Famagusta, Cyprus: A Nomination Strategy as a World Heritage Site

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As a consequence of the shortcomings of UNESCO and the overall state management of cultural heritage assets, I wish to explore the potential of Civil Society and other ‘outsider’ institutions as agents of sustainable conservation.

Famagusta, a cultural heritage site neglected for more than 35 years, has faced the complexity of internal war and then the non-recognition of the Turkish Cypriot authorities and institutions. This is a heritage site of universal value, and opens the discussion for a deeper assessment of the established requirements for nomination of World Heritage sites. This is a realistic approach that includes accountability, actors and the involvement of stakeholders, as a new management strategy for an endangered cultural heritage site such as Famagusta.