

**Imaginary (Civic) Famagusta: Sharing (Speculative) Stories of Civic Heritage**  
20 February 2021, online.

Workshop organized by Imaginary Famagusta and the Home for Cooperation: within the frame of *H4C Sharing Heritage Project*



*“I thought it was just me... (but it isn’t).”*

Inspired from Brene Brown’s quote, we, the ‘Imaginary Famagusta’ group (I.F.), would like to invite participants to the ‘Imaginary Civic Famagusta’ workshop to tell/hear the untold stories and encourage change regarding urban imaginaries for a Federal Cyprus. We propose rethinking social, spatial, and ecological imaginaries of Famagusta’s civic architecture through sharing stories of their possible futures. Through the H4C European Heritage Days, Sharing Heritage Project, we aim to generate constructive debates around civic architecture as shared heritage.

The workshop, ‘Imaginary (Civic) Famagusta’, will explore the role of marketspaces in Famagusta, focusing on the intangible shared heritage of the city. It will be composed of roundtables that will attempt to recreate the ‘markets’, as they existed in the past, and have traditionally acted as spaces of great social interaction and exchange. Through this ‘online market’ we aspire to create through the workshop, we invite young participants to envision what the role of such markets in Famagusta has been and how they encouraged civic exchange at the time. Ultimately, the aim is to delve deeper into the island’s shared heritage in its tangible and intangible sense.

We will use the ‘what if’ questions generated through the urban controversies presented in Hands on Famagusta interactive web platform ([www.handsonfamagusta.org](http://www.handsonfamagusta.org)) to facilitate the conversations. Roundtables will be accompanied by international collaborators and local practices to construct scenarios towards post-ethnocratic cultural heritage. More precisely, we will address the controversial question: **WHAT IF MARKETS BECOME PLACES FOR INCLUSIVE CIVIC EXCHANGE IN CONTESTED SPACES?**

This question will populate the web platform as controversial question No:10. It will be supported by Actors and their Agendas, references from other cities and urban design / critical spatial practices.

The outcomes of the workshop will be shared widely through social media platforms in forms of short video clips and will populate the Hands-on Famagusta interactive web-platform. Each speculative story will be based on an ecology of urban actors and their agendas in addition to examples of projects and practices from different contexts.

### **Contributors / Participants**

The workshop format will assemble diverse (local and international) contributors advocating for spatial, social or ecological matters.

- The Home for Cooperation advocating for social matters.
- Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage Youth Ambassadors advocating for spatial and technical matters
- International Collaborators advocating for shared ecologies:  
Joao Felipe Walliq, architect urbanist Brazil; Pelin Tan urban theorist, sociologist Turkey; Tatiana Pinto, architect, Sweden; Magnus Ericson IASPIS, Sweden.
- Local projects and practices advocating for shared heritage and exchange
- Young volunteers
- Imaginary Famagusta members as facilitators of sessions.

**Tentative Program of the day (20 February 2021)<sup>1</sup>:**

**10:00 Introduction** by the Imaginary Famagusta (IF) members

**10:30 Roundtable 1: What can you bring into this discussion?**

(all participants will have the chance to share informally their points of view on what they are expecting to bring into the workshop and to learn from it)

11:30 Break

**11:45 Roundtable 2: Can we talk about an alternative form of exchange?**

10-15' interventions from some of the invited international collaborators and local practices

12:45 Lunch Break

**13:30 Three Group Sessions for production of scripts, facilitated by two members of IF each.**

**15:30 Presentation of Outcomes to the larger group** (comments by invited international collaborators and local practices)

**17:00-17.30 Closing Remarks from Participants**

*Organized by the Home for Cooperation & the Imaginary Famagusta Members: Socrates Stratis, Esra Can, Emre Akbil, Munevver Ozgur Ozersay, Chrysanthe Constantinou, Lara Anna Scharf*

*Implemented by the Home for Cooperation in collaboration with Imaginary Famagusta, this European Heritage Days Stories project titled "Home for Cooperation Sharing Heritage" has been funded within the framework of a Joint Project between the European Union and the Council of Europe.*

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<sup>1</sup> After the end of the workshop, the IF members will process the produced material and finalize it in the web platform of [www.handsonfamagusta](http://www.handsonfamagusta), under the controversy No 10.