

# UNESCO Chair on Heritage Futures

(established 2017)

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Professor of Archaeology



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



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• on Heritage Futures,  
• Linnæus University, Sweden



# Our Chair



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- Among the 700+ UNESCO Chairs globally, less than 100 are in the area of Culture and about 30 are related to heritage.
- There are 8 UNESCO Chairs in Sweden, ours being the first in the area of Culture and the first related to heritage.



**11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES**

**HERITAGE SUPPORTS THE GLOBAL GOALS!**

**CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE @ THE UN HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM**

**.4**

#HLPF2018Heritage #SDG11.4 #CultureNature



# Our team



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- 2 Professors in Archaeology
- 1 Post-doc (incoming)
- 1 PhD student (on archaeological heritage in sustainable urban development)
- 2 affiliated Researchers (Paris, Swansea)
- 1 Assistant



# Heritage Futures – why does it matter?

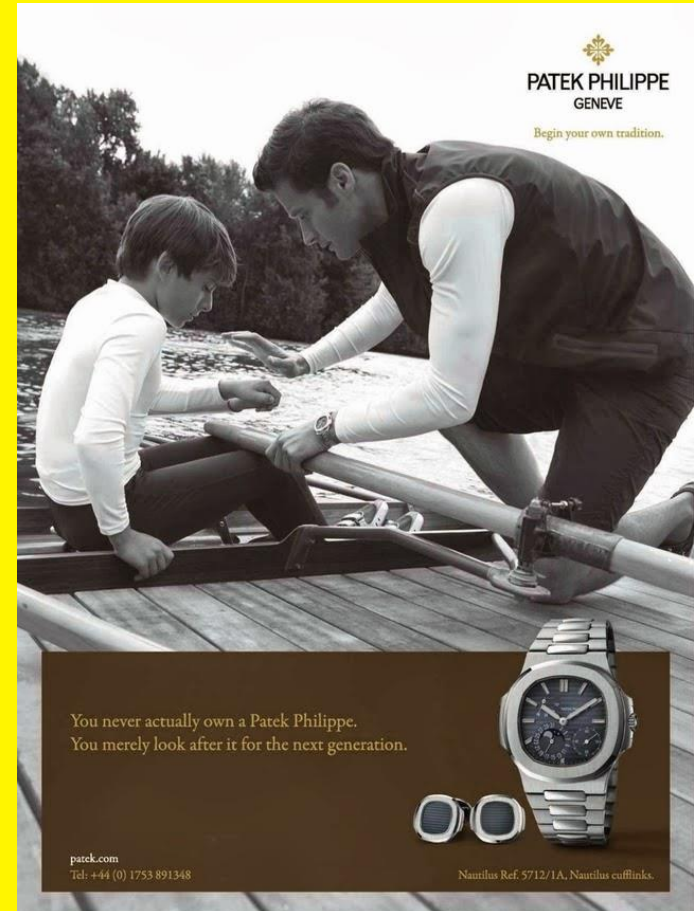


## *World Heritage Convention (1972)*

**Article 4:** ...the duty of ensuring the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and **transmission to future generations** of the cultural and natural heritage.

## *UNESCO Declaration on the Responsibilities of the Present Generations Towards Future Generations (1997)*

**Article 7:** ... the responsibility to identify, protect and safeguard the tangible and intangible cultural heritage and **to transmit this common heritage to future generations.**



# Heritage Futures – what does it mean?



## Definition:

*Heritage futures are concerned with the roles of heritage in managing the relations between present and future societies, e.g. through anticipation or planning.*

## Questions we ask include:

1. Which future do we preserve the heritage for?
2. How can heritage benefit future generations?
3. Given the future is uncertain, how do we do this?
4. How can we avoid presentism?



# Collaboration Partners



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*International Council on Monuments and Sites*, a global expert organisation advising UNESCO on cultural heritage



A long-term storage initiative in a salt mine in Austria

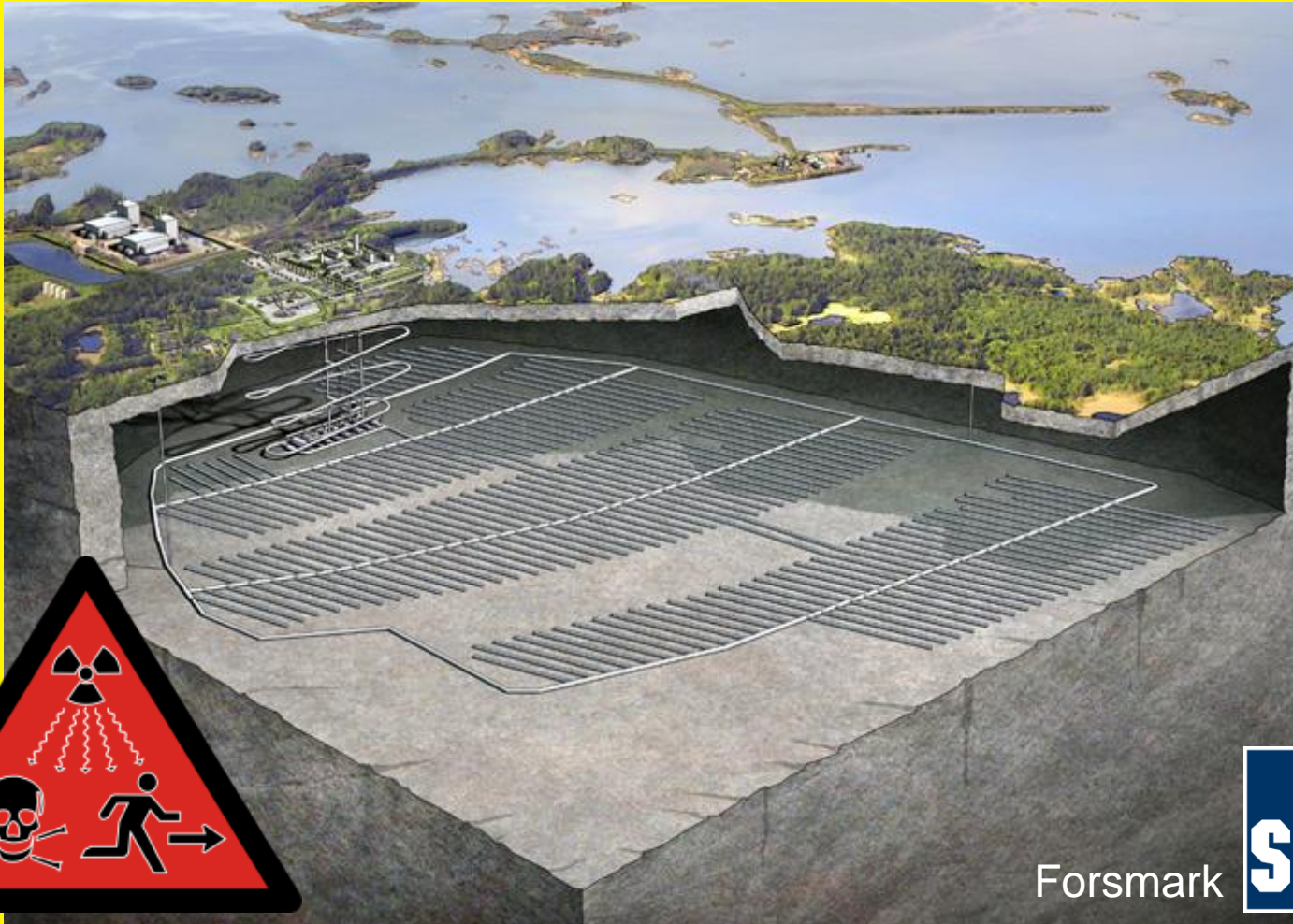


An international space message initiative

Nuclear waste repositories and preservation of records, knowledge & memory across generations



# Nuclear waste management – future heritage?



Forsmark



# What we do



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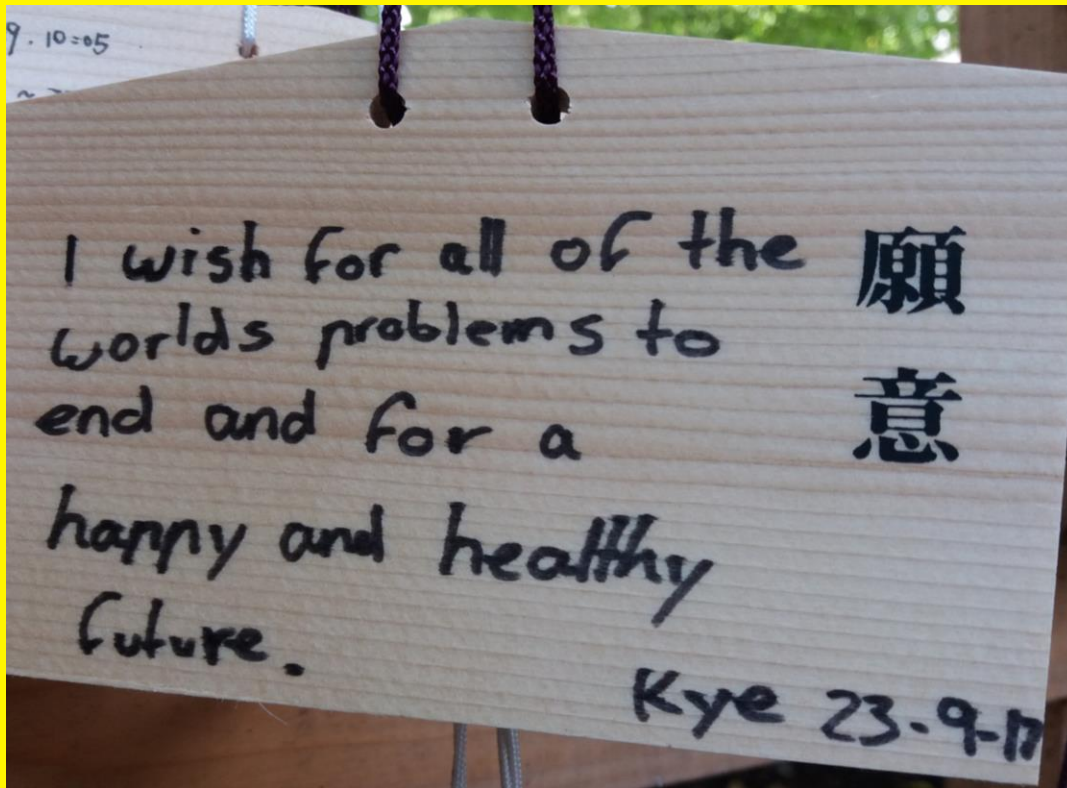


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1. collaborate with UNESCO and other partners in society (mostly ICOMOS and in Sweden)
2. research on heritage and future societies (and knowledge exchange with partners)
  - a. *Heritage Futures* Project (2015-2019) comparative analysis, based at UCL <http://www.heritage-futures.org>
  - b. *Memory Across Generations* (2019-) on nuclear waste
  - c. New post-doc project on how heritage is used to develop new futures for nations in the Global South (example Rwanda)
3. develop professional training courses on *future thinking* (futures literacy) for global heritage sector
  - a. Future Workshops and other forms of interaction
  - b. ICOMOS University Forum *Thinking and Planning the Future in Heritage Management* (Amsterdam 2019)
  - c. Pilot training course planned for 2020







# Thank you!

<http://lnu.se/en/unescochair>



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