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Czech Republic

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES IN 2019



THE ANNUAL REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF THE CZECH NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF ICOM IN 2019

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THE ANNUAL REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF THE CZECH NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF ICOM IN 2019

1. THE MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATIONAL AFFAIRS

In 2019 the Executive Board of the Czech National Committee of ICOM consisted of: Martina Lehmannová (Chairperson), Dagmar Grossmannová (Secretary), Lubomír Anděl (Treasurer), Pavel Jirásek, Zdeněk Freisleben (Executive Board members).

1. 1. The Plenary Meeting of the Czech National Committee of ICOM – theme: International experience with museum legislation

The representatives of institutional members and individual members met at the **Meeting of the Czech National Committee of ICOM at the Moravian Museum on 6 March 2019**. The special theme dealt with issues of **museum legislative**, which had been opened to debate in the Czech Republic. ICOM Czech Republic had invited the representatives of the National Committees of ICOM from Poland, Austria and Slovakia who gave speeches on museum legislative in single countries.



Austria

Elke Kellner, Chairperson, ICOM Austria, presented the **museum legislative in Austria**. The term 'museum' is nowise protected by law. Institutions that accept responsibility resulting from the principles of the ICOM Code of Ethics may aspire to be included in the Austrian museum registration system (<http://www.museen-in-oesterreich.at/>). The platform that decides on inclusion in the registration system consists of ICOM Austria, the Austrian Museum Association, Jury of the Museum Seal of Quality and representatives from the professional public from single federal states. The museum registration system have been joined by 765 museums, 272 have obtained the Austrian Museum Seal of Quality.

Eight federal museums are protected by the legal standard at the federal level: Albertina, Kunsthistorisches Museum (along with Weltmuseum, Theaternuseum); Österreichische Galerie Belvedere; MAK – Austrian Museum of Applied Arts; MUMOK – Museum of Modern Art Ludwig Foundation; Naturhistorisches Museum, Technical Museum Vienna (along with Austrian Mediatec), ÖNB – Austrian National Library). Their budgets are backed by the federal government. Single federal countries protect the existence of significant museum institutions at their level in single countries by identical legal amendments (national museum, municipal museums, and the like).



Slovakia

Jasna Gaburová, Chairperson, the Slovak National Committee of ICOM, presented **Law No. 206/2009 on Museums and Galleries and the Protection of Objects of Cultural Significance, and the Register of Museums and Galleries in the Slovak Republic, and the standard of professional activities** and their positives and negatives. Some sections of this law written by office workers without professional discussion do not understand some museum objectives well, others even complicate them. Therefore, obeying law does not seem ideal in Slovakia. However, the Temporary Working Group for a new museum law (representatives of Slovak National Museum, Slovak National Gallery, Slovak Museums Union, Slovak Galleries Council, representatives of museum establishers) led by the Director General of the Section of Cultural Heritage, the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic, was formed after ten-year experience with the new law.

The new law is included in the government legislation plan. The topics of discussion are lexical in character (use only the term museum not gallery which is the museum of art). Additionally, a question as to the museum network is discussed relating to a profile of collection and establisher, possibilities of financing charges for collections, possibility to add an institution established by a natural person (only legal person so far) to the museums register, besides making access to the museums register strict, ensuring supervision of obeying the terms of law and register, establishment of methodology centres, deaccessioning, education of museum professionals, keeping accompanying documentation.

Poland

Dorota Folga-Januszewska representing ICOM Poland presented **the law on museums in Poland**. The first museum legislative in Poland was the law on museums written in 1918, however, it has never come into force. From 1933, the Act on Guardianship of Public Museum was in effect, the Act on Cultural Goods Protection and Museums Protection was adopted in 1962. The Act on Museum No. 5, Article 24 effective from January 1997 was adopted after thirty-four years. It had been co-drafted by ICOM Poland, the Museum Committee of the Association of Art Historians, the Ministry of Culture four years and was approved by the Sejm. About one third of the Act underwent amendments until 2019. Seven of them came into force during last two years (they related to, e.g. requirements on qualification of museum professionals, collections mobility, museum register, admission fees, restitutions). The Polish Act is extremely detailed as it describes each of the museum activities, sets precisely a range of details. The precision, however, does not seem to be asset. The Act complicates the natural development of museum branch.



Vlastislav Ouroda, the representative of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic presented the launch of discussion on the law on museums in the Czech Republic.

1.2. Membership Base

The membership base of the Czech National Committee of ICOM underwent a change between 1 January and 31 December 2019 by increase from 407 to 444 – from 81 to 87 institutional members, totally by seven new institutional members (Sladovna Písek, Regional Museum in Jílové u Prahy, Moravian Library, Central Bohemian Museum in Rožtoky u Prahy, Museum of Puppets in Chrudim, Wallachian Open Air Museum, Club Gallery);

Jan Munk, a significant Czech museum professional, the Director of the Terežín Memorial, a member of ICOM Czech Republic and ICMEMO – International Committee of Memorial Museums, passed away in 2019. He would regularly attend meetings of ICMEMO; when he was the Director of the Terežín Memorial the institution had been arranging a meeting of ICMEMO members in 2009.

1.3. Publishing and storing data on activities of the Czech National Committee of ICOM

Information on activities of ICOM Czech Republic was regularly published on www.czech.icom.museum.

The Czech National Committee of ICOM's Archive is housed in the Moravian Museum, the Department of History of Literature, Hudcova 321/76 street, and is kept added.

The image shows a screenshot of the ICOM Czechia website. At the top, there is the ICOM logo and the text 'international council of museums Česká republika'. A navigation menu on the left lists various sections like 'Co je ICOM', 'Jak se stát členem', and 'Členské poplatky'. The main content area features a large banner with the text 'ICOM Czechia' and 'ČLENSKÉ POPLATKY v roce 2020 budou ve stejné výši jako v roce 2019. Platby už je možné realizovat na účet ČV ICOM.' Below this, there is a section titled 'ICOM Etický kodex pro muzea' and a large, colorful Christmas tree graphic with the text 'VESELÉ VÁNOCE PŘEJE ČV ICOM'. The tree is decorated with colorful ornaments and a star on top. To the right of the tree, there is a section titled 'Institucionální členové ČV ICOM' and a small image of a museum building. At the bottom of the page, there is a section titled 'Naše publikace' and a small image of a book cover titled 'museum INTERNATIONAL'.

ICOM Etický kodex pro muzea
Jedním z fundamentů ICOMu je [ICOM Etický kodex pro muzea](#). Soustředí základní standardy profesionální práce a činnosti muzeí a jejich zaměstnanců. Vstupem do organizace ICOM přijímají její členové Etický kodex jako závazný dokument své činnosti. V roce 2013 byl doplněn [Etickým kodexem pro přírodovědná muzea](#). Ustanovuje minimální standard pro praxi, na kterém může každá instituce dále stavět. Dále přinášíme [Dokument o profesi konzervátora-restaurátora](#).

Činnost Českého výboru ICOM podporuje Ministerstvo kultury České republiky.

MINISTERSTVO KULTURY

Inspirováno Kyotem :)

ICOM Czechia
ČLENSKÉ POPLATKY v roce 2020 budou ve stejné výši jako v roce 2019. Platby už je možné realizovat na účet ČV ICOM. Více informací najdete [zde](#).
Osobní vyzvednutí známek na rok 2020 bude oproti dodanému potvrzení o platbě možné v termínech **12. 12. 2019 a 3. 1. 2020**, od 9 - 12 hod. a od 13 - 16 hod., na numismatickém oddělení MZM, Biskupský dvůr, Múzejní 1,3, Brno.
V jiných termínech bude osobní vyzvednutí známek možné po domluvě od **6. ledna 2020**. Znamky budou samozřejmě rozesílány poštou na základě zaslání potvrzení o platbě a aktuální adresy.
PROTOŽE JE POČET ČLENŮ VELMI VYSOKÝ PROSÍME VÁS O TRPĚLIVOST PŘI VYŘIZOVÁNÍ VAŠICH PLATEB A DOTAZŮ. URGENCE PROSÍM ZASÍLEJTE AŽ TEPRVE JESTLI VÁM TAJEMNICE NEODPOVÍ DO TÝDNE. KONTAKTOVAT JI MŮŽETE NA icom@mzm.cz.

Institucionální členové ČV ICOM
Členství v ICOMu deklarují instituce svoji příslušnost k mezinárodnímu muzejnickému plénu, iniciativu podílet se na utváření muzejnictví v mezinárodním měřítku. Členství usnadňuje budování vztahů mezi institucemi v rámci světa. Členské instituce získávají podle výše svých rozpočtů institucionální průkazky ICOM. [Seznam institucionálních členů ČV ICOM](#)

Naše publikace
Etické kodexy, Praha 2014. [20/68 let ČV/ČSV ICOM](#). Věstník Asociace muzeí a galerií ČR, 2014, č. 1. André Desvallées, François

2. THE COOPERATION WITH ICOM BODIES

2.1. The cooperation between ICOM Czech Republic and ICOM Secretariat in Paris is regular and helpful, except for the admittance of new members – enormous delays occur in issuing new membership cards. ICOM opened the new Web pages in 2019, and the so-called miniwebsites used by national and international committees of ICOM will be regularly up-dated.

2.2. THE ICOM General Conference - KYOTO, 1 – 7 September 2019 (85th Advisory Council ICOM)

The General Conference of ICOM took place in Kyoto, Japan, at the beginning of September 2019. The Czech Republic was represented by 31 museum professionals (Mendel Museum, Moravian Gallery in Brno, Moravian Museum, The City of Prague Museum, Jan Amos Comenius Museum in Uherský Brod, National Gallery in Prague, National Museum, National Open Air Museum, National Technical Museum, Lidice Memorial, Museum of Czech Literature, Terezín Memorial, Technical Museum in Brno, Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague, and a representative of the Ministry of Culture).

The conference was attended by 4,600 persons from 120 countries, 40 per cent from Japan, 26 per cent from Europe, 15 per cent from Asia ... The seven-day conference programme included 362 lectures, workshops and discussions out of which 32 were off-site meetings and 51 excursions.



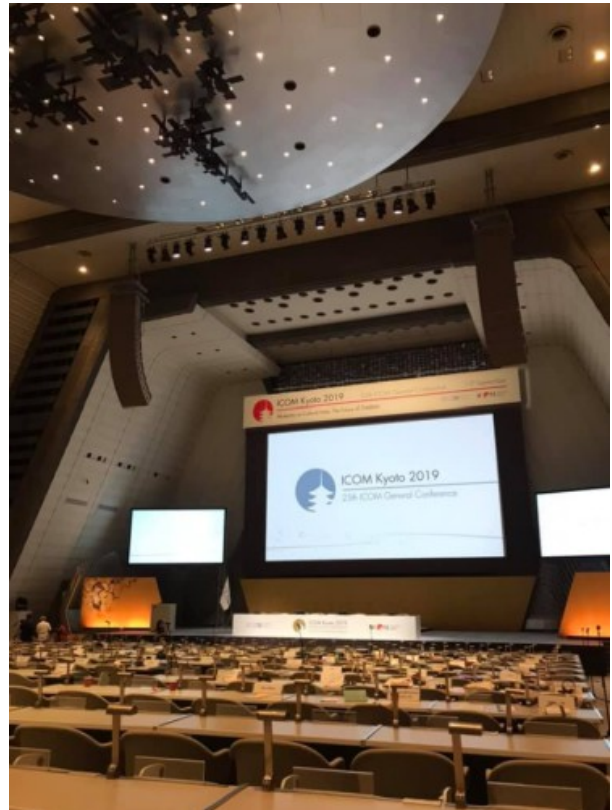
Theme

The Conference was devoted to the theme **Museums as Cultural Hubs. The Future of Traditions**. Museums amass and house vast collections and their mission is to explore deposited objects and make them accessible to the public. The key role of museums is search for new ways of how to interpret the preserved cultural heritage. For our present day and future, we can find numerous inspiring examples worthy following in addition to mementoes we should avoid. In the centre of many global political, economical and social changes occurring worldwide, and along with problems resulting from the climate change, poverty, conflicts, natural disasters, human rights and environment, it is becoming fairly urgent for museums to consider the way of how they can add to building up the peaceful and sustainable future. Each of the museums is unique and has its own distinct specialization – history, arts, sciences, natural history, literature or another object; likewise they have their own collections, history and a way and extent of presentation. However, there are limits as to what museums may do as completely independent entities. Only then do museums reach potential to become relevant and to meet better the modern world expectations when they interlink through regional, national and international nets. That effort increases their effectiveness as ‘cultural hubs’ and their ability to move between traditions of the past and innovations of the future.



The General Conference was opened by an official ceremony. The opening speech was delivered by Suay Aksoy, ICOM President; next speech was given by Johei Sasaki, Chairperson, ICOM Japan; the Japanese Minister of Culture, Sports, Education, Science and Technology; State Minister; the Governor of Kyoto Prefecture; the Mayor of Kyoto. The opening programme was closed by a **welcoming address delivered by Crown Prince Akishino**, who took part in the opening programme with his wife Princess Kiko. Also Prime Minister Shinzo Abe arrived to greet participants.

The programme taking place in the main hall of seating capacity 1,804 were interpreted into English, French, Spanish, Japanese and opening speeches were interpreted for the deaf, texts in English were on panels along the auditorium.



Lectures

The professional section of the programme was opened by Architect **Kengo Kuma** by the keynote speech entitled **The Age of Forest**. It was devoted to the sustainable development, so were further talks on the meeting agenda. Architect Kuma presented the use of wood, wooden elements in construction, the interiors and exteriors of a new museum and other buildings worldwide, along with the re-use of renewable resources, following traditions, tasks and challenges of today and tomorrow.

Another speechmaker was **Sebastião Saldago**, a photographer of Brazilian roots who lives in Paris. He devoted his paper '**A Brazilian Amazon Forest Initiative**' to issues of the Amazon rainforest destruction and presented photographs he had taken in the Amazon basin. His emotional presentation received a huge ovation.

The last talk was given by **Cai Guo-Qiang**, a Chinese artist who is famous for his experiments with gunpowder. He had gradually begun to devote himself to studying East philosophies. In his paper '**My Museum Years**' he dealt with a question about how museums housing collections from the past can affect the present development. He compared curators to shamans who are gifted with art of connecting the past for the present days. He put a question about how to build up museums to encourage audience and not to be mere organizations chasing after building up a brand strengthening thoughtless mass cultural tourism.

25 th ICOM GENERAL CONFERENCE - ICOM KYOTO 2019 PROGRAMME								
362 activities								
Day -2	Day -1	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
		16 activities	77 activities	89 activities	91 activities	32 activities	51 activities	5 activities
Executive Board Meeting	Statutory meeting (1) Advisory Council	Social event Opening Ceremony (1)			Statutory meeting (1) Open Forum for Resolutions	Off-site meetings (31)	Excursions (51)	Statutory meetings (3) Extraordinary General assembly General Assembly Advisory Council
	Separate Meetings of NCs (1)	Keynote speech (1)	Keynote speech (1)	Keynote speech (1)	Keynote speech (1)			
	Separate Meetings of ICs (1)	Plenary session (1)	Plenary session (1)	Plenary session (1)	Plenary sessions (2)			
	International Committees Board Meetings (13)	Workshops (2)	Workshops (4)	Workshop (1)				
		Networking session (1)	Networking session (1)	Networking session (1)				
		Committees conferences (66)	Committees conferences (79)	Committees conferences (80)				
		Panels (2)		Panels (2)				
		Museum Fair (1)						
		Social event (1) Opening party	Social events (2)	Social events (3)	Social event (1)			Social events (2) Closing ceremony and party

The definition of Museum

Everybody was keen on the closing programme where a new definition of museum was presented and discussed. The need to change the existing definition of museum had been voiced among museum professionals during previous years. A working group had formed entrusted with a proposal for a new text. The members did not agree many times during the discussions. The final definition was presented by **Jette Sandahl**. She had been the founding director of the progressive Museum of World Culture in Sweden and the Women's Museum in Denmark. She had worked in the National Museum of Denmark, the National Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa as a project manager. Finally, she had been the director of the Museum of Copenhagen.

The definition of museum used today was adopted in 1974 (ICOM President was Jan Jelínek that year, 1971-1977). Then the definition had slightly changed as to the museum development and needs from that time. The last amendment was approved at the General Conference in Vienna in 2007 to include the term intangible cultural heritage.

"A museum is a non-profit, permanent institution in the service of society and its development, open to the public, which acquires, conserves, researches, communicates and exhibits the tangible and intangible heritage of humanity and its environment for the purposes of education, study and enjoyment."

The authors of the new proposal think that the ICOM definition of museum does not reflect our challenges and assorted visions and responsibilities. So they tried to react to that by their new proposal:

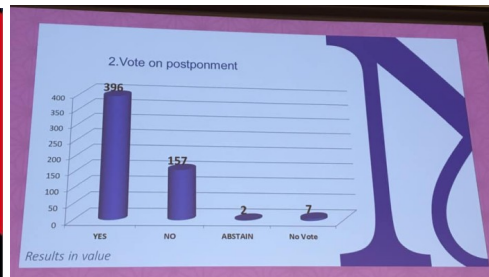
"Museums are democratising, inclusive and polyphonic space for critical dialogue about the past and the

future. Acknowledging and addressing the conflicts and challenges of the present, they hold artefacts and specimens in trust for society, safeguard diverse memories for future generations and guarantee equal rights and equal access to heritage for all people.

Museums are not for profit. They are participatory and transparent, and work in active partnership with and for diverse communities to collect, preserve, research, interpret, exhibit, and enhance understanding of the world, aiming to contribute to human dignity and social justice, global equality and planetary wellbeing.”

The discussion about the new proposal of the definition of museum in Kyoto was heated and long and led to refusal so was postponed for next year, when ICOM is expected to deal with that at a regular meeting of Chairpersons in Paris. However, there is a question as to the new version will be accepted, and it seems possible that the definition of museum will be open up for discussion until the next General Conference held in Prague in 2022.

**I was there when
the Museum Definition
was discussed
in Kyoto.**



Giving the flag to the ICOM General Conference

The participants went to the National Museum in Kyoto after the discussion to see the closing programme where the **ICOM flag**, as a relay symbol of hosting General Conferences, was formally passed on. It is a traditional act when the organisers of the current General Conference pass the ICOM flag on representatives of the country hosting the next General Conference. We were given the flag from the Chairperson of ICOM Japan and the Mayor of Kyoto. That symbolic act closed the conference (the flag had been woven in a Japanese textile workshop and remain in ICOM Kyoto possession). The act of giving the flag was part of the closing party and took place in the National Museum in Kyoto opened for the ICOM General Conference participants that day. They saw the Museum permanent exhibitions; food and drinks were served in the garden.



2.3. The cooperation with ICOM National Committees

Based on plans for activities of single international commissions, we are continuously working on selected projects. **Single members of the Czech National Committee of ICOM took part in conferences of International Committees of ICOM:**

AVICOM - Aleš Kapsa, Jan Amos Comenius Museum in Uherský Brod, elected AVICOM board member

CIMAM - Veronika Wolf, National Gallery in Prague

CIMUSET - Marie Gilberti, CIMUSET board member, Ivo Štěpánek and Josef Večeřa, Technical Museum in Brno; Karel Ksandr and Hynek Stříteský, National Technical Museum in Prague

GLASS – Jan Mergl, Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague, Lenka Pánková-Merglová, Museum of West Bohemia in Plzeň

ICDAD - Helena Koenigsmarková, ICDAD President, Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague

ICLM – Zdeněk Freisleben, Museum of Czech Literature

ICMAH – Miroslava Šmolíková, The City of Prague Museum

ICME – Jindřich Ondruš, Open Air National Museum

ICMEMO – Martina Lehmannová, Lidice Memorial; Jan Roubínek, Terežín Memorial

ICMS – Pavel Jirásek; Rudolf Pohl, National Museum

ICOFOM – Hynek Stříteský, National Technical Museum in Prague

ICOMON – Dagmar Grossmannová, Moravian Museum

INTERCOM – Michal Lukeš, National Museum; Jiří Mitáček, Moravian Museum; Ivan Morávek, National Gallery Prague

MPR – Simona Juračková; Andrea Vojtěchovská, Moravian Gallery in Brno

NatHist – Andrea Vychodilová, Mendel Museum of Masaryk University

UMAC – Martina Galetová, Moravian Museum





2.4. The cooperation with national committees of ICOM.

The cooperation with national committees was within common communication and was intensive with neighbouring countries Slovakia, Austria and Poland. For detailed information see Chapter 3.

2.5. The International Museum Day

A debate took place on new themes of the **International Museum Day on 18 May**. The theme for 2020 is **Museums for Equality: Diversity and Inclusion**, for 2021 **Museums: Inspiring the Future**

2.6. The system of paying subscription to the ICOM General Secretariat

A heated discussion revolved around the payment of subscriptions to the ICOM General Secretariat whose members had asked to pay a subscription towards the end of March in the year it relates. The requirement resulted from two pieces of experience. First, the international committees had wanted to accelerate the system of allocating grants for their work and conferences. Second, some national committees had paid subscriptions at the end of the year or even with a two-year delay. The Czech National Committee of ICOM pays two repayments, one in June, consequently we are given financial subsidy from the Ministry of Culture; another is paid in the autumn. Provided we transferred money earned from subscriptions in March, we would have no money on our account for a quarter of a year so were not able to pay for our common activities and arranging conferences. Fortunately, supported by other Chairpersons of central-European committees of ICOM, the Chairperson of ICOM Czech Republic managed to explain the situation to the ICOM Secretariat. The system of payments remains unchanged for the Czech National Committee; the ICOM General Secretariat will concentrate on claiming unpaid subscriptions from the committees whose credit history is problematic.

3. THE CONFERENCES ORGANIZED OR BACKED BY THE CZECH NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF ICOM

The Czech National Committee of ICOM participated in many conferences in 2019. We co-organized some of them, others were supported medially or financially.

3.1. The international Conference HERITAGE INTERPRETATION: THE POWER OF STORYTELLING IN MUSEUMS was held at the Hermitage Museum in Staraya Derevnaya Restoration and Storage Centre in Saint Petersburg between 26 and 29 June 2019. The conference was co-organized by the National Committees: ICOM Russia, ICOM Austria, ICOM Czech Republic, ICOM Slovakia, ICOM Switzerland. The key part of the meeting focused on:

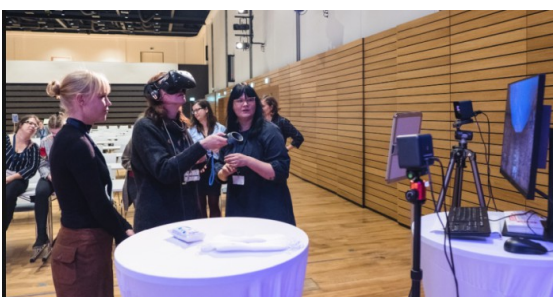
- 'The Role of Storytelling in Building Dialogue between Museums and Audiences', and thematic panels:
- 'Revealing Hidden Histories of Various Social Groups and Neglected Heritage',
- 'Interpreting Dissonant Heritage: Museums as Mediators in the Public Space',
- 'Relevant Storytelling about Contemporary Heritage'.

The conference was devoted to memorial museums that spread their missions by a form of passing stories. It is necessary to think about how we perform particular stories. A most remarkable discussion revolved around especially with respect to museum existence/Gulag museums in contemporary Russia. Also a museum presentation given by Boris Yeltsin and his role in the society in contemporary Russia was noteworthy. The Czech Republic was represented by six delegates who gave three talks. The conference was attended by over 100 delegates from 13 countries. One of the Czech delegates moderated the whole panel and three of them gave speeches: Zdeněk Freisleben, Pavel Jirásek, Martina Lehmannová.



3.2. The International Conference REVOLUTION: VELVET X DIGITAL – 30 years of digital and social media in museums took place between 6 and 7 November 2019. It was co-organised by ICOM Slovakia, ICOM Czech Republic, ICOM Austria, the Slovak National Museum and the Slovak National Gallery. It marked the 30th anniversary of the Iron Curtain fall bringing about changes in paradigm of viewing information and its meaning. The liberty in the post-1989 period in the countries of socialist bloc was perceived especially as the freedom of speech and sharing information. Museums that are not mere custodians of objects but information contained in them have begun slowly exploiting digital technologies changing the ways of how the public use information on cultural heritages. The papers informed about the use of digital tools on both sides of the Iron Curtain, the information was attractive also for participants from Mexico or Israel. The Conference was attended by over 100 delegates from the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Italy, Israel, Hungary, Mexico, Germany, Austria, Poland, Portugal and Great Britain.

The keynote lecture at the conference entitled the **Czech and Slovak Museums in the European Context** was given by Jakub Jareš from the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes. He understood thirty years after the Revolution as the right moment to review conditions of our today's museums. He searched for details and differences in the home development against five selected phenomena dealt with in European and global contexts: (1) How has been stimulation in new museology reflected in the Czech-Slovak milieu? (2) Are we undergoing the same development of our memorial museums like it is occurring globally? (3) Why the museum boom we can see in neighbouring Germany, Poland or Estonia has avoided our countries so far? (4) What is a form of new technologies in our milieu? (5) Are decolonisation debates occurring in western countries worth entering in Czech or Slovak environment? Also other Czech participants Pavel Jirásek, Martina Lehmannová, Josef Večera and Anna Soldánová gave their speeches.



3.3 . Backed by the Czech National Committee of ICOM and the Alliance française Brno **The symposium entitled WHAT ROLE DOES CONTEMPORARY ART PLAY IN MUSEUM? DIALOG: Architecture – Prehistory- Contemporary Art** took place in the Moravian Museum in the Anthropos Pavilion on 9 January 2019. It dealt with relations between prehistory (archaeology and anthropology) and contemporary art and architecture. The architecture of museum displaying prehistoric collections is changeable. Museums with prehistoric themes have been arising across Europe since the early 19th century to become an important part of national identities now. Such museums amass, display and also study archaeological objects, they interpret and present them so they are becoming an important part of social discourse. What is the relation between appearance of museum building, exhibition installation and displayed objects or artefacts like? Should be a form of exhibition installation or a museum building adapted to objects on display? Also a question of the development of these opinions was discussed. Museums hosting archaeological and anthropological collections deal with questions of relations between architecture, science and contemporary art: How can the contemporary art react to archaeological and anthropological collections? What is the importance of intervention of the contemporary art in permanent collections in such museums and what form should they assume? How can an artist and their attitude add to the contemporary research carried out in museums?

Speechmakers from Czechia and France gave their talks in three blocks:

- Radko Květ (Architectural Office Radko Květ) – Archeopark Pavlov – synopsis of architectural space and displays.
- Rostislav Koryčárek (Moravian Gallery) – More architecture of more exhibits?
- S. Hémon (QWA) – 9X9 /// L'espace comme intervalle ou le temps de voir- *un champ* (Space as the time interval or the time to see – the field of activity).
- Petr Kostrhun, Martina Galetová (Moravian Museum) Architecture and anthropological museums
- I. Maaimure (QWA) - Faire du Musée une cruche - et recueillir les fluides du vivant? (Interpreting Museum as a jug – to catch the flowing life?)
- Petr Sterec (FAVU Brno) – About artist's roles in critical museology.
- Ondřej Chrobák (Moravian Gallery) 'Family Business': archaeology and conceptual art.



3.4. The International Conference UNIVERSEUM. Within the Czech Republic, the Czech National Committee of ICOM supported the annual International Conference UNIVERSEUM 2019 (European Academic Heritage Network) taking place at the Mendel Museum in Brno (Masaryk University, brno) between 18 and 21 June 2019 and the Hrdlička Museum of Man in Prague (Charles University, Prague). The block of lectures took place at the Mendel Museum of the Masaryk University on 18-20 June 2019. The Charles University in Prague hosted an excursion section on 21 June – the Conference participants in three groups were gradually shown the Charles University collections both theoretically in a block of lectures and practically. The key objective was to show Czech museum collections built and administrated by Czech universities. The conferences are held on regular base and enjoy great response; they are among prestigious projects. Thanks to the Conference the international audience could see unique collections; the Conference provided a range of new information and findings towards the Czech milieu. Presented institutions: Masaryk University – Mendel Museum; Charles University; Hrdlička Museum of Man; Museum of Normal and Comparative Anatomy; Museum of Stomatology; Chlupáč's Museum of Earth History; Mineral Museum; Map Collection; Herbarium Collections; Botanical Garden and Geological Garden.



3.5 The Czech-Norwegian Fire-Safety workshop ‘Stable fire extinguishers and fire protection in cultural institutions’ took place at the Technical Museum in Brno (TMB) on 20 June 2019. The workshop was co-organized by the Methodological Centre for Conservation, the Technical Museum in Brno and the Czech Association of Museum and Galleries, ICOM Czech Republic and was supported by the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic. It was another episode out of the series of seminars entitled Protection and Safety at Memorial Institutions organized by the Technical Museum in Brno whose main themes are especially preventive steps; and space, object and fire protection. Among the key objectives of that professional meeting was to summarise existing experience, and a discussion on the field of stable extinguishers at memorial institutions placing special emphasis on installation in exhibition rooms, depositaries and accessible authentic interiors.

The workshop programme was conceptually divided into two blocks. The morning block included expert presentations devoted to stable extinguishers, their use in the protection of the heritage-listed wooden constructions and technical tools for timely detection, and signalization of fire. The afternoon block of the seminar was led by our Norwegian colleague Mikael Blihovd who opened the workshop by a talk devoted to an analysis of risks and the fire protection in the Norsk Folkemuseu in Oslo. The practical part of the workshop took place in the TMB area in Brno-Řečkovice. Led by the Norwegian colleague the participants learnt the principles of real fire control in practice by the use of available hand fire extinguishers. The workshop was attended by 28 persons.



4. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ICOM GENERAL CONFERENCE PRAGUE 2022

The ICOM summit is the **General Conference**. An ICOM General Conference is held every three years in one of important cities of the member countries (2019 Kyoto, 2016 Milano, 2013 Rio de Janeiro ...). Being a host country is honour likewise it is a significant PR tool for promoting museums' performance among the professional community worldwide. The General Conference is attended by around 3,500 museum professionals from around the world. The host city becomes the 'city of the world's museums' for seven days.

So many-year investments into museums and galleries in the Czech Republic will increase in value. Museums and museum communities are an important promotional tool influencing the broad public. The General Conference is attended by especially head museum professionals, representatives of ministries, representatives of significant international organizations taking care of cultural heritage. The Conference will add to forming a positive image of the Czech Republic in the international sphere.

Re-making arrangements

During the vote in 2018, Prague was beaten by another candidate, Alexandria. After one-year negotiations it became apparent that ICOM Egypt is not able to prepare, nor is able to organize a General Conference, so the Czech National Committee of ICOM was submitted a polite request to assume the commitment and organize the General Conference. We began working on a feasibility study. What was important during that stage was the promise to support us given by Vlastislav Ouarda, the Deputy Minister for Cultural Heritage and contributory organisations, and a positive response from many members of ICOM Czech Republic, which was reflected by increase in Czech delegates in Kyoto (from 12 to 31).

Then, after the members of the Executive Board of the Czech National Committee of ICOM presented the feasibility study at the meeting of ICOM executives in Paris on 29 July 2019, the Czech National Committee of ICOM was given the official commission by the General Secretariat to organize the ICOM General Conference in the Czech Republic in 2022. It was imperative to sign contracts on cooperation among ICOM, ICOM Czech Republic and an organizational agency that had already cooperated on the bid (Guarant).

The presentation of arrangements at the museum fair within the ICOM General Conference in Kyoto

It was necessary to immediately start work on a presentation for the General Conference in Kyoto to be given at the opening and closing programme and the flag handover. Especially, it was essential to arrange an exhibition stand at the museum fair in Kyoto, where ICOM Czech Republic had room next the ICOM General Secretariat. Talks with Japanese organizers were complicated or even chaotic and without Pavel Jirásek's patience it would have not been possible to make preparations for the journey.

The event was a success thanks to considerable effort devoted by numerous people. Special thanks go to the National Museum, Director General Michal Lukeš and Ms Eva Ruferová. The National Museum arranged for the print of booklets presenting museums in Prague and information leaflets within two weeks in August (both had been prepared for the bid in 2018). The National Museum also arranged for the transport of all material to the General Secretariat in Paris to be re-transported by cargo to Japan in mid-August.

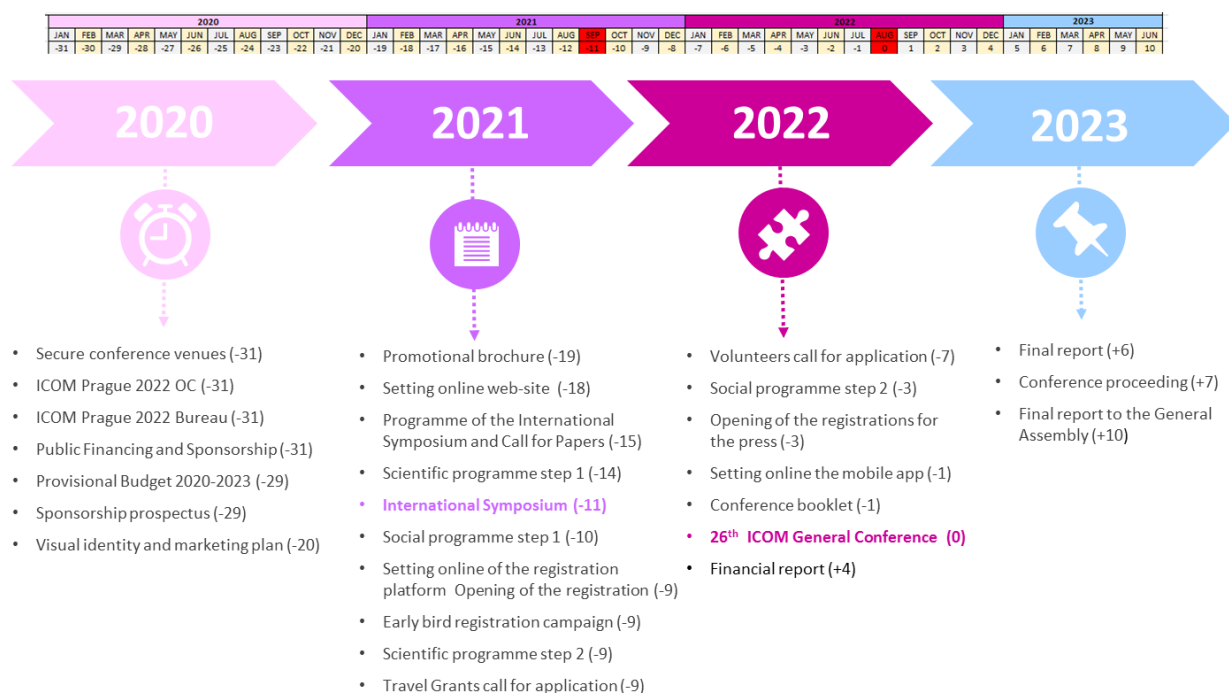


Special thanks go to the Czech Centres, Director General Ondřej Černý, and Ms Eva Takamine from the Czech Centre in Tokyo who had arranged a volunteer to present the stand, whose help was enormous as she was able to communicate with Japanese participants in their mother tongue. All Czech participants took their turns at the stand to inform thousands of museum professionals on arranging the 2022 ICOM General Conference in Prague.

Following the Conference in Kyoto there were talks between the Executive Board of the Czech National Committee of ICOM and Minister of Culture Lubomír Zaorálek who promised to back the event. Then, the members of the Executive Board cooperated on material for the meeting of the Ministry of Culture to secure the financial support for the preparatory stage and the General Conference realization.

With respect to the arrangements, it was highly important to evaluate the conference in Kyoto. Some dozen professionals had devoted themselves for three years to prepare the conference and programme consisting of 362 activities. It is an enormous challenge that we will have to meet. Nevertheless, we are trying to find solution to a burning question about financing the preliminary stage of the conference in 2020 and 2021. Unlike the organizers in Kyoto we are facing one-and-half-a-year delay. We lost one year due to the vote of Alexandria, and half of a year we lost in the second half of 2019.

Francesca Pollicini, the manager of the ICOM General Secretariat in Paris for the ICOM General Conference arrangement took inspection visit in November. She visited the Congress Centre in Prague, the venue of a programme for all participants. Then she went to see the National Museum and to meet Director General Michal Lukeš. The National Museum will host a formal Closing Party besides many lectures and meetings especially those of the international committees. Next she visited the National Technical Museum and met Director General Karel Ksandr. The Museum will host an Opening Party and a programme of CIMUSET, the International Committee for Museums and Collections of Science and Technology established right in this Museum. Also talks with representatives of the Guarant agency were held where a schedule was discussed in detail.



5. THE COOPERATION WITH THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE

Last year, we could lean upon the good cooperation with the Ministry of Culture especially with the Museums and Galleries Division, the Department of Conservation of the Movable Cultural Heritage and the International Relations Department. The permanent support and helpfulness from the Ministry of Culture is decisive for activities of ICOM Czech Republic and we do appreciate that. Given the fact that we transfer 85 per cent of subscriptions to the budget of ICOM, the existence of ICOM Czech Republic would not be possible unless supported from the Ministry of Culture. It is thanks to that support that 31 members could take part in the ICOM General Conference in Kyoto, the ICOM conferences in Brno, Saint Petersburg or in Bratislava and the conference UNIVERSEUM (see Chapter 3).

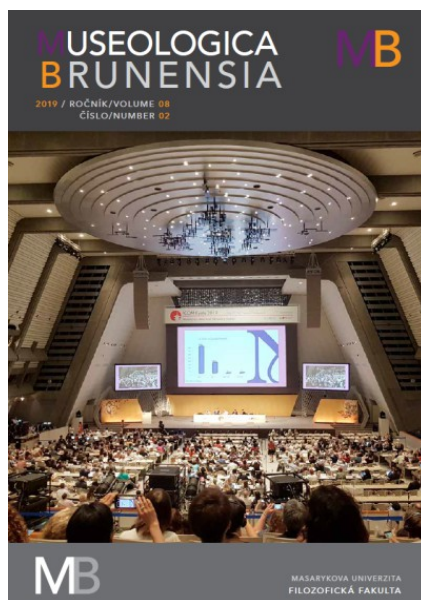
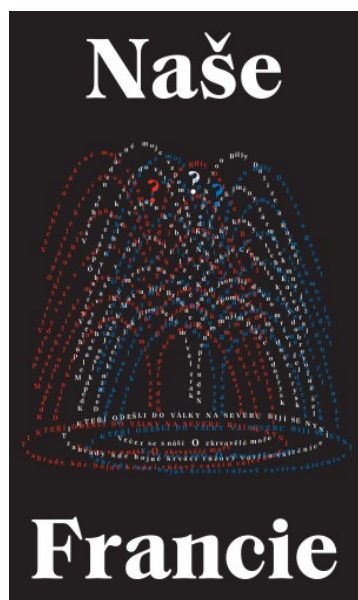
Further, we could support publications:

Antoine Marés, Tereza Riedlbauchová eds., *Naše Francie: Francouzská poezie v českých překladech a ilustracích 20. století*. (scientific catalogue accompanying the exhibition, MCL, 2019)

The publication *Naše Francie. Francouzská poezie v českých překladech a ilustracích 20. století* accompanied the same-title exhibition in the Hvězda Summer Palace (May-October 2019). It was published to mark the 100th anniversary of the establishment of Czechoslovakia when France played a huge part, at the same time it followed numerous Czech-French projects that the Museum of Czech Literature had undertaken together with French institutions from the early 1990s. Besides Czech translation, the publication deals with many outstanding illustrators so is a contribution to the book culture history.

The journal *Museologica Brunensia*, 2019/8, 2, ISSN 1805-4722 (Print), ISSN 2464-5362 (Online)

Museologica Brunensia is an international, scientific, peer-reviewed journal publishing original scientific studies and methodical and information texts, reviews and news from the spheres of museology and museum profession. It presents museology as a modern science discipline affecting museum practice, and informs readership on the current trends in the branch. The journal is published by the Masaryk University (Department of Archaeology and Museology, Faculty of Arts). One article in Issue 2/2019 reported the ICOM General Conference in Kyoto (Marie Cohen-Rosenfeld: 'The ICOM General Conference and the Meeting of ICOM –CIMUSET 2019 Kyoto, Japan, p.61-63).



6. THE COOPERATION WITH ORGANIZATIONS OF PROFESSION

6.1. The cooperation with the Czech Association of Museums and Galleries

The cooperation with the Czech Association of Museums and Galleries ('AMG') is active and helpful. The Czech National Committee of ICOM traditionally participated in organizing the Gloria Musaealis award ceremony. The Czech National Committee members contribute to the 'Věstník AMG' journal: Pavel Jirásek, 2019 (Cooperation between the Technical Museum in Brno and Norwegian Folkemuseum; Interview with the Kingdom of Norway Ambassador; The New Consoles of the Police of the Czech Republic Centralised Protection), Zdeněk Freisleben, who is a member of the Věstník editorial board (The Year 1918 and the Others, Where to go with It ... - the paper at the AMG Congress, published in the collection *Sbírký v pohybu podruhé*, NG 2018, 'A Memory of Alena Potůčková', Věstník AMG 1/2019, p. 25).



6.2. The cooperation with the Council of Galleries of the Czech Republic

We had several meetings with our colleagues from the Council of Galleries within talks relating to the new act on museums.

6.3. The cooperation with the Czech Commission for UNESCO

The Czech National Committee of ICOM as one of the Czech Commission for UNESCO partner organizations took part in the Commission and cultural committee's regular meetings. The Chairperson of the Czech National Committee of ICOM provided information on the 2022 ICOM General Conference in Prague. The information was welcomed by representatives of the Czech Commission for UNESCO who promised support.

6.4. The cooperation with the Czech Committee of the Blue Shield

The Czech National Committee of ICOM as one of the Czech Committee of the Blue Shield organizations took part in regular meetings of the CZ Committee of the Blue Shield, and supports organizing the Czech Committee of the Blue Shield General Conference in Prague (25-27/11/2020). ICOM Czech Republic cooperated on arranging a seminar on the current trends in the field of cybersecurity and the Internet use (25/2/2020, Prague) and on a publication on available standards and methodologies.

6.5. The cooperation with Czech Committee ICOMOS

The Czech National Committee of ICOM and the Czech Committee ICOMOS exchange information on activities on regular base.

7. The GLORIA MUSAEALIS NATIONAL MUSEUM COMPETITION

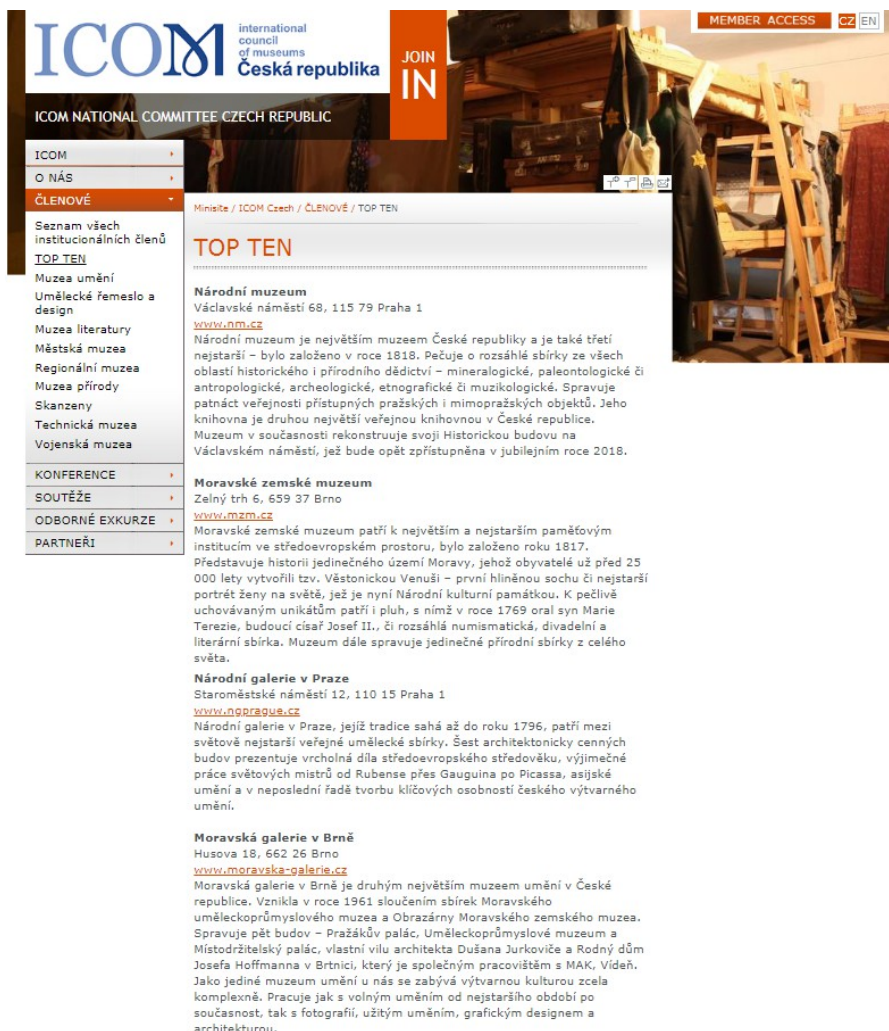
The award ceremony of the jubilee XVII Year of the **Gloria Musaealis** National Museum Competition co-organized by the Ministry of Culture, AMG and the Czech National Committee of ICOM took place in the **Obecní dům** (Municipal House) in **Prague** on **16 May 2019**. The XVII year was entered by 58 institutions with 93 projects. The Czech National Committee of ICOM has one member in the competition committee (Radim Vondráček, substitute Zdeněk Freisleben).

The ICOM Czech National Committee of ICOM Award was presented to the **National Gallery Prague** for the **permanent exhibition entitled '1918-1938: The First Republic'** opened on 23 October 2018. The exhibition shows Czechoslovakia between 1918 and 1938 as a country that was among the first European centres of visual art. It features important activities of the period art associations from Prague to Košice or Uzhhorod emphasising their cosmopolitan character and multinational composition. The project to mark the establishment of the Czechoslovak Republic has acquired an interesting dimension.



8. FURTHER ACTIVITIES OF THE CZECH NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF

The Czech National Committee of ICOM opened a new directory 'Members' on the Web pages www.czech-icom-museum. Besides providing the directory, it is room presenting the ICOM Czech Republic member institutions through a form of short annotations with contacts and links to their Webs. It is kept updated upon texts provided by single members. Provided you had not find your institution on the Web, send us a short text, contact and from three to five images in the print quality so we can add them. Everything is translated into English so the texts could be available to foreign visitors.



The screenshot shows the website of the ICOM National Committee Czech Republic. The header includes the ICOM logo and 'international council of museums Česká republika'. A navigation menu on the left lists categories like 'ICOM', 'O NÁS', 'ČLENOVÉ', 'KONFERENCE', 'SOUTĚŽE', 'ODBORNÉ EXKURZE', and 'PARTNEŘI'. The main content area is titled 'TOP TEN' and lists the following institutions:

- Národní muzeum**
Václavské náměstí 68, 115 79 Praha 1
www.nm.cz
Národní muzeum je největším muzeem České republiky a je také třetí nejstarší – bylo založeno v roce 1818. Pečuje o rozsáhlé sbírky ze všech oblastí historického i přírodního dědictví – mineralogické, paleontologické či antropologické, archeologické, etnografické či muzikologické. Spravuje patnáct veřejnosti přístupných pražských i mimopražských objektů. Jeho knihovna je druhou největší veřejnou knihovnou v České republice. Muzeum v současnosti rekonstruuje svoji Historickou budovu na Václavském náměstí, jež bude opět zpřístupněna v jubilejním roce 2018.
- Moravské zemské muzeum**
Zelný trh 6, 659 37 Brno
www.mzmm.cz
Moravské zemské muzeum patří k největším a nejstarším památkovým institucím ve středoevropském prostoru, bylo založeno roku 1817. Představuje historii jedinečného území Moravy, jehož obyvatelé už před 25 000 lety vytvořili tzv. Věstonickou Venuši – první hliněnou sochu či nejstarší portrét ženy na světě, jež je nyní Národní kulturní památkou. K pečlivě uchovávaným unikátům patří i pluh, s nímž v roce 1769 oral syn Marie Terezie, budoucí císař Josef II., či rozsáhlá numismatická, divadelní a literární sbírka. Muzeum dále spravuje jedinečné přírodní sbírky z celého světa.
- Národní galerie v Praze**
Staroměstské náměstí 12, 110 15 Praha 1
www.ngpraque.cz
Národní galerie v Praze, jejíž tradice sahá až do roku 1796, patří mezi světově nejstarší veřejné umělecké sbírky. Šest architektonicky cenných budov prezentuje vrcholná díla středoevropského středověku, výjimečné práce světových mistrů od Rubense přes Gauguina po Picassa, asijské umění a v neposlední řadě tvorbu klíčových osobností českého výtvarného umění.
- Moravská galerie v Brně**
Husova 18, 662 26 Brno
www.moravska-galerie.cz
Moravská galerie v Brně je druhým největším muzeem umění v České republice. Vznikla v roce 1961 sloučením sbírek Moravského uměleckoprůmyslového muzea a Obrazárny Moravského zemského muzea. Spravuje pět budov – Pražákův palác, Uměleckoprůmyslové muzeum a Místodržitelství palác, vlastní vilu architekta Dušana Jurkoviče a Rodný dům Josefa Hoffmanna v Brtnici, který je společným pracovištěm s MAK, Vídeň. Jako jediné muzeum umění u nás se zabývá výtvarnou kulturou zcela komplexně. Pracuje jak s volným uměním od nejstaršího období po současnost, tak s fotografií, užitým uměním, grafickým designem a architekturou.

Compiled by Martina Lehmannová

9. THE SUMMARY OF THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNT

The Czech National Committee of ICOM annual subscriptions amounted to CZK 1,801,908 in 2019; the amount of CZK 1,242,329 was transferred to the General Secretariat in Paris. The Czech National Committee of ICOM was given the subsidy amounting to CZK 500,000 from the Ministry of Culture for common operation; the amount was especially used to cover partial expenses for participation of Czech museum professionals in the ICOM General Conference in Kyoto. ICOM Czech Republic backed two international conferences taking place in Saint Petersburg (HERITAGE INTERPRETATION: THE POWER OF STORYTELLING IN MUSEUMS) and in Bratislava (REVOLUTION: VELVET X DIGITAL – 30 years of digital and social media in museums). We supported the conference UNIVERSEUM taking place in Brno and Prague; and the conference WHAT ROLE DOES THE CONTEMPORARY ART PLAY IN MUSEUMS? DIALOG: Architecture – Prehistory – Contemporary Art.

Compiled by Lubomír Anděl

10. THE PLAN FOR ACTIVITIES OF THE CZECH NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF ICOM FOR 2020 – PROPOSAL

1. To develop the organizational structure of ICOM in the Czech Republic. To assist with increase in participation of the members of the Czech National Committee of ICOM in international committees of ICOM and multilaterally support their work in them. To support active participation of members of the Czech National Committee of ICOM in international professional conferences and meetings held by ICOM, other events directed to the conservation of cultural heritage and its legislative, or other international meetings or scientific projects within financial possibilities.
2. To keep permanent working contacts and exchange information with the ICOM Secretariat in Paris, the international committees and the ICOM affiliated organisations.
3. To begin and realize arrangements for the ICOM **General Conference in Prague on 20 – 20 August 2022.**
4. To foster the cooperation with the Ministry of Culture on partial tasks of the Czech museum profession.
5. To foster the cooperation with the Czech Association of Museums and Galleries and the Council of Galleries of the Czech Republic, the Czech Association of Open Air Museums, the Czech Commission for UNESCO, the Police of the Czech Republic, ICOMOS.
6. To co-organize the Gloria Musaealis National Museum Competition held by the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic, AMG and the Czech Committee ICOMOS, and bestow the Czech National Committee of ICOM Award.
7. To participate in activities of the Czech Committee of the Blue Shield and its programme, to create conditions for their work, to co-operate on conservation and cultivation of cultural heritage with UNESCO bodies in the Czech Republic and the Czech Committee ICOMOS.
8. To cooperate with the Slovak National Committee of ICOM, to cooperate with the Network of European Museum Organisations NEMO, to keep contacts and exchange information on the member countries and take part in their annual meetings.
9. To launch the International Museum Day (18/5), the theme **Museums for Equality: Diversion and Inclusion. Empowering diversity and inclusion in our cultural institutions** and recommend admission free of charge to museums and galleries on 18 May 2020. Take appropriate steps to increase publicity.
To cooperate on organising conferences:
10. To cooperate on conferences:
Reduction of Fire Damages, TMB, AMG
11. To update the ICOM Czech Republic Web pages.
12. To contribute articles to the 'Věstník AMG' and other media within promoting activities of ICOM Czech Republic.
13. To support Czech museums and galleries participation in the competition the European Museum of the Year Award (EMYA), the annual conference of the European Museum Forum (EMF); Europa Nostra; European Museum Academy Awards; The Best in Heritage; ŽIVA Award; MUSAIONfilm.
14. To recommend ICOM Czech Republic institutions to support visitors of limited possibilities of perception, movement and orientation by facilitating access to the cultural heritage.
15. To call the General Meeting in compliance with the ICOM Czech Republic's *Statutes* at the beginning of 2021.