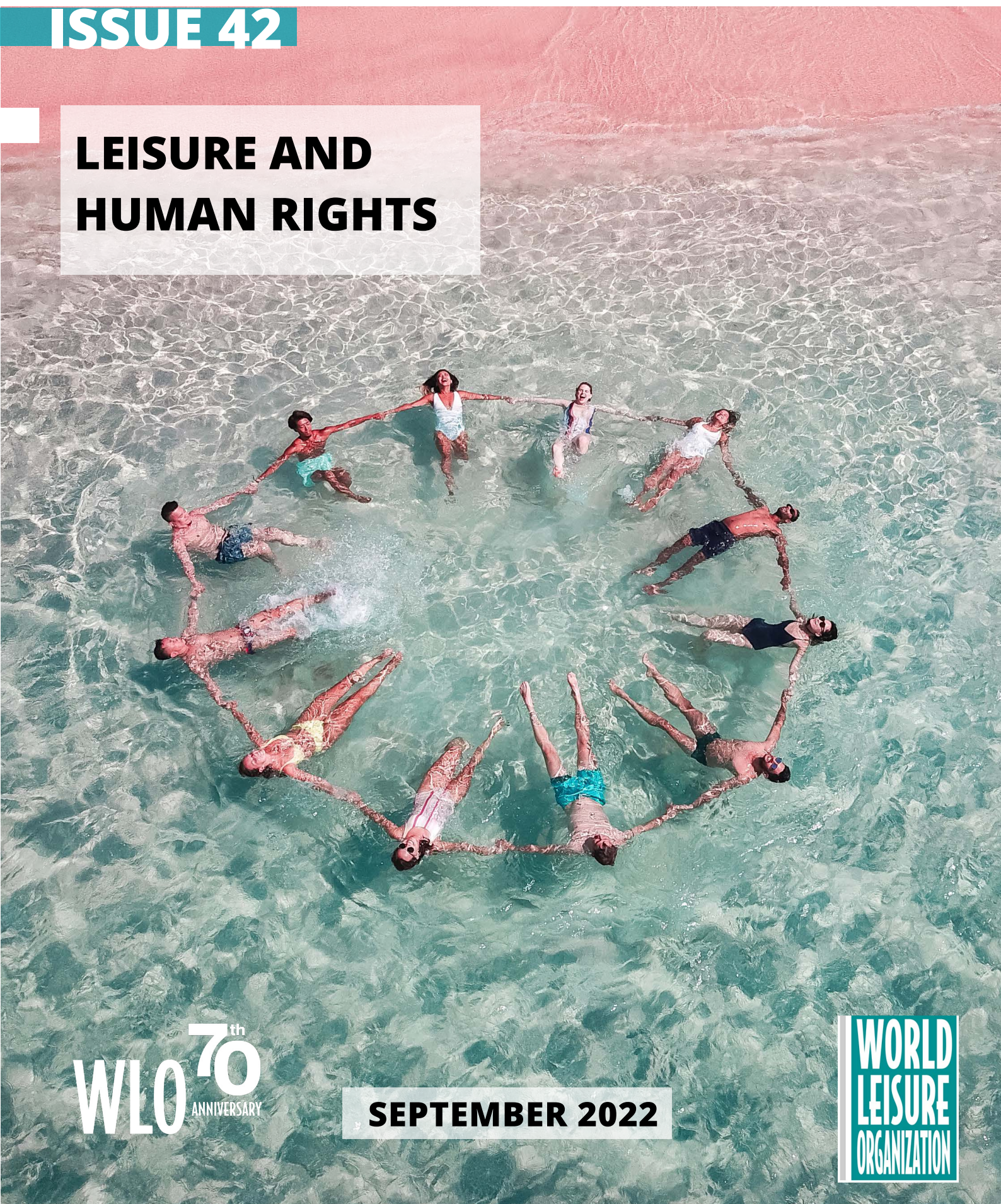


WL NEWS

ISSUE 42

LEISURE AND HUMAN RIGHTS



WLO 70th
ANNIVERSARY

SEPTEMBER 2022

**WORLD
LEISURE
ORGANIZATION**



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Editorial

Dear members, dear colleagues,

After the announcement of the launch of a new WLO Special Interest Group (SIG) focused on Leisure and Human Rights, in this issue we invite you to a webinar organized by this group, in which you will hear about a proposed collaborative research project, 'Holding nation states to account for leisure rights'. Also, this issue of *WL News* includes some *WL Journal* articles on the topic written by the SIG chairs, which you can now consult with free access until the end of October.

Members of other WLO SIGs have also shared with us the findings of their recent research work, on topics as diverse and interesting as the colonial influence on local conceptions of leisure and environment in East Africa or the sensory experience creation process of visitors with hearing impairment and general visitors in Hong Kong Wetland Park.

As usual, the issue is completed with news from our key partners, to provide you with a wide range of opportunities and resources!

Enjoy the reading!

Yours truly,

Dr. Cristina Ortega Nuere
WLO Chief Operating Officer





WLO Leisure Organization takes part in the UN Global Compact - Uniting Business LIVE event

On behalf of WLO, Dr. Cristina Ortega Nuere, WLO's Chief Operating Officer (COO), participated virtually in the event Uniting Business LIVE from September 19 to 21, 2022. Organized by UN Global Compact, it aims to connect the high-level multi stakeholder dialogues of the Private Sector Forum, the grounded local knowledge and implementation strategies in the Global Impact Forum, and partnership and leadership examples of the SDG Business Forum, into one inclusive, impactful, and innovative all access global event. Over the course of the three days at the start of the high-level opening week of the UN General Assembly session, leading Chief Executives, Heads of State and Government, corporate sustainability experts and business leaders, plus heads of UN agencies and civil society organizations came together to take stock of the state of the world, address gaps in progress, drive business ambition on the SDGs

and highlight cooperative and actionable solutions that are ready — today. These themes ran throughout multi-stakeholder panels, live General Assembly presentations and CEO interventions, and encouraged a global cross-sector dialogue through interactive breakout-sessions and exposition booths.

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Research



Researchers from Penn State University (USA) reflect on the colonial influence on local conceptions of leisure and environment in East Africa

By Katie P. Bernhard, Edwin Sabuhoro, and John Dattilo,
Penn State University, USA

Researchers from Penn State University, USA, Katie P. Bernhard, Edwin Sabuhoro, and John Dattilo, have a paper accepted for publication in the *International Journal of Sociology of Leisure* titled “Colonial Influence on Local Conceptions of Leisure and Environment in East Africa: Intersections Between Two Literatures.” The following is a detailed abstract of their findings.

In East Africa, settler-colonization during the Scramble for Africa period and the militarized conservation regimes that became a common feature of colonial governance in the region, characterized by conserved land secured via fences and patrols of armed rangers,

fundamentally altered locals’ access to and relationship with their land and natural environment. In parallel to the impacts on locals’ relationship with nature, direct colonial governance impacted local expressions of leisure. Colonial authorities often enforced particular activities during times normally allocated as free time, forcing individuals sometimes to perform tasks or engage in activities contrary to local conceptions of leisure. This paper draws linkages between two discrete but related scholarly literatures focusing on African contexts: the lasting influences of a particular period and type of colonization on local peoples’: (a) conceptions of leisure, and (b) relationships to their natural environment. East Africa is the primary regional focus, to contain the scope. Snowballing literature search and database keyword searches are used for literature review, in which African-authored scholarship is prioritized to address Euro-North American bias in academic research. Evidence in the literature describes how leisure and perceptions of nature were constrained and redefined during the settler-colonial period and their evolution in the postcolonial era inform how leisure and perceptions of nature are shaped in the present. However, the paper focuses only lasting impacts of a particular period and type of colonization, and thus the lasting impacts are likely to be deeper than those described in this analysis. Next, the paper draws on intersections of these literatures to examine a contemporary issue in East Africa: recent efforts to increase domestic ecotourism by encouraging locals to engage in nature-based recreation activities and leisure experiences. The paper contributes to the African ecotourism literature by intersecting colonization, sociology of leisure, and tourism literatures to identify contemporary historically-rooted opportunities and challenges in domestic ecotourism in East Africa, highlighting gaps in sociology of leisure and ecotourism literatures pertaining to prospective African tourists’ perceptions of ecotourism activities.



Comparing sensory experience creation process of visitors with hearing impairment and general visitors in Hong Kong Wetland Park

By CHAN, Chung-Shing, Department of Geography and Resource Management, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Acknowledgement

This research project (Project Number: 14607919) is funded by the General Research Fund (GRF) administered by the Research Grants Council (RGC) of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

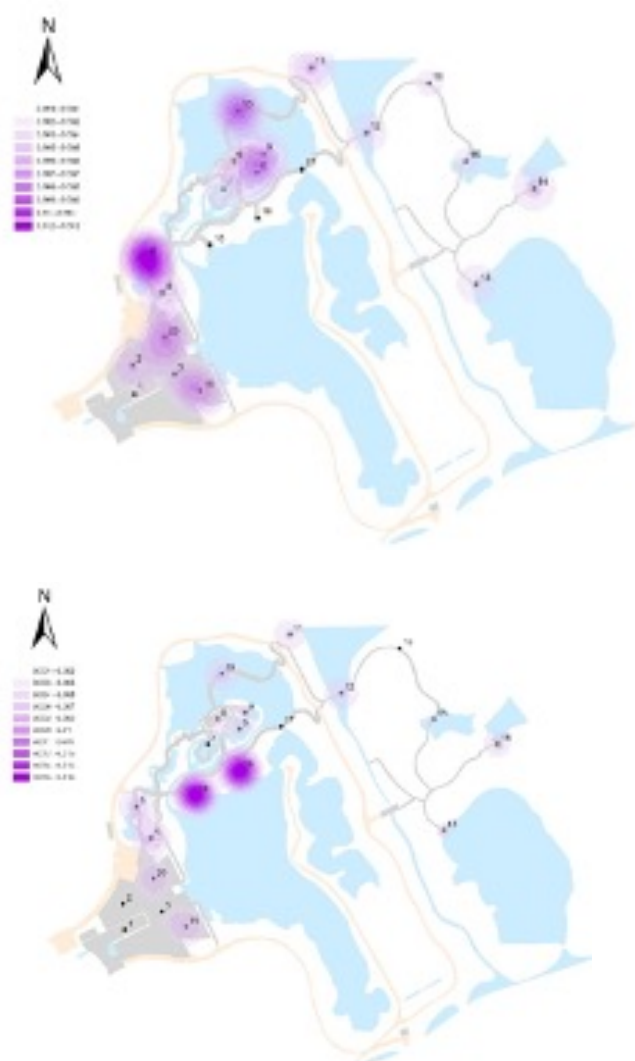
The research findings on this project are available in this paper: Chan, C. S., Shek, K. F., & Agapito, D. (2022). The sensory experience of visitors with hearing impairment in Hong Kong Wetland Park based on spatial sensory mapping and self-reported textual analysis. *Landscape and Urban Planning*, 226, 104491.

Universal accessibility and barrier-free experience of public spaces such as parks is at the frontier of social sustainability and disability research. Such accessible and quality public spaces are characterized by enjoyable sensory stimuli and facilitating factors determining the process of sensory experience creation. Among visitors with sensory impairment like hearing difficulty, an understanding and a comparison of this sensation process with that of general visitors is largely absent.

The author conducted a study to investigate the multi-sensory experience of visitors with hearing impairment (HI) in Hong Kong Wetland Park through spatial mapping of their self-reported positive and negative sensory stimuli, and expression of the overall experience. As

reported by the government, there were over 155,000 individuals with HI, making it one of the largest disabled populations in Hong Kong whose disability is not mobility-related. Using the Government's updated definition to only include those with hearing aid or other equipment, the number of persons with hearing difficulty would reduce to 47,900 persons. For the Wetland Park, the annual numbers of visitors with disabilities who purchase concessionary tickets is around 4,000-5,000. The current research selected the Wetland Park as the study site because the park boasts high availability of diversified sensory stimuli features and facility provision. The park also offers a great variety of natural and manmade features, services, settings, and activities, offering visitors diversified experiences and sensory-based potential.

A series of investigation visits for a total of 104 sampled voluntary HI participants were set up, applying participant observation and a modified Sensory Experience Elicitation Protocol (SEEP) instrument in form of self-administered questionnaire, to extract sensory information.



Figures 1a and 1b: Positive and negative overall sensory experiences in the Wetland Park

The results clearly show a geographical distribution of sensory stimuli and their spatial pattern of magnitude across different zones and features in the Wetland Park (Figures 1a and 1b). Natural features provide more than visual stimuli to the HI park visitors. The Wetland Park shows a combination of stimuli although visual, auditory and tactile elements are more prominent. Tactile experience of the HI participants is relatively rich compared to other non-visual senses.

Theoretically, there has been a lack of research focusing on characterizing the pattern of sensory experience by people with hearing impairment. This study therefore combines sensory mapping and textual analysis of HI participants' experiences and contributes to the understanding of sensory impairment and experience in a multi-functional landscape of a public park. As sensory impairment is a relatively untapped area of tourism research, results of this study enrich the domains of knowledge and theoretical development of accessibility in recreation and tourism, sensory experience and landscape assessment. The present research also extends the concepts of multiple sensory stimuli and the broader sensation process from the fields of environmental psychology and consumer behaviour to the approach of spatial analysis of visitor sensory experience.



Industry



The winds of change [in the attractions sector]

By Terry Stevens

Bob Dylan's refrain, The Winds of Change Are Blowing Wild and Free, on his 1997 album Time Out of Mind echoes his earlier anthem, The Times They Are A'Changin'. The sentiment is prescient and wholly relevant today. The pandemic, together with other global crises, has shifted many aspects of leisure consumer behaviour, demanding a response from the supply side of our industry. Nowhere is this challenge more pronounced than in the attractions sector. It is time to reconsider the concept of a visitor attraction. Time to scrutinise their role and purpose. Time to re-imagine their business and operational models. It was 30 years ago when, in 1993, my essay Playgrounds or Agents of Social and Cultural Development won the American Express Annual Award for Travel. The text challenged theme parks and other attractions to

become benchmarks of sustainable development and to recognise the needs of thoughtful consumers with their new priorities for selecting their leisure experiences. Very few rose to the challenge. Three decades on there is a new imperative to act. Precious time is definitely slipping away.

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From Attractions Management

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Sign up for free magazines and ezines at

<http://leisuremedia.com/signup>



Patrick Hammer
Erie Colorado's Director of Parks and Recreation

"I joined the WLO because the diversity of viewpoints and knowledge is crucially important to developing well-rounded and meaningful quality of life experiences that can be accessed by all. The business of parks, recreation, leisure, cultural arts and tourism should never be viewed through one lens. Service to others is not a static practice, it requires an evolving mix of educators, researchers, advocates and practitioners with a broad range of backgrounds. The WLO is an amazing platform for personal and professional growth, I'm excited about the learning opportunities on the horizon".



Publications



"Leisure for a Better World", a new article in the *Uncover Magazine*

WLO organized this joint article bringing different experts to share different perspectives on inclusive leisure. The article was coordinated and introduced by Dr. Lisa Mische Lawson, chair of the [WLO Special Interest Group in Diversity, Access and Inclusion \(DAI SIG\)](#), and is co-written by representatives of some of the World Leisure Centers of Excellence (WLCE): Dr. Jane Lijun Zhou Deputy Dean of College of Education and Ms. Gloria Jia Ran Zhejiang University, China; Dr. Marc-André Lavigne, Associate Professor at the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières, Canada; Ricardo Uvinha, Full Professor and Dean at the School of Arts, Sciences and Humanities, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil; and Marta Willhelm, from the Faculty of Sciences, University of Pécs, Hungary. In the article, they offer a review of the meaning and developments in the field of inclusive leisure in China, Canada, Brazil and Hungary, respectively.

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FREE ACCESS to *WL Journal* articles on Leisure and Human Rights

To celebrate the launch of the new [WLO Special Interest Group \(SIG\) on Leisure and Human Rights](#), we bring you here a selection of articles on the topic published in the *World Leisure Journal* by the SIG chairs Dr. Atara Sivan and Dr. Tony Veal. You can find them with free access until the end of October at: [Holding governments to account for leisure rights: a collaborative research agenda](#) (2022), by Tony Veal and Atara Sivan; [International assessment of the right to leisure time](#), (2021) by Tony Veal, and [Human rights, leisure and leisure studies](#) (2015), by Tony Veal. Thanks once more to our publisher T&F for allowing us to share these articles with free access.



Book From Our Table to Yours: Fusion Cuisine

Source: [UNHCR](#)

From Our Table to Yours: Fusion Cuisine is a book that contains stories of, and recipes from, refugees and forcibly displaced persons in Latin America and the Caribbean. Discover recipes from cooking lovers for whom gastronomy has become a means to preserve their origin and share experiences in their host country.

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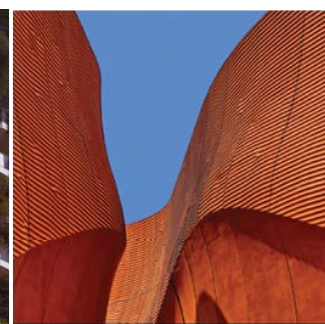
Opportunities



ONLY FOR STUDENTS: Join WLO with a special discount and win an experience!

As part of the World Leisure Organization 70th anniversary activities and actions, WLO is inviting leisure field (tourism, culture, sports, recreation) related students to sign up and join the WLO community. By joining the Premium Student Membership with a 50% discount you will have a direct opportunity to win amazing prizes! Do not miss this unique opportunity to be part in the leading community and network of leisure professionals! The special discount on Premium Student Membership is available until 31st of December 2022.

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Open call for nominations for the WLO Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Board of Directors (Deadline: November 8, 2022)

WLO is currently seeking international leisure field scholars and professionals who want to invest their time and commit in strengthening our organization. The following calls are open:

- Chair: [Call / Application file](#)
- Vice Chair: [Call / Application file](#)
- Treasurer: [Call / Application file](#)
- Board members: [Call / Application file](#)

Expressions of interest should be sent to secretariat@worldleisure.org as an e-mail attachment in PDF file, no later than November 8, 2022.

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Open call for hosting the World Leisure Congress 2028

The World Leisure Organization (WLO) is pleased to extend to you and your community an exciting opportunity to host the 2028 World Leisure Congress (WLC). This international event draws individuals from throughout the world into a dynamic scenery wherein leisure and its influence on social, cultural and economic development can be explored. The WLC is an event that can highlight an entire community and its commitment to enhancing quality of life through leisure. The WLO is committed to advancing scientific knowledge and best practice related to leisure through its biennial WLC. The event has been staged in Asia, Europe, North America, South America and Oceania. Latest editions, in the city of Sao Paulo (2018) and Pinggu/Beijing (2021), this last one in a hybrid format, hosted more than a thousand participants. The upcoming World Leisure Congresses will take place in Dunedin (2023) and in Breda/Rotterdam (2025). The World Leisure Organization encourages communities to partner with professional associations, government agencies and universities to plan, organize and promote the event.

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17th Canadian Congress on Leisure Research: call for abstracts (Deadline: November 15, 2022)

The University of Ottawa is pleased to announce a Call for Abstracts for the 17th Canadian Congress on Leisure Research, the triennial conference of the Canadian Association for Leisure Studies (CALS), which will take place in Ottawa, Canada, May 23-26, 2023. The conference theme is A Half Century of Canadian Leisure Research: Towards a More Inclusive Future. The deadline for submission of abstracts is 23:59 PST, November 15, 2022.

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Upcoming events



Leisure and Human Rights: Launch of the WLO Special Interest Group (SIG) and Research Invitation (24 October at 2pm CET)

You are invited to register to attend an on-line seminar to launch the WLO's newest Special Interest Group (WLO SIG) on Leisure and Human Rights and to hear about a proposed collaborative research project, 'Holding nation states to account for leisure rights'. The seminar will include presentations on these two elements and invitations to participants to comment on both the Special Interest Group and the proposed research project and to express interest in becoming involved.

Leisure and Human Rights: Special Interest Group

The goals of the Special Interest Group are:

- oTo promote research and teaching on the topic of human rights and leisure, based on the principles set out in the WLO Charter for Leisure.
- oTo enhance the profile of leisure rights among governments, leisure policymakers, practitioners and researchers and within the UN human rights system.

Project: 'Holding nation states to account for leisure rights'

Colleagues from around the world will be invited to join in this collaborative research project to investigate the performance of individual nation states in regard to their respecting, protecting and fulfilling of the human right to leisure, using a common conceptual and research framework. Individual state reports will be published as journal articles and also possibly on-line.

Further details of the Special Interest Group and the proposed research project can be found at:

www.worldleisure.org/leisure-and-human-rights/

Date: October, Monday 24th

Time: 2pm (CET, Europe = Australia: 11pm.; Hong Kong: 8pm; New York: 8am)

Speakers: inaugural co-chairs of the SIG:

Atara Sivan, *President, World Leisure Academy; Professor, Hong Kong Baptist University*

Tony (A.J) Veal, *Adjunct Professor, University of Technology Sydney*

[Register here!](#)



United Nations Day (24 October): Building Back Together for Peace and Prosperity

United Nations Day, on 24 October, marks the anniversary of the day in 1945 when the UN Charter entered into force. UN Day, celebrated every year, offers the opportunity to amplify our [common agenda](#) and reaffirm the purposes and principles of the UN Charter that have guided us for the past 76 years. Usually held in the General Assembly Hall of the Organization, at Headquarters in New York, a concert is held to mark UN Day. As the world begins gradually to recover from the Covid-19 pandemic, the 2021 Concert represents a call to strengthen international cooperation in the interest of both nations and peoples, for a more peaceful and prosperous future for all.

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UNWTO Global Conference on Linking Tourism, Culture and Creative Industries: Pathways to Recovery and Inclusive Development

Source: [UNWTO](#)

In line with Promoting Cultural Heritage; one of the priority areas of the UNWTO Agenda for Africa 2030 -Tourism for inclusive Growth, which was spearheaded by the UNWTO Secretary-General and the programmatic priority of UNWTO on 'Protect Our Heritage: Social, Cultural and Environmental Sustainability', this high-level conference, which will take place on the 14-16 November in Lagos, Nigeria, will gather top-notch panelists and stakeholders to discuss linkages and opportunities between cultural tourism and the creative industries.

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SAVE THE DATE

MONDIACULT 2022: Towards a New Culture Goal for the Sustainable Development Framework – ENCATC Member Talk in partnership with World Leisure Organization

SAVE THE DATE!

On **Friday, November 25th, 2022**, the European Network on Cultural Management and Policy (ENCATC) and the World Leisure Organization (WLO) will organize an online debate devoted to analysing, from their own perspectives on culture and leisure, some of the most relevant topics discussed at **MONDIACULT 2022**.

The UNESCO World Conference on Cultural Policies and Sustainable Development - MONDIACULT 2022 tackles global challenges and outline future priorities in order to shape a more robust and resilient cultural sector, while strengthening culture across sustainable development prospects.

Expert speakers who have contributed to MONDIACULT 2022 will be invited to provide us with their insights on the four main themes of the conference: **Renewed and strengthened cultural policies, Heritage and cultural diversity in crisis, Culture for sustainable development**, and **The future of the creative economy**.

If you have had the opportunity to attend MONDIACULT 2022 or are interested in what has been addressed during this conference, save this date on your calendar!

We will keep you posted on further details of the event soon.

Have you followed MONDIACULT 2022? Let us know [here](#)!

More information:

This event will be part of the initiative [ENCATC Members Talk](#) which aims to offer ENCATC members, the members of our partners the Association of Arts Administration Educations (AAAE), the Taiwan Association of Cultural Policy Studies (TAPCS), and the Asia-Europe Foundation, and observers (academics, researchers, educators, practitioners, students) a virtual space to exchange practice, methodology, ideas, and projects proposals.

ENCATC, the European Network on Cultural Management and Policy, is an NGO which works in partnership with the European Union, UNESCO and is an observer to the Council of Europe. Its mission is to stimulate the development of cultural management and cultural policy education in Europe and beyond, engaging and responding to new developments in politics, economics, societies, and technology.

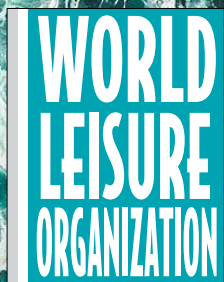
To learn more about ENCATC, please click [here](#).

Encounter

World Leisure Pathways Podcast Series – Trends and Challenges on Contemporary Leisure Research with Prof. Marie Young, Prof. Dr. Marcel Bastiaansen and Prof. Dr. Ricardo Uvinha

In this podcast episode, WLO Board members Prof. Marie Young, from University of the Western Cape in South Africa, and Prof. Dr. Marcel Bastiaansen, from Breda University of Applied Sciences in The Netherlands, together with Prof. Dr. Ricardo Uvinha, WLCE University of Sao Paulo, discuss on the late trends and challenges on contemporary leisure research and how they are evolving differently in their regions. Also, they focus on how leisure is directly related to social transformation and provide us with some examples of this phenomenon while reflecting on whether the current leisure trends cover this kind of psychological perspective. To conclude, as experts in the leisure research field, our guests approach the challenge to connect the university to communities and share some reflections on what they consider the right directions to achieve it. [Click to listen!](#)





WORLD LEISURE ORGANIZATION (WLO)

World Leisure Organization is a non-profit organization registered in the State of New York in Special Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council since 1990.

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