



**UNESCO GATHERS HUNDREDS OF
HERITAGE SPECIALISTS IN VALENCIA [SPAIN] TO CREATE THE
FIRST HERITAGE SPECIALISED NETWORK**

The International Seminar will present a network that will link together worldwide heritage communities of professors, researchers, heritage specialists and students

An International Seminar "Forum UNESCO - University and Heritage", organised jointly by UNESCO and the Universidad Politécnica of Valencia (Spain), will be held in Valencia (Spain) from 2 to 6 October 1996. It is expected that significant personalities from the academic, cultural and heritage communities will assist to the Seminar.

This International Seminar takes place in the framework of a newly-established international network entitled Forum UNESCO - University and Heritage which aims at developing heritage studies and cooperation. The aim is to link up universities which have disciplines related to heritage such as archaeology, architecture, urban-planning, fine arts, information technologies, etc. through internet. This will permit the connection of thousands of experts, professors, researchers and students from all over the world in favour of the protection of heritage.

Forum UNESCO - University and Heritage priority action is the creation of a database (with inventory of monuments, sites and museums, surveys, thesis and dissertations on heritage issues, list of training and operational projects implemented by universities, etc.), the organisation of workshops and practical projects, a promotional action of heritage among university students and the creation of UNESCO Chairs for heritage.

Forum UNESCO - University and Heritage has as principal objectives to:

- Mobilise universities' human and technical resources with the purpose of acting in a co-ordinated way.
- Strengthen the international cooperation by transferring knowledge and exchanging know-how.
- Give greater responsibility to youth by implementing cooperation amongst specialists, teachers and students in favour of heritage.
- Upgrade theoretical training through practical experience.
- Promote mutual understanding and an intercultural dialogue for peace-building between students and among the academic and heritage communities.

Forum UNESCO- University and Heritage results from the agreement signed on 19 April 1995 in Paris between UNESCO Director-General Federico Mayor, and Universidad Politécnica of Valencia Rector, Justo Nieto.