



The Institute of Cultural Studies of Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin



co-organizers:

The National Institute of Cultural Heritage
The District Office in Uniejów
The Parish Association “Corpus Christi Feast in Spycimierz”



with the participation of:

**Centrum pro nemateriálního kulturního dědictví, Masarykova
univerzita, Brno**

**The Youth Commission of the Polish Section of IOV
International Organization of Folk Art**

**The Institute of Urban Geography, Tourism Studies and
Geoinformation of the University of Lodz**

The Polish Ethnological Society



invite you to participate in the Scientific Conference:

Intangible Cultural Heritage – the Role and Significance in the Context of Cultural Landscape

which will take place in Uniejów on 16–17 November 2022

**on the anniversary of the entry of the flower carpet tradition for Corpus Christi
processions into the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity**

The conference, to which we kindly invite you, takes place on the anniversary of the entry of the flower carpet tradition for Corpus Christi processions into the UNESCO list, which provides an occasion for Spycimierz parishioners, inhabitants and authorities of Uniejów town and district not only to celebrate but also to reflect carefully how to manage their heritage. Such a debate is encouraged by the Polish experiences of the recent years since 2017 when endeavours began for the first Polish entry in the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, crowned with the inclusion of Krakow Nativity Scenes into the List in 2018. These experiences (often leaving much to be desired) can be summarized in a statement: “Entry in the list of intangible cultural heritage – and what next?” This question is faced by the depositaries of the phenomena entered in the National List of Intangible Cultural Heritage, the National Register of Best Intangible Cultural Heritage Safeguarding Practices, and the UNESCO List. The organization of this

conference has resulted from their helplessness, a frequent feeling of being lost and left alone with this “boon” of the entry. Let us think about our scientific papers in terms of their greatest possible usefulness to the depositaries for short- and long-term planning and for taking good decisions for the protection of their traditions.

The inhabitants of Spycimierz, supported by the Town Office of Uniejów and a growing team of researchers, launched in 2018 a comprehensive and systematic process of developing a plan for the protection of their intangible heritage, that is the famous flower carpets created for Corpus Christi processions. This resulted in a research and application project, novel on a national (or perhaps even on a European) scale, implemented in 2021-2022. Its pioneering character lies in the assumption that intangible heritage does not exist in a cultural vacuum, but always depends on the context – a holistically understood cultural landscape which comprises: elements of the area’s history, its historical monuments, natural environment, the entire social, economic and institutional context, etc. Hence the proposal to focus our discussions during the conference on the protection and management of intangible heritage in terms of the material resources and achievements of culture, natural, historical and custom-related heritage, and associated spiritual values.

The above-mentioned assumptions, which provided the basis for the idea of the Spycimierz-Uniejów scientific conference AD 2022, are entirely consistent with the concept of the intangible cultural heritage protection in line with the UNESCO Convention of 2003. We invite you to reflect in detail on the issues of the safeguarding and holistic management of intangible heritage in your papers devoted to such thematic areas as:

Definition problems continued:

- The concept of cultural landscape in the context of intangible cultural heritage protection;
- Intangible heritage as an element of the cultural landscape *sensu largo*;
- A depositary of intangible cultural heritage – a need for and an attempt at definition;

Functions of heritage:

- Intangible cultural heritage as a socio-cultural phenomenon;
- Intangible cultural heritage versus values and ethics;
- Cultural identities and intangible cultural heritage;
- Intangible cultural heritage as a product understood in various ways;
- Intangible heritage as an important part of a tourist (geographical) area;
- Intangible heritage versus difficult, unwanted, troublesome, embarrassing or rejected heritage;
- (Un)sustainable development and intangible cultural heritage;

Management of intangible heritage – diagnoses, challenges, directions:

- Management of the intangible cultural heritage protection in the context of the entire historical, natural and cultural landscape, etc.;
- Threats and opportunities for intangible heritage – commercialization, tourism, institutionalization and others;
- Intangible heritage and regional education;
- Intangible heritage and (post)industrial heritage;
- Intangible heritage as a component of a tourism product;
- Entry in the list of intangible cultural heritage – and what next;

In the face of conflicts – like the one in Ukraine:

- Intangible heritage in the context of armed, national, social, economic, international, local and other conflicts;
- Conflicting intangible heritage versus heritage resolving conflicts;
- When nothing but memory is left in place of heritage...

The safeguarding of cultural heritage, including intangible heritage, requires interdisciplinary reflection and action. Moreover, it should combine the practical dimension with theoretical foundations supported with various types of multidisciplinary research. Therefore, our invitation is addressed to heritologists, cultural scientists, ethnologists, anthropologists, folklorists, ethnomusicologists, sociologists, educators, historians, geographers and naturalists. We also invite depositaries of intangible heritage and culture animators who deal with the issues of active and multifaceted management and protection of heritage, especially in a broader context of the natural, historical and cultural landscape.



The conference will also include a session organized and conducted by the **Youth Commission of the Polish Section of IOV International Organization of Folk Art**. The idea of the session is to extend the thematic scope of the conference to include new research issues focused primarily on the most topical and apparently most urgent problems of the present time. Analysed in the context of the so-called new intangible heritage, they may turn out to be the starting point for interesting conclusions and further studies of the constantly changing cultural landscape:

- Digital heritage (e-folklore, Polish Internet art) and its culture-forming potential. Can we talk about “online cultural landscape”? How does the Internet affect our traditionally understood cultural landscape?
- Intangible cultural heritage in the context of the climate crisis and cultural ecology. How do the climate changes observed affect our thinking about cultural landscape?
- Intangible cultural heritage in the context of migrations and refugees. How is our cultural landscape changing/going to change?
- Intangible cultural heritage in the context of gender studies. Will the growing gender awareness be reflected also in local cultural landscapes?

Furthermore, we encourage you to submit proposals also on other subjects than mentioned above. As members of IOV Youth Commission and researchers on various manifestations of cultural heritage, we are open to any interpretations, as well as various theoretical and practical approaches.

Contact: iov.youth.poland@gmail.com.



The conference will be followed by the **two-day 6th Spycimierz Seminar** which will take place in Spycimierz and Uniejów immediately after the conference, on 18-19 November (Friday-Saturday). The programme of the annual seminar will include: summary of the research and application project implemented in Spycimierz in 2021–2022, promotion of a book entitled: *Intangible heritage in the cultural and natural landscape, as exemplified by the Feast of Corpus Christi in Spycimierz. Report on research and recommendations* which is a part of the project, another Spycimierz/Uniejów debate on intangible heritage, presentation of the concept of a sustainable tourism product and educational activities based on intangible heritage of Spycimierz, and another edition of the Spycimierz Social Archive.

The conference will be held in **Uniejów** – detailed information will be provided in further announcements. It is worth mentioning that Uniejów is attractive for several reasons: Spycimierz lies 1 km from there, Uniejów is famous for its historical monuments and natural resources, including hot springs which we encourage you to use in order to relax after the conference sessions.



We plan a **conference fee** allocated for costs of conference services, online connection, printing of conference materials, dinner on the first day of the conference and coffee service. Costs of travel,

accommodation and meals are covered by the participants on their own. Conference fee: students and doctoral students – 200 PLN, other on-site participants (with or without papers) – 400 PLN, online participants – 200 PLN.

Application forms should be sent **until 30 June 2022** by e-mail: konferencja.ndk@gmail.com. In the event of a large number of applications, the organizers reserve the right to select papers from the proposals. You will receive confirmation of your participation in the conference around 15 July 2022.

Conference proceedings will be accepted into print by the following journals and publishing series:

- "Łódzkie Studia Etnograficzne" / "Lodz Ethnographic Studies" (volume for 2024; 70 points in the list of the Ministry of Education and Science; <https://lse.ptl.info.pl>);

- "Biuletyn Uniejowski" / "The Uniejów Bulletin" (20 points in the list of the Ministry of Education and Science; <https://czasopisma.uni.lodz.pl/biuletynuniejowski>).

The papers will be subject to the review procedure in accordance with the rules followed by these journals.



Data protection (GDPR). By sending the completed application form, you give your consent to the processing of your personal data for the purpose of the conference organization pursuant to the Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation).

We look forward to your participation in the conference!

The Scientific Committee of the Conference is chaired by:

Katarzyna Smyk, PhD hab., Associate Professor – Institute of Cultural Studies of Maria Curie-Skłodowska University; Polish Ethnological Society, Branch in Lublin (k.smyk@umcs.pl)

Members:

Mila Santova, Prof. D.Sc. – Correspondent member of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with National Ethnographic Museum - Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

mgr Tomasz Wójcik – historyk, Przewodniczący Rady Miejskiej w Uniejów

dr hab. Katarzyna Zalasńska, prof. UW – Wydział Prawa i Administracji Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego; Dyrektor Narodowego Instytutu Dziedzictwa

doc. PhDr. Daniel Drápala, Ph.D. – Dyrektor Instytutu Etnologii Europejskiej (Ústav evropské etnologie), Uniwersytet Masarykova, Brno

dr hab. Anna Weronika Brzezińska, prof. UAM – Instytut Antropologii i Etnologii Uniwersytetu im. Adama Mickiewicza w Poznaniu, Prezeska Polskiego Towarzystwa Ludoznawczego

dr hab. Anna Gomółka, prof. UŚ – Instytut Nauk o Kulturze Uniwersytetu Śląskiego w Katowicach

dr hab. Bogdan Włodarczyk, prof. UŁ – Instytut Geografii Miast, Turyzmu i Geoinformacji, Wydział Nauk Geograficznych Uniwersytetu Łódzkiego

dr hab. Jacek Borzyszkowski, prof. WSB – Wydział Biznesu Wyższej Szkoły Bankowej w Gdańsku

dr Arkadiusz Jełowicki – Muzeum Narodowe Rolnictwa i Przemysłu Rolno-Spożywczego w Szreniawie

dr Karolina Dziubata – Instytut Antropologii i Etnologii Uniwersytetu im. Adama Mickiewicza w Poznaniu, Komisja Młodych Polskiej Sekcji Międzynarodowej Organizacji Sztuki Ludowej (IOV)

The Organizing Committee of the Conference is chaired by:

Andrzej Szoszkiewicz – coordinator for intangible cultural heritage in the Uniejów Commune
(a.szoszkiewicz@smartlink.pl)

Members:

Maria Pełka – prezes Parafialnego Stowarzyszenia Spycimierskie Boże Ciało

Beata Szymczak – dyrektor Miejsko-Gminnej Biblioteki Publicznej w Uniejowie

dr Jędrzej Kałużny – Centrum „Spycimierskie Boże Ciało”

dr Beata Krakowiak – Instytut Geografii Miast, Turystyki i Geoinformacji Uniwersytetu Łódzkiego

mgr Karolina Anna Pawłowska – Uniwersytet Wrocławski, Komisja Młodych Polskiej Sekcji
Międzynarodowej Organizacji Sztuki Ludowej (IOV)

mgr Magdalena Górka – Uniwersytet Mikołaja Kopernika w Toruniu, Komisja Młodych Polskiej Sekcji
Międzynarodowej Organizacji Sztuki Ludowej (IOV)

The Scientific Secretary of the Conference

Alicja Baczyńska-Hryhorowicz, MA – Doctoral School of Humanities of Maria Curie-Skłodowska
University; Polish Ethnological Society, Branch in Lublin; Youth Commission of the Polish Section of
IOV International Organization of Folk Art (alicja.baczynska@umcs.pl)

Website

<https://spycimierskiebozeczialo.pl/pl/konferencje/konferencji-naukowa-niematerialne-dziedzictwo-kulturowe-znaczenie-i-rola-w-kontekście-krajobrazu-kulturowego/>

Co-organizers:



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