

European Affairs Update

July 2024



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- Presidency Council of the European Union: Jul-Dec 2024 Hungary. Jan-Jun 2025 Poland. July-Dec 2025 Denmark.
- Committee of Ministers (CoE) chairmanship: May-Nov 24 Lithuania. Nov 24- May 25 Luxembourg. May-Nov 25 Malta.
- European Capitals of Culture 2024: Bad Ischl (Austria), Bodø (Norway) and Tartu (Estonia).

Did you know? Every Presidency issues a music playlist, here are [Songs from Hungary](#).

Joint initiative of European Archaeological Council (EAC) and European Association of Archaeologists (EAA). Prepared by the EAC Assistant Jenni Butterworth. [You can join the mailing list here](#). If you wish to be removed from the mailing list, please email info@e-a-c.org.

European Union

Hungary takes Presidency of the Council of the European Union

1 Jul: The [Hungarian presidency's programme](#) will be structured around seven priorities: acceptance of a New European Competitiveness Deal; the reinforcement of the European defence policy; a consistent and merit-based enlargement policy; stemming illegal migration; shaping the future of the cohesion policy; a farmer-oriented EU agricultural policy; and addressing demographic challenges.

Re-elections of Commission President and President of European Parliament

18 Jul: The European Parliament elected Ursula von der Leyen as [President of the European Commission](#). This will be her second term as Commission President (first elected by MEPs in July 2019). Ahead of the vote, von der Leyen presented her political priorities for the next five years during a debate with MEPs, focussing on defence, affordable housing and climate change, as well as reiterating support for Ukraine. Also MEPs re-elected Roberta Metsola [President of the European Parliament](#) until 2027. She will continue to lead Parliament for the first two and a half years of the 10th legislative term.

EU opens accession negotiations with Ukraine, Moldova

25 Jun: The EU held the first Intergovernmental Conference at ministerial level to open accession negotiations with [Ukraine](#) and [Moldova](#). This follows the decision by the European Council on 14-15 December 2023 to open accession negotiations with both countries, and the approval by the Council of the Negotiating Framework for the negotiations on 21 June, in accordance with the revised enlargement methodology.

EU draft budget for 2025

19 Jul: The Council agreed on its position for the [2025 EU draft budget](#) (proposed in June) totalling €191.53 billion in commitments and €146.21 billion in payments. This budget aims to support the EU's long-term priorities and objectives, emphasizing a realistic, prudent, and well-balanced approach to resource allocation. The 2025 budget aims to finance the EU's traditional policies, such as cohesion and agriculture, as well as the priorities reinforced in the mid-term revision of the 2021-2027 multiannual financial framework. The agreement, reached by EU member state ambassadors, sets the stage for formal adoption by 13 September 2024 in a written procedure. This agreement will guide the Hungarian presidency in negotiating the 2025 EU budget with the European Parliament, with a legal deadline for agreement by 18 November 2024. [Full breakdown of budget proposal here](#).

CULT committee: bureau elected

23 Jul: The constitutive meeting of the [Committee on Culture and Education](#) elected its bureau, made up of a Chair and four Vice-Chairs, for a two-and-a-half year term. The new chair is Ms Nela Riehl (Greens/EFA, DE). The first regular meeting of the CULT Committee will take place on 4 Sept 2024.

Culture Moves Europe second call for individual mobility: share of cultural heritage growing

23 Jul: Artists and cultural professionals from 39 countries have been selected in the [second call for individual mobility](#) to implement their projects in another Creative Europe country. With a total budget of more than €5 million, most successful applicants came from Germany, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Belgium and Portugal. From outside the EU, applicants from Ukraine, Serbia and Norway were the most successful. Applications from visual arts, music and performing arts represent almost 80% of selected projects, but the share of successful applications from design and fashion design, cultural heritage, architecture and literature is growing. Successful applicants in literature and architecture increased in particular: they almost doubled their share from the previous edition.

Canada joins Horizon Europe programme

3 Jul: The agreement that gives Canadian researchers and organisations the opportunity to participate in the programme on equal terms with their EU counterparts was signed. Canada is joining the growing group of non-EU countries who have associated to the EU's research and innovation programme, Horizon Europe, and will work jointly on large-scale projects. [Canada associates to the Pillar II of Horizon Europe](#), which funds collaborative research projects across a wide range of domains. Canadian entities can now join and lead research consortia and will get the opportunity to be funded directly from the programme, while Canada will contribute to its budget.

Council of Europe

13th session of Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP)

The [13th session](#) will be held 19-21 November 2024 in Strasbourg. The agenda is not available yet.

Meeting of the Bureau of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP)

30 May: [The meeting of the Bureau](#) was held in Bucharest at the invitation of the Romanian National Institute for Cultural Research and Training. The meeting provided a platform for discussion about the importance of the policies, strategies and good practices of the Council of Europe for promoting the role of culture in a democratic society.

12th Conference on the Council of Europe Landscape Convention

30 Mar: Following the priorities established by the Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe at their 4th Summit (Reykjavík, 2023) and the relaunch of the cooperation activities between the Parties to the European Landscape Convention in Jan 24, the [12th Conference on the Convention](#) will enable the representatives of the States Parties to strengthen their co-operation in the light of the Organisation's new objectives in the field of human rights and the environment. At their meeting, the States' representatives will be invited to discuss the future programme of activities, taking into account the Reykjavík Declaration, the decisions of the Council of Europe's Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape and its terms of reference, as established by the Committee of Ministers.

Nicosia Convention: Event on the fight against offences relating to cultural property

21 Jun: In 2017, the Council of Europe opened for signature the Convention on Offences relating to Cultural Property, known as the Nicosia Convention, which entered into force on 1 April 2022. The meeting of Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe, held in 2023 in Reykjavik, included in its Declaration considerations closely related to the Nicosia Convention: protection of cultural heritage, the right of children to enjoy their own culture and the fight against organised crime. Additionally, in 2024 the 70th anniversary of the European Cultural Convention of the Council of Europe is being celebrated, a cultural pillar aimed at safeguarding the common cultural heritage of Europe and promoting dialogue and mutual understanding. In this context, the Council of Europe organised an [international event in June in Zaragoza](#), to exchange good practice and strengthen national and international co-operation networks and thus increase the level of protection of world cultural heritage.

Funding and investments

Budgets and programmes

Multiannual Financial framework (MFF)

The multiannual financial framework for 2021-2027 was implemented January 2021. €1.074 trillion is available for beneficiaries of EU funding during these seven years. Find out how the EU distributes the budget of the [Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027](#) - here you can see how much is allocated to each programme.

Please consult the sources provided to check details of calls, as they may change.

Creative Europe

Creative Europe 2024 work programme

The [2024 Creative Europe Work Programme](#) comes with a budget of more than €320 million. Creative Europe remains committed to addressing the evolving needs of the cultural and creative sectors. The focus of the programme is still the support of the sectors after the COVID-19 crisis and the repercussions of the war in Ukraine. Transitioning the sectors towards sustainability and inclusiveness is also a priority.

Creative Europe 2025-2027

15 Jul: The European Commission draft annual budget proposal for 2025 allocates [€352 million for the Creative Europe Programme](#), representing a 5.2% increase from last year. The budget breakdown includes €108 million for the Culture strand, €189.7 million for the Media strand, €29.3 million for the Cross-sectoral strand, and €25.2 million for support expenditures including the relevant budget of the European Education and Culture Executive Agency. Looking ahead, the financial programming for the final two years of the current Creative Europe iteration (2026-2027) shows an estimated budget of approximately €250 million each year, which is lower than previous periods.

Open Calls:

14 Sep 23: The [Annual Work Programme for Creative Europe](#) confirmed that there will be no open call for large-scale cooperation projects in 2024, and that open calls will be announced once in every two years.

Forthcoming calls:

[Culture Moves Europe](#): new rolling call for individual mobility of artists and cultural professionals will be open from 1 Aug - 30 Nov 2024.

JPI on Cultural Heritage and Global Change

14 Jun: The European Research Infrastructure for Heritage Science ([E-RIHS](#)) and the Joint Programming Initiative on Cultural Heritage and Global Change ([JPI CH](#)) announced the signing of a [Memorandum of Understanding \(MoU\)](#) that marks a significant step forward in their collaboration. This agreement underscores the commitment of both initiatives to strengthen their collaboration, set the stage for expanded research opportunities, and advance innovation for transmitting heritage to future generations while addressing the challenges of climate change and ensuring sustainability. Building on a history of long-standing institutional collaboration, the MoU reflects the joint efforts of E-RIHS and JPI CH at both European and national levels. Notable collaborations include E-RIHS serving as vice-chair in the JPI CH Advisory and Scientific Board (ASB) and the participation of several E-RIHS partner institutions in the Alliance for Research on Cultural Heritage in Europe (ARCHE), which paves the way for the European Partnership on Resilient Cultural Heritage.

Open Calls:

There are no open calls.

Forthcoming calls:

There are no forthcoming calls.

Horizon Europe

Horizon Europe is the EU's key funding programme for 2021-27 for research and innovation with a budget of €95.5 billion. It tackles climate change, helps to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and boosts the EU's competitiveness and growth. The Horizon Europe programme is structured around three pillars, divided into specific subjects: Pillar I: Excellent Science; Pillar II: Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness, including cluster Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society; Pillar III: Innovative Europe. The full programme structure can be found [here](#).

Horizon Europe 2025-2027

Mar 24: The [second Horizon Europe strategic plan 2025-2027](#) was issued. The strategic plan sets out 3 strategic orientations for research and innovation investment: Green transition, Digital transition, A more resilient, competitive, inclusive and democratic Europe. The strategic plan raises the ambition of Horizon Europe on biodiversity and commits to a target of 10% of Horizon Europe's total budget 2025-2027 being dedicated to biodiversity-related topics. This new commitment complements existing targets for climate expenditure (35% over the lifetime of Horizon Europe) and main digital activities (€13 billion over the same period).

19 Jul: The European Commission draft annual budget proposal for 2025 allocates [€12.7 billion for Horizon Europe](#).

Open Calls:

A European Collaborative Cloud for Cultural Heritage: various proposals, all deadline **22 January 2025**.

[Innovative tools for advanced data enrichment](#) HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-ECCCH-01-03

[Innovative tools for documenting, interlinking and organising data](#) HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-ECCCH-01-02

[Innovative tools for the study, conservation and restoration of heritage objects](#) HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-ECCCH-01-05

[Innovative tools for high-value interactions with visitors and heritage objects](#) HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-ECCCH-01-04

[Innovative tools for digitisation and analysis of dynamic processes, objects and complex combined data](#)
HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-ECCCH-01-01

[Science for Community – Building the marine Citizen Science data network of the future to valorise data coming from the ocean and increase engagement](#)

HORIZON-MISS-2024-OCEAN-01-04. Deadline **18 Sept 2024**

Forthcoming Calls:

There are no forthcoming calls.

UK participation in Horizon Europe: The UK agreed a deal to associate to Horizon Europe on 7 September 2023. All calls in Work Programme 2024 will be covered by association. The 'Horizon Europe guarantee' scheme provides funding to researchers and innovators who were unable to receive their Horizon Europe funding while the UK was in the process of associating. UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) is delivering the funding through its grant systems on behalf of the Department for Science, Innovation & Technology (DSIT).

European Research Council

9 Jul: The [2025 Work Programme of the ERC](#) was adopted. More than €2.7 billion will be available for research grants in the coming year. This includes contributions from the countries associated to Horizon Europe. In addition, EU countries can allocate resources from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) to help the ERC fund proposals rated as excellent, but which cannot be funded due to budget constraints. These grants must however remain hosted at an institution in the country which contributes their ERDF funds. Indicative summary of calls here.

Open calls:

Call for Proposals for ERC Advanced Grant (ERC-2024-ADG) Deadline **29 August 2024**

ERC Proof of concept grants ERC-2024-POC. Deadline **17 Sept 2024**

Call for Proposals for ERC Starting Grant (ERC-2025-STG) Deadline **15 October 2024**

Call for proposals for ERC Synergy Grant (ERC-2025-SyG) Deadline **6 November 2024**

Swiss participation: 4 Jul: Three of the ERC's grant competitions for the forthcoming ERC work programme 2025 (Starting Grant, Consolidator Grant and Synergy Grant) will be open to researchers based in Swiss entities, as "entities established in Associated Countries". The European Commission's decision on eligibility for ERC calls has been taken in the context of the ongoing negotiations between the EU and Switzerland on a broad package of measures, which includes Switzerland's association to Union Programmes such as Horizon Europe. The decision goes beyond what the Commission committed to in the Common Understanding and is a clear sign of a goodwill in the negotiation process.

Digital Europe

The Digital Europe Programme is the first EU programme that aims to accelerate the recovery and drive the digital transformation of Europe. Worth €7.6 billion, the Programme is a part of the next long-term EU budget, (the Multiannual Financial Framework), covering 2021-2027. It will provide funding for projects in five crucial areas: supercomputing, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, advanced digital skills, and ensuring the wide use of digital technologies across the economy and society. The Digital Europe Programme will complement the funding available through other EU programmes, such as the

Horizon Europe programme for research and innovation and the Connecting Europe Facility for digital infrastructure, the Recovery and Resilience Facility and the Structural funds.

Open calls:

There are no open calls with direct cultural heritage relevance.

Forthcoming calls:

Further calls under the 2023-2024 Work Programme will be published later this year.

Post-2020 European Territorial Cooperation Programmes (INTERREG)

Interreg programmes for the 2021-2027 period were agreed in January 2022. Interreg funds projects that bring together policy organisations from across Europe. For four years, they learn from each other and work together on a shared policy issue. The lessons they learn lead to the improvement of regional policies and a more sustainable economic, social and environmental impact on the ground for the people and the place they serve.

Open calls:

There are no open calls.

Results from the [third call for proposals](#) are expected in **December 2024**.

The Citizenship, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV)

Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV): EU program 2021-2027

18 Jul: CERV multiannual work [programme for 2023-2025: Actions in 2025](#) were published. The (CERV) programme continues to address the policy priorities set under its four strands as for 2023 and 2024. The budget breakdown for 2025 is just under €225 million.

Open calls (relevant only):

[Call for proposals for Town Twinning \(CERV-2024-CITIZENS-TOWN-TT\)](#) Deadline **19 September 2024**

The indicative schedule for 2025 calls has not been published yet.

Erasmus+

Open Calls:

There are no open calls with direct cultural heritage relevance.

The 2025 call will open in **November 2024**, with deadlines in February 2025.

UK participation: The UK has opted not to take part as an associated third country in the Erasmus+ programme 2021-27. All projects in the 2014-2020 programme will continue until their completion on the same basis under which they were selected. A limited number of opportunities from 2021 onwards will remain open to UK participation because they are open to institutions or individuals from all over the world.

Other calls

Call for applications: European Expert Network on Culture

22 Jul: The EC seeks to establish a new [European Expert Network on Culture](#) (EENC), a high-quality network of independent experts to support the Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport, and Culture (DG EAC) on policy development in the field of culture. The EENC's expertise will cover subjects such as the impact of climate change on cultural heritage, the effects of AI and the precarious working conditions of artists. The network will be called to advise and support the European Commission in the preparation and analysis of cultural policies as well as in promoting culture across relevant EU policies,

ensuring that cultural considerations are integrated into other relevant EU policies, with their implications at national, regional and European level. The network is expected to operate for 48 months. Tenders should be submitted by **23 September**.

Consultation: Creative Europe Programme

31 May: The European Commission has opened a public consultation to collect feedback from everyone, in addition to the organisations and individuals directly involved in or benefiting from the Creative Europe programme. [The consultation is open](#) until **6 September 2024**.

Consultation: Digital Europe Programme

27 Jun: The Commission has launched a stakeholder consultation on the Digital Europe Programme (DIGITAL). The consultation seeks to gain insights into the needs of stakeholders related to the digital transformation, DIGITAL's benefits and possible improvements. The feedback received will inform reflections on possible improvements within DIGITAL, as well as help guide design of future initiatives. [The consultation is open](#) until **20 September 2024**.

European Commission seeks partner to run structured dialogue on cultural policy

3 Jul: The European Commission is looking for an organisation to run the new [structured dialogue with civil society on cultural policy from 2025 to 2028](#). The structured dialogue aims to foster regular and structured exchanges between the European Commission and relevant cultural and creative stakeholders. Ultimately, this dialogue is intended to provide significant insights and recommendations to the Commission, thereby contributing to policy development processes and supporting the cultural sector in adapting to new challenges. The deadline for applications is **6 September 2024**.

Call for nominations: Religious Heritage Innovator of the Year 2024

18 Jun: The [competition celebrates and promotes excellence in the field of religious heritage](#). Each edition of the award recognises five projects that contribute significantly to the understanding, enhancement, safeguarding and promotion of religious places, objects and traditions. Entries to the competition are evaluated by a jury of experts in diverse disciplines related to cultural heritage. The evaluation criteria are based on the five pillars of the European Commission's [Framework for Action on Cultural Heritage](#): inclusion, sustainability, resilience, innovation and cooperation. Deadline for applications is **30 Sept 2024**.

Call for nominations: 7 Most Endangered Heritage Sites 2025

The 2025 edition of the [7 Most Endangered Programme](#) invites nominations of heritage endangered by current or projected climate change hazards. Nominations of heritage endangered by both slow onset events (sea level rise, changing seasonality) and rapid onset events (wildfires, extreme flooding) are welcomed, as well as those impacted by the significant crises prevailing on our continent, including conflicts, post-conflict environments, and natural disasters. Considering the imperative for Europe to uphold its core values – human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, rule of law, citizens' participation and other human rights – particularly in the current political climate in the EU and its neighbouring countries, we also welcome nominations of heritage sites that have been adversely affected by any form of violation of these values. Deadline for applications is **15 Sept 2024**.

European Capitals of Culture

Consultation: 18 Jun: The Commission has opened a public consultation to seek feedback from all stakeholders involved in the implementation, management, and delivery of the European Capital of Culture (ECoC) action as well as from the wider public who are either interested or participate in culture. This is part of the first interim evaluation of the 2020-33 programme. [The consultation is open](#) until **24 September 2024**.

Call for applications: for the [2030 European Capital of Culture](#) title for cities in EFTA/EEA countries, in candidate countries and in potential candidates for EU membership. Deadline **6 Oct 2024**

Call to establish a pool of experts to the Panel for the European Capital of Culture Action

The European Commission invites interested experts to apply for this open call for expressions of interest for the establishment of a pool of experts for potential members of the panel of experts for the European Union action European Capital of Culture. Applicants should submit their expression of interest through the [online form on EU Survey](#) at the latest 3 months before the list expires, on 31/12/2027.

Helpful Sources on European Funding

[CulturEU](#) funding guide covers opportunities linked to the European Commission's flagship programme Creative Europe, as well as a wide spectrum of around 20 other EU funding programmes, from Digital Europe to LIFE and EU Structural Funds.

'[How to communicate your project](#)' guide intended for beneficiaries of Erasmus+, European Solidarity Corps and Creative Europe programmes.

Events and Calls for Papers

Registration: 2024 Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists (EAA)

The [30th EAA Annual Meeting](#) will be held [28-31 August 2023](#) in Rome, Italy, and online. The concept of the meeting is 'Persisting with Change', and the themes are: the material record; archaeological science, humanities and the digital age; archaeological heritage in society; theory and archaeological scrutiny; all road lead to Rome, multiscalar interactions; the Mediterranean from within; archaeology of sustainability. The EAC is delighted to be chairing a session [592] on Decision-making and Assessing and Articulating Archaeological Significance. The programme is available, and registration is open now.

ICOMOS Workshop Series on Heritage Impact Assessment

17 Jul: ICOMOS is organising a workshop series on "[Capacity building for Heritage Impact Assessment in a World Heritage Context](#)" to provide guidance for members of ICOMOS National Committees, starting this September with ICOMOS Austria. The first ICOMOS National Committee to benefit from the workshop will be ICOMOS Austria in September 2024.

18th annual EHHF meeting

The [18th edition of the Forum](#) is scheduled for May 2025, under the Polish presidency of the Troika. The members will meet in Krakow, Poland, for a meeting whose theme and programme will be announced shortly. Attendance by invitation only.

2024 European Heritage Days: Heritage of Routes, Networks and Connections

This year's edition of the European Heritage Days takes place 14-15 Sep 2024. The theme is: [Heritage of Routes, Networks and Connections](#). Society is built on networks that have allowed for exchanges in trade, religious beliefs, scientific knowledge, technological innovations, and shared cultural and artistic practices. Ancient routes, cities or villages, business establishments, religious buildings, post houses, towers, fortifications, and many other elements of our built environment are evidence of these exchanges. This theme is an opportunity to again travel these roads, routes and paths of history to discover what we can learn from them today. It is a chance to explore how our local heritage is connected to a wide variety of influences. The [8 European Heritage Days Stories awarded grants](#) in 2024 can also be found here.

E-RIHS: Celebrating 20 Years of Access to Cutting-Edge Facilities in Heritage Science

On [24 September 2024](#), the [European Research Infrastructure for Heritage Science](#) Implementation Phase project (E-RIHS IP) will hold a public event at the Manifattura Tabacchi in [Florence](#) to celebrate 20 years of E-RIHS activity. The public event is organized at the future headquarters of the European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC). Attendees will have the opportunity to engage with leading experts in heritage science, network with key stakeholders, and explore future perspectives designed to enhance E-RIHS's global impact. The event will provide valuable insights into cutting-edge developments and collaborative efforts that will shape the future of E-RIHS.

European Cultural Heritage Summit 2024

8 Apr: The [European Cultural Heritage Summit 2024](#) will take place in [Bucharest, Romania](#), from [6-8 October](#). This year's Summit is organised by Europa Nostra, in the frame of the network project European Cultural Heritage Agora co-funded by the European Union, in close cooperation with the Romanian cultural heritage organisations and partners.

10th European Conference on Sustainable Cities and Towns

The [10th edition of the ESCT](#) will be hosted by the City of [Aalborg \(Denmark\)](#) on [1-3 October 2024](#). Over 800 participants from local and regional governments, European and international institutions, multilateral organisations, the research community, businesses, and civil society will be present.

29th CHNT-ICOMOS Annual Conference

The annual conference on [Cultural Heritage and New Technologies](#) will take place in Vienna, 4-6 Nov 2024 and online. Registration is now open.

The European Association for Heritage Interpretation Conference 2025

The [Interpret Europe conference 2025](#) will take place 11-14 April, Sulejówek (Poland), on the theme Heroes, anti-heroes and villains: How we (re)create, use and dismantle them.

Call for sessions: 52nd International Conference on Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods in Archaeology (CAA)

The [52nd International CAA Conference](#) will be held in Athens, Greece, from 5 to 9 May 2025. Proposals are invited for sessions on any aspect of computer applications or quantitative methods in archaeology. Sessions engaging with the theme "Digital Horizons: Embracing Heritage in an Evolving World" to discuss the current state of the field are warmly encouraged. The CAA2025 call for sessions will be open until 8th September 2024.

Resources and Publications

Please find below a list of publications and resources on culture and cultural heritage related topics that have been published in the past months by EU and Council of Europe organs, UNESCO and European networks and projects.

The European Archaeological Council is pleased to announce the release of a [new set of guidelines](#), designed to support its members and others in the management of archaeological heritage. They are:

[The Benefits of Development-led Archaeology](#) (EAC Guidance 4, 2024) and case studies [The Benefits of Development-led Archaeology in Europe and Beyond](#) (EAC Guidance 5, 2024)

[Revisiting the Valletta Convention for the Digital Age: Position statement on archiving primary archaeological data](#) (EAC Guidance 6, 2024)

[The Value of Developing a Research Framework](#) (EAC Guidance 7, 2024)

More guidance will follow later this year.

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The [EAA Book Prize shortlist 2024](#) has been announced, find it here.

[ICOMOS 2023 Annual Report](#) (ICOMOS 2024) available in English and French

[CULT Committee Activity Report 2019-2024](#) (CULT Committee 2024)

[Eurocities Pulse Mayors Survey 2024](#)

[ERC dashboard](#): interactive tool that features data on ERC funded projects and evaluated proposals. The tool allows users to access project details with the help of filters, to generate statistics and to export data in different formats.

[TEH: Building a Cultural Regeneration Project for Europe](#) (Trans Europe Halles 2024)

[Building Networks: Exchange of Knowledge, Ideas and Materials in Medieval and Post-Medieval Europe](#) Bouwmeester, Patrick, Berryman (EAA 2024)

Other updates

UKRAINE

A wide range of organisations have issued statements and launched initiatives to support Ukraine and its cultural heritage. A (non-exhaustive) list:

- Second phase of Europa Nostra and Global Heritage Fund's [crowdfunding campaign](#) to support the defenders of Ukraine's endangered heritage
- [Polish Support Center for Culture in Ukraine](#): the task of the Center is to coordinate support to save the Ukrainian cultural heritage threatened by hostilities.

- The [Working Group of the Europeana Initiative](#) is open to anyone who would like to volunteer their efforts to support Ukraine's cultural heritage sector and our Ukrainian colleagues.
- [EU supports Ukraine through culture.](#)
- European Parliament: [Russia's war on Ukraine's cultural heritage](#)
- Council of Europe: [War in Ukraine.](#)
- Statements by [UNESCO](#), [ERC Scientific Council](#), [Europa Nostra](#), [ICOMOS](#), [ICOMOS Europe Group](#), [Europeana Foundation](#), [ENCATC](#), [JPI CH](#), [Libraries for Ukraine](#), [EESC](#)
- ICOMOS: [Resources for individual Ukrainian professionals, scholars or students in the arts and the heritage field](#)
- Network of European Museum Organisations: [Museums support Ukraine-](#) resources.
- Culture Action Europe: [#CultureForUkraine-](#) resources
- ERC for Ukraine: [jobs for researchers fleeing Ukraine.](#)
- [SUM- Save the Ukraine Monuments-](#) project to save digital documentation of Ukrainian cultural heritage.

First National Team of Cultural First Aiders to support Cultural Recovery in Ukraine

22 Jul: In an effort to protect Ukraine's endangered cultural heritage, [ICCROM's First Aid and Resilience for Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis](#) (FAR) programme has trained 23 heritage professionals from 11 oblasts, establishing Ukraine's first national team of cultural first aiders, ready to recover and safeguard the nation's invaluable heritage amid the ongoing armed conflict. This blended training is part of the "Enhancing Capacities in Ukraine for Cultural Heritage First Aid and Recovery Planning" project, conceived with the generous support of the European Commission Directorate-General of Education, Youth, Sport, and Culture (DG EAC) and implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture and Information Policy of Ukraine (MoCIP), the Agency for Cultural Resilience (ACURE), Maidan Museum, and the Heritage Emergency Response Initiative (HERI).

UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF)

27 Jul: The HLPF, the main UN conference dedicated to tracking the progress of the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), was held from 8-17 July 2024 in New York. The theme was "[Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions](#)". The current status report from the UN Secretary General notes that more than halfway through the implementation period, only 17% of the targets set have been achieved.

UN Summit of the Future and Culture2030Goal

Jun 24: In September, world leaders will convene at the United Nations for the [Summit of the Future](#), a high-level event intending to forge a new international consensus on how to deliver a better present and safeguard the future. It will adopt the Pact for the Future, which will include a Global Digital Compact and a Declaration on Future Generations as annexes. The [Culture2030Goal campaign](#) has advocated for a stand-alone culture goal for many years and in anticipation of the Summit of the Future, for the unequivocal integration of culture in the Pact for the Future. It therefore welcomes the progress in mobilising culture to achieve development goals in latest Pact for the Future draft, in particular the proposed Action 7 ("We will protect and promote culture as an integral component of sustainable development").

Culture Deal for Europe partners issue call for strong EU culture portfolio

15 Jul: Following the European elections 2024, the partners of the Cultural Deal for Europe, namely Culture Action Europe, Europa Nostra and the European Cultural Foundation, called on EU decision-makers to ensure that culture and cultural heritage are visibly included in the next European Commission's priorities and in the portfolio of the next European Commissioner for Culture. A [draft mission letter was issued](#), outlining the main priorities and principles of his/her portfolio. The proposed mission letter reflects the vision and the ambition of the very large number and wide variety of stakeholders that are active in the field of culture and cultural heritage and which jointly call for a Cultural Deal for Europe.

European Heritage Hub: second policy review

22 Jul: The European Heritage Hub has published its second Policy Review, based on the findings of the Policy Monitor. This thematic review examines trends on digital policies identified in the Policy Monitor up to July 2024. Launched in early March 2024, the Policy Monitor maps out policies impacting cultural and natural heritage at all levels, aiming to analyse, observe trends, and identify gaps across

the policy and regulatory environment. The second [Policy Review highlights key digital policies](#) implemented at EU level that may impact directly or indirectly the work of cultural professionals. It also considers examples of national policies that contribute to improving the digital preservation of cultural heritage as well as providing increased access for audiences.

European Heritage Hub funds civil society projects in EU neighbouring countries

25 Jun: The European Heritage Hub, a pilot project co-funded by the EU connecting heritage stakeholders across Europe, has selected [14 heritage projects](#) across 11 EU neighbouring countries for its Small Grants Scheme, allocating a total of around 250,000 EUR. The Small Grants Scheme supports civil society-led heritage projects in EU neighbouring countries, aimed at enhancing their capacity to respond to Europe's green, digital, and social transformation, as well as fostering peace, stability, reconciliation, and intercultural and interreligious dialogue.

ECHOES project for European Collaborative Cloud for Cultural Heritage (ECCCH) launched

1 Jun: Funded under the Horizon Europe program, the ECCCH has been allocated a budget of €110 million until 2025, marking the largest investment ever made in Europe for a cultural heritage initiative. The [European Cloud for Heritage OpEn Science \(ECHOES\)](#) project, led by the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), won the Horizon Europe 2023 call to develop the core infrastructure and governance model of the ECCCH. ECHOES has been awarded €25 million for five years of work (Jun 2024 – 2029). The ECHOES project aims to establish a shared platform for heritage professionals and researchers to access data, innovative scientific and training resources and advanced digital tools co-developed by the cultural heritage community. At the end of the project, ECHOES will deliver a single platform to integrate results of EU and national projects on ECCCH, which will be sustainable thanks to its inclusive legal entity, which will be created before the end of ECHOES.

Paris 2024 Olympics opening ceremony

26 Jul: The [Paris 2024 Opening Ceremony](#) saw more than 10,000 athletes, officials and artists sail from the east bank to the west bank of the Seine and perform on the surrounding bridges and monuments. The opening ceremony was unusual in that it was not held in a stadium, but in the heart of the city, on a site that was inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 1991: the banks of the Seine.

46th session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee

21-31 Jul: UNESCO's World Heritage Committee holds its 46th session in New Delhi (India). Among other things, it will examine the proposals of 28 sites for inscription on the World Heritage List, and the state of conservation of 123 sites already inscribed on the World Heritage List, and on the List of World Heritage in Danger. [Full list of proposals can be found here.](#)

ChemiNova project: deterioration of Europe's cultural heritage due to climate change and wars

Jul 24: [ChemiNova is a Horizon Europe initiative](#) (Feb 2024 - Jan 2027), aiming to develop an intelligent computational system that goes beyond current technologies to address the structural and chemical damage to European monuments and heritage collections caused by two specific human-made threats, climate change and civil conflicts. The project will develop augmented reality tools and software for 3D modelling which allows conservation experts to remotely study and assess the state of cultural heritage. AI-based technology will be developed to automatically produce chemical and structural damage characterization, allowing professionals and others an easy-to-use method to infer information based on the reutilization of commonly and widely used devices such as cell phones. The concept is based on an immersive experience that directly connects people with cultural heritage and the impact of climate change and the effects of war. Through simple on-site or digital interactions, the public will be able to directly explore data and narrations about places and objects. Four pilot tests have been selected in different European countries to collect the necessary data to train the AI model.

2024 European Heritage Awards winners

23 May: [26 outstanding heritage achievements from 18 countries](#) have been awarded Europe's top honour in the field. Organisations and individuals from 38 European countries submitted a total of 206 eligible applications. These were evaluated first by dedicated selection committees and then, the awards' jury, composed by 12 European experts made the final selection. 22 outstanding projects from EU Member States and countries associated to the Creative Europe programme received a European Heritage Award. In addition, four projects from the United Kingdom were awarded the Europa Nostra Award.

Bibracte exploits the potential of 3D digitisation

12 Jun: The [EUreka3D project](#) aims to make Europe's heritage freely available to the public in 3D by equipping research establishments with a suite of tools for producing, managing and exploiting digital data. Eureka3D is developing an online platform that allows for the uploading, management and data mapping of 3D objects, including their metadata and paradata. It will be available by September 2024. Bibracte, a 1st century oppidum site in France, is digitising 400 archaeological artefacts in 3D as part of the Eureka3D project. At Bibracte, the interest in 3D digitisation is around creating theoretical models of

objects that enable visualisation of the mathematical properties of an object. These properties would give dimensions of the 'standard' or 'ideal' object, i.e. the 'standard' chair or 'standard' vase dimensions. This in turn enables recognition in where there are deviations in vase types, or how new types of objects develop. It also allows us to find exactly where a small piece of an object, like a broken vase, would fit into the larger object.

AI4Culture: Close Encounters with AI- an interview on Computer-Assisted Translation

24 Jul: [What are the benefits and challenges of Computer-Assisted Translation \(CAT\) Tools?](#) Ángeles García, Pangeanic Machine Learning Project Director, explains what their CAT tool is and how it will be made available for cultural heritage institutions.

