

Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme

Activity Report



2020

2020

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

Activity Report

Design: h2a

Credits

Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe
Secretariat of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes
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European Cultural Routes Exhibition. Beijing Kamino International Cultural Exchange Center © Beijing Camino Center

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Forewords

Despite the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the cultural sector Europe-wide, the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA) continued to consolidate during 2020 its relevance and resilience for the promotion of our common European heritage by strengthening its institutional mandate, visibility and digital outreach. With the accession of Sweden and the Observer status of Belarus, the 34 member States of the EPA further consolidated their political and financial support to the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme. The Georgian, Greek and German Chairmanships of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the relevance of the programme with dedicated online conferences, workshops and publications.

The renowned label “Cultural Route of the Council of Europe” was awarded to 2 new Cultural Routes, further increasing the networks’ thematic and geographic coverage. The expanded interest and relevance of the programme is also reflected in the record number of new applications for certifications.

In order to further guarantee its continued relevance as a unique instrument of cultural diplomacy, the programme will continue to build on the support of the EPA member States and the European Institute of Cultural Routes in Luxembourg.



Ambassador Stephan MÜLLER,
Chair, EPA Statutory Committee of member States, Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes, Council of Europe

A challenging year for the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe due to the COVID-19 pandemic, 2020 presented nevertheless an opportunity to thoroughly assess the programme’s recent success. The Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe continued to expand with the accession of Sweden and with 2 new certifications, bringing the programme to 40 certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe. I am particularly proud to highlight the contribution of Germany to the promotion of the programme in the framework of the current German Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe (November 2020 – May 2021) with dedicated photo exhibits and publications.

In order to examine the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the cultural and tourism sector, we and other EPA member States launched throughout the year a cycle of live webinars “Cultural Routes Dialogues: challenges and opportunities post Covid-19” (Spain; Italy, San Marino and the Holy See; France and Monaco; Greece; Germany).

I believe that culture and heritage can make a vital contribution to Europe’s recovery and that the Cultural Routes and their over 3,000 network members can help to establish new paradigms for the appreciation of shared cultural heritage and sustainable tourism across the continent.



Dr. Birgitta RINGBECK
Chair, Governing Board, Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA)

Despite an exceptionally challenging year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe demonstrated during 2020 a lot of resilience, creativity and innovation.

The programme continued to grow with the certification of the European Route of Historic Gardens and the Via Romea Germanica. A record number of 16 Cultural Routes candidates applied for certification, proving the continued attractiveness of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe label and its relevance among cultural heritage practitioners and European travellers. The European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR), the technical agency of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme, continued to provide throughout the year much needed expert advice and training in the form of on-line webinars to many new cultural route initiatives and their carrier networks candidates for certification.

Although most of our activities and events took place online and in digital format, the European Institute of Cultural Routes successfully hosted a 2-months public exhibition in autumn on “The Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Luxembourg”, with the participation of Mrs Sam TANSON, Minister of Culture of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and Mrs Snezana MARKOVIC, Director General of the Council of Europe. The exhibition gave visitors the opportunity to discover the 8 certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe with network members in Luxembourg, bearing witness to the country’s shared European cultural heritage.

We look forward to returning to a more regular calendar of activities during 2021 and wish the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe continued success!



Ambassador Christian BIEVER,
President, European Institute of Cultural Routes, Luxembourg

Introduction

Launched in 1987, the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme demonstrates, by means of a journey through space and time, how heritage and cultures of different regions of Europe contribute to a shared cultural heritage. Europe has always been characterized by its rich common cultural heritage. Traditions and shared memories connect people across the continent and give Europe its unique cultural identity. A journey along the 40 certified Cultural Routes aims to make European citizens aware of their common cultural roots and to strengthen the understanding between different people, traditions and countries.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe established in 2010 an Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes (EPA) to enable closer cooperation between member States particularly interested in the development of the Cultural Routes, with a focus on themes of symbolic importance for European values, history, and culture and the discovery of less well-known destinations. Today, the programme benefits from cooperation among its 34 member States, regional and local authorities as well as international Organisations, including the European Union, OECD, UNESCO and UNWTO. Seat of the EPA, the European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR, Luxembourg) is the advisory technical agency to the Cultural Routes programme and was set up in 1998 under an agreement between the Council of Europe and the government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Ministry of Culture.

The Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme continued to grow steadily during 2020. Two new certifications brought the programme to 40 certified Cultural Routes, covering a wide range of European themes, including more than 3,000 institutional network members crossing some 60 countries in Europe and beyond. In 2020, a record number of 16 Cultural Route networks submitted an application to be considered for the “Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe” certification.

Despite being affected by the COVID-19 pandemic Europe-wide, the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme demonstrated all its resilience and increased relevance thanks to the commitment of the 40 Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and their management, the 34 member States of the EPA and its Secretariat and the support of the European Institute of Cultural Routes. Activities were moved on-line with webinars, conferences and trainings taking place in digital format. The Secretariat released a survey on the “Impact of COVID-19 on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe” and the EPA Governing Board commissioned a study to assess the impact of major risks on the

Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme. The Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe demonstrated all their creativity and innovation by developing a variety of digital tools and new activities on-line.

Despite a challenging year, the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme pursued its efforts to reach new audiences and partners and to augment its visibility during 2020. An exhibition on “Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Luxembourg” was open to the general public in Luxembourg in autumn and an on-line database together with an interactive map listing all the network members of the 40 certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe is now available for digital download. Three new branding booklets on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme have also been published. These new booklets are the first publications specifically devoted to Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe’s institutional framework and methodology targeting three distinct audiences: Member States; Cultural Routes and travellers and general audiences interested in the programme.

The Cultural Routes Programme, today more than ever, widely promotes knowledge and understanding of European cultural identity. Our gratitude goes to the managers and network members of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe for their commitment, as well as to the EPA member States and the European Institute of Cultural Routes Board of Directors for their continued support. My sincere appreciation and thanks go to the Secretariats of the EPA and EICR for the excellence of their work!

We hope you will join us on our continuous journey of discovery along the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe while reading our 2020 Activity Report!



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

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

1987

Declaration of Santiago de Compostela

Establishment of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe

1998

Creation of the European Institute of Cultural Route, Luxembourg

2010

20th
Anniversary of the European Institute of Cultural Routes

2017

30th
Anniversary of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe

Council of Europe Committee of Ministers Declaration (2017)

1.1 € million

Grant Agreement between the Council of Europe and the European Union

2018

2020

2

new routes certified in 2020

40

certified Cultural Routes
of the Council of Europe

34

member States
of the EPA
on Cultural Routes

1

observer State
as of December 2020

2019

+ 60

countries crossed,
in Europe and beyond

Carlos V
European Award

+ 3000

members of the
Cultural Routes network







1

Highlights

|

1.1 - Certification of two new Cultural Routes

The Governing Board of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA), certified two new “Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe”: the “European Route of Historic Gardens” and the “Via Romea Germanica”, bringing the programme to 40 certified routes.

The official Certification Ceremony of the new Cultural Routes will be held during the 10th Annual Advisory Forum of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe to take place in Kutaisi, Georgia, in September 2021.

The European Route of Historic Gardens



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

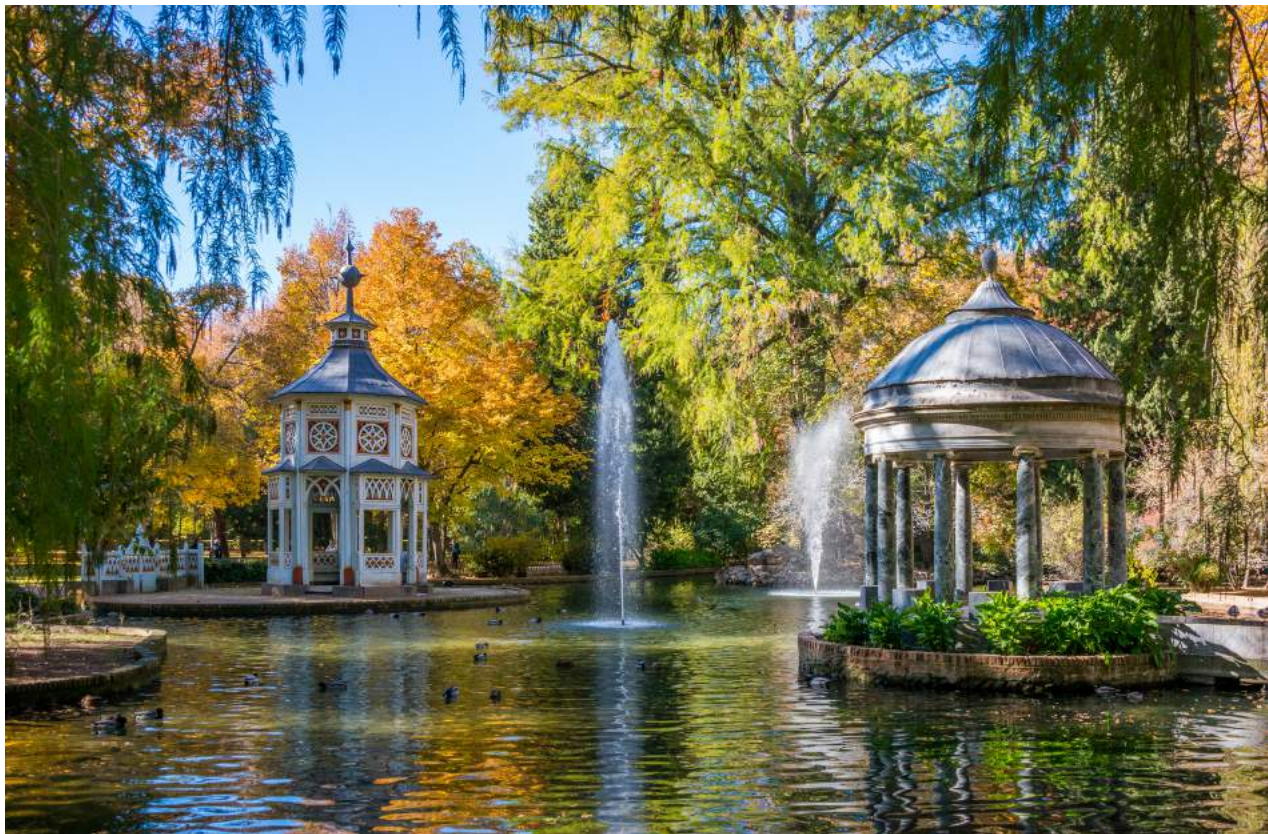


The **European Route of Historic Gardens** brings together historic gardens across Europe in order to promote and raise awareness and knowledge of a common European heritage, developing cultural ties among Europe’s different regions.

Historic gardens have shaped European culture and identity throughout times. They have always been related to places of great significance like royal estates, urban units or monasteries, nobility and bourgeois villas, that is, the residences and decision-making centres of historical figures. Transmitted

from one region to another throughout Europe, shaping gardens and landscapes contributed to the development of professions around landscaping, engineering and gardening know-how and have been also inspirational sites for great artists and traditional events of society. The route brings together gardens that comply with the definition of “Historic Garden” as established in 1981, in the Florence Charter, adopted by ICOMOS in 1982.

Countries: 



Jardines del Principe, Aranjuez, Spain. ©Salvador Aznar/Shutterstock

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Via Romea Germanica



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



Starting in Northern Germany, and reaching Rome through Austria and Italy, the Route retraces the steps of Abbot Albert of Stade as narrated in his diary. He was a pilgrim on his way to Rome in 1236 with a mission to ask the Pope for approval of the new Monastic Rule for his community. In the *Annales Stadenses*, written in 1256, abbot Albert analysed different routes to Rome, describing places, characteristics and distances. In his writings, we can read a detailed description of the best way (the “Melior Way”) for pilgrims coming from Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Norway and the Baltic Countries to get to Rome. Since then, the Via Romea Germanica has been travelled by emperors, kings, soldiers, travellers and merchants.

Via Romea Germanica is a bridge between the North and the South of Europe that contributes to mutual understanding and the construction of a shared Europe through the rediscovery of past historic journeys and cultural exchanges. The project aims to enhance interreligious dialogue through sustainable cultural tourism.

Countries: 



•••
More
information



Earth Pyramids at the Ritten and Church in South Tyrol ©Frank Lambert/Shutterstock

1.2 - New member States of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA)

During 2020 the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe expanded its membership, and currently features 34 member States.

1
new member
State

1
new observer
State

34
member
States

6th

March



Sweden

On 6 March, Mrs. Amanda LIND, Minister for Culture and Democracy of Sweden, informed Mrs. Marija PEJČINOVIĆ BURIĆ, Secretary General of the Council of Europe, of the accession of Sweden to the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes.

Sweden is currently crossed by 7 certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe: The Hansa, Viking Routes, European Route of Cistercian Abbeys, European Cemeteries Route, Route of Saint Olav Ways, European Route of Megalithic Culture and European Route of Industrial Heritage.

The Accession Ceremony for Sweden will take place within the framework of the 10th Annual Advisory Forum of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe to be held in Kutaisi, Georgia, in September 2021.

During 2020, **Belarus** became observer to the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes.



Parliament of Sweden. SAPHotog / Shutterstock

1.3 - Georgian Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe

November
2019

On 27 November 2019, Georgia assumed the Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe for a 6-month period (November 2019 – May 2020).

May
2020



Georgia

David ZALKALIANI, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Georgia and new Chair of the Committee of Ministers, presented the priorities of the Georgian Presidency, highlighting the promotion of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme.

In order to implement the activities in the framework of the CM Presidency, Georgia provided the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA) with a financial contribution to host an exhibit on Cultural Routes crossing Georgia. This activity will be implemented during the 2021 Annual Forum (29 September-1 October 2021) in Kutaisi, Georgia.



Mr. David ZALKALIANI (Georgia), new Chair of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, and Mrs. Amélie DE MONTCHALIN (France), former Chair of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe

1.3 - Georgian Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe

Priorities of the Ministry of Education and Culture of Georgia

1. Georgia will host the 10th Annual Advisory Forum on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Kutaisi from 29 September to 1 October 2021.
2. Development of an app on cultural routes with the support of the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia and the Georgian National Tourism Administration. The first mobile application “Cultural Routes of Georgia” will play an important role in informing tourists, as well as helping them plan interesting routes by following all safety rules.
3. Certification of national routes: Seven new routes were certified in 2020: “St. Andrew Path”, “From Capital to Capital”, “Georgian Ceramic Route”, “Georgia drawn with tea”, “I will go to Guria but”, “Ilia Chavchavadze Memorial Sites” and “On the footsteps of the thirteen Syrian fathers”.

“The Presidency of Georgia shall support the Council of Europe’s efforts to promote cultural participation and the democratisation of culture, contribute to streamlining the cultural policies of the Council of Europe’s member States. The Presidency acknowledges the significance of culture and its relevance to consolidating democracy, and believes that culture genuinely wields a transformative power, capable of bringing social change and strengthening social cohesion.”

Mr. David ZALKALIANI,

Minister for Foreign Affairs of Georgia and new Chair of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

1.4 - Greek Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe

May
2020

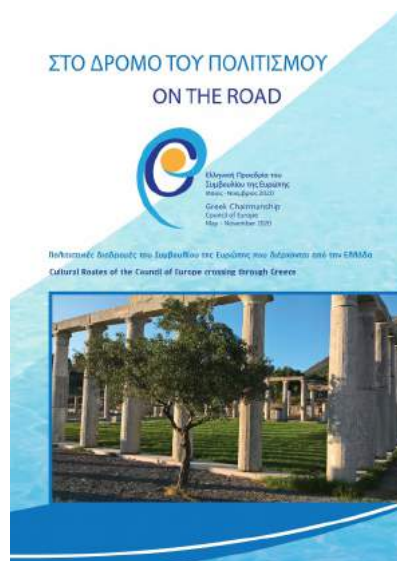
The Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe was handed over from Georgia to Greece on 15 May 2020 during an online meeting in the presence of representatives of its 47 member states, with the participation of the President of the Congress, Anders KNAPE.

November
2020

The new Chairman of the Committee of Ministers, Nikos DENDIAS, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Greece, outlined the priorities of the Greek Chairmanship.



Greece



Highlights:

-Brochure about Cultural Routes crossing Greece:

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Culture and Sports of the Hellenic Republic (Directorate of International Relations and European Union), in cooperation with the EPA Secretariat, the Public Diplomacy Office of the Permanent Mission of Greece to the Council of Europe, as well as the Administrative Regions of Greece and the Greek representatives of certified Cultural Routes, published a new 2020 brochure on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and network members active in Greece.

- Digital exhibition

The Greek Ministry of Culture organised a digital exhibition dedicated to the damage inflicted on monuments of cultural heritage by the effects of climate change, with the participation of European countries having similar examples to display.

1.5 - German Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe

November
2020

Germany took over the Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe from Greece for a 6-month period (November 2020 – May 2021).

May
2021


Germany

The new Chair of the Committee of Ministers, Heiko MAAS, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of Germany, presented the priorities of the German Presidency.



Highlights:

- *Organization of an exhibition on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Germany (2021)*

A roll-up exhibition, featuring 25 Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe that are crossing Germany, was developed by order of the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The opening of the exhibition is planned for April 2021 in the premises of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg. After the ending of the German Chairmanship, the exhibition will travel through Germany promoting the programme to the public in several locations, starting with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Berlin.

- *Publication of a handbook on Cultural Routes*

The German representatives are currently working on the publication of a German handbook on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme, its characteristics and the benefits of certification.

1.6 - Certification cycle 2020-2021: 16 new applications received

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

This year, a record number of 16 networks submitted an application to the “Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe” certification. Among them, 13 candidates were found eligible for evaluation.

The 2020-2021 Certification cycle focuses on the regular evaluation of three certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and the evaluation of thirteen candidate networks applying for the “Cultural Route of the Council of Europe” certification.

From early March 2020, the EPA Secretariat – with the support of the European Institute of Cultural Routes – worked on the coordination of the Certification cycle 2020-2021.

Following the launch of the 2020-2021 Certification Cycle on 31st March, an online training seminar for candidate networks applying for certification was organized on 9-12 June. The event saw the attendance of more than 70 participants representing 17 candidate networks. The seminar also included bilateral advisory meetings between the Secretariat and each candidate network. Likewise, individual meetings with certified Cultural Routes under regular evaluation were set up with the representatives of each network in order to discuss the preparation of their evaluation files.

Independent experts were contracted to conduct the independent evaluation of each route, including the

1.6 - Certification cycle 2020-2021: 16 new applications received

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

- Aeneas Route
- Alvar Aalto Route – 20th Century Architecture and Design
- The Castle Road – Habsburg’s Southeastern Bulwark
- Cyril and Methodius Route
- The European Route d’Artañan
- FORTE CULTURA – Culture Route of Fortified Monuments
- Iron Age Danube Route
- Mary’s Route
- Places of Peace – The European Peace Heritage Route
- Saint Francis’ Ways
- European Route of Templar Heritage
- Via Eurasia
- Via Molina - The European Mill Route

preparation of an evaluation report to be submitted in December 2020. The selection of experts was done on the basis of geographic and gender balance, academic background, professional experience as well as linguistics competences.

The recommendations of the EPA Bureau, based on the results of the independent experts’ evaluations and on recommendations prepared by the Secretariat, will be analysed by the EPA Governing Board at its annual meeting in April 2021.

1.7 - The Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Luxembourg: an exhibit

17th

September

Organised by the Secretariat, with the support of the Ministry of Culture of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Luxembourg National Railway Company (CFL), the exhibition on “Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Luxembourg” took place at the Funicular hall of the Pfaffenthal train station of Luxembourg.

17th

November

The exhibition consisted of large explanatory panels containing photos and texts on the programme and on the various routes crossing the Grand Duchy. It introduced visitors and passing travellers to the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme and highlighted activities and sites along the eight certified Cultural Routes crossing Luxembourg: **Santiago de Compostela Pilgrim Routes, Saint Martin of Tours Route, Iter Vitis Route, European Route of Historic Thermal Towns, Fortified Towns of the Grande Region, European Route of Industrial Heritage, Liberation Route Europe and the European Route of Jewish Heritage.**

MOYSE, President of the European Route of Jewish Heritage and Mr. Stefano DOMINIONI, Executive Secretary of the EPA on Cultural Routes and Director of the European Institute of Cultural Routes.

Welcoming remarks were addressed by Mrs. Alessandra NONNWEILER, Head of Communication of the Luxembourg National Railway Company (CFL), to welcome the visitors in the CFL Funicular Hall. Mrs. TANSON, Minister of Culture, expressed her support by stressing the need to keep organizing cultural events, as she witnesses a real “thirst for culture” among European citizens.



Luxembourg

The opening ceremony of the exhibition took place on 17 September 2020, with every respect for the sanitary protective measures related to COVID-19.

“This initiative represents an opportunity for Luxembourgers to rediscover different sites of their cultural heritage from a European perspective, bearing witness to our common cultural heritage, but also for international visitors to discover the cultural and historical riches of Luxembourg and Europe, and sometimes to link these local heritage sites to the history of their own country”.

Mrs. Snežana SAMARDŽIĆ-MARKOVIĆ, Director General of Democracy of the Council of Europe

...

More information



1.7 - The Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Luxembourg: an exhibit



Mrs. Sam TANSON, Minister of Culture of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.



Mr. Christian BIEVER, President of the European Institute of Cultural Routes.



Mrs. Snežana SAMARŽIĆ-MARKOVIĆ, Director General of Democracy of the Council of Europe.



Inauguration of the exhibition by Mrs. Sam TANSON (left) and Mrs. Snežana SAMARŽIĆ-MARKOVIĆ (right).



Explanatory panels containing photos and texts on the programme and on the various routes crossing the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg



Explanatory panels containing photos and texts on the programme and on the various routes crossing the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

1.8 - Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme: new visibility tools

The Secretariat has developed the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Database with the support of the Ministry of Culture of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Directorate of Information Technology of the Council of Europe.

Cultural Routes Database with Interactive Map

An online platform accessible to the public hosts a structured and extensive database together with an interactive map organizing more than 3000 network members of the 40 certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe, including national, local and regional authorities, cultural institutions and NGOs, tourism stakeholders, universities and research centres, SMEs, route Headquarters, as well as heritage sites and museums represented within the networks across the 47 member States of the Council of Europe and beyond.

The Cultural Routes Database filters data by cross-searching information according to the various Cultural Routes, network member categories and by country. The interactive map allows to locate in Europe the members of the networks and the European heritage concerned.



LE GOUVERNEMENT
DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG
Ministère de la Culture



[More information](#)



New branding booklets on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme

Three new branding booklets on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme have been published targeting different audiences and are now available for download.

The new booklets are the first publications specifically devoted to Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe's institutional framework and methodology, as well as mission and benefits, with a diversified content targeting distinct audiences.

These three booklets target respectively: Member States of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA), Observers and Council of Europe member States interested in becoming members of the EPA; Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and networks interested in applying for certification; Travellers and general audiences interested in the programme.

The booklets have been published on the website and are available for download.



[More information](#)







2

Responding to the COVID-19 pandemic

|

2.1 - Survey and webinar on the Impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the cultural and tourism sector is being felt across Europe and the world and Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe networks and activities have been seriously impacted by the current situation.

In May 2020, the Secretariat released a survey on the “Impact of COVID-19 on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe”. The survey was intended to collect information on how the pandemic is affecting Cultural Routes activities, the challenges they are facing and the measures they are taking in order to tackle them, also with a view to informing EPA member States, the Council of Europe and the European Union, as well as partner International Organizations.

All the Cultural Routes representatives and their network members were invited to submit their responses through an online form.

Following the collection and analysis of results, a webinar was organized on 28th May. The aim of the initiative was to discuss the results of the survey with Cultural Routes representatives in order to evaluate the preliminary impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic

on networks, the strategies put in place to face this unprecedented situation and to reflect on future measures to be taken.

Nearly 50 representatives of the 38 certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe, together with other experts, such as from the United Nations World Tourism Organization, took part in the webinar.



Webinar “Covid-19 and the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe: Impacts and Responses”

2.2 - Cycle of webinars: “Cultural Routes Dialogues: challenges and opportunities post COVID-19”.

During 2020, the Secretariat organized a cycle of live webinars: “Cultural Routes Dialogues: challenges and opportunities post COVID-19”.

The aim of this initiative was to examine the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the cultural and tourism sector - in particular on the networks and activities of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe, to

identify challenges that Cultural Routes are facing and discuss opportunities and innovative solutions to overcome this crisis.

More information



Spain
8th May

Organised in cooperation with: the Deputy Directorate General on International Cooperation and Promotion of Culture, Ministry on Culture and Sport of Spain.

With the participation of: Turismo de Galicia, Tourspain and Universitat de Barcelona.



2.2 - Cycle of webinars: “Cultural Routes Dialogues”

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More
information



Italy, San Marino and the Holy See 15th May

Organised in cooperation with: the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities and for Tourism of Italy.

With the participation of: Università Bocconi, representation of San Marino to the Council of Europe, representation of the Holy See to the Council of Europe, Council of Europe office in Venice.



•••
More
information



France and Monaco 4th June

Organised in cooperation with: the Directorate General of Heritage of the Ministry of Culture of France.

With the participation of: Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne and Heritage Institute of the Principality of Monaco.



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More
information



Greece 26th June

Organised in cooperation with: the Hellenic Ministry of Culture & Sports.

With the participation of: Permanent Representation of Greece to the Council of Europe.



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More
information



Germany 23rd October

Organised in cooperation with: the Federal Foreign Office of Germany.

With the participation of: European Center for Culture and Information in Thuringia, German Institute for Tourism Research and Hessisches Kegelspiel Tourist Office.



2.3 - Major risks report

Following a decision of the EPA Governing Board, the Secretariat launched the preparation of a study to assess the impact of major risks on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme.

The report is aimed at helping EPA member States and Cultural Routes managers to develop mechanisms to cope with major risks situations, such as: pandemics, global warming, economic threats, and so forth. Recommendations and conclusions are an important part of the report. The geographical scope of the study covers the Council of Europe members, with a particular focus on EPA member States and countries

crossed by certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe.

Major risks have been identified on the basis of those risks affecting or threatening cultural heritage, Cultural Routes and European shared heritage. The final report will be published on the website in the course of 2021.



Council of Europe

Conseil de l'Europe



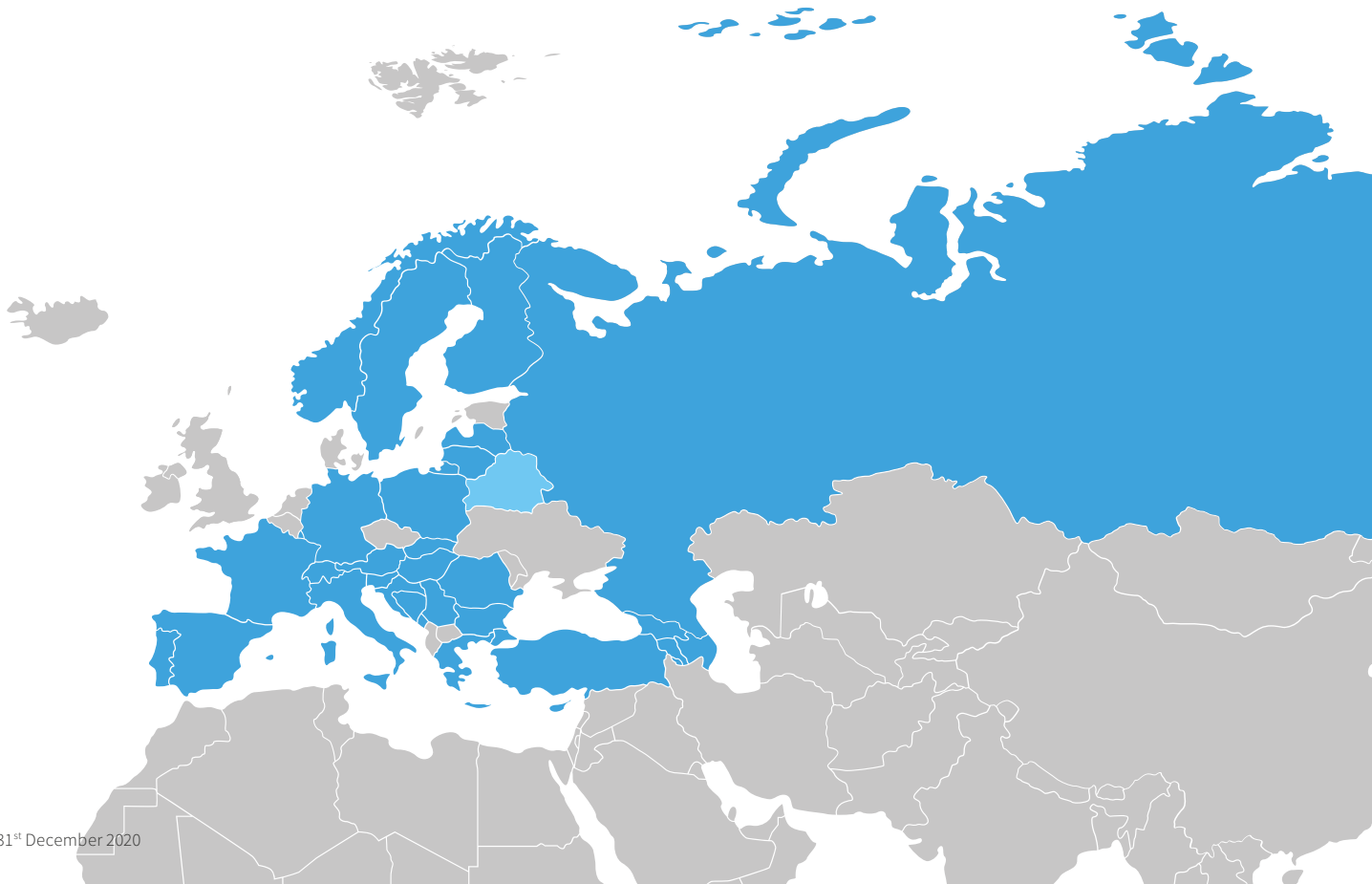
3

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



34 EPA member States¹

 Andorra - 2012	 Hungary - 2013	 Slovak Republic - 2014
 Armenia - 2015	 Italy - 2011	 Slovenia - 2011
 Austria - 2011	 Latvia - 2019	 Spain - 2011
 Azerbaijan - 2011	 Lithuania - 2012	 Sweden - 2020
 Bosnia and Herzegovina - 2016	 Luxembourg - 2011	 Switzerland - 2013
 Bulgaria - 2011	 Monaco - 2016	 Turkey - 2018
 Croatia - 2016	 Montenegro - 2011	
 Cyprus - 2011	 Norway - 2011	
 Finland - 2018	 Poland - 2017	
 France - 2011	 Portugal - 2011	 1 Observer State
 Georgia - 2016	 Romania - 2013	Republic of Belarus
 Germany - 2013	 Russian Federation - 2011	
 Greece - 2011	 San Marino - 2017	 Observers
 Holy See - 2018	 Serbia - 2012	EU, UNESCO, OECD, UNWTO



Since 2010

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

Political body of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme

14

founding member
States in 2010

34

member States as of
31st December 2020

1

new member State
in 2020:

Sweden

1

Observer as of
31st December 2020:

Belarus

- Open to **member and non-member States of the Council of Europe**
- **Political and financial support** to the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme
- Implementation of the Council of Europe policy guidelines
- **Programme strategy**
- **Award of the certification “Cultural Route of the Council of Europe”**
- **Advice and expert assistance** for the development, implementation and promotion of the Cultural Routes
- **Supports of networking and exchanges** between Cultural Routes’ operators and other partners in the field of cultural tourism
- **Two statutory bodies:**
 - **Governing Board** composed of representatives from Ministries of Culture and Tourism
 - **Statutory Committee** composed of Permanent Representatives to the Council of Europe
- Headquarters at the Abbaye of Neumunster, with the **European Institute of Cultural Routes**, Luxembourg.



Meeting of the EPA Governing Board in Luxembourg, LU

3.1 Statutory bodies and staff

EPA Governing Board Bureau:

-  – **Mrs. Birgitta RINGBECK**,
Chair, Germany (Federal Foreign Office, Division for Multilateral Cultural and Media Policy, Council of Europe, EU, ASEM, ICCROM, German Commission for UNESCO)
-  – **Mr. Levan KHARATISHVILI**,
Vice-chair, Georgia, (Deputy Minister, Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport)
-  – **Mr. Julien VUILLEUMIER**,
Switzerland (Scientific Collaborator, Office Fédérale de la Culture, Culture et Société)
-  – **Mrs. Margarita LIOULIA**,
Greece (Administrator, Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports)
-  – **Mrs. Steliana COJOCARIU**,
Romania (Senior Counsellor, Office for International Relations and European Affairs, Ministry of Tourism) – Until October 2020
-  – **Mrs. Urszula ŚLĄZAK**,
Poland (Director of the International Relations Department, Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of Poland) – From October 2020

EPA Statutory Committee

-  – **Ambassador Stephan MÜLLER**
Chair, Permanent representative of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg to the Council of Europe

Secretariat:

- **Mr. Stefano DOMINIONI**,
Executive Secretary
- **Mrs. Marie SAUTIN**,
Executive Assistant

Seconded officials:

- **Salome JAMBURIA**,
Senior Specialist, Department of Culture, Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia. Ministerial Secondment (March 2020)

Trainees:

- **Mrs. Johanna SIMON**,
Europa-Universität Flensburg, Germany

3.2 - Governing Board meetings and activities

13th

Meeting of the Bureau of the EPA Governing Board

14th

- Activity report 2019 and draft programme 2020

February

- Certification cycle 2019-2020



Luxembourg

- Organization of the EPA Governing Board meeting

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



EPA Bureau meeting, 13-14 February, LU

3.2 - Governing Board meetings and activities

2nd

June



Online

Exceptional Meeting of the Bureau of the EPA Governing Board

- Annual Advisory Forum of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe 2020 and 2021



Governing Board, June 2020.

7th

-

8th

October



Online

Meeting of the EPA Governing Board

- Evaluation cycle 2019-2020
- Auditions by the representatives of candidates to the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe certification
- Election of Mrs ŚLĄZAK (Poland) as new EPA Bureau Member.
- Country mappings and thematic reports.



Governing Board, October 2020.

Governing board statutory activities

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

“The Enlarged Partial Agreement (EPA) shall contribute to the promotion of European identity and citizenship through knowledge and awareness of Europe’s common heritage, and the development of cultural links and dialogue within Europe as well as with other countries and regions.

It shall seek to shape a shared cultural space through the development of cultural routes aiming to foster awareness-raising about heritage, education, networking, quality and sustainable cross-border tourism and other related activities.”

Committee of Ministers Resolution
CM/Res(2013)66 article 1

3.3 - Certification cycle: regular evaluations and certifications

8

certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe evaluated (cycle 2019-2020)

3

candidates presented for possible certification (cycle 2019-2020)

1

certified Cultural Route of the Council of Europe evaluated under exceptional evaluation (cycle 2019-2020)

3

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

2

new Cultural Routes certified in 2020

13

new projects undergoing evaluation for possible certification (cycle 2020-2021)

Regular evaluations

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

Certification cycle 2019-2020 - completed:

1. Santiago de Compostela Pilgrim Routes
2. The Hansa
3. Via Francigena
4. Routes of El Legado Andalusi
5. Pyrenean Iron Route
6. Iter Vitis Route
7. European Route of Ceramics
8. Fortified towns of the Grande Région

Certification cycle 2020-2021 – underway:

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

Evaluation of candidates

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

The 2019-2020 Certification cycle - completed:
Three cultural route projects submitted an application to the “Cultural Route of the Council of Europe” certification:

1. Via Romea Germanica
2. European Network of Historic Gardens
3. Nikola Tesla Network

The EPA Governing Board decided to award the “Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe” certification to:

1. Via Romea Germanica
2. European Network of Historic Gardens

The 2020-2021 Certification cycle – underway:
Thirteen candidates to the “Cultural Route of the Council of Europe” certification:

1. Aeneas Route
2. Alvar Aalto Route – 20th Century Architecture and Design
3. The Castle Road - Habsburg’s Southeastern Bulwark
4. Cyril and Methodius Route
5. The European Route d’Artagnan
6. Culture Route of Fortified Monuments - FORTE CULTURA
7. Iron Age Danube Route
8. Mary’s Route
9. Places of Peace
10. Saint Francis’ Ways
11. European Route of Templar Heritage
12. Via Eurasia
13. Via Molina - The European Mill Route

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



³ See appendices.

3.4 - Cooperation with International Organisations



Council of Europe

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

- 16th June, Strasbourg, FR
Contribution to the report **“Culture without borders: Cultural heritage management for local and regional development”** prepared by the Current Affairs Committee of the Congress of local and Regional Authorities (Rapporteurs: Barbara TOCE, Italy and Eirini DOUROU, Greece).

- 12th November, Strasbourg, FR.
Presentation of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme by Mr. Alfredas JOMANTAS, representative of Lithuania to the EPA Governing Board, at the **Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP)**

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



European Union

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More
information



- **Cooperation with the European Union External Action Service (EEAS):** the EEAS participates in the Governing Board meetings of the EPA as an Observer as of 1st January 2019.
- **Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Exhibition in China.** The exhibition entitled “An Encounter on a Journey across Time and Space - Cultural Routes of Europe Exhibition” was organized in Beijing, China, between September

and December 2020. This event was the continuation of an exhibition that was displayed in two Chinese cities in 2019: Changchun (August 2019) and Xi'an (December 2019).

Organized by the Delegation of the European Union to China in cooperation with the EU National Institutes for Culture (EUNIC) China Cluster, the event benefited from the support of the EPA on Cultural Routes and of the European Institute of Cultural Routes. The exhibition was produced by the Beijing Camino International Cultural Exchange Center and the Universidad Pontificia Comillas (Spain).

Its purpose was to promote cross-cultural exchange and sustainable tourism between China and Europe by sharing the beauty of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and the values of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme.



European Cultural Routes Exhibition. Beijing Camino International Cultural Exchange Center.



- **Contribution to EU-LAC Foundation newsletter.** The European Union – Latin America and Caribbean Foundation (EU-LAC Foundation) was created in 2010 by the Heads of State and Government of the European Union (EU) and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) member states. The first 2020 EU-Lac Foundation Newsletter was dedicated to Cultural Heritage in the European Union, Latin America and The Caribbean and included an article entitled “The Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe: providing a unique platform for shared European history and heritage” by Stefano DOMINIONI, Executive Secretary of the EPA on Cultural Routes.

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More information



European Commission

– Social media campaign: Europe’s Culture – close to you.

In June 2020, the European Commission launched a social media campaign to promote Europe’s cultural and natural treasures under the slogan “This summer I visit Europe – explore culture close to you”. The initiative was aimed at encouraging Europeans to discover the richness of destinations close to their homes, in a safe and sustainable way. Several destinations along the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe were featured in the campaign through Facebook posts.



Poster of the campaign.



– Council of Europe – European Commission Grant Agreement: “ROUTES4U” joint programme

The objective of the programme was to enhance the transnational cultural cooperation, to create new Cultural Routes and to extend existing ones in the Adriatic-Ionian, Alpine, Baltic Sea and Danube region.

Activities implemented in 2020:

- Publication of the “Roadmap for the Alpine Region Strengthening regional development through the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe” (January).
- Publication of the Routes4U Certification and Implementation Guide (March).
- Participation at the teleconference “Macro-regional strategies of the EU regarding the Adriatic

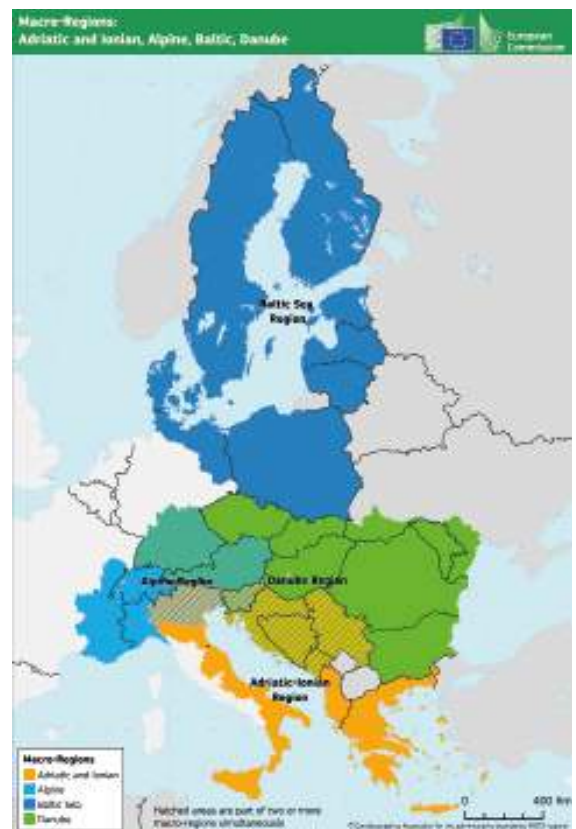
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More information



& Ionian Region, Cultural Tourism and Regional Development: the Routes4U project, results & perspectives” (April).

- Launching of the updated Trip Planner digital mapping platform online “Interactive Cultural Routes Map” (June).
- Finalization of the Routes4U E-learning course by launching the fifth module (June).
- Launching of the new video in July 2020 to promote new cultural routes across EU macro regions.
- Publication of Tourism Catalogue of Cultural Routes in the EU macro-regions, available online in 10 languages (July).



United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO)

- In 2016, the Council of Europe signed a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** with UNWTO that came to an end in December 2018. In 2019 the UNWTO and EPA Secretariats had the

3.4 - Cooperation with International Organisations

opportunity to liaise and define together a new MoU to be jointly signed in the course of 2021.

This new MoU will further strengthen collaboration between both institutions, in particular regarding joint participation in tourism fairs, joint publications and research, developing statistics and tools to measure the impact of the cultural tourism generated by the Cultural Routes, etc.



Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organisation (BSEC)

- Signature of a “Letter of intent” between the EPA Secretariat on Cultural Routes and Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) Secretariat

A "letter of intent" on cooperation between the Permanent International Secretariat of the Organization of the BSEC (PERMIS) and the Secretariat of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA) was signed by an exchange of correspondence between BSEC PERMIS Secretary General Ambassador Mr. Michael B. CHRISTIDES and the Director General of Democracy of the Council of Europe, Mrs. Snežana SAMARDŽIĆ-MARKOVIĆ, which entered into force on 6th April 2020.

The letter of intent is an important step forward as it provides a structured framework for further developing partnerships and for closer collaboration on activities and issues of common interest, such as collaborative research projects, consultations and exchanges of good practices.



European Youth Card Association (EYCA) and Eurail

A “Letter of Intent” on cooperation between the Secretariat of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA), Eurail and the European Youth Card Association (EYCA) was signed by the Director General of Democracy, Mrs. Snežana SAMARDŽIĆ-MARKOVIĆ, on behalf of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Eurail General Manager, Mr. Carlo BOSELLI, and EYCA Director, Mr. Manel SÁNCHEZ, which entered into force on 19th August 2020.

The “Letter of Intent” was signed to promote sustainable mobility across Europe, support the discovery of the rich and diverse heritage of Europe, foster the creation of a strong community of young travellers who support cultural diversity, intercultural learning and mutual exchanges across borders.



9

activities in EPA member States

14

activities along the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe

1

activities in other Council of Europe member States

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

Participation in activities in EPA member States



28th February, Baku, AZ

National Advisory Meeting on Cultural Routes: "The Potential of Cultural Routes in Azerbaijan"
Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan.



Meeting on Cultural Routes in Baku, AZ.



9th March, Nurmes, FI

Seminar on Cultural Routes in North Karelia.
Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture, Business Finland/Visit Finland, in collaboration with the Runosong Academy.



Seminar on Cultural Routes in North Karelia, FI.



1st July, IT and Online

Webinar "The tourism of the future...from communities to Europe, the new proposals for a green and sustainable tourism".

Organized by FEISCT (Federazione Europea Itinerari Storici Culturali e Turistici) under the patronage of Tuscany Region, IT.



8th July, Online

RURITAGE Webinar: "Thinking beyond the COVID-19 crisis: heritage-based opportunities for rural regeneration".

RURITAGE is a four-year-long EU-funded research project, launched in June 2018, which strives to enable rural regeneration through heritage.



1st September, AM and Online

Memorandum of understanding between the Iter Vitis European Federation and the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Armenia.

The Iter Vitis European Federation and the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Armenia.





2nd October, Online



CROSSDEV European project roundtable on sustainable tourism: "Do we earn with sustainable tourism?"

CISP - International Committee for the Development of Peoples as part of the CROSSDEV - Cultural Routes for Sustainable Social and Economic development in Mediterranean project.

3.5 - Activities



  3rd October, HR and Online
Online workshop “Cycling Tourism and Cultural Routes”.

Organised by the Croatian Ministry of Tourism and Sports and supported by the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region and the EU Strategy for the Danube Region.

  12th November, IT and Online
MEET Tourism Lucca – “International Meeting of Cultural Routes and Destinations of Excellence in Lucca”.


Organized by FEISCT (Federazione Europea Itinerari Storici Culturali e Turistici) under the patronage of Regione Toscana, Comune di Lucca, ANCI Toscana, with the support of Toscana Promozione Turistica and the collaboration of Fondazione Campus di Lucca, the European Commission and the European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR).



  18th December, GE and Online
Online signing ceremony of the agreement to hold the 10th Annual Advisory Forum on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe 2021 in Kutaisi, Georgia.


Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia and City of Kutaisi.

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

 20th January, Luxembourg, LU
Participation in the European Days of Jewish Culture 20th Anniversary .


Preparatory Meeting organized by European

Association for the Preservation and Promotion of Jewish Culture and Heritage.

 4th February, Brussels, BE
Participation in the 2020 Forum and certification ceremony of the Liberation Route Europe.




Forum and Certification Ceremony of Liberation Route Europe in Brussels, BE. ©Liberation Route

 6th February, EICR, Luxembourg, LU
Participation in the Board Meeting of The Hansa, held at Neümünster Abbey (LU), headquarters of the EPA on Cultural Routes and of the European Institute of Cultural Routes.






Board Meeting of the Hansa in Luxembourg, LU.



 22nd April, Online
Participation in the videoconference “Macro-regional strategies of the EU regarding the Adriatic & Ionian Region, Cultural Tourism and Regional Development: the Routes4U project, results & perspectives” organised by the Routes of the Olive Tree.


 24th June, Online
Participation in the General Assembly meeting of the European Route of Historic Thermal Towns.


  22nd September, Vienna, AT and Online
Participation in the Kick-off conference of the “Transdanube.Travel.Stories” European project featuring five Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe.


 1st October, Online
Participation in the Committee and General Assembly of the Compostela Pilgrim Ways Agency, Santiago de Compostela Pilgrim Routes.


  7th October, Oberhausen, DE and Online
Participation in the 16th European Route of Industrial Heritage Conference 2020 - “Keeping the wheels turning - Succession Planning for Industrial Heritage”.


  16th October, Baden Baden, DE and Online
Participation in the third European Thermal Heritage Day organised by the European Route of Historic Thermal Towns.

 24th October, Online
Participation in the “500th anniversary of the coronation of Charles V: dreams and nightmares of an Empire” live webinar organized by the European Routes of Emperor Charles V.


 11th November, Online
Participation in the General Assembly meeting of Iter Vitis Route.

 18th November, Online
Participation in the General Assembly meeting of Prehistoric Rock Art Trails.

 21st November, Online
Participation in the General Assembly meeting of European Mozart Ways.


 26th November, Online
Participation in the General Assembly meeting of Destination Napoleon.

Participation in activities in other Council of Europe member States


 25th August, MD and Online
Webinar “Wine Routes of Moldova: Opportunities for growth and sustainable development under Council of Europe standards”.

Minister of Education, Culture and Research of the Republic of Moldova, Iter Vitis European Federation and National Inbound Tourism Association of Moldova.


Other activities

  11th May, IT and Online
European Dialogues.



Participation in the cycle of interviews “European Dialogues”, organised by Villa Vigoni (IT).

 23th October, Online
European-Mediterranean conference 2020 – EuroMed. 1st International Workshop on Cultural Tourism: Discovery Europe.

Organized by Unesco Chair on Digital Cultural Heritage, EU ERA Chair On Digital Cultural Heritage and Digital Heritage Research Lab.

 4th November, Online
European-Mediterranean conference 2020 – EuroMed. 1st International Workshop on Cultural Tourism: Discovery Europe.

Organized by Unesco Chair on Digital Cultural Heritage, EU ERA Chair on Digital Cultural Heritage and Digital Heritage Research Lab.

  24th November, Online
Participation in the series of videos “Il Consiglio d’Europa si Racconta”.

Council of Europe office in Venice

Cultural heritage in all its forms is one of Europe's most precious assets, central to our shared identity as Europeans. Cultural heritage also has a vital role in driving local development, thus helping us build a resilient, cohesive Europe for the future – more than ever especially in the current context. The Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe represent a very solid framework to protect and promote access to our common heritage, providing tools to bringing people together through cultural and educational cooperation, artistic and creative production, cultural tourism, sustainable local development, and intercultural dialogue.

*Speech by **Mr. Matjaz GRUDEN**, Director
Directorate of Democratic Participation,
Council of Europe, at the EPA Governing Board in October 2020*

3.6 - EPA representatives



Andorra - 2012

Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport

cultura@govern.ad

www.cultura.ad



Armenia - 2015

Ministry of Culture

info@mincult.am

www.mincult.am



Austria - 2011

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

ii@bka.gv.at

www.kunstkultur.bka.gv.at



Azerbaijan - 2011

Ministry of Culture and Tourism

mct@mct.gov.az

www.mct.gov.az



Bosnia and Herzegovina - 2016

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

info_mvpbih@mvp.gov.ba

www.mvp.gov.ba



Bulgaria - 2011

Ministry of Culture

press@mc.government.bg

www.mc.government.bg



Croatia - 2016

Ministry of Culture

kabinet@min-kulture.hr

www.min-kulture.hr



Cyprus - 2011

Ministry of Education and Culture

moec@moec.gov.cy

www.moec.gov.cy



Finland - 2018

Ministry of Education and Culture

kirjaamo@minedu.fi

www.minedu.fi



France - 2011

Ministry of Culture and Communication

contact (see website)

www.culture.gouv.fr



Georgia - 2016

Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection

mc@culture.gov.ge

www.mcs.gov.ge



Germany - 2013

Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs

www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/kontakt

www.auswaertiges-amt.de



Greece - 2011

Ministry of Culture and Sport

ddsee@culture.gr

www.culture.gr/en/ministry



Hungary - 2013

Ministry of Human Capacities

miniszter@emmi.gov.hu

www.kormany.hu



Holy See - 2018

Ufficio: Palazzo San Callisto

00120 Vatican City



Italy - 2011

**Ministry of Cultural Heritage
and Activities and Tourism**

contact (see website)

www.beniculturali.it



Lithuania - 2012

Ministry of Culture

centras@kpd.lt

www.kpd.lt


















Luxembourg - 2011

Ministry of Culture

info@mc.public.lu

www.gouvernement.lu/mc

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





4

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

4.1 -Activities implemented by EPA member States

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

Throughout 2020, EPA member States organised several national activities for the promotion of cultural routes in their territories, seeking to reinforce routes' potential for cultural co-operation, sustainable territorial development and social cohesion.

Armenia - Member since 2015

September 2020, online

Memorandum of understanding between the Iter Vitis European Federation and the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Armenia

A memorandum of understanding between the Iter Vitis European Federation and the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Armenia has been signed, representing the beginning of Iter Vitis activities in Armenia. The parties expressed their willingness to enhance cooperation within the framework of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme to implement projects in the future. One of the main outcomes of the online meeting is the awarding of the Certificate of Honorary Member of "ITER VITIS" Federation to the "Areni-1 Cave" Consortium.

October 2020 – ongoing

EPA Country mapping document

Armenia started its Country mapping in October 2020 to assess existing and potential Cultural Routes and to make a SWOT analysis in the field of Cultural Routes. Armenia is currently crossed by the Iter Vitis Route. The Country mapping was commissioned by the EPA on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe.

Azerbaijan – member since 2011

February 2020, Baku

National Advisory meeting on "The potential of Cultural Routes for Azerbaijan"

On February 28th-29th, the National Advisory Meeting on "The Potential of Cultural Routes in Azerbaijan" was held at the International Mugham Center in Baku (Azerbaijan). The event was organised by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Over 300 high-level representatives of the national public sector, representatives of the private sector and local industry, and a number of cultural institutions attended the two-day Meeting.

During the meeting, the opportunities for the development of Cultural Routes in Azerbaijan was discussed. The event also included workshops and trainings in order to provide stakeholders with concepts and practical tools for capacity building and the development of Cultural Routes in the country.



National Advisory meeting on "The potential of Cultural Routes for Azerbaijan" © Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Bosnia and Herzegovina – Member since 2016

Throughout 2020

Collaboration with Haggadah Association

During 2020, the Association Haggadah Sarajevo continued cooperation with the European Route of Jewish Heritage for the extension of the certified route in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In that sense, a route crossing Bosnia and Herzegovina was prepared and submitted to the AEJP for adoption and further implementation.

Furthermore, the Haggadah Association trained the tourist guides of the city of Sarajevo and prepared the training of tourist guides of the city of Mostar, which will be held in 2021. The association also set up the exhibition "Sarajevo Purim" in the City Hall, concluded a project within Erasmus+, in

which institutions from Prague, Bratislava and Sofia participated, and worked with BH TV on the realization of the show "Gastronomic Corner", dedicated to the Hanukkah holiday with the presentation of dishes from Sephardic cuisine.

 **Croatia** - Member since 2016

May 2020, online

Brochure Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe issued in Croatian and English

The Ministry of Culture and Media published a brochure presenting the Cultural Routes passing through the Republic of Croatia. It aims at promoting cultural heritage represented by the certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe crossing Croatia and contains information and contacts on their representatives and stakeholders.

The publication was developed with the support of the European Institute of Cultural Routes and in coordination with the representatives of the Cultural Routes crossing Croatia. Following the collection and analysis of results, a webinar was organized by the EPA Secretariat on 28th May.

The aim of the initiative was to discuss the results of the survey in order to evaluate the preliminary impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Cultural Routes networks, the strategies put in place by the certified Cultural Routes to face this unprecedented situation and to reflect on future measures to be taken.

Nearly 50 representatives of the 38 certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe, together with other experts, such as from the United Nations World Tourism Organization, took part in the webinar.



New Brochure Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Croatian and English

2th October 2020, online

Workshop Cycling Tourism and Cultural Routes

The online workshop was organized and hosted by the Croatian Ministry of Tourism and Sports as project partner in the EUSAIR Facility Point Project. The workshop was financed from the Facility Point Project and provided a platform for high quality presentations and discussions, focused on macro-regional cooperation, awareness raising and knowledge exchange.

9th December 2020, Zagreb, CR, online

Iter Vitis Route Conference "ITER VITIS - Competitive and Safe. From rural to urban wine tour"

The international online conference was organized by the Croatian member of the Iter Vitis Cultural Route, Croatian Association for Tourism and Rural Development "The Village Membership Club" and in collaboration with the Viticulture Association "Zagrebačko Vinogorje" as well as Croatian Association for tourist and cultural routes "Tour Cultur". The conference tackled the effects of the global pandemic of the COVID-19 virus on wineries, winemakers and further stakeholders in wine tourism.

 **Finland** - Member since 2018

9th-10th March 2020, Nurmes, Finland

«A Route to Regeneration» - Seminar on Cultural Routes

The Seminar, organised by the Ministry of Education and Culture and Business Finland/Visit Finland in cooperation with Runosong Academy, was devoted to introducing the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme to the Finnish regional authorities and civil society organisations of North Karelia, in order to promote its rich cultural heritage and to strengthen transnational cooperation and regional development. In particular, a cultural route project on "Intangible Cultural Singing Heritage" linking singing traditions from North Karelia and the Baltic Sea region was presented.

4.1 - Activities implemented by EPA member States

March - December 2020

Project for the development of national coordination of cultural (heritage) tourism

Funded by the Ministry of Education and Culture and led by the Finnish Heritage Agency, the nine-month project sought to strengthen the basis of cooperation between cultural heritage and tourism. The project was based on national strategies regarding cultural heritage and tourism, which emphasise multi-stakeholder cooperation and sustainable use of cultural heritage and cultural environments.

Special attention was paid to European and international cultural heritage conventions and actions, especially the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe. The project resulted in a set of proposals for further development of coordination and cooperation, including development of Cultural Routes in Finland. The results will be published in early 2021.

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia and the National Tourism Administration of Georgia, in order to promote and develop cultural tourism. The Memorandum covers the support and development of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme in Georgia, the planning and implementation of joint projects in the field of cultural tourism, as well as the integration of cultural routes in common tourist destinations.



Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia. © Gela Bedianashvili

France – Member since 2011

4th June 2020, online

France and Monaco- Live webinar: "Cultural Routes Dialogues: challenges and opportunities post Covid-19"

The Secretariat of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes and of the European Institute of Cultural Routes organized a cycle of live webinars: "Cultural Routes Dialogues: challenges and opportunities post Covid-19". The aim of this initiative was to examine the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the cultural and tourism sector and to identify challenges that Cultural Routes are facing and discuss opportunities and innovative solutions to overcome this crisis. The third edition took place on 4 June and focused on Routes based or with a strong presence in France and Monaco.

June – August 2020, all regions of Georgia **Promotion of "Cultural Routes Georgia" application**

With the opening of domestic tourism in the country, the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia and the Georgian National Tourism Administration offer the first mobile application "Cultural Routes Georgia". Created at the initiative of the Ministry, the application allows tourists to plan a visit to both international and local certified Cultural Routes and get acquainted with the diverse culture of Georgia. The Cultural Routes app played an important role in informing tourists, as well as helping them plan interesting Routes by following all safety rules.

Georgia – Member since 2016

18th June 2020, Tbilisi.

Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport and the National Tourism Administration of Georgia



"Cultural Routes Georgia" application.

4th December 2020, Tbilisi.

Five new certified Routes

The Board for Strategic Development and Certification of Cultural Routes of Georgia discussed and granted with the Certificates of the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia 5 new routes: „Georgian Ceramic Route“, „Georgia painted by tea“, „I’ll go to Guria but“, „Ilia Chavchavadze Memorial Sites“ and „On the footsteps of the thirteen Syrian fathers“.

18th December 2020, Tbilisi, GE & Luxembourg, LU, online

Signing ceremony to hold the 10th Annual Advisory Forum in Kutaisi.

During an online meeting, an agreement was signed to hold the 10th Annual Advisory Forum on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe 2021 in Kutaisi, Georgia. The Forum will be held from September 29 to October 1, 2021.

 **Germany** - Member since 2013

September 2020

New 2020 Brochure on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe

A new publication presents the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme and the certified Cultural Routes crossing Germany, also highlighting their main destinations in the country. The European Centre of Culture and Information in Thuringia, network carrier association of VIA REGIA, Cultural Route of the Council of Europe since 2005, has edited this new 2020 brochure on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Germany, with the support of the German Federal Foreign Office.

November 2020 – Mai 2021

German Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe highlights Cultural Routes

In the framework of the Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, the German representatives implemented several activities to further promote the Cultural Routes in Germany.

One highlight of these activities is a travelling roll-up


exhibition presenting the 25 Cultural Routes which are crossing Germany.

In addition to the exhibition, the German representatives have also worked on a handbook on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme, its characteristics, and the benefits of the certification.

23th October 2020, online

Germany - Live webinar: "Cultural Routes Dialogues: challenges and opportunities post Covid-19"

In October 2020, the fifth edition of the Cycle of Webinars “Cultural Routes Dialogues: challenges and opportunities post Covid-19” took place in Germany and was organised in cooperation between the EPA Secretariat and the German representatives of Cultural Routes.

 **Greece** – Member since 2011

26th June 2020, online

Greece - Live webinar: "Cultural Routes Dialogues: challenges and opportunities post Covid-19"

The fourth edition of the live webinars, focusing on Cultural Routes based or with a strong presence in Greece, took place on 26 June 2020.

It was organized by the EPA Secretariat, EICR and the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports / Directorate of International Relations and EU, in the framework of the Greek Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

5th November 2020

Bilingual brochure entitled "On the road. Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe crossing through Greece"

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Culture and Sports of the Hellenic Republic – Directorate of International Relations and European Union, in cooperation with the EPA Secretariat, the Public Diplomacy Office of the Permanent Mission of Greece to the Council of Europe, as well as the Administrative Regions of Greece and the Greek representatives of certified Cultural Routes, have published a new bilingual brochure on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and network members active in Greece. The brochure aims at

4.1 - Activities implemented by EPA member States

promoting cultural heritage represented by the certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe crossing Greece.

Hungary – Member since 2013

October-December 2020, Szombathely, Budapest, Szeged and other cities, HU

Taking pictures and making videos for the new website about the Cultural Routes of Hungary

Hungary joined the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the European Council on 1 March 2013. Between 2013 and 2019 the National Cultural Institution Ltd. coordinated the program. Since 2019, the Minister responsible for Culture delegated this task to the directorate of Intangible Cultural Heritage of the Hungarian Open Air Museum. The main goals are among others to communicate with the representatives of the Hungarian Cultural Routes, to share information and to prepare and publish Hungarian guides and documents. From October until December 2020, a professional photographer made drone-photos and films on different locations for the new website www.kulturalisutvonalak.hu/en/.

Italy – Member since 2011

15th May 2020, online

Italy, San Marino and the Holy See - Live webinar: "Cultural Routes Dialogues: challenges and opportunities post Covid-19"

The Secretariat of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes and of the European Institute of Cultural Routes organized a cycle of live webinars: "Cultural Routes Dialogues: challenges and opportunities post Covid-19".

The aim of this initiative was to examine the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the cultural and tourism sector and to identify challenges that Cultural Routes are facing and discuss opportunities and innovative solutions to overcome this crisis. The second edition took place on 15 May and focused on Routes based or with a strong presence in Italy, San Marino and the Holy See.

Luxembourg – Member since 2011

17th September - 17 November 2020, Luxembourg, LU

The Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe exhibition

Organised by the European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR), with the support of the Ministry of Culture of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Luxembourg National Railway Company (CFL), the exhibition on "Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Luxembourg" took place at the Funicular hall of the Pfaffenthal train station of Luxembourg from 17 September until 17 November 2020. The exhibition consisted of large explanatory panels containing photos and texts on the programme and on the eight routes crossing the Grand Duchy.



Poster of the exhibition. © Laurent Jacquemart; Pusa Pictures - ORT SUD; Mandorf Domaine

Thermal; Marc Lazzarini - Standart LCTO; ORT Guttland; Shutterstock/Luc Kohnen; Rothgar I

Montenegro – Member since 2011

October 2020 – ongoing

EPA Country mapping document

Montenegro started its Country mapping in October 2020 to assess existing and potential Cultural Routes and to make a SWOT analysis in the field of Cultural Routes. The country is currently crossed by the Iter Vitis Route. The Country mapping was commissioned by the EPA on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe.

Norway – Member since 2011

Throughout 2020, Bøstad and Oslo, NO

Activities in museums along the Cultural Routes

of the Council of Europe

-Lofotr Viking Museum: In 2020, the museum celebrated its 25th anniversary. Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, it organized several handcraft and special food events. Among its initiatives, a live broadcast “Meet the Vikings” was organized via Facebook and historical lectures about fishing and trade of stockfish in the Viking age were delivered.

-Museum of Cultural History in Oslo: In 2020, the museum organized several activities such as lectures, guided tours, activities for children with a focus on indigenous people, a celebration of the Sami people's day in February and a series of digital lectures.

May 2020, Oslo and September 2020, Narvik, NO

Activities along the European Route of Industrial Heritage

-Audioguide on the industrial heritage landscape of Akerselva: In May 2020, the Norwegian Museum of Science and Technology in Oslo launched a new app for outdoor exploration. Visitors can follow the entire industrial history from the 18th century until today via mobile through 90 different stories available.

-ERIH dancing event “Work it out” in Narvik: The 3rd edition of the ERIH dancing event “Work it out” took place in 29 locations around Europe. School classes, dance clubs and other interested dancers were invited to do a simultaneous dance performance. The Museum Nord in Narvik is an anchor point of the European Route of Industrial Heritage and was one of the many locations of the event.

30th April – 25 September 2020, Trondheim, NO and online

Activities along the Saint Olav Ways

-Virtual Pilgrimage: a weeklong virtual pilgrimage was organized in the form of livestreams on Facebook, YouTube and Twitter. To symbolize the 1200km length of the pilgrims' trail from Turku (SF) to Trondheim (N), each evening a broadcast was made from a different location. In between, the organizers visited three rural island communities along St. Olav Waterway, where they talked to local islanders and entrepreneurs about the regional gastronomy, cultural heritage, traditional music, island life and local culture.

-International Olavsfest 2020: Trondheim International Olavsfest is a week of festivities and folklife filled with concerts, conversations,

pilgrim walks and worship services. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, every night during the festival, a concert in the Nidaros Cathedral was held without audience and broadcasted on Facebook.



Poland – Member since 2017

1th-3th September 2020, Warsaw, PL & online

International co-operation project “Citri et Aurea”

The Ministry of Culture and National Heritage supported an international co-operation project “Citri et Aurea” through its grant programme “Inspiring Culture”. The project is a unique example of collaboration between Poland and Italy in the field of garden art. It has also significantly contributed to the development of the “European Route of Historic Gardens”, certified in October 2020. It is a long-term project consisting of a partnership between the Museum of King Jan III's Palace at Wilanów and the Uffizi Galleries – Boboli Gardens in Florence in the three areas: research, exhibition and conservation. During the Polish-Italian online garden seminar in September 2020, achievements of the institutions from both countries in the field of conservation of historic gardens and citrus plant collections were presented.



The Baroque Garden at Wilanów Palace, PL ©Wojciech Holnicki.

August 2020 – ongoing

EPA Country mapping document

Poland started its Country mapping in August 2020 to assess existing and potential Cultural Routes and to make a SWOT analysis in the field of Cultural Routes. Poland is currently crossed by 15 Cultural Routes. The Country mapping was commissioned by the EPA on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe.

4.1 -Activities implemented by EPA member States

Romania – Member since 2013

April 2020, Biohor County, RO

The Route of the Wooden Churches in Bihor County has been recognized as the first Cultural Route in Romania

The Ministry of Economy, Energy and Business Environment (MEEMA), through the International Relations and European Affairs Service in the field of Tourism, has created a voluntary system for the recognition of Cultural Routes. In this framework, the Route of the Wooden Churches in Bihor County has been recognized as the first Cultural Route in Romania, on the initiative of the Bihor Destination Management Agency.

Romania has 51 Cultural Touristic Routes and aside from the Route of the Wooden Churches, three other national routes were recognized in 2020:

-“On the Footstep of Hercules”: it presents the legend of Hercules in Romania and all the marks left by the hero on cultural and natural heritage. The route passes through Mehedinti County, Caras-Severin County and Gorj County.

-“The National Route of Ethnographic Museums of Romania”: its main objective is the promotion of cultural values in the traditional Romanian villages and the joint promotion of open air ethnographic museums by creating an innovative tourist product.

-Cultural Touristic Route “The Transylvania Gate”: it brings together cities of county residences that were gateways for goods, knowledge and people in the area of Transylvania and Central Europe since the Middle Ages.



Launch of the new Cultural Touristic Route of the Wooden Churches from Romania. © Ministry of Tourism

Spain – Member since 2011

8th May 2020, online

Spain - Live webinar: "Cultural Routes Dialogues: challenges and opportunities post COVID-19"

The Secretariat of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes and of the European Institute of Cultural Routes organized a cycle of live webinars: "Cultural Routes Dialogues: challenges and opportunities post COVID-19".

The aim of this initiative was to examine the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the cultural and tourism sector and to identify challenges that Cultural Routes are facing and discuss opportunities and innovative solutions to overcome this crisis.

The first edition took place on 8 May and focused on Routes based or with a strong presence in Spain.

Switzerland – Member since 2013

10th April 2020, online

Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe on the website of the Federal Office of Culture

The Swiss Federal Office of Culture has published a new section entirely dedicated to the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe on its website. Specifically, these new web pages present the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe crossing Switzerland and collect other resources on the Programme and the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA) relating to the country.

27th July, Canton of Vaud

Via Francigena travels along the Swiss path

A walking trip along Via Francigena in Switzerland was organised by the European Association of Via Francigena Ways (EAVF), carrier network association of Via Francigena. During a 10-day trip, the team explored the route, its heritage, landscapes and, at the same time, met several representatives of local authorities, tourism offices and stakeholders. Eight meetings with tourism offices along the Via Francigena were held during the walking trip and provided an opportunity to discuss strategies for common promotion of the route and pilgrims' accommodations in Switzerland.

Mr. Julien VUILLEUMIER, representative of Switzerland in the Governing Board of the Enlarged

Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA) and member of the EPA Governing Board Bureau, joined the trip, between Romainmôtier and Cossonay.



Participants of the walking trip: Via Francigena. ©Via Francigena

10 December 2020, online

Coordination meeting for Cultural Routes in Switzerland

The Cultural Routes in Switzerland had held a second coordination meeting online for an exchange of good practices and the establishment of priority common actions in 2021.

Turkey - Member since 2018

September 2019 – March 2020

EPA Country mapping document

A «Country Mapping» for Turkey was conducted by an independent expert to assess existing and potential cultural routes and to make a SWOT analysis in the field of culture and Cultural Routes. Turkey was the second country to conduct this type of report, which was commissioned by the EPA on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe.

30th Jan-3 Feb 2020

Supporting New Cultural Routes, İstanbul

To support the promotional activities of new cultural routes in which Turkey is involved, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism allocated a space for the candidate route Via Eurasia in the EMITT Tourism and Travel Fair.

2th - 5th March 2020

Field research in the context of the EPA «Country Mapping», Urfa and Adiyaman

As one of the stages of the Turkish «Country Mapping», field research was conducted by independent experts and Ministry staff in the cities of Şanlıurfa and Adiyaman. Two meetings were held with local authorities, NGOs and private sector representatives with a view to increase the awareness regarding the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme and to discuss opportunities in developing new cultural routes.

August 2020

Turkish Translation of Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Brochure

The Ministry of Culture and Tourism staff assisted the EPA Secretariat in the preparation of the Turkish translation of the Cultural Routes' brochure.

November 2020, İstanbul.

The Establishment of the Turkish Tourism Promotion and Development Agency

The Turkish Tourism Promotion and Development Agency (TGA) launched its activities in 2020. In line with its duty to carry out promotion, marketing and communication activities, it started working on cultural routes strategies in order to improve Turkey's position in the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme.

The Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the Turkish Tourism Promotion and Development Agency and the EPA Secretariat held an online meeting in November 2020 to exchange views to enhance Turkey's position in the Cultural Routes programme.



Meeting of the Turkish Tourism Promotion and Development Agency (TGA), TR.
©Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Turkey



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



5

European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR)





Since 1998
European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR).
Technical agency of the Cultural Routes of the
Council of Europe Programme

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



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

5.1 - EICR Statutory bodies and staff

Members of the EICR Board of Directors

Government of the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg:

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



Mr. Christian BIEVER, President of the European Institute of Cultural Routes

5.1 - EICR Statutory bodies and staff

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

Council of Europe:

- **Mrs. Snežana SAMARDZIC-MARKOVIC**,
EICR Board of Directors Member, Director General of DG Democracy (Council of Europe)
- **Mr. Eladio FERNANDEZ-GALIANO**,
EICR Board of Directors Member, Representative of the Council of Europe, Directorate General of Democracy (Special Advisor as of June 2018)
- **Mrs. Birgitta RINGBECK**,
Member, Chair of the Governing Board of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes (Council of Europe) and Head of the Coordination Office for World Heritage (Federal Foreign Office of Germany)

Secretariat:

- **Mr. Stefano DOMINIONI**,
Director of the EICR and Executive Secretary of the EPA.
- **Mrs. Carolina CLARK**, Project Manager
- **Mrs. Irdelle LAGNIDE**, Administrative and Financial Assistant

External experts/consultants:

- **Mr. Francesco BAU**

Trainees:

- **Mrs. Amélie SOURBES**,
Université de Toulouse II Jean-Jaures, France
- **Mrs. Adèle VERDIER**,
Université de Toulouse II Jean-Jaures, France
- **Mrs. Chiara VENZA**, Università di Bologna, Bologna, Italy
- **Mrs. Barbara VEGA CRUZ**, Université Paris I, Panthéon-Sorbonne, France
- **Mr. Sahin YALDIZ**,
Central European University, Turkey

5.2 - Statutory meetings

At the occasion of the General Assembly and Board of Directors meetings that took place in 2020, issues regarding procedures, major events and visibility were discussed, in order to pursue the EICR mission of ensuring continuity and implementation of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme.

13th February

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

25th June

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

14th October

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

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

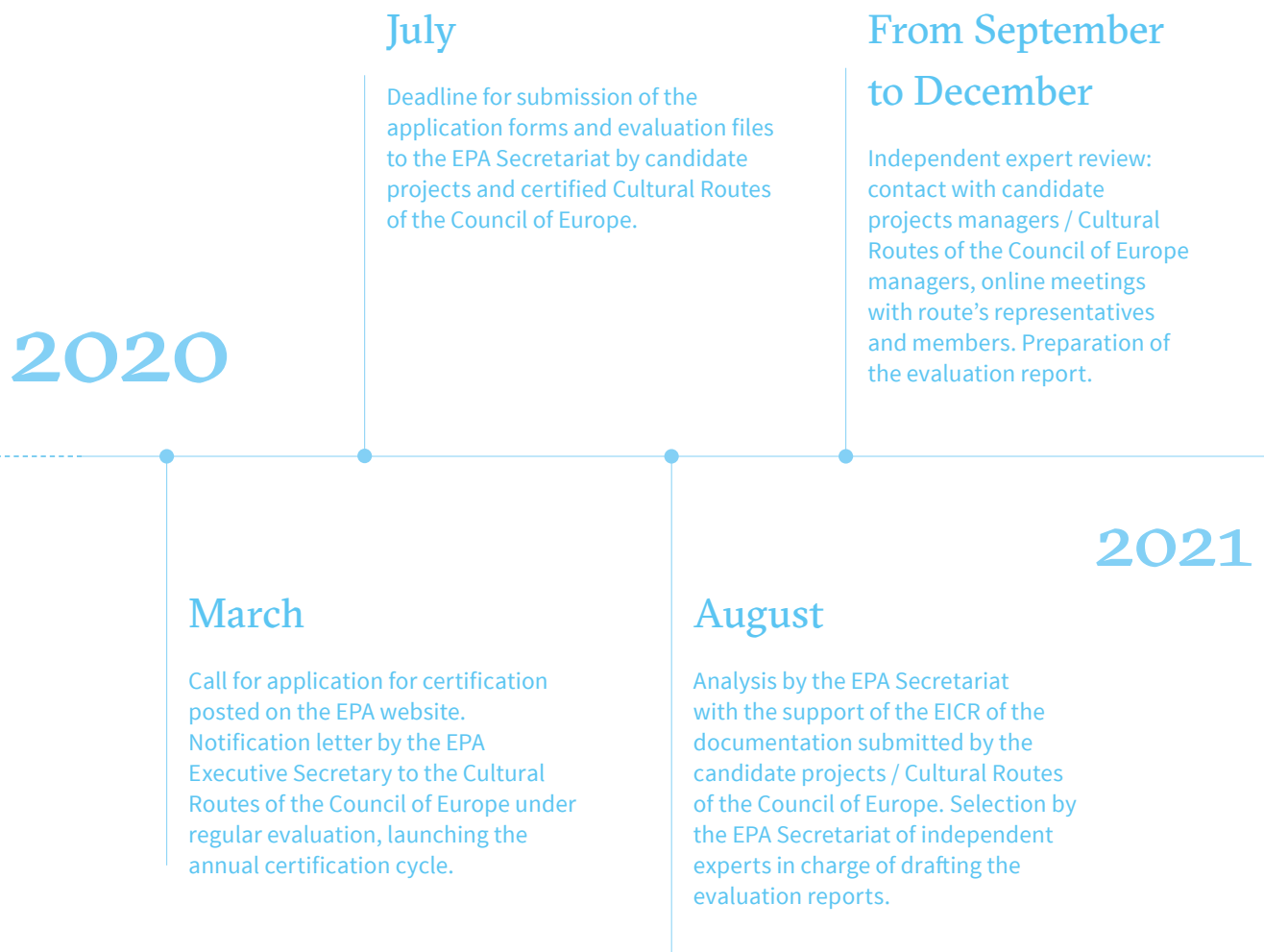
The EICR supports the EPA Secretariat in the coordination of the certification cycle of certified Cultural Routes and the certification of candidate projects by the Governing Board of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe. The evaluation and the certification follow the same schedule, starting in July and ending in May of the following year, as outlined below. During 2020, the 2019-2020 cycle was completed, and the 2020-2021 cycle was launched.

2019-2020 certification cycle:



5.3 - Support to the EPA Secretariat in the coordination of the Cultural Routes evaluation cycles

2020-2021 certification cycle:



More information



Certification Cycle

5.4 - Advisory meetings and activities

9th

May



Luxembourg



Online

•••
More
information



Europe Day celebration in Luxembourg

European Institute of Cultural Routes took part in the online celebrations of Europe Day 2020 in Luxembourg with a greeting video and a short presentation of the 38 certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe.

The Representation of the European Commission in Luxembourg with its long-standing partners, the Liaison Office of the European Parliament, the Luxembourg Government and the City of Luxembourg, had set up the common platform europa-day.com / europa-dag.lu to celebrate the Europe Day. This website contained many activities specially developed for the occasion.



European Heritage Days 2020

Between 25 September and 4 October 2020, the European Heritage Days took place across 50 countries, inviting European citizens to explore numerous monuments, sites and cultural events to get a better understanding of their cultural heritage and the importance of preserving it.

Since its launching by the Council of Europe in 1985 (which became a joint action of the Council of Europe and the European Union in 1999), the programme attracts millions of citizens through various activities across Europe. They are held annually to highlight the richness and diversity of cultural heritage and to encourage its enhancement for present and future generations.

The European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR), technical agency of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme, contributed to this event with an exhibition on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Luxembourg. Displayed in the city of Luxembourg, the exhibition introduced visitors and

25th

September

4th

October



Luxembourg

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More
information



passing travellers to the Cultural Routes programme and highlighted activities and sites along the certified Cultural Routes crossing Luxembourg. (See Chapter 1.7)



Participation in activities organised by candidate cultural routes and projects

- 6th February, TURKEY and Online
Final conference "Italy, Greece and Turkey on foot"
Cultural Routes Society and Via Eurasia

- 27th May, Online
Round table: "Which place for participatory and cooperative housing in European Cultural Routes?"
Organized by Mémoire à lire, Territoire à l'écoute (MALTAE) in the framework of the « Cooper'actif : Habiter ensemble autrement demain » project.

- 27th October, Online
European Lighthouses livestream event
European Route of Lighthouses

- 5th November, Online
Atlantic Geoparks – Geotourism for Sustainability web conference
European Atlantic Geotourism Route

- 19th November, Online
EFFORTS conference on the Socio-economic impact of fortified heritage
Culture Route of Fortified Monuments - FORTE CULTURA

- 17th December, Online
Online Forum on the Route "Stephen the Great" – a touristic and cultural cross-border route

5.4 - Advisory meetings and activities

Ministry of Education, Culture and Research of the Republic of Moldova

Advisory meetings with candidate cultural routes and projects

- 16th January, Brussels, BE
Advisory meeting with **Historical Outports of Agder**

- 16th March, Online
Advisory meeting with **Historic Cafés Association**

- 7th May, Online
Advisory meeting with **Camino minerario di Santa Barbara**

- 10th June, Online
Advisory meeting with **Cyril and Methodius Route**

- 10th June, Online
Advisory meeting with **Saint Francis Ways**

- 10th June, Online
Advisory meeting with **Via Eurasia**

- 12th June, Online
Advisory meeting with **Routes of Saint Michel**

- 12th June, Online
Advisory meeting with **Culture Route of Fortified Monuments - FORTE CULTURA**

- 15th June, Online
Advisory meeting with **Aeneas Route**

- 16th June, Online
Advisory meeting with **European Route of Templar Heritage**

- 25th June, Online
Advisory meeting with **“In the footsteps of Saint Paul” Cultural Route**

- 26th June, Online
Advisory meeting with **European Route d'Artagnan**

- 29th June, Online
Advisory meeting with **European Fairy Tale Route**

- 30th June, Online
Advisory meeting with **Olympic Heritage Cultural Route**

- 1st July, Online
Advisory meeting with **Iron Age Danube Route**

- 2nd July, Online
Advisory meeting with **Castle Road**

- 3rd July, Online
Advisory meeting with **Via Molina**

- 8th July, Online
Advisory meeting with **European Route of Templar Heritage** (2nd meeting)

- 9th July, Online
Advisory meeting with **Alvar Aalto Route**

- 15th July, Online
Advisory meeting with **Silk Road**

- 16th July, Online
Advisory meeting with **Il Leonardino project**

- 17th July, Online
Advisory meeting with **European Route d'Artagnan** (2nd meeting)

- 22nd July, Online
Advisory meeting with **Saint Francis Ways** (2nd meeting)

- 23rd July, Online
Advisory meeting with **Alvar Aalto Route** (2nd meeting)

- 23rd July, Online
Advisory meeting with **Via Molina** (2nd meeting)

- 23rd July, Online
Advisory meeting with **Marin Sanuto Route**

- 23rd July, Online
Advisory meeting with **Routes of Saint Michel**

- 28th July, Online
Advisory meeting with **Food museums network**

- 30th July, Online
Advisory meeting with **Atlantic Geopark Route**

- 30th July, Online
Advisory meeting with **Mary's route**

- 31st July, Online
Advisory meeting with **Via Nikolaiana**

5.4 - Advisory meetings and activities

- 22nd September, Online
Advisory meeting with **Chocolate Ways**
- 15th October, Online
Advisory meeting with **European Fairy Tale Route** (2nd meeting)
- 5th November, Online
Advisory meeting with **So Chateaux (network of castles)**
- 22nd November, Online
Advisory meeting with **Iter Romanum**
- 26th November, Online
Advisory meeting with **Ulysses Route**
- 30th November, Online
Advisory meeting with **Holy Week and Easter celebrations**

Other activities

- 14th November, ONLINE
Andean-European Dialogue on Cultural Routes

Organized under the initiative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru. The meeting counted the participation of representatives of the QHÁPAQ ÑAN Route, the European Institute of Cultural Routes, the Ibero-American States Organization, the University of Barcelona and of four certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe.



Andean-European Dialogue on Cultural Routes Meeting

Training activities

- 28th - 29th February, Baku, AZ
Participation in the National Advisory Meeting on Cultural Routes

Over 300 high-level representatives of the national public sector, representatives of the private sector and local industry, and a number of cultural institutions attended the two-day meeting organised by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The event included workshops and trainings on Cultural Routes designed to provide participants with concepts and practical tools for capacity building and the development of Cultural Routes. They addressed aspects ranging from co-creation of a Cultural Route, fundraising, governance, branding and the “Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe” certification. The training was delivered by representatives of the European Institute of Cultural Routes in cooperation with the European Route of Historic Thermal Towns.



Azerbaijan training session. © Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan

- 8th April, Online
Participation in the CROSSDEV PROJECT online conference

The European Institute of Cultural Routes delivered a training module on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme and its methodology during an online conference organized by representatives

5.4 - Advisory meetings and activities

of the “Crossdev Project - Cultural Routes for Sustainable Social and economic Development in Mediterranean”.

- 09th-12th June, EICR, Online

Online Training Seminar for cultural routes applying for the “Cultural Route of the Council of Europe” certification - CERTIFICATION CYCLE 2020-2021

The 2-days Training Seminar was organised by the Secretariat of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA) and the European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR).

Delivered in French and English, the seminar provided an overview of the main characteristics of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme, serving as an essential reference for representatives of cultural routes interested in applying for the “Cultural Route of the Council of Europe” certification within the Certification Cycle 2020-2021. It also included bilateral advisory meetings between the Secretariat and each candidate route, in order to assess the state of development of their projects and provide advice on aspects to be improved before submission of an application.

The online event saw the attendance of more than 70 participants representing 17 cultural routes candidate networks.



Online Training Seminar for cultural routes applying for the “Cultural Route of the Council of Europe” certification

- 24th June, Online

Training module for members of the European Route of Historic Thermal Towns

In the framework of the General Assembly of the European Route of Historic Thermal Towns, a training

module specially designed for members of the route was delivered by the EICR Secretariat.

The Secretariat was also in charge of moderating the “Crossing Routes session” during which representatives of other certified Cultural Routes shared examples of best practices in line with the five priority fields of action.



EHTTA General Assembly meeting.

- 12th - 14th, November, Lucca, IT and Online
Meet Tourism Lucca

The second edition of the International Conference Meet Tourism Lucca took place on Thursday 12 and Friday 13th November 2020.

The conference included a training session on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe methodology delivered by representatives of the European Institute of Cultural Routes.

Representatives of certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe among which Liberation Route, Via Francigena, the European Route of Ceramics and the European Route of Historic Thermal Towns shared their experiences with the audience.

A wide range of institutional and academic partners, certified Cultural Routes, candidate projects and national stakeholders took part of the event.



Meet tourism Lucca.

5.5 - Cooperation with International Organizations

OEI

Ibero-American States Organization

In 2018, the European Institute of Cultural Routes signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ibero-American States Organization (OEI).

Among the main objectives of the agreement, the EICR and the OEI agreed to cooperate in the following areas:

- Development of projects and cooperation programmes of mutual interest in the fields of education, science, culture and social development
- Promotion of the extension of certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe to Ibero-American countries and establishment of new cultural routes in the region
- Cultural routes mapping in Ibero-American countries
- Extension of the University Network for Cultural Routes Studies to Ibero-American universities

HIGHLIGHTS:

During 2020, a joint report on the potential for expansion of certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Ibero-America was prepared. The report includes:

- An inventory and diagnosis of existing and potential cultural routes in Ibero-America.*
- A mapping of key stakeholders of existing and potential cultural routes in Ibero-America.*
- An action plan focusing on activities in the areas of capacity building, exchange of knowledge and best practices and the promotion of transnational cooperation.*

The report was prepared by both institutions and counted the support of the regional offices of the OEI located in 18 Ibero-American countries.

5.6 - University Network for Cultural Routes Studies

15

universities members of the
Network for Cultural Routes Studies

+4,000

books and magazines
in the EICR library

+3

new members in 2020

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

Research and cooperation in research are of paramount importance in the creation and development of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe: they enable multidisciplinary knowledge to be brought together and made accessible, provide scientific proof of why the themes addressed by the Cultural Routes are representative of European values, underpinning the effective enhancement of European past and present heritage.

The Network aims to encourage the conduct of research on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe related issues, encourage students to undertake their academic research on Cultural Routes, jointly apply for European Grants with the European Institute of Cultural Routes (EICR), participate in the annual programme of activities of the EICR and offer scientific advice where required.



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



Université de Luxembourg, LU
Member since 2013

5.6 - University Network for Cultural Routes Studies



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



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



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



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



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



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



Compostela Group of Universities, ES
member since 2019



Università de la Svizzera Italiana, CH
member since 2019



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



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

New members who joined in 2020



Mid Sweden University, SE
member since 2020



Black Sea Universities network (BSUN)
member since 2020



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





6

The Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe

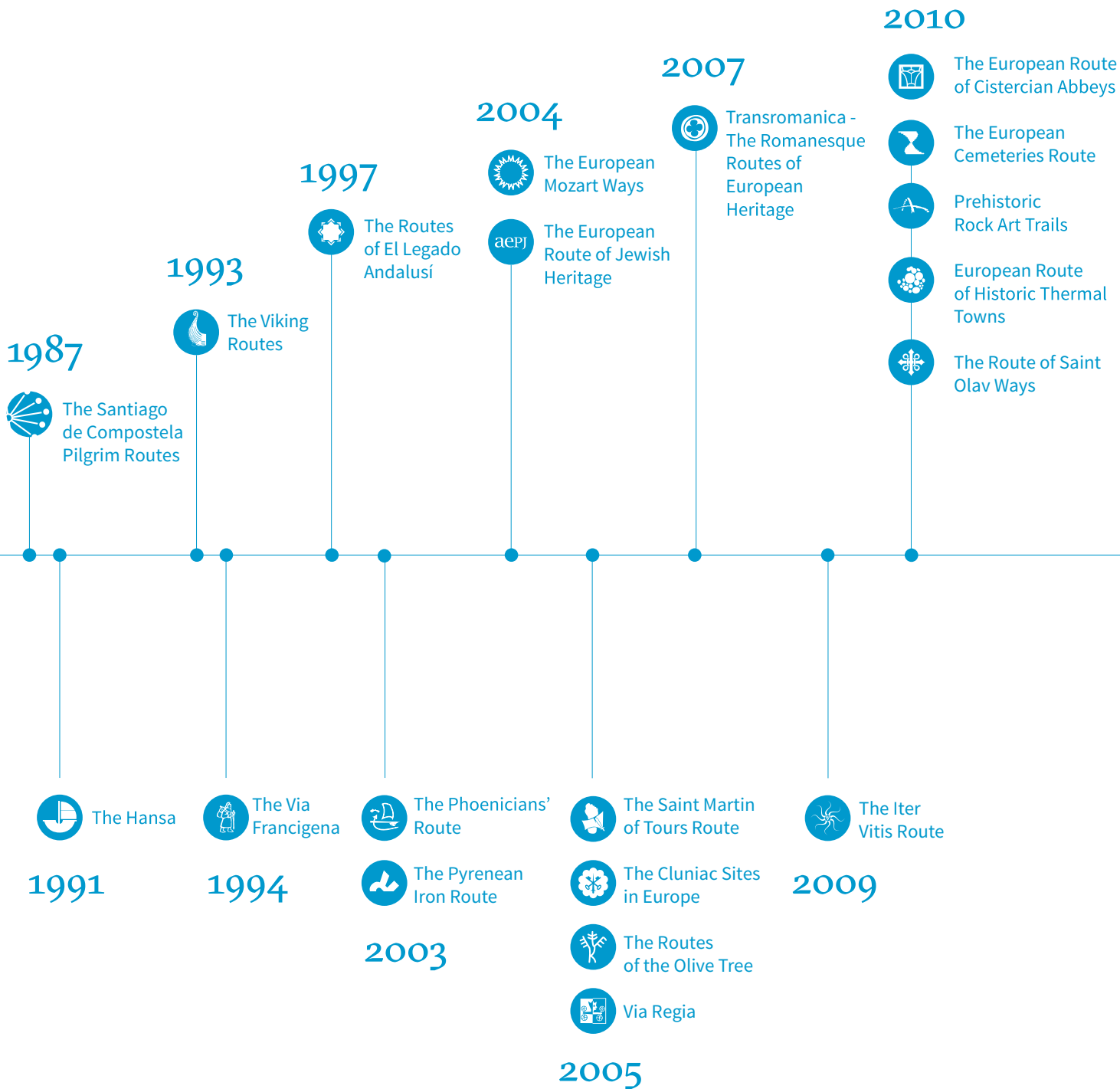
Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe



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

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

Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe³



2013



The European Route of Mega lithic Culture



The Huguenot and Waldesian Trail

2015



The Roman Emperors and Danube Wine Route



The European Routes of Emperor Charles V



Destination Napoleon



In the Footsteps of Robert Louis Stevenson

2018



The Impressionisms Route



Via Charlemagne

2020



The European Route of Historic Gardens



Via Romea Germanica

2012



The European Route of Ceramics



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



Réseau Art Nouveau Network



Via Habsburg

2014



Fortified Towns of the Grande Région

2016



European Route of Industrial Heritage



Iron Curtain Trail



Le Corbusier Destinations: Architectural Promenades



Liberation Route Europe



Routes of Reformation

2019

6.1 - Statutory Meetings

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

- 4th-5th February 2020; Brussels, BE. **Liberation Route**
- 14th February in Gijon, ES and 1st October 2020, online. **Via Charlemagne**
- 5th March and 16th December 2020, online. **The European Route of Ceramics**
- 30th April 2020, online. **The Route of Saint Olav Ways**
- 14th May 2020, Bastia, Corsica, FR. **The Saint Martin of Tours Route**
- 28th July and 26th October 2020, online. **The Routes of El Legado Andalusi**
- 10th September 2020, online. **The European Route of Jewish heritage**
- 14th September 2020, online. **Transromanica – The Romanesque Routes of European Heritage**
- 23th September 2020, online. **The Routes of the Olive Tree**
- 7th October 2020, Oberhausen, DE and online. **European Route of Industrial Heritage**
- 7th October 2020, online. **The European Cemeteries Route**
- 16th October 2020, online. **The Cluniac Sites in Europe**
- 22nd October, 5th November, 19th November and 26th November 2020, online. **Destination Napoleon**
- 23rd October and 27th November 2020, online. **The Via Francigena**
- 29th October 2020, online. **The European Route of Megalithic Culture**
- 12th November 2020, online. **The Phoenicians' Route**
- 12th November 2020, online. **Réseau Art Nouveau Network**
- 18th November 2020, online. **The Prehistoric Rock Art Trails**
- 21st November 2020, online. **The European Mozart Ways**
- 25th November 2020, online. **The Hansa**
- 27th November 2020, online. **The Impressionisms Routes**
- 11th December 2020, online. **Iter Vitis**
- 17th December 2020, online. **The European Routes of Emperor Charles V**
- Postponed to 2021 **Via Regia**

³ As per the information requested to the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and received, the latest, by December 2020.

6.2 - Selected activities for priority field of action

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

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

The following subsections highlight some selected activities carried out by the Cultural Routes during 2020.

The Governing Board of EPA awards the certification "Council of Europe Cultural Route" and carries out regular evaluation of certified Routes in conformity with Committee of Ministers Resolution CM/Res(2013)67, which establishes the rules for the award of the "Cultural Route of the Council of Europe" certification.

Themes of new Routes must satisfy all of the following criteria:

1. the theme must be representative of European values and common to at least three countries of Europe;
2. the theme must be researched and developed by groups of multidisciplinary experts from different regions of Europe so as to ensure that the activities and projects which illustrate it are based on consensus;
3. the theme must be illustrative of European memory, history and heritage and contribute to an interpretation of the diversity of present-day Europe;
4. the theme must lend itself to cultural and educational exchanges for young people and hence be in line with the Council of Europe's ideas and concerns in these fields;
5. the theme must permit the development of initiatives and exemplary and innovative projects in the field of cultural tourism and sustainable cultural development;
6. the theme must lend itself to the development of tourist products in partnership with tourist agencies and operators aimed at different publics, including school groups.

Committee of Ministers Resolution CM/Res(2013)67

6.2.1 - Co-operation in research and development

December
2019

March
2020

Granada, ES

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More
information



The Routes of El Legado Andalusi - "Baths in al-Andalus" exhibition and publication

To highlight the importance of Arab baths in order to be recognised as part of Mediterranean and European history and heritage.

- This event was conceived as a twofold activity. It included the exhibition "The Baths of al-Andalus", where, through a visual montage along with original historical objects and graphic material, the visitor was brought closer to the history of the Arab baths or hammams.
- For the first time, an exhaustive compendium of the existing baths in the whole Iberian Peninsula was made, as well as a complete map with the locations and state of conservation of the existing hammams.
- More than 300 copies of the catalogue were distributed and the exhibition was visited by more than 16,000 people.



"Baths in al-Andalus" exhibition at Casa de los Tiros Museum, Granada, ES

6.2.2 - Enhancement of memory, history and European heritage

October
-
December

The Routes of Charles V - IV International Forum "500th Anniversary of the Coronation of Charles V: Dreams and Nightmares of an Empire"

To highlight the importance of Charles V in the history of Europe and to reach the general public. To commemorate the coronation of Charles V as Holy Roman Emperor.

Online

- Every two years the Cooperation Network organizes an international forum, supported by its scientific committee.
- In this fourth edition, the intention was to do it in Brussels, coinciding with the coronation of Charles V on October 23. Due to the pandemic, the network decided to carry it out online in four sessions: two in French, one in English and one in Spanish.
- Over 900 people from 19 countries took part in the four sessions of the forum, which was broadcasted on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.



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More
information



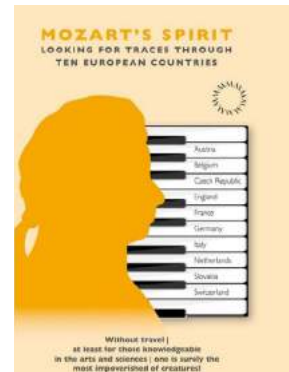
January
-
February

European Mozart Ways - Digital Travel Exhibition "Mozart's spirit - Looking for traces through ten European countries"

Marketing tool for easy presentation of the network for Members, Museums, Embassies, schools etc.

Salzburg, AT
and
Online

- The project started in Summer 2019. The first version was in German language. During 2020, English, Italian and Czech versions have been finalized.
- The exhibition consists of 8 slides that illustrate Mozart's time, his historical journeys, Mozart's Europe, his life and Mozart festivals and museums. The slides can be presented digitally or be printed out on Roll-ups.
- The exhibition in 4 languages (German, English, Italian and Czech) can also be used easily in schools.



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More
information



June 2020

The Hansa - 1st Virtual Hanseatic Day in the history of the Hanseatic League

An opportunity to present Brilon as a Hanseatic city and part of a living European network.

Brilon, DE
and
Online

- Due to the pandemic, the International Hanseatic Day was turned into an online event celebrated through a website and social media channels.
- The event included activities such as musical livestreams and videos, a virtual exhibition, an outdoor photo exhibition and a virtual walk of students. Local activities took place as well, such as the "tents of European solidarity", knitted tips in three different locations in Brilon.
- The event received a good coverage in the regional media.



"Tents of European solidarity", knitted tips in three different locations in Brilon, DE.

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More
information



During 2020

Impressionisms Routes - New book about Impressionisms Routes

To promote knowledge of the influence of the Impressionist movement in all European countries.

- The new book “Impressionisms Routes” was created in partnership with the euroArt Federation, bringing together 45 Artists’ Colonies in 15 European countries.
- It is prefaced by Mr. Stefano DOMINIONI, EPA Executive Secretary, EICR Director) and by Mr. Bruno FAVEL (Director of the International Affairs Department of the French Ministry of Culture).
- It constitutes an information tool for educational establishments as well as a promotional tool for tourism development.



Cover of the New book about Impressionisms Routes.

September

Iter Vitis - Lacos de catzigare - photography contest on ancient Sardinian millstones

November 2020

To detect the presence of millstones in the area and to deepen their study and protection as ancient evidence of an archaic viticulture.

Sardina, Calabria, Pulia, IT, AZ, GE

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More information



- The vineyard landscape is characterized by numerous millstones, in Sardinia called lacos de catzigare.
- In order to survey and protect them, a photography contest was organized and participants could submit two pictures of millstones.
- The pictures were evaluated by a jury of experts from the world of wine and archaeobotany.
- A database of 36 unknown ancient millstones was established.



Millstones in Sardinia, IT.

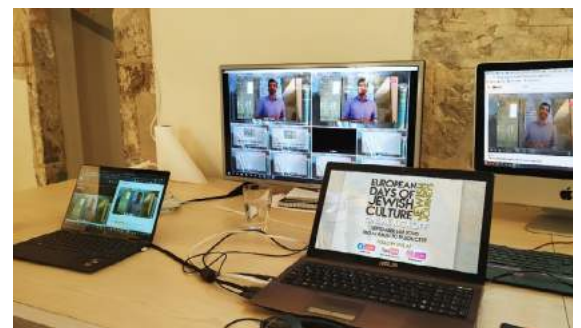
September 2020

European Route of Jewish Heritage - Online Kickoff of the European Days of Jewish Culture 2020

To highlight the diversity and richness of Judaism and to promote dialogue, recognition and exchange.

Online

- For the first time in 20 years, an eight-hour online program was held on 6th September 2020, open to the entire public, with conferences, interviews, concerts and videos for the European Days of Jewish Culture.
- The broadcast had five main live events, in which viewers were able to interact with speakers from Luxembourg, Barcelona, Jerusalem, Paris and Oxford.
- The online kick-off event was broadcasted live on the AEPJ's profiles on Facebook, YouTube and Instagram and received more than 7000 views.



Online Kickoff of the European Days of Jewish Culture 2020.

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More information



6.2.2 - Enhancement of memory, history and European heritage

March

-

December

Cluny, Paris, FR
Valladolid, ES
Alfragide, PT

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More
information



Route of Cluniac Sites in Europe - Constitution of the pre-bid file for the UNESCO World Heritage candidacy for Cluny and Cluniac Sites.

To reach a new stage of the candidacy for 2021

- Constitution of the complete action plan for Cluny and Cluniac Sites World Heritage candidacy.
- The executive team has been working with Cluniac Sites, partners and institutions representatives to set up the pre-bid of the candidacy: process map, organizational flowchart, communication plan, budget, opportunities/weaknesses, process cycle step by step, etc.



Meeting of the team for the Cluny and Cluniac Sites World Heritage candidacy in Cluny, FR

September
2020

Online

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More
information



St. Olav Ways - From Finland to Norway, from Turku to Trondheim, a virtual pilgrimage

To offer a virtual pilgrimage to raise awareness of the common European cultural heritage along the St. Olav Ways.

- Due to the inability of pilgrims to cross national boundaries in summer 2020, a weeklong virtual pilgrimage, symbolizing the 1200 km length of the pilgrims' trail from Turku (SF) to Trondheim (N), was organised in September via livestreams on Facebook, YouTube and Twitter.
- After the virtual pilgrimage, a group pilgrimage was organised: participants could walk in their own area at a site connected to St. Olav. Over 440 people participated and walked 1789 km in total.



Virtual pilgrimage of St. Olav Ways.

End of 2020

Europe-wide

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More
information



TRANSROMANICA - The Romanesque Routes of European Heritage - Colouring postcards of the TRANSROMANICA Highlight Sites

To create an educational souvenir to extend the visitors' experience at the Romanesque heritage sites.

- TRANSROMANICA developed colouring postcards of all its Highlight Sites across nine countries. The postcard motives are hand-drawn and feature the outside view of Romanesque heritage sites.
- During the TRANSROMANICA Facebook Advent Calendar (1 - 24 December 2020), the first motives were presented. A competition was launched for people to colour in the motive of the day and share it with the community. In return, they could win the new TRANSROMANICA Calendar for 2021.
- For 2021 it is planned to use the colouring postcards for educational projects with schools in the TRANSROMANICA regions.



Colouring postcards of highlight sites of TRANSROMANICA.

6.2.2 - Enhancement of memory, history and European heritage

April

June

Online

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More information



Via Francigena - Via Francigena LIVE communication campaign

To reinforce the network and at the same time strengthen the sense of belonging to the Via Francigena community.

- With a motto “Closer now, we’ll walk together tomorrow” the European Association of the Via Francigena ways conducted the communication campaign “Via Francigena LIVE”.
- Focused on the recovery of walking tourism along the route, the campaign was a great success and reached more than 500.000 people, attracting thousands of new fans on social media.
- In the framework of this initiative, the association broadcasted 29 live emissions in English, French and Italian on Facebook and 6 live streams on Instagram.
- The recordings are available on the Via Francigena social media pages.



October
2020

Buttlar, DE

•••

More information



Via Regia - Milestone with benches for hikers and cyclers

- On the occasion of the 850th anniversary of the city of Buttlar, the citizens erected a Via Regia milestone located along the historical route.
- The milestone with 4 information panels informs about the history and presence of the road on European, national, regional and local level.
- Additionally, the city named its historic bridge “VIA REGIA Brücke” and changed the city emblem to “Buttlar – Stadt an der VIA REGIA”.



Via Regia milestone in the city of Buttlar, DE.

August
2020

Roncesvalles,
ES

Via Charlemagne - Beginning of the Jubilee Year of the consecration of the Royal Collegiate Church of Roncesvalles

To open the 8th centenary of the Consecration of the Collegiate Church of Roncesvalles and therefore of the Jubilee Year that will follow.

- It was a Mass of Celebration for the VIII Centenary of the Consecration of the Royal Collegiate Church of Santa Maria de Roncesvalles.
- The event counted the presence of Archbishop of Pamplona, several bishops, the prior as well as several representatives of the route.
- Following the Mass, the official opening of the Jubilee Year of the VIII centenary took place.



Mass of Celebration for the VIII Centenary of the Consecration of the Royal Collegiate Church of Santa Maria de Roncesvalles, ES.

6.2.3 - Cultural and educational exchanges for young Europeans

March
-
December
2020

AZ, FR, IT,
PT, ES

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More
information



Prehistoric Rock Art Trails - Itinerant exhibition “The first art of Europe seen by the Europeans of the future”

To sensitise the new generations to the cultural, artistic and touristic relevance of the European Prehistoric Rock Art.

- In 2020, 38 rock art sites organized special activities to celebrate the European Day of Rock Art in Finland, Spain, France, Italy and Portugal, counting around 740 participants.
- The central activity was a great drawing contest with more than 1 800 kids involved in 5 countries. The idea was that students, after a special visit to the rock art site near their school, capture the way they see the first art of prehistoric humanity. In January 2020, the jury chose 6 winners and made a representative selection of 80 drawings for the design of an exhibition and a catalogue.
- In March 2020, the itinerant exhibition started its journey to the sites drawn by students. It counted around 100.000 visitors in total.



Participants of the drawing contest in Campo Lameiro, Galicia, ES.

6.2.4 - Contemporary cultural and artistic practice

September
2020

Different
industrial
heritage
locations in
BE, CZ, DE,
UK, NO, PL,
CS, ES, UA

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More
information



European Route of Industrial Heritage - WORK it OUT European Dance Event (3rd edition)

To interest children and young people in the industrial heritage sites through activities that they like: dance, take photos and videos and post them on social media.

- The format was created for the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018.
- ERIH members and industrial monuments all over Europe invited school classes, dance clubs and other interested dancers to come and learn a special dance and do a simultaneous performance in many European countries.
- More than 2.500 young people danced at 29 industrial heritage sites in 9 European countries.
- A live stream was broadcasted from the German Anchor Point Brickworks in Lage. 29 videos were produced and uploaded and 2 million people were reached through social media.



ERIH WORK it OUT Dance Event, Brickworks Lage, Lage, Germany, Foto: ERIH e.V. Christiane Baum

6.2.4 - Contemporary cultural and artistic practice

May
2020
Online

European Cemeteries Route - Digital journey book "Let's remember together"

To raise awareness among the general public on the value of the European heritage enhanced by the route.

- "Let's remember together" is dedicated to the guardians of cemeteries and a unique gift to those who preserve and protect the cemeteries heritage.
- A digital journey book, it allows European citizens to enjoy, understand and comprehend the value of cemeteries and the passion of their guardians.
- It consists of various photos taken by professional photographers at significant cemeteries around Europe and thoughtful texts.



Take a look at the beautiful photos of European cemeteries where stories of people who laid the foundations of our identity are hidden. Let the colors of flowers paint the picture of their life.

Feel the people who preserve memories with their work. They help us to hear the stories so much louder.

Excerpt of the Digital journey book "Let's remember together".

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More
information



First semester
2020

Routes of the Olive Tree - Actions and counter-proposals to address the refugee crisis

To give the public, and especially young people the opportunity to see all the dimensions of the refugee crisis issue in an imaginative way, to reflect and thus contribute to its integration into local communities.

- A special edition of newsletters in comic form and online discussions with youth groups in collaboration with universities.
- Through the comic, readers accompany the refugees on their difficult journey, while they meet friends along the Routes of the Olive Tree.
- These people, who left their country and their homes due to the war, carry with them their traditional eating habits and offer a "KERASMA", a snack as a sign of hospitality and friendship.



Image of the comic "KERASMA".

Online

6.2.5 - Cultural tourism and sustainable cultural development

November
2020

European Route of Ceramics - Towards new touristic products within the European Route of Ceramics

To improve the skills of the members of the route, to foster involvement of local stakeholders and to develop new touristic products.

- The practice started in September 2020 as a cooperation between the European Route of Ceramics and RomagnaTech, Innovation centre of the High Technology network of the Emilia-Romagna region. It is expected to continue during the first months of 2021.
- It includes a cycle of webinars about sustainable tourism linked to cultural heritage presenting both theoretical and successful experiences.
- Around 100 participants from different European countries attended the first webinar.



Ceramics symposium in Gmunden, AT.

•••
More
information



6.2.5 - Cultural tourism and sustainable cultural development

October

November
2020

Online

...

More
information



Destination Napoleon - European Network of Museums

To coordinate common activities at a local, national and European scale and to enhance the visibility of the museums.

- The Destination Napoleon European Network of Museums was launched in September - October 2020. It aims at creating a platform of exchange and a community at the disposal of the museums participating in the network.
- Museums presenting objects and collections related to Napoleon I take part in the network, by sharing their experiences and initiatives.
- An online exhibition is being prepared with Europeana, which will be launched on the occasion of the Bicentenary of Napoleon's death on May 5th 2021.



Napoleon Day in Valence, France, where he spent many days as a young lieutenant. ©PATRICK GARDIN

From
February
2020
onwards

Online

...

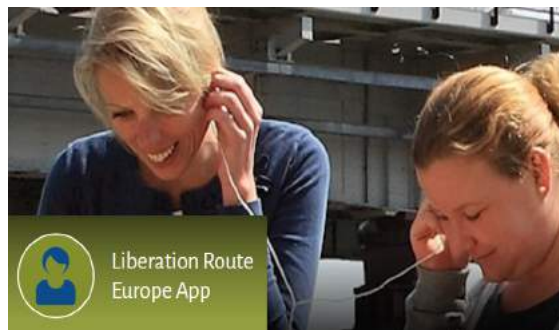
More
information



Liberation Route Europe - New digital tools

To update and upgrade Liberation Route Europe's identity and digital platform in preparation for the launch of the Liberation Route Europe trails in 2021.

- In 2020, Liberation Route Europe has extensively worked to create new modern tools to travel and experience the route, with a focus on sustainability, slow tourism and green tourism.
- An upcoming new web-app combines historical and touristic content with maps of the LRE hiking trails in a unique tool to travel along the Liberation Route and learn about the history, the personal stories and the points of interest along the Route.
- The new web-app will be available in 2021 in six languages, online and offline.



Exploring the Liberation Route Europe.

January
2020

Berlin, DE

Megalithic Routes - Presentation "Voices of the Stones"

To disseminate information about megalithic routes and to strengthen cooperation with stakeholders.

- On 14th January, Megalithic Routes and the Federal State of Schleswig-Holstein presented an exciting evening on the history of the impact of megaliths.
- Under the title "The Voices of Stones", information was provided on the current state of "Megalithic Research between Science and Fiction". The programme included archaeological presentations and information on the Route.
- More than 250 people participated, including many decision-makers, important officials and political mandate holders of the Federal Government.



Event "The Voices of Stones" in Berlin, DE.

6.2.5 - Cultural tourism and sustainable cultural development

Since 2018
Onwards

Phoenicians' Route - Smart Ways

Networking of tourist and cultural stakeholders and transformation of "Smart Ways" into sustainable community tourism products.

CY, GR, IT, LB,
MT, ES, PS

- The Phoenicians' Route innovation strategy is based on the so-called "Smart Ways", paths of excellence that have been created in many countries.
- "Smart Ways" act as a collector of heritage, communities and single services, developing a territorial quality offer and developing cooperation between different stakeholders.
- The aim is to develop a territorial circuit, based not only on elements of "high" culture, but also on landscape values and those of the local communities.
- Through this innovative proposal, the route is moving from destination tourism to motivation tourism and is creating innovative tourism strategies for post COVID-19 times.



Ancient ruins along the Phoenicians' Route.

...

More
information



April
2020

Saint Martin of Tours Route - The Sharing Baskets - Sharing is the answer to the great challenges of our time

FR

To foster sharing, solidarity and environmental protection, keywords that characterise the paths of Saint Martin of Tours.

- The gesture of Saint Martin symbolises sharing and solidarity.
- In the period of the COVID-19 pandemic, the "Sharing Baskets ("Paniers du Partage") were launched in France, which, thanks to an online collection of donations, made it possible to help families in difficulty by financing baskets produced by a local grocery shop and including organic and local products.
- The Network also set up the production of fabric masks by volunteers for vulnerable people.



...

More
information










6.3 - Extra-budgetary projects








Extra-budgetary funding: some examples

In addition to their ordinary budgets, certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe receive extra-budgetary funding from different sources (European Union direct and indirect funding, regional funds, etc.). Over the last five years, Cultural Routes received more than 17 million Euros funding, in particular, from European Union funding programmes in the cultural, educational and local development sectors. Below you will find a non-exhaustive sample of projects implemented by certified Cultural Routes in 2020 through extra-budgetary funding projects.

Individual projects

Route	Title of Project	Date	Total Budget	Type of Funding
 <p>The Hansa</p>	HansaLink	2020-2021	50.000€	EU Interreg Baltic Sea Region
 <p>Via Francigena</p>	FORREsT: new skills FOR experiential Tourism	2019-2021	267.373€	EU Erasmus+
	'Italy, Greece and Turkey on Foot'	2019-2020	215.995€	EU Civil Society Dialogue V
	FORREs.T. 2.0 - FOsteR an euRopEan identity through the Trainees mobility	2020-2022	371.000€	EU Erasmus+
 <p>Routes of El legado Andalusi</p>	Best Med. Project Beyond European sustainable Tourism Med part	2019-2022	517.000€	EU Interreg MED
	I-Heritage. ICT Mediterranean Platform for UNESCO Cultural Heritage	2020-2023	326.550€	EU Interreg MED
 <p>Phoenicians Route</p>	TRAMES – smart TouRism Across the MeditErranean Sea	2019-2021	381.376€	EU COSME
 <p>European Route of Jewish Heritage</p>	NOA (Networks Overcoming Antisemitism)	2020-2022	136.799€	EU REC Programme
	AEPJ Incubator Project	2020-2021	9.000€	European Jewish Fund
	Parallel Traces: A new lens on Jewish Heritage	2018-2021	71.682€	EU Creative Europe
 <p>Routes of the Olive Tree</p>	ROUTES4U	2019-2020	7.796€	EU and CoE Joint programme
	CLUSTER SERVAGRI Italie -Tunisie	2020-2021	Associated Partner	ENI CBC Mediterranean Sea Bassin Programme 2014-2020
 <p>Via Regia</p>	COME-IN! Cooperating for Open access to Museums – towards a widEr Inclusion	2016-2020	178.125€	EU INTERREG Central Europe

6.3 - Extra-budgetary projects

Route	Title of Project	Date	Total Budget	Type of Funding
TRANSROMANICA  The Romanesque Routes of European Heritage 	IMPACTOUR – Improving Sustainable Development Policies and PrActices to assess, diversify and foster Cultural TOURism in European regions and areas	2020-2022	110.625€	EU H2020
Prehistoric Rock Art Trails  	EUROPEAN HERITAGE STORIES 2019 EUROPEAN DAY OF PREHISTORIC ROCK ART	2019-2020	10.000€	EHD stories
European Routes of Emperor Charles V  	“Lets cook our heritage, lets cook our future” LEADER	2020-2021 postponed due to pandemic)	3.520€	EU Erasmus+
European Route of Industrial Heritage  	European Industrial Heritage 2020 and beyond – Fit for the Future EI HAB	2019-2020	279.000€	EU Creative Europe
	I-Heritage. ICT Mediterranean Platform for UNESCO Cultural Heritage	2020-2023	326.550€	EU Interreg MED

Joint projects

Route	Title of Project	Date	Total Budget	Type of Funding
ATRIUM The Phoenicians Routes European Association for the Preservation and Promotion of Jewish Culture and Heritage The Olive Tree Cultural Foundation The European Routes of Emperor Charles V The Via Regia	THE FAB ROUTES: DIGITAL SKILLS TO PROMOTE EU CULTURAL ROUTES	2020-2022	299.834€	EU Erasmus+
European Routes of Emperor Charles V ATRIUM European Route of Ceramics European Route of Jewish Heritage	European Cultural Routes as key actors in the promotion of European cultural heritage (WalkEUR) LEADER	2020-2022	279.990€	EU Creative Europe
European Routes of Emperor Charles V European Route of Ceramics European Route of Jewish Heritage	Circular Cultural Tourism LEADER	2020-2021 (postponed due to pandemic)	To be redefined	U Erasmus+

6.4 - New members in 2020

Each year, the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme sees a growing number of network members. According to the information submitted by some of the Culture Routes, despite the pandemic, more than 191 new members joined the Route networks and thus the Programme. Some Routes even welcomed over a dozen new members.

Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe	N° of new network members	Countries
The Hansa	1	United Kingdom (1)
Via Francigena	22	France (6), Italy (12), Switzerland (4)
Routes of El legado Andalusi	29	Spain (29)
Phoenician's Route	20	Albania (1), Croatia (1), Cyprus (2), Greece (2), Italy (10), Lebanon (1), Spain (3)
European Route of Jewish Heritage	3	Austria (1), Poland (1), Romania (1)
Cluniac Sites in Europe	1	France (1)
Routes of the Olive Tree	37	Croatia (24), Greece (6), Montenegro (1), Slovenia (1)
Via Regia	5	Belarus (1), Germany (3), Ukraine (1)
TRANSROMANICA	1	Spain (1)
Iter Vitis	3	Armenia (1), Moldova (1), Slovenia (1)
Prehistoric Rock Art Trails	3	Finland (1), Spain (2)
European Route of Ceramics	4	Austria (1), Poland (1), Spain (1), Turkey (1)
European Route of Megalithic Culture	2	Germany (2)
European Routes of Emperor Charles V	3	Spain (3)
European Routes of Industrial Heritage	18	Belgium (1), Germany (3), Greece (3), Italy (1), Liechtenstein (1), Luxembourg (1), Netherlands (1), Poland (3), Portugal (1), Spain (2), United Kingdom (1)
Liberation Route Europe	7	Germany (1), Italy (1), Netherlands (2), United Kingdom (3)
European Route of Historic Gardens	29	Germany (1), Italy (5), Poland (2), Portugal (15), Spain (6)
Via Romea Germanica	3	Austria (1), Germany (1, composed of 25 members), Italy (1, composed of 83 members)

** Information submitted by the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe networks as of December 2020*

"40 Cultural Routes are today an integral part of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme. These either linear, territorial or reticular routes cross more than 60 countries with more than 3,000 institutional network members in Europe and beyond.

Each Cultural Route is a grass-roots network composed of different destinations, organised by a legal association established along the network and federating a minimum of 3 countries linked by the same theme, whose members (cities, local authorities, regions, cultural institutions, SMEs) jointly implement activities along the Route while mutually increasing their visibility among the general public."

Mr. Stefano DOMINIONI,
Executive Secretary,

Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe,
Director of the European Institute of Cultural Routes

6.5 - Contact information*



The Santiago de Compostela Pilgrim Routes
European Federation «Saint James Way»
federation.saintjamesway@gmail.com
www.saintjamesway.eu



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



The Hansa
Hansebüro
hansebuero@hanse.org
www.hanse.org



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



The Viking Routes
Destination Viking Association
info@destinationviking.com
www.destinationviking.com



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



The Via Francigena
European Association of the Via Francigena ways EAVF
segretaria@viefrancigena.org
www.viefrancigena.org



The European Route of Jewish Heritage
AEPJ Association Européenne pour la Préservation et la Valorisation de la Culture et du Patrimoine Juif
aepj@jewishheritage.org
www.jewishheritage.org



The Routes of El legado Andalusi
Fundación El Legado Andalusi
info@legadoandalusi.es
www.legadoandalusi.es



The Saint Martin of Tours Route
Fédération Européenne Centre Culturel Saint Martin
contact@saintmartindetours.eu
www.saintmartindetours.eu

*By year of certification



The Cluniac Sites in Europe

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



The European Route of Cistercian Abbeys

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



The Routes of the Olive Tree

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



The European Cemeteries Route

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



Via Regia

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



Prehistoric Rock Art Trails

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



TRANSROMANICA – The Romanesque Routes of European Heritage

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



European Route of Historic Thermal Towns

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



The Iter Vitis Route

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



The Route of Saint Olav Ways

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



The European Route of Ceramics

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



Via Habsburg

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



The European Route of Megalithic Culture

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



The Roman Emperors and Danube Wine Route

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



The Huguenot and Waldensian Trail

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



The European Routes of Emperor Charles V

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



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

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



Destination Napoleon

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



Réseau Art Nouveau Network

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



In the Footsteps of Robert Louis Stevenson

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

6.5 - Contact information



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



Le Corbusier Destination: Architectural Promenades
Association des Sites Le Corbusier
association@sites-le-corbusier.org
www.sites-le-corbusier.org



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



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



Via Charlemagne
contact@viacharlemagne.com
www.viacharlemagne.eu



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



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



European Route of Historic Gardens
European Route of Historic Gardens
info@europeanhistoricgardens.eu
https://europeanhistoricgardens.eu



Iron Curtain Trail
European Cyclists' Federation
office@ecf.com
www.eurovelo13.com



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



COUNCIL OF EUROPE

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- Certification
- Activities
- EPA
- Institute

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Explore all Cultural Routes by the Council of Europe

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



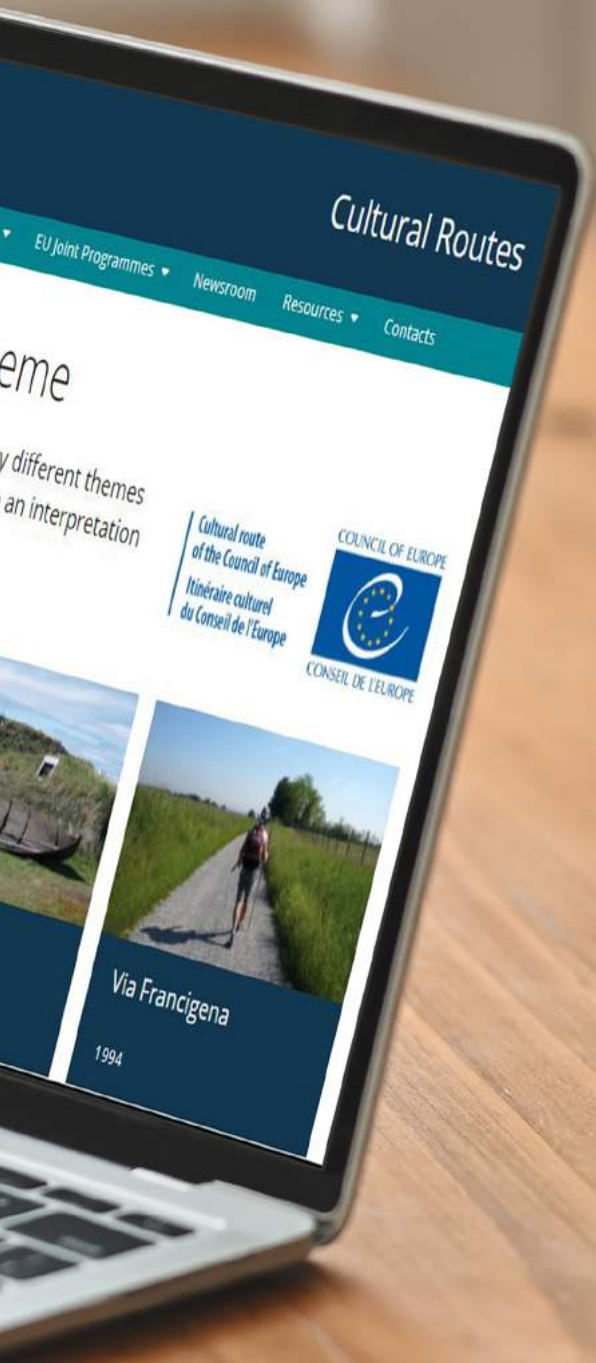
Santiago de Compostela
Pilgrim Routes
1987



The Hansa
1991



Viking Route
1993



7

Communication



Communication platforms

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



Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme Portal

- **Resources and visibility material online** (leaflets, brochures, in several languages)
- **Cultural Routes by theme and country**
- **European Institute of Cultural Routes**
- **Institutional newsroom**
- **Joint programmes with the European Union**
- **Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes** (member States, statutory bodies, partners)
- **Activities** (Annual Advisory Forum, Training Academy)
- **Reference documents**
- Since January 2017, a monthly newsletter is sent to **over 3000 subscribers**
- Since June 2020, the **Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Database** hosts a structured and extensive database together with an interactive map organizing all 3000 network members of the 40 certified Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe.
- September 2020: A new publication on the **Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe 2020** presents all the routes from the oldest ones to the most recent ones including the Iron Curtain Trail, the Liberation Route Europe and the Routes of Reformation.

... **More information**



Press and media archive

100+ articles
referring to the Cultural Routes
of the Council of Europe in the
international press

75 new pieces
from the Cultural Routes of the
Council of Europe programme



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

Highlights – International Press

02/06/2020

Les Itinéraires Culturels européens, destination touristique de l'été (Radio Interview with Stefano Dominioni, Executive Secretary of the EPA and Director of the European Institute of Cultural Routes) / RCF Radio (FR)

25/06/2020

Rutas Culturales, protagonistas en la asamblea de termalismo europeo (Cultural Routes: leading role at the Assembly of European Thermalism) / El Correo Gallego (ES)

18/09/2020

Ouverture par Sam Tanson de l'exposition sur les itinéraires culturels du Conseil de l'Europe (Opening of the exhibition on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe by Mrs. Sam Tanson) / Presstext by the Ministry of Culture of the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg (LU)

26/11/2020

A new love for medieval-style travel /BBC (GB)

Social media

 Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme

 @CultureRoutes

 @CultureRoutes

 @CultureRoutes

14.000+
followers on Facebook

150.000+
visits on our website
per year

3000+
subscribers of the
monthly newsletter

... More information



Instagram 



YouTube 



Facebook 



Twitter 



Skyline view in autumn,
Kutaisi town Georgia.
2021 Annual Advisory Forum of Cultural
Routes of the Council of Europe.
© Ana Flasker/Shutterstock



8

2021 Outlook

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2020

November 2020 – May 2021

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

Strasbourg, FR

May – November

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

Strasbourg, FR

4th February

Board of Directors meeting, European Institute of Cultural Routes,

Luxembourg, LU and online

2021

24th – 26th February

EPA Bureau meeting

Strasbourg, FR and online

June

Training for candidates applying for the “Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe” certification

Luxembourg, LU and online

28th – 29th April

EPA Governing Board meeting

Luxembourg, LU and online

29th September – 1st October

11th Annual Advisory Forum of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe
Kutaisi, GE

November - May 2022

Italian Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe
Strasbourg, FR

2022

October

EPA Statutory Committee of member States
Strasbourg, FR

December

Academic conference on Cultural Routes, TBC

November

Training week for cultural routes projects
Luxembourg, LU



View of the Abbey of Cluny, Burgundy,
France.

Route of Cluniac Sites in Europe.

© Ana Flaker/Shutterstock

9

Financial Statements

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9 - Financial statements

Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (Funded by the Member States)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Ordinary budget	286.100 €	305.903 €	320.322 €	331.600 €	352.000 €	364.000 €	377.800€
Extra-budgetary resources (Voluntary contributions)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Luxembourg	-	-	-	-	5.200 €	-	-
Georgia	-	-	-	-	-	20.000 €	-
France	-	-	-	-	-	5.000 €	-
Total ³	286.100 €	305.903 €	320.322 €	331.600 €	357.200 €	389.000 €	377.800€

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

European Institute of Cultural Routes (Funded by the Ministry of Culture, Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Ordinary budget	200.000 €	200.000 €	200.000 €	210.000 €	210.000 €	250.000 €	255.000 €
Extra-budgetary resources (Voluntary contributions)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ministry of Culture, Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg	-	-	-	-	30.000 €	-	-
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg	-	-	-	6.800 €	11.900 €	-	-
Total ³	200.000 €	200.000 €	200.000 €	216.800 €	251.900 €	250.000 €	255.000 €

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

Co-funding joint programmes COE/EU

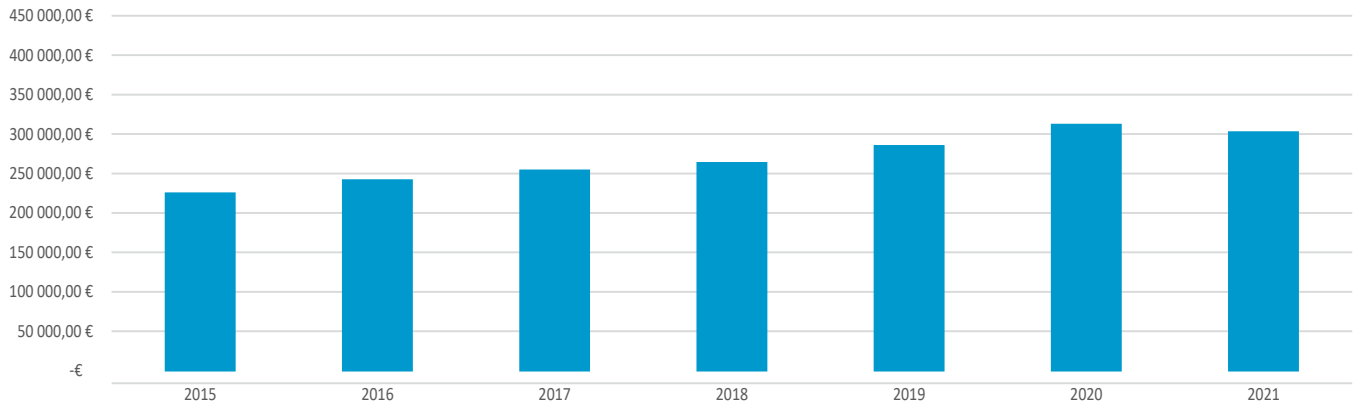
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
European Commission DG GROW - Council of Europe Joint Programme (2015-2017) ³ 311.000 € (18 months)	17.278 €	207.333 €	86.389 €	-	-	-
European Commission DG REGIO - Council of Europe Joint Programme: "Routes4U" (2017-2020) ⁴ 1.1 Million € (30 months)	--	-	-	440.000 €	440.000 €	220.000 €
Total	17.278 €	207.333 €	86.389 €	440.000 €	440.000 €	220.000 €

³ Amount corresponding to annual contribution pro-rata.

⁴ Amount corresponding to annual contribution pro-rata

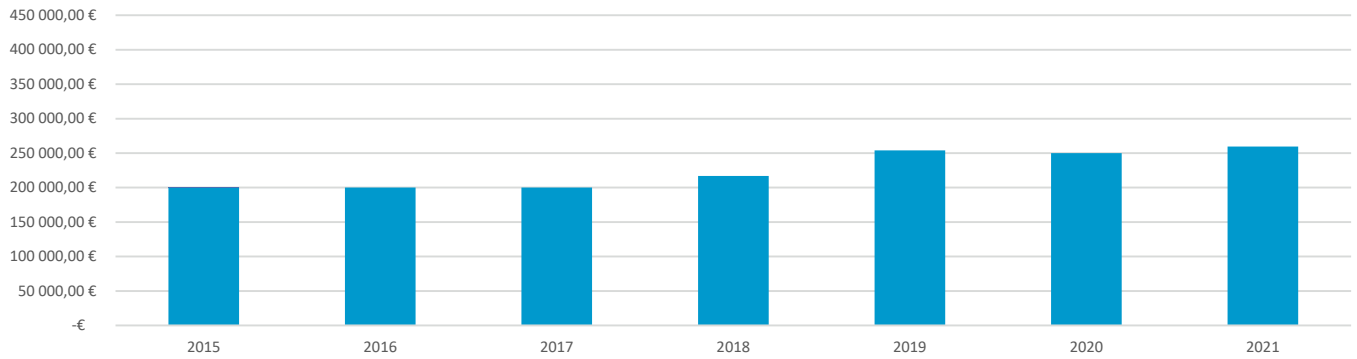
Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe

Evolution of the total budget



European Institute of Cultural Routes

Evolution of the total budget



2020 Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and European Institute of Cultural Routes - Calendar of activities and presentations at events

16th January, Brussels, BE, **Advisory meeting with Historical Outposts of Agder**

20th January, Luxembourg, LU, **Participation in the European Days of Jewish Culture 20th Anniversary Preparatory Meeting organized by European Association for the Preservation and Promotion of Jewish Culture and Heritage**

4th February, Brussels, BE, **Participation in the 2020 Forum and certification ceremony of the Liberation Route Europe**

6th February, TR and ONLINE, **Final conference “Italy, Greece and Turkey on foot”**

6th February, Luxembourg, LU, **Participation in the Board Meeting of The Hansa, held at Neumünster Abbey, headquarters of the EPA on Cultural Routes and of the European Institute of Cultural Routes**

13th February, Luxembourg, LU, **General Assembly and Board of Directors of the European Institute of Cultural Routes meeting**

13th-14th February, Luxembourg, LU, **Meeting of the Bureau of the EPA Governing Board**

28th February, Baku, AZ, **National Advisory Meeting on Cultural Routes: "The Potential of Cultural Routes in Azerbaijan"**

9th March, Nurmes, FI, **Seminar on Cultural Routes in North Karelia**

16th March, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Historic Cafés Association**

8th April, ONLINE, **Participation in the CROSSDEV PROJECT online conference**

22nd April, ONLINE, **Participation in the videoconference “Macro-regional strategies of the EU regarding the Adriatic & Ionian Region, Cultural Tourism and Regional Development: the Routes4U project, results & perspectives” organised by the Routes of the Olive Tree.**

7th May, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Cammino minerario di Santa Barbara**

8th May, ES and ONLINE, **webinar “Cultural Routes Dialogues: challenges and opportunities post Covid-19”, 1st edition**

9th May 2020, Luxembourg, LU and ONLINE, **Europe Day celebration in Luxembourg**

11th May, IT and ONLINE, **European Dialogues**

15th May, IT, SM, HOLY SEE and ONLINE, **webinar “Cultural Routes Dialogues: challenges and opportunities post Covid-19”, 2nd edition**

27th May, ONLINE, **Round table: "Which place for participatory and cooperative housing in European Cultural Routes?"**

28th May, ONLINE, **Webinar: “Covid-19 and the Cultural**

Routes of the Council of Europe: Impacts and Responses”

2nd June, online, **Exceptional Meeting of the Bureau of the EPA Governing Board**

4th June, FR, MA and ONLINE, **webinar “Cultural Routes Dialogues: challenges and opportunities post Covid-19”, 3rd edition**

9th-12th June, EICR, LU and ONLINE, **Online Training Seminar for cultural routes applying for the "Cultural Route of the Council of Europe" certification - CERTIFICATION CYCLE 2020-2021**

10th June, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Cyril and Methodius Route**

10th June, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Saint Francis Ways**

10th June, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Via Eurasia**

12th June, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Routes of Saint Michel**

12th June, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Culture Route of Fortified Monuments – FORTE CULTURA**

15th June, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Aeneas Route**

16th June, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with European Route of Templar Heritage**

24th June, ONLINE, **Training module for members of the European Route of Historic Thermal Towns**

25th June, Luxembourg, LU, **Meeting of the Board of Directors of the EICR**

25th June, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with “In the footsteps of Saint Paul” Cultural Route**

26th June, GR and ONLINE, **webinar “Cultural Routes Dialogues: challenges and opportunities post Covid-19”, 4th edition**

26th June, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with European Route d'Artagnan**

29th June, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with European Fairy Tale Route**

30th June, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Olympic Heritage Cultural Route**

1st July, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Iron Age Danube Route**

1st July, IT and ONLINE, **Webinar “The tourism of the future...from communities to Europe, the new proposals for a green and sustainable tourism”**

2nd July, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Castle Road**

3rd July, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Via Molina**

- 8th July, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with European Route of Templar Heritage (2nd meeting)**
- 8th July, ONLINE, **RURITAGE Webinar: “Thinking beyond the COVID-19 crisis: heritage-based opportunities for rural regeneration”**
- 9th July, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Alvar Aalto Route**
- 15th July, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Silk Road**
- 16th July, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Il Leonardino project**
- 17th July, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with European Route d’Artagnan (2nd meeting)**
- 22nd July, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Saint Francis Ways (2nd meeting)**
- 23rd July, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Alvar Aalto Route (2nd meeting)**
- 23rd July, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Via Molina (2nd meeting)**
- 23rd July, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Marin Sanuto Route**
- 23rd July, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Routes of Saint Michel**
- 28th July, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Food museums network**
- 30th July, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Atlantic Geopark Route**
- 30th July, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Mary's route**
- 31st July, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Via Nikolaiana**
- 25th August, MD and ONLINE, **Webinar “Wine Routes of Moldova: Opportunities for growth and sustainable development under Council of Europe standards”**
- 17th September, Luxembourg LU, **opening ceremony of the exhibition "The Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe in Luxembourg"**
- 22nd September, Vienna, AT and ONLINE, **Participation in the Kick-off conference of the “Transdanube.Travel. Stories” European project featuring five Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe**
- 22nd September, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Chocolate Ways**
- 25th September - 4th October, Luxembourg, LU, **European Heritage Days 2020**
- 2nd October, ONLINE, **CROSSDEV European project roundtable on sustainable tourism: “Do we earn with sustainable tourism?”**
- 3rd October, HR and ONLINE, **Online workshop “Cycling Tourism and Cultural Routes”**
- 7th October, Oberhausen, DE and ONLINE, **Participation in the 16th European Route of Industrial Heritage Conference 2020 - “Keeping the wheels turning - Succession Planning for Industrial Heritage”**
- 7th-8th October, Strasburg, FR and online, **Meeting of the EPA Governing Board**
- 14th October, Luxembourg, LU, **Meeting of the Board of Directors of the EICR**
- 15th October, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with European Fairy Tale Route (2nd meeting)**
- 16th October, Baden Baden, DE and ONLINE, **Participation in the third European Thermal Heritage Day organised by the European Route of Historic Thermal Towns**
- 23rd October, ONLINE, **European Youth Card Association (EYCA) General Assembly**
- 23rd October, DE and ONLINE, **webinar “Cultural Routes Dialogues: challenges and opportunities post Covid-19”, 5th edition**
- 24th October, ONLINE, **Participation in the “500th anniversary of the coronation of Charles V: dreams and nightmares of an Empire” live webinar organized by the European Routes of Emperor Charles V**
- 27th October, ONLINE, **European Lighthouses livestream event**
- 4th November, ONLINE, **European-Mediterranean conference 2020 – EuroMed. 1st International Workshop on Cultural Tourism: Discovery Europe**
- 5th November, ONLINE, **Atlantic Geoparks – Geotourism for Sustainability web conference**
- 5th November, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with So Chateaux (network of castles)**
- 12th November, Strasburg, FR, **Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP)**
- 12th-14th November, Lucca IT and ONLINE, **MEET Tourism Lucca – “International Meeting of Cultural Routes and Destinations of Excellence in Lucca”**
- 14th November, ONLINE, **Andean-European Dialogue on Cultural Routes**
- 19th November, ONLINE, **EFFORTS conference on the Socio-economic impact of fortified heritage**
- 22nd November, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Iter Romanum**
- 24th November, ONLINE, **Participation in the series of videos “Il Consiglio d’Europa si Racconta”**
- 26th November, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Ulysses Route**
- 30th November, ONLINE, **Advisory meeting with Holy Week and Easter celebrations Route**
- 17th December, ONLINE, **Online Forum on the Route “Stephen the Great” – a touristic and cultural cross-border route**
- 18th December, GE and ONLINE, **Online signing ceremony of the agreement to hold the 10th Annual Advisory Forum on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe 2021 in Kutaisi, Georgia**

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



European Institute of Cultural Routes

Abbaye de Neumünster
Bâtiment Robert Bruch
28, rue Münster
L-2160 Luxembourg

T. (+352) 24 12 50
contact@culture-routes.lu

coe.int/routes

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