International Conference

A Culture of Prevention for Cultural Heritage: From Planning to Emergency Management

16 - 17 October 2026



UDINE, Plenary session > **former church of San Francesco**, Working groups > **Udine's museum venues**

How do prevention and emergency management translate into the everyday practices of a museum?
Protecting cultural heritage also depends on the choices, tools and procedures that shape the day-to-day work of museums.

How can vulnerabilities be identified?
How can institutions prepare for an emergency?
Which practices prove effective, and what challenges arise when putting them into practice?

Discussing these issues means starting from the hands-on experience of institutions and professionals, sharing challenges, solutions and expertise. The recent floods that have affected central Italy, the earthquakes that have further exposed the fragility of many inland areas, major thefts, and the heatwaves recorded across Europe all highlight the complexity of the risk scenarios cultural institutions are increasingly required to address.

Natural hazards, the effects of climate change and human-induced threats call for prevention strategies tailored to the specific characteristics and vulnerabilities of each cultural institution.

Two days of activities featuring keynote speakers, an international roundtable, participatory sessions, and guided visits across the local area. A conference to compare tools and practices, bringing together approaches and solutions developed in different contexts.

REGISTER NOW

Registration is required
to attend

Poster image:
Gemona, Church of San Giovanni, after the 1976 earthquake
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ICOM international council of museums Italia | UDINE | UDINE MUSEI | ASSOCIAZIONE COMUNI TERREMOTATI E SINDACI DELLA RICOSTRUZIONE DEL FRIULI | Gruppo di Lavoro Prevenzione, Sicurezza ed Emergenza di ICOM Italia | Coordinamento Regionale Triveneto di ICOM Italia

In collaborazione con

STORAGE ICOM International Committee on Collections in Storage | AVICOM ICOM international committee for audiovisual, new technologies and social media | SECURITY ICOM international committee for museum security | ICOM mednarodni muzejski svet Slovenija | ICOM Croatia Croatie Hrvatska

Friday, 16 October 2026
Udine, former church of San Francesco · Via Odorico da Pordenone Beato, 1

14:00 **Participant Registration – Welcome coffee**

14:30 **Official Welcome Addresses**

15:30 - 16:00 ***Reducing disaster risks for the protection of movable cultural heritage collections. A conceptualization aimed at operation***
Stefano **Grimaz** · *University of Udine*

16:00 - 16:30 ***Risk Prevention and Emergency Management for Museum Heritage in the Emilia-Romagna Region***
Cristina **Ambrosini** · *Regione Emilia-Romagna*

16:30 **International Roundtable**
A discussion bringing together representatives from Italy, Slovenia and Croatia to share national experiences and approaches to museum safety, prevention and emergency management. Particular attention will be devoted to Museum Safety and Emergency Plans (PSEM). The roundtable is moderated by: Nikos **Dokalis** · *ICOM Security (ICMS – International Committee for Museum Security)*

19:00 *Light dinner*

Saturday, 17 October 2026
Udine, former church of San Francesco and museum venues

9:00 Plenary Session – former church of San Francesco
Prevention, Security and Emergency Management: An International Perspective
Nikos **Dokalis** · *ICOM Security (ICMS – International Committee for Museum Security)*

10:00 - 13:00 **Working Groups**
The working groups will take place in parallel at different museum venues across Udine; a session will be held in English.

1. [ITA] ***PSEM – Museum Safety and Emergency Plans*** · Antonella **Nonnis**, Federica **Sacco**
2. [ITA] ***Insurance and Risk Management*** · Cristina **Resti**
3. [ITA] ***Museum storages. Learning from experience: best practices and critical perspectives for a shared culture of safety*** · Lucia **Ferruzza**
4. [ITA] ***Climate Change and Emerging Risks for Museums*** · Michele **Libralato, Paola Visentini**
5. [ENG] ***Digital Security in Museums: Risk Prevention and Emergency Management*** · Anna Maria **Marras**
6. [ITA] ***Crime Prevention and Cultural Heritage Protection*** · Tiziana **Maffei**

13:00 **Closing of the working sessions**

15:00 **Guided tours**

- **Venzone, including sites affected by the earthquake and the subsequent reconstruction, followed by visits to museums** *(free shuttle bus)*: organised by the Association of Earthquake-Affected Municipalities and Mayors for the Reconstruction of Friuli, including a visit to the Cathedral – reconstructed through anastylosis following the 1976 earthquake – and the Tiere Motus Museum. Meeting point at the entrance to the former Church of San Francesco at 3:00 p.m. Expected return at 7:00 p.m. *The tour is available in English.*
- **Udine – Udine Castle Museums – Exhibition: Earthquakes and Transformations:** The meeting point is at 3:00 p.m. in front of the ticket office of the Castle Museums (Musei del Castello), Piazzale Patria del Friuli 1. The visit will last approximately one hour. *The exhibition is also available in English by downloading the Musei di Udine app.*

Throughout the conference, participants wearing their conference badge will be entitled to free admission to the Ethnographic Museum of Friuli, Casa Cavazzini – Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, the Castle Museums, and the Friulian Museum of Natural History.