

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

HERBIG ULRIKE

AUSTRIA – AUTRICHE



PLATFORM / PLATE-FORME / PLATAFORMA

If elected to the ICOMOS Board, I intend to stand for the office of Treasurer. I confirm that, if elected, I will serve in this office and attend Board and Bureau meetings. If not elected to the Bureau, I will continue to serve as a member of the Board and attend Board meetings.

I am offering my expertise for the office of Treasurer because the financial framework within which cultural heritage professionals are operating is undergoing profound change. Public budgets are under pressure, and funding mechanisms are becoming more competitive and performance driven. At the same time, cultural heritage is increasingly recognised as a key contributor to sustainable development, resource-conscious construction and long-term territorial resilience. This shift opens new funding perspectives - but only if ICOMOS is positioned strategically and proactively within these emerging agendas.

Through my professional role at TU Wien, I work extensively with international research funding frameworks within the European Union and beyond. I support colleagues in developing competitive proposals and managing projects, requiring strategic financial planning, compliance with reporting standards, risk assessment and long-term sustainability thinking. This has given me a solid understanding of institutional financial frameworks in the field of cultural heritage conservation.

Within ICOMOS Austria, I was closely involved in restructuring the National Committee's financial framework in cooperation with the Treasurer and in dialogue with the responsible Ministry. Establishing clearer financial structures, strengthening transparency and aligning governance with legal and institutional requirements was a demanding but necessary process. This experience has shown me that financial stability is not merely an administrative matter, but a strategic foundation for institutional credibility and autonomy.

As Treasurer, I would focus on four interrelated priorities.

First, strengthening financial stability, transparency and accountability within ICOMOS International, in accordance with the Statutes and Governance framework. Clear structures, predictable planning and responsible reserve policies are essential for maintaining trust among members and partners worldwide. While ICOMOS benefits from a stable financial framework, the increasing complexity of international funding environments will require strengthened expertise in application support, compliance and long-term financial strategy.

Second, ensuring that membership contributions and financial responsibilities are structured in a fair and sustainable manner. In a global organisation such as ICOMOS, financial frameworks must reflect diverse economic realities while safeguarding overall viability. Equitable contribution and responsible distribution mechanisms are fundamental to strengthening inclusiveness and global cohesion. Financial governance must not only secure income, but also enable meaningful participation across differing economic contexts. Transparent allocation principles and carefully designed support mechanisms can help ensure that opportunities within ICOMOS are not limited by geography or financial capacity.

Third, strategically positioning ICOMOS within international funding landscapes. Programmes related to sustainable development, climate resilience, education and digital transformation increasingly recognise the value of cultural heritage. By strengthening structured engagement with international funding schemes and research frameworks, ICOMOS can enhance both its intellectual contribution and its financial sustainability.

Strategic awareness of completed international projects is essential for sound financial planning. Funding bodies increasingly emphasise capitalisation of prior results rather than isolated initiatives. By mobilising existing expertise, networks and knowledge generated through previous programmes, ICOMOS can enhance its credibility and competitiveness within global funding frameworks.

Fourth, ensuring that financial strategy actively supports intercontinental cooperation. International collaboration requires resources, coordination and long-term commitment. By facilitating cross-regional exchange and inclusive participation, ICOMOS strengthens both its intellectual capital and its global cohesion, thereby reinforcing its credibility in international partnership environments.

I intend to continue my engagement in Heritage Impact Assessment training and technical reviews in full compliance with ICOMOS Statutes and governance provisions. Such activities must remain clearly separated from fiduciary responsibilities and conducted within established conflict-of-interest frameworks. Maintaining this professional engagement allows me to remain closely connected to the operational realities of heritage protection while fully respecting the institutional responsibilities of the Treasurer.

My approach is collaborative, interdisciplinary and pragmatic. I see the Treasurer's role not as purely administrative control, but as a strategic responsibility within the Board: ensuring sound financial stewardship while shaping financial frameworks that allow ICOMOS to remain resilient, inclusive and globally relevant in an increasingly interconnected and demanding world.

ICOMOS has accompanied my professional life for nearly three decades. I would consider it both an honour and a responsibility to contribute to its financial stewardship, equity and long-term resilience.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Dr. Ulrike Herbig (Austria) is Senior Scientist at TU Wien (Vienna University of Technology), Faculty of Architecture and Planning, where she is responsible for research support, international cooperation and strategic project funding. Trained as a geodesist, she began her academic career with a doctoral thesis focused on interdisciplinary approaches to cultural heritage conservation, shaping her long-standing commitment to bridging research, conservation and public engagement.

She has been a member of ICOMOS since 1997 and joined the International Scientific Committee on Heritage Documentation (CIPA) in the same year. She is also a member of the International Scientific Committee on Wood (IIWC).

Since 2012, she has been a core member of the Preventive Monitoring Group of ICOMOS Austria and currently heads the group. In this role, she works on developing the framework of preventive monitoring as a complementary approach, supporting site managers in navigating evolving UNESCO policies and strengthening risk-aware, research-based management frameworks.

She served as Vice-President of ICOMOS Austria (2018–2019) and subsequently focused on strengthening the governance and methodological foundations of preventive monitoring at both national and international levels.

At the international level, she contributes to technical reviews and serves as a trainer in Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA).

Her professional work combines institutional governance experience with strategic planning, budget awareness and responsible oversight of collaborative, multi-partner projects across Europe and Asia.

She is President of the CHNT International Conference (Cultural Heritage and New Technologies), fostering dialogue between research, governance and practice within the global heritage community.