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Ethical Principles in Museum Curatorship: Building Inclusive and Responsible Permanent Exhibitions

This lecture explores the ethical considerations crucial to developing a new permanent exhibition at the Zagreb City Museum and beyond. It highlights the evolution of museum displays over the decades, emphasising the importance of accurate, inclusive, and honest storytelling about history. Lecture underscores the need to respect cultural diversity, promote inclusivity, and avoid biased narratives that may marginalise social groups.

Recognising the political and societal challenges, the lecture advocates for re-evaluating traditional narratives, engaging diverse communities, and adhering to international ethical standards, such as those of ICOM. Ultimately, it affirms museums' role as responsible custodians of history, committed to presenting a comprehensive and truthful account of society's complexities. What can we do to achieve this?

Dr. Aleksandra Berberih Slana was the director of the National Liberation Museum Maribor (Slovenia) from 2006 to 2022. From 2015 to 2022, she held the position of president of the Association of Slovenian Museums (Skupnost muzejev Slovenije). She was on the board of ICOM Slovenia, and from 2019 to 2022, she was a member of the board of NEMO-Network of European Museum Organisations. Currently, she is the director of Zagreb City Museum (Croatia), the biggest city museum in Croatia.

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