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## MEETING OF THE EPA GOVERNING BOARD

**Thursday 05 May** (09:00 – 17:00) and **Friday 06 May 2022** (09:00 – 15:50)

### **COUNTRY MAPPING DOCUMENTS AND THEMATIC REPORTS**

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## **I. COUNTRY MAPPING DOCUMENTS**

### **a. Publication of Country Mapping Documents**

Following the visibility guidelines of the Council of the Europe, the Country Mapping Documents for Georgia (2019), Turkey (2020), Montenegro and Poland (2021) were published in physical format in 2021 and are to be distributed at the Bureau of the EPA Governing Board and the EPA Governing Board. The Documents were printed so as to strengthen the visibility and readability of EPA publications. These Country Mapping Documents, in addition to the Montenegro Country Mapping Document, are also available in digital format on the Cultural Routes website.

### **b. Country Mapping Document for Montenegro**

A Cultural Routes Country Mapping Document for Montenegro was presented during the EPA Governing Board meeting of 28-29 April 2021. The expert in charge of the document, Mrs. Aleksandra Kapetanovic, conducted research on the topic from September to December 2020. Due to the travel restrictions imposed on account of the Covid-19 pandemic, an on-site field visit was replaced by online meetings with national stakeholders either involved or having the potential to be involved in the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme.

### **c. Country Mapping Document for Poland**

A Cultural Routes Country Mapping Document for Poland was presented during the EPA Governing Board meeting of 28-29 April 2021. The expert in charge of the document, Mrs. Łucja Piekarska-Duraj, conducted research on the topic from September to December 2020. Due to the travel restrictions imposed on account of the Covid-19 pandemic, an on-site field visit was replaced by online meetings with national stakeholders either involved or having the potential to be involved in the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe programme.

### **d. Country Mapping Document for Armenia**

On 8 October 2020, the EPA Governing Board confirmed the request for the preparation of a Country Mapping Document for Armenia. In January 2021, the EPA Secretariat, together with the Ministry of Culture of Armenia, agreed on an independent expert, the aims, and the scope of the research and deadlines. The research process was completed in late 2021 by Ms. Ani Avagyan. Due to restrictions introduced to mitigate the spread of Covid-19, it was not possible to hold in-person meetings. Instead, two coordination meetings took place remotely between the relevant figures in order to ensure the correct procedures were followed in producing the Country Mapping Document. The Document will be published once the Governing Board has taken note of its production and finalisation.

### **e. Requests from Member States**

On 20 October 2020, Russian Federation requested the preparation of an EPA Country Mapping Document. The request was approved at the 2021 Governing Board Meeting<sup>1</sup>.

In accordance with the amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the EPA Governing Board that were approved on 8 October 2020 during the EPA Governing Board meeting, member States interested in requesting a Country Mapping Document should do so by means of a formal notification to the EPA Chair at least 2 weeks prior to the yearly EPA Bureau meeting of February. The EPA Secretariat has thus far not received any formal requests from member States.

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<sup>1</sup> **Following the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe Resolution [CM/Res\(2022\)03](#) regarding the cessation of membership of the Russian Federation to the EPA on Cultural Routes, it is proposed that this activity be reallocated by the EPA member States representatives at the occasion of the meeting of the EPA Governing Board of 5-6 May 2022..**

## **II. THEMATIC REPORTS**

### **a. Olympism and Sports Heritage feasibility study**

On 27 November 2019, the Ministry of Culture of France sent a request for the preparation of a thematic report on Olympic Heritage in Europe and its potential as a Cultural Route of the Council of Europe. Following approval by the EPA Governing Board for this request in the summer 2020, a call for experts was launched and collected 27 applications. The selection of the expert was made in close cooperation with the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sports of the Council of Europe (EPAS), and expert Simon ROFE, Professor at the University of London and expert in Olympism and sports heritage was awarded the contract. The research process began in summer 2020 and the report was submitted in December 2020. On 28-29 April 2021, at the Governing Board Meeting, the report was presented and adopted.

### **b. Major Risk report**

Following a request from the EPA Governing Board in the summer 2020, the EPA Secretariat launched a call for experts to find an expert to conduct research on Major Risks and coping strategies for the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme. The call collected 25 applications. The expert, Mrs Marianne LEHTIMÄKI, was selected for her extensive expertise in the field, as well as her knowledge of the Cultural Routes programme. The study ran from August to December 2020.

This first global study on major risks for Cultural Routes – including pandemics and climate change – aimed to view risks as opportunities to develop more sustainable and inclusive approaches to the implementation of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Programme. The report provides recommendations to Cultural Routes and EPA member states, relying also on the recommendations of the UN SDGs 2030 goals, as well as the human-rights approach and how to apply them to the Cultural Routes programme. On 28-29 April 2021, at the Governing Board Meeting, the report was presented and adopted.