



STEERING COMMITTEE FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE (CDCPP)

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Strasbourg, 3 November 2014

**6th meeting of the Bureau
Strasbourg, 4-5 (morning) November 2014**

Palais de l'Europe, Room 17

CULTURAL HERITAGE

DOCUMENT FOR INFORMATION AND DECISION

Item 3.1.ii of the draft Agenda

The Bureau is invited to:

- take note of developments since its last meeting on 24-25 June 2014;
- examine the results of the launch phase of the Faro Action Plan and to adopt the revised objectives and actions for the operational phase (2015).

PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES FOR 2014

Cultural Heritage

Terms of reference of the CDCPP (expected results - extract)

1. 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.
2. Preparation of two draft recommendations fostering the implementation of the cultural heritage and landscape conventions, for adoption by the Committee of Ministers.
3. Identification of best practices on improving living spaces, social inclusion and quality of life in line with the Faro and Landscape Conventions, with a view to their wide dissemination in member States.
 - Implementation of the Faro Convention's Action Plan
 - Implementation of the European Landscape Convention's Working Programme
4. Evaluation of the lessons learned from the field pilot projects on cultural and natural heritage in South-East Europe, Caucasus and Black Sea regions and selected EU member States, and preparation of policy guidelines.

1. **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**

HEREIN

BACKGROUND

The priorities in 2014 were about strengthening the database and mobilising countries to publish and regularly update their national reports. The aim was to finish getting HEREIN back on track operationally and to prepare the ground for developing it into a "knowledge base" (2015).

PROGRESS

Actions undertaken:

- Diagnosis of the state of publication of the national reports: at the start of 2014, 17 countries had published their national reports in the database, 12 had partially completed them or were working on them, and 16 countries had not yet shown any signs of starting.
- Targeted assistance to coordinators to publish the national reports; all 42 coordinators have been contacted personally to assess the situation within their institutions and their possible needs, and to offer targeted assistance. Telephone and e-mail contact has been maintained with the 14 countries that had partially, or not yet started to, publish their national reports. To date, 14 other countries have not yet responded to the Secretariat's requests. A workshop with the 3 Belgian coordinators and the Luxembourg coordinator was organised at the initiative of the Walloon Region of Belgium in order to progress in the publication of their reports;

- "Think Tank": a group of coordinators has been set up informally to help the Secretariat develop HEREIN's features and to prepare the meeting of the HEREIN coordinators. The group met twice in 2014 ;
- The website has been completely redesigned in order to make it easier to use and to make the work that has already been accomplished more visible. New features have been introduced, thus strengthening the database.

Conclusions: 4 additional countries published their national reports in 2014 (making a total of 21) and 14 others are being supported in their efforts. All 42 countries officially participating in HEREIN have confirmed their coordinators (list updated). Several preliminary contacts have allowed some potential partnerships to be identified, and the outlines to be sketched for HEREIN's strengthened function in setting up European cooperation in the field of heritage.

NEXT STEPS

Eight countries are apparently having difficulty in actively participating in the database, and will be given increased assistance in the coming months. The coordinators' meeting (Mons, Belgium, 18-20 November 2014) will allow the validation of the new procedures related to the use of the database, the new HEREIN features and partnership possibilities.

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2. Preparation of two draft recommendations fostering the implementation of the cultural heritage and landscape conventions, for adoption by the Committee of Ministers.

PROGRESS

Actions undertaken:

- Contribution to the finalisation of the report and draft Recommendation prepared by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media) on "Europe's endangered heritage ";
- In cooperation with the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media), the drafting of a report on post-crisis processes (the role of heritage in post-catastrophe and post-conflict situations). This report will be used to present the draft Recommendation;
- Participation in the meetings of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media (Parliamentary Assembly) to present the Council of Europe's heritage projects and to identify common priority topics for possible future work.

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3. Identification of best practices on improving living spaces, social inclusion and quality of life in line with the Faro and Landscape Conventions, with a view to their wide dissemination in member States:

- **Implementation of the Faro Convention's Action Plan**

BACKGROUND

The [*Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society*](#) (the *Faro Convention*) was adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 13 October 2005, and opened for signature to member States in Faro (Portugal) on 27 October of the same year. It entered into force on 1 June 2011. To date, sixteen member States have ratified it: Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Luxembourg, the Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, Portugal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Ukraine and "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia". In addition, six States have signed the Convention: Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Italy, and San Marino. The signing process is underway in at least two other member States of the Council of Europe: Bulgaria and Finland.

During its plenary session on 27-29 May 2013, the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) adopted the Faro Action Plan [document CDCPP(2013)16] enabling the Secretariat of the Council of Europe to launch a number of initiatives aimed at promoting the *Faro Convention*, with a view to increasing the number of ratifications and ensuring the implementation of the Convention's principles. The plan was updated by the CDCPP at its plenary session on 19-21 March 2014.

This document proposes a new version of the Faro Action Plan, updating the actions planned for 2015 in the light of progress made in the 2014 activities (www.coe.int/faroconvention).

Several texts have been circulated over the last few years to present the objectives of the *Faro Convention*. All underline the richness and novelty of its principles. The *Faro Convention* is a "framework convention" which defines issues at stake, general objectives and possible fields of intervention for member States to progress. Each State Party can decide on the most convenient means to implement the convention according to its legal or institutional frameworks, practices and specific experience. Compared to other conventions, the "framework convention" does not create specific obligations for action. It suggests rather than imposes. The "framework convention" is also more flexible in terms of follow-up, which it considers as a dynamic and voluntary best-practice sharing and development process. It invites the State Parties to develop cooperation networks for the exchange of experience and launching of new projects.

Within this context, the main role of the Secretariat is to increase the visibility and understanding of the *Faro Convention*, and to generate common references and indicators to appreciate the value of the different initiatives that are taking place in the countries.

PROGRESS

Intermediary activity report (launching phase 2013-2014)

A direction given for the promotion and implementation of the convention

The first brochure (published in March 2013 and presented to the CDCPP in May 2013) proposes as a starting point of the process an interpretation of the *Faro Convention* focusing on three priority axes¹ and six objectives chosen in order to underline the contribution of this convention to the political objectives of the Council of Europe:

Priority 1: The management of the cultural diversity for cohesive societies

¹ 1. Strengthening social cohesion by managing diversity. 2. Improving people's living environment and quality of life. 3. Expanding democratic participation.

Objective 1: To strengthen the public interest in heritage in order to stimulate investments preserving and enhancing the social and economic values of the heritages (Articles 5a, 5b and 10a).

Objective 2: To promote conciliation and reconciliation in order to bring together within a community the divergent interests, and to allow dialogue to become one of the main forces for sustainable development (Articles 5f, 7a, 7b and 7c).

Priority 2: The improvement of the living environment and quality of life

Objective 3: To encourage a high quality architectural and urban design enriched by the cultural diversity of the territories and their traditions (Articles 5e and 8d).

Objective 4: To bring together the objectives related to economic efficiency, social cohesion and ecological balance within heritage-led strategies that allow for the combined action of public authorities, investors and civil society (Articles 5g, 8a, 8b, 9a, 10b, 10c, 11a, 11b, and 11c).

Priority 3: The development of the democratic participation

Objective 5: To implement a “shared responsibility” involving citizens and civil society in mechanisms integrated with public action in order to identify values, define priorities and manage heritage-led projects (Articles 5c, 5d, 11d, 11e, 12a and 12c).

Objective 6: To encourage a sense of responsibility in all social stakeholders so that they act on the basis of feeling they belong to a community which is enriched by its diversity (Articles 8c, 9b, 9d).

A systematic reflection about heritage values

The first “**Faro Steps**” took place in Marseille (France) on 12-13 September 2013 during the “Marseilles Forum on the social value of heritage and the value of heritage for society”. This Forum was organised in cooperation with the European Union and within the framework of Marseilles European Cultural Capital. It addressed issues relating to human rights, cultural diversity and identity, the integration of minorities and disadvantaged groups, the prevention of intolerance and discrimination, inter-faith dialogue and action in disadvantaged urban and peri-urban areas. In the field, the international panel was able to experience citizen initiatives taking place on the Marseilles territory (northern districts) which are seeking to overcome discrimination towards stigmatised groups (because of their origin, social class, etc.) in order to encourage respect for all the individual stories that make up society, and to rebuild the foundations of a cohesive and fair “decent society”. For the participants, it was about immersing themselves in these initiatives in order to pose questions about what these initiatives can help to generalise in a European perspective.

The expected results from the next Faro Steps will accumulate and progressively set up and enrich a common reference framework, helping to promote the convention and to measure the impact of the initiatives launched in the member States and which are directly inspired, or not, by the convention’s principles.

A common reference framework to understand the scope of the Faro Convention

The conclusions of the Marseilles Forum have provided the terms of a common reference framework, structured around three principles:

- Citizenship is based on a community, which is in turn based on a territory;
- Social cohesion is newly founded on various modes of participation and involvement;
- Local democracy is reinforced by developing civil society’s capacities for action.

These principles, from experience in the field, underline in reference to the Faro spirit that the community which is founded on shared values and identity must be considered as a heritage in itself. They also claim that the heritage-led approach is a vector for improving the living environment and quality of life of inhabitants by enabling citizen commitment in support of public action. In order to consolidate these principles and to test them in different circumstances, nine “indicators” about the social value of heritage were validated by the international panel in Marseilles. The use of these indicators allows the appreciation of citizen processes and the level of democratic participation at the service of the common interest. These indicators propose the conditions for implementing initiatives which could contribute to the political objectives of the Council of Europe in terms of human rights and democracy:

- a. Assertion of a group defined by a specific heritage;
- b. Emergence of a consensus within the community about the concept of “heritagization”;
- c. Existence of a demarcated territory to which a collective imagination is associated;
- d. Capacity, through the group, to produce territorial narratives and stimulate life narratives;
- e. Presence of personalities who can convey the message;
- f. Support of concerned and supportive political players;
- g. Emergence of a new economic model;
- h. Consolidation of a participative pattern backing official public action;
- i. Openness towards empowerment practices.

Actions related to participative democracy

The reference framework thus initiated has allowed actions to be developed and tested, aimed at promoting the *Faro Convention* and encouraging its ratification and implementation by member States. All the terms of reference and reports connected to these actions have been, or will be, published on-line (www.coe.int/faroconvention) in conformity with the communication strategy. To all intents and purposes, these actions perform a follow-up function with simultaneous bearing on legislation, policies and practices relating to cultural heritage, and more generally to democracy and diversity management. They are also meant to help facilitate exchange, and codify and disseminate best practices.

Faro Workshops: a tool to explain and start debates in countries considering whether to ratify the *Faro Convention*;

Faro Appreciations: the Faro Appreciations are a means of gauging the effectiveness of civic initiatives and institutional support for these initiatives in relation to the Faro principles. Four Appreciations have been completed so far during the launching phase:

- Marseilles, France (European Cultural Capital);
- Pilzen, Czech Republic (European Cultural Capital);
- Viscri, Romania;
- Venice, Italy.

Faro Applications: a tool proposing free access to initiatives which have been conceptualised and which are compatible with the Faro principles. Five Applications are online:

- Heritage Commission;
- Heritage Walk;
- Resident’s Co-operative;
- Urban Revelation Workshop;
- Metropolitan Trail.

Results which open up prospects

The Faro Appreciations carried out to date have already demonstrated the validity of the Faro principles and indicators (social value of heritage), and suggest that further efforts should be made in order to collect more practical information and generate more examples of civic initiatives that draw on the Faro principles.

The Council of Europe approach implemented as part of the Faro Action Plan has been supported and encouraged by the European Union, which refers readily to the Faro principles. This approach has also been recognised in the framework of the European Cultural Capitals, in particular for its capacity to propose practical solutions regarding citizen participation.

The results so far confirm the validity of the process, based primarily on field experience in order to get the European institutions to listen to the communities. The results also confirm the development of an innovative approach to heritage which consolidates the Council of Europe's position regarding human rights, democracy and social cohesion, and proposes new possibilities for defining a "living together", improving the quality of life and living environment, and better governance. Once again, the Council of Europe is in a position to launch and guide a pan-European debate on fundamental issues for society.

Since the start of the Faro Action Plan, four countries have ratified or signed the Faro Convention (a 20% increase). The Action Plan should offer an opportunity to guide and accelerate this movement.

NEXT STEPS

Action Plan (operational phase 2015)

- i. Elaboration (development) of a communication strategy (web pages, brochures, videos);
- ii. Organisation of Faro Workshops, depending on requests to the Council of Europe Secretariat (Bulgaria, Poland, Ukraine). The implementation of these workshops requires the setting up of a pool of experts, based on their knowledge and experience of the Faro Convention. Training will be offered to these experts (on the convention itself, and on the workshops' methodology);
- iii. The Appreciations will continue, giving priority to the European Cultural Capitals (based on an agreement being discussed with the European Union);
- iv. The follow-up and dissemination of the first five Applications and publication on the website of five new ones will allow the setting up of a *Faro Community* and the development of a network of cities referring to the Faro principles;
- v. The next *Faro Walk* on the economic values of heritage / heritage value for the economy is planned to take place as part of the Belgian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe;
- vi. Data and information obtained as part of the Council of Europe actions will be collected within the framework of the HEREIN System. A new function should favour the collection of information in all of the member States, in addition to the actions carried out by the Council of Europe;
- vii. Some assistance requests have been addressed to the Council of Europe concerning citizen participation (Pilzen and Venice), which should necessitate the setting up of a new tool for action and the development of specific expertise based on European experiences (data base, best practice, experts pool).

The results will be presented to the CDCPP at its next plenary meeting in June 2015.

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4. Evaluation of the lessons learned from the field pilot projects on cultural and natural heritage in South-East Europe, Caucasus and Black Sea regions and selected EU member States, and preparation of policy guidelines.

BACKGROUND

Setting up of a working group for the Technical Co-operation and Consultancy Programme

At its third meeting, from 19 to 21 March 2014, the CDCPP asked the Bureau to set up a working group to evaluate the lessons learned from the pilot projects and to draw up proposals. The group has been established following the proposals from the Bureau at its meeting in Paris on 24-25 June 2014.

Terms and conditions:

Objectives: The working group's objective will be to consider the projects carried out under the *Technical Co-operation and Consultancy Programme related to the integrated conservation of the cultural heritage*. The aim is not to evaluate the programme itself (the CD-PATEP conducted an evaluation in 2010), nor is it to evaluate the projects in themselves (they have in principle or in part been the subject of internal or external evaluations, especially in the case of the joint programme with the European Union), or to evaluate the management of these projects by the Secretariat. The objectives are:

- to learn lessons related to the subjects dealt with;
- to assess the extent to which the results achieved at specific sites or in specific regions may offer lessons that are useful for all member States;
- to identify the cross-cutting themes tackled under these projects so that a link can be made with the Council of Europe's political priorities;
- if applicable, to offer summaries (to be published) or guidelines or to suggest the drafting of recommendations to the Committee of Ministers.

Terms of reference: The working group is being set up [see Appendix 3 of CDCPP-Bu(2014)10] for the period of the current terms of reference of the CDCPP (until the end of 2015) and is one of the means of achieving the expected results.

Programme: The working group should have been operational as from 1 September 2014. Unfortunately, due to the unavailability of some members of the group, the first meeting to present all the activities and projects carried out in the context of the *Technical Co-operation and Consultancy Programme*, and to identify priority projects and themes has been postponed until 2015. It will be up to the working group to specify the terms of the method to be used. The Secretariat will, when necessary, commission experts to write reports or to collect useful information for inclusion in working files on projects or on the working group's priority themes, in order to facilitate and simplify the group's work. External experts or representatives who could contribute useful additional information to the discussion may be invited to the working meetings.

Membership: The Secretariat has recommended that the working group be set up as follows:

- Mr Pierre Paquet, appointed as rapporteur;
- Ms Ranka Saračević-Wurth and Ms Malgorzata Fokt-Willmann appointed in their capacity as CDCPP members;
- Mr Oliver Martin, representing the HEREIN coordinators;
- Mr Luc-Emile Bouche-Florin, European Council of Town Planners, representing the observers to the CDCPP;
- Ms Kirsti Kovanen, ICOMOS, representing the observers to the CDCPP (until November 2014);
- 1 expert from the Technical Co-operation and Consultancy Programme (appointed by the Secretariat).

NEXT STEPS

The first meeting of the working group is scheduled for early 2015 (date and place to be confirmed).