WORLD HERITAGE WATCH

Nicolaihaus • Brüderstr. 13 • 10178 Berlin • Germany • +49 (30) 2045-3975
contact@world-heritage-watch.org • www.world-heritage-watch.org

CALL FOR PAPERS

In partnership with our network of indigenous peoples' and civil society organizations, World Heritage Watch is organizing the

14th International NGO Forum on World Heritage

online from Berlin, Germany, in February 2027[1]

The Forum will discuss cases of World Heritage Sites where there is a concern for their protection and safeguarding which should be brought to the attention of the World Heritage Committee and the general public. Papers shall provide information about the sites which

- is new and relevant for the protection and safeguarding of the site; and/or
- has not received adequate consideration by the State Party or UNESCO; and/or
- reflects the perspective of the local community at the site and/or civil society actors;

in order to help the World Heritage Committee and its Advisory Bodies to have a more comprehensive assessment of the site and thus arrive at better-founded decisions during its annual session. Updates on previous papers are welcome but please abstain from repeating content which has been reported earlier.

Papers about sites which are nominated for inscription on the World Heritage List will also be considered. Sites which are on a Tentative List or which should be placed on a Tentative List will not be considered for the Forum but will be published in the WHW Report 2027.

Papers should be as **specific, concise and detailed** as possible. Where applicable, they should refer as much as possible to **prior decisions of, or reports to**, the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, and should make **clear suggestions as to which action should be taken and by whom**.

Any and all persons of any occupational background - except officials involved on national or international level in decision-making on world heritage sites - are invited to submit papers. Representatives of non-governmental organizations, indigenous peoples, local initiatives and professional associations related to conservation and/or the empowerment of civil society or indigenous peoples will be given priority when papers are selected for presentation on the Forum.

[1] The exact date and agenda of the Forum will be announced in due time. The Forum will be held online in the form of a Zoom Conference.

In addition to presentation on the Forum, World Heritage Watch may also arrange access to the media and an additional presentation on a side event during the next UNESCO WH Committee Meeting.

Please send your full paper in English language by **Sunday 14 February 2027** to Stephan Doempke contact@world-heritage-watch.org. **It is very important that you keep this deadline.**

By sending their paper authors agree to its possible publication in the World Heritage Watch Report 2027 which will be published in June 2027.

Authors may send their reports **under pseudonym or anonymous** if they feel that this is necessary to protect themselves from repercussions.

Formal guidelines:
Papers must be submitted in **Word** format. They must not be longer than **3 pages of text** written in **Arial 11pt, 2,5cm margins, single-spaced**, with minimum formatting (bold, italics, underline). No abstract needed. References and illustrations (maps, photos, graphics, tables) may be added to the three pages of text.
Each photo or map must be sent in a **separate file** (jpg of not less than 400kb or pdf) as an attachment to the email. Do not send your photos from a smartphone since they will be automatically reduced in size during the transfer.
In addition, please also send us a **portrait photo** (jpg, min. 400kb) and a **short biography** (max. 10 lines Arial 11pt of **written text** - no lists, no bullet points) explaining your profession and background, membership in a civil society or indigenous organization (if any), and the type of your involvement in the UNESCO World Heritage.

NOTE: Papers not observing these guidelines will be returned.

For general orientation we suggest that you consult the Proceedings of the WHW 2015 Bonn Conference and previous World Heritage Watch Reports, all of which are available for download from our website https://world-heritage-watch.org/content/publications/

Papers will be selected for presentation and publication until 1 February 2025. In case your paper will be selected, you will receive an invitation to present it online. No honorariums will be paid for the papers and presentations.

Berlin, 28 October 2026

St. Dömpke

Stephan Doempke
Chair of the Board, World Heritage Watch