



Initiative in the context of:



FALCONRY INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE: PARTICIPATION, CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

International Meeting in the context of:
“MELFI. 1000 YEARS OF HISTORY, ART, CULTURE AND FALCONRY”

DATE AND VENUE

Saturday 13th October 2018 (full day)
Throne Room, Castle of Melfi, Melfi (Italy)

MEETING AIM AND SCOPE

Under the UNESCO patronage, the meeting aims to promote “**Falconry, a living human heritage**”, in particular in Italy, as included in the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) since 2016.

The UNESCO process of the multinational nomination of falconry, coordinated by the United Arab Emirates and involving the falconers communities of eighteen countries (*United Arab Emirates, Germany, Saudi Arabia, Austria, Belgium, Spain, France, Hungary, Italy, Kazakhstan, Morocco, Mongolia, Pakistan, Portugal, Qatar, Syrian Arab Republic, Republic of Korea and Czechia*), provides an invaluable framework for cultural dialogue and exchange of values/knowledge, while respecting traditional specificities. Indeed, the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of ICH has contributed to broadening the meaning of “heritage”, and to acknowledging the role of bearers and practitioners in transmitting cultural identity and memory through generations. Knowledge, abilities, representations, practices, expressions, enhance the construction of inclusive societies and promote intercultural dialogue and management of integrated systems. Moreover, connecting different stakeholders at local, national and international levels allows for the implementation of safeguarding activities as a good practice for sustainable development.

In this context, the meeting will welcome many communities/stakeholders (institutions, researchers and experts) committed in the promotion and safeguarding of falconry, with the aim to share and disseminate the importance of ICH to people at large (especially to younger generations), even as a vehicle of cooperation and promotion of cultural diversities. The initiative is organized within the context of “Millennial celebration of Melfi city fortification” (Melfi Castle), whose architecture provides a remarkable expression of the historical/medieval aspects related to the falconry tradition in Italy, closely related to the outstanding figure of Frederick II of Swabia. Simultaneously to the meeting, there will be many activities devoted to the art of falconry, performed by national and foreign (UK, France, Belgium, Spain) associations of falconers.

Primary and secondary schools of Melfi municipality will partake to the whole meeting; academic researchers also are expected. A formal certification of attendance will be issued to students, to fostering research/curricular activities on ICH, safeguarding and multidisciplinary approaches to sustainability development.



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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The opening session will be opened by key institutional representatives at an international level, followed by representatives of the Italian falconers community. The afternoon session will host a roundtable animated by national/international speakers who, taking in consideration the principles of the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003), will address the multidisciplinary aspects of falconry's knowledge as a living ICH. Special attention will be devoted to the falconry practice and values (in the cultural context of Middle East, Asia and Europe), safeguarding, cultural diversity, as well as to the IAF (International Association for Falconry and Conservation of Birds of Prey, NGO accredited UNESCO representative of 110 falconer associations from 87 countries) communities and projects.

SCHEDULE

From 10:00

Registration (Castle of Melfi, inside)

10:30 - 13:30

OPENING OF THE WORKS (Castle of Melfi, Throne Room)

Institutional Greetings:

- **Livio Valvano**, Mayor of Melfi Municipality
- **Flavia Franconi**, Vice- president Basilicata Region
- **Prof. Mons. Cosimo Damiano Fonseca**, President of National Committee for the Millennial Celebration of Melfi' city fortification
- **Luisa Montevecchi**, Director of UNESCO Unit- General Secretariat MIBAC
- **Awadh Ali Saleh**, Strategic Advisor- Abu Dhabi Authority of Culture (Coordinator of the UNESCO multinational nomination "Falconry, living human heritage")
- **Jambaldorj Tserendorj**, Ambassador of Mongolia in Italy
- **Sager Naser Ahmed Abdulla Alraisi**, Ambassador of United Arab Emirates in Italy
- **Lucia Borgonzoni**, Under Secretary of State (MIBAC) - Delivery of UNESCO attestation to the Italian Falconers community.

15.00 -18.30

ROUNDTABLE: "Falconry UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage: Values and Multidisciplinary Approaches" (Castle of Melfi Throne Room)

Chairs:

Patrizia Cimberio (IAF Advisor Committee member - Coordinator of the Italian Falconry Associations for the UNESCO candidature)

Elena Sinibaldi (Focal Point MIBAC for the application of UNESCO and Coordinator of Italian candidature "Falconry, a living human heritage")



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Speakers:

- **Anna Laura Trombetti Budriesi**, (*Director of the Interdepartmental Center of Sciences of Islam, University of Bologna*)
“The perfect falconer from Frederick II to the XXI century”
- **Baudouin Van den Abeele**, (*Université Catholique de Louvain, Centre d'études sur le Moyen Age et la Renaissance*)
“Rooms for falcons and falconers in the castles: investigations in the Medieval sources”
- **Janusz Sielicki**, (*IAF Europe Vice-President*)
“Falconry as conservation, preservation and sustainability”
- **Annelise Tropato**, (*Researcher, New York University of Abu Dhabi*)
“Falconry: good practices of safeguarding between intangible and material heritage”
- **Ferrante Pratesi**, (*Circolo Falconieri d'Italia, Vice-President*)
“Falconry: the Italian Style”
- **Mauro Baletti**, (*F.I.F. Vice President*)
“Path and new perspectives of falconry in Italy”
- **Andrea Villa**, (*IAF Young Falconers member*)
“Falconry at the times of socials: millennials VS a millenarian art”

Technical-scientific coordination:

Elena Sinibaldi (MIBAC), Patrizia Cimberio (IAF)

Promotion and organization:

Municipality of Melfi and UNESCO Office (General Secretariat - MIBAC)