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CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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Strasbourg, November 2021

***COUNCIL OF EUROPE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON THE  
VALUE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE FOR SOCIETY***

***(FARO CONVENTION)***



**Council of Europe - European Union Joint Project**  
***The Faro Way: enhanced participation in cultural heritage***

**Final Conference**  
**“The Faro Convention: a democratic approach to  
cultural heritage”**

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3-4 December 2021, Lisbon, Portugal

*Organised in collaboration with*



## INTRODUCTION

The Council of Europe and the Ministry of Culture of Portugal are jointly organising a high-level conference *The Faro Convention: a democratic approach to cultural heritage*, that will take place on 3 and 4 December 2021, in Lisbon, Portugal, in a hybrid format (both physical and online participation will be possible).

The conference is being held in the framework of the Council of Europe-European Union partnership in the field of culture and cultural heritage and, more specifically, their Joint Project *The Faro Way: enhanced participation in cultural heritage*, which aims at promoting and disseminating the principles of the Council of Europe's Faro Convention and encouraging its signature, ratification and implementation in member States.

It will be the closing event in the framework of the above-mentioned Joint Project, following on from the previous regional seminars held in Madrid (December 2018), Maastricht (May 2019), Tbilisi (June 2021, online meeting) and Bucharest (October 2021, hybrid meeting). It will seek to bring together stakeholders in cultural heritage from different countries and reflect on the Faro Convention principles, exchanging on their interpretation and implications, as well as sharing experiences and creating interactive space for collaboration among the participants.

Furthermore, as many countries in Europe have already ratified the Faro Convention, the conference will have a particular focus on sharing good practices from member States, as well as from heritage communities and civil society initiatives, on how the Convention principles are applied. The aim is to showcase these good examples and the added value for member States of implementing the Convention principles in the management of their cultural heritage.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

The conference will have the following objectives:

1. to reflect on the Faro Convention principles and their multiple uses in practice;
2. to showcase examples of good practices from the national authorities, heritage communities and civil society on the implementation of the Faro Convention;
3. to highlight the added value and benefits of signing, ratifying and implementing the Faro Convention for all stakeholders;
4. to provide guidance in the implementation of the Faro Convention principles;
5. to create an engaging space for exchange and dialogue among the participants from different countries;
6. to foster co-operation between the public sector and civil society and discuss the role of national authorities and civil society in cultural heritage governance.

As the conference is taking place in a country that has already signed the Faro Convention in 2005, the existing good practices on the implementation of the Faro Convention principles by civil society and heritage communities in Portugal will be highlighted to illustrate the potential of these principles and the pertinence of the adoption of the Convention by member States.

## APPROACH

Through presentations and discussions on specific topics, participants at the conference will have a unique opportunity to share their experience and good practices, exchange on the concerns that authorities may have in supporting the Faro Convention approach to cultural heritage, as well as create possibilities for synergies and co-operation between stakeholders.

In addition to the formal part of the conference, visits to local initiatives (for participants attending in person) that are already applying some of the Faro Convention principles will serve

to illustrate how authorities can be involved in the implementation phase by supporting civil society initiatives.

## EXPECTED RESULTS

It is expected to highlight the benefits and added value of the Faro Convention and to offer practical guidance on how to implement the Faro Convention principles to those member States that have already ratified the Convention.

The conference should also encourage national authorities to participate and engage more with the Faro Convention principles and develop further initiatives for their implementation.

Furthermore, through sharing good practices and experiences, the conference should encourage member States that have not yet done so, to sign and ratify the Convention, showcasing its added value.

Finally, the conference should create momentum for increased participation of civil society in cultural heritage governance, in line with the Convention principles.

The results of all four regional seminars have provided valuable content for two publications – a good practices collection and a policy guidance document for member States. The seminars have also contributed to the development of the innovative Faro Convention role-playing game: *Your Faro Way* (a step-by-step guidance for the practical application of the Faro Convention principles) to be presented at this final event of the Joint Project, marking the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the entry into force of the Faro Convention.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### 1. THE FARO CONVENTION

The Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Faro Convention) is a convention about cultural heritage, conceived for the benefit of society and implemented by European citizens. It outlines a framework to define the role of civil society in decision-making and management processes related to the cultural heritage environment in which they operate and evolve.

The Convention emphasizes the important aspects of heritage as they relate to human rights and democracy. It further promotes a wider understanding of heritage and its relationship to communities and society and encourages citizens to recognise the importance of cultural heritage objects and sites through the meanings and values they represent to them.

This legal instrument was adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 13 October 2005 and opened for signature to member States in Faro (Portugal) on 27 October of the same year. It entered into force on 1 June 2011 and to date 21 countries have ratified it and 7 others have signed it.

It is important to emphasize that the Faro Convention principles could serve as useful guidance for member States' policies in the field of cultural heritage, leaving authorities free however to implement these principles according to their national contexts.

The Faro Convention highlights three main aspects:

- The shared rights and responsibilities towards cultural heritage within an integrated strategy approach;
- The role of cultural heritage as a resource for building more democratic societies and improving the living environment and quality of life;

- The links between heritage rights and human rights: every person has a right to engage with the cultural heritage of their choice, while respecting the rights and freedoms of others.

The Faro Convention has consequently several guiding principles:

- Cultural heritage is a means and not an end;
- The involvement of social groups and organisations while considering different backgrounds, responsibilities and capacities of each group or organisation;
- Cultural heritage is about the relationship between people, places and stories; the feeling of belonging;
- Social cohesion can be strengthened by creating shared responsibility towards cultural heritage;
- Cultural heritage can contribute to protecting and maintaining cultural diversity and locality (sense of place) in an age of standardisation.

Such concepts may challenge the usual approach to cultural heritage governance, where identification, protection, conservation and diffusion are mainly developed through public authorities. The decision by States to endorse the Faro Convention and participate in its implementation should ensure a balanced approach between the more traditional role of authorities and civil society's increased involvement today. This will allow the preservation of the existing heritage while promoting its use in addressing societal issues.

## 2. THE JOINT PROJECT *THE FARO WAY*

Agreeing on the importance of encouraging the increased role of civil society in heritage governance, the European Commission and the Council of Europe are promoting the Faro Convention principles, through a Joint Project: *The Faro Way: enhanced participation in cultural heritage*.

The Joint Project is structured around three major goals:

- A. to ensure the commitment of all stakeholders, and in particular national authorities, to the Faro Convention principles;
- B. to showcase concrete examples of implementation of the principles at national, regional and local levels;
- C. to build long-term stakeholder co-operation to translate the Faro Convention principles into action.

Three main lines of action are considered to achieve the above objectives:

1. increasing the number of signatures and ratifications of the Faro Convention: the commitment of national authorities to the Faro Convention principles is promoted through four multi-stakeholder regional seminars and a final conference to advocate for greater involvement of all heritage stakeholders;
2. promoting implementation of the Faro Convention: concrete actions to implement the Faro Convention principles are encouraged through a compilation of examples of Faro Convention inspired achievements and the production of interactive material clarifying the implications for the various stakeholders;
3. building on a dynamic pan-European network: sustaining Faro-related actions through the exchange of knowledge and experiences through a network of heritage stakeholders to ensure the long-term sustainability of Faro inspired initiatives.

# DRAFT PROGRAMME

3 December

CONFERENCE

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8:30- 9:00 (GMT time)

*Registration (for on-site participants)*

9:30-10:00 (CET time)

9:00- 9:30 (GMT time)

## WELCOMING WORDS

10:00- 10:30 (CET time)

- Mr. Paulo COSTA, Director of the Museu Nacional de Etnologia
- Mr. Matjaž GRUDEN, Director of Democratic Participation, Council of Europe
- Ms. Themis CHRISTOPHIDOU, Director-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, European Commission
- Ms. Ângela FERREIRA, Deputy Minister of Culture and Secretary of State for Cultural Heritage of Portugal

9:30-10:00 (GMT time)

## KEYNOTE SPEECH

10:30- 11:00 (CET time)

*Past, present and future of the Faro Convention: a critical view*

Mr. Guilherme D'OLIVEIRA MARTINS, Trustee of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and President of the Steering Committee of the Council of Europe that drew up the Faro Convention in 2005

10:00-10:30 (GMT time)

*Coffee break*

11:00-11:30 (CET time)

10:30-11:30 (GMT time)

## SESSION 1: SETTING THE SCENE ...

11:30- 12:30 (CET time)

Presentations:

- *Faro principles and the traditional top-down approach*  
Mr. Francesc PLA, Programme Manager, Council of Europe
- *The interest of civil society for heritage: "O meu Palácio" case<sup>1</sup>*  
Ms. Teresa MARECOS, Palácio Nacional da Ajuda
- *Good examples of Faro initiatives: Faro Convention Network and beyond*  
Mr. Edmund CARROLL, Faro Convention Network

Debate

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.culturaportugal.gov.pt/pt/saber/2020/12/iniciativa-o-meu-palacio-dgpc/>

11:30-12:30 (GMT time)  
12:30- 13:30 (CET time)

## SESSION 2: WHO IS (STILL) AFRAID OF THE FARO CONVENTION?

### Presentations:

- *On bad reasons for rejecting Faro Convention principles ...*  
Ms. Simona PINTON, Ca' Foscari University of Venice
- *The benefits from a truly cooperative approach: the Marseilles case*  
Mr. Prosper WANNER, Lead expert on the Faro Convention of the Council of Europe
- *Some general guidelines for authorities and heritage initiatives*  
Ms. Jovana POZNAN, Project Assistant, Council of Europe

### Debate

12:30-13:30 (GMT time)  
13:30-14:30 (CET time)

*Lunch break*

13:30-14:30 (GMT time)  
14:30-15:30 (CET time)

## SESSION 3: HOW TO EMPOWER CIVIL SOCIETY?

### Presentations:

- *Support by experts and academics: the PEU Patrimoni Project experience*  
Mr. Àngel PORTOLÉS, Universitat Jaume I of Castelló
- *The networking factor: the case of "Portugal entre Patrimónios"<sup>2</sup>*  
Ms. Lúcia SALDANHA, Museu Nacional de Arte Contemporânea
- *Learning by playing: the online role-playing game "Your Faro Way"*  
Ms. Jovana POZNAN, Council of Europe, and Mr. Adrien MINAIRE, Succubus

### Debate

14:30-15:00 (GMT time)  
15:30-16:00 (CET time)

*Coffee break*

15:00-16:00 (GMT time)  
16:00-17:00 (CET time)

## SESSION 4: TOWARDS A NEW SHARE AMONG STAKEHOLDERS ...

### Presentations:

- *Authorities and citizens initiatives: a win-win interaction*  
Mr. Piet JASPAERT, Europa Nostra
- *Spreading the mechanisms of civil participation: the Academia Gerador*  
Mr. Tiago SIGORELHO, Gerador<sup>3</sup>

### Debate

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.portugalentrepatrimonios.gov.pt/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://gerador.eu/>

16:00-16:30 (GMT time)

17:00-17:30 (CET time)

#### CLOSING REMARKS

- Mr. Tamas SZUCS, Director for Culture, Creativity and Sport, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, European Commission
- Ms. Kathrin MERKLE, Head of Culture and Cultural heritage Division, Council of Europe
- Ms. Rita JERÓNIMO, Deputy Director, Directorate-General for Cultural Heritage of Portugal

19:00-21:00 (GMT time)

*Dinner (for on-site participants)*

4 December

VISITS *(for on-site participants)*

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9:30-10:30 (GMT time)

Visit 1 to a heritage initiative in Lisbon  
*Museu Nacional do Azulejo<sup>4</sup>*

10:30-11:30 (GMT time)

Visit 2 to a heritage initiative in Lisbon  
*Projeto Manicomio<sup>5</sup>*

11:30-12:30 (GMT time)

Visit 3 to a heritage initiative in Lisbon  
*Creative Hub of Beato<sup>6</sup>*

\*Meeting point: in front of *Cais do Sodré* train station, at 9:00 (GMT time)

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<sup>4</sup> <http://www.museudoazulejo.gov.pt/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.lisboa.pt/atualidade/reportagens/manicomio-arte-sem-preconceito>

<sup>6</sup> <https://hubcriativobeato.com/>

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

### Venue

The Conference will take place at:

Museu Nacional de Etnologia

*Av. Ilha da Madeira, 1400-203 Lisboa*

*Tel.: + 351 213 041 160*

*E-mail: geral@mnetnologia.dgpc.pt*

*Website: <http://mnetnologia.wordpress.com/>*

### Transportation

The Museum is about 15 minutes by foot from the “Mosteiro dos Jeronimos” stop on the [No.15 Tram line](#):

(1) Praça da Figueira - (2) Praça do Comércio - (3) Cais do Sodré - (4) Cais da Rocha - (5) Infante Santo (for Alcântara-Mar) - (6) Calvário - (7) Santo Amaro - (8) Mosteiro dos Jerónimos (for Belém) - (9) Jardim de Algés



Alternatively, buses 728 or 714 will take about 7 minutes from the “Mosteiro dos Jeronimos” stop to the venue.

Transportation on 4 December from the city centre to the visits (there and back) will be organised by bus: the meeting point will be in front of Cais do Sodré train station.



## Interpretation

English/Portuguese interpretation will be provided during the conference.

## Hotels and meals

*Meals:* The lunches on 3 and 4 December and the coffee breaks and dinner on 3 December will be offered by the Joint Project.

*Hotels:* You are kindly requested to proceed with your own hotel booking. Some convenient hotels in the city centre are:

- My Story Hotel Tejo <https://www.mystoryhotels.com/my-story-hotel-tejo/>
- The 8 <https://www.the8.pt/>
- My Story Hotel Ouro <https://www.mystoryhotels.com/en/my-story-hotel-ouro/>

Please note that the Council of Europe will reimburse hotel, meals and local transport expenses through a daily allowance, which has been set for each meeting day at €175 for 2021 (50% for hotel accommodation, 15% for each main meal and 20% for miscellaneous expenses/local transport). However, this allowance will be reduced if certain expenses are met by the organisers. The daily allowances will be reimbursed, after the conference, by bank transfer.

## Contacts

Mr. Francesc PLA CASTELLTORT    Tel: +33 3 90 21 49 30    E-mail: francesc.pla@coe.int  
[Emergency tel. no. at the meeting: +33 6 77 44 16 72]  
Ms. Jovana POZNAN    Tel.: +33 3 90 21 47 98    E-mail: jovana.poznan@coe.int  
[Emergency tel. no. at the meeting: + 33 77 18 38 993]  
Ms. Helena MARTELO    Tel.: +351 213 614 309    E-mail: helenamartelo@dgpc.pt

## Insurance Policy

Specific travel-related risks are covered by a CHARTIS insurance policy (no. 2.004.761), which provides cover for persons up to their 76th birthday. If the need arises, the CHARTIS round-the-clock helpdesk can be contacted on +32 3 253 69 16.

## COVID-19 measures

All participants should comply with the conditions applicable in Portugal:

<https://www.visitportugal.com/en/content/covid-19-measures-implemented-portugal>

That includes before arrival to fill online an individual Passenger Locator Card:

<https://portugalcleanandsafe.pt/en/passenger-locator-card>