



Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe

NATIONAL COUNTRY MAPPING TURKEY



Mars 2020

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

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



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Prepared by: Dr. Ayşegül Yılmaz
Mars 2020

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Executive Summary

Turkey has become a Member State of the Enlarged Partial Agreement of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe on 15 January 2018. During the Cultural Routes EPA Governing Board Meeting in April 2019, it was agreed that it would be for the benefit of Turkey to have a Cultural Routes Country Mapping conducted by an external expert. The following sections investigate the country's potential to participate in the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe's programme.

National heritage policies and legislation

The Annual Presidential Program of 2020 highlights the development of Cultural Routes in Turkey.

Turkey's main legislation for the conservation and governance of heritage is Law No. 2863, Law on the Conservation of Cultural and Natural Property. The main governing body of heritage and tourism is the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.

Turkey's Tourism Strategy 2023 places emphasis to promote not so well-known regions rich in cultural assets and intangible heritage, diversifying tourism tools as well as developing health, thermal, gastronomy, wine and ecotourism.

International/European heritage labels and initiatives

Turkey has ratified most international agreements and conventions related to the conservation of cultural and natural heritage, the most relevant here being the UNESCO 1972 World Heritage Convention (18 inscribed sites); UNESCO 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (18 intangible cultural heritage elements inscribed); UNESCO 2005 Convention for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions; COE European Landscape Convention; COE Convention for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage of Europe; and the COE Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe.

SWOT analysis of Turkey's potential

Strengths: Turkey's strengths lie in its wealth of tangible (particularly archaeological) and intangible cultural heritage as well as its natural heritage; its historic and cultural links with neighbouring and other European countries; the tourism sector's competitive ranking; its young, educated workforce in the tourism sector; and its modern transportation and communication infrastructure.

Weaknesses: Turkey lacks a legal framework for the protection of natural and cultural heritage along Cultural Routes, and a legislation that would be relevant to the care and governance of Cultural Routes; local authorities lack qualified staff; rural areas suffer from outmigration, an ageing population, and lack proper accommodation facilities; many local state archaeological museums require modernisation; many protected heritage sites are poorly conserved and managed, and lack proper signage and heritage interpretation.

Opportunities: Turkey's location between the West and East and its historic and cultural links with neighbouring countries offer the opportunity to create interesting new Cultural Routes; its rich heritage offers a wealth of alternative tourism opportunities for all income levels; local authorities have a keen interest to promote and develop their not so well known heritage assets, and increasingly support local cultural route projects; rural communities are interested in participating in tourism; and the newly established Tourism Promotion and Development Agency will be a major source of funding.

Threats: The unstable political situation along Turkey's southeastern border due to the Syrian war; the negative effects of climate change; an aggressive model of development based on infrastructure and other types of construction and the extraction of natural resources in the form of mining has been threatening natural and cultural heritage across the country; ageing and diminishing rural populations as a result of outmigration of younger generations; increased pollution of seas; poor waste management in rural areas; and economic fluctuations effecting domestic tourism.

Inventory of Cultural Routes related activities

Turkey is already part of the following five Cultural Routes:

- ▶ European Route of Historic Thermal Towns
- ▶ The Routes of the Olive Tree
- ▶ European Route of Jewish Heritage
- ▶ European Route of Industrial Heritage
- ▶ Iron Curtain Trail

Turkey has significant potential participating in the following existing Routes:

- ▶ European Route of Megalithic Culture
- ▶ Iter Vitis
- ▶ European Route of Ceramics
- ▶ Prehistoric Rock Art Trails
- ▶ Phoenicians' Route
- ▶ Viking Routes

There are currently two potentially new cultural routes Turkey is involved in: the "**Aeneas Route**" and "**Via Eurasia**". Their umbrella associations are planning to submit their application to become a Cultural Route of the Council of Europe for the 2020-2021 certification cycle.

New ideas for Cultural Routes that may emerge from Turkey are:

- ▶ Route of Sinan the Architect
- ▶ Route of the Great Explorer Evliya Çelebi
- ▶ Route on the Influences of the Silk Road in Europe
- ▶ European Route of Neolithic Cultures
- ▶ European Mosaic Routes
- ▶ Route of Early Belief Systems (or "European Route of Tolerance")

Review of national financing instruments

Turkey's newly established Tourism Promotion and Development Agency
Turkey's Regional Development Agencies
Recently established city "development foundations" or "development companies"
Special Provincial Administrations
Small and Medium Enterprises Development Organization of Turkey (KOSGEB)

Field analysis

Two consecutive meetings with relevant local authorities and other stakeholders were held in the provinces of Şanlıurfa and Adiyaman on 26 and 27 February 2020.

The aims of the field analysis were to inform parties about the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme; about Turkey's current position in the programme; discuss these provinces' potential in participating in the programme; and inform parties about the range of heritage and tourism projects that could be implemented and about sources of funding.

The outcomes of the meetings were very positive. The Şanlıurfa Tourism Development Agency committed to becoming part of the European Route of Megalithic Cultures. Also, Şanlıurfa participants expressed interest in initiating a new Cultural Route. Adiyaman's dolmens may qualify as well to participate at the Megalithic Route, however currently these lack tourism infrastructure, proper conservation and interpretation. However other possibilities of establishing local routes and linking to a new Cultural Route emerging from Şanlıurfa were discussed based on the province's cultural heritage and its connection to surrounding areas.

Recommendations

EPA & the European Cultural Routes Institute:

- Seek to solve legislative issues and problems (such as funding) that would make it difficult for EPA member countries outside the EU to participate effectively
- Provide training program(s) for key Turkish partners (e.g. most relevant CSOs)
- Develop informative & training material - online and printed

Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism:

- A focal point unit or office in the Ministry on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme; encourage participation in already existing Cultural Routes
- Develop/improve/ease legislation that would be relevant to the care and governance of Cultural Routes emerging from Turkey
- Host the Annual Advisory Forum
- Promote Cultural Routes at international and national tourism fairs

Regional/local authorities:

- Strive to become a member in relevant existing Cultural Routes
- Seek opportunities to develop new Cultural Routes in partnership with relevant university programs, research institutes, CSOs in Turkey and abroad.
- Cooperate closely with CSOs, university departments, the private sector and local communities in the implementation of different cultural tourism development projects

Civil society organisations:

- CSOs and museums relevant to the themes of existing Cultural Routes to seek membership in their umbrella organisations
- Lead the initiation of new Cultural Routes
- Partner with other member organisations in various heritage projects
- Promote Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Turkey is involved at international fairs and organizations such as the ITB Berlin, and EMITT
- Encourage tourism agencies to develop short (or long) tour packages

Universities:

- Prior to certification, cooperate with all relevant partner entities to work on all scientific aspects related to the theme and function of the Cultural Route.
- After certification, partner with Route management and other partner and research organizations along the Route to identify areas in need for development, improvement or deeper analysis and develop collaborative projects.
- Organize student exchange programs, and seminars on Route themes with other European universities along the Route under the Erasmus scheme

Conclusion

Turkey is an exceptionally rich country in cultural and natural heritage. It therefore has a very significant potential to enhance its presence in the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme, and by becoming a member of the EPA, Turkey has opened up different possibilities for itself to do so. The country mapping has demonstrated that Turkey already has significant experience in the development of different urban and rural local cultural routes, and a strong interest at highest levels of governance to develop new thematic Cultural Routes.

In addition, field analysis in the southeast of Anatolia has showed that the local level of governance and other relevant parties are very keen, knowledgeable and interested in participating in the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme. It is therefore strongly advised that all necessary structures are put in place that would enable the development of the programme in Turkey.



Introduction

This “Cultural Routes Country Mapping” report for Turkey lays out the country’s potential to participate in the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe’s programme.

Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe are defined as “a cultural, educational heritage and tourism co-operation project aiming at the development and promotion of an itinerary or a series of itineraries based on a historic route, a cultural concept, figure or phenomenon with a transnational importance and significance for the understanding and respect of common European values”, and the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme was first launched in 1987 with the Declaration of Santiago de Compostela. As of March 2020, there are 38 Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe reflecting very different themes that illustrate Europe’s memory, history and heritage (CoE, 2015).

Turkey has become a member state of the EPA of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe on 15 January 2018. During the Cultural Routes EPA Governing Board Meeting in April 2019, based on positive feedbacks about the Cultural Routes Country Mapping for Georgia, Turkish state representatives agreed that it would be for the benefit of Turkey to have a Cultural Routes Country Mapping conducted by an external expert. In October 2019, the author of this report was authorized by the European Cultural Routes Institute and the Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism’s General Directorate of Promotion to carry out the Cultural Routes Country Mapping for Turkey.

The Enlarged Partial Agreement (EPA), currently comprising 34 member countries serves as the governing body of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme. It thus follows the Council of Europe’s policy guidelines, decides the programme strategy and awards “Council of Europe Cultural Route” certification. The EPA was established on a provisional basis for a three-year pilot phase by 13 founding members (followed in March 2011 by another member) on 8 December 2010 by Resolution CM/Res(2010)53, and received permanent status on 18 December 2013 with Resolution CM/Res(2013)66. A subsequent Resolution CM/Res(2013)67 revised the rules for the award of the “Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe” certification. The EPA also enables non-member States of the Council of Europe to participate in the Cultural Routes programme (CoE, 2015).

The Country Mapping for Turkey was conducted between November 2019 and 15 March 2020. First a desk review in preparation for the final report was carried out (to be submitted by the end of December 2019), which included an overview of heritage legislation, a SWOT analysis with regards to Turkey’s position in cultural heritage and tourism, an inventory and analysis of Cultural Routes related activities, a list of potential new themes for Cultural Routes, and a review of financing instruments available nationally to develop Cultural Routes. During this phase, relevant local authorities, civil society organisations, state and private museums, university departments, research organisations, tourism agencies and other potential network partners were identified for each Cultural Route in question and initial contacts established. This initial phase was followed by a field analysis, conducted in the provinces of Şanlıurfa and Adıyaman between 25 and 28 February 2020, and the preparation of the final Country Mapping for Turkey report by 15 March 2020.



Istanbul

National Heritage Policies and Legislation

The Annual Presidential Program of 2020, published in the Official Gazette, dated 4th November 2019, No: 30938, highlights the development of Cultural Routes under Caution 630.6 of Section 2.3.9. on “Culture and Art” as follows:

- “Policy/Caution: Thematic cultural routes on themes of archaeology, literature, history, nature, which particularly include areas protected by the UNESCO, will be developed and promoted.”
- “Responsible/partner organizations: Ministry of Culture and Tourism (responsible); Turkish Tourism Promotion and Development Agency; local authorities.”
- “Activities and projects to be carried out: A thematic cultural route on a theme of archaeology, literature, history and natural heritage will be developed and promoted.”

Law on the Conservation of Cultural and Natural Property; Law Number: 2863; Date of Enactment: 23/07/1983 : In Turkey, the framework for the conservation of cultural heritage is laid out in the Law on the Conservation of Cultural and Natural Property, Law No: 2863. The aim of the law is “to define movable and immovable cultural and natural property to be protected, regulate proceedings and activities, describe the establishment and duties of the organisation that shall set principles and take implementation decisions in this field.” Over the years, various amendments to the law have broadened responsibilities at the local level. In 2004, municipalities became the responsible bodies to preserve and restore historic buildings, implement conservation plans, and provide guidance and assistance to the public.

Ministry of Culture and Tourism : The Ministry of Culture and Tourism (MoCT) is the main governing body under Law Number 2863, responsible for the conservation of cultural heritage and the governance of tourism in Turkey. The MoCT’s

General Directorate of Cultural Heritage and Museums (GDoCHM) has been the designated task force for the protection of cultural heritage

assets in Turkey, and its duties and responsibilities have been laid out in Article 281 of the Presidential Decree No.1 published in the Official Gazette No. 30474, dated 10/7/2018 (Annex 1).

Regulation on the Work of the Superior Council for the Conservation of Cultural and Natural Property and Regional Conservation Councils and Objections Brought Before the Superior Council of Conservation; Date of Enactment: 12.01.2005: The Regulation determines the principles and procedures for the work of the Superior Council for the Conservation of Cultural and Natural Property and for the 37 Regional Conservation Councils, which operate in different regions across the country to execute the duties concerning the protection of immovable cultural and natural property in line with scientific standards (Annex 2).

Regulation on the Substance and Procedures of the Establishment and Duties of the Site Management and the Monument Council and Identification of Management Sites; Date of Enactment: 27.11.2005: The aim of the regulation is to ensure that archaeological sites, conservation sites, their interactive areas and junction points are conserved, managed and monitored within the scope of a sustainable management plan in coordination with public institutions and organisations, and civil society organisations. The regulation lays out the principles of site management; the roles of site management units (of the Site Manager, the Advisory Board and the Audit unit); and the duties and working principles of the Monuments Council.

Regulation on the Contribution for the Protection of Immovable Cultural Properties, Date of Enactment: 22.08.2015: Within the framework of the regulation, 10 percent of property taxes will be allocated for the purpose of protection and use of immovable cultural assets located within the boundaries of duty of municipalities and special provincial administrations.

Regulation on Aid for the Repair of Immovable Cultural Property, Date of Enactment: 15.07.2005: The aim of the Regulation is to determine the procedures for in kind, cash and technical aid to be provided by the Ministry for the conservation, maintenance and repair of immovable cultural and natural property to be protected owned by real and legal persons subject to private law.

Law on Conservation by Renovation and Use by Revitalization of the Deteriorated Historical and Cultural Immovable Property, Law No: 5366, Date of Enactment: 16.6.2005: The objective of this Law is to ensure that dilapidated areas (registered and declared as conservation sites by their respective regional conservation councils) and their conservation zones on the verge of losing their specific character and qualities, are reconstructed and restored by metropolitan, provincial and sub-provincial or district municipalities and municipalities with a population over 50,000 and by special provincial administrations in regions outside the jurisdictions of these municipalities in harmony with regional development activities.

Law on the Encouragement of Cultural Investments and Initiatives, Law No: 5225; Date of Enactment: 21/07/2004: The objective of this Law is to ensure that cultural requirements of individuals and public are met; preservation of the cultural assets and intangible cultural heritage becomes elements of sustainable culture; the cultural communication and interaction settings are rendered effective; artistic and cultural values are produced; opportunities are created and developed for the public to have access to such values; national cultural assets are maintained and treated and used as an element generating contributions to the national economy; and cultural investments and initiatives for construction and operation of cultural centres are encouraged.

Law of Religious Buildings and Building Complexes; Law No: 5737; Date of Enactment: 20/2/2008: The Law determines the procedures and principles regarding the management, activities and supervision of religious buildings and building complexes; the registration, preservation, repair and maintenance of movable and immovable religious cultural assets, and ensures the economic operation and use of such assets. The Law was enacted for the establishment of the General Directorate of Religious Buildings and Building Complexes and in order to lay out its organization, duties, powers and responsibilities.

Law on the Cappadocia Region; Law No: 7174; Date of Enactment: 23/5/2019: The purpose of this Law is to regulate issues related to the conservation, revitalisation, development, promotion, planning, management and supervision of the historical and cultural values as well as the geological and geomorphological fabric and other natural heritage resource values of the Cappadocia Region. With the enactment of the Law, decision-making regarding an area of Cappadocia (forested areas, National Park areas, and protected sites (under Law No. 2863)) of which the boundaries are determined by the Presidency, is delegated to the Cappadocia Area Management Commission.

Law for the Encouragement of Tourism; Law Number: 2634; Date of Enactment: 16.03.1982: The purpose of this Law is to ensure that necessary arrangements are made and measures taken for the regulation and development of the tourism sector and for giving this sector a dynamic structure and mode of operation.

Law on Turkey's Tourism Promotion and Development Agency; Law Number: 7183; Date of Enactment: 11/7/2019: The purpose of the Law is to define the function of Turkey's Tourism Promotion and Development Agency, which is to create a resource for activities supporting the promotion of Turkey and the development of its tourism capacity. The agency will have a 15-person

board to be appointed from among representatives of both public and private businesses in tourism. The agency will be funded -to a great extent- by the "contribution to tourism" levies to be collected from sector players. In addition to the contributions from tourism levies, the fund may also receive cash from the general budget and donations from Turkey and abroad.

Environment Law; Law Number 2872; Date of Enactment: 09.08.1983: The objective of the Law is to protect and improve the environment, which is the common asset of all citizens; make better use of, and preserve land and natural resources in rural and urban areas; prevent water, land and air pollution; by preserving the country's vegetative and livestock assets and natural and historical richness, organize all arrangements and precautions for improving and securing health, civilization and life conditions of present and future generations in conformity with economical and social development objectives, and based on certain legal and technical principles.

National Parks Law; Law Number 2873; Date of Enactment: 09.08.1983 The Law determines the principles for the selection, conservation, development and management of national parks, nature parks, natural monuments and nature protection areas of national and international significance.

Turkey's Tourism Strategy 2023

In 2007, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism commissioned a "Tourism Strategy for Turkey" to be accomplished by 2023, which marks the 100-year anniversary of the foundation of the Turkish Republic. The following points of the Tourism Strategy are relevant with the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme:

- The Tourism Strategy's approach to promote tourism assets is based on the creation of "tourism corridors", "tourism centres" and "ecotourism areas" alongside "cultural and tourism development axes".
- The Tourism Strategy aspires to establish more appealing and stronger alternative destinations and routes. The aim is also to promote not so well-known settlements rich in cultural assets and intangible heritage.
- Turkey plans to strengthen international cooperation and to diversify tourism products. Another goal is to promote tourism and raise awareness among public, private companies and NGOs especially on ecotourism, plateau and agro-tourism.

- Turkey wants to use tourism as an effective tool for fostering social and economic development of regions lagging behind in development and among disadvantaged groups.
- Turkey wants to stimulate domestic tourism by providing alternative tourism products with an acceptable quality for affordable prices.
- The South Marmara (Balıkesir, Çanakkale and Yalova); South Aegean (Aydın, Denizli, Manisa, İzmir); Phrygia (Afyon, Ankara, Uşak, Eskişehir and Kütahya); and Central Anatolia (Aksaray, Kırşehir, Niğde, Nevşehir, Yozgat) regions were identified for developing health and thermal tourism.
- The strategy also proposes to develop an "Olive Corridor" that encompasses the cities Bursa, Gemlik, Mudanya, Balıkesir, Gönen, Bandırma, Erdek, Çanakkale, Ezine, as well as the islands Avşa, Paşalimanı, Ekinlik and Marmara in the South Marmara region. These areas have also significant potential in health, thermal, gastronomy, wine and ecotourism.



Pamukkale, Denizli

International/European heritage labels and initiatives

UNESCO 1972 Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage:

Turkey's decision to ratify the Convention was put forward through Law No: 2658 on 14.04.1982. Turkey ratified the Convention on 16 March 1983.

As of March 2020, Turkey has a total of 18 UNESCO World Heritage Sites inscribed in the World Heritage List of which 16 are "cultural" sites and two are "mixed" sites:

- ▶ Aphrodisias (2017)
- ▶ Archaeological Site of Ani (2016)
- ▶ Archaeological Site of Troy (1998)
- ▶ Bursa and Cumalıkızık: the Birth of the Ottoman Empire (2014)
- ▶ City of Safranbolu (1994)
- ▶ Diyarbakır Fortress and Hevsel Gardens Cultural Landscape (2015)
- ▶ Ephesus (2015)
- ▶ Göbekli Tepe (2018)
- ▶ Great Mosque and Hospital of Divriği (1985)
- ▶ Hattusha: the Hittite Capital (1986)
- ▶ Historic Areas of Istanbul (1985)
- ▶ Nemrut Dağı (1987)
- ▶ Neolithic Site of Çatalhöyük (2012)
- ▶ Pergamon and its Multi-Layered Cultural

- Landscape (2014)
- ▶ Selimiye Mosque and its Social Complex (2011)
- ▶ Xanthos-Letoon (1988)
- ▶ Göreme National Park and the Rock Sites of Cappadocia (1985)
- ▶ Hierapolis-Pamukkale (1988)

In addition, as of March 2020, Turkey has a total of [78 sites](#) included in the UNESCO Tentative List. Of these sites two are "mixed" and three are "natural" sites.

UNESCO 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage:

Turkey approved to become a party to the Convention with Law No: 5448, dated 19 January 2006, and ratified the Convention on 27 March 2006.

As of December 2019, Turkey has the following intangible cultural heritage elements inscribed:

- ▶ Traditional Turkish archery (2019)
- ▶ Heritage of Dede Korkut, epic culture, folk tales and music (2018)
- ▶ Whistled language (2017)
- ▶ Spring celebration, Hidrellez (2017)
- ▶ Traditional craftsmanship of Çini-making (2016)
- ▶ Nevruz (2016)
- ▶ Flatbread making and sharing culture: Yufka (2016)
- ▶ Ebru, Turkish art of marbling (2014)
- ▶ Turkish coffee culture and tradition (2013)
- ▶ Mesir Macunu festival (2012)
- ▶ Ceremonial Keşkek tradition (2011)
- ▶ Semah, Alevi-Bektaşî ritual (2010)
- ▶ Traditional Sohbet meetings (2010)
- ▶ Kırkpınar oil wrestling festival (2010)
- ▶ Âşıklık (minstrelsy) tradition (2009)
- ▶ Karagöz (2009)
- ▶ Arts of the Meddah, public storytellers (2008)
- ▶ Mevlevi Sema ceremony (2008)

UNESCO 2005 Convention for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions

Turkey approved to become part of the Convention with the Council of Ministers' decision on 03.07.2017 no. 2017/10537.

Regulation on the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) Turkey National Committee:

The ICOMOS Turkey National Committee was established with the decision of the Ministers' Council on 22.04.1974.

Turkey adopts the principles outlined in the [ICOMOS Charter on Cultural Routes](#).

Turkey adopts the principles outlined in the [International Cultural Tourism Charter](#).

UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Programme:

Turkey has one Biosphere Reserve, the [Camili Biosphere Reserve](#), located in the province of Artvin, in northeastern Anatolia. There are currently a total of 701 UNESCO Biosphere Reserves in 124 countries.

UNESCO Global Geoparks Programme:

Turkey has one UNESCO Global Geopark, the [Kula Volcanic UNESCO Global Geopark](#), located in the Manisa Province, in western Anatolia. There are currently a total of 147 UNESCO Global Geoparks in 41 countries.

The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat:

Turkey ratified the Convention on 13 July 1994, and currently has 14 sites designated as Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites).

UN Convention on Biological Diversity (1992):

Turkey ratified the Convention through Law No. 4177, dated 29.08.1996.

UNESCO 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property:

Turkey ratified the Convention on April 21, 1981.

COE Protocol amending the European Landscape Convention (Strasbourg, 2016)

Turkey ratified the Convention on 01.08.2018.

COE European Landscape Convention (Florence, 2000)

Turkey ratified the Convention on 13.10.2003.

COE Convention for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage of Europe (revised) (Valletta, 1992):

Turkey approved to become a party to the Convention with Law No. 4434, dated 05.08.1999. Turkey ratified the Convention on 29.11.1999.

COE Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada, 1985):

Turkey approved to become a party to the Convention with Law No. 3534, dated 13.04.1989. Turkey ratified the Convention on 11.10.1989.

COE Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention, 1979):

Turkey ratified the Convention on 09.01.1984 with the Ministers' Council Decision No: 84/7601.

COE Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (Hague, 1954)

Turkey approved to become a party to the Convention with Law No. 563; Date of Enactment: November 1965. Turkey ratified the Convention on 15 December 1965.

COE European Cultural Convention (1954)

Turkey ratified the Convention on 10.10.1957.



Urla, Izmir

SWOT Analysis of Turkey's Potential in Participating in the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme

Strengths

Turkey is an exceptionally rich country in archaeological heritage (19,475 registered archaeological sites; please see Annex 3), as well as in other aspects of tangible and intangible cultural heritage stemming from the fact that starting with Prehistoric times multiple societies and civilisations have lived, intermingled and flourished in Anatolia benefitting from its geographical qualities and its rich natural resources.¹

¹ "Anatolia has a special place in the history of mankind because it was the place where with the beginning of agricultural activities and food production and where with the transformation of the surplus in food production to a surplus in value and with the settlement of communities the foundations of the first villages, cities and the state were created. These settlements were the origins of the first economic and social systems, land ownership, family relations, trade, military, bureaucracy

and all the systems to protect them. That is, the very early beginnings of civilisation originated in Anatolia. Therefore Anatolia is critically important in order to understand that system. These very early Neolithic settlements have been the locations where many civilizations originated. Another special aspect about Anatolia has been the advantage that its richness in its natural environment brings. Anatolia's forests, its various climatic zones bring a certain richness, which played a role in the thriving of food production and the creation of surplus. The grandiose nature of its ruins is an indication of that. There are very different locations around Anatolia's cultural regions. There are Mediterranean cultures; the steppe cultures to the north of the Black Sea; the Balkan cultures; Iranian and Central Asian cultures, and their intermingling. Anatolia is not a cultural bridge (as it has been widely said and has become a sort of cliché phrase), it is the place where these civilizations have merged in new ways; a region or geography which bears its own diversity, which makes it a unique region. This diversity can't be seen in other regions" (Interview with Professor Mehmet Özdoğan as part of the SARAT (Safeguarding Archaeological Assets of Turkey) Project).

Because of its geographic location and its various climatic zones, Turkey also has an extraordinarily rich natural heritage and nine ecological hotspots. It therefore offers all year round opportunities for sightseeing, recreational activities and tourism for a very wide range of interests.

The Presidency of the Republic of Turkey highly supports the promotion of its natural and cultural heritage via the development of cultural routes in the country, stated officially in the Annual Programme of the Presidency for 2020.

A Tourism Promotion and Development Agency has just been created, which will provide funding for promotional activities and projects.

Anatolia's history and cultural heritage is closely linked with that of its neighbouring countries such as Greece, Bulgaria, Georgia, Armenia, Iran, Iraq and Syria as well as with many other European countries such as Romania, Hungary, and Balkan countries, which will enable the development of new routes or extend existing routes.

Turkey ranked 6th among the top ten destinations by international tourist arrivals in 2018 (World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)).

Turkey's tourism sector has been a major driver of economic growth, job creation and social inclusion. According to the World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC), Turkey's travel and tourism grew by 15% in 2018, the largest of any country in Europe. The sector supported 2.2 million jobs, or 7.7% of total employment.

Turkey has a variety of nature protected area categories (based on the IUCN protected area categories), which in total cover an area of 3,456,409 hectares in total, approximately 4,41 percent of the country's total area.

Turkey has a total of 464 products registered for their geographical indication by the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office.

Turkey has currently three food and agricultural products (Gaziantep baklava, Aydın fig, Malatya apricot) registered in the EU Database of Origin and Registration (DOOR) and 14 pending applications.

Turkey is part of the Slow Food network and currently 17 Turkish towns (Akyaka, Eğirdir, Gökçeada, Gerze, Göynük, Halfeti, Mudurnu, Perşembe, Şavşat, Seferihisar, Taraklı, Uzundere, Vize, Yalvaç and Yenipazar) are part of the Cittaslow network.

Turkey's universities are currently in the process of documenting its intangible heritage in various regions of the country.

Turkey is internationally known for its rich cuisine. Each region has its own traditional cuisine as well as a variety of traditional agricultural and food items. In fact, in 2015 the city of Gaziantep, in 2017 the city of Hatay, and in 2019 the city of Afyonkarahisar were designated as UNESCO Creative Cities of Gastronomy.

In addition, in 2017 the city of Istanbul became a UNESCO Creative City of Design; in 2017 the city of Kütahya became a UNESCO Creative City of Crafts and Folk Art, and in 2019 the city of Kırşehir became a UNESCO City of Music.

Within the framework of the UNESCO's Global Network of Learning Cities, the city of Eskişehir became a Learning City in 2016, Konya in 2017, Bolu in 2018, and Hatay in 2019.

Turkey also has a very rich geological heritage. In fact, in 2013, the volcanic Kula region of the province Manisa became the first geologically important region of Turkey joining the European and UNESCO Global Geoparks network.

Turkey offers a variety of accommodation opportunities meeting the demands of travellers of different income groups and backgrounds. In particular, in recent years the number of boutique hotels preferred by cultural tourists, which in general have higher educational and income levels has increased significantly. Turkey's total number of hotels with stars are 4,944.

Turkey has a developed transportation and communication infrastructure, with a network of highways, major roads, railroads and a total of 55 operating airports. Turkish Airways has a competitive ranking among major airway fleets, flying to 186 regions around the globe as of December 2019.

In Turkey most public and private universities have undergraduate programs in tourism administration, hotel management and/or gastronomy. Turkey therefore has a significant number of young and qualified professionals specializing in the tourism and hospitality sector.

There are many professional tour operators and agencies targeting cultural tourists and offering very specific cultural tourism packages.

Turkey is among the top five countries globally in geothermal capacity. Turkey's thermal resources rank 7th in the world and 1st in Europe.

Weaknesses

Turkey lacks a legal framework for the protection of natural and cultural heritage along Cultural Routes.

Turkey needs to improve/ease existing legislation that may be relevant to the care and governance of Cultural Routes or develop new legislation.

Poor conservation and management of protected archaeological and natural sites

Poor visitor management of protected heritage sites

The majority of Turkey's archaeological and historic sites lack proper signage and heritage interpretation.

Local authorities throughout Turkey lack staff with a sufficient educational foundation in the areas of cultural heritage management and tourism development.

In addition, local authorities throughout Turkey lack staff with sufficient foreign language skills (particularly English) to be able to communicate with potential partner organisations abroad.

Turkey has been known to a great extent as a sea, sand, sun and mass tourism destination, attracting lower-middle income groups. This perception needs to be changed.

There has been an increased interest in cultural tourism and other types of alternative tourism among the domestic population, however insufficient.

Turkey's rural areas lack proper accommodation facilities.

The Ministry of Culture and Tourism's budget to develop the country's expansive cultural and tourism sector may need to be improved

While there have been considerable efforts to improve and modernise the condition of local state museums and establish new state museums, still some local museums need urgent improvements to make them more attractive for visitors.

There has been a lack of coordination among various governmental entities, particularly concerning the protection of cultural and natural sites, causing an ineffective conservation of

heritage assets.

Local levels of governance lack power in decision-making.

Local communities are not involved in decisions that potentially affect their livelihoods or quality of life.

Turkey's rural village populations are ageing and diminishing as a result of outmigration of the younger generation.

Low education levels and foreign language skills among the rural population make it difficult for them to participate in tourism.

Opportunities

Turkey's location between the West and the East, and its various historic and cultural links with neighbouring countries, as well as its rich history and tangible and intangible heritage offer the opportunity to create interesting new Cultural Routes.

Apart from being known as a sea-sand-sun country, Turkey offers a wealth of other types of tourism such as health and thermal tourism, ecotourism, agrorural tourism, religious tourism, gastronomy tourism and various forms of other alternative types of tourism and experiential tourism.

The Ministry of Culture and Tourism is eager to particularly develop cultural routes that stimulate thermal, gastronomy and religious tourism and attract domestic visitors.

Turkey offers these opportunities for potential visitors of all income levels. In particular, budget tourists interested in cultural tourism may be able to plan a trip for very affordable prices.

There are numerous experienced tourism agencies specializing in culture and nature tourism, as well as many other types of alternative tourism.

There has been an increased interest among local authorities to promote their not so well known tangible and intangible heritage assets and create brands for their localities to attract more visitors.

There has been an increased interest in the concept of cultural routes among local authorities and tourism professionals as an attractive tool to develop rural cultural tourism.

While Turkish rural communities vary in many aspects across the country, and may have varying thoughts regarding tourism, the author's professional experience shows that a significant portion of rural communities (especially women) regard tourism as an attractive source of additional income, and are willing to participate in tourism.

There have been a variety of local routes and trails developed by civil society organizations (many in partnership with local authorities), local authorities, universities and research organisations of which some may serve as the groundwork to the extension of existing Cultural Routes or the establishment of new Routes.

- **CSOs**, in particular, the [Culture Routes Society](#) has been the only CSO focusing on the development of routes and trails and has done significant work, developing and maintaining 20 long-distance hiking trails on different themes in partnership with local authorities.
- **Local authorities**, in partnership with various other partner organisations among them the Governorship of Çorum developed the "[Kızılırmak Basin Gastronomy and Hiking Trail](#)"; the Municipality of İzmit developed the "[Tolerance Way](#)"; the Cappadocia Tourism Infrastructure Service Union (KAP-HIB) plans to develop a 155 km long hiking trail that follows the footsteps of Saint Arsenus; and the Southeastern Anatolia Project Regional Development Administration have developed several thematic routes on their website [Mesopotamia Beyond a Land](#) (under construction).
- **Universities and research organisations** have recently developed innovative and interesting heritage projects that involved the development of local urban and rural routes. The "[Plural Heritages of Istanbul Project](#)" (the author of this report was involved) was a research collaboration between Newcastle University, Istanbul Bilgi University and Bursa Uludağ University, which was about residents' (living along the Land Walls of Istanbul) interpretation of their heritage, and the creation of a mobile app with routes through their neighbourhoods involving videos which were coproduced with them. The British Institute at Ankara created the "[Pisidia Heritage Trail](#)", connecting not so well-known archaeological sites of Pisidia to benefit village communities along the trails and promote these exceptionally natural and cultural areas of Turkey.

- **The private sector:** The wine producers of the Thrace region joined forces establishing the Thrace Tourism Operators Association, and created Turkey's first vineyard route, the "[Thrace Vineyards Route](#)" with funds from the Thrace development Agency connecting twelve wine producers. Also, wine producers of the Urla region nearby Izmir joined forces and established the Urla Wine Producers and Viticulture Association, and with funds from the Izmir Regional Development Agency, developed the "[Urla Vineyards Trail](#)" connecting vineyards and wine producers of the Urla region.

The newly established Tourism Promotion and Development Agency will act as a major source of funding for tourism development projects.

Threats

The unstable political situation along Turkey's southeastern border due to the war in Syria, and occasional insurgencies in the southeast of the country cause negative perceptions regarding safety among people planning to travel to Turkey or domestic travellers planning to travel to the Southeast.

Increasing effects of climate change result in more floods, draughts, dryer and hotter seasons, forest fires across the country, which also effect its built heritage.

An aggressive model of development based on the construction of various types of infrastructure such as roads, highways, bridges, hydroelectric dams and the excessive extraction of natural resources in the form of mining have been severely damaging the integrity of many natural areas across the country as well as threatening the health of their ecosystems.

Aggressive development of tourism infrastructure in the form of hotel buildings and holiday resorts non-conforming with their natural environment has a negative impact on the integrity of surrounding natural areas.

Aggressive construction of modern housing, shopping malls and other buildings, as well as excessive landscaping projects in urban areas and smaller historic towns have been negatively affecting their historic character and integrity, to the extent that many urban cities and towns have started to look alike.

In addition, growing urban development has been encroaching archaeological sites such as the Göbekli Tepe World Heritage Site.

Excessive housing development around traditional villages and historic towns with tourism potential has caused a loss of their authentic vernacular character.

Weakly controlled construction of housing and second homes along coastal areas has caused a loss of integrity of the natural landscape along coastal areas.

The widespread looting of archaeological sites across the country has been severely damaging archaeological heritage, causing a significant loss.

The outmigration of the younger generation from villages, the adoption of modern lifestyles and other factors have been causing the loss of various forms of intangible heritage practices across the country.

Increased pollution of the Mediterranean, Aegean, Marmara and Black Sea, rivers, and lakes threaten various ecosystems, their species, and the wellbeing of humans. Combined with lower groundwater tables, the health and beauty of many wetlands and lakes across the country has been threatened.

Insufficient waste management in rural areas may negatively effect visitors' perceptions of the country.

Recent economic fluctuations have caused many tourism businesses to shut down.



Hierapolis, Denizli

Inventory of Cultural Routes related activities

Inventory of Cultural Routes Turkey is already involved

European Route of Historic Thermal Towns

Turkey is among the leading countries in geothermal capacity worldwide, and the Governorship of Bursa as well as Bursa's Metropolitan Municipality; Pamukkale Municipality (a sub-province of Denizli); and Afyon Municipality have been partners of the [European Historic Thermal Towns Association \(EHTTA\)](#).

The development of a thermal tourism master plan covering the following four regions was outlined in Turkey's Tourism Strategy 2023 document:

- ▶ South Marmara (Balıkesir, Çanakkale and Yalova);
- ▶ South Aegean Region (Aydın, Denizli, Manisa, İzmir);
- ▶ Phrygian Region (Afyon, Ankara, Uşak, Eskişehir and Kütahya);
- ▶ Central Anatolia (Aksaray, Kırşehir, Niğde, Nevşehir, Yozgat).

Subsequently, a "Thermal Tourism Master Plan (2007-2023)" was prepared by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism's Directorate General for Investments and Businesses, that lays out a detailed implementation plan for these four regions.

Initial contacts have been established with the president of EHTTA and local authorities of Bursa, Pamukkale and Afyon. In addition, other historic towns mentioned in the plan may qualify to become a member of the EHTTA and are advised to contact EHTTA.

The Routes of the Olive Tree

Turkey has been a member of the Route since 2005. In 2008 a two-day event was organised under the theme "Intercultural Dialogue and Sustainable Development for Peace" in partnership with the Izmir Chamber of Commerce and Izmir Economy University. A transnational route that follows the ancient Silk Road and passes the countries Azerbaijan, Georgia, Turkey and Greece was planned for 2021. The following parties (among others) are advised to contact the [Cultural Foundation «The Routes of the Olive Tree»](#) depending on future Route activities:

- ▶ Local authorities of Izmir, Edremit and Urla
- ▶ Adatepe Olive Oil Museum (Çanakkale)
- ▶ Köstem Olive Oil Museum (Urla)
- ▶ Oleatrium Olive and Olive Oil History Museum (Kuşadası, Aydın)
- ▶ Turkish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry – Olive Cultivation Research Institute – İzmir
- ▶ Boutique Olive and Olive Oil Producers Association

- ▶ İzmir Historical Coal Gas Factory
- ▶ Zonguldak Mining Museum
- ▶ Kütahya Traditional Tile Museum
- ▶ Hereke Carpet and Weaving Museum Factory

Iron Curtain Trail

A small section of the Route ([European Cyclists' Federation](#)) is passing through the provinces Kırklareli and Edirne in the Thrace region, and an extension of the Route to Istanbul is planned in partnership with local authorities.

European Route of Jewish Heritage

Turkey's largest Jewish communities live in the cities of Istanbul and Izmir. Smaller communities live in other parts of Turkey. The Kiriaty Foundation and Izmir Jewish Community Foundation are already involved in Route activities with the [Izmir Project](#), an international initiative to save Izmir's unique synagogues, and create a living cultural monument to the rich Jewish heritage of the city. The Izmir Project cooperates with local authorities and the Jewish community to restore seven synagogues and community buildings, and construct a museum with a cultural center. In addition, the following Jewish heritage organisations in Istanbul are advised to join the [European Association for the Preservation and Promotion of Jewish Culture and Heritage \(AEPJ\)](#)'s Route activities:

- ▶ The Quincentennial Foundation Museum of Turkish Jews
- ▶ The Istanbul Sephardic Center
- ▶ The Schneider temple Art Gallery - Istanbul

European Route of Industrial Heritage

Turkey has potential to increase its presence in the Route. Already the Rahmi Koç Industrial Museum, Istanbul Aviation Museum, [Santralistanbul Energy Museum](#), Istanbul Railway Museum, the SEKA Paper Mill (Izmit), and the Çamlık Outdoor Railway Museum (Çamlık Village) are involved in the Route. However many more relevant museums, cultural centres and heritage organisations could become members of the [European Route of Industrial Heritage \(ERIH\)](#) and initial contacts have been established:

- ▶ Foundation for the Protection and Promotion of the Environment and Cultural Heritage (ÇEKÜL)
- ▶ Yıldız Porcelain Factory and Museum
- ▶ Historic Bomonti Beer Factory
- ▶ Bursa Merinos Textiles Industry Museum

Overview of potential extension of existing Cultural Routes

European Route of Megalithic Culture

Turkey has significant potential to become an active member of the [Megalithic Routes e.V.](#) In particular, the Göbekli Tepe UNESCO World Heritage Site (nearby Şanlıurfa), dating back to the Pre-Pottery Neolithic Age between 9,600 and 8,200 B.C. may significantly increase the popularity and visibility of the Route. In addition, in the future, other sites in the Thrace region and Gaziantep, Adiyaman and Kars provinces have dolmens dating back to varying periods (from around 3,000 to 700 B.C.) may also qualify to join the Route.

Contact has been established with the Route, and the author and other interested parties from Turkey were invited to their Board meeting on 28 and 29 May 2020 in St. Helier, Jersey during which criteria of membership will be discussed. During field analysis in the city of Şanlıurfa, the city's Tourism Development Agency committed to applying for membership and joining the meeting along with the mayor of Haliliye Municipality.

Iter Vitis

Research shows that viticulture and viniculture, the growing of grapes and the making of wine have been important activities in the history and prehistory of Anatolia, Thrace, and the regions surrounding present day Turkey for several millennia. These very long traditions of grape growing and winemaking in Anatolia still constitute a vital part of the cultural heritage of the region today (Thys-Şenocak, 2017). Today numerous old and new wineries still produce wine in different regions of Anatolia such as Thrace, Aegean (Urla), Manisa-Kula, Bursa, Denizli, Ankara, Cappadocia, and the Southeast. In fact, Turkish winemakers have been winning prestigious awards for their wines made from foreign and local grape varieties. While in the past European wineries (and others) were primarily promoting their product and the quality of the wine, today they are also promoting the landscape where the vineyards are located, wine-related activities, an appreciation of nature, and the cultural experiences that this landscape offers to the visitor or local resident. Unfortunately, Turkey has not effectively recognised the potential of the country's rich viticultural past and has not designated any of its vineyards as cultural landscapes or its wine-making practices as intangible heritage (Thys-Şenocak, 2017). In recent years, smaller wineries in the Thrace

and Urla regions have joined forces and have experimented with the creation of routes that connect their wineries as well as heritage, in an attempt to promote their wines and attract visitors to wine-related activities. With funds from their regional development agencies they were able to establish the "Thrace Vinyard Route" and the "Urla Vinyard Trail". However, currently these routes lack a cohesive and institutional framework organised along common cultural and economic interests similar to the Iter Vitis. Initial contacts have been established and it is strongly advised that their organisations (as well as other interested parties) participate in the Iter Vitis activities to further enhance their visibility and cultural tourism potential.

Potential partners from Turkey:

- ▶ Local authorities of Urla, Kırklareli, Bursa, Manisa, Tekirdağ, Çanakkale, Mardin, Nevşehir, Ankara and others.
- ▶ Wines of Turkey (an organisation with a mission is to develop the wine market and culture of Turkey)
- ▶ Urla Wine Producers and Viticulture Association (Urla Vinyard Trail)
- ▶ Thrace Tourism Operators Association (Thrace Vinyard Route)

European Route of Ceramics

Turkey has significant potential joining the Route, however historic relationships and influences need to be researched.

Initial contacts were established with relevant local authorities of Istanbul, Bursa and Kütahya, however at the time of the report no response was received. The following museums may qualify to join the Route:

- ▶ Yıldız Porcelain Factory and Museum
- ▶ Iznik Museum
- ▶ Kütahya Ceramic Tiles Museum

Prehistoric Rock Art Trails

In Turkey, prehistoric rock art is found in the East of Anatolia, at the Van-Hakkari Tırşin Plateau and the Camuşlu village of the Kars province, and in the Latmos region of western Anatolia. While significant research has been conducted about these sites, they are not easily accessible and need proper tourism infrastructure, protection measures and interpretation. These sites therefore may qualify to join the International Association PRAT-CARP in the future.

Phoenicians' Route

Turkey has significant potential joining the route, particularly the cities Finike, İskenderun, Bafra, Zincirlihöyük, and Karatepe. The Culture Routes Society had a protocol with the International Confederation "The Phoenicians' Route" signed many years ago, but apart from attending meetings they did not carry forward any joint activities. Ways of future partnership need to be explored between the umbrella organisation of the Route and the local authorities of the above-mentioned cities.

Viking Routes

The Culture Routes Society informed that the [Destination Viking Association](#) may be interested to partner with Turkey to develop the link of the Varangian Guards (Byzantine Emperors' Viking bodyguards). This opportunity needs to be explored with the umbrella association.

Overview of potential new cultural routes with relevance to Turkey

Aeneas Route (Applications for certification in process)



Cartographic map showing the Aeneas Route and the 16 archaeological sites it connects

The Aeneas Route project is based on the Aeneid, a Latin epic poem written from about 30 to 19 BC by the Roman poet Virgil. The Aeneid incorporates the various legends of Aeneas, a Trojan who travelled to Italy and became the founder of the Romans. Aeneas's journey is described as involving the intercultural encounter between people of different origins and that the result of these encounters always generated new positive values of coexistence and mutual enrichment. In Virgil's narrative, the figure of Aeneas therefore embodies the values of dialogue, understanding and empathy between the Mediterranean people and human solidarity.

The Aeneas Route follows Aeneas' journey to enhance common Mediterranean and European values by connecting 16 known and not so well known Mediterranean archaeological sites (among them World Heritage Sites) and their different cultures mentioned in the legend, building a network of organisations who will partner within the framework of the theme to enhance and develop their common tangible and intangible heritage as well as appreciate their natural heritage, to offer interesting alternative travel itineraries, and organize youth education

programmes, eventually leading to improved local socioeconomic development and multicultural dialogue.

The Aeneas Route meets EICR criteria in that its itinerary starts in Turkey, crosses over to Greece, Albania and Tunisia to end in Italy. The Association Route of Aeneas (based in Rome) was established first with the Edremit Municipality and the Lavinium Foundation, and now includes the partnership of a total of twelve organisations partner to develop the Route.

Aeneas Route Association intends to submit an application for the 2020-2021 certification cycle to become a Cultural Route of the Council of Europe.

Via Eurasia (Application for certification in process)



Cartographic map showing the route of the Via Eurasia

The theme of the Via Eurasia (Route of Roads) is based on:

- ▶ the tangible and intangible heritage and traditions of the art of engineering roads and their accompanying infrastructure (roadways, bridges, water supplies, post-houses, etc.); and
- ▶ road development as practiced by the cultures of each part of the network (Phrygian, Pisidian, Lycian, Roman, Byzantine, Ottoman).

- ▶ It has a three-year budget and financial plan and a history of support by the European Union.
- ▶ It is in the process of associating with a supporting University.
- ▶ It has a Visibility Charter and is preparing associated websites, media channels and applications.

The Via Eurasia conforms with European values as expressed in the Council of Europe's Landscape Convention and the European Cultural Convention. Its theme represents European memory, history and culture:

- ▶ The road networks of the route formed the foundation of each successive culture's communication and governance system.
- ▶ Roads of the network facilitate mobility and cross-cultural exchange, dispersion of languages, technology and trade.

The route complies with EICR criteria for certification of a Cultural Route:

- ▶ The route spans Italy, Albania, North Macedonia, Greece and Turkey
- ▶ The route has an international management body (based in Greece) – the Via Eurasia Association – with Management Committee and Scientific Committee.

New ideas for Cultural Routes that may emerge from Turkey

Route of Sinan the Architect

The focus of the Route will be magnificent works of the great Ottoman architect Sinan (1488/1490 – July 17, 1588), and their influences in European architecture, on local cultural landscapes and intercultural dialogue.

There has been an “Architect Sinan Cultural Route” established between Istanbul and Edirne, funded by the Thrace Development Agency (<https://buyukustamimarsinan.com/tr/rotalar>), which could be extended towards Balkan countries and Greece including locations with Sinan’s Works.

Route of the Great Explorer Evliya Çelebi

Evliya Çelebi was an Ottoman explorer who travelled through the territory of the Ottoman Empire and neighbouring lands over a period of 40 years. Evliya Çelebi was also a scholar, raconteur, dervish, musician, and linguist. During his travels he recorded his many observations of everyday life in the 17th century and compiled these in the form of a travelogue of 10 volumes called the *Seyâhatnâme* («Book of Travels»). As stated in the UNESCO’s Silk Roads Project, Evliya Çelebi’s *Seyahatname* is the longest and fullest travel account in Islamic literature perhaps even in world literature. It is a vast panorama, both an extensive description of the Ottoman Empire and its hinterlands, and an account of the author’s peregrinations over roughly forty years (1640-80). It provides an insight into Ottoman perceptions of the world, not only in obvious areas like geography, topography, administration, urban institutions, and social and economic systems, but also in such domains as religion, folklore, dream interpretation, and conceptions of self.”

The Culture Route Society of Turkey established a hiking/biking trail called the “Evliya Çelebi Way” in Turkey. This Route could be extended to cover relevant countries.



Cartographic map showing the route of the Evliya Çelebi Way in Turkey

Route on the Influences of the Silk Road in Europe

As stated by the UNESCO, the Silk Road facilitated the share of science, arts and literature, as well as crafts and technologies and disseminated these into societies along the routes, and in this way, languages, religions and cultures developed and influenced each other.

Turkey has been taking part at the UNESCO Silk Roads Project’s Online Platform, and the Silk Roads’ portion traversing parts of Turkey and reaching Italy and Spain could be researched and developed as a Cultural Route of the Council of Europe with relevant partner countries.

Visitors following the Route could visit museums, which include intangible cultural heritages that

characterise the Silk Roads’ influences and historic towns and their quarters with historic bazaars where specific intangible cultural heritage items are still produced. An interesting example from Turkey could be the historic city of Bursa, which for centuries used to be a leading center of silk, silk fabrics and carpets production and their trade to Europe and Asia. The Bursa City Museum, and the Umurbey Silk Production and Design Center (a project run by the metropolitan municipality to revitalize heritage around the production of silk) could participate in the Route.

This Route could also include other historic towns and cities known for their specific cotton and wool weaving traditions, which were also traded along the Silk Road and made their way to Europe. One example could be the Hereke Carpet and Weaving Factory and Museum. The Route would therefore be more about the intangible heritage influences.

Another form of intangible cultural heritage that could be highlighted is the art of marbling. Over centuries, many cultures from East Asia, the Islamic world and Europe have adopted the art of marbling and used it on a variety of surfaces such as on book covers. In Turkey, the tradition of creating colourful patterns by sprinkling and brushing colour pigments onto a pan of oily water and then transferring the patterns to paper is called “Ebru” and dates back to the 15th century (The art of Ebru has been included in the UNESCO Intangible Heritage List). Ebru was introduced to Europe through Venice in the 16th century, and survives today almost exclusively in Florence. It has also been applied in France and perhaps other parts of Europe. The Route could trigger the revitalisation of this art form through various events such as temporary exhibitions, workshops, and festivals.

European Route of Neolithic Cultures

Earliest Neolithic cultures are known to have emerged in the southeastern part of Anatolia. Anatolia therefore bears numerous sites that characterise the early Neolithic era, and has been the region from which Neolithic cultures were transferred to other regions, particularly Europe. The Route would highlight life during the Neolithic era and would include very interesting and significant

Anatolian Neolithic sites (open to tourism) such as the Göbekli Tepe World Heritage Site, the Neolithic Site of Çatalhöyük World Heritage Site,

the Aktopraklık Mound Archaeopark and Open Air Museum, and the Aşağı Pınar Open Air Museum, as well as significant sites in southeastern Europe.

European Mosaic Routes

A significant portion of Roman heritage is situated in Anatolia. Impressive mosaics that used to cover the floors of wealthy Roman merchants were uncovered in Antakya, the antique city of Zeugma nearby Gaziantep, Urfa and Kahramanmaraş, Adıyaman and other locations. Many of these mosaics depict everyday Roman life and scenes from mythology and can be viewed in the archaeological museums of these cities and the remnants of Roman villas in the antique city Zeugma (among others).

Route of Early Belief Systems (or “European Route of Tolerance”)

The southeast of Anatolia bears many traces of very early spirituality and belief systems such as of Christianity, Judaism, Islam and other beliefs.



Santral Istanbul, Musée de l'énergie

Review of national financing instruments

The newly established Tourism Promotion and Development Agency will provide funding for the promotion and development of tourism.

Turkey's Regional Development Agencies (there are a total of 26 agencies across the country)

Recently established city "development foundations" or "development companies" such as the Gaziantep Development Foundation or the Şanlıurfa Tourism Development Company's role is to fund urban development and tourism projects.

Special Provincial Administrations implement infrastructure projects.

Small and Medium Enterprises Development Organization of Turkey (KOSGEB)

Field analysis in the provinces of Şanlıurfa and Adıyaman

As part of the country mapping for Turkey, field analysis was carried out by Ms. Esra Budak and Ms. Meltem Önhon of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism's General Directorate of Promotion and Dr. Ayşegül Yılmaz, the author of this report in the provinces of Şanlıurfa and Adıyaman on the 26th and 27th of February 2020. Prior to the field analysis the Provincial Directorates of Culture and Tourism of both provinces were contacted, who made necessary arrangements and invited relevant local representatives to the meetings.

The motivation to conduct field analysis in these provinces was to focus on a region in Anatolia, which for many years has been neglected in terms of socioeconomic as well as (cultural) tourism development. On the other hand, the announcement of the Göbekli Tepe site as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2018 has become a significant boost for the region's tourism development, and has led the creation of new tools such as the Şanlıurfa Tourism Development Agency to more effectively improve the region's tourism infrastructure and promote its rich heritage. Also, a significant positive development for the region's heritage promotion has been the opening of the new and impressive Şanlıurfa Archaeology and Mosaic Museum in 2015. On the other hand Adıyaman, which also hosts a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Mount Nemrut site, has remained in a more disadvantaged position compared to Şanlıurfa, and its tourism infrastructure insufficient to attract more visitors and longer stays.

Aims of the field analysis:

- Informing parties about the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme (criteria, advantages of the programme to the local level, certification process)
- Informing parties about Turkey's current position in the programme and its potential of enhancing its participation in the programme
- Discussing these provinces' potential in participating in the programme: their tangible and intangible cultural heritage; already existing Routes they could join; and potential themes for new Routes that could be initiated in their region such as a Cultural Route on Early Belief Systems; a Route on Neolithic Cultures; or a Mosaics Route.
- Informing parties about the range of heritage and tourism projects that could be implemented in their region (such as projects to improve tourism and recreational infrastructure; modernise traditional handicrafts; heritage interpretation and presentation projects; conservation and restoration projects; ecomuseum projects; research projects/inventories on local intangible heritage; awareness raising and heritage education projects; and the development of tour packages.)
- Discussing threats that could negatively affect their cultural and natural heritage as well as opportunities to develop their potential (in particular the problem of "overtourism" at the Göbekli Tepe WHS; the inappropriate use of the site as a brand; encroaching housing development to the site)
- Inform parties about possible sources of funding

Important outcomes of these meetings:

The Şanlıurfa Tourism Development Agency committed to becoming part of the European Route of Megalithic Cultures.

Şanlıurfa participants expressed interest in initiating a new Cultural Route, however expressed concern regarding the region's perceived international image as one not safe due to the Syrian war and instabilities along the southeastern border. People planning to visit the region have not been able to receive travel insurance because of this perceived security issue.

The Southeastern Anatolia Project Regional Development Administration has already done significant work in developing urban and thematic local cultural routes on different themes of history and culture, religion, nature and tastes for their Mezopotamya Travel website currently under construction. This work could serve as a good starting point for the development of a new Cultural Route.

While it is currently not clear whether the Mount Nemrut UNESCO World Heritage Site may qualify to join the European Route of Megalithic Cultures (it dates back to a much later period, the first century B.C.), the abundance of prehistoric dolmens particular in the Besni area (around 3050 B.C. and later) may qualify Adiyaman to join the Route. In addition, the city has a wealth of other tangible and intangible cultural heritage dating back to various layers of history (such as remnants of the Commagene Kingdom throughout the region, Roman era heritage such as settlements, a bridge and important mosaics), and which may make it possible to participate in a new emerging Route from Şanlıurfa for example and/or develop different interesting local cultural routes that would connect its heritage to surrounding sites (already some work has been done on the Mezopotamya Travel webportal).continues to establish contact with local authorities and CSOs, which may qualify to join already existing Routes.



Région de la Cappadoce

Review of national financing instruments

EPA & the European Cultural Routes Institute:

1. By working together with relevant state officials, seek to solve legislative issues and problems that would make it difficult for EPA member countries outside the EU to participate effectively, with equal rights and responsibilities in the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme, particularly in the governance and management of Routes. In addition, EPA member countries outside the EU have lesser eligibility for EU funds, which may also pose obstacles for these countries to initiate or take leadership for new Cultural Routes.

2. Provide training program(s) for key Turkish partners (e.g. most relevant CSOs) on the development of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe program in Turkey (Participation in existing Routes; idea development; application for certification process, Route governance and management, variety of Route activities & funding, evaluation of Route activities)

3. A training the trainers program may be useful to disseminate the Cultural Routes of the

Council of Europe programme more easily to different regions of Turkey

4. Developing informative & training material - online and printed - in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and Tourism on the following topics would be very useful:

- ▶ The Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme (From idea development to Route management & funding opportunities)
- ▶ Cultural heritage management (the identification, conservation, management and interpretation/presentation of cultural heritage)
- ▶ Turkey's tangible and intangible cultural heritage & Anatolian Civilisations

5. A matchmaking seminar between Turkish CSO's (which already have local routes or themed cultural activities) and existing foreign routes might be useful

Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism

Specifically related to developing Turkey's participation in the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme:

1. A focal point unit or office with strong leadership within the Ministry, that addresses all questions and issues coming from interested parties regarding their participation in Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme or regarding the development of a new Cultural Routes
2. Encourage participation in already existing Cultural Routes. It is advised that the focal point unit continues to establish contact with local authorities and CSOs, which may qualify to join already existing Routes.
3. As mention above, developing informative & training material - online and printed – on the following topics would be very useful:
 - ▶ The Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme (From idea development to Route management & funding opportunities)
 - ▶ Cultural heritage management (the identification, conservation, management and interpretation/presentation of cultural heritage)
 - ▶ Turkey's tangible and intangible cultural heritage & Anatolian Civilisations

Develop/improve/ease legislation that would be relevant to the care and governance of Cultural Routes emerging from Turkey. The governance of Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe requires the establishment of an umbrella organisation and the membership of various partner institutions to this organisation. While the Law on Associations (Law No. 5253) permits foreign associations to become members of Turkish associations, in practice foreigners need to be residents in Turkey in order to become members of a Turkish society. This however works against the governance, management and care of a multinational Cultural Route. On the other hand, EU legislation does not make it possible for Turkish nationals to create an association in an EU country unless they have dual nationality. The current state governance makes it also complicated for Turkish municipalities to join a foreign association since they are required to

receive permission from both the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of the Interior.

1. Establish a legal framework for the protection of natural and cultural heritage along Cultural Routes. In the case of walking routes, protection of the route itself (i.e. a corridor several metres wide in which the route runs).
2. Host the Annual Advisory Forum on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (Discussions have been initiated that Turkey will host the Annual Advisory Forum in 2023)
3. For the long term, participate at international and national tourism fairs (such as ITB Berlin and EMITT) and conferences (such as HERITAGE ISTANBUL), which increase Turkey's visibility in the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe program and promote its various heritage sites along these Routes.

General recommendations regarding developing culture and nature tourism:

1. The Turkish state needs to place the protection of its natural and cultural heritage central and forefront in relation to its development goals. Illicit digging, mining operations, dams, road infrastructure, sprawling development pose serious threats to the country's heritage, and require stricter measures and a change of mindset.
2. Work with the local level and local university departments for detailed inventories of local tangible and intangible cultural heritage (significant work has already been done; perhaps a national online database could be established)
3. Invest in projects that raise awareness among various age groups of society (in particular school children) concerning Turkey's cultural and archaeological heritage
4. Invest in (or support projects for) the improved interpretation and presentation of archaeological and heritage sites (via informative panels, maps, mobile apps, etc). Also, allow archaeology graduates to work as local guides at archaeological sites (without obtaining a licence).
5. Adopt a conservation approach that does not freeze heritage as it is, instead supports the

adaptive re-use of built heritage.

6. Invest in the modernization of local archaeological state museums and their professional management, or establish a structure that allows the local level of governance to efficiently handle the needs of these museums, seek external funds when necessary and build a structure that ideally makes them self-sustaining (for example, partner with CSOs and local communities to develop new products for museum shops, organize a variety of museum activities). In addition, it is advised that the burden of tasks on local museums external to the museum is eased.
7. While the newly established Tourism Development Agency has been a positive step towards supporting tourism development in Turkey, the concern is that funds will be allocated primarily to the promotion of more known heritage sites rather than the development of not so well-known heritage sites in terms of improved interpretation, local museums, recreational infrastructure etc.
8. Allocate more power to the local levels of governance regarding the conservation and management of natural and archaeological heritage sites. The local level has a deeper sense about local issues and is in a better position to effectively coordinate with other governmental units (such as those responsible for the protection of nature parks) in the protection of archaeological and natural sites in cases where their boundaries overlap.
9. Develop policies that strive for the revitalization of rural areas and villages by developing programs that encourage people to stay in their villages or move to rural areas.
10. Adopt a conservation approach that considers the needs of local inhabitants, and involves them in decision-making, in issues that potentially affect their livelihoods or quality of life. Keep them informed about state plans from all the relevant authorities.
11. Support projects that involve working with rural communities to improve the conservation, management (including visitor management) and interpretation of archaeological and cultural heritage sites, as well as increase their capacity and skills to participate in tourism.
12. Keep entrance fees to state museums and archaeological and heritage sites for domestic visitors as low as possible.

Regional/local authorities

1. Recruit a sufficient number of university graduates (in archaeology, tourism, heritage management, landscape planning, etc.) with foreign language skills for the more effective and successful implementation of heritage and tourism projects.
2. Strive to become a member in relevant existing Cultural Routes to include important and relevant heritage sites/elements to the network.
3. Once a member, seek partnerships or exchange know-how with other member institutions of Cultural Routes regarding the conservation, management, interpretation and presentation of heritage elements/sites.
4. Once a site has become a member of a specific Cultural Route of the Council of Europe, invest in the promotion of the site.
5. Seek opportunities to develop new Cultural Routes in partnership with relevant university programs, research institutes, CSOs in Turkey and abroad. Encourage cooperation programmes with foreign universities.
6. Cooperate closely with CSOs, university departments, the private sector and local communities in the implementation of different cultural tourism development projects.
7. Concerning the modernisation of local archaeological (state) museums, by working with the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, seek ways that would ease the bureaucratic and financial burden on the central government.
8. Support CSOs in the development, maintenance and management of trails and routes
9. Implement infrastructure (such as trails, roads, parking areas) at heritage sites with uttermost care to avoid damage to the heritage's integrity.
10. Rigorously follow the requirements of site management plans prepared for UNESCO World Heritage Sites and other archaeological sites. Work closely with other relevant stakeholders in the proper implementation of individual projects and actions. At popular archaeological sites such as Ephesus and Göbekli Tepe implement strict visitor management rules to avoid damage to the sites.

Civil society organisations

1. CSOs and museums relevant to the themes of existing Cultural Routes to seek membership in their umbrella organisations
2. Lead the initiation of new Cultural Routes
3. Partner with other member organisations in various heritage projects (capacity development, alternative income opportunities, heritage awareness and heritage education, modernisation of traditional handicrafts, conservation and restoration, heritage interpretation, and communication projects)
4. The Association of Turkish Travel Agencies (TÜRSAB) to promote Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (Turkey is involved) during various international fairs and organizations such as the ITB Berlin, and EMITT.
5. TÜRSAB to encourage tourism agencies to develop short (or long) tour packages for Cultural Routes that traverse Turkey, in partnership with the makers of the Route.

Universities

General recommendations:

1. Offer more undergraduate/graduate programs and courses in cultural heritage management; museum studies; Anatolia's heritage and Anatolian civilisations; cultural tourism and ecotourism.
2. Programs in tourism and hotel management need mandatory courses on the heritage of Anatolia and Anatolian Civilisations.

Specifically related to Route development prior to certification:

1. Contract with the route developers to run the scientific committee for the route. (Everything else comes under this formal arrangement.)
2. Cooperate with all relevant partner entities to specify the goal and function of the Route, and conduct research on the theme of the Cultural Route

3. Explore different aspects related to the theme of the Cultural Route
4. Conduct inventories on local tangible and intangible heritage elements
5. Identify relevant tangible and intangible heritage elements that characterize the Cultural Route
6. Establish criteria and arguments for the selection of these elements that constitute integral parts of the selected theme so that the Route meets all criteria for certification.

After certification:

1. Partner with Route management and other partner and research organizations along the Route to identify areas in need for development, improvement or deeper analysis and develop collaborative (research) projects such as:
 - ▶ Conservation and restoration projects
 - ▶ Cultural tourism development projects
 - ▶ Tourism or recreational infrastructure projects
 - ▶ Conduct impact analysis studies or ethnographic fieldwork that evaluate Route impacts on specific localities or regions, for example with regards to local livelihoods or certain aspects of quality of life.
 - ▶ Environmental protection projects
 - ▶ Heritage projects (Memory studies; heritage interpretation projects such as the application of virtual reality interpretation; development of apps for tourism)
 - ▶ Spatial planning and landscape design for heritage or archaeological sites
2. Organize student exchange programs, and seminars on Route themes with other European universities along the Route under the Erasmus scheme

Conclusions

Turkey is an exceptionally rich country in archaeological heritage as well as in other aspects of tangible and intangible cultural heritage stemming from the fact that over thousands of years Anatolia has been home for multiple societies and civilisations, which left numerous invaluable traces across the country. Turkey also has an extraordinarily rich natural heritage because of its ideal geographic location and its various climatic zones. It therefore has a very significant potential to enhance its presence in the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme, and by becoming a member of the EPA, Turkey has opened up different possibilities for itself to do so. The country mapping experience has demonstrated that Turkey already has significant experience in the development of different urban and rural local cultural routes, and a strong interest at highest levels of governance to develop new thematic Cultural Routes. In addition, field analysis in the southeast of Anatolia has showed that the local level of governance and other relevant parties are very keen, knowledgeable and interested in participating in the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme. It is therefore strongly advised that all necessary structures are put in place that would enable the development of the programme in Turkey.

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Annexes

Annexe1 / Functions of the General Directorate of Cultural Heritage and Museums (GDoCHM)

- Ensuring that the movable and immovable cultural properties that are required to be protected in our country are revealed, protected, evaluated and promoted by archaeological research and excavations, and to take measures to prevent the destruction and abduction,
- To propose the establishment of museums, surveys and monuments directorates, restoration and conservation laboratories where deemed necessary and to organize and conduct their administrative and specialized works, to guide and support the establishment of private museums and to keep them under control within the framework of certain principles,
- To determine the immovable cultural assets that are required to be protected, which are outside our national borders, and to take measures to ensure their maintenance and repair within the framework of mutual cultural agreements and cultural exchange programs,
- To take and implement the necessary measures for the development, maintenance and restoration of cultural assets that need to be protected,
- To carry out or have the services for research, examination, determination, evaluation and planning in order to ensure the fulfillment of the duties assigned to the Supreme Council for the Protection of Cultural Properties and Conservation Boards by Law No. 2863 on the Protection of Cultural and Natural Assets dated 21/7/1983,
- To ensure the execution and coordination of the procedures for the adoption and implementation of the decisions of the Supreme Council for the Protection of Cultural Heritage and conservation boards,
- To propose the establishment of cultural property protection boards and office directorates where deemed necessary,
- To ensure the development of protection culture by making use of all kinds of means and means, to carry out the certification procedures of cultural investments and initiatives under the coordination of related units, to supervise their activities, to perform or make tenders and supervision works related to the allocation, restoration, restitution of cultural assets,
- To perform other duties assigned by the Minister.

Annexe 2 / The conservation of archaeological and historic heritage sites

The GDoCHM operates through a network of 37 Regional Conservation Councils (RCCs) distributed across different regions of the country. RCCs are autonomous groups of experts in the fields archaeology, architecture, art history and urban planning appointed by the Ministry. Experts from relevant governmental institutions also take part as members. These RCCs are the decision-making bodies of their respective regions and report to the Superior Conservation Council (SCC), which determines the guiding principles for the conservation and restoration of immovable cultural property, establishes coordination between RCCs, and assists the Ministry in the implementation of principles. Major responsibilities of the RCCs include registering and classifying cultural and natural assets to be conserved, deciding on amendments requested on management plans, determining the boundaries of areas with cultural and/or natural heritage resources in need of protection, deciding on the level of conservation of cultural and natural monuments, and determining the registered status of cultural and natural heritage resources that have lost their conservation value. RCCs supervise the five categories of protected sites:

- Archaeological Sites: Areas (of settlement) that display above ground, underground or underwater cultural assets, dating back to civilizations from prehistoric to more recent times
- Urban Sites: Areas that display integrity in their fabric as a result of a harmonious combination of urban form, traditional characteristics, artistic and architectural style. These areas also reflect a specific period's socioeconomic, socio-cultural structure and life style
- Historic Sites: Areas that need to be protected with their surrounding natural setting, because of their importance in national history
- Urban Archaeological Sites: Areas that display a combination of an archaeological and urban fabric
- Mixed Sites:
 - ▶ Archaeological and Urban Sites
 - ▶ Archaeological and Historic Sites
 - ▶ Archaeological-Historic-Urban Sites
 - ▶ Historic and Urban Sites

Annexe 3 / Number of Protected Sites of Cultural Heritage of Turkey (as of 31 December 2019)

Archaeological Sites:	19,475
Urban Sites:	331
Historic Sites:	191
Urban Archaeological Sites:	35
Mixed Sites:	
Archaeological and Urban Sites:	54
Archaeological and Historic Sites:	20
Archaeological-Historic-Urban Sites:	6
Historic and Urban Sites:	34
Total of Mixed Sites:	114
TOTAL NO. OF PROTECTED SITES:	20,146

Annexe 4 / Programme of the field analysis in Urfa and Adiyaman between 25 and 28 February 2020

25 February 2020:

- 18:00 – 19:20: Flight from Istanbul to Ankara (A. Yılmaz)
- 20:00 – 21:20: Flight from Ankara to Şanlıurfa (A. Yılmaz, E. Budak, M. Önhon)

26 February 2020:

- 10:00 – 12:00: Meeting with stakeholders at the Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism of Şanlıurfa
- 12:30 – 13:30: Guided tour through Şanlıurfa's historic district & visit to the Şanlıurfa City Museum
- 13:30 – 14:30: Lunch with the Deputy Director of the Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism of Şanlıurfa
- 15:00 – 17:00: Guided tour by a Ministry archaeologist at the GöbekliTepe UNESCO World Heritage Site

27 February 2020:

- 08:00 – 09:15: Travel from Şanlıurfa to Adiyaman
- 09:15 – 11:00: Meeting with stakeholders at the Governorship of Adiyaman 11:15 – 12:00
Guided tour through the Archaeological Museum of Adiyaman 12:15 – 13:15
Guided tour at the Antique City of Perre
- 13:30 – 15:00: Lunch with the Director of the Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism of Şanlıurfa and the Head of Cultural and Social Activities of the Municipality of Adiyaman
- 15:00: Return to Şanlıurfa

28 February 2020:

- 09:30 – 10:30: Travel to the Harran site
- 10:30 – 12:30: Guided tour by a local guide at the Harran site 12:30 – 13:30:
Return to Şanlıurfa & End of field analysis

Annexe 5 / List of organisations represented at the Şanlıurfa meeting on 26 February 2020

Name of Organisation	Name of Participant	Position
Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism	Aykut Hakan KUTLUHAN	Deputy Director
Southeastern Anatolia Project Regional Development Administration (Ministry of Industry and Technology)	M. Suphi ÖZER	General Coordinator
Southeastern Anatolia Project Regional Development Administration (Ministry of Industry and Technology)	Leyla AKBIYIK	Urban Planner
Ministry of Culture and Tourism, General Directorate of Promotion	Esra BUDAK	Expert
Ministry of Culture and Tourism, General Directorate of Promotion	Meltem ÖNHON	Expert
Independent Researcher	Dr. Ayşegül YILMAZ	Heritage Expert
Şanlıurfa Metropolitan Municipality	Necmi KARADAĞ	Head of the Office of the Promotion of Tourism
Eyyübiye Municipality	Ismail KAYA	Head of the Office for Cultural and Social Activities
Haliliye Municipality	Ufuk ASLAN	Head of the Office for Cultural and Social Activities
Şanlıurfa Archaeology Museum	Muhittin ÇIÇEK	Deputy Director
Şanlıurfa Tourism Development Ltd.	Mehmet UNCU	General Manager
Şanlıurfa Tourism Development Ltd.	Ömer ADEMOĞLU	Coordinator
Şanlıurfa Chamber of Trade and Industry	Mutlu GÜNEŞ	Consultant
Karacadağ Development Agency	M. Cüneyt ATEŞ	Expert

List of organisations represented at the Adiyaman meeting on 27 February 2020

Name of Organisation	Name of Participant	Position
Governorship of Adiyaman	Bedir DEVECİ	Deputy Governor
Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism	Ahmet GÜNAYDIN	Deputy Director
Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism	Bahaddin ÜNSAL	Deputy Director
Ministry of Culture and Tourism, General Directorate of Promotion	Esra BUDAK	Expert
Ministry of Culture and Tourism, General Directorate of Promotion	Meltem ÖNHON	Expert
Independent Researcher	Dr. Ayşegül YILMAZ	Heritage Expert
Municipality of Adiyaman	Hakan ÖZÖNCEL	Head of the Office for Cultural and Social Activities
VEKA TOURISM	Mevlüt KUŞTEPE	Travel Agency Operator
SAFVAN TOURISM	Hacı Mahmut ÇALIŞKAN	Travel Agency Operator

In partnership with



Ministry of Culture
and Tourism of Turkey

Council of Europe
Directorate General of Democracy

F-67075 Strasbourg
Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes
- Council of Europe

Neumünster Abbey
28 Münster Street
L-2160 Luxembourg

Phone. : +352 24 12 50

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