

**CANDIDATE FOR THE BOARD OF ICOMOS  
CANDIDAT AU CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION DE L'ICOMOS**

**MARIANNE KNUTSEN**

**NORWAY - NORVÈGE**



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Cultural Heritage Management Officer for the City Council in Bergen  
Cand philol. Art Historian from the University of Bergen and Oslo: In "Urban development and Conservation of Historical Buildings".  
President ICOMOS Norway 2014 – 2021  
Board member ICOMOS Norway 2009 – 2023

**PLATFORM / PLATE-FORME / PLATAFORMA**

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I am very honoured and happy to be in the position to have been encouraged and being able to, to present myself as a candidate for the ICOMOS International Board for the period 2023-2026.

After many years as member of ICOMOS, and after seven years as President for ICOMOS Norway, I recognize the important work that ICOMOS members worldwide accomplish, and the essential role ICOMOS as organization has on the international level. ICOMOS Norway has through its members, since the birth of the organization, contributed considerably at the international level, pointing out important issues and helped further develop the organization, and contributed to find solutions. I would be very honoured to be able to follow up this engagement.

For many years' members of ICOMOS Norway has been Focal points for the development of the engagement for Human Rights in relation to World Heritage. This rights based approach has further developed the understanding of Cultural Heritage and brought the human aspect into the centre of the discussion in a new way. The effort has also had considerable influence on international politics and organisations worldwide. ICOMOS

Norway, through prominent members, has also been central in the work on tourism and sustainable development. As president of ICOMOS Norway, I have been involved in these processes and I would very much like to follow up this work as member of the International ICOMOS Board.

ICOMOS Norway, together with the National Committees of the other Nordic Countries, has for a long time stood behind the principle of transparency in the organization. This is for us a fundamental principle, but I believe that we, in line with other national committees and the international secretariat, still need to work on the implementation of this obvious, but difficult principle, in our own work and organizations.

In these challenging times, it is crucial for all nations to find common solutions to the big and difficult issues that we all meet. It is more than ever important that we all speak the same language, in the sense that we speak in a way so that we all can understand each other. This goes beyond the discussion of English, French and Spanish. It embrace the way we communicate the fundamental principles to people outside the cultural heritage world. It includes how we speak to local communities and how we ensure the implementation of the principles of conservation and respect for the human identity embodied in cultural heritage, to local governments and the local Management plans and principles.

I have been working on several urban projects with focus on Cultural Heritage documentation and conservation, and with Protection plans, mainly in Bergen, but also in other Historical Cities in Norway. Working for the City of Bergen means working on a local level, meeting the local community directly and confronting the different needs of the people living in a Historical City, and in a Cultural Urban landscape.

I feel, every day, in my job, the increased pressure of finding solutions to changes and to development based on sustainability. Cultural Heritage and Conservation is part of the answer but

International, National and Local Climate Goals also represent a challenge to our fundamental principles and guidelines. We need to be open to, and find, alternative ways to deal with the new criteria and needs of the Society.

The last 3 years I have also been so lucky to be able to represent The Bergen City Council as commissioner for an International Heritage Impact Assessment based on the ICOMOS/IUCN method for HIA. This has been a valuable and challenging experience that has widened my understanding of the UNESCO system, the OUV and how to deal with different kinds of measures and the consequences to the world Heritage Values.

My perspective in all this is a bottom-up perspective and I hope this can be useful in the discussions and work of the ICOMOS International Board.

If elected as a Board member, I confirm that I will serve and attend Board meetings as expected, and I will contribute as best I can to the work on different issues and processes.

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

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Marianne has had the position of Cultural Heritage Management Officer for the City Council in Bergen in the period 1997- 2011, and from 2018 until today. In the period 2011-2018, she was working as Consultant for Norconsult AS. Marianne has been working mainly with urban development and Conservation of Historical Buildings, Urban Structures and Urban Landscapes.

Marianne has been working on several urban projects with focus on Cultural Heritage documentation and conservation, with World Heritage Management and Protection plans, mainly in Bergen, but also in other Historical Cities in Norway. She has recent practical experience with the Heritage Impact Assessment, as Commissioner for an international Assessment in Bergen and Bryggen.

Marianne is Cand Philol. Art Historian from the University of Bergen (1997), with a specialisation in Urban Development and Theory of Conservation of Historical Cities, with Naples in Italy, as a case study.

Marianne has been a member of ICOMOS since 1999 and a board member of ICOMOS Norway since 2009. She was President of ICOMOS Norway from 2014 to 2021. From 2011 to 2014, she was responsible for ICOMOS Norway's web site, and she is at present a board member with the special task to follow up the Norwegian Scientific Council.

As President of ICOMOS Norway, Marianne participated in the development of the ideas of a Rights Based Approach to Heritage Management and understanding, and to the process of bringing more transparency into the ICOMOS Organization.