

ICOM CZECH ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2015

The board of ICOM Czech in 2015 consisted of the following members: Martina Lehmannová (president), Martina Galetová (secretary), Lubomír Anděl (treasurer), Pavel Jirásek, Zdeněk Freisleben (board members).

Member and organizational matters

ICOM Czech membership rose in the period from 1st January till 31st December 2015 from 293 to 325 members (i.e. by 29 individual members and three institutional members - The Regional Museum in Český Krumlov, The Postal Museum in Prague, and The Lobkowicz Collections).

The ICOM Czech held regular meetings.

Preparation of new ICOM Czech statutes

Based on the wording of the new Civil Code, amendments to the statutes have been drafted along with related issues for the plenary session in 2016.

COOPERATION WITH ICOM AUTHORITIES

ICOM Czech cooperation with ICOM Secretariat in Paris is consistent and congenial. ICOM Czech members attended ICOM's general meeting in Paris which took place from the 1st to the 3th of June, 2015.



ICOM continues to call for promotion of active membership in international commissions and the use of the ICOMMUNITY web platform. It is available to any individual and institutional member through the ICOM card identification number. Apart from that it is directly accessible from the ICOM Czech web site under - Member Acces – where the login is the ICOM card number, a password is generated on initial entry.

General ICOM Conference – Milan 2016

Between the 27th and 29th of November 2015 the Prezident of ICOM Czech took part in Conferences in Brescia and Milan focused on theoretical and practical issues associated with the general conference in Milan in 2016.

ICOM Czech annouced grants for the memberrrs of ICOM Czech. Among many competitors there were 30 members awarded by the financial support for General conference of ICOM in Milan 2016.

ICOM Czech back up the applications of Young members under the age of 35.

COOPERATION WITH ICOM NATIONAL COMMITTEES

On the eve of the the General Meeting which took place on 31st of May 2015, the Presidents of ICOM held a meeting regarding the situation of museums in Ukraine. In cooperation with Michael Henker, Chairman of ICOM Germany, Dorota Folga Januzsewská, President of ICOM Poland and with the support of director Michael W. Pospíšil we convened a meeting at the Czech Cultural Centre in Paris of committee states concerned by the situation of museums in the eastern part of Ukraine. Aside from the aforementioned members, the event was attended by president of ICOM Slovakia Dušan Buran, member of the ICOM Russia board, Mikhail Gnezdovsky and president of ICOM Ukraine, Sergei Laevskiy and four of his colleagues, as well as president of the Disaster Relief Task Force, Corine Wegener and ICOM Treasurer Peter Keller. The situation in Luhansk was explained by Galina Czumakov, director of the local museum. Minutes of the meeting were sent to the President of ICOM, Hans-Martin Hinz. ICOM representatives of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania also added their signatures.



ICOM Poland

Between the 16th and 18th November 2015 - Members of the ICOM Czech committee presented the results of their work to colleagues from ICOM Poland at a seminar at the Wilanow Museum, Warsaw. The main seminar, in which approximately 150 representatives of Polish museums and heritage institutions including the Ministry of Culture participated, dealt primarily with urgent museum related issues and the presentation of the Czech “First Aid Museum Round”. Polish museum professionals seek to create a similar practical tool for their own museums.

ICOM Slovakia

Cooperation with the Slovak Committee of ICOM to prepare texts for the “Original and Copy” conference proceedings which was devoted to the phenomenon of copies in museums that are used, but not reflected upon theoretically. The proceedings aimed to anchor the issue of copies methodically, with regard to the history and status of museums in the 21st century.

Participation in international ICOM committees through support of ICOM Czech

In the past year we have supported the participation of ICOM member representatives and representatives of member institutions at conferences of International Committees: Jana Bělová (ICDAD), Jan Dolák (ICOFOM), Martina Galetová (ICMAH), Marie Gilberti (CIMUSET), Milan Hlaveš (GLASS), Pavel Jirásek (ICMS), Simona Juračková (MPR), Helena Koenigsmarková (ICDAD), Rostislav Koryčánek (ICAMT), Martina Lehmannová (ICDAD), Nad'ea Machková Prajzová (INTERCOM), Pert Nekuža (ICOFOM), Pavla Obrovská (CIDOC), Rudolf Pohl (ICMS), Tereza Riedelbauchová (ICML), Eva Románková (ICME), Václav Rutar (CIDOC Summer School), Josef Šrámek (ICOMAM).

COOPERATION WITH THE CZECH MINISTRY OF CULTURE

Last year we were able to rely on favourable cooperation with the Ministry of Culture, especially with the Department of Movable Cultural Heritage, Museums and Galleries. Continued support and responsiveness on the part of OMG is crucial for ICOM Czech activities and is greatly appreciated. Given that 85% of membership fees go toward the ICOM budget, it is clear that existence of ICOM Czech would be unthinkable without financial support from the Ministry of Culture.

At the request of the Ministry of Culture, we participated in providing feedback to the Concept of Museum Management 2015-2020 as well as commenting on material prepared jointly by UNESCO and ICOM entitled "Recommendation Concerning the Protection and Promotion of Museums and Collections, Their diversity and Their Role in Society". After it was approved at a general meeting of UNESCO on November 13th 2015 the document was translated into Czech (ensured by the Ministry of Culture). ICOM Czech shall provide feedback on the translation by museum professionals, so that the final version meets the demands on international and national terminology. Official publication will take place at the plenary session of ICOM Czech on 9th February 2016.

Negotiations have begun with representatives of the Ministry of Culture (Anna Matoušková, Deputy Minister of Culture; Vlastislav Ouroda, Deputy Director of the Section of Management of Cultural Heritage of the Minister of Culture; Pavel Hlubuček, Director of the Department of Movable Cultural Heritage, Museums and Galleries) regarding the preparation of nominations for the ICOM General Conference in Prague in 2022.

COOPERATION WITH PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Cooperation with the Association of Czech Museums and Galleries (AMG)

Cooperation with AMG is greatly appreciated as it is extremely helpful and dynamic. ICOM Czech was traditionally involved in organizing and presenting and the Gloria Musealis award. ICOM Czech had one representative in the jury for the Gloria Musealis award, who was at this time also its chairman (Vlastimil Vykydal).

Between the 15th and 16th of July 2015 we held a joint meeting with the Association of Museums and Galleries in Litomyšl.

Between the 3rd and 4th of November 2015 representatives of ICOM Czech attended the assembly of the Association of Museums and Galleries. There they presented a proposal to hold a General ICOM Conference in the Czech Republic in 2022, which won the support of the new leadership, as well as of the members of AMG.

ICOM members contribute to the AMG Bulletin.



Cooperation with the Council of Galleries of the Czech Republic

Between the 21st to 22nd of September 2015 the President of ICOM Czech participated in the Assembly of the Council of Galleries at the Gallery of Modern Art in Roudnice nad Labem where they presented ICOM Czech activities.

Cooperation with Czech Commission for UNESCO and the Czech Committee of the Blue Shield

ICOM Czech, the Czech agency of UNESCO, and the Czech Committee of the Blue Shield organized a seminar on measures to prevent the illegal export of relics from Iraq and Syria. The seminar was intended for professionals who might come into contact with relics illegally imported from these countries. The seminar took place on the 23rd of September 2015 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The result is a joint document entitled "Summary and recommendations for future activities of institutions in the Czech Republic contributing to the prevention of illicit cultural heritage export from Iraq and Syria" (available in Czech and English).



Cooperation with the Police of the Czech Republic

On the 15th of October 2015 a meeting was held between representatives of the ICOM Czech board and staff of the police headquarters regarding possible cooperation in the field of cultural heritage protection which resulted in a proposal to hold a joint conference on the theme of Museums and the Cultural Landscape.

From the 19th to the 11th of November 2015 the president of ICOM Czech joined a working session of representatives of the Czech Police units in Solenice, where she presented ICOM and projects that contribute to combatting illicit business with cultural heritage.

OTHER ACTIVITIES of ICOM CZECH

We supported the celebration of International Museum Day in 2015 under the slogan "Museums for a Sustainable Society". One of the biggest challenges for modern society worldwide is adaptation of modern life to nature's limits. Transforming the functioning of human society toward sustainability requires new ways of thinking and acting. Museums play an important role in this transformation as they can promote sustainability and act as a laboratory for testing new ways. Modern museums should take a clear position in this new context and should be heard. The "Museums for a Sustainable Society" theme is to show the public that museums also play an important role in the search for a society that produces less waste, and that makes better use of resources while showing respect to the laws of nature.

As part of the National Competition of Museums entitled "Gloria Musaealis" ICOM Czech awarded the 2015 ICOM Czech Prize to the National Gallery in Prague and to the Philosophical Institute of the Academy of Sciences for the exhibition "Open the Garden of Eden. Benedictines in the Heart of Europe, 800-1500."

Distribution of the "ICOM Codes of Ethics" (prepared and printed at the end of 2014), the ICOM Code of Ethics is the basic document, which presents the fundamental standards the museum staff should follow. These standards are binding for members of ICOM.

We update the ICOM Czech website (www.czech.icom.museum) on a regular basis. Interested parties will find concise information concerning the functioning of ICOM Czech, in addition to other material.

We have been preparing documents for the General ICOM Conference in Prague in 2022. Negotiations with representatives of the Ministry of Culture, AMG Czech Republic and the Council of Galleries have promised support in organizing the conference.

Participation in Conferences

Between the 23rd and the 25th of April 2015 the first congress of museum workers was held in Lodz, Poland. The main topic was the new museum law in Poland, the code of ethics, salaries, digitization, and statistics.

Between the 25th to 26th of June 2015 there was a seminar for museum-goers in Hodonín entitled "The Museum Profession and the Public" on the potential of the "non-pedagogical teaching" of museum workers. ICOM Czech presented its activities and opportunities for international cooperation.

Between the 5th and the 8th of November 2015 representatives of the ICOM Czech board attended a meeting of the body of European Associations of Museums NEMO (Network of European Museum Organisation) in Pilsen.

We supported the organization of the international Conference of Conservators-Restorers, organised based on the initiative of the AMG Committee of Conservators-Restorers and the Technical Museum in Brno - Methodical Centre of Conservation. It took place from the 8th to the 10th of September 2015 in Pilsen.

FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY

Through a grant from the Ministry of Culture (550,000 CZK) ICOM Czech supported the publication of the proceedings "Forum for Conservators-Restorers 2015" with 70,000 CZK. Apart from that ICOM Czech contributed 480,000 CZK toward events held abroad.

ICOM Czech spent 98,800 CZK from its own resources on its own operations.

Martina Lehmannová
ICOM Czech
President