

Global Co-Operation of Maritime Archaeological Societies

Organizer

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Session Description

Volunteer divers are typically an essential asset in underwater archaeology, but as many NGOs focusing on maritime archaeology have shown, they could be so much more. Nautical Archaeology Society in UK has lead the way in field work training syllabus for decades. Maritime Archaeological Society of Finland has its own reseach agenda of 3D-ontology of Baltic wrecksites. Many such NGOs exist around the world, but very few are truly engaged in interactive co-operation with each other.

UNESCO 2001 Convention for the Preservation of Underwater Cultural Heritage and its NGO committee could form a powerful platform for the international co-operation of such learned societies focusing on maritime archaeology. The proposed session would focus on introductions of various societies and their agenda, areas of strenght as well as weaknesses, in order to create a roster of capabilities and needs for making an educated proposal for UNESCO 2001 NGO committee for establishing such an international coordination role.

In addition to the NGO introductions, short professional and other view point commentaries could be included, but most importantly a round table discussion(s) of the proposal should be scheduled within the session. NAS & MAS could jointly lead the session.

Keywords

UNESCO; Learned Societies; International Co-Operation