



## **CONCLUSIONS OF THE**

### **II ACADEMIC FORUM AND MEETING OF THE PEOPLES OF THE ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS**

We the academic experts and representatives of the delegations of the Republic of Armenia, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the People's Republic of China, the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Hellenic Republic, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Italy, the Republic of Peru, as members of the Forum of Ancient Civilizations, re-convened in the city of La Paz, in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, from March 20 to 22, 2019, in the framework of the II Academic Forum and encountering of the Peoples of Ancient Civilizations.

Based upon the Declarations of Athens and Tiwanaku, we reaffirm our commitment to continue working within the framework of the Forum of Ancient Civilizations, to maintain the legacy and wisdom of ancient civilizations, which continue to have strong bearings in the corresponding cultures of the modern world.

As past and present are closely intertwined in all cultures and civilizations, the disciplines of archaeology, history and cultural anthropology should explore and propose a common methodological framework for the analysis and promotion of this unity. Indigenous peoples, academics and policy makers from the state and cultural organizations should initiate a dialogue bridging the past with the present, thus connecting the ancient civilizations with modern cultures.

The significance of national and ethnic boundaries, as well as identities will be re-examined in the lens of historical and modern exchanges of ideas and practices among particular societies and in concrete cultural contexts.

By juxtaposing tangible and intangible cultural heritages with the purpose to demonstrate critically the dynamics of both civilization and culture in ways that do justice to academic research, traditions of the indigenous peoples and policy making initiatives.

We agreed that identity should be seen as a cultural reality, as an integrated phenomenon of tangible and intangible heritages and not simply as the analysis of material artifacts. And its study is always open to an interdisciplinary perspective.

Reaffirming the enormous value of our cultures as the main means of social integration of ancient civilizations, we the academic experts and representatives of the delegations to the II Academic Forum, agree upon the following recommendations:

1. To develop joint activities in order to strengthen the management and policies, conservation, preservation and re-evaluation of the tangible and intangible Cultural Heritage, through international cooperation among the Forum's Member States and with bilateral and multilateral cooperation agencies.
2. Generate awareness and help to build social consciousness about the conservation, preservation and re-evaluation of cultural heritage.
3. Develop mechanisms for technical support, exchange of experiences, knowledge, technologies and financial support among members of the Forum of Ancient Civilizations.
4. Demonstrate the spiritual realities of cultures and civilizations.
5. Share the experiences of countries that have traveling or temporary archeological or artistic exhibitions.
6. Explore the possibility of creating a kind of permanent body with the purposes of familiarizing cultures through networks of scholars and experts and, defining an action plan for the Forum, such as academic meetings, programs of artistic and other groups.
7. Identify and work in the protection of cultural heritages and ancient civilizations from illicit trafficking and un-respectful tourism.
8. Recognize that indigenous languages are part of the living culture of societies, their recognition, protection and development helps to preserve the philosophy of life of indigenous peoples and civilizations. For this reason, linguistic policies should consider the participation of indigenous peoples, the strengthening of their cultural identity, their communication skills and the registration of their writing. The

declaration of the International Year of Indigenous Languages contributes to this purpose.

9. Work jointly and in coordination with the Forum's Members, academic experts and indigenous peoples to safeguard the historical and cultural heritage of ancient civilizations.
10. Recognize the great contribution of ancient civilizations technology, especially contributing to the development of agriculture, subsistence and prosperity of their people.
11. Recognize the importance of the cultural heritage management of the Qhapaq Ñan, Andean Road System, which would revive the integration and identity of its indigenous peoples.
12. Explore the possibility of connecting the existing museums of cultures and ancient civilizations in the member countries of the Forum and, taking note of the request of Bolivia to have an international museum of ancient civilizations.