European affairs update

January 2017   *By Djurra Scharff (djurra.scharff@e-a-c.org)*

- *Presidency Council of the European Union Jan-Jun 2017: **Malta** https://www.eu2017.mt/en*
- *Committee of Ministers (CoE) chairmanship Nov 2016-May 2017: **Cyprus** http://www.coe.int/en/web/chairmanship/home*
- *European Capitals of Culture 2016: **Aarhus (Denmark)** http://www.aarhus2017.dk/en/ and **Pafos (Cyprus)** http://www.pafos2017.eu/?lang=en*

Policy

EUROPEAN UNION

Council and European Parliament present their position on the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018
During its meeting on 22 November 2016, the EU Council of Ministers of Culture adopted a general approach regarding the proposal for a decision on a European Year of Cultural Heritage (EYCH 2018) (COM(2016)543 final), which was submitted by the European Commission in August 2016. In the general approach, the Council introduces a new overall objective and several other changes to the Commission proposal. The European Parliament's CULT Committee also presented its position on the EYCH 2018 in a draft report. The Committee underlines its support for the initiative, but also calls for a specific budget line and active participation of all relevant stakeholders. The European Parliament, the Council and the European Commission are now starting negotiations and a final decision is expected soon. In the meantime the European Heritage Alliance network, representing many heritage-related European and international networks, has started an advocacy campaign to ensure that the EYCH 2018 is supported with adequate financial resources at all levels of governance.

Council agrees on inclusion of EFTA/EEA countries in European Capitals of Culture 2020-2033
The Council of the EU has reached political agreement on the Commission's proposal to amend Decision No 445/2014/EU establishing a Union action for the European Capitals of Culture for the years 2020 to 2033. The amendment extends the open competition for cities from candidate countries/potential candidates to cities from EFTA/EEA countries. It is expected that the decision will be adopted under the Maltese Presidency. For more details, see the 'Outcome of the Council meeting' on this webpage.

Public consultation on rules on the on import of cultural goods
Recently, the European Commission launched a public consultation on rules on the import of cultural goods. This public consultation aims to gather input from all interested stakeholders to be taken into consideration in the preparation of legislative proposals. The Commission is considering to adopt measures that will counter the illicit trafficking in cultural goods from third countries more effectively. You can fill in the questionnaire until 23 January 2017.

Library and cultural heritage sector responds to Commission proposal on Copyright in the Digital Single Market
Several important players in the European library and cultural heritage sector have published a joint statement on the European Commission's proposal on Copyright in the Digital Single Market. This proposal is part of a package of legislative proposals for the modernisation of EU copyright rules presented by the Commission in September 2016 (see European Affairs Update – Oct 2016). It will be discussed by the European Parliament and the Council early this year.

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Indicator Framework on Culture and Democracy (IFCD) launched
The Council of Europe's Indicator Framework on Culture and Democracy (IFCD) has been launched on 14 October 2016. The IFCD is 'a tool for assessing and optimising cultural policies on the basis of reliable, comparative data and for examining links between culture and democracy within and among

Council of Europe member states'. It will enable more evidence based policy-making and investments, mapping of European trends, as well as evaluation of a country's situation and comparison with other countries. The IFCD has been developed by the Council of Europe in collaboration with the Hertie School of Governance and with support from the European Cultural Foundation and member states. These are the links to the IFCD interactive data explorer (beta version), Policy Maker's Guidebook and Brochure.

Update on European Cultural Heritage Strategy for the 21st century (Strategy 21)
The draft European Cultural Heritage Strategy and Recommendation (see European Affairs Update – Jul 2016) have been transmitted to the Committee of Ministers and will be considered for adoption in the next months. The Cypriot Chairmanship (Nov 2016 – May 2017) has plans to organise a launching event for the promotion of the Strategy and the Recommendation.

Update on draft Convention on Offences relating to Cultural Property
Last year the Council of Europe started preparations for a new criminal law convention to combat the illicit trafficking of cultural property. The new Committee on Offences relating to Cultural Property (PC-IBC) is working on a draft Convention, which will supersede and replace the European Convention on Offences relating to Cultural Property (ETS No.119). It is expected that the Convention will be ready by the end of 2017. A high-level colloquium dedicated to the topic of the Convention was hosted by the Council of Europe and the Cypriot Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers on 13 January 2017 in Strasbourg, France.

Funding and investments

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 develop skills needed in the digital age. Currently, no calls are open under the Culture sub-programme. The next call for European Cooperation Projects is expected after the summer, with a deadline in October 2017. For more information on other funding opportunities, you can consult the annual work programme for 2017. Or contact one of the National Creative Europe desks.

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 2016-2020. Calls under both strands are now open until 1 March 2017. For more information on the supported activities, have a look at the Europe for Citizens updated Programme Guide.

ERASMUS+
The Erasmus+ programme aims to boost skills and employability, as well as modernising education, training, and youth work in Europe. The 2017 call for proposals supports several kinds of actions in education and training such as sector skills alliances and strategic partnerships. For more details, see the Programme Guide.

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. These are some of the research projects granted under previous JPI CH joint calls. 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 at least one call is foreseen, although the ambition is to realize 4 complementary calls each with a specific thematic focus. Themes that might be included are identity and perception, digital heritage, changing environments, and conservation and protection. Explore more about the JPI CH on this website.

[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, such as climate change and an ageing population.

Cultural heritage research and innovation in 2016 and 2017

Over €100 million is available this term (2016-17) for research and innovation in the field of cultural heritage. The H2020 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 [Work Programmes 2016-17](#) (see WPs under sections). Relevant heritage funding strands in 2017 include:

- ***Industrial Leadership***
    - [NMBP-35-2017: Innovative solutions for the conservation of 20th century cultural heritage](#). (Opening: 11 May 2016, deadline 1st stage: 27 October 2016, deadline 2nd stage: 4 May 2017)
    - [SMEInst-11-2016-2017: Boosting the potential of small businesses in the areas of climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials](#). (Opening: 26 November 2015, several cut-off dates in 2016 and 2017 for phase 1 and phase 2 actions)
    - [SMEInst-12-2016-2017: New business models for inclusive, innovative and reflective societies](#). (Opening: 26 November 2015, several cut-off dates in 2016 and 2017 for phase 1 and phase 2 actions)
    - [ICT-20-2017: Tools for smart digital content in the creative industries](#). (Opening: 8 December 2016, deadline: 25 April 2017). The European Commission organised an Information and Networking day on the theme 'ICT Research and Innovation for Creative Industries and Cultural Heritage' on 17 November 2016. The call above and [CULT-COOP-09-2017](#) were the main topics. Presentations are available on [this webpage](#).

- ***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](#) or this [infographic](#).

- ***Societal Challenges, SC5 Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials***
    - [SC5-21-2016-2017: Cultural heritage as a driver for sustainable growth](#). (Heritage-led rural regeneration, opening: 8 November 2016, deadline 1st stage: 7 March 2017, deadline 2nd stage: 5 September 2017). The European Commission organised a Stakeholder info day on the theme 'Responding to Societal Challenges through Nature and Cultural Heritage based solutions' on 8 December 2016. The call above was one of the topics. Presentations are available on [this webpage](#).
    - [SC5-22-2017: Innovative financing, business and governance models for adaptive re-use of cultural heritage](#). (Opening: 8 November 2016, deadline: 7 March 2017)

- ***Societal Challenges, SC6 Europe in a changing world – inclusive, innovative and reflective societies***
    - [CULT-COOP-02-2017: Improving mutual understanding among Europeans by working through troubled pasts](#). (Opening: 4 October 2016, deadline: 2 February 2017)
    - [CULT-COOP-03-2017: Cultural literacy of young generations in Europe](#). (Opening: 4 October 2016, deadline: 2 February 2017)
    - [CULT-COOP-04-2017: Contemporary histories of Europe in artistic and creative practices](#). (Opening: 4 October 2016, deadline: 2 February 2017)
    - [CULT-COOP-06-2017: Participatory approaches and social innovation in culture](#). (Opening 4 October 2016, deadline 2 February 2017)

- CULT-COOP-07-2017: Cultural heritage of European coastal and maritime regions. (Opening 4 October 2016, deadline 2 February 2017)
- CULT-COOP-09-2017: European cultural heritage, access and analysis for a richer interpretation of the past. (Opening: 4 October 2016, deadline: 2 February 2017)
- CULT-COOP-10-2017: Culture, integration and European public space. (Opening: 4 October 2016, deadline: 2 February 2017)

The European Commission organised an Information day on Societal Challenge 6 'Europe in a Changing World - Inclusive, Innovative and Reflective Societies' on 11 October 2016. Presentations are available on this webpage.

Also see the calls under Science with and for society for interesting opportunities in relation to participatory practices, responsible research and education. And calls under Co-creation for growth and inclusion (part of Societal Challenges pillar) might be interesting in relation to co-creation and evidence-based policy making topics.

Preparation of new Work Programmes 2018-2020
Preparations for the new Work Programmes 2018-2020 started in 2016. Stakeholder consultations and consultations with Member States have taken place in the first three quarters of 2016. The results of stakeholder consultations and Advisory Group recommendations provide input for so-called 'scoping papers', which are the basis for the new Work Programmes 2018-2020.

Relevant Advisory Group Recommendations have been published for:
- Societal Challenges, SC5 Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials: Advisory Group Recommendations Programming period 2018-2020
- Societal Challenges, SC6 Europe in a changing world – inclusive, innovative and reflective societies: Expert Advisory Group recommendations on 2018-2020 Work Programme

The European Commission has now published 17 scoping papers and one general overarching document for the Work Programmes 2018-2020. These scoping papers are working documents and therefore don't have any formal status. They do give a good idea of possible themes and priorities, as they will guide the preparation of the new work programmes. It might be worth to check out relevant sections of the scoping papers for SC5 (2.6 'Protecting and valorizing our natural and cultural assets') and SC6 (2.2 'Cultural and technological transformations for human and social progress'). The adoption and publication of the work programmes are expected in October 2017.

EUROPEAN TERRITORICAL 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 focuses on policy instruments for regional development, in particular the Structural Funds programmes. The programme co-finances projects and exchange platforms 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 third call for project proposals will run from 1 March 2017 to 30 June 2017. The details of the call will be published on the website soon. For more information, see this page.

The previous two calls resulted in 130 approved projects, of which nine projects focus on development and improvement of cultural heritage policies. Four projects address the topic of cultural heritage and five projects work on both, cultural and natural 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 3 types of Networks. Cultural heritage is one of the urban topics under URBACT. A new call for 15 'Transfer Networks' is expected later this year (also see Factsheet 2C, p.43 Programme Manual). A separate call for good practices is now open until 31 March 2017. For more information, see this page.

EUROPEAN MARITIME AND FISHERIES FUND
The Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME) regularly publishes specific grants and calls for tender that are funded through the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF). A call for proposals on the topic 'Nautical routes for Europe' is open until 15 March 2017.

OTHER HELPFUL SOURCES ON EUROPEAN FUNDING
- *A Beginner's Guide to EU Funding*
- *MOOC EU budget and funding for regions and cities* (offered by Committee of the Regions)

Events

NEARCHing Factory – Creating New Scenarios for Archaeology (30 January-1 February 2017, Santiago de Compostela, Spain)
This participatory conference will invite participants to re-think the practice of archaeological activity and to discuss (and work on) new scenarios for sustainable practices in archaeology. Specific working groups will deal with topics that are relevant to archaeology today.
More information? See this link.

International Conference on Landscape Observatories (9-10 February 2017, Amersfoort, The Netherlands)
The Dutch organisation LandschappenNL organises, in cooperation with networks Civilscape and Uniscape, a conference on landscape observatories within the framework of the Florence Convention. The conference will facilitate an exchange of experiences and good practices, as well as a debate on the potential role of landscape observatories.
More information? See this link.

JPI CH Funded Research Projects Parade (20-21 February 2017, Brussels, Belgium)
The JPI CH organises a Funded Research Projects Parade on 20-21 February 2017 to put into perspective and present results of projects granted through the two joint calls. The Parade is intended to give a fresh impetus to research applied to cultural heritage, by exploiting and foreseeing impact of most recent research results under the JPI CH.
More information? See this link.

European Archaeological Council (EAC) Annual Meeting 2017 (9–11 March 2017, Athens, Greece)
The next Annual Meeting of the EAC will be hosted by the General Directorate of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage (Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports) at the Acropolis Museum in Athens, Greece. The 18th Heritage Management Symposium will focus on the theme 'Dare to choose: Making choices in archaeological heritage management'. Registration is possible until 15 February 2017.
More information? See this link.

Heritage in Motion Awards – Open for submissions (deadline: 15 March 2017)
Heritage in Motion is a multimedia competition for the creators and users of films, games, apps and websites on themes related to Europe's heritage. The awards (four categories and a Best Achievement Award) will be presented during the Award Ceremony on 29 September 2017 in Skopje, Macedonia at the Annual Conference of the European Museum Academy.
More information? See this link.

9ᵗʰ Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention (23-24 March 2017, Strasbourg, France)
The aim of this periodical conference is to present to the member States of the Council of Europe the progress made in the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, and practical questions related to its implementation. One the sessions will focus on the contribution of the landscape approach to the exercise of democracy and human rights, within a perspective of sustainable development.
More information? See this link.

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) annual conference 'Archaeology: a global profession' (19-21 April 2017, Newcastle, United Kingdom)
The 2017 annual training event and conference of CIfA will focus on archaeological practice on a world stage. There are three broad themes: professionalism, protection, discovery.
More information? See this link.

HEURIGHT conference 'Cultural Heritage in the European Union: Legal Perspectives and Contemporary Challenges' (20-21 April 2017, Warsaw, Poland)
This conference is organised within the framework of the HEURIGHT project and aims to discuss how human rights guarantees in relation to cultural heritage are being understood and implemented in the European Union (EU) and in its neighbouring countries.
More information? See this link.

The European Archaeological Heritage Prize 2017 - Open for nominations (deadline: 1 June 2017)
Each year the European Association of Archaeologists (EAA) awards a prize to an individual, institution, or to a local or regional government for an outstanding contribution to the protection and presentation of the European archaeological heritage. The prize will be awarded during the EAA Annual Meeting in Maastricht, The Netherlands (30 August 2017).
More information? See this link.

European Association of Archaeologists (EAA) Annual Meeting 2017 (30 August-3 September 2017, Maastricht, The Netherlands)
The 23ʳᵈ Annual Meeting of the EAA will focus on six key themes, all related to the concept of 'building bridges', either across projects, countries, disciplines, societal groups or cultures. All themes relate to issues that are relevant in archaeology today. Specific attention will be paid to the long term effects on archaeology of both the Maastricht Treaty and the Valletta Convention. Registration is now open.
More information? See this link.

Other updates

Interreg Europe policy brief on role of regional cooperation in preserving cultural heritage
Interreg Europe has published a policy brief on the role of regional cooperation in the protection and sustainable management of cultural heritage. This policy brief was prepared by experts of the Interreg Europe Environment and Resource Efficiency Policy Learning Platform. The Interreg Europe programme supports regions to work together in addressing common challenges, such as the development of approaches for sustainable exploitation of both natural and cultural heritage assets.

Monitoring report published for European Heritage Label sites
Sites on the list of the European Heritage Label are monitored on a regular basis to ensure that they continue to meet the criteria for which they were selected. 2016 was the first monitoring year and the report is now available. The panel in charge of the monitoring examined all sites awarded in 2013 and 2014 and concluded that all sites can continue to hold the title. Besides an examination of each site, the report also reflects on the first European Heritage Label cycle (2013-2016). Explore the report here.

Creative Europe Projects Results Platform
The European Commission has launched the 'Creative Europe Projects Results Platform', a database for projects funded under the Creative Europe programme. It contains descriptions of all projects

funded under the programme, including contact information for the organisations involved. It also contains results for projects that have ended, including links to websites. You can use different sorts of search criteria to find the projects you are interested in. More information can be found in this leaflet.

New edition of The European Archaeologist (Issue 50 - Autumn 2016)
A new edition of The European Archaeologist (TEA), a newsletter published by the European Association of Archaeologists (EAA), has been published in November 2016. You can download it here.

Exhibition 'Archaeology and me'
The exhibition 'Archaeology and me' displays a selection of 88 works submitted under the international competition 'You(r) archaeology – portraying your past'. This competition was launched in the context of the NEARCH project and asked European citizens to illustrate their idea of archaeology with a drawing, painting, photo or video. You can visit the exhibition at the Museo Nazionale Romano (Rome, Italy) until 23 April 2017. The exhibition also has an active Facebook page.

Heritage Times: a new online platform for stories on European cultural heritage
Europa Nostra and European Heritage Volunteers have launched 'Heritage Times', an online platform where stories related to European cultural heritage are regularly posted and shared by a team of volunteers on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. You can now check out the first posts on Heritage Times. If you would like to join the team of social media volunteers, you can send your application until March 2017. Read more about this initiative in this news item on Europa Nostra's website.

UNESCO Military Manual 'Protection of Cultural Property'
UNESCO has published a new military manual for the protection of cultural heritage. It was launched during a high-level panel discussion on 'Targeting Heritage: in search of new paradigms – save heritage through dialogue'. Participants discussed how to make protection of heritage an integral part of sustainable strategies to foster development, peace and security. The Military Manual on Protection of Cultural Property 'serves as a practical guide to the implementation by military forces of the rules of international law for the protection of cultural property in armed conflict'. For more information, see this news item on UNESCO's website.

Abu Dhabi Declaration on the protection of endangered cultural heritage in armed conflict
Heads of States and Ministers from 40 countries and representatives from several international organisations participated in the 'Conference on Safeguarding Endangered Cultural Heritage', which was held in Abu Dhabi (United Arab Emirates) on 2-3 December 2016. The conference was a joint French-United Arab Emirates initiative and was held under the patronage of UNESCO. The event focussed on the protection of cultural heritage in places of conflict from terrorism and illicit trafficking. The conference concluded with the adoption of the Abu Dhabi Declaration. It commits the 40 participating States to create an international fund open to public and private contributions and an international network of safe havens for endangered cultural property. For more details, see the news items on the websites of UNESCO, the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development and Europa Nostra.