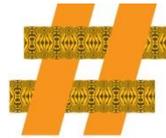




UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY



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Educational, Scientific and
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#UNITE4HERITAGE

MOBILIZATION FOR IRAQ AND SYRIA

UNITE FOR HERITAGE

6 May 2015

2:00 – 6:00 pm

Room II – UNESCO House – 125 Avenue de Suffren 75007 Paris

Today in Iraq and Syria, as yesterday in Bamyán or Timbuktu, Islamists groups destroy monuments, burn manuscripts, ransack museums, while terrorizing the population of these countries where, for centuries, have prospered brilliant civilizations. These attacks against cultural heritage are part, as stated by Irina Bokova, of a "deliberate and extremely violent cultural cleansing strategy». The urge to make a *tabula rasa* is the seal of all totalitarian regimes because the past is always talking about the present. The treasures from the past nourish our minds and underpin our freedom.

On May 6, United Nations University and UNESCO are bringing together Iraqi officials, writers, poets, intellectuals and archeologists. All will mobilize to discuss how to counter the forces that are destroying the world's heritage, without which the earth would be just a desert.

Daniel RONDEAU, United Nations University Representative at UNESCO, Writer, former ambassador of France to Malta and UNESCO

Welcome and opening remarks, 2 :00 – 2 :30 pm

- Irina BOKOVA, Director-General of UNESCO
- David M. MALONE, Rector of the United Nations University, Under-Secretary General of the United Nations
- Daniel RONDEAU, United Nations University Representative at UNESCO, Writer, former ambassador of France to Malta and UNESCO

Session 1, 2 :30 – 4 :00 pm

- Beatrice ANDRE-SALVINI, General Heritage Honorary Curator, former Director of the Eastern Antiquities department, Louvre Museum
- Najeeb MICHAEL, Dominican, Digital Center for Eastern Manuscripts, Mosul, Iraq (tbc)
- H  l  ne CARRERE d'ENCAUSSE, Historian, Perpetual Secretary of the Acad  mie fran  aise
- Boutros BOUTROS GHALI, Egyptian statesman and diplomat, Former Secretary-General of the United Nations
- Abderrahmane SISSAKO, Filmmaker of *Timbuktu*
- Le  ila SEBA  , Archeologist, Former Research Director of the National Institute of Heritage of Tunisia
- Bruno FAVEL, President of Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape, Council of Europe

Session 2, 4 :00 – 6 :00 pm

- Nedim G  RSEL, Writer
- V  nus KHOURY-GHATA, Poet and writer
- Abed AZRIE, Musician and poet
- Atiq RAHIMI, Writer

Conclusion, 6 :00 pm

- Jack LANG, President of the Arab World Institute (tbc)