

# European affairs update

January 2018

Joint initiative of European Archaeological Council (EAC) and European Association of Archaeologists (EAA)  
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- 2018 is the European Year of Cultural Heritage (EYCH 2018) [europa.eu/cultural-heritage](http://europa.eu/cultural-heritage)
- Presidency Council of the European Union Jan-Jun 2018: **Bulgaria** [eu2018bg.bg](http://eu2018bg.bg)
- Committee of Ministers (CoE) chairmanship Nov 2017-May 2018: **Denmark** [www.coe.int/en/web/chairmanship/home](http://www.coe.int/en/web/chairmanship/home)
- European Capitals of Culture 2018: **Valletta (Malta)** [valletta2018.org](http://valletta2018.org) and **Leeuwarden (The Netherlands)** [www.friesland.nl/en/european-capital-of-culture](http://www.friesland.nl/en/european-capital-of-culture)

## Policy

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### EUROPEAN UNION

#### EU leaders adopt Conclusions on education and culture

At its [meeting on 14 December 2017](#), the European Council (comprising heads of state or government of EU member States) adopted [Conclusions](#) on several topics, among which education and culture. The EU leaders agreed to do more in the field of education and culture and emphasised that both domains are key to building inclusive and cohesive societies, and to sustaining competitiveness. The European Year of Cultural Heritage is mentioned as an opportunity to increase awareness of the social and economic importance of culture and cultural heritage. The Conclusions are a follow-up to a [debate on education and culture](#) that was held on 17 November as part of the [Leaders' Agenda](#) in the margins of the Social Summit in Gothenburg. In advance of the meeting, the Commission had set out its position on the (short term and long term) ambitions for the future in a [Communication on Strengthening European Identity through Education and Culture](#). Along with the Communication, the Commission had also prepared [policy suggestions and several factsheets](#), including one on [Culture as a driver for EU unity](#). Under the possible initiatives with a 2025 perspective, the factsheet mentions a long-term EU Action Plan for Cultural Heritage as a possible legacy of the EYCH 2018.

#### Council Conclusions on promoting access to culture via digital means with a focus on audience development

The Council of the EU recently adopted [Conclusions on promoting access to culture via digital means](#). The topic is part of one of the priority areas outlined in the [Work Plan for Culture 2015-2018](#). An OMC-Group already produced a [report on this specific topic](#) and a [study on audience development](#) was commissioned by the Commission's DG EAC. The Conclusions address both the opportunities and challenges of the digital shift for cultural organisations, especially in terms of better targeting existing audiences and reaching new ones. Member States are encouraged to exchange knowledge and best practices between different stakeholders regarding innovative digital approaches to audience development. The Council also invites member States to consider the topic when designing a new Council Work Plan for Culture.

#### Start of the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018

The [European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018](#) was kicked off in Milan on 7 December at the [European Culture Forum](#). With the slogan 'Our heritage: Where the past meets the future', Europe will celebrate its diverse cultural heritage in 2018. A series of initiatives and events across Europe will invite people to experience, appreciate, and enjoy cultural heritage. Specific attention will be paid to topics such as education and youth, the contribution of cultural heritage to sustainable economic and social development, and innovative approaches in heritage management. For a short and non-exhaustive list of Europe-wide events and initiatives, please see the list below:

- To make sure that the Year will have an impact beyond 2018, the Commission will initiate long-term projects around [10 central themes](#). These projects will be implemented in collaboration with partners such as the Council of Europe and UNESCO. For more information, see the [draft descriptions of the initiatives](#).

- An EYCH 2018 label is available for activities, events and projects which contribute to one or more of the objectives of the Year, as outlined in the [Decision on the Year](#). More information about the label and the application process is available on [this page](#).
- A [special Eurobarometer survey](#) has been conducted within the context of the EYCH 2018. The survey assesses the attitudes and opinions of Europeans about cultural heritage. It also looks into the perceptions of the impact of cultural heritage on tourism and jobs, and responsibilities when it comes to protecting heritage in Europe. The findings have been included in a [report for the whole EU](#) and in separate [factsheets](#) summarising the results for each of the 28 EU member States.
- The Istituto Italiano di Cultura has published a [special edition of CARTADITALIA dedicated to the EYCH 2018](#) (edited by Professor Pier Luigi Sacco). The special edition comprises two volumes with 25 contributions from scholars and experts who tackle a variety of critical issues relating to cultural heritage.
- The Commission organises a high-level [Horizon 2020 conference on the topic 'Innovation and Cultural Heritage'](#). It will showcase the dialogue between contemporary European society and the most promising innovations in the field of cultural heritage that European policies and funds have supported. The conference will take place on 20 March 2018 in Brussels, Belgium.
- The Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU organises, in collaboration with the Commission, a [conference on the topic 'Cultural heritage: for a more sustainable Europe'](#). It will promote and discuss cultural heritage as an important instrument for achieving a united Europe that guarantees peace, security, freedom and prosperity for its citizens. The conference will take place on 26-27 March 2018 in Plovdiv, Bulgaria.
- The 2018 edition of the European Economic and Social Committee's [annual youth event 'Your Europe, Your Say!'](#) will be connected to the EYCH. The young participants are invited to share their opinions on the best way to engage European youth in the protection and promotion of Europe's cultural heritage.
- More information about the Year and the events can be found on the [central website](#). For a quick overview of the Year and its background, see this ['Spotlight on' document](#) or the [factsheet](#) prepared by the Commission.
- Links to the national EYCH websites can be found [here](#).

## COUNCIL OF EUROPE

### **New governance model for Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends**

The [Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends](#) has been run and edited by the Council of Europe and the ERICarts Institute since 1998. In 2015, the involved stakeholders started a consultation process to rethink the future of the Compendium, including its desired content and the legal and financial options. It was decided that the responsibilities for the Compendium should be transferred to a new Compendium Association with an open, multi-stakeholder governance. This new structure enables more stakeholders and specialists in the field of culture to play a role in the Compendium's development. The new Association has been set up in October and should be fully operational early this year. Compendium Association membership is open to governments of Council of Europe member States, research bodies and universities, NGOs and foundations (etc.), either as Stakeholders or Standing Members. More information about the Compendium Association is available on [this CoE page](#) and the [Compendium website](#).

### **Faro Convention Meeting in Vilnius**

A [Faro Convention Meeting](#) took place in Vilnius, Lithuania from 15 to 16 November. The event explored different topics around a central theme: 'The Faro Convention Approach and Urban Regeneration'. The Council of Europe organises these Faro Convention Meetings within the framework of the [Faro Convention Action Plan](#). They are organised at the invitation of a country to introduce the Convention, its principles and possible actions for implementation. Representatives from several member States presented their experiences with the ratification and implementation of the Faro Convention at the Vilnius Meeting. The presentations can be found [here](#).

## Funding and investments

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### PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS ON EU FUNDS

This year, the European Commission will present its proposals for the next generation of financial programmes for the post-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework. As a preparation, the Commission is currently running several consultations covering all domains of EU funding: [Cohesion policy](#); [Investment, research & innovation, SMEs and single market](#); [Security](#); [Values and mobility](#) (i.a. culture and arts); [Migration](#); [Strategic infrastructure](#). You can submit your response until 8 March 2018. All consultations can be found [here](#).

### CREATIVE EUROPE

The Creative Europe programme aims to support culture and audiovisual sectors in Europe and encourages players to operate across Europe, to reach new audiences and to seize the opportunities of the digital age and globalisation. Currently, no calls are open under the Culture sub-programme. The next call for [European Cooperation Projects](#) is expected in the second half of this year. For more information on other [funding opportunities](#) under the Creative Europe programme, you can consult the [annual work programme for 2018](#). Or contact one of the [National Creative Europe desks](#).

Extra info concerning Brexit: As part of the conclusion of the first stage of negotiations, the UK Government agreed a potential financial settlement with the EU that will enable the UK to continue to benefit from EU programmes, including Creative Europe. This means that UK organisations can continue to apply for calls until December 2020. For more information, see [this update](#) from Creative Europe Desk UK.

### **Cultural and Creative Sector Guarantee Facility**

The Guarantee Facility of the European Commission and the European Investment Fund (EIF) is part of the Creative Europe programme and supports SMEs in cultural and creative sectors. Financial intermediaries are already operating in Spain, France and Romania. For more information, see [this page](#).

### EUROPE FOR CITIZENS

The Europe for Citizens programme aims to strengthen remembrance and to enhance civic participation at EU level. Under the strand 'European remembrance' the programme promotes debate, reflection and cooperation in the field of European integration and remembrance. The 'Democratic engagement and civic participation' strand supports projects aimed at enhancing democratic participation, solidarity and involvement at EU level. [These are the priorities](#) for 2018-2020. Calls under both strands are now open until 1 March 2018. For more information on the supported activities and the time table, have a look at the updated [Programme Guide](#) (Jan 2018).

### ERASMUS+

Erasmus+ is the EU's programme to support education, training, youth and sport in Europe. The 2018 [call for proposals](#) supports several kinds of actions in education and training such as sector skills alliances and strategic partnerships. More information can be found in the 2018 [Programme Guide](#). For a few examples of heritage-related projects supported by Erasmus+, see [this page](#).

### JPI ON CULTURAL HERITAGE AND GLOBAL CHANGE

The [Joint Programming Initiative on Cultural Heritage and Global Change \(JPI CH\)](#) supports the alignment of cultural heritage research in Europe in order to avoid fragmentation and to maximize the efficiency and added-value of national investments. In 2016 the JPI CH launched [a new 4-year \(Horizon 2020\) project](#) which will support further alignment and joint activities. During this 4-year phase JPI CH will launch four complementary calls, each with a specific thematic focus. Two calls were completed in 2017. The results of the first call, which focused on digital heritage, can be found [here](#). A third call on identity and perception will probably open later this year. As part of the EYCH 2018, the JPI CH will also organise a Parade on 24-25 May 2018 to showcase JPI CH funded projects.

## HORIZON 2020

Horizon 2020 is the EU's main funding programme for research and innovation in Europe. It is a financial instrument implementing the Innovation Union, a Europe 2020 flagship initiative aimed at securing Europe's global competitiveness. The business and academic world are also challenged to come up with solutions and ideas to tackle societal issues that arise across Europe.

The Horizon 2020 programme is built around three pillars: Excellent Science, Industrial Leadership and Societal Challenges and some horizontal actions. Depending on your work area or research interest opportunities might be found under all pillars. Detailed information on calls can be found in the multiannual Work Programmes (see [WPs under sections](#)).

Recently, a search function for project partners was added to the [Participant Portal](#). It is now possible to look for partners directly in the context of individual call topics ([example](#), see Partner Search).

### Work Programmes 2018-2020

Relevant funding strands for heritage and culture in 2018 and 2019 include:

- **Excellent Science, Future and Emerging Technologies**
  - [FETFLAG-01-2018: Preparatory Actions for new FET Flagships](#). (Opening: 31 October 2017, deadline 1<sup>st</sup> stage: 20 February 2018, deadline 2<sup>nd</sup> stage: 18 September 2018)  
*Relevant topic in this call: 'ICT for Social Interaction and Culture'*
- **Excellent Science, Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions**
  - [MSCA-NIGHT-2018: European Researchers' Night](#). (Opening: 7 November 2017, deadline: 14 February 2018)  
*As 2018 is the European Year of Cultural Heritage, applicants are encouraged to include activities related to cultural heritage.*
- **Industrial Leadership, Leadership in Enabling and Industrial Technologies, Nanotechnologies, Advanced Materials, Biotechnology, and Advanced Manufacturing and Processing**
  - [NMBP-33-2018: Innovative and affordable solutions for the preventive conservation of cultural heritage \(IA\)](#). (Opening: 31 October 2017, deadline 1<sup>st</sup> stage: 23 January 2018, deadline 2<sup>nd</sup> stage: 28 June 2018)
- **Societal Challenges, SC5 Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials**
  - [LC-CLA-04-2018: Resilience and sustainable reconstruction of historic areas to cope with climate change and hazard events](#). (Opening: 7 November 2017, deadline 1<sup>st</sup> stage: 27 February 2018, deadline 2<sup>nd</sup> stage: 4 September 2018)
  - [SC5-19-2018: International network to promote cultural heritage innovation and diplomacy](#). (Opening: 7 November 2017, deadline: 27 February 2018)
  - [SC5-20-2019: Transforming historic urban areas and/or cultural landscapes into hubs of entrepreneurship and social and cultural integration](#). (Opening: 14 November 2018, deadline 1<sup>st</sup> stage: 19 February 2019, deadline 2<sup>nd</sup> stage: 4 September 2019)
  - [SC5-21-2019-2020: ERA-NET Cofund action\(s\) for climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials](#). (Opening: 14 November 2018, deadline: 19 February 2019)

[EASME](#) organised an Information day on Societal Challenge 5 'Climate Action, Environment, Resource Efficiency and Raw Materials' on 8 and 9 November 2017. Presentations are available on [this webpage](#).
- **Societal Challenges, SC6 Europe in a changing world – Inclusive, innovative and reflective societies**
  - [TRANSFORMATIONS-04-2019-2020: Innovative approaches to urban and regional development through cultural tourism](#). (Opening: 6 November 2018, deadline: 14 March 2019)
  - [TRANSFORMATIONS-06-2018: Inclusive and sustainable growth through cultural and](#)

- [creative industries and the arts](#). (Opening: 7 November 2017, deadline: 13 March 2018)
- [TRANSFORMATIONS-08-2019: The societal value of culture and the impact of cultural policies in Europe](#). (Opening: 6 November 2018, deadline: 14 March 2019)
- [SU-TRANSFORMATIONS-09-2018: Social platform on endangered cultural heritage and on illicit trafficking of cultural goods](#). (Opening: 7 November 2017, deadline: 13 March 2018)
- [DT-TRANSFORMATIONS-11-2019: Collaborative approaches to cultural heritage for social cohesion](#). (Opening: 6 November 2018, deadline: 14 March 2019)
- [DT-TRANSFORMATIONS-12-2018-2020: Curation of digital assets and advanced digitisation](#). (Opening: 7 November 2017, deadline: 13 March 2018)
- [DT-GOVERNANCE-13-2019: Digitisation, Digital Single Market and European culture: new challenges for creativity, intellectual property rights and copyrights](#). (Opening: 6 November 2018, deadline: 14 March 2019)

The European Commission and Net4Society organised an Information day on Societal Challenge 6 'Europe in a changing world - Inclusive, innovative and reflective societies' on 14 November 2017. Presentations are available on [this webpage](#).

### **Work Programmes 2016-2017**

Under the previous Work Programme period, the following call is still open:

- ***Societal Challenges, SC3 Secure, clean and efficient energy***
  - [LCE-Prize-PhotovoltaicsHistory-01-2016: Horizon prize for Integrated Photovoltaic System in European Protected Historic Urban districts](#). (Opening: 5 July 2016, deadline: 26 September 2018) For more information on this Horizon Prize, see [this webpage](#).

### **EUROPEAN TERRITORIAL COOPERATION (INTERREG V)**

[Interreg V 2014-2020 \(European Territorial Cooperation\)](#) is a framework for the implementation of joint actions and policy exchanges in Europe between national, regional and local actors from different member States. The framework is part of the Cohesion Policy and promotes innovation, a better environment and harmonious economic, social and territorial development of the Union as a whole. Interreg is built around three strands of cooperation: cross-border (Interreg A, 60 cooperation programmes), transnational (Interreg B, 15 cooperation programmes) and interregional (Interreg C, 4 cooperation programmes.). There are [11 thematic objectives](#) which guide the ERDF investments 2014-2020 of which Interreg is part. Conserving, protecting, promoting and developing natural and cultural heritage is one of the [investment priorities](#) (priority 6c).

Find the programme of your interest and its details [via this page](#).

### **Interreg Europe (former IVC)**

[Interreg Europe](#) helps regional and local governments across Europe to develop and deliver better policy. The programme facilitates exchange platforms and co-finances projects in which regional and local authorities (and other partners) can exchange good examples and ideas on public policy to improve the strategies for their citizens and communities. Specific objective 4.1 (see page 21-23 of [Programme Manual](#)) includes support to cultural heritage. A [fourth call for project proposals](#) will probably open in May 2018, with a deadline in June 2018. The details of the call will be published on the website soon. See [this page](#) for a few examples of Interreg Europe projects that are working on topics related to cultural heritage.

### **URBACT**

[URBACT](#) supports networks for cities to facilitate the exchange of good practices in the design and implementation of sustainable integrated urban policies. The programme supports three types of networks. Cultural heritage is one of the urban topics under URBACT. A new call for the creation of Action-Planning Networks is expected later this year (see Factsheet 2A, p.17-28 [Programme Manual](#)). More information will be made available on [this page](#).

## OTHER CALLS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- IPERION CH – [Call for proposals for Transnational Access \(TNA\) to its facilities: ARCHLAB, FIXLAB and MOLAB](#) (deadline: 15 February 2018)
- Europeana - [#edTech Challenge 2018 'Re-imagine education with culture and technology'](#) (deadline: 28 February 2018)
- Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO.nl) – [2018-2020 Creative Twinning Grant](#) (deadline: 31 August 2018)

## HELPFUL SOURCES ON EUROPEAN FUNDING

- [Mapping of Cultural Heritage actions in European Union policies, programmes and activities](#) (updated August 2017)
- [A Guide to EU Funding](#) (2017 edition)
- [MOOC Make the most of EU resources for your region or city](#) (offered by European Committee of the Regions)
- [Opportunities for Researchers from the Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities \(SSH\) in Horizon 2020](#) (Net4Society report)

## Events

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### **International Conference Urban Cultures Superdiversity and Intangible Heritage (15-16 February 2018, Utrecht, The Netherlands)**

This conference is organised within the framework of the EYCH 2018 and will include keynotes, case studies, presentations, shared experiences and interactive group discussions on intangible heritage in the age of superdiversity.

More information? See [this link](#).

### **CIVILSCAPE – Launch of European Decade of Cultural Landscapes (23-26 February 2018, Aschaffenburg, Germany)**

[CIVILSCAPE](#) will celebrate its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and a new initiative with a special event within the framework of the EYCH 2018. The reason to meet is not only looking back and to celebrate, but rather to look forward with a vision of the civil society towards the future developments of our landscapes.

More information? See [this link](#).

### **CoHERE workshop 'Education and Heritage in Multicultural Europe' (9 March 2018, Aarhus, Denmark)**

This workshop of the [CoHERE project](#) will investigate how European identity is shaped through formal and informal learning situations both in and outside the classroom.

More information? See [this link](#).

### **European Archaeological Council (EAC) Annual Meeting 2018 (22-24 March 2018, Sofia, Bulgaria)**

The next Annual Meeting of the EAC will be hosted by the National Archaeological Institute with Museum - Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (NAIM-BAS) at the Arena di Serdica Hotel in Sofia. The 19<sup>th</sup> Heritage Management Symposium will focus on the theme 'Development-led archaeology in Europe. Meeting the needs of archaeologists, developers and the public'. Registration is possible until 15 February 2018.

More information? See [this link](#).

### **Interpret Europe Conference 'Heritage and Identity' (23-26 March, Kőszeg, Hungary)**

Organised as part of the EYCH 2018, this year's Interpret Europe Conference will focus on different questions related to heritage and identity. EU Commissioner Tibor Navracsics will open the conference.

More information? See [this link](#).



### **Conference 'Promoting Cultural and Creative Industries: Maximising their Economic and Social Contribution in the EU' (27 March 2018, Brussels, Belgium)**

This conference is organised by Public Policy Exchange within framework of the EYCH 2018. It will evaluate recent initiatives and policy developments in the field of Cultural and Creative Industries, and present good practice and emerging challenges to the sector.

More information? See [this link](#).

### **International conference "Guardians of the contexts" - towards (more) responsible use of the European archaeological resources (5-6 April 2018, Ljubljana, Slovenia)**

This conference will focus on the legislation, strategies and principles for the inclusion of the amateur archaeologists and metal detectorists into the scientific research and heritage protection schemes, and consolidation of the legal framework and practical measures for the prevention of looting and illegal trade in antiquities. A call for papers is open until 15 February 2018.

More information? See [this link](#).

### **Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CifA) annual conference 'Pulling together: Collaboration, synthesis, innovation' (25-27 April 2018, Brighton, United Kingdom)**

The 2018 annual conference and training event of CifA aims to both challenge and illuminate, as well as showcasing how archaeologists can - or could - 'Pull together' to develop archaeology as a forward-looking and dynamic profession.

More information? See [this link](#).

### **Bulgarian Presidency Conference on Illegal Trafficking in Cultural Heritage (9 May 2018, Sofia, Bulgaria)**

The Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU will organise a thematic conference on illegal trafficking in cultural heritage. The conference will be followed by an [expert seminar](#) on this topic.

More information? See [this link](#).

### **European Cultural Heritage Summit 'Sharing heritage – Sharing values' (18-24 June 2018, Berlin, Germany)**

Europa Nostra, the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation (SPK) and the German Cultural Heritage Committee (DNK) are organising a European Cultural Heritage Summit as one of the key events of the EYCH 2018. The Summit will bring together a wide variety of heritage stakeholders in Europe. The core events of the programme are a policy debate on Europe and cultural heritage, the Heritage Excellence Fair and the European Heritage Awards Ceremony.

More information? See [this link](#).

### **European Association of Archaeologists (EAA) Annual Meeting 2018 (5-8 September 2018, Barcelona, Spain)**

The central theme of the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists will be 'Reflecting Futures'. The conference will facilitate thought-provoking discussions and exchange of ideas on heritage, material culture, archaeological science, theory and social impact. Registration is already open. Deadline for paper and poster submissions: 15 February 2018.

More information? See [this link](#).

## **Other updates**

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### **New publications and reports on culture and heritage**

Please find below a list of reports, publications, briefings and studies 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.

- [UNESCO Global Report 2018 - ReShaping Cultural Policies: Advancing creativity for development](#) (UNESCO, 2017)
- [Joint CoE/EU COMUS Project publication – Communities at the heart of heritage governance](#) (Council of Europe, June 2017)
- [Brexit & Heritage – Report ESRC IAA Funded Workshop](#) (L. Veldpaus & J. Pendlebury, July 2017)
- [Report on ENUMERATE Survey \(Europeana DSI 2\) – Access to Digital Resources of European Heritage](#) (G.J. Nauta, W. van den Heuvel & S. Theunisse, DEN Foundation, August 2017)

- [UNESCO PERSIST Report on national/federal policies and strategies on the preservation of digital heritage](#) (W. Helmus, UNESCO PERSIST Policy Working Group, September 2017)
- [The Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe – 5th Session 2016-2017](#) (Council of Europe, European Spatial Planning and Landscape Series No. 5, October 2017)
- [Brainstorming report on Skills, training and knowledge transfer for traditional and emerging heritage professions](#) (Voices of Culture, October 2017)
- [Briefing on Arts, culture, and cultural awareness in education](#) (M. Pasikowska-Schnass, European Parliamentary Research Service, November 2017)
- [Research for CULT Committee – Why cultural work with refugees](#) (A. Phipps, European Parliament, Policy Department for Structural and Cohesion Policies, November 2017)

### **9 sites recommended for European Heritage Label**

After reviewing the 25 sites that were put forward by member States in 2017 for inclusion on the European Heritage Label list, the independent panel of experts has now announced their recommendations ([Panel report](#)). The panel recommends 9 new sites for the European Heritage Label, bringing the total number of sites on the list to 30. The new sites will be formally designated by the Commission in February. You can read more about the 9 selected sites on [this page](#).

### **First implementation report of UN Security Council Resolution 2347 on protection of cultural heritage**

The UN Security Council held a [public briefing](#) in November on 'Maintenance of international peace and security: Destruction and trafficking of cultural heritage by terrorist groups and in situations of armed conflict'. During this meeting, a [report](#) was launched on the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 2347 on the protection of cultural heritage in armed conflicts, which was adopted in March 2017 (see [European Affairs Update – April 2017](#)). The Resolution recognizes the importance of heritage protection for peace and security. UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay stated that the report 'shows that Resolution 2347 has already resulted in the adoption of strong regulations and growing efforts to document, preserve and safeguard cultural heritage at risk'. For more information, see this [news item on UNESCO's website](#).

### **Davos Declaration on the concept of a high-quality *Baukultur* for Europe**

European Ministers of Culture came together for a [meeting in Davos](#), Switzerland, from 20 to 22 January at the invitation of the President of the Swiss Confederation. The meeting was held a few days in advance of the World Economic Forum, also taking place in Davos. The Ministers adopted a declaration which highlights pathways for politically and strategically promoting the concept of a high-quality *Baukultur* in Europe. The [Davos Declaration](#) emphasises the central role of culture in the quality of our living environment and promotes a holistic approach when it comes to the shaping of our built environment. Read more about the meeting and the Declaration in this [press release](#).

### **New issue of The European Archaeologist (Issue 54 – Autumn 2017)**

A new edition of The European Archaeologist (TEA), a newsletter published by the European Association of Archaeologists (EAA), has been published in November 2017. You can download it [here](#).

### **NEARCHing Factory survey on Priorities for European Archaeology**

In 2017, the [NEARCH project](#) initiated an event and process called NEARCHing Factory. Participants of the [NEARCHing Factory conference](#) were invited to re-think the practice of archaeological activity and to discuss (and work on) new scenarios for sustainable practices in archaeology. Specific working groups dealt with topics that are relevant to archaeology today. As a follow-up, the project launched a survey called Priorities for European Archaeology, which was based on cross-cutting ideas coming from the thematic working groups. The survey focused on seven topics: discipline, profession, sustainability, participation, framework policies, aesthetics and education. You can find the survey results [here](#).