

## International conference: "Protecting cultural heritage: from risk to security", Vinovo (Turin), 25th – 26th June, 2009.

*"PROTECTING CULTURAL HERITAGE: FROM RISK TO SECURITY"*: this is the title of the international conference scheduled for the 25<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2009, in the XVI century Della Rovere castle in Vinovo (Turin), Italy, and organized by St. John International University.

The core topics of the conference are cultural heritage and its protection, considered from different viewpoints: first of all, the many risks, natural or caused by human behavior, that often put in danger the different parts of our cultural heritage (artistic, environmental, historical and so on). Second, a close focus on historical military fortresses in the north of Italy. These buildings, in fact, have a great historical and architectonic relevance, but their protection and preservation are very difficult and expensive, due to their dimensions and their nature. The conference will focus on the specific problems regarding their protection and most importantly, actual proposals about their restoration and utilization for "green" and sustainable tourism.

Among the specific topics in the conference programme are the protection of cultural goods during natural disasters such as floods and earthquakes (a large part of the conference will be about the recent Abruzzo earthquake), the protection against vandalism, theft, counterfeit and falsification, the protection of particular archaeological sites (such as those), and finally the restoration of historical buildings like those of the historical military fortresses in the Alps (such as the Fenestrelle Fort, the Exilles Fort and the Bard Fort).

The main aim of the conference organized by St. John International University, is to draw the attention of international opinion to the struggle and current threats being faced by the majority of international cultural heritage.

Among the speakers, Italian as well as international, there will be academicians, public officers from local, national and international institutions, directors of museums and galleries, officers from law enforcement agencies, art historians, and other experts. The conference addresses a broad target of participants, from people working in the art sector to galleries, museums, foundations, law enforcement agencies, students, and so on. Besides the high quality standard of the lectures and of the different backgrounds and experiences of the speakers, St. John International University is offering all the participants a friendly environment, in its campus in the wonderful Della Rovere castle and in its lovely park, which is located close to one of the most beautiful Italian cities, Turin.

The scientific and cultural relevance of this conference, and the great historical and artistic landscape of Turin, during the best season to be in Piedmont, will make this experience an absolutely unforgettable one.

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