# Between Land and Sea: Discussing Laws and Policies Concerning Coastal Cultural Heritage and Climate Change's Impact

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#### **International Frameworks; Agreements and Policies:**

Between Land and Sea: Coastal cultural heritage does not appear to be the subject of substantial direct international legal concentration to date. Recent scholarship has noted the challenges in governance in this space. However multiple conventions are noted:

- Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (UNESCO, 1972)
- ♦ UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) (UN, 1982) (Note: Art. 303)
- Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage (UNESCO, 2001)
- **♦** The Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (UNESCO, 2003)

#### Also of note:

- The Charter of Krakow (ICOMOS, 2000)
- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (UNDRR, 2015) (Priority 3)

## Methods of Protection and Management

Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) - described as an approach to manage "all policy processes affecting the coastal zone, addressing land-sea interactions of coastal activities in a coordinated way with a view to ensuring the sustainable development of coastal and marine areas. It ensures that management or development decisions are made coherently across sectors." (Khakzad, 2015, p. 20). Integration of cultural heritage into such planning is an ongoing process.

**Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)** - defined by the IUCN as areas of inter or subtidal terrain "together with its overlying water and associated flora, fauna, historical and cultural features, which has been reserved by law or other effective means to protect part or all of the enclosed environment." (IUCN, 1999, p. xi). Over 15,000 such areas have been recorded as of 2020 (Pew, 2020).

### **Case-study: United Kingdom**











Case-study: **Reculver Towers**Herne Bay, Kent, South East England





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Case-study: Kimmeridge Bay's Clavell Tower

Dorset, South West England





#### **Case-study: The Caspian sea cultural heritage**







| Regional  |   | National (Iran)   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| Title   | Theme   | Title   | Theme   |
| Tehran Convention (June 2005)   | Protection of the Marine<br>Environment of the Caspian<br>Sea | Law related to coastal lands (August 1967)  | About the ownership of lands and the buffer zones of seas and lakes, and using coastal lands for housing or farming |
| Convention on the legal<br>status of the Caspian Sea<br>(August 2018) | Political and environmental issues                            | The law of new and coastal lands (July 1975)  | About the ownership of lands appearing after subsidence of the water level of every lakes and seas in Iran          |
|   |   | The law of accession of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage (January 2009) | Protection of Underwater<br>Cultural Heritage based on<br>UNESCO 2001 Convention                                    |

# **Looking Ahead**

#### Regional Caspian Cooperation

Establish cooperative organization/ plans with focus on preservation of natural and cultural properties related to the sea in all neighbor countries.

#### Greater Engagement in Coastal Management

- Ongoing scholarship and consultation on current limitations of laws and policies concerning coastal heritage resources and impact on current and risk to future sites due to climate change in future (see Rowberry, 2022).
- Progress in integrated coastal zone management approaches taking into account cultural heritage resources with greater engagement with related communities to foster sustainability and positive development.

# Formulating New & Updated International Guidance

Updating operational guidelines of the World Heritage Convention (Marsh & Smith, 2022).

Updating the policy document on climate action for world heritage (UNESCO) (Ibid).

#### **QUESTIONS**

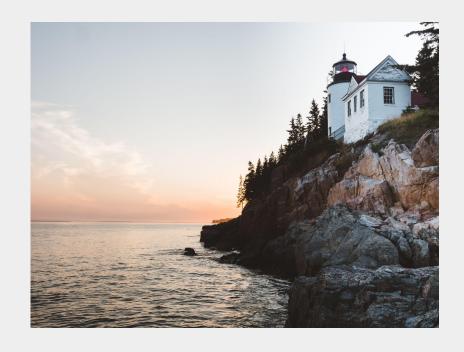


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