

## **SIRA on SAFEGUARDING CULTURAL HERITAGE in ARMENIA and the REGION**

As a Scientific Society committed to the protection, enhancement, and management of cultural heritage, SIRA calls upon all Countries to honor their commitments to protect cultural values, especially under the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. It establishes that the deliberate destruction of cultural heritage is an unlawful attack on the past and present of humanity. States Parties agree that “damage to cultural property belonging to any people whatsoever means damage to the cultural heritage of all mankind since each people makes its contribution to the culture of the world.”

We support the idea of creating an international observatory group of experts committed to monitor and watch activities around the moveable and immovable cultural heritage in Armenia and in the Region, with special attention on the areas involved in the armed conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan. We do hope that one day it will be possible to create a joint scientific project with the involvement of international scholars of all the countries interested in preserving cultural memories and aimed at contributing to peacebuilding.

We join the calls of UNESCO, World Monuments Fund, Blue Shield, ICOMOS, ICOM, and Europa Nostra on both sides **to protect the cultural heritage of the world wherever it is, regardless of religious beliefs or political intentions and we urge all international organizations** to give their support in bringing together multidisciplinary experts at national, European and international level to jointly ensure adequate monitoring of the safeguard of all the heritage.

We stress the importance of the involvement of local communities concerned and of the civil society organisations committed to cultural heritage at local, national, European and international level or promoting the in depth study and the enhancement (including research, interpretation, publication) of the rich and diverse cultural heritage.

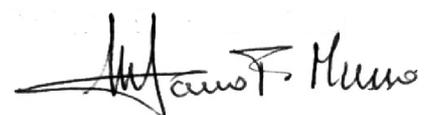
We hope that the **scientific and unbiased** study of the local history and of the local cultural heritage would serve one day as a key instrument for reconciliation and for confidence and peace building.

Genoa, December 11th, 2020

On the behalf of the Executive Board

The President

Prof. Arch. Stefano Francesco Musso



**SIRA**

Società Italiana per il Restauro dell'Architettura

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