










EFFORTS ANNUAL CONGRESS Online, 13 January 2022

Speakers

<p>Egidijus BAGDONAS</p> <p>is the Director of the Kaunas Fortress Park in Kaunas, Lithuania.</p>	
<p>Biljana BELUŠEVIĆ</p> <p>is manager for program policies and cultural heritage area planning at Public Cultural Institution Herceg Fest Herceg Novi. Registrar Manager at Institute for the Preservation of the Cultural Heritage, Kotor, Montenegro. Education Assistant/Specialist at the Warsaw University, Poland. Bachelor with advanced diploma of Archaeology at the University of Warsaw, Poland.</p>	
<p>Tom BERENDSEN</p> <p>is a Dutch and Noord-Brabant Member of the European Parliament since 2019. In Parliament, he has since been serving on the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy and the Committee on Regional Development. In addition to his committee assignments, he is substitute member of the Committee on Transport and Tourism. He is also a member of the URBAN Intergroup.</p>	

<p>Michele BETTIN</p> <p>is a student in Intercultural Development of Tourism Systems at Ca' Foscari University of Venice.</p>	
<p>Boudewijn de BONT</p> <p>is Director of construction company <i>Nico de Bont</i>, focused on classic renovations, contemporary repurposing and smart sustainability measures of monuments. With a genuine love for the profession and knowledge of the very latest processes and techniques, Nico de Bont creates a new value for the most diverse historical buildings, every single day. The company's starting point is conservation through development. Its aim is to realise vibrant monuments, buildings which are in full use and which give the environment they are part of, both atmosphere and character, taking utmost care of both people and the environment. Fortified heritage is very important. It is fantastic to see how many fortresses and fortifications are being restored and revitalised in large parts of Europe. Special monuments which require specialist knowledge and expertise. Together with the municipality of 's-Hertogenbosch, Nico de Bont creates new value for monuments in the city.</p>	
<p>Sander BOOMS</p> <p>works and lives in Culemborg, Netherlands. He majored at the Breda University of Applied Sciences (former NHTV/NWIT) in Recreation & Tourism Sociology. He has worked as coordinator or policy advisor in spatial planning, city center development, the New Dutch Waterline defence line, water and climate adaptation and tourism.</p>	
<p>Jessica CASAGRANDE</p> <p>is Project and Communications Officer at the LRE Foundation. She has a background in political science and international relations and holds a master's degree in Interdisciplinary Research and Studies on Eastern Europe at the University of Bologna, Vytautas Magnus University at Kaunas and St. Petersburg State University. She joined the LRE Foundation in November 2019 and is now the contact person for the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme, as well as engages in network expansion and in the implementation the EU-funded youth project 'EASTory through their Eyes'.</p>	

Huibert CRIJNS

studied architecture at Hogeschool Zuyd in Heerlen (1988), construction management at the Eindhoven University of Technology (1992) and law at the Open University (1996). In 1994 he started working for the Municipality of 's-Hertogenbosch. Since 2001, he has been associated with the restoration project for the 's-Hertogenbosch' fortifications. Over €55 million has been invested in restoration and development of the towns' fortress. He published several books on the siege of the city in the year 1629 by Prince Frederic Henry of Orange. Huibert is successful in attracting external funding for heritage projects and has succeeded in linking several European subsidies to heritage projects in the city. In recent years, the 'Den Bosch' approach has received national and European awards, such as the European Regional Champions Award and the Heritage Award of Europa Nostra (2010 and 2013). The heritage department is founding partner of EFFORTS. Huibert works as a project manager, strategic advisor and external funding officer at the Heritage Department. Since November 2021 Huibert Crijns is board member of Forte Cultura.





**Wim DEBAENE**





is a landscape architect and urban planner. After working in this capacity at the Belgian multidisciplinary architectural design and urban development agency Stramien, Wim became project officer at *Regional Landscapes* (non profit association supported and funded by government), an EFFORTS member since 2019. The teams of 16 Regional Landscapes in Flanders (BE) promote nature, landscape, heritage, identity and recreation. They join forces with many partners (locals, organisations, governments, EFFORTS) and deliver actions and projects for nature and landscape that inspire and bring people together. Regional Landscapes main partners are the Provinces, but Regional Landscapes also works closely with municipalities and realise Flemish & European projects. Wim has a special interest in fortification heritage and initiated and involving EFFORTS in the set-up of a European project in this field, the Recapture the Fortress Cities EU Interreg project. This project seeks to consolidate in the Flemish cities around the Antwerp region in a best practices exercise of fortification re-use policy. Wim is an associate board member of EFFORTS.




**Mathieu DE MEYER**





is Director of the Atlantikwall Raversyde in Ostend since 2011, and project leader of the Creative Europe network project 'Atlantikwall Europe' (2018-2021). Before that, he coordinated European Interreg-projects dealing with historic Dutch-Spanish fortification lines along the Dutch-Belgian border ("Staats-Spaanse Linies 1", "Staats-Spaanse Linies 1bis" and "Forten en Linies in Grensbreed Perspectief"). Previously, he was a project assistant at the In Flanders Fields Museum for a short while and worked for the Flemish Institute for Archaeological Heritage (current name: Agentschap Onroerend Erfgoed) on the investigation of archaeological remains of the First World War in the Ypres Salient, Belgium









<p>Rafaël DEROO</p> <p>is born in Delft (Netherlands) and is a law and international policy graduate and since 2018 Secretary general of the European Federation of Fortified Sites (EFFORTS). He initiated the idea for a European cultural defence line project, 'Atlantikwall Europe' (Creative Europe 2018-2021) and is advisor at the Simon Stevin Fortified Knowledge Center in Belgium and the Antwerp Fortress Belt Organisation. He has written on a diverse series of history subjects, among which the Atlantic Wall in France and military heritage in Brussels. He is also an accredited battlefield tour guide in France, the Netherlands and Germany.</p>	
<p>Anne GRADY</p> <p>played a senior role with the management of the recent European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018 with a reach of over 12 million people; she is now actively working on the legacy programme of events and activities. Anne has a special interest in cultural heritage and sustainability. She led a member states' working group (OMC) on the subject of sustainable cultural tourism and works on initiating and promoting the recommendations from the final report. Anne is now leading a second and high profile OMC working group on 'Strengthening Cultural Heritage Resilience for Climate Change'.</p>	
<p>Jimmy JAMAR</p> <p>is Head of the Europa Nostra Brussels Office (Belgium). After studies in Law and International Relations in Belgium, Switzerland and the United States, Jimmy Jamar worked for 30 years in the European Commission, where he served as Head of the Commission Representation in Belgium and the Netherlands at the end of his career. His previous assignments were with the Commission services responsible for Research, Education and Culture, and Communication. After his retirement in 2019, he became Head of the Brussels Office of Europa Nostra, the main civil society organisation representing the voice of Cultural Heritage in Europe. Jimmy has written seven books, mainly on Europe. His last one, entitled "An endless year", is a political diary of the year 2020.</p>	
<p>Niké van KEULEN</p> <p>lives in Vught. She studied landscape architecture at Wageningen University and Research and works at MTD landscape architects and urbanists. She is also a part-time teacher at the Academy of Architecture in Amsterdam and has a seat in the supervisory board Strijbos & van Rijswijk / acoustic artists. Her actions are centered around urban design in a historical context or vulnerable landscape, strategic development plans and the layout of plan rampart zones.</p>	



<p>Gordana KRCUNOVIĆ</p> <p>is Director of Public Cultural Institution Herceg Fest. Director of Herceg Novi Film Festival - Montenegro Film Festival. Graduated in Philosophy at the Faculty of Philosophy in Niksic, Montenegro and obtained her postgraduate degree at the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad, Serbia at Philosophy Department. She was a teaching assistant at the Faculty of Philosophy, Niksic at the philosophy study programme for the subjects: History of German Classical Philosophy, Contemporary Philosophy and Ontology.</p>	
<p>Ruta LUKOSIUNAITE</p> <p>works across disciplines visioning and realising projects by stimulating learning and contextualising the concept of sustainability. She has 10+ years of experience working in transdisciplinary and culturally diverse teams in Denmark, Lithuania, Sweden and United Kingdom. During her career, Ruta developed expertise in design, management and sustainability. Her experience varies from private to public sectors, top-down to bottom-up initiatives. Ruta brings her curiosity and integrity to everything she does which helps her establish and maintain strong connections.</p>	
<p>Anne-Wil MARIS</p> <p>is an integral project leader at Erfgoed Brabant and from 1 August 2020 I'm detached as the program-manager of the Zuiderwaterlinie. As a historian, art historian, journalist and as a programme manager at Erfgoed Brabant Anne-Wil Maris has an impressive track record of initiating and participating in innovative and participating projects in the field of cultural heritage and its adjacent fields of interest like landscape planning, education, wellbeing and tourism. Within Erfgoed Brabant she is the driving force behind cross-domain collaboration. Another very important topic is the participation of young heritage professionals. She is able to built bridges between different interest groups, to motivate partners to join and she is always looking for possibilities to realize them. Heritage is not only about the stones, but also about the stories and how to preserve this.</p>	
<p>Gerco MEIJER</p> <p>started studying Architecture and engineering on the Academy of Architecture in Amsterdam. In 1996 he initiated bunkerQ, office for heritage development. He is experienced in every aspect of architecture and engineering work, from the big regional developments, landscaping, classical restorations and historical consolidations to a modern artwork and architecture. Last 12 years he is mostly preoccupied with the projects in and around Dutch military heritage and especially with the development of the Dutch Defence Line. His theoretical and practical knowledge is concentrated in the structure of the HDM. The Heritage Development Model, a working method that helps owners, professionals and developers in decision making during the process of heritage development. In this effort he is accompanied</p>	

<p>by SMB the Foundation for the ownership of monumental objects. He is a member of ICOMOS, European coordinator, expert and Dutch voting member of ICOFORT, Scientific Committee on Fortifications and Military Heritage and expert member of CIPA, Scientific Committee on Heritage Documentation www.bunkerQ.nl & www.monumentenbeziit.nl</p>	
<p>Fiorenzo MENEGHELLI</p> <p>is an expert in the history of architecture, particularly of military buildings. He is a president of the 'Istituto Italiano Castelli' (Italian Institute of Castles) Section Veneto and ISAM (Institute for Military History and Architecture); member ICOMOS/ICOFORT. He is responsible for the EFFORTS Knowledge Center in Fort Marghera in Venice and is vice-president of the EFFORTS/Forte Cultura Joint Scientific Committee. He has organized national and international exhibitions and conferences around the theme of castles and fortifications. In addition to numerous articles and essays, he has published several books. He works in the restoration of historic buildings, renovation and enhancement of the military architecture. He carries out studies and research regarding the renovation and development of defensive systems on behalf of public institutions.</p>	
<p>Karen MINSAER</p> <p>followed in 1989, after her studies in Oriental Archaeology and History of Arts at Leuven University, a specialisation on Middle Eastern archaeology at the Panthéon-Sorbonne in Paris. Since 2002 she is working at the Archaeology Department of the city of Antwerp, where she started as project archaeologist for the 16th century fortifications. Later she became advisor responsible for the 'Forts and Lines', the Interreg IVA-project Flanders-Netherlands coordination. She worked on the activation of the States-Spanish lines in Antwerp, where three projects were added: 'Fort Lillo, the Emperor's Bastion' and the 'Kipdorp Bridge'. Since 2014 she leads the Archaeology Department. Her topics are heritage public awareness and the archaeological remains valorisation at infrastructural projects (the city fortifications, the RING-works and the Scheldt Waterfront). She is currently working on the reinforcement of the city Stronghold and the Antwerp Fortress Belts (in partnership with EFFORTS / Recapture the Fortress Cities).</p>	
<p>Giulia MIRAGLIA</p> <p>graduated in Intercultural Development of Tourism Systems at Ca' Foscari University of Venice and previously graduated in <i>Languages and Cultures for Tourism</i> at the University of Turin. Her interest is in destination and events management and marketing, and slow and experiential tourism. She has been running <i>Gofree Ristorante Pizzeria</i> in Pragelato, Alpi Cozie (TO) for two years. Personal projects are "Mercoledì da leoni" with the aim of using social media to promote lesser-known local mountain trails in total safety; "Interreg</p>	

<p>Alcotra Turismo del Gusto", a cross-border (Italy/France) commitment to promoting local and KMO food and wine products and traditions.</p>	
<p>Jean-Sébastien MISSION - DE GROOT</p> <p>is a License in History (Liège - 2000) major, a Diploma of Approved Studies in the Civilization of the Renaissance (Tours - 2001) and has a master in the Conservation of Villas and Historic Villages (Leuven - 2003). Since 2008, he works at the conservation and restoration department of the Citadel of Namur, and is currently responsible for the municipal service on this site. Jean-Sébastien Misson is a member of ICOMOS since 2004 and is the current president of ICOMOS Belgium and ICOMOS Wallonia-Brussels (2020-2023). He is a member of the Royal Commission of Monuments, Sites and Excavations (Walloon Region - Province of Namur). "</p>	
<p>Fabrizio PANOZZO</p> <p>is economics professor of the University of Venice Ca' Foscari, Department of Management Studies.</p>	
<p>Frank PETTER</p> <p>is Mayor of the Dutch city of Bergen op Zoom since September 1st 2013. He studied theology at the 'Theologische Universiteit Kampen' and was pastor for several reformed communities in The Netherlands. In 2002 he took his doctoral degree in theology and religious studies at Tilburg University in The Netherlands. Until his appointment as Mayor of the fortified town of Woudrichem in 2006 he was the director of the Tilburg University Centre of Science and Philosophy. Previously he was politically active and a member of the Provincial Government of the Province of North- Brabant. He is EFFORTS president since 2017.</p>	
<p>Dirk RÖDER</p> <p>is profiled in marketing, management, consulting, financing, funding projects and cultural route development. He started in 2002 to work in the Röder company for revitalization, conversion (transformation of former military used resources in civil used areas). With Dr. Hans-Rudolf Neumann, the Röders started the 2003 EU funded Baltic Fort Route project. In 2011 they founded the European Cooperation Centre of Fortified Heritage (ECCOFORT) and started the Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE project Forte Cultura, from which comes out the European Fortress Tourism and Fortress Marketing Network e.V. with members from currently 8 European countries and the European Cultural Route of Fortified Monuments – FORTE CULTURA®. ECCOFORT is also a founding member of EFFORTS in 2017. For Dirk, managing director of FORTE CULTURA® as well as board member and head of network office of the European Fortress Tourism and Fortress Marketing Network e.V. in Berlin, and newly elected EFFORTS board member, the next logical step is to organise</p>	

<p>more fortification cooperation and bring parallel fortress networks closer for common benefits.</p>	
<p>Eva ROELS</p> <p>is Director of Tourism, events and international relations, City of Oudenaarde and staff member of the MOU Museum, Oudenaarde (2012-today). Trained as an Archaeologist (1993-1997), with an additional master in History (1997-1999), and an additional degree in Management in Art & Culture (2001-2002). Worked as a field archaeologist (1998-2001) and as general administrator of the Ename Center for Public Archaeology and Heritage Presentation and organizer of international courses and conferences within the center and project officer in Heritage Interpretation Projects (2001-2010). Involvement in the establishment of the ICOMOS ICIP Committee and the formulation of the draft of the Ename Charter (the ICOMOS Charter for the Presentation and Interpretation of Cultural Heritage Sites). Active member of ICOMOS International and ICOMOS Belgium since 2002. Secretary General of the ISC ICOMOS ICIP (2009 – 2018). President of ICOMOS Flanders-Brussels and vice-president of ICOMOS Belgium (since 2020). Vice-president of Koepel van Attracties & Musea vzw (since 2017).</p>	
<p>Bruno ROSSIGNOL</p> <p>Bruno Rossignol is Head of Programme for Climate and <u>Heritage</u> and responsible for communications at the EIB Institute. Before joining the Institute, he was Deputy Director of the Communication Department at the EIB (2010-2014) after having been Head of Media Relations at Clearstream (2005-2010), Director of Corporate Communications at Exane BNP Paribas (2001-2004), Chief Press Officer at Euronext as well as personal adviser to its chairman Jean-François Theodore (1995-2001).</p> <p>Bruno Rossignol started his professional career as a journalist for Agence France Presse (1985-1995) where he was notably Head of business and economics reporting in Washington DC covering the IMF, the World Bank, the Federal Reserve and the US Treasury. He is a graduate from Sciences-Po Paris and holds a Diplôme d'Etudes Approfondies in contemporary history also from Sciences-Po.</p>	

<p>Daniele SFERRA</p> <p>is international relations expert in cultural cooperation, fortified heritage, sustainable tourism and elections monitoring and assistance. A U. of Padua Political Sciences and International Relations major he carried out post-graduate courses in International Relations, Diplomatic Sciences and International Trade techniques in the Italian Society for International Organisation, Rome. He carried out 26 missions in the Balkans, Asia, Africa and Oceania with UN, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), OSCE-Office Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, the EU and International Organisation for Migration. Since 2002 he developed +30 EU and Veneto Region funds projects on fortified heritage, cultural heritage and sustainable cultural tourism, collaborating with UNESCO, UNWTO and the Council of Europe. Since 2015 he is project manager/developer at the Department of Economics, Ca' Foscari U. of Venice and since 2018 he is International Cooperation adviser for Fondazione Forte Marghera. He is an EU funds project manager, Vice President of the Istituto per la Storia dell'Architettura Militare and EFFORTS board member.</p>	
<p>Stijn SMEULDERS</p> <p>is a Noord-Brabant provincial Deputy. He is responsible for Administration, Security, Culture, Sports and Heritage. He is also president of the steering committee of the Zuiderwaterlinie and president of the Brabant Heritage Award.</p>	
<p>Nataša UROŠEVIĆ</p> <p>is assistant professor at the Juraj Dobrila University of Pula, Croatia, Interdisciplinary Study Programme of Culture and Tourism, where she teaches courses in Croatian and European cultural history, identity and heritage management. She participated in several EU projects and (co-)rganized international conferences. She received the Richard Plaschka Fellowship from the Austrian Ministry of science and research as well as the Thesaurus Poloniae Fellowship from the Polish Ministry of Culture for her research projects related to valorisation of common European heritage. She worked as a journalist and in publishing for 10 years and has working experience in marketing and tourism.</p>	
<p>Gerdy VERSCHUURE-STUIP</p> <p>is assistant-professor in landscape architecture and heritage at the Technical University Delft, Netherlands.</p>	

<p>Đurđa VRJEVIĆ ŠARIĆ</p> <p>graduated journalism at University of Zagreb, Croatia in 2005. She is a certified project cycle manager with experience in developing and implementing EU funded projects, particularly projects addressing cultural, social and tourism issues. Within the institution, she led the development, application and implementation process of EU funded projects: FORTITUDE - Historic Fortresses Intensifying Cross-border Tourism Development /2020-2022/; EMO.Undergrounds - EMOTional technologies for the cultural heritage valorization within cross-border Undergrounds /2020-2022/; Connecting Cinemas in Rural Areas /2020-2021/; Cultural Heritage in Action /2020-2021/; Fortress ReInvented - Innovative approach and digital contents in historic monuments /2017-2019/; KREŠIMIR - KREativna Šibenska Mreža Integriranog kulturnog Razvoja /2018-2019/. Since 2019 she represents Fortress of Culture Šibenik in the European Federation of Fortified Sites (EFFORTS) Board.</p>	
<p>Bernou WAGENAAR</p> <p>is always looking for opportunities and challenges, whose great asset it is to inspire people, cooperating in creative and quality driven projects. After positions in tourism communication, she is policy officer leisure economy and international cooperation at the city of Oost Gelre (Netherlands) and coordinating the cross-border relations with German municipalities and cities, the LEADER projects in the Gelderland Province Achterhoek region, and the development and execution of touristic products. She is member of the Interreg EUREGIO Sustainable Spatial Development committee, coordinates the biannual 'Grol Battle' reenactment - cultural event - European conference, and the European Via Hispania 'Spanish Route' cultural route project, the latter with EFFORTS Europe and the Dutch Association of Fortress Cities.</p>	
<p>Hermelinde van XANTEN</p> <p>is advisor art and space at Kunstloc Brabant, the knowledge and implementation organisation for North-Brabant. Kunstloc wants as many Brabanders as possible to participate in art and culture because it inspires and enriches their lives. We are committed to the cultural sector, education, the province, municipalities, social organisations and the business community. Kunstloc Brabant is therefore committed to the broad field of art and culture. From primary school to stage and from professional to amateur artist. We also stimulate the use of art and culture for social issues such as quality of life, sustainability, spacial issues and care, and of course cultural heritage.</p>	