Investigación de Altamira, Spain

Human action as a determining factor in the processes of deterioration of the Altamira cave and its rock art: past, present and future prospects for its conservation

16:30-16:45

Sandra Cruz Flores and Thalía Velasco Castelán, Coordinación Nacional de Conservación del Patrimonio Cultural, Instituto Nacional de Antropología, Mexico.

Communities and the graphic-archaeological heritage in shaping the visitor profile in the Sierra de San Francisco, Mexico, and its impact on conservation.

Keynote speakers:

16:45-17:25

Alessandro Lugari and Federica Rinaldi, Archaeological Park of the Colosseum, Italy

The risk map of the in situ mosaic and marble surfaces of the Archeological Park of Coliseum

17:25-18:00

Round Table, moderated by Ioanna Ruiz de Torres Moustaka, IPCE



Day 2 - May 17, 2023

Session 2: The impact of visitors on the management of archaeological sites

Moderator: Ana Laborde, IPCE

15:00-15:15 **Presentation**

15:15-15:30 **Marta Santos Retolaza, Museu d'Arqueologia de Catalunya-Empúries, Spain**

The archaeological site of Empúries (l'Escala): valuing visitors, balancing resources and conservation

15:30-15:45 **Jane Thompson, Instead Heritage**

Visitors that empower rather than strain heritage conservation and management

15:45-16:00 **Rogelio Rivero Chong, Teotihuacan Archaeological Site, Mexico**

Social development as a conservation strategy for world heritage archaeological sites

16:00-16:15 **María Belén Gómez de la Torre, Dirección General de Estrategia Turística del Ministerio de Comercio Exterior y Turismo, Peru**

The impact of tourism in Machupicchu pre and post pandemic: community expectations vs. public management, where is conservation?

16:15-16:30 **José Antonio López Mira, DG de Cultura y Patrimonio, Generalitat Valenciana, Spain**

Management, conservation and enhancement of rock art and its landscapes in the Valencian Community. The compatibility of social, cultural and sporting activities.

16:30- 16:45 **María Paula Álvarez, Colombia**

Signage and carrying capacity tools for the construction of good use and conservation of rock art sites in Colombia.

Keynote speaker:

16:45-17:25 **María Ángeles Querol Fernández, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain**

Involvement of the local community in the design, interpretation and maintenance of archaeological parks.

17:25-18:00 **Round Table**, moderated by **Antonio Pizzo, Escuela Española de Historia y Arqueología**

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Day 3 - May 18, 2023

Session 3: The impact of visitors on the interpretation of archaeological sites

Moderator: Tomás Meraz, ICCROM

15:00-15:15 **Presentation**

15:15-15:30 **Pilar Fernández Colón, Atapuerca, Centro Nacional de Investigación sobre la Evolución Humana, Spain**

Atapuerca, a model of interpretation of archaeological cultural heritage

15:30-15:45 **Thabo Kgomommu, South African National Parks, South Africa**

Conservation and use of archaeological sites in South Africa's Protected Areas (National Parks): working with descendant communities

15:45-16:00 **Andrea von Vacano Montenegro, Bolivia**

Impact of the Aymara New Year festivity on the conservation and reinterpretation of the Tiwanaku archaeological site

16:00-16:15 **Terry Little, Ahmadu Bello University, Nigeria**

Valorizing rock art with communities in Kenya and Nigeria

16:15 -16:30 **Heather Hurst, Skidmore College, United States of America**

Site protection and cultural heritage engagement at San Bartolo, Guatemala: Mapping the future of a remote site within the Maya Biosphere Reserve

Keynote speaker:

16:30- 17:10 **Manuel Gándara, Escuela Nacional de Conservación, Restauración y Museografía "Manuel del Castillo Negrete", Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia, Mexico**
Tourism: predator or ally? Heritage interpretation as a strategy for preventive conservation

17:10- 18:00 **Roundtable discussion, moderated by Ana Laborde, IPCE**

Closing