

26th ICOM
General Conference
20→28 Aug

ICOM PRAGUE 2022

THE POWER OF MUSEUMS



MINISTRY OF CULTURE
CZECH REPUBLIC

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Museum Complex of the National Museum

ICOM Prague 2022

“The Power of Museums”

Prague, capital of the Czech Republic and a magnificent open-air museum, will welcome the 26th ICOM General Conference in the week of 20–28 August 2022.

Museum professionals from around the world will put forward the topics and set the direction of the museum sector for the next three years at least.

We are interested in the strength, position and capacity of museums in building a free, democratic and educated society, reactions of museums to the challenges and needs of the 21st century; and the ability to cope with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, both societal and economic.

The results of the search for a new definition of “museum” will be presented at ICOM Prague 2022.

Let's be there together!



ICOM – International Council of Museums

The [International Council of Museums](#) is a worldwide museum association, a non-governmental professional organization with official relations with UNESCO and consultative status within the United Nations Economic and Social Council. The International Council of Museums provides museums and museum professionals with national, regional and international platforms of dialogue and exchange on ethical standards and innovative practices. Since its creation in 1946, ICOM is committed to the protection and promotion of museums and the heritage with which they are entrusted; natural and cultural, present and future, tangible and intangible. ICOM considers the transmission of knowledge and know-how a priority. Today, ICOM is a worldwide network made up from more than 49,000 members representing 142 countries and territories, grouped in 118 National Committees. It also fosters six Regional Alliances and 32 International Committees dedicated to various specialized fields of museum work.



National Museum of Agriculture



ICOM Czech Republic

ICOM Czech Republic fulfils the goals and activities of the International Council of Museums (ICOM) in the Czech Republic and mediates communication among ICOM, the international ICOM committees and the Czech members. ICOM Czech Republic spreads and adheres to ICOM's standards and principles, which are contained in the ICOM Code of Ethics and which cultivate and develop the museum environment in the Czech Republic. In 1994, the Czech ICOM Committee and Slovak ICOM Committee followed in the footsteps of the ICOM Czechoslovakia, which was at the birth of ICOM in 1946, when Czechoslovakia was one of the founding countries. ICOM Czech Republic currently has 90 institutional members and more than 350 individual members.

ICOM international
council
of museums
Czech Republic



National Technical Museum

Conference Outline

WHAT

ICOM Prague 2022

26th ICOM General Conference

WHEN

20–28 August 2022

20–21 August 2022 → Pre-conference programme, Discover Prague!

22–24 August 2022 → Main programme, Prague Congress Centre

25 August 2022 → Off-site meetings, Prague museums and the surrounding area

26–28 August 2022 → Excursions, post-conference programme

WHERE

[Prague Congress Centre](#)

5. května 1640/65

140 21 Prague

Czech Republic

+420 261 172 222

+

[All institutional members of ICOM Czech Republic](#)



HYBRID FORMAT

Given the current situation, it was decided that the conference will have a hybrid format, so the conference program will also take place online. The [gCon](#) conference system was developed from processes used in large face-to face conferences. It makes sharing digital content easier for all its users.

ABOUT

The Power of Museums is the main theme of ICOM Prague 2022. Museums in the 21st century have huge potential to influence the world around them and often stand at the beginning of a long chain of social development. Museums preserve the past and the present, interpret them and share them to the public for discussion – they have the power to make the world a better place. Museums have the power to be the bearers of moral and ethical values. Museums have an irreplaceable power to explain, clarify and help build civil society, local and national identities and social responsibility among each member of our diverse communities.

Museums, as public institutions, can be a visible example of responsible and sustainable management in accordance with nature and the environment. Museums are at the heart of creative industries and have always been important actors in travel and tourism. Human society is based on social interactions and museums are one of the most important places where this is enabled.

Museums have the power to make the world a better place!

FOR WHO

The ICOM General Conference will be attended by employees of museums and galleries, employees of cultural disciplines from the field of public administration and self-government. The conference is a space for getting acquainted with the latest trends in its professional focus and technologies and services.



FOR HOW MUCH

Conference participants will pay a registration fee of a basic amount of 350 EUR for onsite and 150 EUR for remote attendance.



Prague Congress Centre

Topics

The Power of Museums

Purpose → Museums and the civil society

Sustainability → Museums and resilience

Vision → Museums and leadership

Delivery → Museums and new technologies



House of Arts Brno

Scientific programme

Keynote speeches

The highlight of the main scientific programme at ICOM Prague 2022 will be four keynote speeches by internationally renowned speakers, who will present their views on the four aspects of the conference theme.

Plenary sessions and panels

The plenary sessions are at the heart of the scientific programme of the ICOM General Conferences, and are open to all participants. They represent a platform for synthesis and discussion on the actions of ICOM and the museum sector around a given theme. The 26th ICOM General Conference will feature four plenary sessions to explore four key aspects of the conference theme “The Power of Museums”.

Workshops and roundtables

The workshops and round tables are structured but more informal moments in which participants can delve deeper into the themes addressed during the panels and plenary sessions. Each with a different focus around the theme of ICOM Prague 2022 “The Power of Museums”, these meetings will give participants the opportunity to put theory into practice, and represent valuable moments of exchange and networking with colleagues from all over the world.



Networking Sessions

The Networking Sessions provide a platform to all new ICOM members under 35 years of age who wish to know more about our international organisation, together with its institutional processes, missions and activities. During the Networking Sessions, new ICOM members can meet with more experienced colleagues and learn about how ICOM functions, the work of the different International Committees and how to join them, what the Regional Alliances are or gain useful insights for their museum work.

Scientific programme of International Committees

The ICOM International Committees bring together experts specialized in various museum fields and are global think tanks on museum, and more generally, on heritage matters. To learn more about the work of the different International Committees, [visit our Committees' directory](#).

Events & Excursions

Discover Prague!

20–21 August 2022

The first two days of the conference are reserved for ICOM Statutory meetings, such as the ICOM Advisory Council, the separate meetings of the National and International Committee and the International Committee Chairs' meetings. These meetings are not open to all members, but it doesn't mean that you can't start enjoying what ICOM Prague 2022 has to offer!

An accompanying pre-conference programme of guided tours around Prague has been prepared for all participants. Experienced guides will take you to the most remarkable places of Prague and introduce you to the history and attractions of this extraordinary city. The National Museum of Agriculture will kindly host cooking classes, where participants of the 26th ICOM General Conference can get a hands-on experience of traditional Czech cuisine.

Opening Party of the 26th ICOM General Conference

22 August 2022



The 26th ICOM General Conference Opening Party will take place in two major Czech museums: the National Technical Museum and the National Museum of Agriculture. These institutions are housed in twin monumental functionalist buildings, and together form a world-class museum complex, located in the charming Letná district of Prague. This will be your first chance to get to know museum professionals from across the globe. A varied programme is awaiting all participants, ranging from cultural performances, delicious food that celebrates Czech traditional cuisine, tours of both museums and a ceremonial carriage ride pulled by one of the world's oldest horse breeds – the Czech Kladruher.

Museum Night

23 August 2022

The evening of 23 August museums in the centre of Prague will host a Museum Night. This will be a unique opportunity for all conference participants to experience a dedicated cultural programme, ranging from late openings to special exhibitions, concerts, guided tours and fashion shows.

The Museum Night will take place in the very heart of Prague, allowing participants to celebrate ICOM Prague 2022 with a pleasant stroll around the old town of Prague.

ICOM General Conference Flag Relay Ceremony

24 August 2022

The ICOM General Conference Flag Relay Ceremony of ICOM Prague 2022 will take place at the National Museum in Prague. The event will be the occasion to celebrate the accomplishments of the Conference and to formally hand over the ICOM flag, a symbolic baton entrusted to the organising committee of the 27th ICOM General Conference.

Museum Fair

22–24 August 2022

The main program of the conference will take place in the Prague Congress Centre. In addition to lectures and workshops, an important part of the event will be the Museum Fair, where companies supplying goods and services for museums, agencies active in the field of tourism, etc. will be presented.

Off-site meetings

25 August 2022

“Off-site meetings” are meetings of 32 International Committees that bring together museum experts from around the world and form a key think tank of world museology and care for cultural heritage in specialized specific topics and fields. The off-site meetings will take place in ICOM institutional member museums located in Prague and the surrounding area. They traditionally include expert lectures as well as an accompanying programme and presentations by the host institutions.

Excursions

26–28 August 2022

Getting to know the host country and ICOM institutional members which are not featured in the main scientific or social program is a pleasant bonus we are also aiming to offer. The Czech Republic has an advantage of being relatively small in size and with Prague conveniently located in the middle of the country we do have a unique opportunity to introduce the beauty of our Central European country as well as the great job done in the ICOM member institutions located outside of Prague. Join us for one of 40 planned excursions which will immerse you even deeper into the Czech ICOM experience!



Museum of Eastern Bohemia in Hradec Králové



← Vysočina Museum Třebíč



National Open Air Museum

Conference Organisers

International Council of Museums ICOM

ICOM Secretariat

15 Rue Lasson
75012 Paris
France

ICOM Czech Republic

Secretariat

Moravian Museum
Zelný trh 6
659 37 Brno
Czech Republic

Office

National Museum
Václavské náměstí 68
110 00 Prague
Czech Republic

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Českomoravská 19
190 00 Prague 9
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Special thanks to Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic

Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic

Maltézské náměstí 1
118 00 Prague 1
Czech Republic



DOX Centre for Contemporary Art

Stay tuned

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Would you like to know more about the 26th ICOM General Conference in Prague?

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Secretary of ICOM Czech Republic in Prague

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Would you like to know more about the possibility of an exhibition at the museum fair or sponsorship?

Pavla Křištofová

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Museum of Glass and Jewellery in Jablonec nad Nisou



