



STEERING COMMITTEE FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE (CDCPP)

CDCPP(2014)8

Strasbourg, 4 March 2014

3rd meeting
Strasbourg, 19-21 March 2014

DEVELOPMENT OF DEMOCRATIC POLICIES IN THE FIELDS OF CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE THROUGH THEMATIC POLICY REVIEWS AND THE COMPENDIUM, HEREIN, ELCIS AND CULTURE WATCHEUROPE INFORMATION SYSTEMS

DOCUMENT FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION

Item 6.1 of the draft Agenda

The Committee is invited to:

- take note of the latest developments of the Council of Europe's information systems in the field of culture, heritage and landscape;
- provide support to the information systems in the form of:
 - a) active cooperation of national coordinators/administrators responsible for the systems in the implementation of work;
 - b) voluntary contributions;
 - c) the hosting of annual and *ad hoc* experts' or authors' meetings.
- invite member States to actively implement Recommendation CM/Rec(2013)4 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the European Landscape Convention Information System of the Council of Europe and its glossary (adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 11 December 2013).

Introduction

The information below gives an overview of the main activities and key developments in the Council of Europe's information systems relating to culture, heritage and landscape, to help achieve expected result 1 of the CDCPP's Terms of Reference for 2014-2015 which states: "*Member States are assisted in the development of democratic policies in the fields of culture, heritage and landscape through thematic policy reviews and the Compendium, HEREIN, ELCIS and Culture WatchEurope information systems*".

The Council of Europe has invested, over the past few decades, in comprehensive cultural, heritage and landscape information and assessment systems including: Cultural Policy Reviews, Compendium/CultureWatchEurope, HEREIN system and network, heritage assessment reports as well as ELCIS. Work culminated in the 2013 Action Plan launched by the Council of Europe Conference of Ministers of Culture that foresees the production of an indicator framework to assess, in the future, more precisely the contribution of culture to democracy.

Cultural Policy Reviews

- Based on the OECD methodology of Education System Review, the CoE has carried out 30 National Cultural Policy Reviews in total with recent exercises concluded on Turkey and the Russian Federation (http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/culture/Reviews/Default_en.asp).
- Reviews offer comprehensive or targeted analyses of the cultural governance system and cultural sector of a member State against the Council of Europe's core values and specifically, its democracy agenda. They offer recommendations by independent experts for sector-specific or cross-cutting policy development and measures.
- A recent evaluation revealed the contribution of the programme to modernising governance, policy directions and tools in member states, bringing orientation and legitimacy to modernisation processes. Within this programme, policy analysis and capacity building for policy making are interwoven processes. This is due to the close interaction of political stakeholders and national and international experts.
- Requests for thematic review/targeted policy advice are currently pending from Serbia and Albania.

Compendium of Cultural Policies & Trends in Europe

- The Compendium (<http://www.culturalpolicies.net>) comprises 43 permanently updated European cultural policy country profiles that cover all issues related to the democratic governance of culture and developments of the cultural sector as well as comparative resources sections with data, bibliographic references and web links on the cultural policy activities of Council of Europe, the European Union, UNESCO and other international and national key actors¹.

¹ Compendium contents includes, inter alia, cultural legislation in 43 member states; a statistics section, i.a. on financing culture and the economy of culture (CUPIX-Index on prices of cultural products and services, since 2003); a database on good practices on intercultural dialogue and the Intercultural Cities Index; a section on access to/ participation in culture with provisions of national constitutions, and a section on the status/ mobility of artists; a research & development series addressing current policy debates; a widely circulated newsletter and a daily updated national press highlights.

Technical functionalities allow users to generate comparative reports on any issue and across all countries covered by the system; run in-depth and key word searches; interact with the editors/ authors on profile contents; use social media satellites (Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube) and a multilingual interface (English, French, German) as well as access content through touch-friendly functionalities for tablets and smartphones.

- It is run through a multi-stakeholder partnership of national administrators in charge of cultural policy, national experts mainly from Universities/ Research Institutes or arms-length bodies, and the Compendium editors, Council of Europe and European Institute for Comparative Cultural Research (ERICarts GmbH, Bonn). Ten thematic work groups of Compendium experts constantly upgrade the system. An annual assembly gathers experts, interested governmental representatives and editors to review progress and prepare future action.

A successful European tool for policy makers, academia and practitioners, the Compendium is currently being extended into a worldwide information and monitoring system that will allow future comparisons in different world regions (World-CP at: <http://www.worldcp.org>, overseen by IFACCA, the International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies, based on a Memorandum of Understanding with the Compendium editors).

- Future tasks for the Compendium include:
 - Contribution to the Council of Europe work on indicators on culture and democracy and their inclusion into the system;
 - Optimal tuning of the Compendium functions to policy makers' concrete needs (e.g. provision of thematic information packages);
 - Enlargement of information on the socio-economic impact on culture, multi-stakeholder governance as well as on the impact of digitisation of culture in line with the 2013 Ministerial work;
 - Creation of new synergies (e.g. Eurostat's new survey on participation);
 - Improvement of the "responsive design" functionalities for new types of devices;
 - Fund-raising initiative to increase the projects' resources and further enhance its performance.

CulturewatchEurope: cultural governance observatory

- The CultureWatchEurope (CWE) initiative strived at
 - closer links among information tools (Compendium, HEREIN, Audiovisual Observatory) with a view to building a more compact CoE information and monitoring base on cultural, heritage and audiovisual matters;
 - launch of an openly accessible online exchange platform on topical issues involving civil society and holding topical multi-stakeholder events as well as;
 - production of "hot topic" papers² in view of future CoE guidelines, standards or good practice collections.

Due to limited resources and the non-authorization of open-access platforms at the CoE, CWE concentrated on organising annual multi-stakeholder "Public Fora". The 2012 event generated input on cultural participation to the 2013 Ministerial conference including a model for a new European Cultural Participation Index, and the 2013 Public Forum on "Culture and Democracy in the Digital Era – Hopes and Threats" contributed to the follow-up to the Ministerial event, i.e. as regards the challenges of digitisation for cultural institutions.

² Papers include: Renationalisation Policies in Europe; Digitization and Cultural Democracy; Culture and Climate Change; New Models of Governance of Culture; Collection of Case-Law of the ECHR on Cultural Rights.

The CWE approach could be reinvigorated in the future, with a view to:

- better promoting the Directorate's existing online information tools as a compact kit (Compendium, HEREIN, ELCIS) and thereby contributing to a future DG II "early warning function" based on trend analyses of policies and practices in key areas of interest;
- Enhancing links with the work of the INGO Sector.

HEREIN

HEREIN brings together European public administrations in charge of national cultural heritage policies. At present, 42 Council of Europe member States contribute to this project and form a unique co-operation network.

Information and exchanges: a data base (HEREIN System)

The website www.coe.int/herein provides an overview of the heritage policies pursued by European countries with regard to the implementation of, or with reference to, the principles of the Council of Europe heritage and landscape conventions (Granada, Valletta, Florence, Faro).

The information is accessible by country or theme: financing, participants, legislation, inventories, protection tools, integrated conservation strategies with a view to sustainable development, dissemination and awareness-raising, centres of innovation and digitisation of cultural assets.

The data base is compiled and updated by the national coordinators appointed by the relevant ministries. The expertise accumulated through Council of Europe pilot projects also enriches the data base in order to promote the results of field actions and to draw lessons which can inspire other projects in Europe.

A thesaurus (HEREIN Thesaurus)

A multilingual thesaurus facilitates the identification of terms related to heritage policies. It provides users with a terminological tool for better understanding the concepts mentioned in the national reports.

The HEREIN Thesaurus is unique, and contains over 500 words in each available language (Bulgarian, Croatian, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovenian, Spanish).

Knowledge and co-operation: a network (HEREIN Network)

The national coordinators form a network of European administrations and professionals. They provide a tool for dialogue, exchange and consultation. The network facilitates co-operation between ministries responsible for heritage management and the Council of Europe. It ensures that good practices are shared, follows up the implementation of policies and strategies led by public institutions and encourages the creation of common projects or projects based on the same principles.

The debates, as well as the specific tasks carried out in the context of "working groups", perform the function of "observatory" on the effective implementation of European conventions, the evolution of cultural heritage policies and the value of heritage for society as a factor for intercultural dialogue and the improvement of living conditions.

Next development steps:

- **HEREIN-System:**
 - Follow-up of the working group recommendations [AT(2013)554, 10-11 December 2013];
 - Collection and update of heritage national policy reports;
 - Development of the web-site/Knowledge base functionalities;
 - Transfer of relevant reports / information related to pilot projects;
 - Publication of two brochures (information and promotion of the System).
- **HEREIN-Thesaurus**
 - Update of the existing information;
 - Publication of one brochure + support to HEREIN aisbl publication project.
- **HEREIN-Network**
 - Follow-up of the working group recommendations [AT(2013)554, 10-11 December 2013];
 - Setting up of thematic working groups and dissemination of reports;
 - Participation in European events (promotion of HEREIN);
 - One plenary meeting of national coordinators;
 - Development of partnerships (link-exchange policy).

ELCIS

- At its 1187th meeting, 11-12 December 2013 (CM/Del/Dec(2013)1187), the Committee of Ministers adopted Recommendation CM/Rec(2013)4 on the European Landscape Convention Information System of the Council of Europe and its glossary (see Appendix 1).
- The ELCIS (European Landscape Convention) web application is a landscape convention monitoring tool, as defined by the European Landscape Convention.
- This application manages the monitoring questionnaire sent to the States Parties every two years and generates reports on the replies to the questionnaire.
- The application is accessible via the Internet, with some of its modules subject to restricted access and another much smaller part which is freely accessible.
- The stakeholders are the CDCPP secretariat, national or regional correspondents and the delegates defined by those correspondents.
- Complementary work is ongoing in order to allow the simultaneous use of the Information System in the two official languages of the Council of Europe. The member States of the Council of Europe will be invited to use the Information System in May 2014.

Appendix 1

Recommendation CM/Rec(2013)4 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the European Landscape Convention Information System of the Council of Europe and its glossary

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 11 December 2013
at the 1187th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, under the terms of Article 15.b of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Considering that the aim of the Council of Europe is to achieve a greater unity between its members for the purpose of safeguarding and realising the ideals and principles which are their common heritage;

Having regard to the European Landscape Convention (ETS No. 176 – hereinafter “the convention”), adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 19 July 2000 and opened for signature by Council of Europe member States in Florence on 20 October 2000;

Considering that the convention makes an important contribution to the Council of Europe’s objectives of promoting democracy, human rights and the rule of law and seeking common solutions to the major problems facing European society today;

Underlining that, in taking account of landscape value, the Council of Europe considers the importance of the populations’ quality of life;

Recalling the provisions of Article 10.1 of the convention on monitoring its implementation; recalling also the provisions of its Article 8, concerning mutual assistance and exchange of information, under which the Parties undertake to co-operate in order to enhance the effectiveness of measures taken and, in particular, exchange information on all matters covered by the provisions of the convention;

Considering that Recommendation CM/Rec(2008)3 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention proposes that each Party contribute to the setting-up of a database to appear on the website of the Council of Europe’s European Landscape Convention, and emphasising that the recommendation mentions that the database would be a “toolbox” which would help provide mutual technical and scientific assistance through the collection and exchange of landscape experience and research, as provided for in Article 8 of the above-mentioned convention concerning mutual assistance and exchange of information,

Recommends that States Parties to the convention:

- use the European Landscape Convention Information System of the Council of Europe with its glossary,³ in the framework of their co-operation as mentioned in the convention;
- co-operate to develop this Information System to fulfil the goals mentioned above;
- continue to exchange information on all matters covered by the provisions of the convention in order to promote knowledge of landscapes and landscape policies, in view of enhancing the quality of people’s lives, taking care of their surroundings.

³ Public part to be completed by the Parties to the convention: https://elcl6.coe.int/WebForms/Public_List.aspx.