



# 17TH INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL YOUTH AND HERITAGE

July 27th -  
August 12th  
2022

Sarajevo, Mostar, Stolac  
Bosnia and Herzegovina

[stolacsummerschool@gmail.com](mailto:stolacsummerschool@gmail.com)





# WHAT IS ISSYH 17 ?

The **ISSYH** has been designed as an advanced educational platform intended to complement university syllabi. The curriculum is a unique combination of practical and theoretical learning methods, performed in the environment of a historic Bosnian town, **Stolac**, which suffered extensive damage during the war of the early 1990s and which has been a focus of post-war heritage reconstruction and social recovery since 2001.

This environment provides the students with personal experience of working and living in a context where heritage reconstruction is a factor of the necessarily long-term process of healing societal and cultural trauma.

Since its inception, the **two-week** summer school programme has thus focused on promoting understanding and the conservation of significant expressions of tangible and intangible cultural heritage within a post-traumatic context.





# LEARNING METHODS

An integrated **two-week** programme of seminars, fieldwork, practical activities, and recreational evenings provides participants with an expert introduction to and hands-on experience of traditional crafts and bodies of knowledge, intangible and tangible heritage forms and expressions, sustainable ways of life, and environmental practice.

They are also encouraged to think about how socially cohesive, but fundamentally open communities can be developed and maintained, as well as the importance of combining diversity with strong roots in local heritage.

The project has **5 complementary aspects**: a) a set of coordinated working activities, b) a series of practical craft workshops, c) educational activities, d) field trips, and e) recreational aspect for informal socializing and cultural encounters.





# WORKSHOPS

Learning through working involves practical workshops led by masters that introduce the participants to hands-on experience of traditional crafts and skills in peril, as follows:

1. **Building conservation:** practical workshops on woodcarving, masonry and stone-carving, dry-stone and mortared wall building, murals and calligraphy, and the restoration of vernacular houses carried out in facilities that belong to IFB, mainly three 17th-18th century houses in Stolac, known as the **Houses of International Dialogue and Research** or HIDR1, HIDR2, and HIDR3.
2. **Movable heritage conservation:** workshop on weaving and traditional embroidery, and the making and restoration of carpets, furniture, copper artefacts, icons, and old manuscripts.
3. **Intangible heritage preservation:** archery, calligraphy, falconry, herbal lore and foraging, traditional music, folklore and local traditions, including religious rituals and local feast days.





# VENUES

The core ISSYH17 activities will take place in and around Stolac, a historic Bosnian town included on the World Heritage Tentative List that suffered near total destruction during the 1992 to 1995 war against Bosnia, when the local population was expelled. There will be day trips to nearby heritage sites at **Žitomislići**, **Počitelj**, and **Blagaj**. Part of the Program will take place in **Sarajevo** and in **Mostar**.

Workshops, lectures and social activities will take place in the vernacular houses in Stolac which have been restored through the ISSYH activities and which serve as **Houses of International Dialogue and Research (HIDR)**.





# PARTICIPANTS

The ISSYHI17 will host 30 young people aged between 20 and 35, students on the final level of undergraduate, masters or doctoral programmes directly or indirectly linked with cultural heritage, with good English language skills. We currently expect most students for this year to come from Bosnia, Bahrain, Oman, students from Arab Region attending ICCROM- Sharjah projects, Germany, Kosova, Montenegro, the UK, the Netherlands, etc.

The international mix ensures a lively encounter between members of different cultures. The ISSYHI17 will thus include the presentation of a range of cultures and the connections between participants, as well as social interaction, recreational activities, and fun.





# TEACHERS

The lecturers will be experienced academics from partnering universities from across the world and from Bosnia – **experts** in the fields of conservation, museology, archaeology, anthropology, interreligious studies, history, cultural tourism, cultural geography, etc.

In previous years, this has included committed **academics** from Bosnia, France, Ireland, Great Britain, Belgium, Canada, Turkey, Libya, Hong Kong, Egypt, the United States, as well as leading members of universities and human rights organizations from Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia.

The **masters** of traditional arts and crafts will transfer the practical knowledge of traditional woodcarving, stone carving, metalworking, masonry and calligraphy.





# FIELD TRIPS AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The ISSYH17 includes **two field trips**. The first trip involves a visit to Počitelj, Žitomislići, and Mostar. This allows field experience of the historical pluralism that is constitutive of Bosnia at the local level everywhere, as well as an introduction to the history of these sites, what they have undergone, and how their reconstruction or revitalisation has been approached – including both positive and negative aspects.

**Recreational activities** are an integral part of the summer school programme. They will include poetry readings, dancing, music, and sport, and form an extension to the educational aspects of the programme in order to promote community and friendship.







# LOGISTIC DETAILS

Accommodation and meals provided in hostel-type accommodation with air conditioned double and triple rooms, with three meals per day at a local restaurant.

Transportation from the airport and between places in Bosnia is provided by the organisers. Participants will arrange their own visas for Bosnia, travel to and from Bosnia, and any other requirements that are not part of the official program of the ISSYH. ISSYH will provide participants with invitation letters should they be necessary for visa applications.

Stationary and working materials will be provided, including basic health care kits. The organizers expect participants to have travel health insurance. Emergency health care will be provided.

Weather conditions in Stolac during August are hot, with an average high of 29.4°C (84.9°F), an average low of 18.5°C (65.3°F). However during recent summers the temperatures were higher than those reported as climate normals in the weather statistics. Average maximum UV index is 6. Average relative humidity is 58%. Participants are advised to bring sunscreen lotions and hats, appropriate light clothing and comfortable sneakers.

Working language: **English**



# HOW TO APPLY?

The link to the Application form can be found on the Facebook page of the International Summer School Youth and Heritage, as well as on the website of the International Forum Bosnia.

[facebook.com/stolacsummerschool](https://www.facebook.com/stolacsummerschool)

<http://www.forumbosna.org/international-summer-school-youth-and-heritage-issyh>

The completed application form should be sent to [stolacsummerschool@gmail.com](mailto:stolacsummerschool@gmail.com) no later than **Wednesday, July 6th 2022.**





# FEES AND COSTS

International Forum Bosnia and the teachers who work on a pro bono basis have decided to exempt all accepted participants from paying tuition fees for the School itself. There are, however, costs associated with participation, namely to cover the provision of materials, meals, accommodation, transport, stationary, technical assistance, utilities, etc., which are essential for the program.

Our sponsors will provide a number of successful applicants from Bosnia and Herzegovina with grants to cover partial or full costs of participation. The School Board will consider requests for financial support depending on availability of these funds.





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