

# NEW METROPOLITAN PERSPECTIVES 2018

THEMATIC SESSIONS - TS

## TS-18

### CULTURAL ROUTES BETWEEN EAST AND WEST: COMPETITIVE NETWORKS FOR MEDITERRANEAN CITIES

*Keywords: Mediterranean Basin; Cultural Routes; Territorial Cohesion; Cultural Heritage; Integrated Conservation; Cultural Tourism.*

Intercultural dialogue is one of the challenges of the contemporary world and at the same time one of the fundamental human values for building a world of peace and prosperity.

The Mediterranean is one of the places in the planet with the greatest concentration of cultural diversity, resulting from historical-cultural-geopolitical stratifications, millennia of wars and peaceful exchanges. In a crucial moment when the Mediterranean Sea is emerging in its „historic role“ of pulsating heart of the match of cultures, the research and study of the historical development of the region, highlighting the common roots, analysing the positive valences, can be a key element of dialogue in the Mediterranean panorama.

Referring to a complex context, where the cities' role in the global competition brings along a scale shift in terms of networking system, the session focuses on the role of local cultural heritage towards a Mediterranean sustainable development process, especially in less-known destinations, where the cultural resources are the main strategic assets for development.

Dealing with main sub-topics - likewise a) Mediterranean territorial dynamics; b) local development needs and perspectives; c) community participation; d) historical common roots and multicultural dialogue; e) Euro-Mediterranean policies - the session aims to share methodological, theoretical and empirical experiences and achievements in the main field of Cultural Routes.

#### CHAIR

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