

MAPP
LECTURE
SERIES



02.02.18

Irina Bokova

**Director-General of UNESCO
(2009 - 2017)**

Education: Moscow State Institute of International Relations; School of Public Affairs, University of Maryland; John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.

February 2, 2018

Riggs Alumni Center - Orem Hall

1:00pm to 2:00pm

Reception follows



Why Cultural Heritage Matters for the Common Future of Humanity

Celebrate MAPP's 50th Anniversary with Irina Bokova. Born in Sofia (Bulgaria), Ms. Bokova served two terms as Director-General of UNESCO (2009 to 2017). She is the first woman and the first Eastern European to lead the organization.

Today, cultural heritage is at the frontline of “modern” conflicts, under attack by extremists around the world who aim to erase histories and identities. Protection of cultural heritage is vital for reconciliation, social transformation and efforts to safeguard peace; it becomes an important part of security and humanitarian responses in crisis situations.

Ms. Bokova will discuss why protecting world heritage is one of the most positive, visionary and transformative ideas that has emerged in the last century. This is the idea that heritage belonging to different cultures may represent “outstanding universal value” and should be protected by international law embodied in the World Heritage Convention; the idea that humanity stands united in all its diversity around shared values; the idea that all cultures are different but that difference does not divide—it unites.



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