

**SESSION TITLE:**        **Archaeology for whom? Cultural identity, diversity, pedagogy and gender in the presentation of archaeological heritage**

**ORGANISER:**            Serena Sabatini (*Sweden*)

**CO-ORGANISERS:**     Adriana Munoz, Sophie Bergerbrant

**SESSION PROPOSAL:**

The recently approved Convention on the value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Faro, Portugal 2005) states (art. 1d) the active role of cultural heritage "in the construction of a peaceful and democratic society, and in the process of sustainable development and the promotion of cultural diversity".

At the core of this session proposal there is the idea that considering the past as a place of trans-cultural interactions and diversity of expressions positively affects not only our understanding of the past, but also our capacity to build a culturally sustainable present. However, the archaeological heritage is rarely presented as the evidence of cultural diversity and intercultural dialogues. The cultural heritage is re-interpreted in every historic time, and today in a multicultural and trans-national context, archaeology has a lot to contribute.

In a present of extreme mobility of people and things large debates take place on cultural identity and belonging. Not to highlight the above mentioned aspects of the archaeological heritage risk creating a large gap between the latter and the public and a consequent loss of visibility and value of archaeology in the eyes of the people.

The session aims at discussing these issues and bringing forward working proposals for the future. We welcome papers which discuss the issues under different points of view or also intent to examine international and European legal instruments for the promotion and preservation of the archaeological heritage.

**PLEASE CONTACT:**

**Serena Sabatini**

Department of Historical Studies

Göteborg University

Sweden

T: 031-7864610

E: [serena.sabatini@archaeology.gu.se](mailto:serena.sabatini@archaeology.gu.se)