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### **Interview with the councilor Vincenzo Garbo responsible for Cultural Policies of the Municipality of Cefalù**

On 04th April 2022 the students met the assessor Garbo at the Sala delle Capriate of the Town Hall, for an interview on the cultural heritage and Unesco sites of the town of Cefalù.

#### 1) What are the artistic and cultural heritage of Cefalù?

Cefalù is a town known throughout the world for its tourist flows and number of visitors, it is a town of art with many cultural and artistic monuments.

The cultural heritage of Cefalù is divided into two macro categories: 1) public cultural heritage 2) private cultural heritage

Public cultural heritage sites include:

1. La Rocca (archaeological park)
2. The medieval wash house
3. Archaeological site of the Roman road
4. Municipal Theater (Cicero)
5. Road system of the historic center (built with the lumachella)
6. Palazzo Osterio Magno (former residence of King Roger)
7. the Pier

Private cultural heritage sites include:

1. Cathedral Basilica (humanity heritage included in the 2015 unesco site owned by the church)
2. Cloister
3. Noble palaces transformed into tourist residences
4. Privately owned churches (noble families)
5. Mandralisca Museum

#### 2) What are the cultural heritage sites of Cefalù included in the Unesco heritage and administered by Unesco itself?

The Unesco site which was recognized as a World Heritage Site on 3 July 2015 during the 39th Unesco World Assembly in Bonn is a serial site that includes three sites located throughout the territory: Palermo - Monreale - Cefalù and is called: Palermo Arabo - Normanna and the cathedrals of Cefalù and Monreale.

This site consists of nine properties, 7 are located in Palermo, 1 in Monreale and 1 in Cefalù)

The Cefalù site includes: a) the Cathedral Basilica, b) the Cloister, c) the Bishop's Palace

Around these monuments, according to Unesco guidelines, there is the so-called "buffer zone" (area of respect and monumental protection).

### 3) What characteristics must a site have to be recognized as a UNESCO heritage site?

The site or monument that you want to apply to be recognized as Unesco site must adhere to the following criteria:

a) uniqueness of the monument, (in the case of our serial site the uniqueness lies in the fact that it is unique as an Arab-Norman asset, there is no another serial site like this in the world; b) integrity of the monument, if a site is not intact it cannot be recognized as a Unesco heritage site and it is necessary that both the monument and the context in which it is inserted are intact

### 4) What is meant by conservation and enhancement of cultural heritage?

The conservation and enhancement of a site are closely linked, it is necessary to safeguard the cultural heritage sites because they are our historical memory, without the cultural sites we would not have our identity we would not know anything about our past. For example, on the Rocca park there are monuments that date back to the 9th century BC. up to the 17th century water cisterns so we know a lot about the ancient civilizations.

### 5) What is the reference law for the protection of cultural heritage?

The cultural heritage code DLGS 42 of 2004 (cultural heritage code): specifies the forms of enhancement, the rules and the bodies in charge, for example the role of the superintendency.

The cultural heritage code also deals with the conservation of artistic heritage (constraints to be respected); the sale of a cultural monument is subject to the authorization of the artistic superintendency as well as for the change of the intended use of the asset itself.

### 6) What are the actions to be implemented to preserve the cultural heritage of the town and in the territory of Cefalù?

The actions are aimed at the structural conservation of heritage sites, their usability and promotion.

The initiatives adopted by the municipal administration for the enhancement of the cultural heritage of the Cefalù are: a) the updating and automation of tourist signs through the app. which is called Augmented Reality, through the QRcode the signs placed next to the monuments come alive and the visitor has all the information about that place or monument;

b) the creation of SIBAC in 2019, is an integrated system that brings together initiatives for the use of public and private monuments. Through the SIBAC, the single integrated ticket was created that can be purchased in the automatic machines located inside the monuments or in the street, and gives access to multiple sites.

### 7) Who takes care of the maintenance of the municipal cultural heritage?

Various institutional figures are in charge for the maintenance of the cultural sites: eg. on the Rock the custodians are people of the universal civil service who control access and the number of visitors to the park, they are hired annually through a public tender notice.



