

European affairs update

April 2019

Joint initiative of European Archaeological Council (EAC) and European Association of Archaeologists (EAA)
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- Presidency Council of the European Union Jan-Jul 2019: **Romania** <https://www.romania2019.eu/home/>
- Committee of Ministers (CoE) chairmanship Nov 2018-May 2019: **Finland** www.coe.int/en/web/chairmanship/home
- European Capitals of Culture 2019: **Matera (Italy)** <https://www.matera-basilicata2019.it/en/> and **Plovdiv (Bulgaria)** <https://plovdiv2019.eu/en>

Policy

EUROPEAN UNION

Council of Europe adopts conclusions on international cultural relations

The [Council conclusions on 8 April establish](#) the EU strategic approach to international cultural relations and a relevant framework for action. They recognize the need for a crosscutting approach to culture, while aiming to strengthen the effectiveness and impact of its foreign policy by integrating international cultural relations in the range of its foreign policy instruments.

Five different Presidencies of the Council and the Friends of the Presidency Group have all contributed to the Conclusions. Moreover, the ambitious [New European Agenda for Culture](#) and the "[Joint Communication Towards an EU strategy in international cultural relations](#)" have fed into the process, notably through the launch of the European Houses of Culture pilot project to be implemented by [EUNIC](#), the umbrella organisation of EU national cultural institutes, and the work of the [Cultural Diplomacy Platform](#). Read more [here](#).

EU Member States sign up to cooperate on digitising cultural heritage

On 9 April, 24 European countries signed a [Declaration of cooperation on advancing digitisation of cultural heritage](#). They will work more closely together to better use state-of-the-art digital technologies in addressing risks that Europe's rich cultural heritage is facing, enhancing its use and visibility, improving citizen engagement, and supporting spillovers in other sectors. The declaration has three pillars of action:

- A pan-European initiative for 3D digitisation of cultural heritage artefacts, monuments and sites;
- Re-use of digitised cultural resources to foster citizen engagement, innovative use and spillovers in other sectors;
- Enhancing cross-sector and cross-border cooperation and capacity building in the sector of digitised cultural heritage.

More information [here](#).

EU Ministers of Culture stressed the importance of the cultural and creative sectors

During the [informal meeting of the EU Ministers of Culture](#) on 16 April 2019, at the Palace of Parliament in Bucharest, the EU cultural ministers stressed the need to ensure a functional ecosystem where the cultural and creative sectors develop solid businesses and unfold their growth potential. The working session capitalised on the legacy and the dynamics generated by the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018. Ministers recognised that the appropriate multi-stakeholder governance framework, the engagement of different parts of our societies and the cross-border cooperation are relevant to safeguard and promote Europe's cultural heritage.

The large majority of the delegations endorsed the [Declaration on the Role of culture in building Europe's future](#) that highlights the need to take further steps to place culture higher than ever before on the EU political agenda.

Creative Europe: Parliament votes for mobility of artists and circulation of works

MEPs voted to double the budget of the 2021-2027 Creative Europe programme and to enhance international circulation of works, supporting better mobility for artists. The text also focuses on a better use of digital technologies in the creative sector. MEPs insist on the importance of engaging a young audience, especially to promote audiovisual works being used through legal channels. Media literacy is also one of the priorities of the programme, with Members insisting on its contribution to the development of critical thinking. New media professionals should also benefit from the programme. The final text of the programme must be negotiated and agreed with the Council during the next parliamentary term. Read more [here](#).

Erasmus+ 2021-2027: more people to experience learning exchanges in Europe

MEPs decided to triple the budget for the next Erasmus+ programme to allow more people to take part, better adapting grants to their needs. To better adapt the programme to the needs of disadvantaged people and increase their participation, MEPs proposed that the European Commission and national Erasmus agencies draft a European inclusion framework and develop national inclusion strategies. MEPs also re-allocate the budget to different parts of the programme to reflect these priorities, offering pre-school and early education staff, young athletes and sport coaches the option to participate in mobility schemes. More information [here](#).

UK-EU mobility will continue under Erasmus+ in the event of no-deal Brexit

The European Parliament voted on measures to continue financing all current Erasmus+ learning mobility activities, in the event of a no-deal Brexit. The legislation establishes that all mobility activities under the current Erasmus+ programme that started before 30 March 2019 will be funded until they are completed (for a maximum of up to 12 months). This will include British students, traineeships, apprentices and staff engaged in mobility activities in EU countries and vice-versa. The adopted measures will allow those currently participating in mobility activities between UK and EU to continue their learning activities without interruption and without losing their academic credits or being obliged to repeat their academic year. Negotiations with the Council should allow for a swift agreement and the legislation should be published before the date of the withdrawal. Read more [here](#).

European Parliament approves new copyright rules for the internet

Creatives and news publishers will be empowered to negotiate with internet giants thanks to new copyright rules which also contain safeguards on freedom of expression (see the adopted texts [here](#)). This marks the end of the legislative process for the European Parliament that began in 2016. It will now be down to member states to approve Parliament's decision in the coming weeks. If the member states accept the text adopted by the European Parliament, it will take effect after publication in the official journal and then member states will have 2 years to implement it. More information [here](#).

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

The golden collection" of good practices related to Strategy 21

[Strategy 21](#) was adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the States parties to the European Cultural Convention and launched in April 2017 in Cyprus. The *Strategy 21* plan for 2019 is to gather 32 best examples of good practices to be published as a part of "***The golden collection" of good practices related to Strategy 21***". Organised by the French Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, together with the French partners in the Ministry of Culture, the publication will be presented at the CDCPP Plenary on 12-14 June 2019, at the Council of Europe headquarters in Strasbourg.

The [application form](#) on the Strategy 21 website is open to initiatives across Europe which meet the criteria for good practices. The 32 examples of good practices will be selected for the publication, while the rest of the approved entries will be published on the Strategy 21 website and promoted across CDCPP/Observer/Professional channels. Examples of good practices will serve to sustain efforts towards creation of a unified approach which will direct national policies that underpin heritage protection in the context of the changing needs of society.

More information [here](#).

Committee proposes to create a Europe-wide tool for recognising cultural competences

[The Culture Committee has proposed that the Council of Europe and the European Commission, in collaboration with professional associations, reflect on the creation of a Europe-wide tool to recognise the competences developed by young people participating in arts, culture and creative activities.](#)

This tool would be intended to document and give value to the skills and knowledge acquired by thousands of young people who currently take part in non-statutory arts and culture-based learning activities across Europe, that currently go unrecognised, parliamentarians said.

In adopting [the report](#) by Mogens Jensen (Denmark, SOC), the committee also encouraged governments to embed creative and cultural competences within formal education systems and proposed that they support long-term partnerships between schools, communities, creative industries, cultural institutions and businesses to offer young people new opportunities to develop their cultural

The role of culture and heritage in supporting the local and regional economy

[Culture and heritage have a useful role to play in regions and localities by supporting their economies, improving cooperation with their communities and inspiring better and more creative solutions to their daily problems](#), the PACE's Committee on Culture said in January 2019.

By adopting a draft resolution based on the [report by Alexander Dundee](#) (United Kingdom, EC), the Commission invited Member States to maximize the useful contribution of culture in the State and to direct culture and heritage more effectively towards education, employment, the economy, research and innovation. As regards local and regional authorities, they should develop sustainable development strategies by placing culture and heritage as core elements.

Funding and investments

PROPOSALS FOR THE POST-2020 BUDGETS AND PROGRAMMES

Multiannual Financial framework (MFF)

The Romanian presidency of the Council presented the state of play on discussions on the multiannual financial framework (MFF) for 2021-2027 in February 2019. It set out the [provisional work programme up to April 2019](#). The shared objective is to provide the June European Council with a streamlined draft negotiating box, with a view to achieving an agreement in the European Council in autumn 2019. The draft negotiating box is a tool for structuring and facilitating the negotiations on the MFF. As negotiations move forward, it is constantly discussed and updated.

Meanwhile, the EU ministers held a policy debate on the climate and migration aspects of the multiannual financial framework (MFF) for 2021-2027 in March, and an exchange of views on the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and the cohesion policy in April. These discussions will help prepare the draft negotiation box for the European Council in June.

More information:

- The [last progress report on the MFF](#).
- European Commission [EU Budget for the Future](#)
- European Parliament [Press release 14 November 2018](#)
- European Commission [Communication on a modern budget for a Union that protects, empowers and defends](#) (including an Annex describing each programme)
- Factsheet [A modern EU budget for a Union that protects, empowers and defends](#)
- An overview with links to the proposals and legal texts for sector specific programmes can be found on the [EU budget for the future website](#)

Agreement on Horizon Europe: Regions and cities expect to be at the core of EU's new research programme

The European Committee of the Regions (CoR) has welcomed the compromise reached between the European Parliament and the European Council on [Horizon Europe](#), EU's research programme for the next budget period (2021-27). The partial agreement reached in April confirms much of the programme but leaves open its final budget, which will be agreed in the negotiations on the EU's next Multiannual Financial Framework. The CoR and the EP are asking the total budget to be raised to €120 billion, from the €94.6 billion proposed by the European Commission. The European Parliament will vote on the agreement in April at its final plenary before the European elections. Read more [here](#).

For More Information

- Commission proposal for Horizon Europe (2021-2027): [press release](#), [factsheet on Horizon Europe](#), [factsheet on R&I success stories](#)
- Provisional agreement on Horizon Europe (2021-2027): [press release](#)
- European Innovation Council – pilot phase: [press release](#)

CREATIVE EUROPE

Creative Europe is the European Commission's framework programme for support to the culture and audiovisual sectors. Following on from the previous Culture Programme and MEDIA programme, Creative Europe, with a budget of €1.46 billion, supports Europe's cultural and creative sectors.

530 project proposals were submitted under the call for Support for European Cooperation Projects 2018. The full list of selected projects can be found on the [Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency \(EACEA\) website](#). You can find examples of European cooperation projects funded in previous years through the [Creative Europe Project Results platform](#).

[The Creative Europe Programme 2014-2020 study](#) provides an up-to-date evaluation of the implementation of the selected smaller and bigger actions within the Creative Europe programme (2014 to 2020) with focus on the European dimension and European added value of the undertaken actions as well as their visibility.

For more information on other funding opportunities under the Creative Europe programme, check [the Creative Europe Funding page](#) or contact one of the [National Creative Europe desks](#).

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 Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Italy, Romania and Spain. 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. The [deadlines for submission of applications for 2019-2020](#) have been updated. For more information on the supported activities and the time table, have a look at the [Programme Guide](#) (Jan 2019). Check also the [2019 call for proposals](#) and the [Programme Priorities 2019-2020](#).

All open calls details are available on the funding page [here](#). Currently, the call for [Civil Society Projects 2019](#) is open, deadline 2/09/2019.

ERASMUS+

Erasmus+ is the EU's programme to support education, training, youth and sport in Europe. Its budget of €14.7 billion will provide opportunities for over 4 million Europeans to study, train, gain experience, and volunteer abroad.

Set to last until 2020, Erasmus+ merges seven prior programmes and it has opportunities for a wide variety of individuals and organisations.

Detailed information on these opportunities, including eligibility criteria, is available in the [Erasmus+ Programme Guide](#).

More information about the Erasmus+ programme and the calls can be found in the 2019 [Programme Guide](#) and on the [Erasmus + Funding page](#). 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 call on Heritage in Changing Environments will be announced soon. A third call on identity and perception will probably open later this year.

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](#)).

Work Programmes 2018-2020

The European Commission has published an updated 2018-2020 Horizon 2020 Work Programme. This update provides some alterations and additional details for the 2019 calls in the 2018-2020 Work Programme initially published in October 2017. The degree of changes varies across the Work Programme parts and while new topics have been added to some calls for proposals (e.g. in Societal Challenge 1), other parts will only see minor corrections and additional information provided (e.g. the European Innovation Council Pilot). The parts of the Work Programme that relate to 2020 are still indicative and will be finalised during 2019. To help future applicants identify the changes easily, the Commission also published the official lists of changes made to each Work Programme part. These can be accessed by going to the Work Programmes within the ['Reference Documents' tab](#) on the Participant Portal, expanding the relevant section (by clicking on the black arrow) and opening the "History of updates" document.

See the online programme for 2019 [here](#) all relevant reference documents [here](#).

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

- ***Excellent Science, Future and Emerging Technologies***
 - [ERC Proof of Concept Grant](#) (Opening: 16 October 2018, deadlines of multiple stages: 22 January 2019, 25 April 2019, 19 September 2019)
 - [MSCA-COFUND-2019: Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes](#) (Opening: 4 April 2019; deadline: 26 September 2019)

- ***Societal Challenges, SC5 Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials***
 - [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 1st stage: 19 February 2019, deadline 2nd stage: 4 September 2019)
 - [SC5-14-2019: Visionary and integrated solutions to improve well-being and health in cities](#) (Opening: 14 Nov 2018, deadline 1st stage: 19 Feb 2019, deadline 2nd stage : 4 Sept 2019)

- ***Societal Challenges, SC6 Europe in a changing world – Inclusive, innovative and reflective societies***
 - [The European Capital of Innovation Award \(iCapital\)](#) (opening 20 February 2019, deadline 6 June 2019)

- **Societal Challenges, SC6 Europe in a changing world – Protecting freedom and security of Europe and its citizens**
 - [Human factors, and social, societal, and organisational aspects for disaster-resilient societies](#) (opening 14 March, deadline 22 August)
 - [Pre-normative research and demonstration for disaster-resilient societies](#) (opening 14 March, deadline 22 August)
- **Science with and for Society**
 - [SwafS-01-2018-2019: Open schooling and collaboration on science education](#) (Opening: 11 December 2018, deadline 1st stage: 2 April 2019, deadline 2nd stage: 7 November 2019)
 - [Horizon Impact Award](#) (Opening: 19 March 2019, deadline 28 May 2019)
- **Enhanced European Innovation Council (EIC) pilot**
 - [FET Proactive: emerging paradigms and communities](#) (Opening: 19 March 2019, deadline 3 September 2019)
 - [EIC Transition to Innovation Activities](#) (Opening 19 March 2019, deadline 3 September 2019)

UK participation in H2020

After the UK government expressed its commitment to ensure that UK and EU researchers, universities and businesses will continue to be able to cooperate after Brexit (see the [UK government overview on the UK participation in H2020](#), which was published in December 2018), there were some concerns that a No-deal Brexit would cut UK's Horizon 2020 funding by almost half. A [report by the UK's House of Lords](#), issued in February 2019 demonstrated the peers reserves that replicating EU research programmes in the UK if the country leaves the EU without a deal would be 'a formidable challenge'. However, regardless of the Brexit outcome, the government has [guaranteed to underwrite all live and successful Horizon 2020 awards submitted before exit](#) and to fund projects for their duration. The government also guarantees a [post-EU extension underwrite to fund successful UK participants under H2020 schemes open to third country participants](#) submitted after exit until end of 2020.

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. Interreg Europe monitoring committee has conditionally approved 74 projects out of 170 applications received in the fourth call for project proposals. Have a look at the [projects approved in the fourth call for proposals](#). Or download a [list of them](#).

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.

[URBACT's last call for Action Planning networks is now open](#) – The deadline for the online submission of the Phase 1 Applications is 17 April 2019. An [information event for UK cities interested in applying](#) was held on 5 February 2019 in London.

More info - [URBACT III Programme manual](#).

OTHER CALLS, OPPORTUNITIES, CONSULTATIONS

European Houses of Culture: call for ideas

[This call for ideas](#) invites the EU National Institutes of Culture EUNIC network, together with EU delegations and local partners to brainstorm ideas and identify topical themes for collaboration in the areas of inter-cultural dialogue, education and research, the creative industries and tourism, heritage, sport, artisanship as well as development cooperation. The selected projects will run between 2019 - 2020 and will work as a tool to identify best models of cooperation between EU actors.

Activities are foreseen to take place in one (or several) non-EU country (ies) and a minimum of three EUNIC members is required in the project team. Please submit the complete application package by Sunday 23 June 2019 (at 23:59 CET) to houses@eunicglobal.eu.

See further information [here](#).

Other calls:

- [ENCATC Label](#) (for members only) - The ENCATC Label provides a structure for the network to support and promote the development of scientific seminars, events and workshops organised by its members in various regional areas. (deadline: Ongoing)
- [Framework Service Contract to Carry out Studies Supporting European Cooperation in Education, Youth, Sport and Culture](#) (Deadline: 5 June 2019)
- [COS-ENTRECOMP-2018-3-01: Support for the Implementation of the Entrepreneurship Competence Framework](#) (Deadline 22 August 2019)

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)

Events

Living with Tourism, On Tourism and UNESCO World Heritage Sites (2-5 May 2019, Šibenik, Croatia)

Exploring and overcoming the Challenges and Threats of the Emerging Conflict between Overtourism and the Safeguarding of Heritage Cities, Monuments and Landscapes.

Yonca Erkan, a jury member of the European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards in the category Education, Training and Awareness Raising, is a keynote [speaker](#) of this conference.

You can find more information [here](#)

"Sense and Sustainability" International Conference on Archaeology and Tourism (6-10 May 2019, Zagreb, Croatia)

Call for sessions, roundtables and workshops is [now open](#)

The Conference seeks to bring together experts and practitioners from tourism and archaeology alike from all over the world. It will provide a forum for the discussion of topics related to the sustainable management and use of archaeology in heritage tourism, opening the door to a variety of perspectives that will reflect current theoretical and practical experiences across the stakeholder spectrum. More information [here](#).

International Conference: Intangible Cultural Heritage, Museums and Cultural Policies, Mechelen (7 May 2019, Mechelen, Belgium)

The International Conference: Intangible Cultural Heritage, Museums and Cultural Policies Think will take place in 07 May 2019, at Museum Hof van Busleyden, Mechelen. The program of this international conference will present a myriad of policy-related contributions on ICH, museums and cultural policies. You can find more information [here](#)

CfP: DATECH 2019: Digital Access to Textual Cultural Heritage (8-10 May, Brussels, Belgium)

The International DATeCH (Digital Access to Textual Cultural Heritage) conference brings together researchers and practitioners seeking innovative approaches for the creation, transformation and exploitation of historical documents in digital form. This interdisciplinary conference, takes place at the intersection of computer science, (digital) humanities, and cultural heritage studies. The DATeCH 2019 is jointly organised by IMPACT Centre of Competence, Instituut voor de Nederlandse Taal, DARIAH-BE and CLARIN-Flanders. More information [here](#).

ARCHIVING 2019, Digitization, Preservation and Access, Lisbon (14-17 May 2019, Lisbon, Portugal)

Join an international community of technical experts, managers, practitioners, and academics from cultural heritage institutions, universities, and commercial enterprises, to explore and discuss the digitization, preservation and access of 2D, 3D, and AV materials. More information [here](#)

European Private Heritage Week 2019 (16-19 May 2019, Europe-wide)

The second edition of the European Private Heritage Week is also organised by the European Historic Houses Association (EHHA). It was launched on the occasion of the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018.

EHHA is a Member Organisation of Europa Nostra and a member of the European Heritage Alliance 3.3. More information [here](#)

Culture, Heritage and Tourism as Factors for Sustainable Development of Small and Medium-Size Cities (SMCs): the European Perspectives (29-31 May 2019, Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria)

The conference invites researchers and experts, city leaders, cultural managers, artists and community activists to discuss how to strategize cultural resources of SMCs to creatively address the challenges and risks of the contemporary neoliberal world.

The event is being organised by the Department of Cultural Studies at the Faculty of Arts at the South-West University, the Bulgarian Sociological Association, and Blagoevgrad Municipality and supported by the Scientific Research Fund at the Bulgarian Ministry of Education and Science -. This conference is also an example of ENCATC members working together as the conference's Scientific Committee includes ENCATC members from the University of Antwerp/Antwerp Management School in Belgium, Jyväskylä University in Finland, and the University of Arts in Belgrade in Serbia. More information [here](#).

IE Conference 2019: Engaging with diversity (31 May to 3 June 2019 in Sarajevo, Bosnia)

Join us at our IE Conference from 31 May to 3 June 2019 in Sarajevo. Delve deep into its diversity, discuss how diversity at natural and cultural heritage sites can be interpreted and share your experiences. More information? See [this link](#).

Icon Conference 2019, Belfast (12-14 June 2019, Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK)

Icon's Triennial International Conference – #Icon19 – provides a platform to engage with the latest developments in conservation of cultural heritage, exchange knowledge and find networking opportunities to support and promote professional standards of conservation across the UK. The Conference theme will explore the latest research, practical applications and innovative thinking across the sector.

More information:

<https://icon.org.uk/icon-conference-2019>

FECH 2019: The Festival of the Endangered Cultural Heritage, Constanta (17-19 June 2019, Constanta, Romania)

FECH 2019 will take place between June 17 and June 19, 2019, preceding The Annual Kurultai of the Endangered Cultural Heritage – AKECH. As 2019 is UNESCO's International Year of Indigenous Languages, this year FECH focuses on "Indigenous People: Stories, Cultures, Languages," featuring free public events for any age – including performances, concerts, traditional sports, film screenings, art exhibitions and shows.

In 2018 Europa Nostra listed [Constanta Casino](#) as one of Europe's 7 Most Endangered site
More information [here](#)

International Conference on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage, Brest (17-19 June 2019, Brest, France)

The International Conference on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage will take place from 17 to 19 June 2019 at Les Ateliers des Capucins in the city of Brest, France. It will focus on questions of the ratification and implementation of the Convention, discuss the future of underwater cultural heritage protection and also of the law of the sea.

You can find more information [here](#)

International Cultural Heritage Law Summer School 2019, Geneva

The summer school of International Cultural Heritage Law, is organized by the Art-Law Centre and the UNESCO Chair in the International Law of the Protection of Cultural Heritage of the University of Geneva, in collaboration with the [University of Miami School of Law](#). You can find more information [here](#)

Conference "Religious Heritage in a Diverse Europe", Groningen (19-21 June 2019, Groningen, The Netherlands)

The religious makeup of European societies has been significantly changing over the past few decades. At the same time that more people identify as non-religious, new arrivals and conversion mean that the religious landscape of Europe is becoming increasingly more complex. These dynamics simultaneously enrich and challenge organizations, government agencies and scholars engaged with maintaining and promoting cultural heritage.

This conference is organised by the University of Groningen, Stichting Oude Groninger Kerken (Groningen Historic Churches Foundation), Museum Catharijneconvent, Future for Religious Heritage Brussels, Jewish Cultural Quarter. In partnership with: International Network for Interreligious Research and Education (INIRE). You can find more information [here](#)

27th EBLIDA Council and EBLIDA-NAPLE Conference (24th - 25th June, 2019, Dublin, Ireland)

The Conference seeks to highlight "*Libraries open for all*" as they adapt, ensuring access to knowledge & information in the midst of the current information landscape.

In every kind of library there is a demand for support with new information and communications technology, whatever the age. Our patrons today need basic computer and internet training to survive in this evermore digital world, and support which is provided free of charge for everyone.

More information [here](#).

World Heritage Site Managers Forum 2019, Baku (26 June – 4 July 2019, Baku, Azerbaijan)

The World Heritage List includes over 1.000 properties covering over 276 million hectares under the 1972 World Heritage Convention's protection. Increased understanding of the World Heritage decision-making processes among Site Managers has become crucial in order to achieve more effective protection of World Heritage properties. You can find more information [here](#)

Training on the ESPON Database Portal (27 June 2019, Bratislava, Slovakia)

ESPON launched an open data portal that would allow users to monitor and analyse social, economic and environmental developments at local, regional, national and European level.

More information [here](#).

9th Nordic Conference on Cultural Policy Research (NCCPR) (28-30 August 2019, Bifröst, Iceland)

The 9th Nordic Conference on Cultural Policy Research (NCCPR) 2019 will be held at Bifröst University, a member of ENCATC, in Iceland from 28-30 August 2019. The theme of the conference is cultural peripheries and it focuses on questions concerning marginal culture, definitional boundaries of cultural policy research, and fringes in cultural politics. More information [here](#).

International Conference on Archaeological Prospection (28 August - 1 September 2019, Sligo, Ireland)

The School of Science, the Institute of Technology Sligo and the International Society for Archaeological Prospection invite you to join them for the 13th International Conference of Archaeological Prospection. The CERIS research cluster is an innovative and expert team of researchers, academic staff and students providing key solutions in Applied Archaeology, Applied Ecology and Resource Management. For more information [here](#).

European Heritage Days (1-30 September 2019, Europe-wide)

European Heritage Days provide access to thousands of rarely opened sites and unique events to over 20 million people every year. During the European Heritage Days, doors are opened to thousands of monuments and sites (some of them normally closed to the public), allowing people to enjoy free visits, learn about their shared cultural heritage and become actively involved in the safeguarding of Europe's heritage for present and future generations. European Heritage Days take place in the 50 signatory countries to the European Cultural Convention every year in September. It is organised in close collaboration with national coordinators. You can find more information and events by country [here](#)

25th Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists 2019 (Bern, Switzerland, 3-9 September 2019)

EAA comes to Bern to celebrate its 25th anniversary. The sessions should offer a unique opportunity to evaluate what has been the contribution of the EAA to the proposed topic throughout its 25 years history, not only with regard to developments in the field, but also with regard to prospects and challenges for the future. EAA particularly welcomes session proposals that reflect on the socio-political dimensions of archaeological knowledge and heritage, in order to facilitate the realignment of accepted practice with current and future requirements. [Registration for the 25th EAA Annual Meeting](#) is still open. The call for papers has now been closed, and the acceptance / rejection of submissions will be announced to authors by 26 March. More information? See [this link](#).

5th Heritage Forum of Central Europe Heritage and Environment, Kraków (19-20 September 2019, Krakow, Poland)

The fifth edition of the Heritage Forum of Central Europe aims to discuss the relationship between heritage and environment, and their impact on human past. Professionals from all fields are invited to submit their proposals for papers. You can find more information [here](#).

Conference "Heritage Houses in Europe", Brussels (24 September 2019, Brussels, Belgium)

Final conference of the [project 'Heritage Houses for Europe' – organised by the European Landowners Organization \(ELO\), the European Historic Houses Association \(EHHA\) and IDEA Consult](#). ELO and EHHA are Member Organisations of Europa Nostra and members of the European Heritage Alliance 3.3. [You can find more information here](#)

"The Best in Heritage – Projects of Influence" Conference 2019, Dubrovnik (25-27 September 2019, Dubrovnik, Croatia)

The annual, global conference featuring award-winning museum, heritage and conservation projects is organised by the European Heritage Association in partnership with Europa Nostra with the support of the EU Creative Europe Programme and the International Council of Museums (ICOM). You can find more information [here](#)

2019 ENCATC Congress, 2-5 October, Dijon, France

The 2019 ENCATC Congress on Cultural Management and Policy is happening from 2-5 October 2019 in Dijon, France, under the main theme "Diversity and sustainability at work. Policies and practices from culture and education", the 2019 ENCATC Congress aims to thoroughly explore the practical

meanings of diversity in the cultural and creative sector, investigate how its different connotations are implemented in practice, and how they are contributing to the sustainability discourse in the field. More information? See [this link](#).

12th International Conference for Cultural Tourism in Europe, Granada (24-26 October 2019, Granada, Spain)

Annual conference with main theme 'Culture and Heritage for Responsible, Innovative and Sustainable Tourism Actions', organised by the European Cultural Tourism Network (ECTN). During the Conference, the Ceremony for the ECTN Awards 'Destination of Sustainable Cultural Tourism' 2019 will take place. The 2019 edition of the Awards is organised in partnership with Europa Nostra, the European Travel Commission and NECSTouR, and supported by Iter Vitis. You can [apply](#) for the 'Destination of Sustainable Cultural Tourism Awards' by 1 of July. You can find more information [here](#)

European Heritage Congress (27-31 October 2019, Paris, France)

The next European Heritage Congress will take place between 27-31 October 2019 in Paris, France. The European Heritage Congress will bring together heritage professionals from around Europe for five days of debates, presentations, workshops and cultural activities. See the full programme [here](#).

ICDH 2019 : International Conference on Digital Heritage (18-19 November, London, UK)

ICDH 2019: International Conference on Digital Heritage aims to bring together leading academic scientists, researchers and research scholars to exchange and share their experiences and research results on all aspects of Digital Heritage. It also provides a premier interdisciplinary platform for researchers, practitioners and educators to present and discuss the most recent innovations, trends, and concerns as well as practical challenges encountered and solutions adopted in the fields of Digital Heritage. More information? See [this link](#).

Exponatec Cologne 2019 (20-22 November 2019, Cologne, Germany)

The 9th edition of Exponatec Cologne, Europe's leading communication platform for the museum, conservation and restoration sectors, will take place from 20-22 November in Cologne, Germany. Europa Nostra is among the main partners of Exponatec, together with The Best in Heritage and the German Museums Association. The 2019 edition of Exponatec will feature a series of presentations, lectures and exhibition areas revolving around cultural heritage related topics. Video presentations about the most innovative and inspiring projects in the cultural heritage field from around the world, including many winners of the [European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards](#), will be broadcast during the event. You can find more information about the event and register your attendance on the [Exponatec Cologne website](#).

Other updates

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.

- [ENCATC Activity Report 2018](#) (ENCATC, February 2019)
- [Beyond EYCH2018. What is the cultural horizon? Opening up perspectives to face ongoing transformations. Congress Proceedings](#) (ENCATC, Brussels, 2018)
- [The future of cohesion policy \(Exploratory opinion at the request of the Romanian Presidency\)](#) (EESC, European Union, March 2019)
- [CULT Committee Activity Report 2014-2019](#) (Committee on Culture and Education, EU Parliament, March 2019)
- [Harmful Internet use. Part II Impact on Culture and Society](#) (European Parliament, 2019), [Annex](#)
- [Culture counts: An empirical approach to measure the cultural and creative vitality of European cities](#) (MONTALTO Valentina, TACAO MOURA Carlos Jorge, LANGEDIJK Sven, SAISANA Michaela, ELSEVIER SCI LTD, 2019)
- [Annual report on the ERC activities and achievements in 2018](#) (ERC, March 2019)

- [Report on the Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists \(Barcelona, 5-8 September 2018\)](#) (EAA, March, 2019)
- [ROCK case studies showcase new governance models for creative, sustainable and circular cities](#) (ROCK project, 2019)

Notre Dame Tragedy: a personal loss for every European.

[Europa Nostra, the Voice of cultural heritage in Europe, expressed its deepest sympathy and immense sadness following the fire that devastated Notre Dame of Paris.](#) Europa Nostra is determined to join the huge solidarity movement which we have been witnessing in France, Europe and the entire world since the very first moments of the outbreak of the fire. Europa Nostra will contribute to the huge effort for the reconstruction and restoration of the Notre Dame Cathedral and will mobilise all their members and networks to take part in the necessary fund raising. This engagement will be highlighted during the European Heritage Congress which Europa Nostra intends to organise in Paris at the end of October 2019.

Make an online donation (trusted websites)

[Fondation du patrimoine](#)

[Fondation Notre Dame](#)

[Fondation de France](#)

[Centre des monuments nationaux](#)

To facilitate the fund raising in favour of the reconstruction of Notre-Dame of Paris, the French Government set up a common portal www.rebatirnotredame.gouv.fr which federates the four establishments and foundations of public utility above authorised to collect donations. See their [press release](#).

New Horizon 2020 project "ILUCIDARE" dedicated to cultural heritage-led innovation and diplomacy

ENCATC member, the International Cultural Centre (ICC) is part of a new consortium for ILUCIDARE, a three-year project supported by the Horizon 2020 Framework Programme of the European Union. The project aims to promote and leverage cultural heritage-led innovation and diplomacy thanks to an international community of practitioners in Europe and beyond. This international research project draws on the experience of studies carried out earlier on by some of the project partners as part of [Cultural Heritage Counts for Europe](#). The project activities (literary research, case studies, focus groups, conferences, workshops) will help garner material for two publications, Innovation Handbook and Diplomacy Toolbox, e-tutorials (MOOC), and models of effective management structures that employ heritage-led innovation and diplomacy. In addition, the project is intended to help set up an international network for sharing and promoting experience in cultural heritage innovation and diplomacy. More information [here](#).

Where is culture in European Election Manifestos?

To strengthen the position of culture in the run-up to the European Parliament elections, Culture Action Europe (CAE) redoubled its advocacy efforts to include cultural issues in the manifestos of European political party groupings. In the current political climate and in the context of emerging global shifts, the [CAE Appeal for the European Elections 2019](#) calls on all political forces to approach culture constructively and respectfully within the European elections. CAE has been advocating for a holistic inclusion of cultural arguments in the manifestos of four principal political party groupings: the EPP, S&D, ALDE and the Greens.

Read more [here](#).

Moving Towards an Interdisciplinary Training Scheme for the Sustainable Management and Preservation of Cultural Heritage

HERITAGE PRO is an initiative of six European partners from Germany, Spain, Austria, Sweden, and Belgium who strive to answer to the continuing call for interdisciplinary training for professionals of different disciplines towards sustainable management and preservation of cultural heritage. Project partners met in Bilbao in March for the 2nd project meeting and moved forward in the development of a multilingual training scheme for cultural heritage professionals. First drafted by Swedish RESTRADE company, the training modules will be ready for testing in August this year, while the final

version is expected for October. The project's website will be online soon. Follow the project's developments on Facebook [@EUHeritageProject](#) and Twitter [@euherit_project](#).

Europa Nostra Announces New Free Membership for Young People

Europa Nostra, the leading heritage organisation in Europe, has now opened up a brand new category of free membership for young people, aged between 18 and 30 years old. This is a fantastic opportunity to be part of the largest heritage network in Europe. The aim is to continue to foster an enthusiasm for European cultural heritage in our young people. To apply, please visit the membership page of the [Europa Nostra website](#).

Nominate a heritage site for the 7 Most Endangered programme 2020

If you know of an important heritage that is endangered – such as a historic monument or archaeological site, a place of worship, an industrial complex, a historic park, a museum or a movable heritage asset – why not nominate it for the 7 Most Endangered programme 2020? The [7 Most Endangered programme](#) identifies threatened monuments and sites in Europe and mobilises public and private partners – on a local, national and European level – to find a viable future for those sites. It is not a funding programme. [Europa Nostra, the leading European heritage network, runs this programme in partnership with the European Investment Bank Institute and with the support of the Creative Europe programme of the European Union](#). You can nominate a heritage site with the support of an organisation in your country that is a member of Europa Nostra or directly by joining our pan-European network of member and associate [organisations](#). The 7 Most Endangered heritage sites in Europe for 2020 will be announced in March 2020. Submit your nomination by **1 July 2019** on the 7 Most Endangered website [here](#).

EuropeanaTech 2019 Activity Plan

In the summer of 2018, the Europeana Network Association established itself around six communities (Education, Impact, EuropeanaTech, Research, Copyright and Communicators). One of the first core actions was to develop an activity plan for 2019. The EuropeanaTech steering group presented the current form of the [EuropeanaTech 2019 activity plan](#), focusing on 3D content, artificial intelligence and Implementation of EPF 2..

Action Plan on World Heritage, Sustainable Development and Civil Society published

The [Action Plan on World Heritage, Sustainable Development and Civil Society](#) was published in January 2019. A [workshop](#) dedicated to this topic was held at the University of Kent's Brussels School of International Studies on 29 March 2018 in the framework of the European Year of Cultural Heritage and with the support of Europa Nostra, the European Cultural Foundation and the University of Kent. Development Goals. More information [here](#).

Regional Consultation Meeting: EU – Western Balkans Cultural Relations

The Cultural Diplomacy Platform organised a Regional Consultation meeting on 8-9 April in Sarajevo, in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The meeting gathered 30 local cultural stakeholders from the six Western Balkan countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia), as well as EU Institutions, cultural institutes and Member State representatives. More information [here](#).

European Heritage Label: 19 sites pre-selected by Member States

The European Commission received 19 proposals from 13 Member States participating in the [European Heritage Label](#) action for sites to be awarded under the 2019 selection. A European panel of independent cultural experts will now evaluate the applications of the pre-selected sites and will select a maximum of one site per Member State. The European Commission will formally nominate the sites to receive the European Heritage Label in early 2020. More information [here](#).

Bad Ischl, Dornbirn and St. Pölten short-listed for European Capital of Culture 2024 in Austria

A panel of independent experts made the recommendation evaluating applications from three competing Austrian cities at the outcome of a 2-day meeting in Vienna. Once the relevant Austrian authorities confirmed the panel's recommendation, the bidding cities will have until next autumn to complete their applications. The panel will then meet again in Vienna in November 2019 to recommend the Austrian city to become the European Capital of Culture 2024. In 2024, Austria will

host the European Capital of Culture for the third time, after Graz in 2003 und Linz in 2009. In the same year, there will also be a European Capital of Culture in Estonia and one in an EFTA/EEA country, candidate country or potential candidate country to EU membership. More information [here](#).

Virtual research environment empowers scientists

Researchers across south-east Europe and the eastern Mediterranean are benefitting from a powerful new e-infrastructure developed in an EU-funded project, which enables diverse scientific communities to conduct groundbreaking cross-border research spanning climatology, life sciences and cultural heritage. The 'VI-SEEM project's unified virtual research environment integrates and enhances existing e-infrastructures across the region, which stretches from Hungary to Greece and from Albania to Jordan and Georgia. The partners are harnessing vastly expanded cloud computing, data storage and visualisation resources, as well as innovative services, models, software and tools developed by the project. More information [here](#).

Michael Multilingual Inventory of Cultural Heritage in Europe

Through the multilingual MICHAEL service you can find and explore digital collections from museums, archives, libraries and other cultural institutions from across Europe. Whether you are interested in art or archaeology, family history or planning holidays, the Romans or modern History, MICHAEL can show you what is available. More information [here](#).