

Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme

Activity Report



2021

2021

**Cultural Routes
of the Council of Europe Programme**

Activity Report

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The Activity Report of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe reflects a true success story. Good news is particularly welcome in these troubled and complicated times: our societies face multiple challenges and are tempted to erect new barriers between each other. The Cultural Routes, on the contrary, help us to build bridges between cultures and share with old and new partners in different countries, what we cherish the most in our own cultural heritage. In opening up to others, we remain true to the main message and spirit of the Council of Europe.

It is therefore very encouraging to observe the growing success of the Cultural Routes programme which keeps attracting new parties to the Enlarged Partial Agreement, like Ukraine which joined us this year as 35th member. Promising talks are ongoing with potential new candidates and more and more observers, some even from beyond our continent, have joined the Agreement. This proves, that cultural cooperation transcends political or even geographical borders and it sends a powerful message of hope and cross-cultural understanding in an increasingly polarized world.



Ambassador Patrick ENGELBERG
Chair, EPA Statutory Committee of member States, Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes,

The COVID-19 pandemic has fundamentally changed how people lead their lives and, therefore, the landscape in which the Cultural Routes are operating. Despite the continuous challenges to the networks of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe, the Programme continued to thrive in 2021.

With the accession of Ukraine, 35 member States of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA) express their political support to the Programme. The expanded interest and relevance of the programme is also reflected in the newly certified “Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe”.

The cooperation with international organisations has been enhanced with a Memorandum of Understanding signed with UNWTO, and new Observers joining the EPA Governing Board, such as the Organisation of Ibero-American States (OEI), and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC). Country mapping reports have been published for Poland and Montenegro, new visibility brochures have been translated into several languages, and the website has been further developed.

Another great success was the Annual Advisory Forum of Kutaisi, Georgia on “Resilient and Sustainable Cultural Routes”, which took place online on 29 September-1 October 2021. The Forum was attended by over 500 participants from 50 countries. During the lively exchanges, it became clear that sustainability remains a priority development area for the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme and is the key to providing opportunities for rethinking culture and tourism for the future.



Mr. Julien VUILLEUMIER
Chair, Governing Board, Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA)

As the technical agency of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme, the European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR) continued to provide valuable assistance to the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe throughout 2021 for the coordination of certification cycles as well as in strengthening cooperation with international organisations.

I would also like to highlight the considerable growth of the University Network for Cultural Routes Studies, coordinated by the EICR, which welcomed 5 new University members during 2021. Furthermore, the 1st Cultural Routes Academic Workshop was organised in cooperation with the University Network, gathering more than 250 scholars, researchers, students and professionals from over 40 countries.

During the EICR Board of Director’s meeting which was held in Luxembourg on 22 October 2021, I was elected new President of this fascinating Institute and I look forward to adding my contribution to this beautiful success story which was set up at the Abbey of Neumünster in 1998.

My deep gratitude goes to all our partners and to the Ministry of Culture of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg for its continued support to the European Institute of Cultural Routes and the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme.



Ambassador Jean Claude KUGENER-
President, European Institute of Cultural Routes, Luxembourg

Introduction

Since its inception in 1987, the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme has illustrated the power and meaning that can be derived from engaging with Europe's shared cultural heritage. The Cultural Routes illuminate and fortify the principles at the heart of the Council of Europe's mission: human rights, democracy, participation, cultural diversity, and identity.

In 1998, following an agreement between the Council of Europe and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, the European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR) was established. The EICR, located at the historic Neumünster Abbey in Luxembourg, functions as a technical agency to the Cultural Routes programme.

In 2010 the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe established an Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes (EPA). The EPA permits closer cooperation between states committed to developing Cultural Routes which preserve Europe's cultural history. In addition to the 35 member States which constitute the EPA, the Cultural Routes programme benefits from relations with local and regional authorities, and international organisations, including the UNWTO, OECD, and UNESCO.

A significant moment of 2021 for the Cultural Routes Programme was the UNWTO's opting to renew its commitment to supporting the Cultural Routes programme. In November the Council of Europe and the UNWTO signed a Memorandum of Understanding, promising to work together to develop the opportunities that tourism can offer to local communities and to enhance the touristic experience along the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe.

2021 also saw the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) and the Organisation of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture (OEI) gain participatory status to the EPA. The Cultural Routes programme's new relationship with BSEC offers a wonderful opportunity to strengthen the programme's presence in the Black Sea Region, while the partnership with OEI illustrates the pertinence the programme has even beyond Europe's borders.

Consistent with its commitment to expansion and extension, the EPA welcomed Ukraine as its 35th member State last year and more recently granted the Czech Republic Observer Status. Five new routes became certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe during the 2020-2021 evaluation cycle, each promising to further the programme's mission of providing sustainable, educational, and responsible tourism across borders.

The 10th Annual Advisory Forum on Cultural Routes was hosted in 2021 in Kutaisi (Georgia). The forum was able to host its largest ever audience – more than 500 participants from 50 countries - by being held online, maximising the reach and visibility of the programme. 2021 also marked the year that the first Cultural Routes Academic Workshop was held. Organised by the EICR, in cooperation with the University Network for Cultural Routes Studies, the Academic Workshop was an excellent start to what is now an annual commitment. Professors, researchers, and students were invited to present their papers and theses relating to the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe.

There were also a series of elections throughout 2021, with new appointments being made in both the EPA and EICR. Mr. Julien VUILLEUMIER (Switzerland) was elected Chair of the EPA; Ambassador Patrick ENGELBERG (Luxembourg) Chair of the Statutory Committee of the EPA; and Ambassador Jean Claude KUGENER (Luxembourg) President of the EICR. Before concluding, I should like to congratulate and welcome these figures into the programme, in addition to thanking them for their vital work. I should also like to thank all the member States of the EPA, with a special mention to Luxembourg for their generosity in hosting the EPA and EICR.

The Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe unite Europe behind a single mission. A mission to foster intercultural dialogue and transnational cooperation; to promote European cultural heritage and sustainable cultural tourism; and to support contemporary artistic and cultural practice. I hope you enjoy learning more about this mission in the 2021 Activity Report.



Mr. Stefano DOMINIONI
Executive Secretary,
Enlarged Partial Agreement on
Cultural Routes
(Council of Europe)
Director,
European Institute
of Cultural Routes

The Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme is made possible thanks to the support of the member States of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and the European Institute of Cultural Routes, funded by the Ministry of Culture of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

20th

Anniversary
of the European Institute
of Cultural Routes

Establishment of the
Enlarged Partial Agreement
on Cultural Routes

Declaration of Santiago
de Compostela

1987

2011

2018

1998

Creation of the
European Institute
of Cultural Routes

2017

30th

Anniversary
of the Cultural Routes of
the Council of Europe

Council of Europe Committee
of Ministers Declaration (2017)

1.1 € million

Grant Agreement between
the Council of Europe and
the European Union

45
certified Cultural Routes
of the Council of Europe
(5 new routes certified in 2021)

35
member States
of the EPA

1
Observer State
as of January 2022

2021

2019

Carlos V
European Award

> 60
countries crossed,
in Europe and beyond

> 3300
members of the
Cultural Routes network





1

Highlights

1.1 - New member State of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe

During 2021 the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe expanded its membership, and currently features 35 member States.

**1
new member
State**

**1
new Observer
State**

**35
member
States**

30th

March



Ukraine

On 26th March, the Permanent Representation of Ukraine to the Council of Europe informed Mrs. Marija PEJČINOVIĆ BURIĆ, Secretary General of the Council of Europe, of the accession of Ukraine to the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes (EPA) as of 30th March 2021.

Ukraine is currently crossed by 3 certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe: Via Regia, the European Route of Mozart Ways and the European Route of Industrial Heritage

The Accession Ceremony for Ukraine took place within the framework of the 10th Annual Advisory Forum of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe held in Kutaisi, Georgia, in September 2021.

During 2021, the **Czech Republic** became observer to the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes.



Flag of Ukraine © Council of Europe

1.2 - German Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe

November
2020

May
2021



Germany

On 18th November 2020, Germany assumed the Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe for a 6-month period (November 2020 - May 2021).



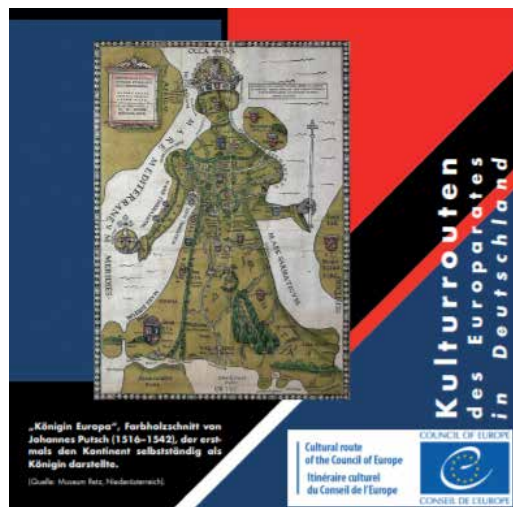
1.2 - German Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe

Highlights:

- A roll-up exhibition, featuring 25 Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe that cross Germany, was developed by order of the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Following the conclusion of the German Presidency, the exhibition travelled through Germany promoting the Programme to the public in several locations, starting with Castle Ballenstedt in Saxony-Anhalt.

- The German representatives published a German handbook on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme, its characteristics and the benefits of the certification.

- On 6 September, a delegation of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Germany followed two invitations by German Federal Institutions to elaborate on possible forms of cooperation and sustainable relationships.



Cover of the German handbook on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe

1.3 - Hungarian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe

May
2021

November
2021



Hungary

The Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe was handed over from Germany to Hungary on the 21st of May during an online meeting in the presence of representatives of its 47 member states, for a period of 6 months (May 2021–November 2021).



Highlight:

On 13 and 14 October, the 'Slow or Eco-Designed Cultural Tourism' conference was held as part of the official programme of the Hungarian Presidency of the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers, regarding the Cultural Routes certified by the Council of Europe crossing Hungary.

Hungary has been a member State of the EPA since 2013 and is currently crossed by 11 Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe.

The conference was organised by the Hungarian Open-Air Museum. The aim of the conference was to introduce new possibilities and to promote slow and eco-designed cultural tourism by presenting good practices.

1.4 - Italian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe

November
2021

May
2022



Italy

Italy took over the Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe from Hungary for a 6-month period (November 2021 – May 2022).



Secretary General of the Council of Europe, H.E. Marija PEJČINOVIĆ BURIĆ; the Permanent Representative of Italy to the Council of Europe, H.E. Ambassador Michele GIACOMELLI and Mr. Stefano DOMINIONI, Executive Secretary of the EPA and Director of the EICR at the opening of the exhibition

Highlights:

On 24 November, the exhibition **"Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Italy: a European heritage"** was unveiled in Strasbourg in the Foyer of the Committee of Ministers of the Palais de l'Europe. The exhibition is part of the programme of events accompanying the Italian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

-The **youth workshop "Cultural Routes for Dialogue between Generations"** took place on the 17th December, with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and within the scope of the Italian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. The choice to support the event is in line with the strong focus of the Italian Presidency towards young people, the protection of their rights as well as their preparation for becoming conscious and responsible citizens through education inspired by the pursuit of peace, the protection of human rights and the rule of law.

1.5 - Certification cycle 2021-2022: 8 new applications received

Each year, the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme sees a number of cultural route networks applying for the "Cultural Route of the Council of Europe" certification. In order to be eligible for certification by the Council of Europe, networks must comply with the certification criteria established in CM/Res(2013)67 revising the rules for the award of the Cultural Route of the Council of Europe certification.

This year, 8 candidate networks submitted an application to the "Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe" certification. Among them, 7 candidates were found to be eligible for evaluation.

The 2021-2022 Certification cycle focuses on the regular evaluation of eleven certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe, the exceptional evaluation of two certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and the evaluation of seven candidate networks applying for the "Cultural Route of the Council of Europe" certification.

From early March 2021, the EPA Secretariat – with the support of the European Institute of Cultural Routes

worked on the coordination of the Certification cycle 2021-2022.

Following the launch of the 2021-2022 Certification Cycle on 31st March, an online training seminar for candidate networks applying for certification was organized on the 17th June. The event saw an attendance of more than 70 participants representing 17 candidate networks. Bilateral advisory meetings between the Secretariat and each candidate network were also organized, as were individual meetings with certified Cultural Routes under regular evaluation with the representatives of each network in order to discuss the preparation of their evaluation files.

1.5 - Certification cycle 2021-2022: 8 new applications received

Candidates to the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe certification:

- Women Writers Route
- European Fairy Tale Route
- Historic Cafes Route
- European Network of Holy Week and Easter Celebrations
- Holy Places of Undivided Christianity
- The Chocolate Way
- In the footsteps of Saint Paul

Independent experts were contracted to conduct the independent evaluation of each route, including the preparation of an evaluation report to be submitted in December 2021. The selection of experts was done based on geographic and gender balance, academic background, professional experience as well as linguistic capabilities.

The results of the independent experts' evaluations will be discussed during the meeting of the Bureau of the Enlarged Partial Agreement (EPA) in Luxembourg on 24-25 February 2022, where the independent experts will be interviewed. Final decisions regarding the renewal and award of the "Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe" certification will be made by the EPA Governing Board at its annual meeting in Luxembourg on 28-29 April 2022.

1.6 - Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme: 1st Academic Workshop

On 9th December 2021, the European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR) hosted the 1st Cultural Routes Academic Workshop online.

9th

December



Luxembourg
&
online

Organized by the EICR in cooperation with the University Network for Cultural Routes Studies, the Academic Workshop addressed Cultural Routes in relation to digital technologies, perspectives on Route governance and management, and the territorial development of the Routes.

The University Network for Cultural Routes Studies is a network of universities interested in the study of Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe. The Network aims to encourage research on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and related issues, encourage students to undertake their academic research on Cultural Routes, jointly apply for European Grants with the EICR, participate in the annual programme of activities of the EICR and offer scientific advice where required.

The workshop was attended by more than 20 speakers and experts, representing 18 universities from Europe and beyond.

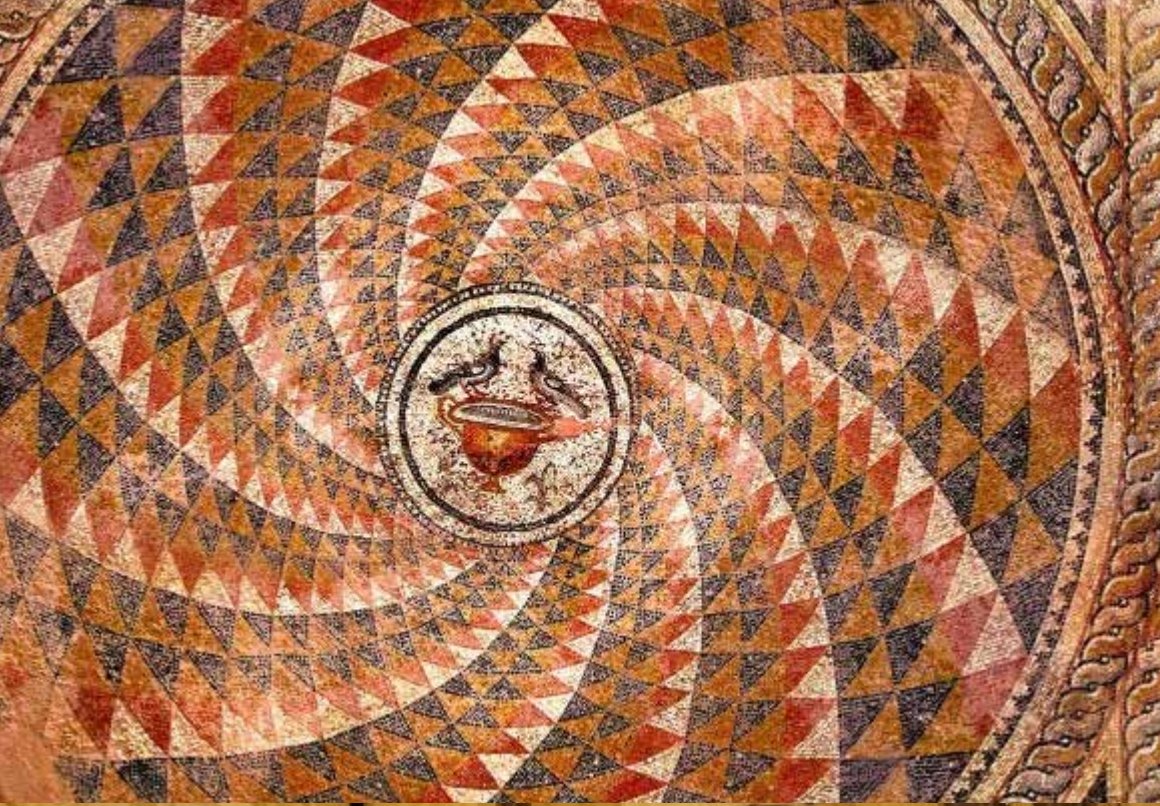
Mr Stefano Dominioni, Executive Secretary of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes and Director of the EICR, spoke during the opening session.

The workshop brought together 265 scholars, researchers, students and other participants from 43 countries to exchange and share their research outcomes in the field of Cultural Routes studies. The workshop consisted of three thematic panel sessions, each with a live discussion at the end.



More
information







2

New Certifications

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Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe



2 - New Certifications

From 28th – 29th April 2021, the Governing Board of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA) awarded certification to five new Cultural Routes. This addition brings the total number of Cultural Routes up to 45. The official certification ceremony for the new Cultural Routes was held during the 10th Annual Advisory Forum of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe, which was hosted online from Kutaisi, Georgia from 29th – 1st October 2021.

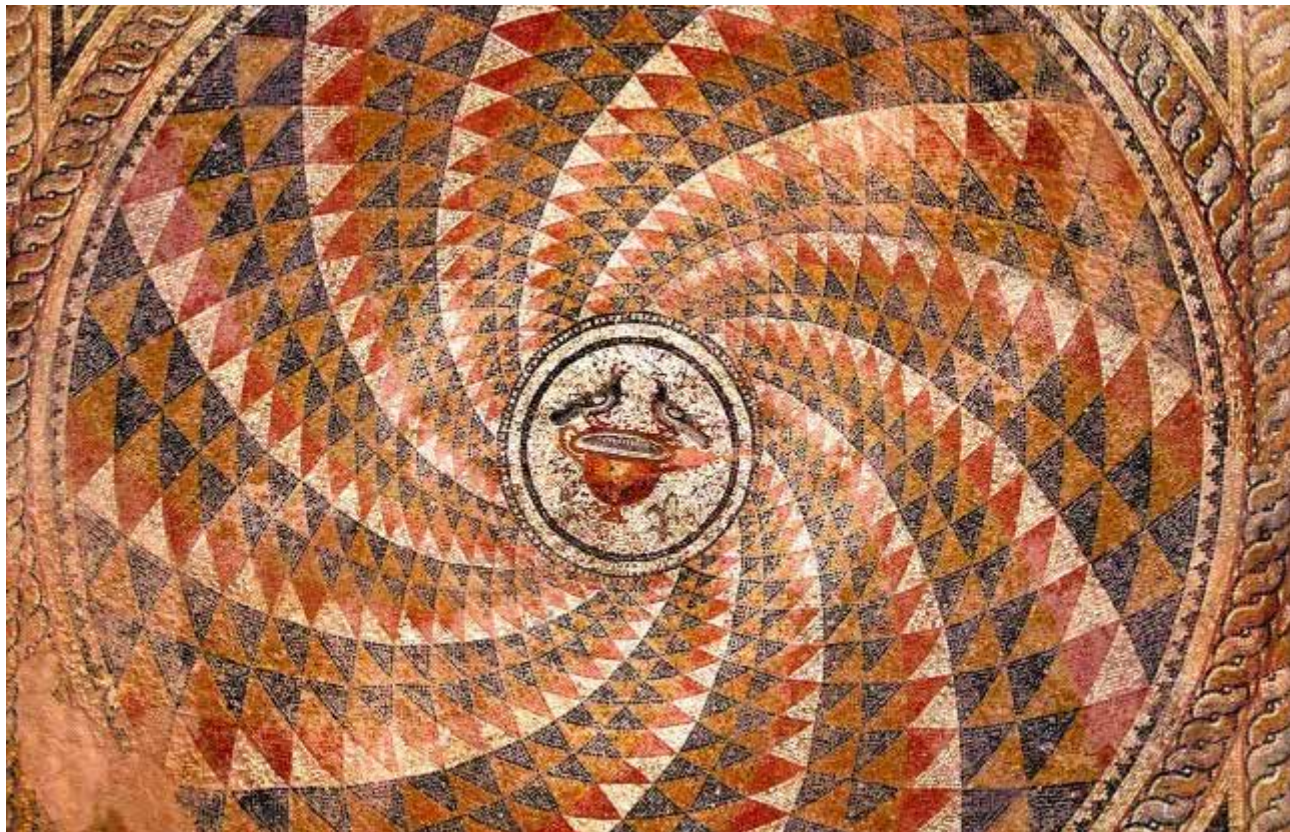
The Aeneas Route



The Aeneas Route is an archaeological Route which stretches from the coasts of Turkey (North-West Aegean Sea) to the shores of Latium Vetus in Italy. Both maritime and terrestrial in nature, the Route traces the journey of the legend of Aeneas, as narrated by the Latin poet Virgil in the Aeneid epic. With his father and son, Aeneas fled from the burning city of Troy and went on a long journey through civilisations, cultures and landscapes to build a “new Troy”. Throughout the centuries, the narration of Aeneas became a common cultural heritage that unites different Mediterranean countries and civilisations and is the subject of

countless paintings, mosaics, sculptures and works of art. It connects the most important sites in Europe associated with the mythical hero, many of which are UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Countries: 



Mosaic of a Roman villa in the ancient city of Antandros, Turkey ©Aeneas Route

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More
information



The Alvar Aalto Route – 20th Century Architecture and Design

ALVAR AALTO ROUTE
20th Century Architecture and Design

Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe



The Alvar Aalto Route connects the constructions and designs of renowned Finnish architect Alvar Aalto. Aalto (1898-1976) was a pioneer of modern architecture. He enjoyed an exceptionally rich and varied career; his works span six decades and include over 200 existent buildings located in Finland, Denmark, Sweden, Estonia, Germany, France, Italy, Switzerland, Iceland and the USA. The international influence of Aalto's works, both during his lifetime and posthumously, is outstanding. His works influenced international building standards and construction principles. Design solutions for housing became symbols of new modern living, which improved the quality of everyday life and promoted equal housing for everyone. Alvar Aalto's public architecture included town plans,

libraries, theaters, cultural centres and educational buildings for cities, communities and organisations.

Countries:     



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More
information



Finlandia Hall in Helsinki ©Kievivictor/Shutterstock

The European Route d'Artagnan



The European Route d'Artagnan is a physical and linear hiking Route inspired by the historical and literary documents that retrace the epic of Charles de Batz de Castelmore, also known as d'Artagnan. D'Artagnan and the Musketeers traversed Europe's lands in the service of King Louis XIV. Renowned during his lifetime for his courage and his humanity, d'Artagnan became, thanks to Alexandre Dumas, a character in the collective imagination, in Europe and around the world.

Countries:

The figures left behind an intangible cultural and historical heritage which the European Route d'Artagnan celebrates in its six trails crossing more than 6,000km of land. The Route takes travellers on a journey of discovery of not only 17th century European history, but also of the landscapes, identities, traditions and heritage associated with the life of this iconic figure.



Statue of d'Artagnan and the three musketeers in Gers, France ©Ana Belen Garcia Sanchez/Shutterstock

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More information



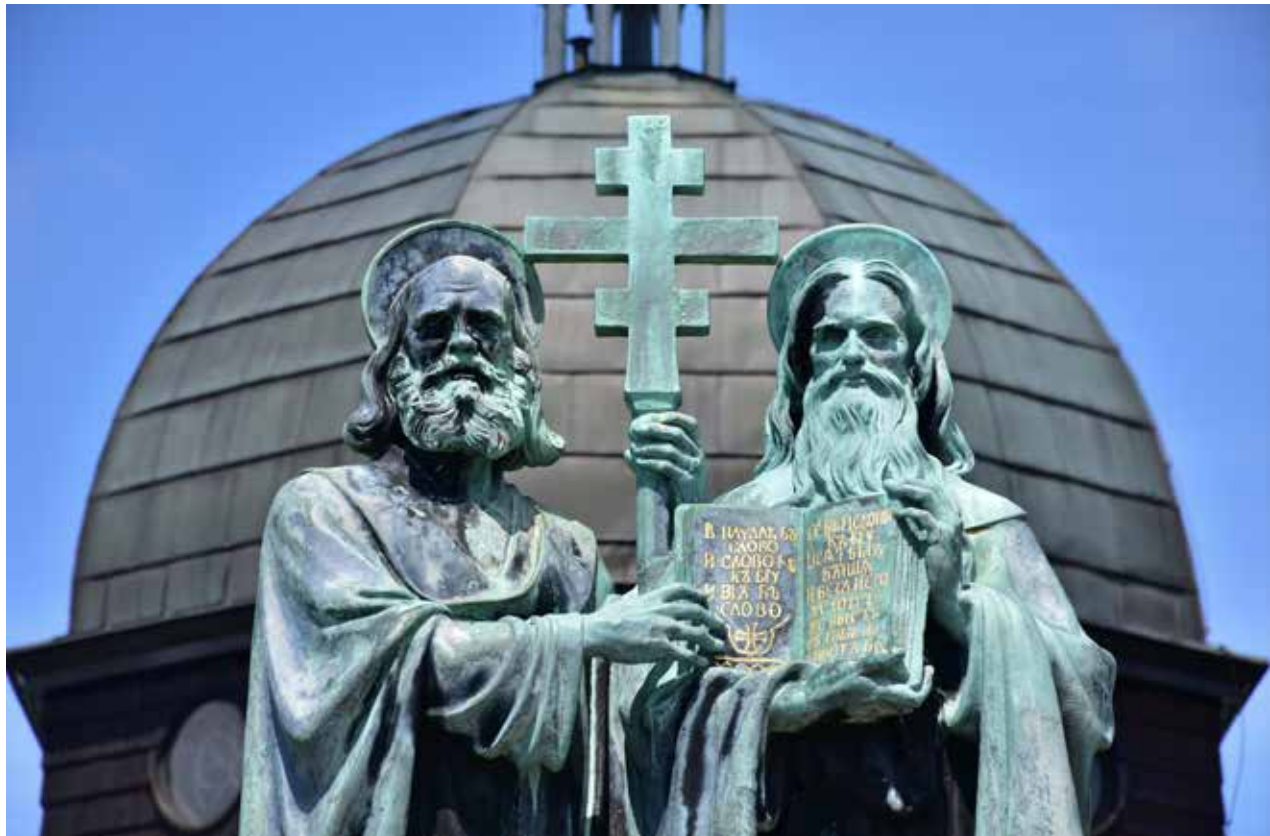
The Cyril and Methodius Route



The Cyril and Methodius Route presents a set of trails following in the footsteps of Saints Cyril and Methodius and their followers (the Seven Apostles). The Route connects places, heritage sites, cultural institutions, and other relevant tourist attractions of Central, Eastern, and Southern Europe. The combined length of the Route's various trails is an incredible 7,500km.

Countries: The text 'Countries:' is followed by six small flag icons representing Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Romania, and Slovakia.

Saints Cyril and Methodius, the co-patrons of Europe, are considered to be two of the continent's most influential missionaries, having played a crucial role in the dissemination of Christianity and development of culture throughout the Slavic countries.



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More
information



Cyril and Methodius Statue in Radhost, Czech Republic ©Karel Gallas/Shutterstock

The Iron Age Danube Route



The Iron Age Danube Route preserves and enhances the rich archaeological heritage of the Danube Region from the 1st millennium BC (c. 800 BC – 0). This period, which falls within the Iron Age, witnessed major technological and social changes that reshaped the European landscape in unprecedented ways.

The Iron Age Danube Route represents one of the most fragile, but imposingly attractive prehistoric archaeological remains: the Iron Age landscapes, characterized by monumental constructions, e.g. fortified settlements, burial mound cemeteries, flat graveyards, and complex organization of space.

The Iron Age is also a period marked by outstanding examples of intangible heritage as well as movable heritage, presented in numerous museums and archaeological parks in the Danube region, including the most important regional and national

institutions. Along the Iron Age Danube Route, travelers can discover open-air museums, reconstructed houses, tumuli, and archaeological trails and experience life as it was almost 3,000 years ago.

Countries: 



Vessels from the iron age © Iron Age Danube Route

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More information







3

Annual Advisory Forum

|

3.1 - 10th Annual Advisory Forum on Cultural Routes in Kutaisi (Georgia)

The 10th Annual Advisory Forum on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe, “Resilient and Sustainable Cultural Routes – Innovating Out of Crisis”, took place online from 29th September – 1st October 2021.

...

Videos of the Forum



The Forum was organised by the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA) in cooperation with both the Ministry of Culture, Sport and Youth of Georgia and the Kutaisi City Municipality. One of the Forum’s key ambitions was to understand the role that Cultural Routes play in encouraging innovation and sustainability in Europe’s tourism sector as it confronts challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

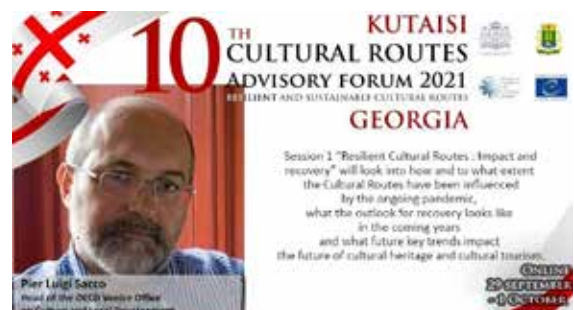
The Forum consisted of three thematic panel sessions, each hosting representatives from international organisations, member States, and the Cultural Routes.

on Culture and Local Development, deliver the keynote speech; the second panel session, which explored “Innovative Cultural Routes: Digital and User-centred”, featured Mr. Lorenzo CANTONI, Director of the Institute of Digital Technologies for Communication, Università della Svizzera Italiana, Switzerland, as its keynote speaker; and the final panel session, “Sustainable Cultural Routes: Inclusive and Responsible”, hosted two keynote speakers: Ms. Mechthild RÖSSLER, Former UNESCO Director of the World Heritage Centre, and Ms. Maria GRAVARI-BARBAS, Professor at Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Director of the EIREST, and UNESCO Chair for “Tourism, Culture, Development”, France.



The first panel session, entitled “Resilient Cultural Routes: Impact and Recovery”, saw Mr. Pierluigi SACCO, Head of the OECD Venice Office

All the panel sessions were followed by live discussions, offering participants a chance to engage with the experts to deepen the subject.



3.1 - 10th Annual Advisory Forum on Cultural Routes in Kutaisi (Georgia)



Online ceremonies were held to welcome **Ukraine and Sweden as new member States of the EPA**, and to welcome the seven Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe certified in 2020 and 2021: **The European Route of Historic Gardens, The Via Romea Germanica, The Aeneas Route, The Alvar Aalto Route – 20th Century Architecture and Design, The Cyril and Methodius Route, The European Route d’Artagnan, and The Iron Age Danube Route.** The best practices of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and videos exhibiting the certified Cultural Routes crossing Georgia were also presented at the Forum.

The Annual Advisory Forum was an excellent platform for discussing how, through the Cultural Routes, cultural heritage can become more inclusive, more resilient, and more sustainable. The Forum welcomed more than 450 participants from 50 different countries. Among the participants were presidents and managers of the 45 certified Cultural Routes, representatives from international organisations (European Union, UNESCO, UNWTO, BSEC, OEI), NGOs, local and regional authorities, and academics in the cultural tourism sector.

Following the Forum’s conclusion, the **“Declaration of the 10th Annual Advisory Forum on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe”** was published. The declaration reaffirmed sustainability as a priority development area of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme.

“Cultural Routes play an important role in contributing to the UN Sustainable Development Goals 2030. They aim to become tools for innovation and drivers for new sustainable development models, and to position themselves at the vanguard of the mission for sustainability.”

Key stakeholders in the cultural tourism sector acknowledged that the COVID-19 pandemic has fundamentally changed how people lead their lives and, therefore, the landscape in which the Cultural Routes are operating. Digitalisation, it was concluded, offers an excellent means of fortifying the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and of developing their resilience in times of crisis. It was also proposed that the Cultural Routes, rather than simply responding to calls for sustainability, are to position themselves at the vanguard of the movement towards sustainability.

The **11th Annual Advisory Forum on Cultural Routes**, which will take place in **Chania (Greece)** in 2022, and the **9th Training Academy on Cultural Routes**, which will be conducted in **Fontainebleau** in cooperation with the certified Cultural Route of the Council of Europe “Impressionisms Routes”, were also announced at the Forum.

•••

Declaration
online





Council of Europe

Conseil de l'Europe



4

Council of Europe Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes (EPA)



35 EPA member States ¹

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
|  Andorra - 2012 |  Hungary - 2013 |  Slovak Republic - 2014 |
|  Armenia - 2015 |  Italy - 2011 |  Slovenia - 2011 |
|  Austria - 2011 |  Latvia - 2019 |  Spain - 2011 |
|  Azerbaijan - 2011 |  Lithuania - 2012 |  Sweden - 2020 |
|  Bosnia and Herzegovina - 2016 |  Luxembourg - 2011 |  Switzerland - 2013 |
|  Bulgaria - 2011 |  Monaco - 2016 |  Turkey - 2018 |
|  Croatia - 2016 |  Montenegro - 2011 |  Ukraine - 2021 |
|  Cyprus - 2011 |  Norway - 2011 | |
|  Finland - 2018 |  Poland - 2017 | |
|  France - 2011 |  Portugal - 2011 | |
|  Georgia - 2016 |  Romania - 2013 | |
|  Germany - 2013 |  Russian Federation - 2011 | |
|  Greece - 2011 |  San Marino - 2017 | |
|  Holy See - 2018 |  Serbia - 2012 | |

 **1 Observer State**

Czech Republic

Observers

EU, UNESCO, OECD, UNWTO, ERA, FEG

Participative Status

OEI, BSEC

¹ As of 1st January 2022



Since 2010

Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA) Political body of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme

14

founding member
States in 2010

35

member States as of
31st December 2021

1

new member State
in 2021:
Ukraine

1

Observer as of
1st January 2022:
Czech Republic

- Open to **member and non-member States of the Council of Europe**
- **Provides political and financial support** to the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme
- Implements the Council of Europe **policy guidelines**
- Responsible for deciding the **programme strategy**
- **Awards the certification “Cultural Route of the Council of Europe”**
- **Advices and provides expert assistance** on the development, implementation, and promotion of the Cultural Routes
- **Supports networking and exchanges** between Cultural Routes’ operators and other partners in the field of cultural tourism
- Comprised of **two statutory bodies**:
 - **Governing Board** composed of representatives from Ministries of Culture and Tourism
 - **Statutory Committee** composed of Permanent Representatives to the Council of Europe
- Headquarters at Neumünster Abbey, with the **European Institute of Cultural Routes**, Luxembourg.



Meeting of the EPA Governing Board in Luxembourg, LU

4.1 Statutory bodies and staff

EPA Governing Board Bureau:

-  - **Mr. Julien VUILLEUMIER**,
Chair, Switzerland (Scientific Collaborator,
Federal Office of Culture of Switzerland)
-  - **Ms. Margarita LIOULIA**,
Vice-Chair, Greece (Administrator, Hellenic
Ministry of Culture and Sports)
-  - **Ms. Baiba MURNIECE**
Latvia (Director of Cultural Policy Department,
Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia)
-  - **Ms. Urszula ŚLĄZAK**,
Poland (Director of the International Relations
Department, Ministry of Culture and National
Heritage of Poland)
-  - **Ms. Meltem ÖNHON**
Turkey (Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism)

EPA Statutory Committee

-  - **Ambassador Patrick ENGELBERG**
Chair, Permanent Representative of the Grand
Duchy of Luxembourg to the Council of Europe

Secretariat:

- **Mr. Stefano DOMINIONI**,
Executive Secretary
- **Ms. Marie SAUTIN**,
Executive Assistant (on leave as of July 2021)
- **Ms. Catherine HANNEQUART**
Executive Assistant (as of July 2021)

Trainees:

- **Mr. Oliver QUINN**
Oxford University, United Kingdom

4.2 - Governing Board meetings and activities

24h

Meeting of the Bureau of the EPA Governing Board

26h

- Activity report 2020 and draft programme 2021

February

- Certification cycle 2020-2021



Strasbourg
& Online

- Organization of the EPA Governing Board meeting

- 10th Annual Advisory Forum on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe



Governing Board meeting in Strasbourg, February 2021

4.2 - Governing Board meetings and activities

28th

Meeting of the EPA Governing Board

- Evaluation cycle 2020-2021
- Presentations by the representatives of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe under evaluation
- Audition of candidate projects for certification
- Election of the new EPA Bureau Members

29th

April



Strasbourg
& Online



21st

June



Online

Working Group meeting with the EPA Bureau

- Annual Advisory Forum of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe 2021



8th

Committee of the EPA member States adopts the Programme and budget 2022-2025

- Draft programme and budget for 2022-2025
- Election of Ambassador Patrick ENGELBERG (Luxembourg) as the new Chair of the Statutory Committee of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA)



Strasbourg



Council of Europe in Strasbourg, FR ©JW-Photos/Shutterstock

Governing board statutory activities

- Assistance to EPA member States in identifying potential new cultural routes and existing routes where membership is relevant, dialogue with observer States
- Assessment of applications for “Cultural Route of the Council of Europe” certification
- Organisation and review of the regular 3-years evaluation of Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe
- Organisation of the Annual Advisory Forum of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in coordination with the EPA member State hosting the event

4.3 - Certification cycle: regular evaluations and certifications

3

certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe evaluated (cycle 2020-2021)

13

candidates presented for possible certification (cycle 2020-2021)

2

certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe underwent exceptional evaluation (cycle 2020-2021)

11

certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe undergoing evaluation (cycle 2021-2022)

5

new Cultural Routes certified in 2021

7

new projects undergoing evaluation for possible certification (cycle 2021-2022)

Regular evaluations

The certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe are evaluated every 3 years, in order to assess their compliance with the certification criteria envisaged by the Committee of Ministers Resolution CM/Res(2013)67 revising the rules for the award of the “Cultural Route of the Council of Europe” certification³.

Certification cycle 2020-2021 - completed:

1. European Mozart Ways
2. Huguenot and Waldensian trail
3. European Route of Megalithic Culture

Certification cycle 2021-2022 – underway:

1. ATRIUM
2. European Cemeteries Route
3. European Route of Historic Thermal Towns
4. Impressionisms Routes
5. Phoenicians' Route
6. Prehistoric Rock Art Trails
7. Réseau Art Nouveau Network
8. Route of Saint Olav Ways
9. Saint Martin of Tours Route
10. Via Charlemagne
11. Via Habsburg

Evaluation of candidates

Every year projects apply to request the certification “Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe”. Projects are assessed with reference to resolution CM/Res(2013)67.

The 2020-2021 Certification cycle - completed:

1. Aeneas Route
2. Alvar Aalto Route
3. The Castle Road
4. Cyril and Methodius Route
5. The European Route d'Artagnan
6. Culture Route of Fortified Monuments
7. Iron Age Danube Route
8. Mary's Route
9. Places of Peace
10. Saint Francis' Ways
11. European Route of Templar Heritage
12. Via Eurasia
13. Via Molina - The European Mill Route

The 2021-2022 Certification cycle – underway:

1. Women Writers Route
2. European Fairy Tale Route
3. Historic Cafes Route
4. European Network of Holy Week and Easter Celebration
5. Holy Places of Undivided Christianity
6. The Chocolate Way
7. In the footsteps of Saint Paul, the Apostle of the nations – Cultural Route Celebrations
8. In the footsteps of St Paul
9. Historic Cafés Route

Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

³ See appendices.

4.4 - Cooperation with International Organisations



Council of Europe

The EPA cooperates with other entities, bodies and institutions of the Council of Europe, to strengthen the institutional support to the Cultural Routes programme:

- 15 June, Strasbourg, FR
The Secretary General of the Council of Europe receives a delegation of the Via Francigena "Road to Rome 2021" initiative
- 18 June, Strasbourg, FR
Participation at the Open Day DGII Partial Agreements (Council of Europe)
- 18 June, Strasbourg, FR
Presentation at the 10th plenary session of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP)
- 3 November, Strasbourg, FR
Colloquium on Moroccan-Jewish culture held at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg
- 24 November, Strasbourg, FR
Italian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers: opening of the exhibition on Cultural Routes in Italy
- 9 December, Strasbourg, FR
Presentation at the 10th plenary session of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP)

The EPA liaises with various international organisations, to support the development of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe, to protect and enhance European cultural heritage and to promote sustainable cultural tourism through the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe for shared European history and heritage.



United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO)

- In 2016, the Council of Europe signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with the UNWTO that came to an end in December 2018.

- In 2019 the UNWTO and EPA Secretariats had the opportunity to liaise and define together a new MoU. In **November 2021**, Council of Europe Secretary General Marija PEJČINOVIĆ BURIĆ and UNWTO Secretary-General Zurab POLOLIKASHVILI signed the MoU with the goal of working together to develop the opportunities tourism offers to local communities and to enhance the tourist experience along the European region's Cultural Routes.

- The partnership will also see UNWTO and the Council of Europe harness their individual expertise and technical capabilities to further develop Cultural Routes through research, training and policymaking. Special attention will be paid to the mapping of Cultural Routes and to promoting greater accessibility for persons with disabilities and specific access requirements.

- From 2 to 4 June 2021, the Secretariat of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme attended the **66th Meeting of the UNWTO Commission for Europe in Athens** to promote the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme. The meeting was an occasion for European members to come together and assess the impacts and opportunities of the COVID-19 pandemic on the tourism sector.

The EPA grants Participatory and Observer status to 2 International Organisations and 2 International NGOs



- On 9 June, the Governing Board of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes (EPA) granted Participatory Status to two International Organisations:

The Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC), founded in 1992, is a unique model of multilateral political and economic cooperation in the Black Sea region. It aims at fostering interaction, peace and stability among its 13 member States.

4.4 - Cooperation with International Organisations

The **Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture (OEI)**, founded in 1949, is a governmental international organization for cooperation among 19 Ibero-American countries in the fields of education, science, technology and culture.

The Governing Board of the EPA also granted Observer Status to the following **International NGOs**:

The European Federation of Tourist Guide Associations (FEG) was founded in 1986 in Paris to represent the profession of qualified tourist guides at the European level.

The European Ramblers' Association (ERA) was founded in Germany in 1969. Today, this umbrella organisation includes 65 walking organisations from 35 European countries.

The Governing Board will be inviting these International Organisations and NGOs to its meetings when agenda items are of interest to their work. The Governing Board will also be inviting these Organisations to its events such as the Annual Advisory Forum and the Training Academy.



Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organisation (BSEC)

- **Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme presented at the 4th Workshop for Young Diplomats:** On 7 October, the 4th Workshop for Young Diplomats from the BSEC member States on “Importance of Tourism on the Economies in the Black Sea Region” was held in Tirana. It was organized by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Turkey (KAS) in cooperation with the Permanent International Secretariat of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC PERMIS). Mr. Stefano DOMINIONI participated in the workshop and presented the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme among experts from the relevant ministries in charge of culture and tourism of the BSEC member States.



European Youth Card Association (EYCA) and Eurail

In 2020, a “Letter of Intent” on cooperation between the Secretariat of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA), Eurail and the European Youth Card Association (EYCA) was signed and entered into force on 19 August 2020. It aims to promote sustainable mobility across Europe, support the discovery of the rich and diverse heritage of Europe and foster the creation of a strong community of young travellers who support cultural diversity, intercultural learning and mutual exchanges across borders.

- European Year of Rail: coordination meeting with Eurail and EYCA

On 12 January the Secretariat of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes (EPA) invited representatives of the European Youth Card Association (EYCA) and Eurail to a networking meeting with representatives of the Cultural Routes "The Hansa" and "European Route of Historic Thermal Towns" to discuss initiatives such as the “European Year of Rail 2021” proclaimed by the European Union.

- European Year of Rail: Online conference on sustainable travel in Europe

On 21 April, the European Network for Sustainable Travel with the support of Turismo de Portugal, the national tourism board, organized an international e-conference on “Promoting Sustainable and Social Travel in Europe” in the context of the European Year of Rail. 480 individual spectators as well as 40 university researchers and travel agencies had the opportunity to discuss different approaches to sustainable tourism with representatives of the European Parliament, the European Commission, the Council of Europe and Turismo de Portugal.

28
activities in EPA
member States

15
activities along the
Cultural Routes of the
Council of Europe

5
other activities

The EPA promotes a greater awareness of the links between cultures in Europe and beyond, between heritage, cultural and sustainable tourism and development. This contributes to the communication and dissemination strategy of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme.

Participation in activities in EPA member States

20 January, Zagreb, HR

Croatia: Closing conference of ArhKonTur project
Libertas International University

28-29 January, Online

Serbia: The Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe presented at the 5th EUSAIR-Forum
Government of the Republic of Serbia and the European Commission

2 February, Online

France: Coordination meeting with France on the Tourism Strategy

18 March, Online

Coordination meeting with Hungary regarding their Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and an exhibition on the Cultural Routes in Hungary

20 April, Online

15th virtual meeting of the EUSAIR Thematic Steering Group for Sustainable Tourism
Ministries of Tourism of Croatia and Albania

9 May, Online

Presentation at the IMPACTOUR Re-Discover Europe Workshop
Portuguese Government, and with full collaboration from the Slovenian Government

19 May, Online

Presentation at Webinar "Spring into Recovery meeting" (IGCAT)
IGCAT and Slovenian Tourism Board

1 June, Online

Cultural Routes Day organised by France
Ministry of Culture of France

2 June, Online

National coordination meeting on Cultural Routes organised by Italy
Ministry of Culture of Italy and the Fondazione Scuola dei beni e delle attività culturali

16 June, Online

Working meeting with representatives of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Portugal
Ministry of Culture of Portugal

22 June, Online

Participation in EU Reflection Group meeting
Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Slovenia

22 July, San Sebastian, ES

Presentation of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme at summer course "St James Northern Way, a great European Cultural Route facing the challenge of a sustainable future"
Basque Regional Ministry of Culture



Summer course on the challenge for a sustainable future, San Sebastian,,

4.5 - Activities

6 September, Paul-Löbe-Haus, Berlin, DE
Meetings between Federal Institutions and Representatives of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe representatives
Federal Commissioner for Culture and Media and the Federal Commissioner for Tourism of Germany

6 September, Braga, PT
Portugal: Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme presented in the framework of a seminar on Roman Roads
Municipality of Braga and the University of Minho

30 September, Zagreb, HR
Exhibition on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Zagreb
Ministry of Culture and Media of the Republic of Croatia

5 October, Kiev, UA
Ukraine: Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme presented at "Ukraine International Travel Market 2021"
National Tourism Organization of Ukraine (NTOU)

5 October, Online
16th virtual meeting of the EUSAIR Thematic Steering Group for Sustainable Tourism
Ministries of Tourism of Croatia and Albania

6 October, Tirana, AL
Albania: EPA Secretariat meets with the Minister of Culture and the Minister of Tourism and Environment
Council of Europe Office in Tirana

10 October, Lucca, IT
Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe - an integrated model for sustainable territorial development
Italian ministry of Culture and Fondazione Scuola dei beni e delle attività culturali (FSBAC)

14 October, Chania, GR
Signature of the Organisation Agreement for the 2022 Annual Advisory Forum on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Chania (Crete)
Minister of Culture of Greece, Ministry of Tourism

14-15 October, Online
Hungarian Chairmanship: Presentation at a conference on slow cultural tourism
Hungarian Open-Air Museum

27 October, Online
Bulgaria: International conference "The Path of Cyril and Methodius – Spatial and Cultural-Historical Dimensions"

9 November, Online
Estonia: Meeting with Tourism Board

16 November, Brussels, BE
Roundtable "Xacobeo 21-22: an occasion to rediscover Europe"
Fundación Galicia Europa, ES



Roundtable "Xacobeo 21-22: an occasion to rediscover Europe" in Brussels,

25 November, Online
EUSAIR Stakeholder Conference
Ministry of Tourism, Croatia

14 December, Laredo, ES
Spain: Conference on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Laredo

14 December 2021, online
Webinar - En Route to Cultural Heritage
Finish Heritage Agency

20 December, Online
CROSSDEV webinar on European Projects' experiences on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe
Ministry of Culture, Italy

Participation in activities along the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe

14 January, Online
Participation at the General Assembly meeting of the Fortified Towns in the Grande Region Route

20 January, Online
Meeting with the new Representative of Santiago de Compostela Pilgrim Routes

4.5 - Activities

21 January and 16 February, Online
Meeting with the General Consul of Morocco and the President of the Route of Jewish Heritage

12 March, Online
Participation at the 1st International Congress of the Holy Week and Easter celebrations route

18 March, Online
Participation at the online pilgrim conference organised by Saint Olav Ways

12 May, Online
Participation at the Destination Napoleon talks - Destination Napoleon and sustainable cultural tourism: challenges for the Napoleonic heritage in Europe

19 May, Online
Participation at the TransRomanica Day 2021

20 May, Online
Presentation at "Smart Cultural Heritage, Tourism Development and European Cultural Routes" webinar (Charles V Route)

31 May, Luxembourg, LU
Meeting with representatives of Fortified Towns of the Grande Region

8 June, Online
Participation at the Extraordinary General Assembly Meeting of Cyril and Methodius Route



Extraordinary General Assembly Meeting of the Cyril and Methodius Route in Zlín, CZ

22 June, Online
Participation at the 4th European Thermal Heritage Day

18-19 October, Toulouse, FR
Visit of Santiago de Compostela French National Agency

29 October, Toulouse, FR
Participation at the Phoenicians' Route General Assembly

6 December, Online
Participation at the Iter Vitis General Assembly

13 and 14 December, Pontevedra, ES
1st "Euro-Mediterranean-American Forum on Cultural Routes and Social Tourism"
Phoenicians' Route and the International Social Tourism Organisation, with collaboration from the Organisation of Ibero-American States (OEI)

Other activities

2-3 August, Online
Presentation at the international workshop "World heritage and sustainable tourism"
Regional World Heritage Institute in Zacatecas in Mexico (IRPMZ), the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, the UNESCO Office in Mexico, the National Institute of Anthropology and History and the Directorate of Culture of the Organisation of Ibero-American States (OEI)

6 November, Online
Participation at the European Citizens' Panel, on "Stronger economy, social justice and jobs/ Education, culture, youth and sport/Digital transformation"

28 November, Online
Participation at the International Mesopotamia Tourism Congress 2021
Mardin Artuklu University, Faculty of Tourism, TR

1 December, Online
Participation at the AI-NURECC PLUS Conference "Creative and Cultural Industries in the Adriatic-Ionian Region"
Adriatic Ionian Network of Universities, Regions, Chambers of Commerce and Cities PLUS

3 December, Online
Participation at Ilucidaire Playground "Heritage voices out"

4.6 - EPA representatives



Andorra - 2012

Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport

cultura@govern.ad
www.cultura.ad



Armenia - 2015

Ministry of Culture

info@mincult.am
www.mincult.am



Austria - 2011

**Austrian Federal Chancellery, Division II:
Arts and Culture**

ii@bka.gv.at
www.kunstkultur.bka.gv.at



Azerbaijan - 2011

Ministry of Culture and Tourism

mct@mct.gov.az
www.mct.gov.az



Bosnia and Herzegovina - 2016

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

info_mvpbih@mvp.gov.ba
www.mvp.gov.ba



Bulgaria - 2011

Ministry of Culture

press@mc.government.bg
www.mc.government.bg



Croatia - 2016

Ministry of Culture; kabinet@min-kulture.hr;

www.min-kulture.hr

Ministry of Tourism and Sports

kabinet@mints.hr; https://mint.gov.hr



Cyprus - 2011

Ministry of Education and Culture

moec@moec.gov.cy
www.moec.gov.cy



Finland - 2018

Ministry of Education and Culture

kirjaamo@minedu.fi
www.minedu.fi



France - 2011

Ministry of Culture and Communication

contact (see website)
www.culture.gouv.fr



Georgia - 2016

Ministry of Culture, Sport and Youth

mc@culture.gov.ge
www.mcs.gov.ge



Germany - 2013

Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs

www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/kontakt
www.auswaertiges-amt.de



Greece - 2011

Ministry of Culture and Sport

ddsee@culture.gr
www.culture.gr/en/ministry



Hungary - 2013

Ministry of Human Capacities

miniszter@emmi.gov.hu
www.kormany.hu



Holy See - 2018

Ufficio: Palazzo San Callisto

00120 Vatican City



Italy - 2011

Ministry of Cultural

Contact (see website)
https://cultura.gov.it/



Latvia - 2019

Ministry of Cultural

Contact (see website)
https://cultura.gov.it/



Lithuania - 2012

Ministry of Culture

centras@kpd.lt
www.kpd.lt

4.6 - EPA representatives

 Luxembourg - 2011	 Serbia - 2012
Ministry of Culture info@mc.public.lu www.gouvernement.lu/mc	Ministry of Culture and Information contact (see website) www.kultura.gov.rs
 Monaco - 2013	 Slovak Republic - 2014
Direction of Cultural Affairs www.gouv.mc/Gouvernement-et-Institutions/ Le-Gouvernement/Departement-de-l-Interieur/ Direction-des-Affaires-Culturelles	Ministry of Culture mksr@culture.gov.sk www.culture.gov.sk
 Montenegro - 2011	 Slovenia - 2011
Ministry of Culture www.mku.gov.me/en/contact www.mku.gov.me/en/ministry	Ministry of Culture gp.mk@gov.si www.mk.gov.si
 Norway - 2011	 Spain - 2011
Arts Council Norway post@kulturradet.no www.kulturradet.no	Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport. Fine Arts Protection heritage. Analysis Unit - European Cultural Routes contact (see website); www.mecd.gob.es
 Poland - 2017	 Switzerland - 2013
Ministry of Culture and National Heritage rzecznik@mkidn.gov.pl www.mkidn.gov.pl	Federal Office of Culture info@bak.admin.ch www.bak.admin.ch
 Portugal - 2011	 Sweden - 2020
Ministry of Culture General Directorate of Cultural Heritage dgpc@dgpc.pt; www.patrimoniocultural.gov.pt	Ministry of Culture contact (see website) https://www.government.se/
 Romania - 2013	 Turkey - 2018
Ministry of Tourism cabinet.ministru@mturism.ro www.turism.gov.ro	Ministry of Culture and Tourism Contact (see website) www.kulturturizm.gov.tr
 Russian Federation - 2011	 Ukraine - 2021
Ministry of Culture contact (see website) www.mkrf.ru	Ministry of Culture and Information Policy Contact (see website) www.mkip.gov.ua
 San Marino - 2017	
Ministry of Foreign Affairs segreteria.affariesteri@gov.sm www.esteri.sm	





5

Council of Europe Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes: member States' activities

5.1 - Activities implemented by EPA member States

The Enlarged Partial Agreement contributes to the promotion of European identity and citizenship through raising awareness of Europe's common heritage and developing cultural links and dialogue within Europe as well as with other countries and regions.

Throughout 2021, EPA member States organised several national activities for the promotion of cultural routes in their territories, seeking to reinforce routes' potential for cultural co-operation, sustainable territorial development and social cohesion.

Armenia - Member since 2015

23 September 2021, Vayots Dzor Province, Village Areni

Press conference on archeological discoveries of Areni 1 Cave

A Press conference was organised for September 2021 to coincide with the Virtual Reconstruction of the Faces of Three Skulls discovered in the Areni-1 Cave. EPA member State representative of the Cultural Routes Programme of the Council of Europe, Mr. Hayk MKRTCHYAN, was invited by the site's leadership team to deliver a presentation to 14 representatives from local and international media companies. Hayk presented the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme, paying special attention to the ITER VITIS Route which the Areni-1 cave consortium joined in 2019: the heritage site was the first Armenian site to join the programme. Areni-1 Cave was awarded Honorary Membership of the ITER VITIS Route in recognition of the important place it has in viticultural heritage and the significant discoveries made at the site in 2020 relating to the history of wine.

18 October 2021, Yerevan

8th Armenian-Russian Interregional Forum

The Armenian-Russian Interregional Forum is an annual event which brings together actors from both the public and private sectors. It is an opportunity to discuss areas of collaboration between the two nations, with a focus on connections that are touristic, cultural, educational, and economical in nature. The 2021 Forum was attended by 400 participants from 60 different states.

Ms. Ani AVAGYAN - upon delegation from the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Armenia - presented the country mapping report research that was conducted within the framework of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme.



8th Armenian-Russian Interregional Forum in Yerevan

Bosnia and Herzegovina - Member since 2016

Throughout 2021, Sarajevo


Collaboration with Haggadah Association

Throughout 2021 the Haggadah Association (Sarajevo) continued its cooperation with the European Route of Jewish Heritage, expanding the Route's presence in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Every year the Association organizes a seminar for tourist guides entitled "Jewish Sarajevo". The seminar for tourist guides of the city of Sarajevo in 2021 was organized with the help and support of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. It was a two-day seminar: the first day was comprised of lectures, and the second of a tour of the relevant facilities.

The Association, together with the European Association for the Preservation and Promotion of Jewish Culture and Heritage (AEJP), prepared an important project called "Networks Overcoming Antisemitism" (NOA). Major European Jewish partners have teamed up to address antisemitism and combat discrimination. The project, which is funded by the European Union's Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme (2014-2020), develops educational tools and training for communities, sports clubs, and schools in order to achieve its objectives.

5.1 - Activities implemented by EPA member States

 **Croatia** - Member since 2016

20 January 2021, Zagreb
ARHKON TUR Conference

The ArhKonTur conference, held in January 2021, explored the subjects of cultural and archaeological tourism, with a particular focus on heritage interpretation and sustainability. Mr. Stefano DOMINIONI, Executive Secretary of EPA and Director of the European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR), delivered a keynote speech on archaeological sites which form the basis of so many Cultural Routes.

20 - 30 September 2021, Zagreb
Danube's Archaeological eLandscapes

Since 2020 a consortium of 21 partners from 9 countries have been working on the “Danube's Archaeological eLandscapes” project, co-financed by the Interreg Danube Transnational Cooperation programme and the European Regional Development Fund. The project explores new ways of promoting and presenting archaeological heritage. As part of this project, the “Mobility Action programme” was organised and hosted by the Archaeological Museum in Zagreb, one of the consortium partners.

20 – 30 September 2021, Zagreb
“Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe” Exhibition

A “Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe” exhibition was held in September at the Archaeological Museum in Zagreb as part of the “Mobility Action programme”. The exhibition presented the 14 Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe passing through Croatia. The exhibition was organised by the Ministry of Culture and Media of the Republic of Croatia in collaboration with the Archaeological Museum in Zagreb.



“Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe” exhibition at the Gallery of the Archaeological Museum

November 2021, online
“Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe” brochure in Croatian and English

In November the Croatian Ministry of Culture and Media published the brochure “Cultural Routes in the Republic of Croatia”. The brochure collects information about the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and their content; it aims to promote cultural heritage represented by the certified Cultural Routes crossing Croatia and provides contact information on the international and national representatives and stakeholders. The publication of the brochure was supported by the EICR and developed in coordination with the Croatian representatives for the Cultural Routes.

 **Cyprus**- Member since 2011

3rd November 2021, Nicosia
Interdepartmental meeting

The cultural services of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth of the Republic of Cyprus met with other governmental and non-governmental bodies to discuss collaboratively promoting the Cultural Routes Programme in Cyprus.

 **Finland** – Member since 2018

18 May and 5 October 2021, online
Meetings of national Cultural Route operators

The Finnish Heritage Agency and Visit Finland organised two online meetings for Cultural Route operators in Finland, in cooperation with the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture Finland. The goal of the meetings was to provide a platform for the informal exchange of information and good practices, and to facilitate networking between Route initiatives in Finland. The meetings were attended by national Route operators and by representatives of sites and projects connected to the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe.

14 December 2021, online
Webinar “Reitillä kulttuuriperintöön” - En Route to Cultural Heritage

The Finnish Heritage Agency organised a webinar targeted towards the different actors in the field of cultural heritage. The overall goal of the webinar was to raise awareness of the opportunities created

5.1 - Activities implemented by EPA member States

by the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe as a programme and to explore the potential for expanding the programme's presence in Finland. The webinar programme featured, among other items, Mr. Stefano DOMINIONI's presentation on "The Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe as a model for connecting heritage and fostering European identity". The webinar also showcased the experiences of three Finnish Cultural Route projects: the Singing Heritage Route, the St. Olav Waterways, and a development project by Forssa museum on industrial and textile history based upon tourism in the Forssa Region.

France – Member since 2011

1 June 2021, online

Coordination meeting of French representatives of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe

On June 1, the Ministry of Culture of France organised an online national coordination meeting with representatives of Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe crossing France.

The meeting brought together 27 representatives of certified Cultural Routes, in the presence of representatives of the Council of Europe, the French Ministry of Culture and the Department of Tourism. The event highlighted the different Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe crossing the country and their efforts in touristic and cultural promotion.

Georgia – Member since 2016

29 September - 1 October 2021, online

10th Cultural Routes Annual Advisory Forum

The 10th Annual Advisory Forum on Cultural Routes "Resilient and Sustainable Cultural Routes" was organised by the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA) in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture, Sport and Youth of Georgia and Kutaisi City Municipality.

The Forum, which consisted of three thematic panel sessions with live discussions, was attended online by 500 participants, Presidents and Managers of the 45 certified Cultural Routes, Representatives from International Organisations (European Union, UNESCO, UNWTO, BSEC, OEI), NGOs, local and regional authorities, academics and professionals in the cultural tourism sector.

Germany - Member since 2013

September 2021, throughout Germany

Roll-up exhibition on the 25 Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe crossing Germany

Within the framework of the Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, German representatives implemented several activities to further promote Cultural Routes in Germany. A highlight was the roll-up exhibition presenting the 25 Cultural Routes crossing Germany. Following the conclusion of the German Presidency, the exhibition travelled through Germany to promote the programme to the public, beginning in Castle Ballenstedt in Saxony-Anhalt. The roll-ups detailed each Route's characteristics and objectives; they were adorned with colourful images. The exhibition was commissioned by the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs and produced by the Cultural Routes representatives in Germany under the lead of the European Centre for Culture and Information in Thuringia.



Roll-Up exhibition of the 25 Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe crossing Germany at Castle Ballenstedt

Throughout 2021 Updates on visibility material

In the framework of the Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, the German representatives have also worked on new visibility material explaining the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme, its characteristics, and the benefits of certification. A new handbook on developing and managing Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and an updated brochure on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe crossing Germany were published in the German language. The publications were supported by the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

5.1 - Activities implemented by EPA member States

Greece – Member since 2011

14 October 2021, Chania

Signature of the Organisation Agreement for the 2022 Annual Advisory Forum on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Chania (Crete)

On October 14, an Organisation Agreement to hold the 11th Annual Advisory Forum on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe 2022 in Chania (Crete), Greece was signed.

The Minister of Culture of Greece, Ms. Lina MENDONI; the Deputy Minister of Tourism, Ms. Sofia ZACHARAKI; and the President of the Greek National Tourism Organisation, Ms. Angela GEREKOU, expressed their support through video messages, while the Vice President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Ms. Theodora BAKOYANNIS, sent a greeting.

The signing ceremony was attended by Mr Nikos KALOGERIS, Vice-governor of Crete; Mr. George DIDASKALOS, Secretary General of Culture; Mr. Dimitris FRAGGAKIS, Secretary General of EOT (Greek National Tourism Organisation); Mr. Antonis ROKAKIS, President of the Chamber of Chania; Mr. Giannis GIANNAKAKIS, Deputy Mayor of Culture in Chania; Mr. Vassilis STATHAKIS, President of the "Road of Historic Cafés"; and Mr. Stefano Dominioni, Executive Secretary of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes (EPA).

The 11th Annual Advisory Forum will be held from 5 -7 October 2022.



Signature of the Organisation Agreement for the 2022 Annual Advisory Forum on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Chania (Crete)

Hungary – Member since 2013

19 August – 14 November 2021, Szentendre

Open-Air Photo Exhibition

The photo exhibition “On the Route of our Heritage” held at the Hungarian Open Air Museum in Szentendre

presented the official sites of the Cultural Routes in Hungary. The exhibition was organized within the framework of the Hungarian Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.



Open-air photo exhibition in Szentendre

13-14 October 2022, Online

International Online Conference “Slow or Eco-Designed Cultural Tourism”

The principal goal of the two-day international conference was to introduce and promote the possibilities of slow, eco-designed tourism. It was an opportunity to share the good practices which are to serve as inspiration in a post-pandemic era. Representatives of Cultural Routes that pass through Hungary, international organisations with an interest in the topic, and representatives from relevant Hungarian projects were given the opportunity to present their initiatives.

Italy – Member since 2011

7 June 2021, online

Coordination meeting of Italian representatives of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe

On June 7, the Ministry of Culture of Italy and the Fondazione Scuola dei beni e delle attività culturali organized an online coordination meeting with representatives of Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe crossing Italy. Ms. Alessandra Vittorini, Director of the Foundation School of Cultural Heritage and Activities; Mr. Paolo Verdone, Director of Service III International Relations of the General Secretariat of Ministry of Culture and Mr. Stefano Dominioni, Executive Secretary of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and Director of the European Institute of Cultural Routes opened the meeting.

The meeting brought together 18 representatives of

5.1 - Activities implemented by EPA member States

certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe, which presented their activities and practical suggestions to further develop the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Italy.

7 October 2021, Lucca & online

Meeting "Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe - an integrated model for sustainable territorial development"

On 7 October, in the framework of LuBeC - Lucca Beni Culturali (Lucca, Italy) - the Italian ministry of Culture and Fondazione Scuola dei beni e delle attività culturali (FSBAC) jointly organised the meeting "Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe: an integrated model for sustainable territorial development". The meeting brought together for the first time representatives of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe crossing Italy, representatives of regions active in the promotion of Cultural Routes, and the ministries potentially interested, in order to explore the possibilities and opportunities to articulate integrated strategies focused on certified Cultural Routes.

24 November 2021, Strasbourg (France)

Official opening of the Exhibition "Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Italy: a European heritage"

On 24 November, the exhibition "Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Italy: a European heritage" was unveiled in Strasbourg in the Foyer of the Committee of Ministers of the Palais de l'Europe. The exhibition with 29 panels is part of the programme of events accompanying the Italian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. The exhibition was inaugurated in the presence of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, H.E. Marija PEJČINOVIĆ BURIĆ; the Permanent Representative of Italy to the Council of Europe, H.E. Ambassador Michele GIACOMELLI and Mr. Stefano DOMINIONI, Executive Secretary of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes (EPA) and Director of the European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR) and attended by Permanent Representatives of the 47 member States of the Council of Europe.

Luxembourg – Member since 2011

5 September 2021, Luxembourg

Launch of the Jewish Heritage Route in Luxembourg

The installation of a plaque commemorating the first synagogue of Luxembourg was also an occasion to celebrate the official launch of the Luxembourg Route and its integration into the European Route of Jewish Heritage. The plaque, which has been erected in the exact location of Luxembourg's first synagogue, was unveiled in the presence of the Minister of Culture, the Minister of Cooperation and Humanitarian Action, the President of the AEPJ, the Mayor of the City of Luxembourg, the Executive Secretary of the EPA and Director of the EICR, H.E. the Ambassador of Israel, and the Chief Rabbi of Luxembourg.



(From left to right) Mr. Franz FAYOT, Minister of Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Action; Ms. Lydie POLFER, Mayor of Luxembourg; Ms. Sam TANSON, Minister of Culture; Mr. François MOYSE, President of the AEPJ; Emmanuel NAHSHON, H.E. the Ambassador of Israel; and the Chief Rabbi of Luxembourg © Robert Philippart

Poland - Member since 2017

11 September 2021, Silesian region in Poland

INDUSTRIADA Festival

In September 2021 the 12th edition of the "INDUSTRIADA Festival" was held in Poland. The Festival is the largest industrial heritage festival in Central and Eastern Europe and the second largest in Europe. Every year INDUSTRIADA takes place in over 40 sites across nearly 30 cities and towns of the Silesian region. Silesia's rich industrial cultural heritage is one of the region's distinctive characteristics; the festival encourages people to engage with this history more closely.

The Silesian Industrial Monuments Route incorporates 40 regional sites related to mining, metallurgy, energy, and railways; many of which are members of the European Route of Industrial

5.1 - Activities implemented by EPA member States

Heritage. The Coal Mining Museum in Zabrze was the main coordinator of the event.



Streets during the Industriada Festival ©Radosław Kaźmierczak

 **Portugal** – Member since 2011

16 June 2021, Online

Working meeting with national representatives of various Cultural Routes

On 16th June 2021 the second national working meeting was held with the representatives of the Cultural Routes crossing Portugal. The meeting's aims were to share knowledge and insight on the current status of the Cultural Routes in Portugal, to promote communication and the exchange of experiences between representatives of the different Cultural Routes, and to reflect on the conditions that made these experiences either a success or a failure.

26 October 2021, Online

1st National Training Action Cycle

Organized by the Directorate General for Cultural Heritage, in collaboration with Turismo de Portugal - and with the added support of the National Culture Centre and GEPAC of the Ministry of Culture - this training cycle was organised in order to equip those involved in the Routes' activities with the best tools for managing the Routes' growth, in addition to creating a space for collaboration and interaction. The first training action cycle concerned "Structuring of the Cultural-Tourist Product applied to Cultural Routes". 20 representatives and employees attended.

 **Romania** – Member since 2013

Throughout 2021

The development of the cultural tourist routes through a voluntary system

Romania's Ministry of Economy, Energy and Business

Environment, through the International Relations and European Affairs Service in the field of Tourism, has created a voluntary system allowing Cultural Routes developed by tourism organizations and local public authorities to gain recognition. In November 2021 Romania counted 106 Cultural Touristic Routes; 24 were developed at the national level, 44 at the regional level, and 34 at the local level.

May 2021, Online

Promoting the transnational cultural tourist route "Stephen the Great" at the Moldova Tourism Forum 2021

The Moldova Tourism Forum 2021 was organised by the Invest Moldova Agency and its strategic partner the Moldova Competitiveness Project; it was funded by USAID, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. The Forum connected sector stakeholders and future tourists, introducing as yet undiscovered destinations to the latter.

The "Stephen the Great" Route is of historical and cultural value for both Romania and Moldova. It incorporates 29 tourist attractions across the two countries, which relate to each other through their connection to the 15th and 16th century Voivode of Moldavia.

June 2021, Băile Herculane

Official launch of the Cultural Tourist Route "In the footsteps of Hercules"

"In the footsteps of Hercules" explores the legend of Hercules in Romania, running through Mehedinti County, Caras-Severin County and Gorj County. The Cultural Tourist Route was officially launched at the 4th edition of the symposium "Herculane – Arcades in time 2021" and was accompanied by a video produced by the Ministry.



The official launch of the Cultural Tourist Route "On the footsteps of Hercules"

5.1 - Activities implemented by EPA member States

June 2021, Târgu Jiu City, Gorj County

Official launch of two National Cultural Tourist Routes

The National Cultural Tourist Route “Oltenia Monasteries” presents some of the most important monasteries from the Oltenia region. The Regional Cultural Tourist Route “Constantin Brâncuși – genius peasant and the cultural heritage of the Gorj County” presents some of the most renowned sculptures of Constantin Brancuși, who was born in a small village in Gorj county called Hobita.

October 2021, Athens (Greece)

2nd prize and special jury prize at the “Destination of Sustainable Cultural Tourism” Awards

The “Cultural Tourist Route of the Wooden Churches in Romania and in the Republic of Moldova” won 2nd prize at the ‘Destination of Sustainable Cultural Tourism’ Awards in Greece. The Route is a transnational network connecting villages, cities, counties, and districts in which local communities have built their own churches throughout history. The regional Cultural Tourist Route “Maramureș Museum Heritage Trail” - created by the Maramures County Council and recognized by the Ministry of Economy, Energy and Business Environment (MEEMA) - also won the Special Jury Prize for how it tackled the pandemic’s many challenges.

 **Slovak Republic** – Member since 2014


20 October 2021

Working meeting on Romanesque heritage in the Slovak Republic

On 20th October 2021 representatives from national cultural monuments; representatives from local government; the Monuments Board of the Slovak Republic; the Slovak Ministry of Transport, Construction and Tourism; and the Slovak Ministry of Culture met to discuss Cultural Route of the Council of Europe TRANSROMANICA. The aim of this working meeting was to provide basic information about the goals of the Cultural Route and to better understand how the Slovak Republic can contribute to its successes. With added support, the Route’s ability to increase awareness of Slovak cultural heritage and to promote the Slovak Republic as a tourist destination will grow.

23 – 25 September 2021, Bíňa, Diakovce, and Spišská
Visit to Romanesque monuments

Upon invitation from the TRANSROMANICA Secretariat, and a subsequent consultation between the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic and the Monuments Office, the Netherlandish art historian and blogger, Tea Gudek SNAJDAR, visited the Slovak Republic in late September. SNAJDAR was accompanied by Mrs. Anna TUHARSKÁ (The Monuments Board of the Slovak Republic) and Mrs. Veronika BIZOŇOVÁ (archivist of Spišská Kapitula); together they visited Romanesque monuments in Bíňa, Diakovce, and Spišská Kapitula. The result is a series of articles and photos which have been sent to the Ministry of Transport for further use, such as on the Slovakia Travel website.

 **Slovenia** – Member since 2011

April 2021 – Present, Online

Promotion of Cultural Routes through the Interreg BEST MED project

The Faculty of Tourism at the University of Maribor, within the framework of the Interreg BEST MED project, organised several national activities for the promotion of cultural routes in their territories, seeking to strengthen the Routes’ ability to foster cultural cooperation and sustainable tourism development.

Two online events in April were devoted to discussing opportunities to develop Cultural Routes in Slovenia. An excursion on the 28th September was organised with the aim of introducing the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme to the national authorities, with a focus on Cultural Routes in Slovenia.

The events resulted in a set of proposals for further coordination and cooperation within Slovenia and across borders, including the proposal to form an Association of Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Slovenia.

22 June 2021, Online

Reflection Group “EU and Cultural Heritage”

The Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the European Union focused their efforts on heritage and sustainable development within the field of culture. Heritage experts from EU member States and partners met to discuss the latest developments in policy and action at the EU level and beyond.

5.1 - Activities implemented by EPA member States

Representatives of the EPA and EICR attended the meeting and delivered a presentation exploring the impact of the pandemic on the cultural tourism sector and the potential of new technology to widen access.

The key messages surrounding sustainable cultural tourism were later echoed at the Presidency conference “The right to heritage as a catalyst for sustainable development”, held from 10th – 11th September 2021 as part of the “European heritage and Baukultur as a generator of the future heritage” workshop.



*Mr. Vasko SIMONITI, Slovenian Minister of Culture at the international conference
“The right to heritage as a catalyst for sustainable development” ©Ministry of
Culture Slovenia*

8 – 11 November 2021, Ljubljana

Meeting on E-heritage

Ljubljana hosted a week-long event entitled “E-heritage – Everything Else is the Past” which brought together cultural heritage professionals, key stakeholders, and interested members of the public. The event was co-organised by transnational project “Danube’s Archaeological e-Landscapes” (Interreg DTO), “The Iron Age Danube Route”, and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Slovenia.

The programme targeted key issues related to cultural heritage management with a focus on digitalisation processes and the use of digital technologies in museums.

 **Spain** – Member since 2011

June 2021 - Ongoing

Creation of a webpage and an app


The creation of the webpage “We are Heritage”, which provides educational information on different cultural heritage initiatives at the European level, features the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme. Work is currently being completed on the webpage to provide descriptions and

photographs of each Cultural Route crossing Spain. An app has also been created for mobile devices which compiles information, multimedia resources, photographs, and 360° views of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe crossing Spain. The project is being funded by the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Funds of the European Union.

September 2021 – January 2022

Preparations for a meeting on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Spain

Preparations for the “Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe: strengthening, consolidation, dissemination and alliances” meeting, organised with the support of the EICR, began in September 2021. The meeting, which took place in January 2022 in Madrid, was attended by representatives from each Cultural Route crossing Spain and by professionals in the field of cultural heritage.

 **Turkey** - Member since 2018

Throughout 2021

Several meetings

Several meetings centred around Turkish cultural heritage were held throughout 2021. One meeting, held in February with the Cultural Routes Association, concerned the candidacy of the Via Eurasia Route as a Cultural Route of the Council of Europe and explored potential cooperation with Taiwanese cultural routes. Later in the year, a meeting brought together the Aeneas Route management team, the Turkish Tourism Development Agency, and the Antandros Excavation team. Moreover, the coordination meeting of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) in September, and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation’s (BSEC) Working Group on Culture offered opportunities to present the development of Cultural Routes in Turkey.



Headquarters of the European Institute of
Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe,
Neumünster Abbey, LU
© Nina Zorina/Shutterstock



6

European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR)





EUROPEAN
INSTITUTE
OF
CULTURAL
ROUTES

Since 1998

**European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR).
Technical agency of the Cultural Routes of the
Council of Europe Programme**

- Support to the EPA Secretariat in the coordination of evaluation and certification cycle of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and of the candidate projects.
- Advice to the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and to candidate projects.
- Training for the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe.
- Promotion and visibility.
- Support to the Training Academy and Annual Advisory Forum.
- Cooperation with universities and research centres.
- Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme documentary resources archive
- Located in the Abbey of Neumünster (Luxembourg).
- Funded by the Ministry of Culture of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.



Neumünster Abbey, headquarters of the European Institute of Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe.

6.1 - EICR Statutory bodies and staff

Members of the EICR Board of Directors

Government of the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg:

- **Ms. Colette FLESCHE**,
Honorary President
- **Ambassador Jean Claude KUGENER**,
EICR President, Director of Consular Affairs and of International Cultural Relations of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs
- **Ms. Barbara ZECHES**,
EICR Vice-president, European and International Affairs Counsellor to the Ministry of Culture and representative of the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg to the Governing Board of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe
- **Ms. Danièle KOHN-STOFFELS**,
EICR Board of Directors Member, Counsellor of Government 1st Class, Ministry of Culture



Mr. Stefano DOMINIONI and Ambassador Jean Claude KUGENER (right) with team members in front of Neumünster Abbey

6.1 - EICR Statutory bodies and staff

- **Mr. Robert L. PHILIPPART**,
EICR Board of Directors Member, representative of the Ministry of Culture of Luxembourg
- **Mr. Claude HALSDORF**,
EICR Board of Directors Member, Head of the joint office, Ministry of Economy, Directorate General of Tourism

Council of Europe:

- **Ms. Snežana SAMARDZIC-MARKOVIC**,
EICR Board of Directors Member, Director General of Democracy (Council of Europe)
- **Mr. Eladio FERNANDEZ-GALIANO**,
EICR Board of Directors Member, Representative of the Council of Europe, Directorate General of Democracy (Special Advisor as of June 2018)
- **Mr. Julien VUILLEUMIER**,
Chair, Switzerland (Scientific Collaborator, Swiss Federal Office of Culture)

Secretariat:

- **Mr. Stefano DOMINIONI**,
Director of the EICR and Executive Secretary of the EPA.

Staff:

- **Ms. Carolina CLARK**, Project Officer
- **Mr. Dylan HERGENHAHN**, Administrative Assistant
- **Ms. Cindy BLESER**, Communications Officer
- **Ms. Kristiana EGLE**, Junior Financial and Administrative Assistant
- **Ms. Ana Georgia SAGUM**, Junior Project Officer

External experts/consultants:

- **Mr. Francesco BAU**

6.2 - Statutory meetings

At the occasion of the General Assembly and Board of Directors meetings that took place in 2021, issues regarding procedures, major events and visibility were discussed, in order to pursue the EICR mission of ensuring continuity and implementation of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme.

4 February

General Assembly and Board of Directors of the European Institute of Cultural Routes meeting.
Luxembourg, LU

22 June

Meeting of the Board of Directors of the EICR
Luxembourg, LU

6 December

Meeting of the Board of Directors of the EICR
Luxembourg, LU

6.3 - Support to the EPA Secretariat in the coordination of the Cultural Routes certification cycles

The EICR supports the EPA Secretariat in the coordination of the certification cycle of certified Cultural Routes and the certification of candidate projects by the Governing Board of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe. The evaluation and the certification follow the same schedule, starting in July and ending in May of the following year, as outlined below. During 2021, the 2020-2021 cycle was completed and the 2021-2022 cycle was launched.

2020-2021 certification cycle:



6.3 - Support to the EPA Secretariat in the coordination of the Cultural Routes certification cycles

2021-2022 certification cycle:

July

Deadline for submission of the application forms and evaluation files to the EPA Secretariat by candidate projects and certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe.

August

Analysis by the EPA Secretariat with the support of the EICR of the documentation submitted by the candidate projects / Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe. Selection by the EPA Secretariat of independent experts in charge of drafting the evaluation reports.

From September - December

Independent expert review: contact with candidate project managers / Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe managers, online meetings with route's representatives and members. Preparation of the evaluation reports.

2021

2022

March

Call for applications for certification posted on the EPA website. Notification letter by the EPA Executive Secretary to the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe under regular evaluation, launching the annual certification cycle.

25 March - General Assembly and Board of Directors of the European Institute of Cultural Routes meeting. Luxembourg, LU

October

22 October - Extraordinary General Assembly and Board of Directors of the European Institute of Cultural Routes meeting. Luxembourg, LU



More information



Certification Cycle

6.4 - Advisory meetings and activities

9

December

Online

•••
More
information



First Cultural Routes Academic Workshop

Organised by the EICR in cooperation with the University Network for Cultural Routes Studies, the Academic Workshop addressed the Cultural Routes in relation to digital technologies, perspectives on Route governance and management, and the territorial development of the Routes.

The workshop was attended by more than 20 speakers and experts, representing 18 universities from Europe and beyond. Mr Stefano DOMINIONI, Executive Secretary of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes and Director of the EICR, spoke during the opening session. The workshop brought together 265 scholars, researchers, students and other participants from 43 countries to exchange and share their research outcomes in the field of Cultural Routes studies. The workshop consisted of three thematic panel sessions, each with a live discussion at the end.



Participation in activities organised by candidate cultural routes and projects

- 12 March, Online

Participation in the 1st International Congress of the Holy Week and Easter celebrations route

Andalusian network "Camino de Pasión"

Advisory meetings with candidate cultural routes and projects

- 25 January, Online

Advisory meeting with Aeneas Route

- 26 January, Online

Advisory meeting with European Route of d'Artagnan

- 26 January, Online

Advisory meeting with "Saint Francis' Ways"

- 27 January, Online

Advisory meeting with "Cyril and Methodius Route"

- 27 January, Online

Advisory meeting with "Culture Route of Fortified Monuments - Forte Cultura"

- 28 January, Online

Advisory meeting with "Iron Age Danube Route"

- 28 January, Online

Advisory meeting with "European Route of Templar Heritage"

- 2 February, Online

Advisory meeting with "Via Eurasia"

- 2 February, Online

Advisory meeting with "Via Molina"

- 3 February, Online

Advisory meeting with "Castle Road"

- 3 February, Online

Advisory meeting with "Alvar Aalto Route"

- 4 February, Online

Advisory meeting with "Places of Peace"

5 February, Online

Advisory meeting with "Mary's Route"

- 19 March, Online

Advisory meeting with "Chocolate Ways"

- 24 March, Online

Advisory meeting with "Transhumance Route"

- 7 April, online

Advisory meeting with "Holy Places of Undivided Christianity"

- 5 May, Online

Advisory meeting with "Romea Strata"

- 26 May, Online

Advisory meeting with "Holy Week and Easter Celebrations" route

6.4 - Advisory meetings and activities

- 3 June, Online
Advisory meeting "Silk Routes"
- 5 June, Online
Advisory meeting with "The Holy Family Route"
- 8 June, Online
Advisory meeting with "LE VIE DEI MEDICI"
- 10 June, Online
Advisory meeting with "Les Chemins de Saint Michel "
- 11 June, Online
Advisory Meeting with "Chocolate Ways"
- 22 June, Online
Advisory meeting with "Aromas Itinerarium Salutis"
- 17 September, Online
Advisory meeting with representatives of "Via Memoria Mauthausen"

Training activities

- 17 June, Online
Online Training Seminar for cultural routes applying for the "Cultural Route of the Council of Europe" certification - CERTIFICATION CYCLE 2021-2022

The Training Seminar was organised by the Secretariat of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA) and the European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR).

Delivered in French and English, the seminar provided an overview of the main characteristics of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme, serving as an essential reference point for representatives of cultural routes interested in applying for the "Cultural Route of the Council of Europe" certification within the Certification Cycle 2021-2022.

The online event was attended by more than 60 participants representing 17 cultural routes candidate networks.

Cooperation with International Organizations

Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture (OEI)



OEI



- Meeting with Ibero-American States Organization

On 8th March, a meeting between representatives of the European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR) and the Ibero-American States Organization (OEI) took place. The meeting was the occasion to introduce Mrs. Natalia Armijos de Velasco, newly appointed General Director of Culture of OEI, and to discuss opportunities for future cooperation.

- Meeting on cooperation between Euro-Ibero-American Cultural Routes in Yuste

On 23 September 2021, a meeting on cooperation between Euro-Ibero-American Cultural Routes was held in Yuste (Extremadura, Spain).

The purpose of the institutional meeting was to strengthen cultural routes on both continents, to explore strategies to promote cultural routes projects in Latin America and the Caribbean, and to promote the extension of certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe beyond the Atlantic.

- Joint report on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and Ibero-America

The report published in 2021 presents a detailed analysis of Cultural Routes crossing Ibero-America, including the potential for the extension of certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and for the establishment of new routes in the region. The document also includes a mapping of key stakeholders and an action plan for the achievement of joint objectives.

6.5 - University Network for Cultural Routes Studies

19

universities members of the
Network for Cultural Routes Studies

+4,000

books and magazines
in the EICR library

+5

new members in 2021

The EICR coordinates the University Network for Cultural Routes Studies (NCRS), a platform for exchanges and mobility for students and researchers and ensures regular interactions among the EICR, the universities and the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe.

Research and cooperation in research are of paramount importance in the creation and development of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe: it enables multidisciplinary knowledge to be brought together and made accessible, providing evidence that the themes addressed by the Cultural Routes are representative of European values, and thus underpinning the effective enhancement of European past and present heritage.

The network encourages research on issues related to the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe, jointly applies for European Grants with the European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR), participates in the annual programme of activities of the EICR, and offers scientific advice where required.



University of Bedfordshire, United Kingdom
Institute for tourism research (intour), member since 2013



Université de Luxembourg, LU
Member since 2013



Université Paris I Panthéon Sorbonne, France
Institut de recherche et d'études supérieures du tourisme (IREST), Equipe interdisciplinaire de recherches sur le tourisme (EIREST), member since 2013



Università di Bologna, IT
Centre for advanced studies in tourism (cast), member since 2014



University of Haifa, IL
Centre for tourism, pilgrimage and recreation research, member since 2015.



University of Birmingham, UK
Ironbridge international institute for cultural heritage, member since 2013



Université Laval, CA
Département des sciences historiques, Institut de patrimoine culturel (ipac), member since 2013



Saint - Petersburg State University of Culture and Arts, RU
Member since 2016

6.5 - University Network for Cultural Routes Studies



Compostela Group of Universities, ES
member since 2019



Università de la Svizzera Italiana, CH
Member since 2019



Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca, IT
Member since 2019



Universitat de Barcelona, ES
Faculty of economical and political studies, Laboratori de patrimoni i turisme cultural (labpatc), member since 2013



Mid Sweden University, SE
Member since 2020



Black Sea Universities network (BSUN)
Member since 2020



Dist, Politecnico di Torino and University of Torino, IT
Member since 2020

New members who joined in 2021



University of Angers, FR
member since 2021



Mardin Artuklu University, TR
Member since 2021



University of Piraeus, GR
Department of Tourism
Member since 2021



Armenian National Agrarian University (ANAU), AR
Member since 2021



Nottingham Trent University, UK
Member since 2021





7

The Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe

Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe



“A cultural, educational heritage and tourism co-operation project aiming at the development and promotion of an itinerary or a series of itineraries based on a historic route, a cultural concept, figure or phenomenon with transnational importance and significance for the understanding and respect of common European values”³

³CM/Res(2013)66 - Confirming the establishment of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes (EPA).

7.1 - Statutory Meetings

Each Cultural Route of the Council of Europe is a grass-root association federating several European stakeholders, legally established in one of the Council of Europe member States, coming from the public as well as from the private sector. Every year each Cultural Route organises a general assembly, bringing together the various members of the respective associative network.³

1 February 2021, online. **Le Corbusier Destinations**

9-11 February 2021, online (streamed from Arnhem, NL). **Liberation Route Europe**

16 April 2021, online. **Viking Route**

29 April 2021, online and 4th September 2021, Hannover, DE. **European Route of Historic Gardens**

12 May 2021, Trondheim, NO. **Route of Saint Olav Ways**

13 May 2021, São Pedro do Sul, PT and 5th November 2021, Vichy, FR. **European Route of Historic Thermal Towns**

13 May 2021, Beveren, Flanders, BE and 28th May 2021, Bastia, Corsica, FR. **Saint Martin of Tours Route**

14 May 2021, online. **ATRIUM**

18 May 2021 and 29th October 2021, online. **Via Francigena**

8 June 2021, Eurre, Drôme, FR. **Huguenot and Waldensian Trail**

16 June 2021, online and 22nd October 2021, Limoges, FR. **The European Cemeteries Route**

17-19 June 2021, Autun, FR. **Destination Napoleon**

21 June 2021, Le Puy en Velay, FR. **In the footsteps of Robert Louis Stevenson**

9 July 2021, Charlieu, Loire, FR. **Cluniac Sites in Europe**

29 October 2020, online. **The European Route of Megalithic Culture**

12 September 2021, Thessaloniki, GR. **Routes of the Olive Tree**

13 September 2021, Rome, IT. **Via Charlemagne**

15 September 2021, online. **Routes of Reformation**

17 September 2021, Rome, IT, Edremit, TR and online. **Aeneas Route**

17 September 2021, Budapest, HU. **European Cemeteries Route**

27 September 2021, online. **TRANSROMANICA**

6 October 2021, Gent, BE. **European Route of Industrial Heritage**

10 October 2021, Zlín, CZ and online. **Cyril and Methodius Route**

16 October 2021, Neuss, DE. **The Hansa**

25 October 2021, Granada, ES. **Routes of El legado Andalusi**

29 October 2021, online. **Phoenicians' Route**

13 November 2021, online. **European Route of Jewish Heritage**

19 November 2021, online. **European Route of Megalithic Culture**

25 November 2021, Arnedo, La Rioja, ES. **Prehistoric Rock Art Trails**

30 November 2021, online. **Impressionisms Routes**

3 December 2021, online. **Santiago de Compostela Pilgrim Routes**

6 December 2021, online. **Iter Vitis Route**

6-8 December 2021, Aveiro, PT. **Réseau Art Nouveau Network**

16 December 2021, Medina del Campo, Valladolid, ES and online. **European Routes of Emperor Charles V**

21 December 2021, online. **Roman Emperors and Danube Wine Route**

Postponed to 28 January 2022, Versailles, FR. **European Route d'Artagnan**

Postponed to June 2022, Kaptol, HR. **Iron Age Danube Route**

Postponed to second half of 2022. **Iron Route in the Pyrenees**

³ As per the information requested to the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and received, the latest, by December 2021.

7.2 - Selected activities for priority field of action

Every year the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe implement activities pertaining to the 5 priority fields of actions envisaged in the CM/Res(2013)67:

1. Co-operation in research and development
2. Enhancement of memory, history and European heritage
3. Cultural and educational exchanges for young Europeans
4. Contemporary cultural and artistic practices
5. Cultural tourism and sustainable cultural development

The following subsections highlight some selected activities carried out by the Cultural Routes during 2021.

7.2.1 - Co-operation in research and development

26-27
October 2021

Edremit
TR

...

More
information



The Aeneas Route - “Aeneas in Troas and Latium Regions: Mythology and Archaeology”: International Symposium

To organise an activity, of high academic standing; to create educational and research material on Aeneas.

The event was an international archaeological symposium that gathered the most important archaeological sites of the Aeneas Route (Troy, Antandros, Butrint, Lavinium and Colosseum). The two day long symposium featured academic speeches on the first day and a field-visit on the second.



Aeneas Symposium in Edremit, Turkey © Aeneas Route

27-29
October
2021

Sofia, BG
&
online

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information



The Cyril and Methodius Route - International scientific conference "The Path of Cyril and Methodius – Spatial and Cultural-Historical Dimensions"

To promote the newly certified Cultural Route among the scientific communities in all countries with members and to engage key stakeholders in Bulgaria.

- The Cyrillo-Methodian Research Centre at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, an active member of the Cyril and Methodius Route since 2020, organised an international scientific conference on Cyrillo-Methodian studies in Sofia.

- A variety of Cyrillo-Methodian topics were discussed by 45 researchers in the five conference sessions (online and in-person) from AT, BG, CZ, DE, GR, IT, RU, SK on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.



Conference held in Sofia and online © archive of the Cyrillo-Methodian Research Centre at BAS in Sofia (BG)

7.2.1 - Co-operation in research and development

Throughout
2020

The European Route of Historic Gardens - Garden heritage in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic

published in
January 2021

To analyse the influence of the pandemic on the historic gardens and natural heritage.

- Research on garden heritage in the midst of COVID-19 pandemic was conducted and published as “Identification and Analysis of Problems in selected European Historic Gardens during Covid 19 Pandemic”, by Katarzyna Hodor, Łukasz Przybylak, Jacek Kuśmierski and Magdalena Wilkosz-Mamcarczyk in the Sustainability Journal in January 2021, on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.
- Research was conducted by historic gardens’ representatives and academics of different universities and institutions.



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information



March

European Route of Industrial Heritage - European Academy of Industrial Heritage

June 2021

To increase students’ interest in the field of industrial heritage, to assist the industrial heritage sites in educating skilled academic staff, and to ensure the transfer of knowledge to future generations.

Katowice,
Tarnowskie Gory
and
Zabrze,
Silesia PL
and
Online

- In cooperation with various universities in Europe, a lecture series was created. The programme was based on a co-developed series of lectures on European industrial heritage and covered topics such as industrial history, cultural heritage, identity, the deindustrialisation process and its consequences, redevelopment, tourism, event concepts, and cultural networks. There were also a number of field trips to anchor points of the European Route of Industrial Heritage.



Field trip with students during the European Academy of Industrial Heritage

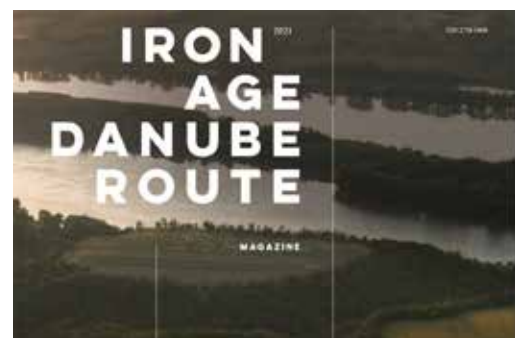
June 2021

Iron Age Danube Route - Iron Age Danube Route Magazine

Zagreb, HR
Budapest, HU
Ljubljana, SL
and Graz, AU
& Online

To introduce the public to the Iron Age and its related research and activities.

- The magazine was conceived as a means of introducing the public to the Iron Age Danube Route: to narrate its stories and to invite the public to learn about the Iron Age by visiting archaeological sites, by hiking through prehistoric landscapes, by experiencing long-forgotten activities, or by tasting millennia-old dishes.



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7.2.1 - Co-operation in research and development

Routes of El legado Andalusi - iHeritage: ICT Mediterranean Platform for Cultural Heritage of UNESCO

September 2020
- March 2023

To support education, research, technological development and innovation.

Online

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information



- UNESCO's Mediterranean cultural heritage is moving towards incorporating new techniques to improve its level of interpretation. In this sense, iHERITAGE promotes cross-border technology transfer through different actions such as Living Labs, collaboration between industries and universities, and the creation of new technological products and spin-offs. All this includes the use of innovative tools such as augmented reality, virtual reality and mixed reality. The project also addresses socio-economic challenges.



iHeritage website

TRANSROMANICA - First Europe-wide TRANSROMANICA day

9 May
2021

To demonstrate the variety of the TRANSROMANICA network and to encourage people to visit its sites and meet the people behind the Route.

Online

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information



- To show the variety and unicity of the network, in addition to all its passionate and highly dedicated staff, Managing Director Christin Leser invited members, partners, and friends of the association to participate in an interview series. The interviews explore everything that makes TRANSROMANICA unique as a European Cultural Route.



Introduction video to TRANSROMANICA Day

7.2.2 - Enhancement of memory, history and European heritage

Cluniac Sites in Europe - Cluniac UNESCO Workshop

8-9 October
2021

To present applicant sites, familiarize site delegates with the Cluniac UNESCO project methodology, and to collaboratively define key actions for the coming months.

Cluny, FR

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information



- Representatives from member sites convened in Cluny for a two-day workshop on the Cluniac sites' UNESCO candidature (currently in progress). They were provided with elements of the UNESCO project's methodology and examples of good practices. Some conferences were open to the general public. Instagram and received more than 7000 views.



Cluniac UNESCO Workshop in Cluny, FR © Cluniac sites in Europe

7.2.2 - Enhancement of memory, history and European heritage

Destination Napoleon - Destination Napoleon walks with Via Francigena

5 August 2021

Multi-perspective storytelling of sites featured in both Routes.

Bard, Aosta Valley
IT

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More
information



- The Destination Napoleon team joined the Via Francigena team in walking a section of the Via Francigena in Val d'Aosta region (Italy), which was also used by Napoleon and his army during the Second Campaign of Italy (May 1800). This event was part of the Road to Rome project, organised by Via Francigena to celebrate its 20th Anniversary.



Road to Rome in Val d'Aosta region, IT © Destination Napoleon

May 2021 -
April 2022

European Route of Jewish Heritage - Mi Dor Le Dor Programme Italy

To support and strengthen local Jewish communities and to put the issue of heritage preservation and education high on their agenda through training young professionals in the subject.

Online
Rome, Fer-
rara, Venice,
Palermo, IT
and online.

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information



- The Mi Dor Le Dor Programme trains early-career professionals in the community, providing a new dynamic forum for 21st century Jewish community activists. As programme participants gain knowledge, new perspectives, and skills, they can use the forum to try out new approaches and theories which allow them to respond to contemporary challenges facing the Jewish community.



Mi Dor Le Dor Italy meeting in Ferrara, IT © AEPJ

13 May 2021
(ongoing)

European Route of Historic Thermal Towns - Rediscover Campaign on Social Media

Online

To produce a brand-awareness video and to encourage people to travel to Europe's Historic Thermal Towns.

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information



- The Rediscover Campaign was launched at a press conference before the EHHTA General Assembly in São Pedro do Sul, Portugal and introduced through a short video in English and French.
- The Rediscover campaign developed from an idea for a simple brand video. It invites travellers to come back to places they may have forgotten and to look at the thermal towns of Europe with new eyes. With a video clip and a series of stunning images on social media, EHHTA wants to raise awareness of the potential of Europe's historic thermal towns to meet the post-pandemic needs of new generations of health and wellness tourists.



Graphic image on Social media to rediscover Europe's Historic Thermal Towns. © EHHTA

7.2.2 - Enhancement of memory, history and European heritage

Impressionisms Routes - New Book on Impressionisms Routes

Spring 2021

To promote the impact of the Impressionist movement on the entire European continent.

- The new Bilingual book “Impressionisms Routes” was published in June 2021 in partnership with the euroArt Federation, bringing together 45 Artists’ Colonies in 15 European countries.
- It was written by prefaced by Monique Lucenet, Associate Professor, Doctor of History (University Paris Panthéon-Sorbonne), member of the Scientific Committee of Impressionisms Routes and prefaced by Mr. Stefano DOMINIONI, EPA Executive Secretary, EICR Director) and by Mr. Bruno FAVEL (Director of the International Affairs Department of the French Ministry of Culture).
- Future editions of this book might serve as an operational tool which contributes to educating young Europeans on the Impressionist movement.



Cover of the new Bilingual book “Impressionisms Routes”

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More
information



2020-2021

Roman Emperors and Danube Wine Route - “Meet the Romans” Virtual Tour

Online

To support tourism along the Cultural Route.

- The network created VR 360° content for sites along the route presenting the respective sites, surrounding destinations, and the services available - such as accommodation, restaurants, wineries, and day trips. Each route’s sub-destination is presented via four VR videos: Roman Heritage, About Destination, Stay&Dine and Side trips. Content for a total of 15 sub-destinations out of the Route’s 22 sub-destinations was produced.



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More
information



Routes of Reformation - Website update, newsletter, two exhibitions

February
2021 (ongoing)

To ensure better visibility in media and online; to provide current and more accessible information to members and interested parties.

Online

- An update and full relaunch of the Routes of Reformation website
- A new newsletter layout and a new distribution rhythm starting February 2021 (every two to three months)
- Communication and promotion of the Route of Reformation member Luther Memorial Foundation’s exhibition on “Pest / The Plague” and Museum Schmalkalden’s exhibition on “Schmalkaldischer Bund”.



New Website of the Routes of Reformation

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More
information



7.2.2 - Enhancement of memory, history and European heritage

Throughout 2021 **Routes of the Olive Tree - Mediterranean Olive Grove of Peace**

To highlight the need for peaceful co-existence in the Mediterranean, to encourage intercultural dialogue, to mitigate tensions, and to enhance synergies between the people rooted in the history of the olive tree.

Chora Trifyllias
(Messinia, GR
and S
Selva, Mallorca,
ES

- The aim is to create small olive groves in all of the regions through which the Route passes. Each olive grove will have trees from all the Mediterranean countries and is created through the participation of the local community.
- To date, two Olive Groves of Peace have been created: in Chora Messinias (Greece), where the olive's ideogram of the Linear B script was discovered, and in the Municipality of Selva, Mallorca (Spain), an area with a rich cultural heritage of the olive tree.



Olive Grove in Selva, ES. ©Routes of the Olive Tree

7.2.3 - Cultural and educational exchanges for young Europeans

**1 June -
31 December
2021**

ATRIUM - ATRIUM Go! - Digital tools for a study visit in the framework of an educational tourist product

To design a complete educational tourist product on Forlì's 20th century architectural heritage which aptly addresses the different educational needs of students and teachers.

Forlì, IT

- Workshop training was delivered prior to the guided tour in Forlì, carried out by teachers in order to illustrate the historical and social contexts. Sheets available on the ATRIUM website were used to deliver training.
- The final product will be a series of digital tools, including descriptive educational sheets, a book-game with the fictional story-telling of historical and biographical events, 360-degree videos for virtual visits, virtual visits to mosaics, a digital catalogue of ATRIUM architectural heritage in Forlì, and the completed first stage of the construction of a digital museum of ATRIUM heritage.



Brochure of ATRIUM Go!

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**More
information**



7.2.3 - Cultural and educational exchanges for young Europeans

28 August -
5 September
2021

Salzburg, AU
Naples, Piacenza,
Siena, and Rovereto,
IT

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More
information



European Mozart Ways - Bella Musica Project 2021 – Concert Tour to Italy

To introduce young people to Mozart's music and to his life, work and travels.

- The Bella Musica orchestra project unites young students from Austria, Italy and Germany who rehearse chamber music and orchestral works together and present them in concerts at home and abroad.
- The Concert Tour saw young musicians from the pre-college of Mozarteum University Salzburg, Würzburg, and Italy perform W.A. Mozart's music and visit authentic places and sites related to Mozart in Italy.



Bella Musica 2021 Concert Tour to Italy ©European Mozart Ways

European Route d'Artagnan - Young European Musketeer's School

Since 2017
ongoing

Lectoure,
Fleurance,
Aignan,
Eauze,
Tarbes,
Auch,
L'Isle-Jourdain,
Toulouse,
Péronne,
Villers-Cotterêts;
FR and IT

To discover, through the Musketeers, the history of Europe, European citizenship, fencing, horse-riding, theatre, and singing, in order to contribute to raising future European citizens.

- The programme focuses on three topics related to the Musketeers: European history of the 17th through to 19th century, sport (horse-riding and artistic fencing) and European citizenship.
- The program concludes with a play and a sports performance delivered by the students.
- At the end of the programme, participants are awarded a Young Musketeers' diploma which allows them to take part in student exchanges.



Young European Musketeer's School © European Route d'Artagnan

Throughout
2021

La Vera, ES

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More
information



European Routes of Emperor Charles V - Youth involvement and intergenerational activities

To involve young people in the activities of the Route and to promote awareness of the importance of the history and heritage areas of Charles V.

- The Routes of Charles V signed a collaboration agreement with the Secondary School "Jaranda" in Jarandilla de la Vera (Spain).
- As a result of this first collaboration agreement, the pupils of the school have been making short videos about life in the 16th century in the region of La Vera. They depict everyday scenes from the era of Emperor Charles V, introducing elements of social criticism to his texts, drawing attention to the problems, threats, and defences of democratic and pro-European values. The videos are full of amusing anecdotes.



Making of a video in the region of La Vera, ES
© European Routes of Emperor Charles V

7.2.4 - Contemporary cultural and artistic practictet

September
2021
ongoing

European Route of Megalithic Culture – Stonehenge Exhibition and Publication

To reach more target groups.

Herne, DE

- In the exhibition, at the LWL Archaeological Museum visitors move through virtually reconstructed landscapes, thus embarking upon a journey through space and time.
- The well-known journal “Archäologie in Deutschland” has published a special issue on the exhibition. In the journal, various European routes of megalithic culture are presented across several articles produced by members from all over Europe. This has made Megalithic Routes in Germany known to the scientific world.

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Stonehenge Exhibition in Herne, DE ©LWL Archaeological Museum

24 June -
4 July 2021

In the Footsteps of Robert Louis Stevenson - Literary Wandering

To create a cultural event linking the writer to the territory through which he travelled.

Le Puy en
Velay toward
St Jean du
Gard, FR

- For 10 days, visitors could follow in the footsteps of Robert Loius Stevenson through activities along the Route of the Literary Wandering: conferences, concerts, plays, readings, author signings, exhibitions, workshops (travelogues, watercolours), movies, poetry, storytelling hikes, museum visits, and an official reception.



Exploring the Liberation Route Europe.

2020-2021

Le Corbusier Destinations - Moleskin sketchbooks customised with Le Corbusier's sketches

FR, DE, JP, CH

To promote Le Corbusier's sites by inviting tourists to travel and draw their own sketches when visiting a site.

- A Moleskine sketchbook personalised with sketches by Le Corbusier was produced by the Association of Le Corbusier Sites in partnership with Moleskine (Italian brand). It has been on sale to the general public in shops partnering Le Corbusier sites since July 2020. Around thirty sites ordered Moleskine sketchbooks to the ASLC and resold them to the public in their souvenir shops.



Moleskin sketchbooks with Le Corbusier's sketches © Moleskine

7.2.4 - Contemporary cultural and artistic practice

27-28
August 2021

Phoenicians' Route - Malta Mediterranean Literature Festival 2021

To increase knowledge of the fundamental theme of the Phoenicians' Route: the history and memory of the ancient civilisations of the Mediterranean.

Fort Saint Elmo
MT

- The Malta Mediterranean Literature Festival is an established annual international literary festival organized by the voluntary cultural organization Inizjamed, member of the Phoenicians' Route, in collaboration with the European Network Literature Across Frontiers and other national and international partners.
- The festival brought together active writers and literary translators from Malta, the Mediterranean, and beyond. The writers and translators showcased contemporary writing and thinking in order to promote interaction across languages, borders, and genres, and to discuss the major issues of our time.



Banner of the Malta Mediterranean Literature Festival 2021

More
information



19 - 22 August
2021

The Hansa - Hybrid Hanseatic Day and HANSEartWORKS artist book

To celebrate the common Hanseatic heritage, create encounters, and reflect on Hanseatic values.

Riga, LV
and online

- The 41st International Hanseatic Day took place from 19th-22th August, 2021 in Riga, Latvia. The theme of the event was "Sailing through the centuries".
- A special HANSEartWORKS artist book "Connecting values" has been created. The first artwork in the book was created by the Latvian painter Ilze Laizane. The exhibition marked the beginning of a longterm project initiated by HANSEartWORKS chairman Wolfgang Streblov. Its aim is to reflect on the values of THE HANSA, as a Union of Cities, from an artistic point of view over an extended period of time. The book will travel through the host cities of the Hanseatic Days. Each year a different artist will be invited to design a page in the book which will then be shown in the HANSEartWORKS exhibition.



41st International Hanseatic Day in Riga, Latvia

7.2.5 - Cultural tourism and sustainable cultural development

2020
-2021

European Cemeteries Route – Cultural Crossroads guide on mobile app

To initiate cooperation among routes; to offer visitors a more rich experience in discovering European history; and to use existing, simple tools to provide possibilities for future partnerships.

Online

- A Route was created on the mobile app, named “Discover European Cemeteries Route and St Martin of Tours route”, through which visitors can explore and hike two or more routes.
- In Maribor you can discover two cultural routes of Europe: European Cemeteries Route and St Martin of Tours route. The stories and facts from these routes provide many new insights into the life and history of the European continent.



Cultural crossroads guide in use ©European Cemeteries Route

30 November
2020
and
14 June
2021

European Route of Ceramics - Cycle of Webinars on sustainable cultural tourism and cultural industries

To present useful tips for studying and showcasing history and for creating unique tourism products.

Online

- The first Webinar focused on how to develop a touristic offer linked to the cultural heritage of the European Route of Ceramics, combined with other offers and characteristics of the areas involved.
- The second webinar was dedicated to sustainable cultural tourism, focusing on the cultural creative industry in Europe. It explored how the industry was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and how it has continued to work to propose new ideas for bouncing back positively.



Banner of the second webinar dedicated to sustainable cultural tourism

9 - 11
October
2021

Huguenot and Waldensian Trail - Inauguration of the Luberon-Baronnies Provençales - Dauphiné junction

To formalise a new "Provençal" junction of the route.

Merindol,
Murs and
Lacoste,
FR

- The inauguration combined three days of hiking and activities from Mérindol to Murs. There were also visits to the Lacoste temple and castle, and readings of testimonies from exiles.
- Hiking on the new "Provençal" junction of the route highlighted the historical aspects of this part of France following years of research. Also, it sought to develop the path and find new partners.



Hiking on the new "Provençal" junction of the route ©Huguenot and Waldensian Trail

7.2.5 - Cultural tourism and sustainable cultural development

October 2021

Iter Vitis Route – Iter Vitis Phoenicians' Route Awards

To support and reward innovative projects - in the field of cultural and wine heritage.

10 countries involved

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More information



- As a result of the collaboration between the Iter Vitis Route and the Phoenicians' Route, the award is divided into 18 categories and awarded each year to authorities, destinations, individuals, and organisations whose activities allow the development of models of enhancement in the fields of culture, wine, society, and tourism.



Award ceremony of the Iter Vitis Phoenicians' Route Awards 2021 @Flavio Leone/ Phoenicians' Route

September 2021

Iron Route in the Pyrenees - Conservation programme for the Madriu-Perafita-Claror valley

To set up a tourist product of two dimensions: local and transnational.

AD

- The first campaign for the conservation programme of the Madriu-Perafita-Claror valley took place in September 2021. The four-year enhancement programme combines the study and restoration of various archaeological sites, the training of local professionals in traditional crafts, and the dissemination of iron heritage.



Forge in the Madriu-Perafita-Claror valley @Iron Route in the Pyrenees

Throughout 2020 and 2021

Liberation Route Europe - Europe hiking trails, local routes and digital travel planner

To promote slow, sustainable tourism, and a shared European history.

NL, BE, DE and Online

...

More information



- In spring 2021, the new Liberation Route Europe website was finally launched. The map-centred website presents the route's sites, points of interests, and relating stories in six languages, featuring also an innovative travel planner. Users are now able to plan their own journey along the Liberation Route Europe and its hiking trails, and download the journey route to their preferred device.

- Local routes in the Netherlands (Arnhem, Ede, Oosterbeek, Driel), Germany (Hürtgewald), and Belgium (Bastogne) have been implemented.



Unveiling of LRE trailmarkers in the Netherlands © Cindy Langenhuijsen

7.2.5 - Cultural tourism and sustainable cultural development

Launch in
July 2021

Prehistoric Rock Art Trails – European Rock Art Passport

To promote rock art destinations.

FR, PO, ES
and Online

- "Territories united by the First Art" is a protocol that links Prehistoric heritages, but also cities, towns, and people from three partner countries that work on the conservation and promotion of the Art of the Palaeolithic times.

- The Rock Art Passport of South West Europe is a promotional tool that allows travellers to register their visit to the rock art sites of South West Europe, obtain discounts and possibly free admission in collaborating establishments, and receive gifts when they complete 10, 15 and 32 visits.

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European Rock Art Passport

25 September
2021

Route of Saint Olav Ways - #1200km Challenge

To raise awareness of and disseminate the values of cultural routes to new St. Olav pilgrim routes in Finland.

FI, NO, SE

- The challenge virtually brought together individuals and organised groups to collaboratively walk to 'Trondheim'. 1200 km is the total distance from Turku Cathedral (Finland) to Trondheim Cathedral (Norway). Results could be shared via the app and individuals were encouraged to find places of cultural heritage in their local areas.



A group of travellers of the 1200km Challenge ©Acsow

Troughout
2021

Saint Martin of Tours Route - Conference on Saint Martin and several activities along the Route

To reinforce and strengthen the sense of belonging to the Saint Martin of Tours network.

FR and other
countries

- The Corsican Cultural Center organized in May 2021 an online conference on the "Cult of Saint Martin in Corsica, Liguria and Monaco".

- The "Raid Saint Martin" labeled by the French Federation of Triathlon was organised for the third time in June 2021 on 170 km of the Via sancti Martini in France.

- In November 2021, the Saint Martin Cultural Centers of Belgium and Slovenia finalized the development of the Route on their territory up to the French-Belgian and Italian-Slovenian borders.



Development of the Via sancti Martini in Belgium © Saint Martin of Tours Route

7.2.5 - Cultural tourism and sustainable cultural development

15 June -
18 October
2021

Via Francigena - Road to Rome 2021

To provide support for the UNESCO World Heritage candidacy of the Via Francigena; to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the EAVF foundation in 2021; to re-launch walking and sustainable tourism.

Along the
entire
Via Francigena

- Via Francigena. Road to Rome 2021. Start again! is a relay march along the 3200 km of the Via Francigena cultural route.
- The EAVF team walked together with video-makers, photographers, bloggers, journalists, and passionate walkers. 3,500 pilgrims walked during the entire journey and more than 10,000 took part in events organised within the initiative.
- Road to Rome 2021 covered the entire Via Francigena - From Canterbury (UK) to Santa Maria di Leuca (IT), crossing 16 regions and 637 municipalities in France, Italy, Switzerland, and the UK along 3200km in 19 stages.

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More
information



Banner of Road to Rome 2021 © EAVF foundation

2020-2021

Via Regia - Network Via Regia Ukraine – first Via Regia info centre, featuring promotional material and signposting

UA

To signpost the tourist route in each city in Ukraine that is an official partner of the route and to provide information and content on the site as part of a digitalisation campaign of the cultural heritage of Ukraine.

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information



- The Dubno state historical and cultural reserve won the competition amongst projects of the Ukrainian Cultural Foundation for the second time in a row, and in 2021 implemented the project “Via Regia Ukraine – a cultural and tourist route of the Council of Europe in Ukraine”. This resulted in the opening of the first Ukrainian Via Regia info Centre in Dubno Castle, signposting of the VIA REGIA as a Cultural Route in Ukrainian cities, and a photo and video documentation of the cities along the route and their heritage uploaded to Youtube.



Signposting of the VIA REGIA as a Cultural Route in Ukrainian cities
© Via Regia

7.3 - Extra-budgetary projects

Extra-budgetary funding: some examples

In addition to their ordinary budgets, certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe receive extra-budgetary funding from different sources (European Union direct and indirect funding, regional funds, etc.). Over the last five years, Cultural Routes received more than 17 million Euros funding, in particular, from European Union funding programmes in the cultural, educational and local development sectors. Below you will find a non-exhaustive sample of projects implemented by certified Cultural Routes in 2021 through extra-budgetary funding projects.

Individual projects

Route	Title of Project	Date	Total Budget	Type of Funding
European Route d'Artagnan 	Caravan Madame	2021	80.000€	EU LEADER Over 100 partners and 19 municipalities
	EJME Learning Holidays	August 2021	12.365€	Regional Gers Council Canopé French Ministry of Education Local Direction
ATRIUM 	W-CHILD: Behind closed doors – Growing up under Totalitarian Regimes / Growing up in Wartime (with	2019-2022	20.000€	EU Europe for Citizens
	PEOPLE - Personal stories of discrimination and persecution under the totalitarian regimes of the XX century	2019-2022	98.280€	EU Europe for Citizens
	Landscape in a box, paesaggi, memorie, comunità - ATRIUM edition	2021	22.555€	Regional Emilia-Romagna
	ATRIUM GO! educational tourist product	2021	14.723,43€	Regional Municipality of Forlì
European Route of Ceramics 	CERAMICO OP	2020-2021	17.242€	Erasmus +
	Poland and Norway on the European Route of Ceramics	2021-2024	90.262€	Culture Programme within the EEA Financial Mechanism
Huguenot and Waldensian Trail 	Website, hiking guidebook & national brochure	2021	14.200€	EU LEADER




7.3 - Extra-budgetary projects

Route	Title of Project	Date	Total Budget	Type of Funding
VIA REGIA 	TexTour	2020-2023	176.000€	EU Horizon2020
Via Francigena 	FORREST: new skills for experiential tourism	2019-2021	264.000€	EU Erasmus+
	Best MED	2021-2022	50.000€	EU Interreg Mediterranean and co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund
	CoHen: Coastal Heritage Network	2021-2022	60.000€	EU Interreg V-A Greece-Italy Programme 2014/2020
	TheRout_Net: Thematic Routes and Networks	2021-2022	60.000€	EU Interreg V-A Greece-Italy Programme 2014/2020
The Hansa 	HansaLink	2020-2021	50.000€	EU Interreg Baltic Sea Region
Routes of the Olive Tree 	Olive4all	June 2021	199.700€	EU JPICH Program – Cultural Heritage, Identities and Perspectives: Responding to Changing Societies (CHIP)
Prehistoric Rock Art Trails 	European Rock Art Passport	2020-2021	40.000€	Regional funds for transregional cooperation
	Website prehistour.eu	2021	2.900€	European Information Point Cantabria 2021
Destination Napoleon 	Napoctep	2019-2021	710.228€	EU Interreg POCTEP (Spain-Portugal)
	OuRoute	2019-2022	490.756€	EU Erasmus+
Liberation Route Europe 	Linking Limburg and Zeeland to Hiking Trail Liberation Route Europe in 2021	2021	250.000€	Regional Vfonds (Dutch foundation)
	75 years of freedom / Liberation Route Europe's international long-distance walking route in the Netherlands (Phase I)	2021	200.000€	Mondriaanfonds (Dutch Foundation)
	Liberation Route Europe's Hiking Trails	2021	593€	German Foreign Office via the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in The Hague

7.3 - Extra-budgetary projects

Route	Title of Project	Date	Total Budget	Type of Funding
  	Cluny and the European Cluniac Sites, World Heritage application	Since 2018	€150.000 in 2021 (evolving)	Regional Grants from public authorities
  	European Industrial Heritage 2020 and beyond – Fit for the Future EIHAB	2020-2021	279.000€	EU Creative Europe
  	Literary deambulation	24 June - 4 July 2021	14.500 €	Regional Feder; Region Occitanie; Parc National des Cévennes
	Conference and roundtable	23 June 2021	3.480€	Regional Feder; Region Occitanie; Parc National des Cévennes
	Theatre production “Drôles d’oiseaux- Stevenson au fil des mots”	2020-2021	16.348€	EU LEADER
	Board game “L’Aréthuse”	2020-2021	28.570€	EU Interreg France-Wallonie-Vlaanderen
  	Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Saxony-Anhalt	2021-2022	12.760 €	Regional Saxony-Anhalt REGIO program
  	NOA (Networks Overcoming Antisemitism)	2020-2023	136.853€	EU REC Programme
	Parallel Traces: A new lens on Jewish Heritage	2018-2021	66.218,02€	EU Creative Europe
	Jewish History Tours	2021-2022	79.916€	EU CEF Telecom-Europeana
  	Common promotion of Archaeopark Mikulcice-Koppany	2020-2021	13.594€	EU Small Projects Fund Interreg V-A SK-CZ
	Cyril and Methodius Route – Living Cultural Heritage	2020-2021	23.500€	EU Interreg V-A Slovak Republic-Czech Republic
  	“On the steps of Aeneas: a common cultural heritage between Turkey and Italy”	2021-2022	114.000€	EU IPA II
  	The garden of ancient grape varieties	since November 2021	150.000€	EU LEADER

7.3 - Extra-budgetary projects

Route	Title of Project	Date	Total Budget	Type of Funding
Roman Emperors and Danube Wine Route 	TransDanube Travel Stories	2020-2022	1.820.926,66€	EU Interreg Danube Transnational Programme
Phoenicians' Route 	TRAMES – smart Tourism Across the Mediterranean Sea	2019-2021	381.376€	EU COSME
	QUEST – promoting Quality Internships in Sustainable Tourism and Cultural Heritage	2021-2024	334.395€	EU Erasmus +
	U-Mar – Enhancing underwater archaeology to make it an innovative tool for developing sustainable & creative tourism	2021-2023	294.844€	EU Erasmus +
European Routes of Emperor Charles V. 	Let's cook our heritage, let's cook our future	2020-2021	23.520€	EU Erasmus +

TOTAL

6.856.476,11€

Joint projects

Route	Title of Project	Date	Total Budget	Type of Funding
ATRIUM The Phoenicians Routes European Association for the Preservation and Promotion of Jewish Culture and Heritage The Olive Tree Cultural Foundation The European Routes of Emperor Charles V The Via Regia	THE FAB ROUTES: DIGITAL SKILLS TO PROMOTE EU CULTURAL ROUTES	2020-2022	299.834€	EU Erasmus+
European Routes of Emperor Charles V ATRIUM European Route of Ceramics European Route of Jewish Heritage	European Cultural Routes as key actors in the promotion of European cultural heritage (WalkEUR)	2020-2023	279.990€	EU Creative Europe
European Routes of Emperor Charles V European Route of Ceramics European Route of Jewish Heritage	Circular Cultural Tourism LEADER	2020-2021 (postponed due to pandemic)	To be redefined	EU Erasmus+
Santiago de Compostela Pilgrim Routes Via Francigena Route of Saint Olav Ways	RurAllure: promotion of museums and rural heritage sites in the vicinity of European pilgrimage routes	2021-2023	3.000.000€	EU Horizon 2020

TOTAL

3.579.824€

7.4 - New members in 2021

Each year, the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme sees a growing number of network members. According to the information submitted by some of the Culture Routes, despite the pandemic, more than 307 new members joined the Route networks and thus the Programme. Some Routes even welcomed over a dozen new members.

Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe	N° of new network members	Countries
The Hansa	2	The Netherlands (1), Poland (1)
Viking Route	3	Norway (1), United Kingdom (2)
Via Francigena	13	France (5), Italy (5), Switzerland (3)
Routes of El legado Andalusi	30	Spain (30)
Phoenician's Route	20	Greece (1), Governorate of Jerusalem (1), Governorate of Nablus (1), Italy (14), Malta (1), Spain (2)
European Mozart Ways	3	Germany (1), Italy (2)
Cluniac Sites in Europe	5	France (4), Spain (1)
Routes of the Olive Tree	22	Bulgaria (1), France (7), Greece (10), Italy (1), Portugal (1), Spain (1), Turkey (1)
Via Regia	1	Ukraine (1)
TRANSROMANICA	1	Spain (1)
European Cemeteries Route	1	Hungary (1)
European Route of Historic Thermal Towns	2	Germany (2)
European Route of Megalithic Culture	2	Spain (1), Turkey (1)
Roman Emperors and Danube Wine Route	9	9 Albania (3), Bosnia and Herzegovina (1), Montenegro (2), North Macedonia (2), Slovenia (1)
European Routes of Emperor Charles V	8	Italy (1), Spain (7)
European Routes of Industrial Heritage	15	Belgium (1), Croatia (2), Finland (2), Germany (3), Italy (1), Poland (1), Portugal (1), Romania (1), Slovenia (2), Spain (1)
Destination Napoleon	2	Italy (2)
Impressionisms Routes	4	Belgium (1), Greece (2), the Russian Federation (1)
Le Corbusier	4	France (3), Switzerland (1)
Liberation Route Europe	42	France (1), Greece (1), Italy (3), the Netherlands (37)

* Information submitted by the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe networks as of December 2021.

7.4 - New members in 2021

Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe	N° of new network members	Countries
European Route of Historic Gardens	8	Germany (1), Greece (1), Hungary (1), Poland (2), Portugal (2), Spain (1), Portugal (2), Spain (1)
Aeneas Route	62	Albania (2), Greece (3), France (1), Italy (44), Tunisia (1), Turkey (11)
European Route d'Artagnan	5	France (4), Italy (1)
Iron Age Danube Route	6	Austria (1), Bosnia and Herzegovina (1), Croatia (1), Germany (1), Hungary (1), Slovenia (1)
Via Charlemagne	22	Italy (9), France (5), Spain (5), Germany (2), Belgium (1)
TOTAL	307	

7.5 - Contact information*



The Santiago de Compostela Pilgrim Routes

European Federation «Saint James Way»
 federation.saintjamesway@gmail.com
 www.saintjamesway.eu



The Phoenicians' Route

International Confederation "The Phoenicians' Route"
 info@fenici.net
 www.fenici.net



The Hansa

Hansebüro
 hansebuero@hanse.org
 www.hanse.org



The Pyrenean Iron Route

Pyrenean Iron Route
 info@ironrouteintheypyrenees.com
 www.ironrouteintheypyrenees.com



The Viking Routes

Follow the Vikings
 info@destinationviking.com
 www.destinationviking.com
 Geir@destinationviking.com
 www.followthevikings.com



European Mozart Ways

Europäische Mozart Wege e.V.
 office@mozartways.com
 www.mozartways.com

* Information submitted by the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe networks as of December 2021

7.5 - Contact information*



The Via Francigena

European Association of the Via Francigena ways EAVF
segretaria@viefrancigene.org
luca.bruschi@viefrancigene.org
www.viefrancigene.org



The European Route of Jewish Heritage

AEPJ Association Européenne pour la Préservation et la Valorisation de la Culture et du Patrimoine Juif
aepj@jewishheritage.org
www.jewishheritage.org



The Routes of El legado Andalusi

Fundación El Legado Andalusi
info@legadoandalusi.es
www.legadoandalusi.es



The Saint Martin of Tours Route

Fédération Européenne Centre Culturel Saint Martin
contact@saintmartindetours.eu
www.saintmartindetours.eu



The Cluniac Sites in Europe

European Federation of Cluniac Sites
administration@sitesclunisiens.org
www.sitesclunisiens.org



The European Route of Cistercian Abbeys

European Charter of Cistercian abbeys and sites
info@cister.eu
www.cister.net



The Routes of the Olive Tree

Cultural Foundation "Routes of the Olive Tree"
info@olivetreeroute.gr
www.olivetreeroute.org



The European Cemeteries Route

European Cemeteries Route
admin@significantcemeteries.org
www.cemeteriesroute.eu



Via Regia

European Center for Culture and Information in Thuringia
netz@via-regia.org; www.via-regia.org



Prehistoric Rock Art Trails

International Association PRAT-CARP
info@prehistour.eu
www.prehistour.eu



TRANSROMANICA – The Romanesque Routes of European Heritage

TRANSROMANICA Association
info@transromanica.com; www.transromanica.eu



European Route of Historic Thermal Towns

European Route of Historic Thermal Towns
contact@ehtta.eu
www.ehtta.eu

7.5 - Contact information*



Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe

The Iter Vitis Route

Iter Vitis
info@itervitis.eu
www.itervitis.eu



Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe

The Route of Saint Olav Ways

Association for the Route of St. Olav Ways (ACSOW)
post@acsow.org
www.acsow.org



Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe

The European Route of Ceramics

Associazione Strada Europea della Ceramica
europeanrouteofceramics@comune.faenza.ra.it
www.europeanrouteofceramics.eu



Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe

Via Habsburg

Via Habsburg
viahabsburg@outlook.com
www.viahabsburg.online



Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe

The European Route of Megalithic Culture

Megalithic Routes e.V.
info@megalithicroutes.eu
www.megalithicroutes.eu



Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe

The Roman Emperors and Danube Wine Route

Danube Competence Center
office@danubecc.org
www.romanemperorsroute.org



Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe

The Huguenot and Waldensian Trail

Union internationale "Sur les pas des Huguenots et des
Vaudois"
info@surlaspasdeshuguenots.eu
www.surlaspasdeshuguenots.eu



Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe

The European Routes of Emperor Charles V

Cooperation Network of European Routes of Emperor
Charles V; management@itineracarolusv.eu
admin@itineracarolusv.eu;
www.itineracarolusv.eu; www.theroutesofcharlesv.com



Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe

ATRIUM – Architecture of Totalitarian Regimes of the 20th Century in Europe's Urban Memory

ATRIUM Association
info@atriumroute.eu
www.atriumroute.eu



Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe

Destination Napoleon

European Federation of Napoleonic Cities
contact@napoleoncities.eu
www.napoleoncities.eu /
www.destination-napoleon.eu



Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe

Réseau Art Nouveau Network

Réseau Art Nouveau Network asbl
info@artnouveau-net.eu
www.artnouveau-net.eu



Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe

In the Footsteps of Robert Louis Stevenson

European Network in the Footsteps of Robert Louis
Stevenson
contact@rlstevenson-europe.org
www.rlstevenson-europe.org

7.5 - Contact information*



Fortified Towns of the Grande Région

Réseau des Villes fortifiées de la Grande Région
rvgr@free.fr
www.villesfortifiees.eu



Le Corbusier Destination: Architectural Promenades

Association des Sites Le Corbusier
association@sites-le-corbusier.org
www.sites-le-corbusier.org



Impressionisms Routes

Association "Eau & Lumière"
lucenet.georges@wanadoo.fr
www.impressionismsroutes.com



Liberation Route Europe

Liberation Route Europe
info@liberationroute.com
www.liberationroute.com



Via Charlemagne

contact@viacharlemagne.com
www.viacharlemagne.eu



Routes of Reformation

Routes of Reformation
contact@reformationroutes.eu
www.reformationroutes.eu



European Route of Industrial Heritage

European Route of Industrial Heritage (ERIH)
info@erih.net
www.erih.net



European Route of Historic Gardens

European Route of Historic Gardens
info@europeanhistoricgardens.eu
www.europeanhistoricgardens.eu



Iron Curtain Trail

European Cyclists' Federation
office@ecf.com
www.eurovelo13.com



Via Romea Germanica

EAVRG - at Azienda di Soggiorno
eavrg@viaromeagermanica.com
www.viaromeagermanica.eu

7.5 - Contact information*



Aeneas Route

"Aeneas Route" Association
Info@rottadienea.it
Edremitstrateji@gmail.com
www.aeneasroute.org



European Route d'Artagnan

European Association of the Route d'Artagnan
Secretariat.routedartagnan@gmail.com
www.route-dartagnan.eu



Alvar Aalto Route

Modern Architectural and Design Heritage
Tourist Route Association
route@alvaraalto.fi
visit.alvaraalto.fi



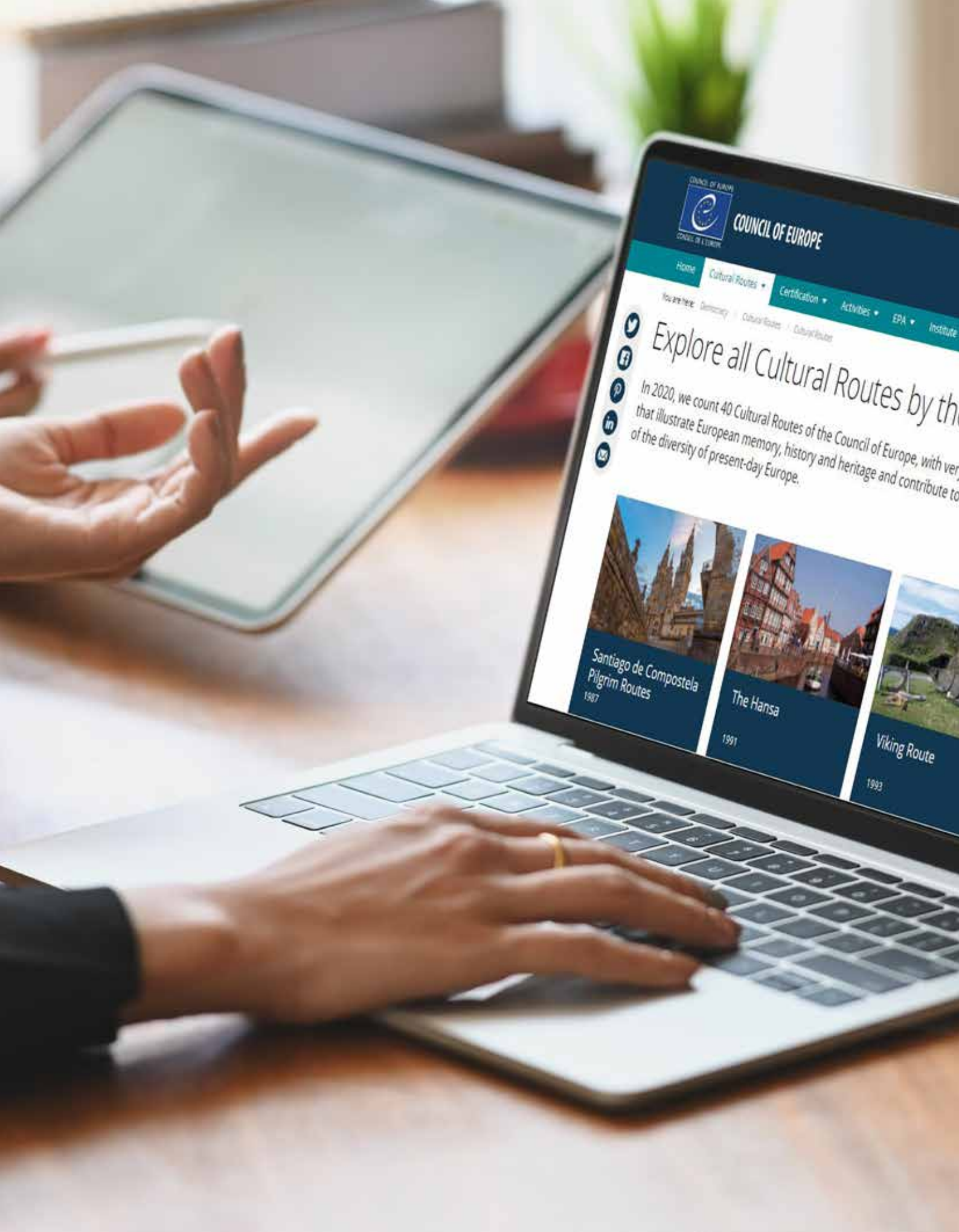
Iron Age Danube Route

Iron Age Danube Route Association
Ironagedanuberoute@gmail.com
www.ironagedanuberoute.com



Cyril and Methodius Route

Association of the European Cultural Route of Saints
Cyril and Methodius
Info@cyril-methodius.eu
www.cyril-methodius.eu/en



COUNCIL OF EUROPE

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Explore all Cultural Routes by the Council of Europe

In 2020, we count 40 Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe, with very diverse geographical locations that illustrate European memory, history and heritage and contribute to the diversity of present-day Europe.



Santiago de Compostela
Pilgrim Routes
1987



The Hansa
1991



Viking Route
1992



8

Communication



Communication platforms

- Since April 2017 the **Council of Europe online portal** has a website dedicated to the programme, which provides extensive information on the EPA, the Cultural Routes programme and on the European Institute of Cultural Routes;
- the **Council of Europe portal section on Democracy Democratic Governance**, has under the section “Culture and Cultural Heritage” a webpage dedicated to the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe;
- the **Council of Europe portal section on Democracy Sustainable Democratic Societies** links to the website dedicated to the Cultural Routes Programme.



Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe brochures and booklets

Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme website

Provides information on:

- **Cultural Routes by theme and country**
- **Certification**
- **European Institute of Cultural Routes**
- **News**
- **Joint programmes with the European Union**
- **Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes** (member States, statutory bodies, partners)
- **Activities** (Annual Advisory Forum, Training Academy)
- **Resources**
- **Contacts**

Since January 2017, a monthly newsletter is sent to now **over 5500 subscribers**.

Since June 2020, the **Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Database** has hosted a structured and extensive database together with an interactive map organizing all 3300+ network members of the 45 certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe. The certification cycles 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 saw a remarkable growth with the addition of 7 new certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and thus **300 new members** engaging in Route networks

activities and in the Programme. The Cultural Routes Database has now also been updated to include all the new network members.

Resources and visibility material online:

- 3 booklets available: 1 for member states, 1 for travellers and 1 for Cultural Routes, available in English and French, updated in 2021
- Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe brochure: available in English, French, Armenian, Italian and Polish
- Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe leaflets: available in English, French, German, Italian, Spanish (updated in 2021), Armenian, Catalan, Georgian, Greek, Hungarian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Swedish, Turkish, Ukrainian
- Country Mapping documents for Montenegro and Poland published in 2021; documents for Turkey and Georgia (in English and French) are also available
- Joint report on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and Ibero-America – Summary, available in Spanish and Portuguese.

Press and media archive

100+ articles

on Cultural Routes in the international Press

91 new pieces

from the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme

164 news posts

from the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme on Facebook



Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Official website. © Farknot Architect/Shutterstock

Social media

 Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme

 @CultureRoutes

Highlights – International Press

March 2021

Javier Solana: "El Camino no es mal sitio para confinarse; andando y al aire libre" (Javier Solana: "The Camino is not a bad place to be confined; walking and in the open air") / XLsemanal (in Spanish)

July 2021

Uma plataforma única para o turismo cultural sustentável (A unique platform for sustainable cultural tourism. Interview with Stefano Dominioni) / País positivo (in Portuguese)

October 2021

Felipe VI preside este jueves en el Monasterio de Yuste la entrega del Premio Europeo Carlos V a Angela Merkel (Felipe VI presides this Thursday at the Monastery of Yuste the presentation of the Carlos V European Award to Angela Merkel) / europapress.es (in Spanish)

November 2021

UNWTO and the Council of Europe to promote Cultural Routes / traveldailynews.com

15.300+
followers on Facebook

150.000+
visits on our website
per year

5500+
subscribers of the
monthly newsletter

... More information



YouTube 



Facebook 





9

2022 Outlook



2021

November 2021 – May 2022

Italian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

Strasbourg, FR

23 February

Board of Directors meeting, European Institute of Cultural Routes,
Luxembourg, LU
and online

May – November

Irish Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

Strasbourg, FR

2022

24 – 25 February

EPA Bureau meeting
Luxembourg, LU
and online

5-6 May

EPA Governing Board meeting
Luxembourg, LU
and online

31 May–3 June

9th Training Academy on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe
Fontainebleau, FR

November - May 2023

Icelandic Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe
Strasbourg, FR

2023

5– 7 October

11th Annual Advisory Forum of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe
Chania (Crete), GR

December

2nd Cultural Routes Academic Workshop, TBC

October

EPA Statutory Committee of member States
Strasbourg, FR





Mondorf-les-Bains
Luxembourg
European Route of Historic Thermal Towns,
© Denis Rade/rmeckerShutterstock

10

Financial Statements

|

10 - Financial statements

Enlarged Partial Agreement on

Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe

(Funded by the Member States)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Ordinary budget	305.903 €	320.322 €	331.600 €	352.000 €	364.000 €	377.800 €	384.600 €
Extra-budgetary resources (Voluntary contributions)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Luxembourg	-	-	-	5.200 €	-	-	-
Georgia	-	-	-	-	20.000 €	20.000 €	-
France	-	-	-	-	5.000 €	-	-
Total ³	305.903€	320.322€	331.600€	357.200€	389.000€	397.800€	384.600€

³ The total income does not include the information pertaining to the financial resources of each Cultural Route of the Council of Europe

European Institute of Cultural

Routes (Funded by the Ministry of

Culture, Government of the Grand

Duchy of Luxembourg)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Ordinary budget	200.000 €	200.000 €	210.000 €	210.000 €	250.000 €	255.000 €	260.000 €
Extra-budgetary resources (Voluntary contributions)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ministry of Culture, Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg	-	-	-	30.000 €	-	-	-
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg	-	-	6.800 €	11.900 €	-	-	-
Total ³	200.000€	200.000€	216.800€	251.900€	250.000€	255.000€	260.000€

³ The total income does not include the information pertaining to the financial resources of each Cultural Route of the Council of Europe.

Co-funding joint programmes

COE/EU

European Commission DG GROW -

Council of Europe Joint Programme

(2015-2017) ³

311.000 € (18 months)

European Commission DG REGIO -

Council of Europe Joint Programme:

“Routes4U” (2017-2020) ⁴

1.1 Million € (30 months)

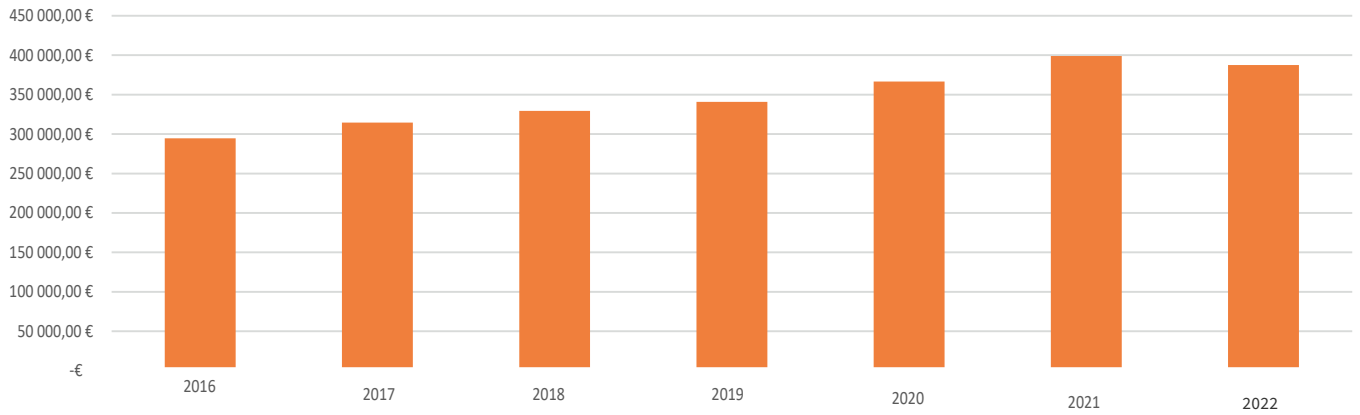
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
European Commission DG GROW - Council of Europe Joint Programme (2015-2017) ³	207.333 €	86.389 €	-	-	-	/	/
European Commission DG REGIO - Council of Europe Joint Programme: “Routes4U” (2017-2020) ⁴	-	-	440.000 €	440.000 €	220.000 €	/	/
Total	207.333€	86.389€		440.000€	220.000€	/	/

³ Amount corresponding to annual contribution pro-rata.

⁴ Amount corresponding to annual contribution pro-rata.

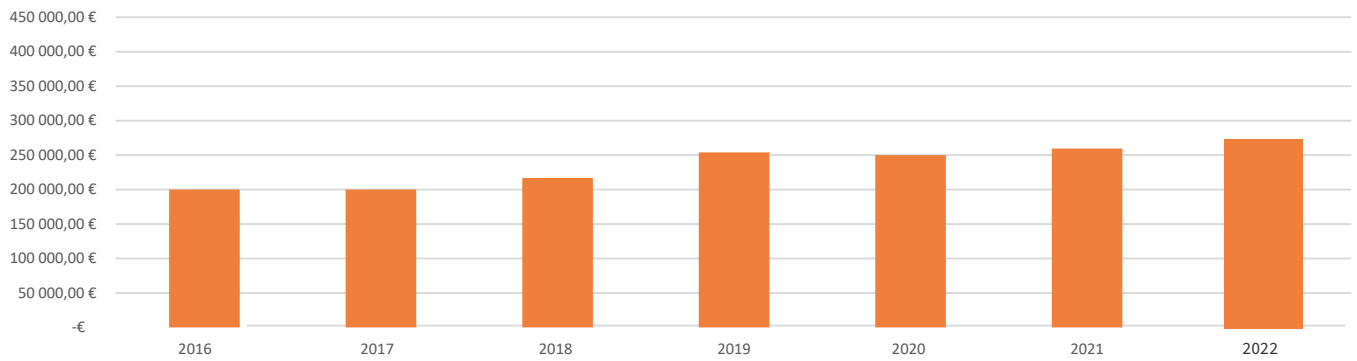
Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe

Evolution of the total budget



European Institute of Cultural Routes

Evolution of the total budget



2021 Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and European Institute of Cultural Routes - Calendar of activities and presentations at events

- 12 January, Online, European Year of Rail: coordination meeting with Eurail and EYCA
- 14 January, Online, Participation at the General Assembly meeting of the Fortified Towns in the Grande Region Route
- 20 January, Zagreb, HR, Croatia: Closing conference of ArhKonTur project
- 20 January, Online, Meeting with the new Representative of Santiago de Compostela Pilgrim Routes
- 25 January, Online, Advisory meeting with Aeneas Route
- 26 January, Online, Advisory meeting with Euroepan Route of d'Artagnan
- 26 January, Online, Advisory meeting with "Saint Francis' Ways"
- 27 January, Online, Advisory meeting with "Cyril and Methodius Route"
- 27 January, Online, Advisory meeting with "Culture Route of Fortified Monuments - Forte Cultura"
- 28 January, Online, Advisory meeting with "Iron Age Danube Route"
- 28 January, Online, Advisory meeting with "European Route of Templar Heritage"
- 28-29 January, Online, Serbia: The Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe presented at the 5th EUSAIR-Forum
- 2 February, Online, Advisory meeting with "Via Eurasia"
- 2 February, Online, Advisory meeting with "Via Molina"
- 2 February, Online, Coordination meeting with France on the Tourism Strategy
- 3 February, Online, Advisory meeting with "Castle Road"
- 3 February, Online, Advisory meeting with "Alvar Aalto Route"
- 4 February, Online & LU, EICR Board of Directors Meeting
- 4 February, Online, Advisory meeting with "Places of Peace"
- 5 February, Online, Advisory meeting with "Mary's Route"
- 21 January and 16 February, Online, Meeting with the General Consul of Morocco and the President of the Route of Jewish Heritage
- 8 March, Online, Meeting with Ibero-American States Organization
- 12 March, Online, Participation at the 1st International Congress of the "Holy Week and Easter celebrations route"
- 12 March, Online, Participation at the 1st International Congress of the Holy Week and Easter celebrations route
- 18 March, Online, Coordination meeting with Hungary regarding an exhibition on the Cultural Routes in Hungary
- 18 March, Online, Participation at the online pilgrim conference organised by Saint Olav Ways
- 19 March, Online, Advisory meeting with "Chocolate Ways"
- 24 March, Online, Advisory meeting with "Transhumance Route"
- 7 April, online, Advisory meeting with "Holy Places of Undivided Christianity"
- 20 April, Online, 15th virtual meeting of the EUSAIR Thematic Steering Group for Sustainable Tourism
- 21 April, Online, European Year of Rail: Online conference on sustainable travel in Europe
- 28-29 April, Online, EPA Governing Board meeting
- 5 May, Online, Advisory meeting with "Romea Strata"
- 9 May, Online, Presentation at the IMPACTOUR Re-Discover Europe Workshop
- 12 May, Online, Participation at the Destination Napoleon talks - Destination Napoleon and sustainable cultural tourism
- 19 May, Online, Presentation at Webinar "Spring into Recovery meeting" (IGCAT)
- 19 May, Online, Participation at the TransRomanica Day 2021
- 20 May, Online, Presentation at "Smart Cultural Heritage, Tourism Development and European Cultural Routes" webinar (Charles V Route)
- 26 May, Online, Advisory meeting with "Holy Week and Easter Celebrations" route
- 31 May, Luxembourg, LU, Meeting with representatives of Fortified Towns of the Grande Region
- 1 June, Online, Cultural Routes Day organised by France
- 2 June, Online, National coordiantion meeting on Cultural Routes organised by Italy
- 3 June, Online, Advisory meeting "Silk Routes"
- 2-4 June, Athens; GR, 66th Meeting of the UNWTO Commission for Europe
- 5 June, Online, Advisory meeting with "The Holy Family Route"
- 8 June, Online, Advisory meeting with "LE VIE DEI MEDICI"
- 8 June, Online, Participation at the Extraordinary General Assembly Meeting of Cyril and Methodious Route
- 10 June, Online, Advisory meeting with "Les Chemins de Saint Michel "
- 11 June, Online, Advisory Meeting with "Chocolate

Ways"

- 15 June, Strasbourg, FR, The Secretary General of the Council of Europe receives a delegation of the Via Francigena "Road to Rome 2021" initiative
- 16 June, Online, Working meeting with representatives of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Portugal
- 17 June, Online, Online Training Seminar for cultural routes applying for the certification cycle 2021-2022
- 18 June, Strasbourg, FR, Participation at the Open Day DGII Partial Agreements (Council of Europe)
- 18 June, Strasbourg, FR, Presentation at the 10th plenary session of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP)
- 22 June, Online & LU, EICR Board of Directors meeting
- 22 June, Online, Advisory meeting with "Aromas Itinerarium Salutis"
- 22 June, Online, Participation in EU Reflection Group meeting
- 22 June, Online, Participation at the 4th European Thermal Heritage Day
- 22 July, San Sebastian, ES, Presentation of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme at summer course "St James Northern Way"
- 2-3 August, Online, Presentation at the international workshop "World heritage and sustainable tourism" in Zacatecas in Mexico
- 6 September, Berlin, DE, Meetings between Federal Institutions and Representatives of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe representatives
- 6 September, Braga, PT, Portugal: Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme presented in the framework of a seminar on Roman Roads
- 17 September, Online, Advisory meeting with representatives of "Via Memoria Mauthausen"
- 23 September, Yuste, ES, Meeting on cooperation between Euro-Ibero-American Cultural Routes
- 29 September-1 October, Online, 10th Annual Advisory Forum in Kutaisi, Georgia
- 30 September, Zagreb, HR, Exhibition on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Zagreb
- 5 October, Kiev, UA, Ukraine: Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme presented at "Ukraine International Travel Market 2021"
- 5 October, Online, 16th virtual meeting of the EUSAIR Thematic Steering Group for Sustainable Tourism
- 6 October, Tirana, AL, Albania: EPA Secretariat meets with the Minister of Culture and the Minister of Tourism and Environment
- 7 October, Tirana, AL, 4th Workshop for Young Diplomats from the BSEC member States
- 10 October, Lucca, IT, Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe - an integrated model for sustainable territorial development
- 14 October, Chania, GR, Signature of the Organisation Agreement for the 2022 Annual Advisory Forum on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Chania (Crete)
- 14-15 October, Online, Hungarian Chairmanship: Presentation at a conference on slow cultural tourism
- 18-19 October, Toulouse, FR, Visit of Santiago de Compostela French National Agency
- 27 October, Online, Bulgaria: International conference "The Path of Cyril and Methodius – Spatial and Cultural-Historical Dimensions"
- 29 October, Toulouse, FR, Participation at the Phoenicians' Route General Assembly
- 3 November, Strasbourg, FR, Colloquium on Moroccan-Jewish culture held at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg
- 6 November, Online, Participation at the European Citizens' Panel, on "Stronger economy, social justice and jobs/ Education, culture, youth and sport/Digital transformation"
- 9 November, Online, Estonia: Meeting with Tourism Board
- 16 November, Brussels, BE, Roundtable "Xacobeo 21-22: an occasion to rediscover Europe"
- 17 November, Online, Alvar Aalto Route Certification Ceremony
- 24 November, Strasbourg, FR, Italian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers: opening of the exhibition on Cultural Routes in Italy
- 25 November, Online, EUSAIR Stakeholder Conference
- 28 November, Online, Participation at the International Mesopotamia Tourism Congress 2021
- 1 December, Online, Participation at the AI-NURECC PLUS Conference "Creative and Cultural Industries in the Adriatic-Ionian Region"
- 1 December, Paris, FR, European Route D'Artagnan Certification Ceremony
- 3 December, Online, Participation at Ilucidaire Playground "Heritage voices out"
- 6 December, Online, Participation at the Iter Vitis General Assembly
- 7 December, LU, EICR Board of Directors meeting
- 9 December, Strasbourg, FR, Presentation at the 10th plenary session of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP)
- 9 December, Online ; 1st Academic Workshop with the University Network
- 14 December 2021, online, Webinar Finish Heritage Agency
- 14 December, Laredo, ES, Conference on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Laredo
- 13-14 December, Pontevedra, ES, 1st "Euro-Mediterranean-American Forum on Cultural Routes and Social Tourism"
- 20 December, Online, CROSSDEV webinar on European Projects' experiences on Cultural Routes

Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe



Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes – Council of Europe

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