

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME & ABSTRACT BOOK

The 6th Barcelona Conference on Education (BCE2025)
The 6th Barcelona Conference on Arts, Media & Culture (BAMC2025)
ISSN: 2433-7544 (Online) ISSN: 2433-7587 (Print)

September 30 – October 04, 2025 | Barcelona, Spain & Online

Organised by the International Academic Forum (IAFOR) in partnership with the IAFOR Research Centre at the Osaka School of International Public Policy (OSIPP) at The University of Osaka, Japan, and IAFOR's Global Partners.

iafor

16:40-18:20 | (B1) Poble Nou

Thursday Onsite Parallel Session 3

BAMC2025 | Cultural Studies

Session Chair: John Nguyet Erni

16:40-17:05

96160 | *How Art Communicates Social Change: A Case Study on Student Occupation of Student's Cultural Centre in Belgrade During the 2024/2025 Protests*
Nevena Novaković, Institute of Social Sciences, Serbia

Anthropologist David Leach (1983) defined every culture as communication, and thus, art is also communication. Art or exibition is a message itself, and it has what every communication must: a sender, the content of the message, and a recepient. This research explores the cultural and political needs of young people, the articulation of those needs during times of social upheaval and change, as well as the content of cultural production by young artists and humanities students who shared their days and nights in the Student Cultural Center in Belgrade embracing innovative ideas of community and leadership and bringing to life, perhaps a new cultural wave in Serbia and Balkans, since their art programs are regional. This case study will analyze the political and social motives and objectives of the students who occupied the Student Cultural Center in Belgrade, as well as the content of their program inspired by the protests and propagating and leading change, with a special focus on the part they themselves authored — visual arts. The case study itself has interdisciplinary approach combining sociology of art, cultural studies and anthrophology with the implementation of sociological method – content analysis and interview with the young people currently living in Student's Cultural Center in Belgrade.

17:05-17:30

96175 | *The In-depth Analysis of Philippine Cultural Heritage Law and Its Participation in the Global Preservation and Protection of Cultural Heritage*
Ailyn Kindipan, Integrated Bar of the Philippines, Philippines

This paper analyzes the two main laws – Republic Act No. 10066, known as the National Cultural Heritage Act of 2009, and Republic Act No. 11961 – An Act Strengthening the Conservation and Protection of Philippine Cultural Heritage through Cultural Mapping and Enhanced Cultural Education Program, concerning the preservation and protection of the cultural heritage of the Philippines. This study aimed to carry out a systematic inquiry and critical examination on the effectiveness of said laws on the sustainable guardianship of tangible and intangible cultural properties of the Philippines. Employing combined research methods such as qualitative research, observations, case studies and comparative analysis, data were extracted from documentary materials such as, laws, jurisprudence, news articles, commentaries and interviews. This study provided an in-depth analysis of the said laws with regard to its effectiveness and efficiency in safeguarding and promoting Philippine cultural heritage. It scrutinized every provision of the laws in terms of the proper management of cultural properties and the role of cultural agencies in the implementation of the said laws. This study provided an opportunity to share the Philippine experience to other nation regarding cultural preservation. The results of the study reveal that having laws on cultural heritage are crucial for the preservation of cultural properties and in the safeguarding of national identity to ensure that the present and future generations can understand, appreciate and give importance to the vital role of cultural heritage in shaping individual and collective identities, preserving historical narratives, fostering cultural diversity and promoting economic growth.

17:30-17:55

97717 | *Novel Writing: An Alternative Narrative in International Relations and a Tool for Fostering Cultural Diplomacy*
Lavinia Roxana Ghent, Independent Scholar, Denmark

Conventionally and conveniently, what is encompassed in the world of fiction belongs to the imagination and artistic subjectivity. However, the capacity of historical fiction to shed light on aspects left aside or marginalized in official and dominant discourses of international relations (IR) has begun to get recognition in the academia. Consistently, elements of real history appear as wrapped in fiction. Why does this narrative metamorphosis happen? Although it remains an imaginary space, it often brings to light features of societies and times, of the historical past, even risking questioning official discourses. Through applying a poststructuralist lens, enriched with elements of narrative theory, this research aims to answer the question: „how does fiction foster cultural diplomacy, by challenging dominant discourses in international relations?". By employing qualitative methods, its structure follows two parts: (1) the first one, focusing on the analysis of the existing literature and (2) the second, consisting in textual analysis of two samples of fiction selected from the British-Turkish novelist and human rights activist, Elif Shafak. "The Island of Missing Trees" and "The Bastard of Istanbul" are both two novels which engage in deconstructing official discourses around historical past and cultural identity, by illustrating how meaning and language shape identities, truths, and power dynamics. The article concludes that narrative practices provided by historical fiction can deconstruct official and dominant discourse in international relations, by ultimately fostering cultural diplomacy, and encouraging intercultural understanding and empathy.

17:55-18:20

96211 | *Caring Commons: Youth Mobilization and Moralist Engagement*
John Nguyet Erni, The Education University of Hong Kong, China

This paper examines youth social mobilization amid the polarized culture war affecting perceptions of young people's lives and abilities. Discussions about youth engagement often focus on the more "radical" individuals who participate in dramatic protests, leaving less attention on the quieter forms of participation exhibited by moderate youth and their strategic approaches. Drawing on a cultural-political analysis of youth engagement in Hong Kong over the past 15 years, along with ethnographic interviews from a civic leadership program conducted post-COVID, we explore the discursive conditions that foster a youth-driven "care commons." We argue that this care commons emerges from moderate youth's involvement in local and transnational causes, oscillating between a liberal consciousness and a discourse of "conscience awakening." This connection cultivates a change-maker mentality among youth, coupled with a moral conscience seeking redemption. We suggest that such a framework promotes a practice of care through "restorative commoning", which encompasses collective actions centered on recovery, healing, and social stability. By investigating this interplay between consciousness and conscience, we aim to enhance our understanding of moderate youth's political identities and the leadership they can provide.