





Walk of Peace

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE WORLD WAR I HERITAGE BETWEEN THE ALPS AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

Newsletter 3





























ERPAC

The Project for a documentary film is underway

Within the project Walk of Peace, ERPAC - Musei Provinciali di Gorizia, in collaboration with the partner ZRC SAZU, is working on the realization of a multimedia product that consists of a docufilm with the characteristics of an animated projection and a series of insights in interactive touchscreen mode available to the visitor, describing the impact of the conflict on the territory and the consequences of the First World War in Gorizia area, through the works and the personal events of some creative talents.

The first part will focus on the direct war experience of some artists, both local and international, who also fought on the Isonzo front. Then, the story will develop the description of the conflict consequences

through the artistic and personal events perspectives. More specifically, it will illustrate the short but very intense season that, in the first years of the post-war period, involved Italian and Slovenian artists adhering to different movements and to different positions,

























collaborating and taking part at the most significant event of the first post-war period from the cultural point of view: the first exhibition of Fine Arts organized in Gorizia in 1924, by Antonio Morassi in collaboration with Sofronio Pocarini.

The sense of relief and rebirth, following the end of the war, spurred the artists to a new creative season, even though soon the social and political atmosphere became difficult, especially for the Slovenian component (the majority in the Province). Youngsters who had joined the avant-garde were present along with others, already established, who followed a more traditional line. The encounter between North and South and recalls of the Germanic world, through the Schools of Vienna, Munich and Prague, and the

Mediterranean world mediated by Venice, converged towards a synthesis that became, at least for a moment, also a moral tension to overcome divisions and contrasts, even in a frank, vibrant way and without shortcuts.

However, all this was short-lived. The tightening measures of the fascist regime led most of the artists to leave this territory and look elsewhere for spaces that were no longer practicable in the city. In particular, Slovenian talents experienced a real diaspora: those who chose the new kingdom of Yugoslavia, those who left for Paris, and those who went further afield.



























Posoški razvojni center

At the press conference WALKofPEACE was presented the renovated old military vehicle "Cadorna"



At a press conference held on September 3, 2020 in Kobarid, within the WALKofPEACE project, Soča Valley Development Centre presented completed investments in the Municipality of Kobarid, focusing on the renovation of the old FIAT 15 TER military vehicle and the construction of a mobile pavilion. The conference was also attended by representatives of the Municipality of Kobarid, "Walks of Peace in the Soča Region Foundation" and the Voluntary Fire Brigade Kobarid. Participants were able to drive with renovated "Cadorna" around Kobarid.

At the press conference, Almira Pirih from the Soča Valley Development Centre informed that the old military vehicle FIAT 15 TER has been parked in the new pavilion since mid-August. Its renovation, together with the construction of a mobile pavilion, amounted to 58,000 euros. She also presented the investment in the Italian military chapel on Planica, called the Bes military chapel. The total value of investments in the Municipality of Kobarid amounts to around 90,000.00 euros, of which 85% will be reimbursed from ERDF founds, 15% is co-financed by the Municipality of Kobarid. In addition to investment works



























she pointed out different trainings with aim to develop new tourist programs. She particularly emphasized educations of the First World War heritage for primary and secondary school students, for whom individual programs have already been formed.

Tadej Koren emphasized the importance of maintaining the heritage of the First World War in nature. Within the WALKofPEACE project, he pointed out the good cooperation with Italian partners, with whom activities are directed in upgrading the trail, which will run from Log pod Mangrtom to Trieste and will be 430 km long.

The Mayor of the Municipality of Kobarid Marko Matajurc pointed out the importance of the cooperation of various institutions in the local environment for the municipality. He told that the pavilion together with the vehicle will be moved to a new location during

the construction of a new rescue center in Kobarid.

Sašo Rosič, the president of the Kobarid Voluntary Fire Brigade, pointed out that "Cadorna" is the pride of firefighters. He also explained that without the financial resources from the WALKofPEACE project, the vehicles themselves would not be able to be renovated, because all the funds are for intended emergency firefighting equipment. He highlighted the cooperation with all the partners involved.



























VeGAL Batteria Pisani a Cavallino-Treporti



The promotion and enhancement of the historical heritage of the First World War is the main objective of the "WalkofPeace" project, financed by the Interreg cross-border cooperation programme "Italy-Slovenia" 2014-2020.

The Pisani Battery, acquired by the Municipality of Cavallino-Treporti and subsequently restored with funds from the Veneto Region, is now a valuable artifact open

to the public as a museum of the First World War.

It is located in the final stretch of the Walk of Peace, a trail that begins in Slovenia, and that along the Isonzo River, the first line in the early phase of the Great War, touches Friuli Venezia Giulia to arrive in Veneto, following the path of the armies that in the final phase of the conflict settled along the Piave River.

The trail in Cavallino-Treporti, called VIA DEI FORTI, consists more than two hundred forts, batteries, telemetry towers, ammunition depots, of which the Pisani Battery is the fulcrum.

The construction of the Pisani Battery dates back to the period 1909-1912 when an important coastal defensive system was set up on the territory of Cavallino to protect Venice from the threat of naval attacks. The battery was built a few meters from the sea and - like the other batteries of the coast - it was protected on the side of the beach and on the sides by a huge sand and clay dune, with the double function of hiding it from enemy ships and protecting it from possible cannon shots.



























The building, made of reinforced concrete, consists of a central tunnel 80 meters long with a barrel vault, two side wings of 30 meters each and two telemetric towers that reach a height of 11 meters. Along the walls, for close defense on the north side, are aligned 138 slits for rifle.



Currently the Pisani Battery hosts the COLLECTION ERMINIO SCARPA, which consists of countless exhibits related to health care in wartime. You can observe instruments of scientific research in the medical field, diagnosis and treatment.

It may be curious, for that time, the production of such technologically advanced devices as, for example, the electro-stimulator to relieve the shock of bombardment, the thermocautery to heal bleeding wounds, the syringe for kerosene injections, used both for joints and for the reconstruction of faces disfigured by grenade splinters.

In the tunnel you can distinctly hear an audio simulation (two sirens and an explosion) that is repeated every quarter of an hour. The grenades and shrapnel in section show the technological complexity that the war industries reached in creating instruments of destruction and death.



























Inside the tunnel you can still see a short section of the original Decauville, the narrow-gauge railway line that, installed in the early 1900s, was used to transport the materials used to build the batteries.































Ustanova "Fundacija Poti miru v Posočju"

Press conference on the occasions of the 30th anniversary of the preservation of the memory and heritage of the Isonzo front and the selection of the Walk of Peace idea among the best 6 Interreg project stories



Thirty years ago, a group of locals and experts from Kobarid began to preserve systematically the memory of the events, victims and heritage of the First World War in the Soča Valley region.

In October 1990, the Kobarid Museum of the First World War was inaugurated, and has developed since then into the central presentation collection of the Isonzo Front. Its successful and recognizable work led to the establishment of the Walks of Peace in the Soča Region Foundation; since 2000 this institution has been in charge of the

immovable heritage of the Isonzo Front outdoors which has been entered on the UNESCO Tentative List since 2016. The Foundation develops the cross-border Walk of Peace and through EU projects successfully spreads the values of peace and cooperation in Slovenia and Italy as well as other European countries.

In recent years, two EU projects have been important in which the Foundation has joined



























forces with the Posoški razvojni center (The Soča Valley Development Centre) in the leading of the Walk of Peace idea: the NETWORLD transnational project which was implemented within the Interreg Danube Transnational Programme, and the WALKofPEACE which is implemented within the programme Interreg V-A Italy-Slovenia. As part of the two projects, study-research and educational activities are carried out, the First World War heritage is restored and cultural tourism is developed under the Walk of Peace brand. At a conducted press conference, organized as part of the LAS project "Doživetja v Dolini Soče" in Kobarid on August 6, 2020, the directors of the two institutions, Martin Šolar, MA, and Maša Klavora, presented the activities and main events celebrating the joint jubilee. The PromoTurism FVG representative Nicola Revelant, a guest at the press conference, emphasized the importance of the cross-border cooperation in the valorisation and promotion of the First World War heritage and the significance of the Walk of Peace. Special attention was paid to providing information that the project WALKofPEACE was selected from 150 registered projects among the six best Interreg project For first time, stories. the a promotional film (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UN7evq1A4PU) was the released, made Foundation jointly with the Posoški razvojni center, which highlights the mission and vision of the Walk of Peace. Until the end of September, it is possible to vote for this film via the **Facebook** the profile of Interact Programme (https://www.facebook.com/InteractEU), and the six ideas will all be presented in Brussels in mid-October, when the winner will be announced.

















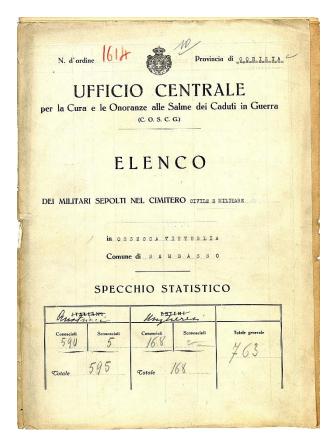








ZRC SAZU Base of military cemeteries on the Walk of Peace



The project partner of the Research Center of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts continues the work together with the Walks of Peace in the Soča Region Foundation on the database of the buried soldiers on the Austria-Hungarian military cemeteries along the present Walk of Peace from the Alps to the Adriatic. The reproduction of the archive material will be completed in the next months. We will compare the so called Italian data with the data of the Austrian material and complete the collected data. database of the burial material will contain basic sections on burial, i.e. first and last name of a buried soldier, rank and unit, date of death, date of burial or re-burial, lot and row of the in the cemetery. Lists of burials from some cemeteries also include data on county, municipalities and countries permanent residence. Problems arise with the recording of personal and family names when transcribing the data, as well as with the identification of geographical names. In the





















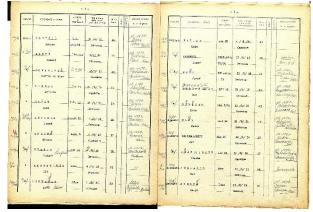




next phase of development, it will be necessary to select technical parameters for a web database that will allow searching for buried persons in military cemeteries. Only selected cemeteries, for which the most relevant data will be detected, will be introduced, as the material is very extensive and where it will be possible to carry out the best comparative studies of the data material.

The project group is continuing its work on artistic reactions to the war that will serve for the documentary film and for an exhibition. The biographies of the selected Slovenian

authors will be prepared in accordance with the agreement with ERPAC. Together with the biographies of the Italian authors, they will present the important testimony of the time and a place, where they performed their artistic work before, during and after the war. With the help of a documentary film, an exhibition and collected data it will be possible to present how the cultural-spiritual reconstruction of Goriška region after the First World War was carried out.



























PROJECT

The project "WALKofPEACE" concerns the enhancement of the heritage of the First World War between the Alps and the Adriatic. It is co-financed by the Interreg Italy-Slovenia Programme 2014-2020 (ERDF), Italian national funds and Slovenian private funds. It has a duration of 36 months and will end at the end of 2021.

With the project "WALKofPEACE" aims to protect and promote this heritage, through shared cross-border activities, aimed at implementing its use, also through a rich carnet of cultural events for history lovers.

A Walk of Peace (Path of Peace) brand will be proposed, to strengthen the identity of this particular tourist product and to promote its promotion and marketing

There will also be an important work of museum restyling, the renovation of exhibition spaces, new installations including multimedia and the creation of new thematic paths and info-points.

https://www.ita-slo.eu/it/walkofpeace



















