



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

Culture Sector World Heritage Centre

Editorial Board
Reforming
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12 March 2021

Dear Madam/Sir,

On behalf of the Director-General, I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 9 February last, expressing concerns and providing comments and information on a construction project that might have an impact on the World Heritage property 'The Sassi and the Park of the Rupestrian Churches of Matera'.

Please note that Articles 4 and 5.(a) of the World Heritage Convention refer to the duty of each State Party to this Convention to ensure "the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage situated on its territory" and encourage the States Parties "to adopt a general policy which aims to give the cultural and natural heritage a function in the life of the community and to integrate the protection of that heritage into comprehensive planning programmes".

In this regard, please rest assured that UNESCO is transmitting the information and documents you provided to the relevant national authorities of the Republic of Italy for verification and comment and will follow the issue in accordance with the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

Thanking you for your interest in safeguarding World Heritage, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Mechtild Rössler
Director

cc. ICOMOS
IUCN
ICCROM