



COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL D'HISTOIRE DE L'ART

April 19, 2020

Prof. Dr. Zvonko Maković
President
Croatian Society of Art Historians
Zagreb, Croatia

Dear Prof. Maković,

It is terrible to hear that an earthquake happened in Croatia while the pandemic spread in your country. On behalf of the Comité international d'histoire de l'art (CIHA), the International Committee of History of Art, we pay deep condolences to the victims of the earthquake and the pandemic. We extend our sincere sympathies to the bereaved families.

Besides, we would like to express our concern about the loss of historical buildings, museums, collections, archives, and other cultural heritage during the earthquake.

As a member of CIHA, the Croatian Committee of History of Art has played a significant role in promoting Croatian and European art and research. It has worked successfully as to connect relevant scholars and institutions working on European art and as to protect Croatian art and culture. Zagreb is an essential cultural city with a significant number of historic buildings and collections on European art. It is both a Croatian and a global responsibility to protect them. We encourage local action to record damage, restore, and conserve the historical heritage, museums, and collections. We hope that Croatia becomes a significant junction in South Europe, and a bridge of Eastern and Western art and culture.

CIHA stands alongside Croatian art historians and government. Furthermore, the international community is available and willing to provide all support and assistance for studying, protecting art and heritage. However, we believe that the Croatian people are certainly able to overcome difficulties, defeat the pandemic, and rebuild the beautiful homeland.

Yours sincerely,

The officials:

LaoZhu (ZHU Qingsheng, Pres.)

Tristan Weddigen (Tres.)

Jean-Marie Guillouët (Sc. Secr.)