



YOUR GUIDE TO

**INCLUSIVE
HERITAGE**



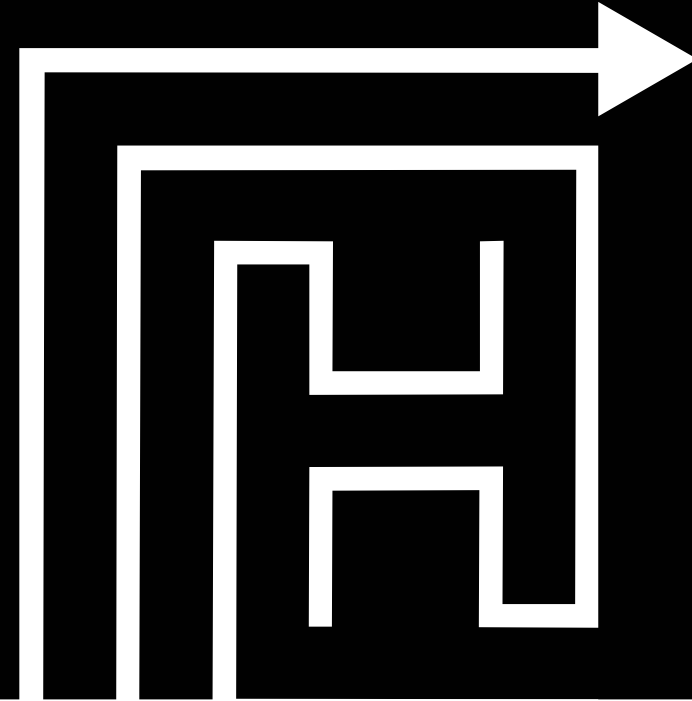
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UNDERSTANDING OUR HERITAGE FROM

DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES HELPS REMOVE

OUR BIASES FOR FUTURE CONNECTIONS



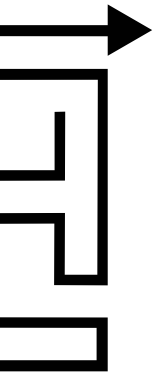
CHOs are platforms and meeting places for connections within and across cultures. It is their responsibility to tell the stories that connect us with our past and our future. But in recent years an imbalanced view on our common history has come to light by becoming aware of those who have been historically underrepresented, marginalized, or excluded from cultural heritage discussions and decisions.

RETHINK HERITAGE

CHOs now stand a chance to provide a voice for the voiceless hereby ensuring that all members of society are represented and engaged in shaping the future and revisiting the past.

This means rethinking the organizations to include unrepresented voices as contributors in everything from activities and decision making to new ways of communicating.

E.g. Consider if archaeological artefacts should be put on display where they are found to create value in local communities, instead of exhibited at a museum.



01



**UNDERREPRESENTED
VOICES**

UNDERREPRESENTED VOICES

There are many examples of groups that have been historically underrepresented when it comes to the preservations of our cultural heritage. On the next slides we will present some examples as inspiration.



A photograph of a person from behind, wearing a feathered headdress and a patterned skirt, standing in a lush green forest. A semi-transparent graphic of a square with an arrow pointing right is overlaid on the left side of the image.

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

Indigenous communities have often been excluded from cultural heritage discussions and decisions, despite the fact that they have a deep connection to their cultural heritage and are often the best stewards of it. For example, in many countries, indigenous people were not even recognized as citizens until recently, which made it difficult for them to have a say in cultural heritage matters.



WOMEN

Women have also been underrepresented in the cultural heritage, both historically and currently. For example, many important historical figures who were women have been overlooked or forgotten, which has led to an imbalance in the representation of women in our common history.

MINORITIES

In some countries the cultural heritage of minority groups, such as ethnic or religious minorities, has been intentionally destroyed or neglected as a means of oppression which has led to their exclusion from the cultural heritage discourse.





YOUNG PEOPLE

Young people are often underrepresented in discussions and decisions, despite the fact that they are the future custodians of cultural heritage. For example, many CHOs do not have programs or activities that are tailored to young people, which can make it difficult for them to connect with their cultural heritage.



LGBTQ+ COMMUNITIES

The cultural heritage of LGBTQ+ communities has often been overlooked or ignored, which has led to their exclusion from the cultural heritage discourse. For example, LGBTQ+ people and their contributions to history have been erased or downplayed, which has perpetuated their underrepresentation in our common history.

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

People with disabilities have often been excluded from discussions and decisions, both in terms of physical and cognitive access to cultural heritage sites and in the preservation and interpretation of their own cultural heritage.





IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

Immigrants and refugees have often been excluded from local discussions and decisions, despite the fact that they bring their own cultural heritage with them and are often deeply connected to it. Failing to include them in a local context reproduces a false discourse about the diversity of the heritage.

02



**NEGATIVE
CONSEQUENCES**

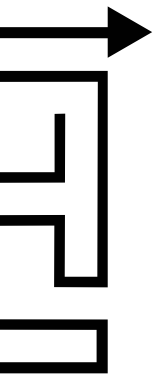
NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES

Lack of representation

When certain groups are excluded from cultural heritage discussions and decisions, their perspectives and experiences are not represented, which can lead to a narrow and incomplete understanding of our common heritage. This can perpetuate historical imbalances and prevent underrepresented populations from being considered.

Loss of cultural heritage:

When underrepresented groups are excluded, their cultural heritage can be at risk of neglect or destruction. For example, indigenous communities have commonly been excluded from making decisions, which has led to the destruction of their sacred sites and the loss of their cultural heritage.



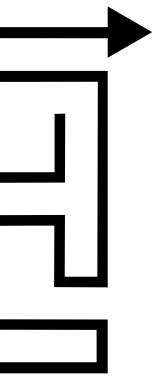
NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES

Inequality:

The exclusion of underrepresented groups from cultural heritage discussions and decisions perpetuates inequality and can lead to the marginalization of these groups. This can have long-lasting social and economic consequences, as cultural heritage is often linked to identity, community, and economic development.

Lack of engagement:

When underrepresented groups are not engaged in cultural heritage discussions and decisions, they may not feel connected to our common heritage, which can lead to a lack of interest and participation. This can have negative consequences for the preservation and interpretation of diversity.





HOW TO CONTINUE

Use the awareness of historically biased perspectives on cultural heritage to consider where your organization and its community could improve mutual understandings and benefit from including underrepresented members of society.



Source: The World Heritage Watch

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