

ICME "WHAT WE DO" QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear ICME Members,

ICOM's International Committee for Museums of Ethnography (ICME) represents a type of museum that has undergone tremendous change in the past few decades. Many museums of ethnography have begun to re-examine their collecting, exhibiting and programming because of associations between ethnographic collections and colonialism. Others have eschewed the use of "ethnographic" to describe their collections and/or museums, preferring instead such terms as "world cultures, "social history," "cultures and histories," etc. Still others feel the debate does not directly concern them.

Last year, there was lively discussion about an appropriate mission statement for ICME, but only a few members engaged and no representative consensus was reached. So this year a Working Group has been formed to inquire into member attitudes to ICME's mission and how to best express them.

To be confident ICME's mission is relevant to its broad membership and the changing discourse around ethnographic collections, we need you to tell us about your museum, the language you use to describe your collections and programs and finally, what you consider an appropriate mission statement for our international committee.

We have prepared the following questionnaire and would appreciate you taking the time to consider and answer it, responding to us by September 1. It is accessible with this link as a Google doc.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdxY5hOMGZqAN0fW_6w6SJyrF0mu4PGbaEFQH42Is_ruFZcTw/viewform?usp=pp_url

Your replies will be collated and reviewed. From this, we will present a summary of questionnaire responses to the ICME board at the annual ICME conference, to take place at the Eesti Rahva Muuseum- Estonian National Museum in Tartu, Estonia (October 9 - 12, 2018).

DOES YOUR PARTICIPATION MATTER? Simply put, YES.

Our aim is to represent the broad ICME membership. To move forward with discussions related to our mission, we need YOUR valuable input.

With many thanks and all best wishes,

The Working Group on "What We Do"

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