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**BUREAU OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE
FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE
(CDCPP)**

CULTURAL HERITAGE

**Council of Europe Convention
on Offences relating to Cultural Property**

European Heritage Days

Strategy 21

The Faro Convention

Herein

For information and action

Secretariat Memorandum
prepared by the
Directorate of Democratic Participation
Culture, Nature and Heritage Department

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I. COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONVENTION ON OFFENCES RELATING TO CULTURAL PROPERTY – Promotional Conference, Nicosia, 24-26 October 2019

Background

[The Council of Europe Convention on Offences relating to Cultural Property](#) (CETS No 221) was opened for signature on 19 May 2017 at the 127th session of the Committee of Ministers in Cyprus. It replaces the previous “Delphi” Convention of 1985.

As of 20 November 2019, the Convention has 12 signatories: Armenia, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Montenegro, Portugal, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovenia, Ukraine, including one non-member State, namely Mexico. The Convention will enter into force following five ratifications, including at least three member States of the Council of Europe: to date, Cyprus and Mexico have ratified it.

Following the invitation by the Republic of Cyprus to hold a promotional conference in 2019 in Nicosia, also to coincide with the 70th anniversary of the Council of Europe, this event took place on 24-26 October 2019. The conference was hosted by the Commissioner for Volunteerism and Non-Governmental Organisations of the Republic of Cyprus and supported also by the European Union. It was organised as a multi-stakeholder exchange, bringing together governmental representatives from the culture/heritage and justice/crime prevention fields, civil society representatives and academia, representatives from relevant European and international organisations and bodies as well as business representatives.

Results achieved

- There was strong consensus on:
 - o the pertinence of the Nicosia Convention filling a gap in international legislation and as a complementary tool to international standards by UNESCO and UNIDROIT;
 - o the appreciation of the fact of forthcoming ratifications of the Convention by Armenia, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Slovenia and the Russian Federation;
 - o the appreciation of latest research findings on offences related to cultural property and specifically, trafficking in cultural goods (EU study by Neil Brodie);
 - o the importance of multi-stakeholder exchange in delivering optimal interaction of self-regulation systems (as are in place with arts and antique dealers), legal standards and law enforcement systems at national and international levels.

- Participants agreed on further needs for:
 - o broad alliances and connections between various stakeholders on the basis of trust (governmental bodies, business and civil society);
 - o training of specialised services such as law enforcement officers (customs, police and prosecutors) through assistance projects;
 - o assessment of the application of the Convention within a limited group of states, exchanging experiences and best practices and creating a dynamic in favour of ratifications;
 - o raising awareness of the importance of heritage for society – and of the complexity of the issues related to offences to cultural property;
 - o more heritage education in schools in innovative and interactive formats as part of the curricula (possibly as part of democratic citizenship/ HR education);
 - o involving tourism, museum, media and education actors as multipliers and awareness-raisers and establishing capacity building programmes for these;
 - o involving art market representatives in action towards implementing the Convention and enhancing their self-regulation system (enacting in particular due diligence and transparency provisions) to complement the existing law;
 - o a push for action in favour of the Convention and for protecting heritage through political prioritisation, improved national coordination between relevant ministries, intensified international co-operation and cross-referencing among relevant organisations;
 - o lastly, participants suggested follow-up activities such as setting up a “group of friends” or coalition of promoters of the Convention, Joint Projects with the EU (on training, promotion); a follow-up conference in 2021 in Cyprus and an interim event in 2020.

Next steps

- A publication, including the conference report, will be made available at the end of November 2019, as well as a conference film. Both products will be widely circulated with the CoE's governmental and non-governmental stakeholders and interested partner organisations and published online;
- Consideration of the proposal to set up an international "group of friends" or a coalition of promoters of the Convention;
- Investigating the possibility of a Joint Project with the EU to enhance training activities and the promotion of the Convention;
- Preparing for a follow-up conference in 2021 in Cyprus and, possibly, an interim event in 2020;
- Preparing for follow-up action in co-operation with DG I and as human and budgetary resources allow (importance of a seconded heritage specialist from 2020 onwards to work on the implementation of the Nicosia Convention and other heritage-related projects).

Action required

The Bureau of the CDCPP is invited to:

- take note of the results of the multi-stakeholder Nicosia conference held to promote the Council of Europe Convention on Offences relating to Cultural Property and its concrete follow-up action proposals;
- invite member States to sign and ratify the Nicosia Convention;
- encourage member States to consider seconding a cultural heritage specialist to work with the Council of Europe on the promotion of the Convention as well as other heritage activities.

II. EUROPEAN HERITAGE DAYS

Background

The [European Heritage Days](#) is the most widely celebrated participatory cultural event shared by the citizens of Europe. Launched in 1985 in France, the Programme has been organised as a joint initiative of the Council of Europe and the European Union since 1999. All 50 European States, parties to the [European Cultural Convention](#), actively participate in the project.

Now, in 2019, reinforced by new activities introduced during the 2018 European Year of Cultural Heritage, the EHDs Programme continues to develop, with more events and more visibility, providing a unique opportunity to bring people together around their cultural heritage. The EHDs reach out to people across Europe and pass important messages to new generations in an atmosphere of equality and tolerance.

Progress

Theme for the 2019 EHDs events: "Arts and Entertainment"

Thanks to the joint efforts of the National Coordinators, heritage communities and volunteers, 2019 has been another successful year for the EHDs events. The theme covered sports, photography, tourism, circus, fairs, visual arts, theatre, cinema, radio, and television among many other art forms. People from all over Europe were given the opportunity to experience the enormous potential of various art and entertainment forms to unite artists, spectators and participants under a European dimension.

At the **Assembly of National Coordinators** (NCs) held in Strasbourg on 16-18 October 2019, many of the NCs presented the events that had taken place in their countries under the 2019 theme.

Pan-European themes

In recent years, the idea of common EHDs themes has proved successful in bringing the events together under the same banner and in emphasising the European dimension. At their annual Assembly, the National Coordinators selected the pan-European themes for 2022-2023, namely: **Sustainable heritage** for 2022 and **Living heritage** for 2023.

Reminder: the theme for 2020 will be “Heritage and Education” and the theme for 2021 will be “Inclusive Heritage” (“Heritage for Everybody”).

Young European Heritage Makers (formerly European Heritage Makers Week)

This initiative has been recognised as a unique opportunity to involve the **youngest members of society** in heritage activities, both online and in their immediate surroundings. It started as a pilot initiative in 2018 as part of the European Year of Cultural Heritage and aims to inspire young people to engage with their heritage, collect experiences and stories of how they understand the European dimension of local heritage, to identify and promote young communities interested in heritage, bring future #HeritageMakers into the spotlight and connect them with their peers in other parts of Europe.

Following regular review of the initiative over the past two years, various modifications to the activity have been agreed, as follows:

- The Call will be open both to individuals and groups of young people;
- The new timeline will be adjusted to correspond with the school year:
 - ✓ January 2020: working group set up;
 - ✓ May 2020: guidelines ready and countries sign up;
 - ✓ September 2020: the Call is announced;
 - ✓ March 2021: deadline for pre-selection;
 - ✓ May 2021: winners announced and awards to coincide with Europe Day.
- Two sets of guidelines will be produced – one for young people participating in the activity and one for the national/local coordinators;
- The name of the initiative will be “Young European Heritage Makers” to underline the connection with young people.

In 2019, the following winners were selected (click on the links for details):

- ❖ [Tragedy stops time. Humanity moves it](#)
Iva Angelovska, 14 years old, North Macedonia
- ❖ [Natural and architectural complex “Source of the River Don”: a look into the past and present](#)
Danila Balashov, 17 years old, Russian Federation
- ❖ [Poetry is a bridge between the centuries](#)
Oleksandr Shtilhoiz, 14 years old, Ukraine
- ❖ [Pskov Gusli](#)
Olga Zinina, 15 years old, Russian Federation
- ❖ [Georgian Polyphony](#)
Davit Chankseliani, 14 years old, Georgia
- ❖ [Ivo Andrić project](#)
Mia Mitrovic, 13 years old, Serbia
- ❖ [Vampires among the Serbs](#)
Nikola Mihajlovski, 12 years old, Serbia
- ❖ [Lamproba and Up Helly Aa Festival](#)
Barbare Giglemiani, 12 years old, Georgia
- ❖ [Our European Heritage – Dadiani Palace in Zugdidi](#)
Elene Tuzbaia, 17 years old, Georgia
- ❖ [Folk Dancing](#)
Elina, 14 years old, Latvia

These young winners have been invited to a 3-day cultural visit to Strasbourg on 1-3 December 2019.

European Heritage Days Stories

The European Heritage Days Stories initiative was also set up in 2018 as part of the European Year of Cultural Heritage. The activity seeks to identify the European dimension of heritage sites and heritage work undertaken by the **communities** in Europe. Communities are invited to share their stories, great and small, and potentially develop them into grant funded projects to contribute to the culture of their communities today. The selection process is described in the current [Guidelines](#).

There are now about 160 stories on the [EHDs portal](#).

The following ten winners were selected in 2019 (click on the links for details):

- ❖ [HeritageHack: Idrija](#)
Organisation: Idrija 2020 Association for Youth Development, Slovenia
- ❖ [Breathing life into Jokiniemi and the Stenkulla rock](#)
Organisation: Vantaa-Seura – Vandasällskapet ry, Finland
- ❖ [9th October: European day of Prehistoric Rock Art: Celebrating the first European Art](#)
Organisation: PRAT-CARP, Spain
- ❖ ["Sea People:" past memories for sustainable futures](#)
Organisation: Museo della Regina di Cattolica, Italy
- ❖ [The role of Brunssum in hiding Jewish children during WWII](#)
Organisation: Heemkundevereniging Brunssum, The Netherlands
- ❖ [Montenegro beauty at your fingertips](#)
Organisation: Montenegro State Lending Library for the Visually Impaired
- ❖ [Your Tenement Memories](#)
Organisation: Dublin City Council Culture Company Limited, Ireland
- ❖ [Nolla's Mosaics – a heritage to preserve](#)
Organisation: Centro de Investigación y Difusión de la cerámica Nolla (CIDCeN), Spain
- ❖ [The Revival of the Stone Village](#)
Organisation: Architect Aleksandar Radović Foundation, Serbia
- ❖ [Many people – many views](#)
Organisation: Association for Promotion of Culture, Art, Material and Spiritual Development - Center for Creative Industries (NEBO), Suvodol, North Macedonia

The accompanying brochure "[Everyone has a story to tell](#)" details these ten winning stories, with a foreword by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Marija Pejčinović Burić.

Cross-frontier initiatives

The Cross-frontier initiatives, launched in 2018, have also continued to be successful in 2019. The activity provides support for cross-frontier projects organised by the National Coordinators of the European Heritage Days.

In 2019, four projects are being supported:

Art and Entertainment – Discover the Artist inside you
Republic of Moldova and Ukraine

Bridges over the winding Drina River
Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia

We Are Culture: Strategies for more inclusive European Heritage Days
UK-Scotland and UK-England and North Macedonia

Heritage, Women's Legacy
Spain (in search of project partners)

Visibility and communication

Concerted efforts have continued in 2019 to increase the visibility of the European Heritage Days within and between all participating countries. A 45-minute [documentary](#) featuring interviews with the programme's National Coordinators was released to mark the launch of this year's European Heritage Days. Around 50 news articles have been published on the programme's website: www.europeanheritagedays.com so far this year, and an e-mail newsletter has recently been created.

Our reach on social media has continued to grow throughout the year, across various platforms -

FaceBook – www.facebook.com/EHDays

Instagram – www.instagram.com/europeanheritagedays

Twitter – www.twitter.com/JEP_EHD

YouTube - www.youtube.com/channel/UCnoazY5ZN-NHBwkqy6JRm1w

In addition, a wide range of new promotional materials have been designed, produced and distributed to all participating countries.

Action required

The Bureau of the CDCPP is invited to:

- take note of the progress made in the implementation of the 2019 European Heritage Days Programme;
- express its support for the activities developed and suggested for future action.

III. STRATEGY 21

Background

The *European Cultural Heritage Strategy for the 21st century (Strategy 21)* offers recommendations and concrete courses of action on managing heritage as part of its three components: Social; Territorial and Economic Development; and Knowledge and Education.

Strategy 21 was officially launched in Cyprus in April 2017. As a follow up, the [ST21 related webpage](#) (available in English and French) has been set up. The content includes the basic tools of Strategy 21, such as challenges, recommendations, lines of action and good practices related to heritage interventions, together with the reference texts and factsheets.

Most of the good practices provided by member States have been uploaded onto the website in both official languages. CDCPP member States, observers and other stakeholders provided examples of good practices in 2018/2019 that implement Strategy 21's recommendations using a participatory and interdisciplinary approach, notably in relation to the initiatives carried out during the European Year of Cultural Heritage, but also for "The Golden collection of Good Practices" publication.

Progress (2019)

Good practices

In 2019, under the French Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers (May to November) and together with the French Ministry of Culture, the Secretariat presented "*The golden collection*" of Good Practices at the CDCPP plenary session in June. The French version of the book is already available online and a printed version will be available at the end of November.

As one of the aims of Strategy 21 is to collect good practices that not only implement one or more of its recommendations, but that could also illustrate participatory practices, a comprehensive approach was chosen, by adding a brief analysis of the impact and results of heritage interventions (the obstacles encountered and equally important the lessons learned). The importance of change and an innovative approach are emphasised.

The criteria for good practices (also available on the website) are compatible with the latest European Agenda for Culture publication '[Participatory Governance of Cultural Heritage](#)'. To complete the form for good practices and to assist both the government officials and the project managers, a new methodology factsheet will be available in the beginning of 2020.

Workshops

The workshops' summaries are available online, in accordance with Strategy 21's structure and visual identity. Individual experts' contributions, listed below, will soon be available online in a form of a reader, addressing various subjects including Citizen involvement in heritage – impact in deprived urban and rural areas and Producing and sharing heritage-related knowledge: access keys for Strategy 21. The reader will include articles on:

- Social aspects of cultural heritage in the suburbs;
- Heritage and marginal urban spaces;
- Heritage – financial aspects;
- Knowledge and heritage;
- Heritage and public space;
- Rural regeneration through knowledge and education - 2 articles;
- Rural regeneration through social cohesion;
- Rural regeneration through territorial and economic development;
- Challenges and opportunities, case studies;
- Cultural heritage, museums and citizenship;
- Production and sharing of heritage related knowledge;
- Relationship between research and policy formulation in the field of heritage;
- Evaluation of research and indicators;
- Heritage education.

Factsheets

Factsheets drafted by experts to explain the implementation of Strategy 21 in different professional fields are also being translated and uploaded onto the Strategy 21 website:

In 2019: the following four factsheets were uploaded:

- "*Gender equality: what has cultural heritage got to do with it*" (by Pierrete Pape) explains how gender stereotypes affect cultural heritage, and details recommendations to implement Strategy 21 with a gender equality perspective;
- "*Landscape architects and Strategy 21*" (by Ana Luengo, IFLA) explains the basic concepts and role of this profession and how Strategy 21 can contribute to their practice;
- "*The future of religious heritage*" (by Michael Hoare, FRH) explains the challenges and how Strategy 21 can respond to them;
- "*Strategy 21 in small museums*" (by Christian Jacques Perazzone) explains how the strategy can be useful for small local museums.

In 2020: the following factsheets will be finalised and uploaded:

- Strategy 21 methodology for government officials and project managers;
- Strategy 21 and Innovation;
- Strategy 21 and AI issues;
- Strategy 21 and migration.

The following activities are foreseen in 2020, in accordance with available resources:

Strategy 21 in your country

- Co-organise with member States promotional events for the implementation of the Strategy;
- further promote the translation of the ST21 toolkit (containing the full text of Strategy 21, a manual, factsheets, posters, criteria form for good practices and other downloadable promotional material)¹;
- Strategy 21 online Reader and paper toolkit folder available for the member States' usage.

¹ The full text of the toolkit/Strategy 21 has been translated into Georgian, Croatian, Spanish, Slovenian, Romanian, Polish, Lithuanian and Dutch. It will also be available soon in Finnish and Estonian.

Website updates /changes

- website content re-organised in order to be even more attractive and user friendly, respecting Strategy 21's visual identity;
- include on the Strategy's website additional information on good practices, as provided by member States and stakeholders in 2019, and update existing materials;
- preparation of interactive features on the Strategy 21 website for enhanced user-friendliness and experience.

Action required

The Bureau of the CDCPP is invited to:

- welcome the progress made on the follow-up to Strategy 21 and invite member States to promote it at national level, provide good practices/initiatives and report on the implementation of the Strategy;
- translate the promotional material into national languages, disseminate it at regional and local levels and motivate stakeholders to upload good practices applying the Strategy's principles, thus widening the ST21 network;
- contribute to the organisation of promotional events at national level;
- advise on possible future work on Strategy 21.

IV. THE FARO CONVENTION ACTION PLAN

Background

The Faro Convention emphasizes the important aspects of heritage as they relate to human rights and democracy. It promotes a wider understanding of heritage and its relationship to communities and society. The Convention encourages people to recognise that objects and places are not, in themselves, what is important about cultural heritage. They are important because of the meanings and uses that people attach to them and the values they represent.

The focus of the Faro Convention Action Plan has thus been put on the following main points:

- Democratic heritage governance – communities' central role;
- The role of heritage in addressing societal challenges;
- Setting a framework for cooperation, as well as for integrated and inclusive policies.

In 2019, activities have focused on the following priorities:

Promotion

- The Joint Project with the European Union "The Faro Way":
 - Regional seminar in Maastricht, Netherlands (16-17 May 2019);
 - Preparation of a booklet on selected Faro inspired initiatives;
 - Specific webpage devoted to the Joint Project;
- Further communication tools (revision of the Faro website, diffusion of Faro tools, etc.).

Faro Convention Network (FCN)

- Fourth Faro Convention Network annual gathering (Venice, 3-4 December 2019);
- Two assessment visits to initiatives in contact with the Faro Convention Network: Castellon de la Plana (Spain) and Cap Sizun (France).

Research

- Third Faro Convention Research Action workshop on "Economy of alterity, tourism and " (Saint-Denis, France, 21-22 November);
- Preparation of the Second Faro Convention Research Action publication.

Spotlights

- Regeneration of Post-industrial areas through heritage valuation: the case of Heerlen (Netherlands).

In 2020, in accordance with available resources, the activities foreseen are along the following lines:

Promotion

Continue to promote the Faro Convention, both at authorities' level and among communities, notably through:

- The Joint Project with the European Union "The Faro Way":
 - o Two regional seminars: Tbilisi, Georgia (early spring) and Bucharest, Romania (early summer);
 - o Final conference of the Joint Project (dates and places tbc);
 - o Booklet on guidelines for authorities interested in Faro Convention promotion and implementation;
 - o Booklet on selected Faro inspired initiatives.
- Faro meetings addressed to regional/local authorities: Spain (place and dates tbc);
- Improvement of the communication tools (revision of the Faro website, toolkit for potential new initiatives, films, etc.)

Faro Convention Network (FCN)

Consolidate and enlarge the initiatives included in the Network to address more diverse issues, notably through:

- Fifth Faro Convention Network annual gathering (Autumn 2020);
- Assessment visits (2) to initiatives in contact with the Faro Convention Network;
- Auto-evaluation and definition of Action plans by each member of the network;
- Bi-lateral cooperation among FCN members in selected topics.

Research

Provide new insights into ways to address the challenges faced by heritage communities, notably through:

- Publication of the Second Faro Convention Research Action outcomes;
- Valorization of the conclusions of the Third Faro Convention Research Action workshop (summary film, selected papers);
- Fourth Faro Convention Research Action workshop (topic and dates to be defined).

Spotlights

Select a new issue that is of interest to several countries as a spotlight topic:

- Spotlight visits (2) related to the topic.

Action required

The Bureau of the CDCPP is invited to:

- welcome the progress made on the implementation of the Faro Convention Action Plan and the Joint Project with the EU "The Faro Way";
- exchange and advise on the activities foreseen in 2020 and beyond.

V. HEREIN NETWORK

Background

HEREIN was established by the Council of Europe at the request of member States to take stock of the changes in legislation and practices in the participating countries and to provide a forum for pooling and sharing information on cultural heritage.

The objectives to be pursued as regards HEREIN are thus to:

- Strengthen its capacity to act as a forum and network for member States' professionals in the heritage field;
- make the database an efficient and effective tool for collecting and sharing, not only information, but also knowledge.

In 2019, the following actions towards this goal have been taken:

- New request to complete the revision of Country Profiles and ask for additional ones;
- Two meetings of the working group on National Reports in April and August;
- Draft new questionnaire associated to the National Report;
- Participative survey on heritage signage;
- Promotion of the Rendez-Vous aux Jardins 2019: « Animals in the garden ».

In 2020, in accordance with available resources, activities foreseen are along the following lines:

- Diffusion of the new questionnaire associated to the National Report;
- Update website concerning the National Reports with collected information;
- Promotion of new thematic pages to enrich the HEREIN website;
- Collection of specific information within the HEREIN Network associated to thematic pages;
- Meeting of the National Coordinators (if resources allow) to discuss future developments.

Action required

The Bureau of the CDCPP is invited to:

- welcome the progress made with the implementation of HEREIN activities and support future efforts at consolidating the project.