

Master's Thesis: Relations between legislation, management and dissemination of the cultural heritage in Argentina and Norway.

As part of the Marine Ventures Project, my Master's thesis will emphasise the role of the cultural heritage in Argentina and Norway. The main objective is to examine and compare the relations between legislation, management and dissemination of the cultural heritage in the two countries. In order to pursue my goal, I have selected The Parque Nacional Tierra del Fuego (PNTDF) in Argentina and the World Heritage Site of Vega in Norway as case studies. How is the cultural heritage presented to the visitors of the two sites? And how do the visitors perceive it?

In February this year, Prof. Birgitte Skar (my advisor) and I went to Tierra del Fuego in order to collect material for the project. Premade questionnaires had already been sent to our collaborator Lic. Ernesto Piana in Argentina, and the guides of the PNTDF kindly handed out these to visitors of the park. The results obtained from the questionnaires, the survey of the PNTDF and the museums that we undertook during our stay in Argentina, together with a review of official documents, all form an important material base for the thesis. The study will also be informed by interviews of heritage management authorities in order to achieve a better understanding of the administrative system. Finally, I have access to a rich ethnographical and historical record of the Indian population in the area that might help address the research questions.

A survey of the site of Vega is scheduled to the summer of 2012, where the main aim is to collect material for the comparative study (survey and questionnaires). Former interviews carried out by Birgitte Skar in the project "VEGA 2045: World heritage and local knowledge – integrated modelling and scenario building for nature and cultural heritage management" is also made available for the thesis.