

European affairs update

April 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
- Presidency Council of the European Union Jan-Jun 2018: **Bulgaria** eu2018bg.bg
- Committee of Ministers (CoE) chairmanship Nov 2017-May 2018: **Denmark**; chairmanship May-Nov 2018: **Croatia** www.coe.int/en/web/chairmanship/home;
- European Capitals of Culture 2018: **Valletta (Malta)** valletta2018.org and **Leeuwarden (The Netherlands)** www.friesland.nl/en/european-capital-of-culture

Policy

EUROPEAN UNION

Innovation and cultural heritage

As part of the EYCH 2018, the European Commission organised a [high-level Horizon 2020 conference on the topic 'Innovation and cultural heritage'](#) (see [press release](#)). The conference took place on 20 March 2018 in Brussels, Belgium, and was organised by the DG for Research and Innovation, in close cooperation with the DGs for Education and Culture and for Communications Networks, Content and Technology. It provided an opportunity for all stakeholders to discuss and present social, technological and methodological innovations in the field of cultural heritage that have been supported by European policies and funds. The conference also marked the start of further discussions about the objectives of European research and innovation policy for cultural heritage beyond 2020. During the conference, the Commission presented a policy review called ['Innovation in Cultural Heritage Research: For an integrated European Research Policy'](#). Based on a mapping and assessment of EU funded research on cultural heritage, the policy review also makes suggestions and recommendations for the European Research Framework after 2020. The Commission has also published an [infographic](#) ('Why fund research and innovation in cultural heritage?') and a [list of Horizon 2020 projects focusing on cultural heritage and European identities](#). Horizon 2020 shared [success stories](#) and [several other articles](#) as part of a thematic month on cultural heritage.

Cultural heritage conference in Plovdiv and an outlook on future developments

The Bulgarian Presidency and the European Commission organised a [conference on the topic 'Cultural heritage: for a more sustainable Europe'](#) on 26-27 March 2018 in Plovdiv, Bulgaria. A wide range of public and private stakeholders, representatives of EU bodies, member States and civil society organisations from all over Europe discussed several topics related to the role of cultural heritage in EU actions and policies, today and in the future. The programme included sessions on topics such as the competences of the EU in the field cultural heritage, the need for an integrated approach, participatory governance and the perspectives for the future.

In his [opening statement](#), Commissioner Tibor Navracsics referred to several recent initiatives within the framework of the EYCH 2018. He also stated that the Commission, together with the member States, wants to give a follow-up to the EYCH in the form of a European Action Plan for Cultural Heritage. This Action plan would be part of the new European Agenda for Culture, for which a proposal will be presented in May. Culture and heritage stakeholders such as [Europa Nostra](#) and [ENCATC](#) have already provided input for this new Agenda for Culture during a [stakeholders' consultation meeting](#). [EU Ministers of Culture recently came together](#) to discuss the value of culture as the main engine of the European project. The Ministers stressed the need for wider access to culture, preservation of cultural diversity, more serious public funding, and the mobility of artists (see [press release](#)). Also underway are Council Conclusions on 'the need to bring cultural heritage to the fore across policies in the EU' (expected in May).

Update on proposed regulation on the import of cultural goods

The Commission presented a [proposal for a Regulation on the import of cultural goods](#) in July 2017 (see [European affairs update – July 2017](#)). These new rules should help to prevent illegal import and trafficking of cultural goods from outside the EU, and thereby deprive terrorists of a source of income, and protect cultural heritage. Discussions on the proposed Regulation are ongoing at both the European Parliament and the Council of the EU. For a good overview of the context of this proposal and the legislative process, have a look at [this briefing](#) (February 2018) by the European Parliamentary Research Service. The EP Committee on International Trade (INTA) and the Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) are preparing a [draft report](#) (see [procedure file](#)). The vote on the draft report is scheduled in July. It is not yet clear when the Council will consider the proposal, so it is uncertain whether the new Regulation would be agreed upon in time for entry into force in early 2019. Besides the proposed regulation, the Commission is currently also involved in a joint project with UNESCO: 'Engaging the European art market in the fight against the illicit trafficking of cultural property'. More information about the project can be found [here](#).

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

New website for Strategy 21

The Council of Europe has launched a [new website for its European Cultural Heritage Strategy for the 21st century](#), also called Strategy 21. With this new website, the Council of Europe aims to help policymakers, stakeholders and citizens understand Strategy 21 and put its recommendations into practice. The Strategy pursues an integrated and inclusive approach to cultural heritage and promotes good governance and participatory heritage management. Being built around three central pillars (social component, territorial and economic development, knowledge and education), the Strategy identifies challenges, provides recommendations to address these challenges, and gives suggestions for courses of action. On the new website you can now easily browse through all these elements of the Strategy. The website also includes a list of [examples of good practices](#), for which new submissions are still welcome ([examples form](#)). The Council of Europe is also preparing a series of factsheets on the Strategy and its relation to several specific topics. The first three factsheets are already available on the [home page](#).

Recommendation on cultural heritage facing climate change: increasing resilience and promoting adaptation (CM/Rec(2018)3)

The Committee of Ministers has adopted a [Recommendation](#) on the need to take action to preserve cultural heritage threatened by climate change. The recommendation follows on discussions and work done within the framework of the [EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement](#). Considering that climate change is a growing threat to cultural heritage, the Committee of Ministers recommends that members States ensure the inclusion of cultural heritage in climate adaptation strategies. An earlier [recommendation on the 'Vulnerability of Cultural Heritage to Climate Change'](#) of the Committee of Permanent Correspondents of the EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement has been included as an Appendix.

Funding and investments

PREPARATION FOR THE POST-2020 MULTIANNUAL FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK

The Commission will present its proposal for the post-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) in May. Earlier this year, the [Commission set out various options for this new long-term EU budget](#) as a contribution to the Informal Leaders' meeting on 23 February 2018. The Commission also ran various consultations on the priorities for specific domains of EU funding. Several stakeholders in the field of culture and heritage have expressed their views and suggestions for the new MFF and specific EU funds. See for instance: Europa Nostra's [reply to the consultation on EU funds in the area of cohesion](#) and its [reply to the consultation on funds in the area of values and mobility](#); [statement by Culture Action Europe](#) on the post-2020 MFF; a [call from cultural and creative sector players](#) to boost the EU culture budget; [statement by European Alliance for Culture and the Arts](#) on the post-2020 MFF.

In connection with the proposal for the post-2020 MFF, the Commission will also adopt its proposal for the next framework programme for research and innovation. This next framework programme will incorporate research and innovation missions to ensure the effectiveness of research and innovation

funding by pursuing clearly defined targets. More information about the mission-oriented approach and the preparations for the next framework programme 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. No relevant calls are open under the Culture sub-programme. It is not yet clear when the next call for [European Cooperation Projects](#) will be published. 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](#).

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, France, 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 calls for '[Town twinning](#)' and '[Network of towns](#)' under the second strand will open later this year (deadline in September). 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. Currently, a call for proposals is open on the topic '[Social inclusion and common values: the contribution in the field of education, training and youth](#)'. Projects are encouraged to include EYCH 2018 related activities in their proposals. The deadline for applications is 22 May 2018. More information about the Erasmus+ programme and the calls 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 call on Heritage in Changing Environments will be announced in June. A third call on identity and perception will probably open later this year. The JPI CH recently organised a [Workshop on Alignment](#) on 25 April 2018. As part of the EYCH 2018, the JPI CH will organise an [International Workshop](#) on 28-29 May 2018 to showcase and discuss JPI CH funded projects. The workshop aims to provide new impetus to cultural heritage dedicated research, by presenting the most recent research results. More information can be found [here](#).

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

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 1st stage: 20 February 2018, deadline 2nd stage: 18 September 2018) *Relevant topic in this call: 'ICT for Social Interaction and Culture'*
- ***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 1st stage: 23 January 2018, deadline 2nd 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 1st stage: 27 February 2018, deadline 2nd stage: 4 September 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 1st stage: 19 February 2019, deadline 2nd 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)
- ***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-08-2019: The societal value of culture and the impact of cultural policies in Europe](#). (Opening: 6 November 2018, deadline: 14 March 2019)
 - [DT-TRANSFORMATIONS-11-2019: Collaborative approaches to cultural heritage for social cohesion](#). (Opening: 6 November 2018, deadline: 14 March 2019)
 - [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)

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 open on 7 May 2018 and closes on 22 June 2018. You can download an application pack with more information on [this page](#). The approved projects of the 3rd call for projects can be found [here](#).

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. More information about the next [call for the creation of Action-Planning Networks](#) will be made available in the third quarter of 2018 (see Factsheet 2A, p.17-28 [Programme Manual](#)).

OTHER CALLS, OPPORTUNITIES, CONSULTATIONS

- European Commission – [survey on the Access to Finance of Enterprises from the Cultural and Creative Sectors](#) (deadline: 30 April 2018)
- European Commission – [public consultation on European Heritage Label](#) (deadline: 24 May 2018)
- Application for [eTwinning Award for Cultural Heritage](#) (for teachers) (deadline: 30 June 2018)
- European Commission – [public consultation on Aarhus and Pafos, ECOCs 2017](#) (deadline: 11 July 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)

Events

Lecture series 'TEIM: Thank Europe it's Monday' (Spring 2018, Brussels, Belgium)

Flemish heritage organisations FARO and Herita are organising a lecture series within the framework of the EYCH 2018. In this lecture series, leading experts in heritage studies will look at current problems, challenges, and the ways to explore and develop the potential of heritage as a strategic resource for a sustainable Europe.

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

ICAHM Annual Meeting 2018 'Discover Sicily's Argimusco – a Holistic Approach to Heritage Management' – call for papers (deadline: 1 May 2018)

The next Annual Meeting of the International Committee on Archaeological Heritage Management (ICAHM) will focus on the need to develop a holistic and integrated approach to heritage management. It will be held on 25-28 October 2018 in Messina, Sicily, Italy. Currently, a call for papers is open until 1 May 2018.

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

Committee of the Regions seminar 'The role of cultural heritage in the construction of the Europe for citizens' (4 May 2018, Burgos, Spain)

The [SEDEC commission of the European Committee of the Regions](#) organises a seminar with the objective to highlight and boost the important role of cultural heritage in Europe as a resource and a common good. The outcomes of the debate will feed back into the preparation of two related draft opinions of the CoR: '[Strengthening European identity through education and culture](#)' and '[Cultural heritage as a strategic resource for more cohesive and sustainable regions in the EU](#)'.

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](#).

REACH conference 'Resilient Cultural Heritage and Communities in Europe' (10-11 May 2018, Budapest, Hungary)

This conference is organised by the EU funded [REACH project](#), which as a social platform will provide opportunities to debate and develop participatory approaches to preservation, use/re-use, and management of cultural heritage. The conference will form the start of the new REACH social platform.

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

EuropeanaTech Conference 2018 'Gorgeous Data, Glorious Technology - The digital face of culture' (15-16 May 2018, Rotterdam, The Netherlands)

The conference will bring together an international network of technical and R&D specialists from memory organisations, research institutions and creative industries to share innovative progress and forecast the technical future of Europeana and digital cultural heritage.

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

European Heritage Heads Forum (EHHF) Annual Meeting 2018 (16-18 May 2018, Luxembourg-City, Luxembourg)

Main theme of the 2018 Annual Meeting will be 'Old sites and new functions: Sharing our built heritage with the next generation'. The meeting is organised by the Service of national sites and monuments of Luxembourg and the EHHF Secretariat. Attendance is strictly by invitation only.

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

European Private Heritage Week (24-28 May 2018)

The European Private Heritage Week is an initiative of the European Historic Houses Association, organised in partnership with the European Landowners' Organisation, the Friends of the Countryside, the International Union of Property Owners and Future for Religious Heritage. During this week, private owners of heritage houses, chapels and churches will open their doors and organize special activities, under the common banner 'Our House, Your Heritage'. It organised within the framework of the EYCH 2018.

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

High level discussion on 'A 2025 vision for European (digital) cultural heritage' (28-29 May 2018, Varna, Bulgaria)

Europeana, the Bulgarian Ministry of Culture and Pencho Slaveykov Public Library will organise a high level discussion with the aim to devise and propose a vision for European cultural heritage for implementation under the next Multiannual Financial Framework. The event is by invitation only.

Invited participants are: policy makers from Ministries of Culture, EYCH national coordinators, representatives of DG EAC, and members of the Expert Group on Digital Cultural Heritage and Europeana (DCHE).

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

Conference 'The Cultural Heritage of Europe @ 2018 - Re-assessing a Concept – Re-defining its Challenges' (4-5 June 2018, Paris, France)

This international conference is organised by [LabEx 'Écrire une Histoire Nouvelle de l'Europe'](#) (Writing a new history of Europe), a project which aims to shed light on the current crisis in Europe by

reconstructing a new historiography of Europe that is intended for both the scholarly world and that of teachers, citizens, and politicians. The conference will take a critical look at the EYCH 2018 initiative and its underlying assumptions, and it will discuss how a 'European' dimension of cultural heritage can be conceptualized in today's globalized and inter-connected reality. 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, but there are many more parallel and side events organised and hosted by supporters and partners. For a list of all events, see [this page](#). Here are a few examples of interesting events:

- [Young professionals summit 'The future is heritage'](#) (19-22 June 2018)
- [Workshop 'Adaptive reuse of built heritage'](#) (20 June 2018)
- [Conference 'Sharing as a chance. Private initiatives and cultural heritage'](#) (19-20 June 2018)
- [Conference 'Cultural heritage communities and audiences in today's digital environment'](#) (19 June 2018)
- [Panel discussion 'Heritage of humanity and European cultural heritage. Finding common grounds'](#) (21 June 2018)

20th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (Daugavpils, Latvia, 19-21 June 2018)

Topic of the next Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention will be: 'Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections - 5th Session 2016-2017'. The purpose of the Forum is to highlight the valuable experiences of projects presented within the framework of the national selections of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe.

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

Special edition of ECTN awards 'Cultural Heritage as an Asset for Responsible and Sustainable Tourism' – call for applications (deadline: 1 July 2018)

The European Cultural Tourism Network (ECTN) has launched a special edition of its annual Awards for Destination of Sustainable Cultural Tourism as a contribution to the EYCH 2018. It is organised in partnership with Europa Nostra. Awards will be given for achievements by cultural tourist destinations which have produced significant results related to enhancing visitor experience while respecting traditions and involving local communities.

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

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

The central theme of the 24th 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. The scientific programme will be announced very soon. Nominations for the 2018 European Archaeological Heritage Prize can be sent to the EAA Secretariat until 1 June 2018.

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

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.

- [The Faro Convention Action Plan Handbook 2018-2019](#) (Council of Europe)
- [Future creative cities – Why culture is a smart investment for cities](#) (EUROCITIES, December 2017)

- [Europe's cultural and natural heritage in Natura 2000](#) (European Commission, 2018)
- [The value and values of culture](#) (Culture Action Europe, 2018)
- [Creative Europe: Rediscovering our cultural heritage](#) (EU, Creative Europe programme, January 2018)
- [The role of public policies in developing entrepreneurial and innovation potential of the cultural and creative sectors](#) (EU, OMC working group of Member States' experts, January 2018)
- [An integrated approach to cultural heritage – The Council of Europe's technical co-operation and consultancy programme](#) (J. Bold & R. Pickard (eds), Council of Europe, February 2018)
- [Applying the Faro Convention principles to deliver heritage-based urban development: The COMUS-Project](#) (M. Ripp & P. Stein, Council of Europe, February 2018)
- [Reconnecting natural and cultural capital – Contributions from science and policy](#) (M.L. Paracchini, P.C. Zingari & C. Blasi (eds), EU, Joint Research Centre, February 2018)
- [Learning kits on fundraising, advocacy and education for heritage organisations](#) (V. Kisić & G. Tomka, Europa Nostra, February 2018)
 - [Fundraising – Learning kit for heritage civil society organisations](#)
 - [Awareness raising & advocacy – Learning kit for heritage civil society organisations](#)
 - [Citizen engagement & education – Learning kit for heritage civil society organisations](#)
- [Copernicus for cultural heritage: Satellites to preserve the legacy from our past!](#) (Copernicus Observer, March 2018)
- [Cultural heritage: Innovative audience development best practices](#) (Economía Creativa Consultancy, March 2018)
- [Heritage is ours – Citizens participating in decision making](#) (Europa Nostra Finland, March 2018)

Proceedings of the 2017 EAC Symposium 'Dare to choose'

The proceedings of the [2017 EAC Symposium](#) 'Dare to choose: Making choices in archaeological heritage management' were launched by editor Ann Degraeve at the [EAC Annual Meeting 2018](#) in Sofia, Bulgaria. Just like last year, there are two publications: [an online volume \(Internet Archaeology Issue 49\)](#) and a [hard copy/PDF publication \(EAC Occasional Paper 13, published by Archaeolingua\)](#). The online volume contains fuller papers and abstracts, while the hard copy publication consists of extended abstracts.

Report on EAC Making Choices survey

The [EAC Working Group on Making Choices](#) has published a report on the results of its survey on decision-making in archaeological heritage management: '[Making Choices: Valletta, Development, Archaeology and Society](#)'. In total the Working Group received 22 responses, together covering a big part of Europe. The responses provide great insight into the way choices are made in the context of the Valletta and Faro Conventions. Besides offering an analysis of all the different approaches taken, the report also identifies areas where the EAC could help develop guidance to improve consistency and transparency. The Making Choices Working Group has been established within the framework of the EAC's [Amersfoort Agenda](#) (2015) and its subsequent action plan. As a next step, the Working Group and the EAC Board will discuss which key recommendations of the report will be translated into actions first. Once the priorities have been identified, the EAC will invite member states and associated European and international bodies to engage in the activities.

New issue of The European Archaeologist (Issue 55 – Winter 2017/2018)

A new edition of The European Archaeologist (TEA), a newsletter published by the European Association of Archaeologists (EAA), has been published in February 2018. You can download it [here](#).

ICOMOS endorses International Principles on Virtual Archaeology (Seville Principles)

The [19th General Assembly of the International Council of Monuments and Sites \(ICOMOS\)](#) has officially endorsed the '[Seville Principles: International Principles of Virtual Archaeology](#)' during its meeting in New Delhi, India. These Principles were developed a few years ago at the initiative of the Spanish Society of Virtual Archaeology, in cooperation with the Virtual Archaeology International Network (INNOVA) and CIPA Heritage Documentation. The ICOMOS General Assembly encourages ICOMOS National and International Scientific Committees to use the Seville Principles as a fundamental international document to guide the appropriate documentation, modelling and dissemination of heritage places using virtual reality applications.

European Heritage Days programme launches new initiatives to celebrate the EYCH 2018

The [European Heritage Days programme](#) has launched two new initiatives within the framework of the EYCH 2018. One of the two initiatives is the [European Heritage Makers Week](#), which invites young Europeans to share their picture (and a story) about natural or cultural surroundings, a heritage site near them or a historic object they value. 10 selected 'Heritage Makers' will be invited for a cultural visit to Strasbourg in November. The second initiative is the European Heritage Days' [Call for European Heritage Stories](#), which invites creative individuals and communities across Europe to share their perspectives and stories on heritage. The goal is to further encourage citizens' involvement in the celebration of the EYCH 2018, as well as to support creative new heritage projects.

7 Most Endangered heritage sites 2018

Europa Nostra and the European Investment Bank Institute (EIBI) have [announced the 7 Most Endangered 2018](#). The 7 Most Endangered list identifies the most threatened monuments, sites and landscapes in Europe and mobilises public and private partners at all levels to find a viable future for these heritage gems. Previous lists can be found on [this website](#).

Update on European Research Infrastructure for Heritage Science (E-RIHS)

The European Commission has published an [online interview article](#) on the progress of the [European Research Infrastructure for Heritage Science \(E-RIHS\)](#). The progress and planning of the E-RIHS project was also discussed in a recent [blog post](#) by Sorin Hermon (The Cyprus Institute). E-RIHS will support cross-disciplinary research on heritage interpretation, preservation, documentation and management and pursues the integration of European world-class facilities to create a cohesive entity playing a connecting role in the global community of heritage science. E-RIHS was included in the ESFRI Roadmap 2016 and has entered the Preparation Phase in 2017. This Preparatory Phase will be used to create the legal and administrative foundation and to prepare the operational side of delivering access to archives, training and expertise. Currently, 23 countries are involved in the preparations and many institutions have already expressed an interest in joining or collaborating with E-RIHS.