

Luka Bekić, PhD

Born in Zagreb in 1971, graduated archaeology at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Zagreb, a master's degree obtained at the University of Primorska in Koper.

In 1991 at the time of the Croatian War of Independence he volunteered the First Guard Brigade - the Tigers. In 1993 he joined the Croatian Air Force Military Police. He is decorated with the Memorial Medal of Homeland's Gratitude (1990–1992).

During 1998 he was working as a research assistant at the Department of Archaeology, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Zagreb and conducted numerous archaeological excavations. In 1998 he received three months scholarship for international students at the University of Vienna offered by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research.

In 1999 he was employed as a public relations consultant at the Cabinet of Minister for Science and Technology of the Republic of Croatia.

In 2000 he worked as a curator at the Archaeological Museum of Istria in Pula.

In 2002 he started to work at the Department for the Protection of Archaeological Heritage, Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia where he was engaged in conducting numerous protective archaeological excavations on the highways Zagreb - Split, Zagreb – Goričan and others.

In 2004, due to the Ministry's administrative changes, the Department was transferred to the Croatian Conservation Institute where he assumed a position of a head of the Department of Land Archaeology and finally the head of the Archaeological Heritage Service.

In 2007 he was appointed as the Interim Director of the International Centre for Underwater Archaeology in Zadar (ICUA Zadar).

In 2011 he was nominated the Director of the ICUA Zadar, the UNESCO category 2 centre where he further develops the institution, conducts the Centre's activities, continues with the scientific work and organizes scientific meetings, exhibitions, publications etc.

He has been participating as the Croatian representative at numerous international meetings organized by UNESCO.

In 2014 he was re-elected the ICUA Zadar Director and worked as head of several international research projects.

In 2017 the University of Zadar appointed him as a Scientific Adviser.

Since 2020 he has continued to work at the ICUA Zadar as the Head of the Underwater Heritage Presentation Department.

Luka Bekić is the author of more than seventy-eight bibliographic units - professional, reviewed scientific papers in archaeological collections, yearbooks and other professional literature, as well as several independent monographs.

He has lectured at 34 scientific and professional conferences, 17 of which are abroad.