

## PROGRAMME - ICH TOURISM Dialogues - 2024

### ICH Tourism Dialogues - #1 – Halle Butvin Monday 18 March 3 pm CET

Thank you for registering here so we can keep you informed: [register here](#)

Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83017743999>

Halle Butvin is director of special projects at the [Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage](#). She leads the Center's [cultural vitality work](#) around the world, designing collaborative projects to support communities in their efforts to safeguard their heritage, promote cultural expression, and elevate cultural practices to improve local economies. In 2015, she led a team to design a research-based approach to cultural heritage tourism experience development, piloted in rural communities across Armenia. This approach, which resulted in the creation of more than 100 new tourism experiences and a major shift to experiential tourism in Armenia, is being adapted and rolled out in communities across Bosnia and Herzegovina, Tunisia, Georgia, and the United States. An experienced trainer, for more than 15 years Halle has designed and led creative industries projects, including festival-making, artisan craft development, enterprise development, and organizational development for non-profits, in Europe, East Africa, and several countries across Asia.

#### **Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage:**

The Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage is a research and educational unit of the Smithsonian Institution. The Center promotes greater understanding and sustainability of cultural heritage across the United States and around the world through research, education, and community engagement. The Center produces the [Smithsonian Folklife Festival](#), [Smithsonian Folkways Recordings](#), [Cultural Vitality](#) initiatives, exhibitions, documentary films and videos, symposia, publications, and educational materials. The Center also maintains the [Ralph Rinzler Folklife Archives and Collections](#), conducts ethnographic and cultural heritage policy-oriented research, and provides educational opportunities through fellowships, internships, and training programs.

### ICH Tourism Dialogues - #2 - Kaat de Ridder Friday 26 April 3 pm CEST

Thank you for registering here so we can keep you informed: [register here](#)

Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87083290808>

Kaat De Ridder (MSc) is a dedicated heritage tourism researcher and lecturer at Thomas More University of Applied Sciences (Belgium).

With a specialization in this intersection, her research delves into the essence of what infuses places with meaning and what drives individuals to connect with these locales, addressing pivotal questions in the process. Kaat navigates critical inquiries, such as the translation of heritage into meaningful and sustainable visitor experiences. She actively engages with a diverse range of stakeholders, ensuring a holistic and comprehensive approach to her research. Integral to Kaat's work are key principles such as sustainability, safeguarding, and inclusivity. Her focus on intangible heritage tourism involves crafting a framework that fosters tourism as a platform for the safeguarding of intangible heritage, while empowering the communities that uphold the practices.

### **ICH Tourism Dialogues - #3 – Constanza Fidelbo** **Friday 4 October 3 pm CET**

Constanza Fidelbo has been working on issues related to the protection and promotion of cultural heritage since 2017, first at the Italian Delegation at UNESCO (Paris), then at the Emergency Preparedness and Response Unit of the UNESCO Culture Sector (Paris), and since May 2020 as Associate Programme Specialist at the Culture Unit of the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe. Between 2015 and 2017, she had worked for the International Art and Architecture exhibition of La Biennale di Venezia.

Constanza holds a bachelor's degree in art history (Sapienza - University of Rome) and a master's degree in economics and management of arts and cultural activities (Ca' Foscari - University of Venice). In 2020, she graduated in Human Rights and Conflict Management at the Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies in Pisa.

Her professional interest in the role of cultural tourism for fostering sustainable local development, as well as recovery and peacebuilding in emergency contexts, was cherished during the implementation of the Horizon-2020 EU-funded SmartCulTour project - Smart Cultural Tourism as a Driver of Sustainable Development of European Regions, completed in June 2023. In this context, UNESCO successfully led the coordination of six Sustainable cultural tourism living laboratories, while raising awareness and developing capacities of concerned stakeholders for the implementation of relevant international standards for sustainable cultural tourism management and development.