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

MEETING REPORT
CDCPP Plenary Session, 18-20 November 2025
(in-person meeting with online possibilities)

Secretariat Memorandum
prepared by the
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1. Opening of the meeting by the Vice-Chair of the CDCPP

The Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape held its 14th plenary session in Strasbourg on 18-20 November 2025 with Anna Steiner (Austria) in the Chair (the list of participants can be found in Appendix 1).

Before moving to the adoption of the agenda, the outgoing Chair, Carmen Croitoru, took the floor to say how much she had enjoyed serving in the role and to thank all the Bureau members for their support and co-operation during the year. She announced that she would not be standing for the office of Chair in 2026 and proposed that the meeting be chaired by the Vice-Chair.

The Vice-Chair presented the programme for the three-day meeting.

An annotated agenda with draft decisions to be adopted by the Committee had been distributed ahead of the meeting.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The CDCPP members adopted the agenda, as set out in Appendix 2.

3. Address by and exchange of views with Irena Guidikova, Head of Department, Democratic Institutions and Freedoms

Irena Guidikova reiterated the importance of culture in peace building, dialogue and mutual understanding. To this end, freedom of artistic expression was fundamental and the Council of Europe must continue to stand up for it. Irena Guidikova pointed out that culture featured in the first section of the Secretary General's annual report, where it was described as an essential space for democratic participation, particularly for young people. She said that this plenary session was part of the process of building the New Democratic Pact for Europe (NDP).

Some ideas about the role of culture in democracy had already been presented at the World Forum for Democracy in November 2025, particularly with regard to issues around citizen participation. This plenary session would build on that work and the insights gained would be passed on to the NDP as part of the consultation process. This was an opportunity for the CDCPP to highlight the role of culture, heritage and landscape in promoting democracy.

Irena Guidikova rounded off her address by informing the Committee about the adoption of the Recommendation on Landscape and Health by the Committee of Ministers. In addition, the Convention on the Co-Production of Audiovisual Works in the Form of Series would be considered by the Committee of Ministers on 29 November for adoption.

The Committee took note of Irena Guidikova's statement.

4. Elections

The Secretariat explained the procedure for the election of the Chair, Vice-Chair and Bureau members, and presented the list of the candidatures received thus far. The Secretariat invited the interested delegates to make themselves known to the Secretariat so that all the vacancies could be filled. The Vice-Chair, Anna Steiner, reminded participants that the Bureau met twice a year, once in person during the plenary session and once online.

5. Culture - freedom of artistic expression

5.1 Discursive Platform - CreateToBeFree

The Secretariat pointed out that the concept note on the platform, its governance and its modus operandi had been adopted by the Committee at its 13th plenary session. The aim was to provide a discursive platform where member states, decision makers, organisations and cultural actors could engage in dialogue and share different viewpoints on issues relating to freedom of artistic expression. The first theme proposed by the Advisory Board was cultural funding and the risks of its instrumentalisation.

Dr Katalin Krasznahorkai, consultant and curator of the digital exhibition [Free to Create, Create to be Free](#), said that the platform was intended to build on the initiative to uphold artistic freedom launched with the Manifesto on Freedom of Expression ([Manifesto on the Freedom of Expression of Arts and Culture in the Digital Era](#)) and the digital exhibition [Free to Create, Create to be Free](#). The proposed online platform presented would feature various sections (*Headlines, Resources, Digest, About*), where articles, studies, opinions, guides, information, etc. could be consulted. These tabs had been designed to offer various types of resources in response to the myriad issues and needs related to artistic freedom of expression. The current preference was for a thematic analysis, rather than case studies, but an adjustment could be considered at a forthcoming plenary meeting.

In response to some questions, the Secretariat provided details of the governance of the platform and said that technical work would continue in 2026. Member states would be encouraged to contribute to the platform. It was noted that at this stage, the idea was to present a possible platform model that would be revised based on internal consultations.

The Committee welcomed and took note of the work under way on the discursive platform “Create To Be Free” and invited the Secretariat, in liaison with the Bureau and the relevant institutions, actors and services within the Organisation, to fine-tune the platform in light of the comments provided and further discussions and adjustments.

5.2 Awareness-raising course on freedom of artistic expression

These training modules followed on from the [presentation given at the 2024 plenary session](#). They were one of the CDCPP's deliverables for 2025.

Ana Martinovic, Lead Consultant and lawyer, introduced the 3 modules created. Their aim was to raise awareness among artists and other artistic organisations about freedom of artistic creation, with the focus on Council of Europe conventions and the case law of the European Court of Human Rights. The three topics covered were: freedom of artistic expression; admissibility and interim measures; other legal issues for artists. This online training would enable participants to recognise situations that might be eligible for the Court's protection. Each module provided legal awareness training and examined the Court's activities and decisions.

The Committee approved the awareness-raising course on freedom of artistic expression.

5.3 Second general report on the state of freedom of artistic expression in Europe

The Chair thanked all the countries that had responded to the questionnaire sent out by the Secretariat. The Secretariat reminded participants that the report was one of the deliverables for 2026 and explained that what made this document different was that it consisted of contributions from national delegations, in the form of replies to the questionnaire. It was an expert report.

Sara Whyatt, consultant and author, presented the five areas examined in the initial summary of replies: legal protections, socio-economic conditions for artists, institutional independence, challenges of the digital age, and monitoring and emergency support mechanisms. The analysis was based on the replies received from member states through the questionnaire and various items published by the Council of Europe, the European Union, UNESCO and non-governmental organisations.

Since the first report, numerous measures, including economic, legislative and support measures, had been taken, indicating the importance that states attached to freedom of artistic expression. Challenges remained, however, in relation to political interference, digital risks and insufficiently developed warning systems.

The consultant and the Secretariat encouraged member states to reply to the questionnaire, the deadline for which had been extended to 1 December 2025.

The Committee welcomed this initial compilation work and encouraged further efforts in the important task of upholding freedom of expression.

The Committee took note of the work under way on the 2nd general report on the state of freedom of artistic expression in Europe and invited the Lead Consultant to continue the work on the report in light of the comments provided and input from the artistic community.

5.4 Progress report on the Association of the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends

Ulrike Blumenreich and Olivier Göbel representing the Compendium updated the Committee on recent activities, particularly in relation to cultural trends and good practices that enhanced access to cultural activities, but also regarding barriers to access that needed to be examined.

The Compendium shared the results of its work on defending freedom of expression. Its findings pointed to the existence of legal provisions and political support from states, but also to a lack of tangible measures. These issues had been addressed at a recent Compendium conference on strengthening protection for artistic freedom in Europe, co-organised with the Luxembourg Ministry of Culture. Work on indicators was planned to measure artistic freedom of expression in countries, facilitating evaluation and comparison.

2025 had also seen the updating of 10 country profiles, and the Compendium was expanding its activities through the translation of country profiles, exchanges with other countries and the creation of new formats.

There were six strategic priorities: sustainable financing of the Compendium; providing more updated information and data on the Compendium website; increasing public awareness of the Compendium; increasing the pool of experts; developing more co-operation with other actors; and building the Compendium community.

The Committee took note of the annual report of the Association of the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends.

6. Thematic session “The role of culture and cultural heritage for democracy and democratic participation”. CDCPP’s contribution to the New Democratic Pact for Europe (NDP)

The thematic debate on “The role of culture and cultural heritage for democracy and democratic participation” was the CDCPP’s contribution to the New Democratic Pact for Europe (NDP). A report on the debate would be forwarded to the Pact.

In the presentations that followed:

Irena Guidikova explained that the NDP was an expression of member states’ renewed commitment to democracy. The creation of the NDP afforded an opportunity to define democracy and democratic standards. The World Forum for Democracy had raised various issues concerning the contribution made by cultural policies to democracy and public debate, as well as the importance of independent cultural institutions and protection for artistic freedom at the political and legislative levels. Once again, the question arose as to the role of culture and its place in democracy, and how to engage the entire population in public affairs through culture.

Simon Mundy, Honorary Research Fellow for Cultural Advocacy, Queen Mary University of London (UK), offered an initial definition of democracy as a space where debate was tolerated and accepted, and where art contributed to democracy by providing spaces for dialogue and encounter. In this way, art addressed complexity and opened up new possibilities: through art and culture, individuals challenged, questioned and reinvented themselves. To encourage this, experts consulted in 2025 had proposed various action points to be included in the NDP, covering legislative, political and citizen participation issues (this report was submitted as an appendix to the thematic debate). The Council of Europe, in particular, was encouraged to focus more on cultural networks, local and regional authorities and youth organisations, but also to strengthen its co-ordination with the United Nations. Simon Mundy mooted the idea of creating an institute for culture and sustainable democracy that could strengthen ties between all stakeholders. He concluded by inviting the Council of Europe to resume past initiatives that had not yet been completed.

Liam Montgomery, Vice-Chair of the European Heritage Days Assembly of National Coordinators and Marketing & Projects Manager at Heritage Open Days (UK), explained how EHDs promoted and strengthened democratic participation, not only through the many events organised, but above all through the number of visitors and volunteers involved. Having a common theme that was to be interpreted freely meant that everyone had an opportunity to speak about their culture and heritage: anchoring action in the local context helped to increase the sense of belonging and regional pride. He observed that young people wanted to get involved in their local communities, but that often social and economic conditions made this difficult. Discussions were therefore under way about awarding grants to support the young people involved. The EHDs were an example

of a first step towards cultural access and representation, but also towards democratic participation.

Prosper Wanner, Lead Expert, Faro Convention Network, examined the right to participation. He pointed out that most initiatives took place on the fringes of power, because of the climate of mistrust between civil society and government institutions. The Faro Convention and related networks helped to recreate a space where trust and interaction between the various actors could flourish. Heritage and culture were thus perceived as shared resources in which everyone could participate. The Convention helped to democratise heritage processes. Most initiatives only survived, however, thanks to the support of one person, an elected representative, and this made them fragile. It was important, therefore, that countries ratify the Convention in order to encourage, support and sustain these initiatives.

The subject was then taken up by Lars Ebert, Secretary General, Culture Action Europe which brought together most of the cultural and educational networks in Europe. Cultural Action Europe acted as an intermediary between government organisations and cultural networks, facilitating exchanges and defending artistic and cultural interests. It was thus well placed to examine cultural needs and policies. Lars Ebert made two points: the first concerned the need to change the way we thought about and evaluated projects using quantitative data; and the second the fact that, while the concept of cultural democratisation was well established and applied in practice, there was little evidence that cultural democracy had been translated into policy making. In similar vein, the concepts of cultural access and participation were often mentioned in tandem, even though the issues involved were different, thus making policy action less effective. He accordingly reminded participants that culture was a tool and a resource, including a social one, that risked being instrumentalised by cultural policy makers.

Ulrike Blumenreich and Olivier Göbel, Association of the Compendium on Cultural Policies and Trends, outlined various initiatives to illustrate the link between culture and democracy. They included the establishment of social welfare mechanisms for artists. They also highlighted the role of cultural policies in promoting democratic values, such as the charter of ethics published in Luxembourg for cultural institutions and the “Fair Culture” Charter developed by the German Commission for UNESCO, which advocated fair pay, diversity and equality. Freedom of artistic expression was also recognised as a vital barometer of democracy. Despite states’ commitment, redress mechanisms remained limited and a negative trend, linked to the political context, could be observed. The Compendium supported the call made at the recent conference in Luxembourg for policies to prevent censorship and self-censorship. Furthermore, although cultural policies were increasingly moving towards a human rights-based approach, inequalities in access to cultural participation remained and innovative funding models needed to be encouraged.

Discussions continued with an exchange of views between the various delegations and invited experts. It was pointed out that culture had the potential to foster democratic resilience in times of war, as it created the conditions for citizens to shape society, participate in community life and contribute to reconstruction (Ukraine). Similarly, the Committee mentioned the importance of decolonising and decentralising cultural and heritage policies in order to involve all stakeholders. To encourage this, efforts were being made to increase cultural participation through various policies (Switzerland). In addition, the Committee reiterated its support for freedom of artistic expression and stressed the importance of protecting it from threats (Luxembourg). In conclusion, mention was made of the 1982 Mexico City Declaration, in which culture was described as a tool that “gives man the ability to reflect upon himself”, making us rational beings, endowed with a critical judgment and a sense of moral commitment (Finland).

It was hoped that the New Democratic Pact for Europe would help to highlight the importance of culture and heritage in preserving democracy.

Anna Steiner thanked all the participants for their contributions to the debate.

After the debate, the Committee decided to send the NDP Secretariat a report on the thematic debate and a report with the findings of the expert consultation, as the CDCPP’s contribution to the NDP consultation process.

8. Preliminary Draft CM Recommendation on the role of culture and heritage in promoting equality and non-discrimination in co-operation with the Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI)

In line with its terms of reference, the CDCPP had been tasked with preparing a Recommendation on the role of culture and heritage in promoting equality and non-discrimination, in co-operation with the CDADI.

Hakan Shearer Demir, Lead Consultant, presented the preliminary draft proposed by the working group specially set up by the CDCPP, with experts representing a number of countries. The outgoing Chair had also participated in the work. The proposed preliminary draft put forward the idea of encouraging the use of culture and heritage to uphold equality and non-discrimination. It also proposed specific measures to be promoted in national policies. Several delegations had submitted comments or proposals for amendments to various parts of the text. Some delegations took the floor to explain their proposals, particularly with regard to the sections on funding arrangements, artificial intelligence, cultural rights and human rights, and other aspects.

Following the discussions, the preliminary draft would be reviewed to include as many of the comments made by the various delegations as possible without compromising the overall coherence of the text, and a revised version would be proposed for adoption at the next plenary session. In the meantime, given that the text was to be prepared in co-operation with the CDADI, it would be distributed to the members of that Committee for possible comments, bearing in mind that it was not a joint text.

The Committee welcomed the preliminary draft Recommendation on the role of culture and heritage in promoting equality and non-discrimination with a view to forwarding it to the CDADI for possible comments and suggestions so that a second round of discussions could be held and the draft finalised in 2026 in time for the next plenary session.

9. Eurimages Partial Agreement

Susan Newman-Baudais, Executive Director, outlined the activities carried out by [Eurimages](#) in 2025. She began by mentioning the draft convention on the co-production of audiovisual works in the form of series, which was awaiting approval by the Committee of Ministers. She also mentioned Eurimages' efforts to encourage, from the development stage onwards, the co-production of films between different countries and to participate in and support the promotion of these works in order to reach audiences.

Examples of this support could be found in four programmes: co-production; promotion (which includes the Eurimages New Lab Award); marketing and audience development; and exhibition support. The programmes were complemented by two strategies: gender equality, diversity and inclusion; and environmental sustainability.

Since 2022, particular attention had been paid to supporting Ukrainian productions through awards, artist residencies for women directors, funding programmes and a partnership with the Ukrainian Institute.

In the ensuing discussion, members of the Committee expressed positive opinions on Eurimages' activities, congratulated the Fund on its achievements and encouraged it to continue its valuable work in promoting cinema in Europe. They invited the Eurimages secretariat to keep the Committee regularly informed of its important activities.

The CDCPP took note of the overview of the Eurimages programme of activities.

10. Observer status

10.1 Criteria for the granting of observer status with the CDCPP

After examining in camera the latest applications submitted, the Bureau underlined the need for the CDCPP to set out more explicitly the rules and criteria for granting observer status with the CDCPP, in the interests of transparency.

The Secretariat presented the draft list of criteria for granting observer status with the CDCPP, which were primarily intended to explain to civil society what the Committee expected in terms of expertise, commitment and the centrality of culture and heritage in the activities of those seeking observer status. It was also pointed out that the main rules were those set out in Resolution [CM/Res\(2021\)3](#) of the Committee of Ministers and that, while the Committee was under no obligation to specify the criteria, it did so in the interests of transparency and to ascertain candidates' commitment. The modus operandi for making a request for observer status was explained in detail.

The CDCPP adopted the Committee's rules and criteria for the granting of observer status by the CDCPP to civil society actors or organisations with large representation and decided to make these rules publicly available.

10.2 *Report by the Chair and the Bureau on the hearing concerning the request for observer status*

On 22 September 2025, the Bureau heard the Association of Commercial Broadcasting and Video on Demand Services in Europe (ACT), the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) and the European Film Agency Directors association (EFAD), following their requests for observer status.

After a discussion in which various positions were expressed, the Committee unanimously decided to grant these three organisations observer status with the CDCPP, pursuant to Article 8.a of Resolution [CM/Res\(2021\)3](#).

11. Action Plan for Ukraine 2023-2026

The Ukrainian delegate, Iryna Strashnenko, spoke of the intensity of Russia's attacks, the losses among the civilian population and the damage inflicted on cultural property. Since the start of the war, 1 612 sites had been damaged or destroyed, 150 of which were of national importance. 2 500 cultural institutions had been affected and 500 destroyed.

In these circumstances, it was important that the Ukrainian government move forward, further develop cultural policies and mobilise financial and other resources. The Ukrainian government had approved the Cultural Development Strategy until 2030, embodying a modern and central vision of culture. Culture was essential for social cohesion, human development, resilience and Ukraine's international visibility by encouraging the growth of cultural and creative industries. Thanks to international co-operation, the Ukrainian Cultural Foundation had been set up. It created a space for dialogue and knowledge sharing, encouraged cultural mentoring, developed residencies for artists and sought to rehabilitate cultural heritage.

The Secretariat provided some information on the preliminary stage of the project "Framing Co-operation for Preservation and Enhancement of Culture and Cultural Heritage in Ukraine". The Secretariat was looking at ways in which the CDCPP could contribute to this project and considering how to give more attention to culture in the next action plan. The aim was to advocate for the reconstruction of public and private heritage and to think about the accessibility of places and sites in the post-war period.

The CDCPP reiterated its solidarity with Ukraine and its people, as demonstrated by the practical support mentioned by several delegations, and commended Ukraine, describing it as a model of resilience and expertise. It took note of the information provided by the Secretariat about the progress made on the project "Framing Co-operation for Preservation and Enhancement of Culture and Cultural Heritage in Ukraine".

12. Heritage

12.1 *Nicosia Convention*

The Secretariat updated the CDCPP on developments concerning the ratification of the [Nicosia Convention](#) and the Aragon Group (informal network linked to the Nicosia Convention). Albania had ratified the convention in early 2025, bringing the total number of ratifications to 7. It was noted that ten ratifications were required for a monitoring committee to be set up.

Norway reported that the Convention was currently being assessed for possible ratification. Similarly, Germany had made ratification a priority for 2026. In discussions within the informal Aragon Group, it had been noted that Chile and Peru likewise wished to join the Convention.

Member countries were also invited to continue the task of translating the guide "[The Nicosia Convention in 10 questions and answers](#)": the Hungarian delegation reported that there were plans to produce a translation.

Among the projects discussed at the last meeting of the Aragon Group, mention was made of the drafting of reports on the legislation currently in place in countries, possible gaps and the completion of assessments of the risks associated with cultural heritage. In addition, the Nicosia Convention website was expected to be unveiled shortly.

The Committee took note of the outcome of the last meeting of the Aragon Group and of its future plans and encouraged the Group to continue its work and to enlarge its network.

The Secretariat unveiled the draft handbook for raising awareness among young people and children on the prevention of offences related to cultural property, while continuing to include young people in these activities. The handbook, which was intended for use in schools, explained the Nicosia Convention and its challenges and offered teachers a series of activities highlighting the role of young people in the conservation of cultural property. The handbook was to be road-tested in volunteer countries.

The Committee approved the Guidelines on the prevention aspects associated with the Council of Europe Convention on Offences related to Cultural Property (“Handbook for raising awareness among young people and children on the prevention of offences related to cultural property”).

12.2 *European Heritage Days (EHDs)*

Liam Montgomery, Vice-Chair of the European Heritage Days Assembly of National Coordinators, reported that 2025, when the theme had been “[Cultural heritage: Windows to the Past - Doors to the Future](#)”, had provided an opportunity to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the [Grenada Convention](#). Going forward, the main priority for the EHDs would be to increase participation. To illustrate this, four participants were invited to talk about their activities.

Asier Madarieta Juaristi, head of the EHDs in Biscay (Spain), said that the EHDs were now a major event in which 94% of the population and 76 municipalities took part. They encouraged local citizen engagement and the involvement of different communities. Some projects started during the EHDs had become permanent fixtures, moreover.

Two winners of the [Call for European Heritage Days Stories](#) talked about their respective events.

Inga Sarma, from “Strawberry fields in Jūrmala” (Latvia), winner in 2022, explained that the project had been actively supported by large numbers of people, with a particular focus on youngsters through storytelling, art workshops and creative activities. She pointed out that the achievements of these EHDs were still visible today through the maintenance of shared gardens, tourist routes and exhibitions created by children.

Tetyana Bey and Svitlana Tymkiv presented the 2024 winning project “Urban Gardening: Harvest time in the city” in Lviv (Ukraine). The project took the form of four short films in which local networks described their experiences with gardening. These first-hand accounts talked about how gardening had evolved and its links to rural and religious culture, highlighting the physical and mental benefits of this activity.

The European Heritage Days Secretariat said these examples provided an insight into how projects of this kind supported local communities and helped to embed the principles of the Faro Convention in member states through local initiatives.

The Committee took note of the 2025 work programme of the European Heritage Days (EHD, a joint programme with the European Union) and the plans for 2026.

The Committee welcomed specific EHD initiatives in Latvia, Spain and Ukraine presented at a panel discussion and congratulated the authors on the success and reach of their initiatives.

12.3 *Faro Convention*

The Secretariat welcomed the signing of the [Faro Convention](#) by Romania in February 2025 and encouraged other member countries to follow suit.

It was also pointed out that municipal actors could surpass national efforts, particularly in France, where in 2025 Marseilles and Villeurbanne had adopted the principles of the Faro Convention in future local policies. The Secretariat wished to work on promoting and enhancing national networks to encourage the linking of initiatives, while continuing to reflect on ways to encourage youth inclusion and participation.

To mark the 20th anniversary of the Convention, a seminar had been held in Villeurbanne, where the principles of the Convention had been explored in the context of diversity, gender, the environment and the relationship between civil society and the authorities. As part of the Faro Film Festival in Venice, filmmakers had been invited to submit short films on projects related to the Convention. The four winners would be announced shortly. In conjunction with the University of Castellón de la Plana, the Secretariat was working on a new publication, [People, places, stories](#) containing a collection of cases and stories inspired by the Faro Convention.

The Committee took note of the 2025 work programme of the Faro Convention networks and their plans for 2026.

The Committee encouraged member states to join the Faro Convention and to further enlarge and support Faro local and national initiatives and networks.

12.4 *HEREIN*

Bringing together a network of resource persons, the [HEREIN](#) system focused on the needs of participants. France, for example, had designed a study on maritime, river and lake heritage, drawing on the network to gather information and practices on this theme.

A great deal of work was being done on historic parks and gardens in Europe and the Secretariat was considering a draft Recommendation or Guidelines highlighting their prominent place in cultural heritage. 2026 would see a seminar on the protection of historic gardens and the promotion of their intrinsic values.

The French delegation thanked the Secretariat for co-ordinating this network and encouraged it to take stock of the ten years that HEREIN had been operating and its contribution to gardens, and to consider possibilities for the future.

The Committee took note of the 2025 work programme of HEREIN, and the plans for 2026.

12.5 *1975 European Architectural Heritage Year*

Terje Birkrem Hovland, former Chair of the CDCPP, reported on the international conference “[A Future for whose Past? The Heritage of Minorities, Fringe Groups and People without a Lobby](#)”. The gathering had provided an opportunity to highlight the events in 1975 that paved the way for the Granada Convention. At the various sessions, participants had looked at how some communities had been excluded from narratives and the role of cultural policies, drawing attention to the heritage of under-represented and marginalised groups, and people without a lobby.

The Swiss delegation thanked Terje Birkrem Hovland for attending and noted that this conference followed on from a series of research projects carried out with students on the theme of heritage. The debates provided food for thought on heritage strategies, the implementation of the Faro Convention and how to promote equality and non-discrimination.

The CDCPP took note of the outcome of the conference.

13. Landscape

13.1 *Report of the 12th Conference on the implementation of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention*

Caroline Martin, recently appointed Secretary of the Landscape Convention, introduced herself and opened the session.

Gilles Rudaz, Chair of the 12th Conference, presented the report on the [12th Conference on the implementation of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention](#). Fresh discussions had been held on the fundamentals of the Reykjavik Declaration. Despite the enthusiasm, there were still some challenges and future work in this area would have to find its place within the new Steering Committee on the Environment. Gilles Rudaz thanked members of the CDCPP for their efforts over the last few years.

The Committee approved the report of the 12th Conference on the implementation of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention.

13.2 *Draft CM Recommendation to facilitate the implementation of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention*

The Secretariat of the Landscape Convention reported on the work under way on the draft CM Recommendation to facilitate the implementation of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention (“Landscape,

a living environment”). This draft Recommendation defined what constitutes a living environment and reflected on the role of the democratic participation in promoting and preserving it. This draft would be finalised in 2026 for submission at the 2026 Landscape Conference. It would then be submitted to the Steering Committee on the Environment and finally to the Committee of Ministers for adoption.

The Committee took note of the work under way on the draft CM Recommendation to facilitate the implementation of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention (“Landscape, a living environment”).

13.3 Council of Europe Landscape Convention (Florence Convention)

The Secretariat briefed the Committee on the [informal ministerial conference to mark the 25th anniversary of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention](#). The event had helped to map out the strategy for the future work of the convention and had culminated in the adoption of a [Florence Declaration](#) outlining a strategic vision to strengthening multilateral cooperation and promoting the effective implementation of the convention and its integration in national policies.

The Chair thanked Italy for hosting the event. She also noted that the ministers had emphasised the vital role of landscapes in cultural identity. The declaration thus supported the need for cross-sectoral collaboration.

13.4 Council of Europe Landscape Award

Marta Rodrigues, Chair of the 13th Conference on the Implementation of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention, reported on the [8th session of the Council of Europe Landscape Award](#) which was awarded to Serra da Lousã for its efforts to restore the mountain landscape in collaboration with local residents. The projects in question fostered the sharing of good practices and experiences in landscape management and enhancement and helped to promote community well-being. They were also part of the reflections linked to the 9th session of the Council of Europe Landscape Award, which would coincide with the 25th anniversary of the Florence Convention. The 13th Council of Europe Conference on the implementation of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention would be held in the autumn 2026. It would highlight the progress and achievements made possible by the Convention and provide an opportunity to discuss the draft Recommendation “Landscape, a living environment”.

The Committee took note of the results of the informal ministerial conference to mark the 25th anniversary of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention (Florence, 27-28 October 2025) and of the meeting of the States Parties and Observers of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention (Florence, 27 October 2025).

The Committee took note of the award ceremony of the 8th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe (Lousã, Portugal, 27 June 2025).

The Committee took note of the new Information System on the Landscape Convention and of Council of Europe activities related to the environment.

15. Mid-term revision of the terms of reference of the Committee

The Secretariat briefed the Committee on the mid-term revision of the terms of reference. The Committee would become the Steering Committee on Culture and Cultural Heritage (CDCULT) as of 1 January 2026. Among the major changes adopted by the Committee of Ministers was the transfer of landscape activities, as of 1 January 2026, to the new Steering Committee on the Environment (CDENV).

The Committee of Ministers also stated that the list of civil society observers would only be available on the website and would no longer appear in the terms of reference. Lastly, online participation would be possible during meetings and in formal and informal discussions between members.

The Secretariat introduced the document containing a summary of preliminary proposals on the future priorities of the CDCPP submitted by member states: these would be discussed again at the next plenary session. It also proposed that a standing item be included in the agendas of future meetings to discuss recent policy developments in member countries.

In the ensuing discussion, some delegations said that the NDP could be a key focus of future activities and considered how the Committee could address civil defence preparedness and resilience issues and work with the CDENV.

Some speakers spoke of the need for the Council of Europe to differentiate itself from other international organisations and to ensure greater complementarity in its activities, particularly between committees. The Committee as a whole expressed its interest in putting culture at the centre of the NDP and drew attention to the challenges around freedom of artistic expression.

The Committee took note of the adjustments to the terms of reference of the CDCPP–CDCULT for the next biennium (2026-2027) as approved by the Deputies on 18 November 2025.

The Committee agreed to hold regular exchanges on major policies, strategies and legislative developments in relation to culture and heritage in member states.

16. Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes

The 2025 programme of activities for the [Cultural Routes](#) was introduced by Alfredas Jomantas (Lithuania), CDCPP representative to the Governing Board of the Enlarged Partial Agreement (EPA), and by the Secretariat. Forty-three countries were members of this agreement, the Netherlands and Ireland having joined recently. It was pointed out that the programme highlighted the wealth and diversity of European culture and emphasised factors for unity, traditions and know-how. The Cultural Routes encouraged citizens to rediscover heritage, democratic cultural exchanges and sustainable tourism, and supported local development as well as citizen and youth participation.

The Cultural Routes network encompassed 49 certified routes and had some 3 500 members in 46 countries. In 2025, eight certifications had been renewed, three new routes certified and two decertified. The 14th Advisory Forum had been held in Türkiye in October, on the theme “Council of Europe Cultural Routes and Landscapes: Advancing Heritage Protection through Cultural and Sustainable Tourism”. The 2026 Forum would be held in Armenia and would focus on the role of education for sustainable heritage.

Going forward, efforts would be concentrated on setting up a reflection group to examine the current levels of thematic representativeness of the Cultural Routes programme, youth participation and support for Ukrainian participation.

Rui Gomes, Executive Secretary of the EPA, told the Committee that he wished to present the reflection group’s findings to the CDCPP at the next plenary session.

The Committee reiterated its support for and interest in the Cultural Routes and their role in promoting sustainable tourism, spatial and economic development, and links with the Faro Convention. The CDCPP was also considering how to respond to the challenges of the New Democratic Pact through the Cultural Routes.

The Secretariat also referred to the relationship between the EHDs and Cultural Routes through grant awards since 2023.

The Committee took note of the 2025 activities of the EPA on Cultural Routes.

17. Information concerning other Council of Europe activities

17.1 *Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe*

Dana Karanjac reported that the [Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe](#) (APCE) welcomed the cross-cutting work linking culture, heritage and education with human rights and democratic societies. She went on to say that the new political context provided by the NDP was an opportunity to revitalise and raise the profile of the work done by the Council of Europe in the fields of culture, heritage and education. Action was needed to restore young people’s confidence in democracy, in particular through learning, democratic practice and innovative approaches. This was in line with the desire to place culture at the heart of all policies and actions.

Reports under preparation and of relevance to the CDCPP were then presented: *Socialising at schools: for an inclusive and participatory education fostering democratic values*; *Partnerships between culture and education sectors for young people to engage in a democratic society*; *Preserving European rural culture and heritage*.

Also of note were the PACE reports “Countering the erasure of cultural identity in war and peace”, adopted in June 2024, and “Multiperspectivity in remembrance and history education for democratic citizenship”, adopted in January 2025.

17.2 *Congress of Local and Regional Authorities*

Roman Chlapak, Committee Secretary of the [Congress of Local and Regional Authorities](#) Committee on Governance, Civic Engagement and Environment, presented the two reports adopted at the October meeting, one of which had been forwarded to the Chamber of Regions and the other to the plenary.

The first report dealt with the teaching of regional history, emphasising the importance of highlighting this often forgotten heritage. The second report concerned the strategy for reconstruction in Ukraine, in which culture and heritage were cited as priorities. Culture and heritage must be protected in the reconstruction process with local participation and a place-sensitive approach to preserve memory. The Congress’s next reports would look at contested or conflicting memories, school absenteeism and coastal erosion. Discussions were also under way to develop synergies with the EHDs.

17.3 *INGOS*

Gerhard Ermischer reported on the recent activities of INGOs. Webinars had been created and participation was growing, especially as the webinars attracted audiences in many countries outside Europe that were interested in the work carried out by the Council of Europe and its conventions. He therefore encouraged exchanges between the Council of Europe INGOs and civil society and, more broadly, efforts to sensitise civil society to the changes that the various conventions and recommendations could bring about.

The Committee took note of the 2025 culture and heritage-related activities of PACE, the Congress and INGOs and encouraged further synergies across the Organisation in the sphere of culture and heritage.

17.4 *RESIST*

Boris Lazov introduced [Strengthening Societal Resilience to Disinformation in Europe](#) (RESIST). With a view to supporting countries to withstand disinformation, this project seeks to inform citizens in order to develop their critical thinking skills and empower them to distinguish reliable information from false claims. The cultural dimension of the fight against disinformation is to the fore in the project so it would be useful to identify synergies with the Committee and its members.

The Division for Cooperation on Freedom of Expression wishes to work with the CDCPP to help identify good practices and gaps in order to strengthen resilience in the respective countries. The aim is to support countries in creating cross-sectoral national platforms to prepare resilience strategies and ensure their delivery. The beneficiary countries are: Croatia, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania and Slovenia.

The Committee took note of the programme RESIST - Strengthening Societal Resilience to Disinformation in Europe.

18. Information on other co-operation

No information was provided.

19. Specific deliverables in 2027

The Secretariat outlined the various expectations for 2027. They included the guidance document on youth involvement in culture and heritage in a digital world, in co-operation with the European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ); the preliminary draft CM Recommendation on the role of culture and heritage in promoting equality and non-discrimination with the CDADI; the guiding principles on putting Cultural Rights into practice to foster democratic life in Europe, including the Indicator Framework on Culture and Democracy to which member states could be invited to contribute. To draft these documents, it was planned to use working groups and involve experts. The Secretariat would launch a call for applications for the working group on the draft guidance document on youth involvement in culture and heritage.

20. Any other business

No other business was raised.

21. Dates of the next meeting

The next plenary session of the Steering Committee would be held from 17 to 19 November 2026.

Elections

As the number of candidates exactly matched the number of positions available, a consensus vote was accepted by the Committee.

Following the elections, the composition of the new Bureau, effective as of 1 January 2026, was as follows:

- Chair: Anna Steiner (Austria)
- Vice-Chair: Muzaffer Tolunay Saraç (Türkiye)
- Members:
 - Araz Baghirli (Azerbaijan)
 - Mihkel Kaevats (Estonia)
 - Baldur Guðmundsson (Iceland)
 - Fabian Richter (Germany)
 - Mirna Sabljak (Croatia)
 - Sergio Vidal (Spain)
 - Barbara Zeches (Luxembourg)

Appendix 1 – List of Participants



STEERING COMMITTEE FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE (CDCPP)
COMITE DIRECTEUR DE LA CULTURE, DU PATRIMOINE ET DU PAYSAGE (CDCPP)

14th plenary session – 18- 20 November 2025 / 14^e session plénière – 18-20 novembre 2025

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS / LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS

Member States**Etats Membres**

ALBANIA		ALBANIE
Ms Lira PIPA	Deputy Minister of Economy, Culture, and Innovation Boulevard “Dëshmorët e Kombit”, N0.3, Tirana	<i>Apologies / excusée</i>
ANDORRA		ANDORRE
M. Olivier CODINA	Govern d'Andorra - Patrimoni Cultural Carrer Prat de la Creu, 62-64 AD-500 Andorra la Vella	<i>Apologies / excusé</i>
ARMENIA		ARMENIE
Ms Mariam GIGOYAN	Head of the International Cultural Cooperation Division Department of International Relations and Diaspora Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Armenia 3 Vazgen Sargsyan Str., Government House 2, 0010 Yerevan, Armenia	<i>Apologies / excusée</i>
AUSTRIA		AUTRICHE
Dr Anna STEINER Vice-Chair of the CDCPP	Federal Ministry for Housing, Arts, Culture, Media and Sport European and International Cultural Affairs Dep IV/10: European and International Cultural Policy Concordiaplatz 2, 1014 VIENNA, Austria	
AZERBAIJAN		AZERBAÏDJAN
Mr Araz BAGHIRLI	Ministry of Culture International Cooperation Department Head of Cooperation with International Organizations Ministry of Culture, AZ1000 Baku	
Mr Ordukhon GAHRAMANZADE	Ministry of Culture International Cooperation Department	

BELGIUM		BELGIQUE
Mme Isabelle LEROY	Attaché, Direction Patrimoine culturel, Affaires internationales Région de Bruxelles-Capitale / urban Mont des arts 10-13 Bruxelles 1000	
Mme Ingrid BOXUS	Agence wallonne du patrimoine Rue du Moulin de Meuse, 4 5000 Namur (Beez)	
Mr Arno BEUNEN	Officer for International Cultural Heritage Policy Department of Culture, Youth and Media of the Flemish Community Simon Bolivarlaan 17, 1000 Brussel	
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA		BOSNIE-HERZEGOVINE
Mr Edin VELADZIC	Senior Adviser for European Integration and International Cultural Cooperation Ministry of Civil Affairs Sarajevo	
BULGARIA		BULGARIE
Mr Petar MILADINOV	Head of the International Activities Division Department of "International cooperation European programs and regional activities Ministry of Culture Sofia	<i>Apologies / excusé</i>
CROATIA		CROATIE
Ms Mirna SABLJAK	Head of Sector for the Protection of Cultural Heritage Directorate for the Protection of Cultural Heritage Ministry of Culture and Media, Runjaninova 2 - 10000 ZAGREB	
CYPRUS		CHYPRE
Ms Chara TRIANTAFYLLIDOU	Department of Town Planning and Housing 5-6 Kinira str, 1102 Nicosia, Cyprus	
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Ms Magdalena FANTOVA	Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic EU Affairs Department Milady Horákové 139, 160 41, Praha 6	
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Dr Morten STENAK	Head of Office Ministry of Culture Agency for Culture and Palaces Fejøgade 1, 4800 Nykøbing F.	

ESTONIA		ESTONIE
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Ms Kadri JAURAM	Counsellor of EU Affairs Communication and International Cooperation Department Ministry of Culture Suur-Karja 23, 15076 Tallinn, Estonia	
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FRANCE		FRANCE
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Mme Emilie FLEURY-JÄGERSCHMIDT	Référente Paysages et représentante à la Convention de Florence Ministère en charge de l'Écologie Direction de l'Habitat, de l'Urbanisme et des Paysages Tour Séquoia 1 place Carpeaux 92055 LA DÉFENSE CEDEX	
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GEORGIA		GEORGIE
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HOLY SEE		SAINT-SIEGE
Mgr. Fabrizio CAPANNI	Officier du Dicastère pour la culture et l'éducation Département pour les biens culturels Piazza Pio XII 3, 00120 Città del Vaticano	
HUNGARY		HONGRIE
Ms Yvette HORVÁTH (Culture)	Policy Officer for EU and International Affairs Department for International Relations Ministry of Culture and Innovation H-1055 Budapest, Honvéd utca 13-15	
Ms Kinga ALBICZ (Landscape)	Landscape and Nature Conservation Officer Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture Department for National Parks and Landscape Protection Landscape and Nature Conservation Officer H-1051 Budapest, Apáczai Csere János Street 9.	
Ms Eszter BOGNÁR (Heritage)	Policy Officer for International Affairs, HEREIN National Coordinator Ministry of Construction and Transport Deputy State Secretariat for Monument and Cultural Heritage Protection H-1055 Budapest, Bihari János street 5.	
ICELAND		ISLANDE
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IRELAND		IRLANDE

ITALY		ITALIE
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KAZAKHSTAN		KAZAKHSTAN
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LIECHTENSTEIN		LIECHTENSTEIN
M. Patrik BIRRER	Head of Office for Culture Principality of Liechtenstein Peter-Kaiser-Platz 2 Postfach 684, 9490 Vaduz	<i>Apologies / excusé</i>
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Mme Barbara ZECHES	Conseiller Ministère de la Culture Services des Affaires européennes et internationales 4, boulevard F.D. Roosevelt – L-2450 LUXEMBOURG	
MALTA		MALTE
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POLAND		POLOGNE
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Ms Bengü SAYAR Culture and Tourism Expert
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UNITED KINGDOM**ROYAUME-UNI**

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Other Participants / Autres Participants

Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe		Assemblée parlementaire du Conseil de l'Europe
Ms Dana KARANJAC	Secretary of the Parliamentary Assembly Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media	
Congress of Local and Regional Authorities		Congrès des pouvoirs locaux et régionaux
Mr Roman CHLAPAK	Secretary of the Committee on Governance, Civic Engagement and the Environment (Governance Committee)	
Conference of International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOs)		Conférence des Organisations internationales non-gouvernementales (OING)
Mr Gerhard ERMISCHER	President	
EUROPEAN COMMISSION		COMMISSION EUROPEENNE
Directorate General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (DG EAC) B-1049 Brussels/Belgium		
Mr Arnaud VAN CUTSEM	Policy Assistant, Cultural Policy Unit	
Mr Benjamin VAN DER HELM	Policy Officer	
Mr Maximilian VOIGT	Policy Officer, D.2 - Creative Europe	
Ms Suzanne BONFILS	Blue Book Trainee, D.1 Cultural Policy Unit	

Observers / Observateurs

CAE - CULTURE ACTION EUROPE		CAE - CULTURE ACTION EUROPE
Mr Lars EBERT	Secretary General Culture Action Europe 23 rue Ravenstein, 1000 Brussels	
CIVILSCAPE		CIVILSCAPE
Mr Dirk GOTZMANN	Director	
EAC - Europae Archaeologiae Consilium		EAC - Europae Archaeologiae Consilium
Ms Vera AMEELS	Secretary EAC Policy officer, Flanders Heritage	
E.C.C.O. - European Confederation of Conservator-Restorers Organisations		
Ms Ekaterina PASNAK	E.C.C.O. General secretary Conservator-Restorer (paper) Norwegian Delegate (NKF-N)	<i>Apologies / excusée</i>
ENCATC - European Network on Cultural Policy and Management		ENCATC - Réseau européen des politiques et du management culturels
Ms Giannalia COGLIANDRO	Secretary General	
Dr Carla FIGUEIRA	Strategic Policy Advisor ENCATC European Network of Cultural Administration Training Centres, the European Network of Cultural Management and Policy Education	
EUROPA NOSTRA		EUROPA NOSTRA
Ms Luisella PAVAN-WOOLFE	Council member	
FEDE (Federation for Education in Europe)		FEDE (Fédération européenne des Ecoles)
M. Rodrigo DIAZ MACIEL	Chargé du développement international / International Development Officer	
ICOMOS		ICOMOS
Dr Jurjaen BUISMAN	Secretary General of ICOMOS / Vice-President Europe of ICOMOS-IFLA ISC Cultural Landscapes / General Director of Stichting Museum Geelvinck	
Dr Riin ALATALU	Vice-President of ICOMOS	<i>Apologies / excusée</i>
IFLA - International Federation of Landscape Architects (Europe)		IFLA - Fédération internationale des Architectes Paysagistes (Europe)
Mr Niek HAZENDONK	Landscape Architect	
ORGANIZATION OF WORLD HERITAGE CITIES (OWHC)		ORGANISATION DES VILLES DU PATRIMOINE MONDIALE (OVPM)
Mme Marion BAUDRY	Chargée de mission Patrimoine - Ville et Eurométropole de Strasbourg	

Guest Experts / Experts invités**GUEST EXPERTS****EXPERTS INVITÉS****FREE TO CREATE | CREATE TO BE FREE PLATFORM**

Ms Katalin KRASZNAHORKAI Lead Expert, Art Historian, Author, Curator of the Digital Exhibition

THEMATIC REPORT ON THE STATE OF FREEDOM OF ARTISTIC EXPRESSION

Ms Sara WHYATT Lead Expert, Author of the Thematic Report - Research Director at Freemuse

ONLINE AWARENESS RAISING COURSE ON THE LEGAL ASPECTS OF FREEDOM OF ARTISTIC EXPRESSION

Ms Ana MARTINOVIC Lead Consultant and Lawyer

THEMATIC SESSION – CULTURE AND HERITAGE AS PILLARS OF DEMOCRACY

Mr Simon MUNDY Honorary Research Fellow for Cultural Advocacy,
Queen Mary University of London

Mr Liam MONTGOMERY Vice-Chair, European Heritage Days Assembly of National Coordinators

Mr Lars EBERT Secretary General, Culture Action Europe

Mr Prosper WANNER Lead Expert, Faro Convention Network

COMPENDIUM OF CULTURAL POLICIES AND TRENDS

Ms Ulrike BLUMENREICH Association of the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends

Mr Oliver GOEBEL Association of the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends

EUROPEAN HERITAGE DAYS / JOURNEES EUROPEENES DU PATRIMOINE

Mr Liam MONTGOMERY Vice-Chair, European Heritage Days Assembly of National Coordinators

Mr Asier MADARIETA JUARISTI Managing Director
Zuzendari Kudeatzailea, Bizkaia, Spain

Ms Inga SARMA Researcher, Jūrmala City Museum
Jūrmala, Latvia

Ms Tetyana BEY Head of the City Museum
Lviv, Ukraine

Ms Svitlana TYMKIV Manager of Educational Programmes, City Museum
Department of the Lviv City Council's Lviv Tourism Development Centre
Lviv, Ukraine

DRAFT RECOMMENDATION ON THE ROLE OF CULTURE AND HERITAGE IN PROMOTING EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION / PROJET DE RECOMMANDATION SUR LE RÔLE DE LA CULTURE ET DU PATRIMOINE DANS LA PROMOTION DE L'ÉGALITÉ ET DE LA NON-DISCRIMINATION

Dr Hakan Shearer Demir Lead Consultant

WORKING GROUP MEMBERS

Dr Ivana PILIĆ Co-founder and Board Member
D—Arts – Project Office for Diversity
Vienna, AUSTRIA

Dr Sandrine MICOSSÉ-AIKINS Director, Diversity Arts Culture
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Mr Øystein HAGLAND Senior Advisor, Norwegian Directorate for Cultural Heritage
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Ms Júlia AYERBE PhD Fellow, Department of Art History
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Mr János HALÁSZ Policy Officer for EU Affairs,
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Dr Jennifer L. NOVOTNY Scottish Civic Trust
Diverse Heritage Strategy and Development Officer *Apologies*

COUNCIL OF EUROPE SECRETARIAT / SECRETARIAT DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE**DGII – Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity /
DGII – Direction générale de la démocratie et de la dignité humaine****Directorate for Democracy / Direction de la démocratie****Mr Matjaž GRUDEN** Director / Directeur**Democratic Institutions and Freedoms Department / Service des institutions démocratiques et des libertés****Ms Irena GUIDIKOVA** Head of Department / Cheffe du Service**Culture and Heritage for Democracy Division / Division de la Culture et du Patrimoine pour la Démocratie****Mr Daniil KHOCHABO** Head of Division and Secretary of the CDCPP /
Chef de la Division et Secrétaire du CDCPP**Ms Gillian FRENCH** Principal Administrative Assistant / Assistante administrative principale**Ms Ipek DEMIRBUKER** Administrative Assistant / Assistante administrative**Ms Ludivine BRIAIN** Trainee / Stagiaire**Culture and Cultural Heritage / Culture et Patrimoine culturel****Mr Francesc PLA** Head of Unit / Chef d'Unité**Mr Simone PULLANO** Project Support Assistant / Assistant d'appui de projet**European Heritage Days / Journées européennes du patrimoine****Mr Sergei BAZARYA** Head of Unit / Chef d'Unité**Ms Itana PRLEVIC** Communications**EURIMAGES Partial Agreement / Accord partiel EURIMAGES****Ms Susan NEWMAN-BAUDAIS** Executive Director / Directrice exécutive**Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes / Accord partiel élargi sur les Itinéraires culturels****Mr Rui GOMES** Executive Secretary of the Enlarged Partial Agreement
Director of the European Institute of Cultural Routes**Ms Aurélie CHARTIER** Executive Assistant / Assistante exécutive**Division for Cooperation on Freedom of Expression / Division pour la Coopération sur la Liberté d'Expression****Mr Boris LAZOV** RESIST: Strengthening Societal Resilience to Disinformation in Europe /
RESIST: Renforcer la résilience sociétale face à la désinformation en Europe**Directorate of Equal Rights and Dignity / Direction de l'égalité en droits et en dignité****Anti-discrimination Department / Service de l'anti-discrimination****Ms Cristina MILAGRE** Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI)
Comité directeur sur l'anti-discrimination, la diversité et l'inclusion (CDADI)

DGI – Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law /
DGI – Direction générale des droits humains et État de droit

Directorate of Social Rights, Health and Environment /
Direction des droit sociaux, de la santé et de l'environnement

Reykjavik Process and Environment Department / Service du Processus de Reykjavik et Environnement

Mr Gianluca SILVESTRINI Head of Department a.i. / Chef du Service a.i. *Apologies / excusé*

Ms Nino LATSABIDZE Policy Advisor / Conseillère politique

Council of Europe Landscape Convention / Convention du Conseil de l'Europe sur le Paysage

Ms Caroline MARTIN Secretary of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention /
 Secrétaire de la Convention du Conseil de l'Europe sur le Paysage

Directorate of Legal Advice and Public International law (DLAPIL) /
Direction du Conseil juridique et du Droit international public (DLAPIL)

Mr Antoine KARLE Public International Law Division and Treaty Office

Interpreters **Interprètes**

Ms Celia MONCOQ

Mr Jean-Jacques PEDUSSAUD

Mr Derrick WORSDALE

Mr Kamal ZIMMERMANN

Technicians **Técnicos**

M. Louis FREUND

M. Timothée GIHR

Mr Oliver SIMPSON

Appendix 2 – Agenda

Celebrating
70 years of the
European Cultural
Convention
Célébration des
70 ans de la
Convention
culturelle
européenne
1954 - 2024

**#NO
CULTURE
NO
DEMOCRACY**



Strasbourg, 18 November 2025

CDCPP(2025)OJ1

**14th PLENARY SESSION OF THE
STEERING COMMITTEE FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE
(CDCPP)**

In-person meeting (with online connection possibilities)
Strasbourg, Palais de l'Europe, Room 8

AGENDA

TUESDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2025 (9.30 am to 12.30 pm and 2.30 pm to 5.30 pm)
WEDNESDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2025 (9.00 am to 12.30 pm and 2.30 pm to 5.30 pm)
THURSDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2025 (9.30 am to 1.00 pm)

DAY 1 – Tuesday 18 November 2025

All estimated timings indicated in CET (Paris time)
All timings and sessions are subject to modification

9:00	Registration and coffee (outside Room 8) – Testing of online connections	
9:30	1. Opening of the meeting by Dr Anna Steiner, Vice-Chair of the CDCPP	
	2. Adoption of the agenda	CDCPP(2025)OJ1
9:45	3. Address by and exchange of views with Irena Guidikova, Head of Department, Democratic Institutions and Liberties	
10:00	4. Elections: procedure and possible late nominations <i>Presented by Francesc Pla, Head of Unit, Culture and Cultural Heritage</i>	CDCPP(2025)1
	2025-2026 - FIELDS OF ACTIVITIES OF THE CDCPP Deliverables in 2025 and 2026 <i>Items for Discussion, Endorsement, Adoption and Information under main deliverable n°s 6, 10, 13</i>	Terms of Reference and Programme for 2024-2027
	5. CULTURE – FREEDOM OF ARTISTIC EXPRESSION	
10:15-10:45	5.1 Discursive Platform – CreateToBeFree <u><i>Introductory remarks by the Secretariat</i></u>	CDCPP(2024)5 CDCPP(2025)5 CDCPP(2025)16

	<i>Presentation by Dr Katalin Krasznahorkai, Curator of the Council of Europe digital exhibition “Free to Create - Create to be Free”</i> <i>Discussion and comments by the members of the Committee</i>	Restricted
10:45-11:15	Coffee break	
11:15-11:45	5.2 Online awareness raising course on Freedom of Artistic Expression <i>Introductory remarks by the Secretariat</i> <i>Presentation of the course by Ana Martinovic, Lead Consultant and Lawyer</i> <i>Discussion and comments by the members of the Committee</i>	CDCPP(2025)11a CDCPP(2025)11b CDCPP(2025)11c
11:45-12:15	5.3 2nd general report on the state of freedom of artistic expression in Europe <i>Update on the questionnaire and the further course of action by Sara Whyatt, Free to Create Consultant</i> <i>Comments and best practice presentations from the delegations</i>	CDCPP(2025)6 CDCPP(2025)18
12:15-12:30	5.4 Progress report on the Association of the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends	
12:30-14:30	Lunch break	
6. THEMATIC SESSION: “The role of culture and cultural heritage for democracy and democratic participation” CDCPP’s contribution to the New Democratic Pact Chaired and moderated by Irena Guidikova Presentations and contribution to the debate by:		CDCPP(2025)15
14:30-14:40	➤ Irena Guidikova , Introduction to the Council of Europe New Democratic Pact for Europe and Culture at the World Forum for Democracy	CDCPP(2025)14
14:40-15:00	➤ Simon Mundy , Honorary Research Fellow for Cultural Advocacy, Queen Mary University of London <i>Report on a consultation process with academics</i>	CDCPP(2025)15 Appendix 1
15:00-15:15	➤ Liam Montgomery , Vice-Chair of the European Heritage Days Assembly of National Coordinators and Marketing & Projects Manager at Heritage Open Days	
15:15-15:30	➤ Prosper Wanner , Lead Expert, Faro Convention Network and Rapporteur of the Thematic Session	
15:30-16:00	Coffee break - Screening of a video on the conference “No Culture – No Democracy” organised under the auspices of the Luxembourg Presidency	Link to Video
16:00-16:15	➤ Lars Ebert , Secretary General, Culture Action Europe	
16:15-16:30	➤ Ulrike Blumenreich and Olivier Göbel , Association of the Compendium on Cultural Policies and Trends	
16:30-17:30	Debate – interventions and exchange on best practice experience, initiatives and policies on the topics by members of the CDCPP	CDCPP(2025)3 CDCPP(2025)17

<u>DAY 2 – Wednesday 19 November 2025</u>		
9:00-9:30	7. Elections: Announcement of nominees and presentations	CDCPP(2025)OJ1
	2025 - 2026 - FIELDS OF ACTIVITIES OF THE CDCPP <i>continued</i> Specific deliverables in 2025 <i>Item for Discussion and Approval under main deliverable n° 7</i>	<u>Terms of Reference and Programme for 2024-2027</u>
	CULTURE AND HERITAGE	
9:30-10:30	8. Preliminary Draft CM Recommendation on the role of culture and heritage in promoting equality and non-discrimination <i>in co-operation with the Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI)</i> ➤ Presentation with the participation of Dr Hakan Shearer Demir, Lead Consultant ➤ Discussion and comments of the Committee on the draft Recommendation, with the participation of the members of the working group online ➤ Decision of the Committee on further course of action, in line with the Terms of Reference and the consultation process with the Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI)	CDCPP(2025)4a CDCPP(2025)4b CDCPP(2025)4c
10:30-11:00	Coffee break	
	CULTURE - EURIMAGES	
11:00-11:30	9. Enlarged Partial Agreement Eurimages ➤ Brief overview of the 2025 programme of activities <i>Presentation by the Eurimages Secretariat</i>	
	GENERAL ISSUES	
11:30-12:00	10. Observer status New requests and discussion on the criteria of attribution of the status of observer to the CDCPP 10.1 Criteria for the attribution of the status of observer to the CDCPP <i>For decision</i> 10.2. Report by the Chair and the Bureau on the hearing concerning the request for observer status from ⇒ Association of Commercial Broadcasting and Video on Demand Services in Europe (ACT) ⇒ European Broadcasting Union (EBU) ⇒ European Film Agency Directors (EFAD) <i>For discussion and possible decision</i>	CDCPP(2025)12 CDCPP-Bu(2025)13 CDCPP-Bu(2025)16
	CULTURE – HERITAGE – COOPERATION	

12:00-12:30	11. Action Plan for Ukraine 2023-2026	
	➤ Update on the current situation with regard to Culture and Cultural Heritage in Ukraine provided by the Ukrainian delegation ➤ Information provided by the Secretariat on the preliminary stage of the project "Framing Cooperation for Preservation and Enhancement of Culture and Cultural Heritage in Ukraine", designed in the framework of the Action Plan for Ukraine 2023-2026	
12:30-14:30	Lunch break	
	12. HERITAGE	CDCPP(2025)9
14:30-15:00	12.1 Nicosia Convention ➤ Handbook for raising awareness among young people and children on the prevention of offences related to cultural property (Nicosia Convention). (Formerly 'Guidelines on the prevention aspects associated to the Council of Europe Convention on Offences related to Cultural Property') ➤ State of play of ratifications and Aragon Group Presentations by the Secretariat Discussion Approval of the Handbook by the Committee	CDCPP(2025)9 CDCPP(2025)19 CDCPP(2025)20
15:00-15:50	12.2 European Heritage Days Heritage and Architecture: Windows to the Past - Doors to the Future 40 years of the Granada Convention and the European Heritage Days Reinterpreting European Architectural Heritage: Local and Regional Narratives from Bizkaia, Jūrmala and Lviv Presentation by Liam Montgomery , Vice-Chair of the European Heritage Days Assembly of National Coordinators Presentation by Asier Madarieta Juaristi , Managing Director, Zuzendari Kudeatzailea, Bizkaia, Spain <u>Presentations by winners of the Call for European Heritage Days Stories</u> Inga Sarma , Researcher, Jūrmala City Museum EHD Stories 2022 Winner: Strawberry fields in Jūrmala (Latvia) Tetyana Bey , Head of the City Museum, Lviv and Svitlana Tymkiv , Manager of Educational Programmes, City Museum Department of the Lviv City Council's Lviv Tourism Development Centre EHD Stories 2024 Winner: Urban gardening: Harvest time in the city (Ukraine)	CDCPP(2025)9 2025 Brochure
15:50-16:10	12.3 Faro Convention Faro Convention Action Plan Presentation by the Secretariat	CDCPP(2025)9
16:10-16:20	12.4 HEREIN Presentation by the Secretariat	CDCPP(2025)9 Thematic Report on Maritime, River, and Lake Heritage
16:20-16:30	12.5 1975 European Architectural Heritage Year	Conference website and programme

	International Conference "A Future for whose Past? The Heritage of Minorities, Fringe Groups, and People Without a Lobby" (Ascona, Switzerland, 21-24 October 2025) - Update by Terje Birkrem Hovland , former Chair of the CDCPP	
16:30-16:50	Coffee break	
	13. LANDSCAPE	
	2025 - 2026 - FIELDS OF ACTIVITIES OF THE CDCPP <i>continued</i> Specific deliverables in 2025 and 2026 <i>Items for Information, Discussion, Endorsement and Adoption under main deliverable n°s 9, 12</i>	Terms of Reference and Programme for 2024-2027
16:50-17:00	➤ Report of the 12th Conference on the implementation of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention (<i>2025 deliverable</i>) Presentation by Dr Gilles Rudaz , Chair of the 12th Conference Discussion Adoption by the Committee	CDCPP(2025)7
	➤ Draft CM Recommendation to facilitate the implementation of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention ("Landscape, a living environment") (<i>2026 deliverable</i>) Update by the Landscape Secretariat: Caroline Martin , Secretary of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention Nino Latsabidze , Policy Advisor, Reykjavik Process and Environment Department	
	13. LANDSCAPE <i>continued</i> Activities in 2025	
17:00-17:30	Council of Europe Landscape Convention (Florence Convention) ➤ Informal Ministerial Conference to mark the 25th anniversary of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention (Florence, 27-28 October 2025) ➤ Intervention by Dr Anna Steiner, Vice Chair of the CDCPP ➤ Meeting of the States Parties and Observers of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention (Florence, 27 October 2025) ➤ Online presentation by Marta Rodrigues, Chair of the 13th Conference on the implementation of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention on the: ▪ Award ceremony of the 8th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe (Lousã, Portugal, 27 June 2025) ▪ 9th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe ▪ 13th Council of Europe Conference on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (2026) ➤ New Information System on the Council of Europe Landscape Convention ➤ Development of Council of Europe activities on the Environment Updates by the Landscape Secretariat	Conference website Florence Declaration Landscape Award of the Council of Europe Concept Note for the 13th Landscape Conference

DAY 3 – Thursday 20 November 2025

9:30-10:00	14. Elections – vote and announcement of results	CDCPP(2025)1
	GENERAL ISSUES	
10:00-10:30	15. Mid-term revision of the Terms of Reference of the Committee <i>Presentation by the Secretariat</i> <i>Feedback and reporting for the <u>Programme and Budget</u></i> <i>Discussion on future priorities and lines of action</i>	CDCPP(2025)2 <i>Proposed revised ToRs</i> CDCPP(2025)3 CDCPP(2025)17
	Cooperation with, and presentation of other Council of Europe activities in the fields of culture, heritage and landscape	
10:30-11:00	16. Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes ➤ Brief overview of the 2025 programme of activities <i>Presentation by Alfredas Jomantas (Lithuania)</i>	CDCPP(2025)10
11:00-11:30	Coffee break	
11:30-11:50	17. Information concerning other Council of Europe activities ➤ <i>Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe</i> ➤ <i>Congress of Local and Regional Authorities</i> ➤ <i>Conference of International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOs)</i> ➤ <i>RESIST - Strengthening Societal Resilience to Disinformation in Europe, Division for Cooperation on Freedom of Expression</i>	
11:50-12:10	18. Information on other co-operation ➤ <i>Co-operation with other international bodies</i> ➤ <i>Co-operation with civil society and professional associations</i>	
	FIELDS OF ACTIVITIES OF THE CDCPP	
12:10-12:30	19. Specific deliverables in 2027 ➤ Guidance document on youth involvement in culture and heritage in a digital world in co-operation with the European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ) ➤ Guiding principles on putting Cultural Rights into practice to foster democratic life in Europe, including the Indicator Framework on Culture and Democracy	
	20. Any other business	
	21. Dates of the next meeting ➤ <i>Strasbourg, 17-19 November 2026</i>	
13:00	Close of the meeting by the Vice Chair	