

The ICMS workshop in Istanbul (Turkey) 29 – 30 September 2015

It took a long period before ICMS and the MMKD in Turkey were able to agree on the dates for the workshop, but during the last week of September 3 members of ICMS conducted a workshop on Emergency Procedures in the Rezan Has museum in Istanbul followed by a practical exercise with risk analysis in the Pera museum.

The chair of the Association of Museum professionals (MMKD), Ms Canan Curgen, has organized the whole workshop very well. The number of participants was around 40 and they all showed much interest and took part in lively discussions with the presenters of ICMS.

Mrs Hanna Pennock (The Netherlands) covered with an array of slides the practical side of good and bad practices in museum security, while Michael John (Germany) explained the risk and the management of risks during floods and later on the same with fire protection.

Willem Hekman (Canada) gave a presentation about terrorist threats and the influence of terrorist action on the security in museums. The conclusion was that these threats are a fact of life and the incidents can not be avoided, but museums have to train their staff to minimize the damage by these terrorist acts.

During this workshop the ICMS Handbook on Emergency Procedures with the Turkish translations was presented by the chair of ICMS to Ms. Canan Curgen and to Mrs. Suay Aksoy, the chair of the Advisory Committee of ICOM.

The workshop ended with the practical exercise of conducting a risk analysis in the Pera museum and the presenting of the results to the staff of that museum. Many lessons were learned and the analysis was successful.

All participants and organizers agreed that this workshop was well planned and executed with many positive lessons for and contacts between the participants.