European affairs update

30 April 2022

Joint initiative of European Archaeological Council (EAC) and European Association of Archaeologists (EAA) Prepared by the EAC Assistant Jenni Butterworth (info@e-a-c.org)

☐ Presidency Council of the European Union January-June 2022: **France**

☐ Committee of Ministers (CoE) chairmanship Nov 21- 20 May 22: **Italy**. 20 May 22- Nov 22 **Ireland.**

☐ European Capitals of Culture 2022: **Kaunas** (Lithuania) , **Esch-sur-Alzette** (Luxembourg), **Novi Sad** (Serbia) (from Jan 2022 due to the pandemic)

Policy

EUROPEAN UNION

EU supports Ukraine through culture
The European Commission is mobilising its instruments to support Ukrainian artists and culture professionals and to support the protection of cultural heritage. Mariya Gabriel, EU Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, said: "I would like to express my full solidarity with the Ukrainian artists, creatives, culture professionals, and of course, cultural heritage and all cultural and creative sectors. They are the beating heart of Ukraine, and their work epitomises the Ukrainian history, identity, language, and hopes for the future. They are also part of our common European identity, made of a mosaic of cultures, in full respect of cultural diversity." Read full statement here.

Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council - Culture, Audiovisual, Media and Sport
(April 2022) The Council approved conclusions on reinforcing intercultural exchanges through the mobility of artists and cultural and creative professionals, and through multilingualism in the digital era. These conclusions call on member states to **promote cooperation between cultural authorities and those responsible for administrative issues related to mobility**. The EU wishes to encourage mobility and exchanges among European artists and creative and cultural professionals, in particular by guaranteeing them better access to mobility opportunities within the EU. The conclusions also call for the development of an **ambitious digital policy** for the **development of language technologies**, translation and

lifelong language learning and teaching. The EU wants to take advantage of new technologies to foster multilingualism, which nurtures cultural exchanges and facilitates access to culture.

The Council also approved conclusions on building a European strategy for the cultural and creative industries ecosystem, a sector that employed 8.02 million people in the EU in 2019. The strategy is structured around five pillars:
- improving access to finance for European businesses in the cultural and creative industries ecosystem;
- stimulating skills development and enhancement, as well as education and training;
- preserving and reaffirming Europe's cultural richness and diversity in the digital age;
- strengthening exports by businesses in the cultural and creative industries ecosystem;
- promoting responsible policies in businesses in the cultural and creative industries ecosystem.

Full Council conclusions here.

The Conference on the Future of Europe
Chairs and spokespersons of nine Working Groups at a plenary session, on 8-9 April, tabled consolidated draft proposals, grouped by theme, to the Conference plenary. The proposals were mainly based on the recommendations of European Citizens' Panels, national panels, and ideas from the Multilingual Digital Platform. These proposals were discussed by all Plenary Members. The final Conference Plenary session is scheduled for 29-30 April in Strasbourg, where proposals are expected to be approved by the Plenary on a consensual basis, with a final say of the citizens component. These proposals will be then put forward to the Conference's Executive Board, with the final report delivered to the Presidents of the EU institutions on 9 May in Strasbourg for the closing ceremony of the Conference. Find out more here.

Committees of the European Parliament: 2023 Budget - Section III
The 2023 EU budget will be the third under the multiannual financial framework (MFF) for 2021 to 2027. It is also the last year of the EU recovery instrument (Next Generation EU), which is planned to run from 2021 to 2023. The draft guidelines, as adopted by the Committee on Budgets on 16 March 2022, outline Parliament's goals for the Union's 2023 budget, with the overarching priority of recovering from the coronavirus crisis and facing geopolitical challenges. Parliament is expected to adopt its guidelines during the April plenary session, ahead of the Commission's adoption of its proposal of the draft 2023 budget, scheduled for early June. Find out more here.

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Archaeology and digital technologies: thematic session at the 10th plenary session of the CDCPP
A thematic session on the subject of archaeology and digital technologies, with particular reference to the European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (revised, Valletta, 1992) was held in December 2021. Both EAC and EAA representatives attended the session. At the dawn of the 30th anniversary of the Convention in 2022, the CDCPP is exploring how digital technologies can inform or contribute to the implementation of the Valletta Convention, analysing not only the successes, but also the obstacles and challenges along the way, as well as the future prospects and opportunities. Presentations and contribution from the thematic session are now available here.

Russian Federation
On 25 February 2022, following an exchange of views with the Parliamentary Assembly, the Committee of Ministers decided to suspend the Russian Federation from the Council of Europe in accordance with Article 8 of the Statute. On 16 March, at an extraordinary meeting, the Committee of Ministers decided, in the context of the procedure launched under Article 8 of the Statute of the Council of Europe, that the Russian Federation would immediately cease to be a member of the Council of Europe, ending its 26 years of membership. Find out more here.

Funding and investments

BUDGETS AND PROGRAMMES

Multiannual Financial framework (MFF)
The multiannual financial framework for 2021-2027 is in place as of 1 January 2021. As a result, €1.074 trillion will become available for beneficiaries of EU funding during the next seven years. Find out how the EU distributes the budget of the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027 - where you can see how much is allocated to each programme.

CREATIVE EUROPE

With an annual budget of €385,6 million, nearly €100 million more than 2021, Creative Europe strengthens its support to the cultural and creative sectors, taking due account of the challenges resulting from the COVID-19 crisis and the growing global competition. Some of the actions covered by the Creative Europe Culture Strand in 2022:

- *European cooperation projects* Calls under the flagship action European cooperation projects will be launched in February 2022 and target all cultural and creative sectors to foster transnational cooperation, exchanges of practices, joint production and innovation.

- *Performing arts and cultural heritage* In the second half of 2022, 3 new calls will be published to support the music sector through Music Moves Europe, the performing arts sector through the Perform Europe initiative and cultural heritage through quality support to the European Heritage label action.

- *Books and literature* In 2022, Creative Europe supports the translation of literary works and the development of publishing partnerships, as well as the European Book Week, an initiative to foster reading among young people.

- *Prizes and initiatives* In 2022, the Culture strand of Creative Europe continues to support the organisation of four yearly European EU Prizes in the fields of literature, music, architecture and cultural heritage, in the form of grants, as well as the European Capitals of Culture initiative. Emphasis is given to knowledge-sharing, networking and promotion opportunities for winners.

Find out more here.

Open Calls:

- European Cooperation Projects (CREA-CULT-2022-COOP) Transnational projects involving cultural and creative organisations from different countries taking part in the programme. Funding is available for 3 categories of projects: small, medium and large-scale projects. All categories are of a maximum duration of 48 months. (Deadline 5 May 2022).

THE CITIZENSHIP, EQUALITY, RIGHTS AND VALUES PROGRAMME (CERV)

Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV): EU program 2021-2027
A new EU funding period begun in 2021. The "Europe for Citizens" program, together with the REC (Rights, Equality and Citizenship) program and Daphne, form the EU program "Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values 2021-2027" - CERV for short. CERV - with a budget of around EUR 1.55 billion - will consist of four funding areas with the general goal of maintaining and developing open, rights-based, democratic, equal and inclusive societies. The priorities of "Europe for Citizens" remain.

There are no open calls at the moment.

ERASMUS+

2022 Erasmus+ European Universities call – preliminary submission results after deadline
The 2022 Erasmus+ European Universities call for proposals closed on 22 March. Following the deadline, 52 proposals were received in total (eligibility check still to be performed). In total, the call attracted around 350 higher education institutions covering 33 EU Member States and third countries associated to the Erasmus+ programme. Find out more here.

There are no open calls at the moment.

JPI ON CULTURAL HERITAGE AND GLOBAL CHANGE

Open calls:

- Cultural Heritage, Society and Ethics joint call (JPI CH CHSE) Two themes: Cultural Heritage and economic development, and Cultural Heritage and sustainable strategies. (Pre-proposal deadline 23 May 2022, Jun-Sept full proposal submissions).
- Data Space for Cultural Heritage- Deployment (Deadline 17 May 2022)
- Citizen Engagement Activities- New European Bauhaus (EIT Community) (Deadline 29 May 2022)
- Co-creation of public space through Citizen Engagement- New European Bauhaus (EIT Community) (Deadline 29 May 2022)

HORIZON EUROPE

Horizon Europe is the EU's key funding programme for 2021-27 for research and innovation with a budget of €95.5 billion. It tackles climate change, helps to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and boosts the EU's competitiveness and growth. The programme facilitates collaboration and strengthens the impact of research and innovation in developing, supporting and implementing EU policies while tackling global challenges. It supports creating and better dispersing of excellent knowledge and technologies, creates jobs, fully engages the EU's talent pool, boosts economic growth, promotes industrial competitiveness and optimises investment impact within a strengthened European Research Area. Legal entities from the EU and associated countries can participate.

The new Horizon Europe programme is structured around three pillars that are divided into specific subjects. For the first time ever, the authors of the programme included a cluster dedicated to Culture, Creativity and Inclusivity.

Horizon Europe programme structure

Pillar I
Excellent Science

European Research Council
Marie Sklodowska-Curie Actions
Research Infrastructures

Pillar II
Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness

Clusters
- Health
- Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society
- Civil Security for Society
- Digital, Industry and Space
- Climate, Energy and Mobility
- Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment
- Non-nuclear direct actions of the Joint Research Centre

Pillar III
Innovative Europe

European Innovation Council
European Innovation Ecosystems
European Institute of Innovation and Technology

Part: Widening participation and strengthening the European Research Area
Widening participation and spreading excellence
Reforming and enhancing the European Research and Innovation system

Find out more here.

ERC Advanced and Consolidator Grants announced
March/ April 2022: The European Research Council announced the winners of its 2021 Advanced and Consolidator Grants competitions. The funding is: for Advanced Grants, in total €624.6 million, to 253 winners; for Consolidator Grants, in total €632 million to 313 winners. Find out more here and here.

Open Calls:

There are no open calls.

Forthcoming Calls:

Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness – Culture, creativity and inclusive society
- Sustainable and resource-efficient solutions for an open, accessible, inclusive, resilient and low-emission cultural heritage: prevention, monitoring, management, maintenance, and renovation (Built4People). Opens 6 Sep 2022.

UK participation in Horizon Europe
UK researchers remain eligible to apply to Horizon Europe. The Trade and Cooperation Agreement between the EU and the UK provides for the possibility of associating the United Kingdom to Horizon Europe, subject to the adoption of a Protocol. As this Protocol has not been adopted so far, the UK is still considered to be "non-associated" to Horizon Europe. The successful proposals of applicants based in a country in the process of associating to Horizon Europe will be eligible for funding only if the relevant Horizon Europe association agreement applies by the time of the signature of the grant agreement. However, successful applicants from UK host institutions can still be funded provided they move to a host institution in an eligible country. If the delay to the UK association continues, the UK government has confirmed successful Horizon Europe applicants will receive funding from UKRI regardless of the outcome of the UK's efforts to associate with Horizon Europe. Find out more here and here.

POST-2020 EUROPEAN TERRITORIAL COOPERATION PROGRAMMES "INTERREG"

In January 2022 the European Commission, formally adopted two Implementing Acts that define the scope of Interreg programmes for the 2021—2027 period. Interreg funds projects that bring together policy organisations from across Europe. For four years, they learn from each other and work together on a shared policy issue. The lessons they learn lead to the improvement of regional policies and a more sustainable economic, social and environmental impact on the ground for the people and the place they serve.

Open Calls:

- In the 2021-2027 programming period, Interreg will allocate its budget through open calls for project proposals. The first call is now open until 31 May 2022. Relevant documents can be found here.

OTHER CALLS

Survey: Digital education and skills at regional and local level
The SEDEC Commission of the European Committee of the Regions and the European Commission's Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (DG EAC) are inviting local and regional authorities to share their experiences on digital education and skills through a survey. The deadline for submitting answers is 23 May 2022. Find out more here.

UNESCO International Fund for Cultural Diversity
UNESCO has launched the 13th call for applications to the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD), a multi-donor fund established under the 2005 Convention for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. Aimed at supporting the emergence of dynamic cultural sectors in developing countries, the call is open to projects from eligible countries that are Parties to the 2005 Convention. Successful projects will be granted financial support of up to US$100,000. Call for applications closes 15 June 2022. Find out more here.

Call for students to become observers of Horizon Europe funding proposal evaluations
As part of the European Year of Youth 2022, master's students in the EU are invited to become "Young Observers" in Horizon Europe proposal evaluations. This is a unique opportunity to experience directly how the EU budget for Horizon Europe is used, by selecting the best proposals in a fair and impartial evaluation process within a fiercely competitive environment. Find out more here.

Commission seeks candidates for the ERC Scientific Council
The independent Standing Identification Committee, which was set up by the European Commission in 2020, has begun the search for candidates for membership of the Scientific Council of the European Research Council (ERC). Nominations are accepted until 6 May 2022. Find out more here.

Europa Nostra and its youth partners launch consultation
Europa Nostra and its partner organisations working with youth in cultural heritage are launching a wide consultation on "Youth for the Future of Cultural Heritage in Europe" as a contribution to the European Year of Youth 2022. The consultation, aiming at empowering and raising the voice of Europe's young generation, is developed in collaboration with the European Students' Association for Cultural Heritage (ESACH), the Erasmus Student Network (ESN), the European Heritage Tribune (EHT), The Future is Heritage, Europeana Initiative Diversity & Inclusion Task Force, ICOMOS Emerging Professionals Working Group and the European Heritage Volunteers. The survey is open until 31 August 2022, find out more here.

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

HELPFUL SOURCES ON EUROPEAN FUNDING

- How EU funding works (Information on the different types of EU funding available, the application process, eligibility and rules)
- CulturEU funding guide covers opportunities linked to the European Commission's flagship programme Creative Europe, as well as a wide spectrum of around 20 other EU funding programmes, from Digital Europe to LIFE and EU Structural Funds.
- 'How to communicate your project' guide intended for beneficiaries of Erasmus+, European Solidarity Corps and Creative Europe programmes.

Events and calls for papers

European Archaeology Days
The European Archaeology Days will take place on 17, 18 and 19 June 2022. These three days will be used to raise awareness and familiarize European audiences with all aspects of archaeology. Find out more here.

European Heritage Days
- European Heritage Days 2022: this year's shared European Heritage Days theme is Sustainable Heritage, download the brochure here.
- The 30th edition of the European Heritage Days in Poland will take place on 10-11 and 17-18 September. The theme "Connected by heritage" shall accompany a series of open and free of charge events throughout the country highlighting the crucial role communication has in creation and development of communities.

Culture Action Europe Annual General Assembly and Members' Forum 2022
Culture Action Europe's Annual General Assembly and Members' Forum will meet online on 23 June 2022. Agenda is under development, registrations close on 16 June. Find out more here.

28th Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists (EAA)
The 28th EAA Annual Meeting will be held on 31 August- 3 September 2022 in Budapest, Hungary, and online. The themes of the meeting are: Archaeologists and Archaeology Here and Now; [Re]integration; The Carpathian Basin- integration, mobility and diversity; Polis, Empire League and Beyond- living in interconnected societies; Climate Change and Socioenvironmental Perspectives; A Decade after the ' Third Science Revolution in Archaeology'. Registration is open, find out more here.

Europeana 2022
Europeana 2022 will take place from 28-30 September 2022. It will be a hybrid conference, to welcome cultural heritage professionals from around the world both in person, to the National Library of the Netherlands in The Hague, and digitally. The aim is to explore how we can collaboratively build a common data space for cultural heritage and raise voices from across the sector to empower digital transformation and explore the role digital cultural heritage plays in today's and tomorrow's world. The deadline for proposals is 27 May 2022. Find out more here.

International Conference on Theory and Practice of Digital Libraries (TPDL)
TPDL will be held in Padua, Italy on 20-23 September. The conference draws from a broad and multidisciplinary array of research areas including computer science, information science, librarianship, archival science and practice, museum studies and practice, technology, social sciences, cultural heritage and humanities, and scientific communities. This year its focus is on bridging the wide field of Research and Information Science with the related field of Digital Libraries. The Call for papers is open. Find out more here.

30th anniversary ENCATC Congress 2022
The ENCATC Congress on Cultural Management and Policy is an action-packed programme offering its members and to the Cultural Management and Cultural Policy community the opportunity to connect in a global conversation with peers and by contributing to the sharing of knowledge, projects, curricula, methodologies, ideas, and practices. 19-21 Oct 2022 Online & in Brussels, Belgium. Find out more here.

'50 Years of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention in Europe: Achievements and Challenges'
The conference will be held at the International Cultural Centre, Krakow on June 8–10, 2022. Find out more here.

Global Cultural Relations Programme (GCRP) 2022
This year the GCRP will take place in Istanbul from 10-13 May 2022. Would you like to broaden your skills in international cultural relations, and network with cultural and creative practitioners around the world? Our Global Cultural Relations Programme (GCRP) is a unique opportunity for people working in the cultural and creative sectors. Find out more here.

International Council of Museums (ICOM) 26ᵗʰ Annual Conference 2022
The theme 'The Power of Museums', reflects on the transformative power of museums and their potential of bringing about positive change. It takes place 20-28 August 2022 in Prague, Czechia. Early bird registration has been extended to 10 May. Find out more here.

16th annual EHHF meeting
The 16th edition of the Forum is planned for 18 May 2022, Edinburgh, Scotland provided it does not have to be postponed due to the sanitary crisis. The members will thus gather in Edinburgh-Scotland on 18-20 May 2022. Attendance by invitation only. Find out more here.

European Heritage Awards/Europa Nostra Awards 2022
Entry for the 2022 European Heritage Awards/Europa Nostra Awards, funded by the EU's Creative Europe programme are now closed, the Awards Ceremony will take place in Prague, Czechia, 26 September 2022. Forms for the 2023 Awards will be available from June 2022. Find out more here.

UNESCO World Conference on Cultural Policies and Sustainable Development 2022
The UNESCO-MONDIACULT 2022 World Conference will be hosted from 28 to 30 September 2022 by the Government of Mexico. UNESCO is engaging its Member States and the international community to embark on a renewed reflection on cultural policies to tackle global challenges and outline immediate and future priorities in order to shape a more robust and resilient cultural sector, fully anchored in sustainable development prospects in line with the vision enshrined in the UN Secretary-General's report Our Common Agenda (September 2021). Find out more here.

International Conference on Cultural Heritage and New Technologies 2022
ICHNT will take place online and in Rome, November 2022 and in Istanbul, February 2023. Find out more here.

Resources and publications

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.

- 23rd Annual Meeting and Symposium of the European Archaeological Council **took** place 24-25 March 2022 in Vienna, Austria, and online. The event was hosted and organised by the Federal Monuments Authority Austria (Bundesdenkmalamt), Department of Archaeology and the Natural History Museum, Vienna. The topic was 'Archaeology and the Natural Environment', and the presentations can be viewed online, details here.

- Climate Change and Archaeology (EAC Occasional Paper 17, Archaeolingua, eds. Hannah Fluck and Kate Guest, 2022). Proceedings of the 22ⁿᵈ EAC Heritage Symposium 2021.

- Archaeology and digital technologies: thematic session at the 10ᵗʰ plenary session of the CDCPP. Both EAC and EAA representatives attended the session; link contains presentations and contributions.

- WHITE PAPER Cultural Heritage and Climate Change: New challenges and perspectives for research (JPI Cultural Heritage & JPI Climate 2022).

- Stronger economy, social justice, jobs, education, culture, sport, digital transformation. Citizens' recommendations and the EU context: Panel 1 of the Conference on the Future of Europe (DG IPOL, 2022)

- Re|Shaping Policies for Creativity: Addressing culture as a global public good (3ʳᵈ edition, UNESCO 2022). The third edition of the Global Report is published in English, French and Spanish.

- ARIADNEplus Data Management Plan Tool (ARIADNEplus 2022): online tool to assist archaeologists with making their data comply with the FAIR data principles, meaning that data should be Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable.

- [Climate Action Working Group - Climate Justice and Equity Toolkit](#) (ICOMOS 2022). Provides an overview of the topic alongside some best-practice examples and suggested actions and activities for ICOMOS National and Scientific Committees.

- [European Quality Principles for EU-funded Interventions with Potential Impact upon Cultural Heritage](#) (new version, ICOMOS 2022)

- [Fair Collaboration in Cultural Relations - Not a Toolkit!](#) (EUNIC 2022). Aims to raise awareness about fair practices in cultural relations, and asks pertinent questions to challenge and improve our practices, policies and procedures when engaging in cultural relations activities.

- [EU guidelines on the safe resumption of activities in the cultural and creative sectors](#) (European Commission 2021)

- [Global Map monitoring closure of heritage sites due to Covid](#) (UNESCO)

Other updates

UKRAINE

A wide range of organisations have issued statements and launched initiatives to support Ukraine and its cultural heritage. A (non-exhaustive) list:
- [EU supports Ukraine through culture](#).
- European Parliament: [Russia's war on Ukraine's cultural heritage](#)
- Council of Europe: [War in Ukraine](#).
- Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council: [protecting the cultural sector in Ukraine](#).
- Statements by [EAC](#), [EAA](#) (Statement on Ukraine from Archaeological Organisations Worldwide), [UNESCO](#), [EHHF](#), [ERC Scientific Council](#), [Europa Nostra](#), [ICOMOS](#), [Europeana Foundation](#), [ENCATC](#), [JPI CH](#), [Libraries for Ukraine](#), [EESC](#)
- Europa Nostra and Global Heritage Fund launch [crowdfunding campaign to support the defenders of Ukraine's endangered heritage](#).
- Europa Nostra contributes to UNESCO [International Coordination Meeting for Emergency Response for Culture in Ukraine](#).
- ICOMOS: [Resources for individual Ukrainian professionals, scholars or students in the arts and the heritage field](#).
- Network of European Museum Organisations: [Museums support Ukraine](#)- resources.
- Culture Action Europe: [#CultureForUkraine](#)- resources
- ERC for Ukraine: [jobs for researchers fleeing Ukraine](#).
- Interreg: [we help Central Europe to welcome refugees](#)- resources.
- [SUM- Save the Ukraine Monuments](#)- project to save digital documentation of Ukrainian cultural heritage.
- The European External Action Service (EEAS) [#ARTvsWAR campaign](#) aims to raise awareness of the level of destruction of cultural heritage, art objects, suspension of cultural life and initiatives due to war conflict, supporting the protection of culture.

Malta joins the European Archaeological Council

The Superintendence of Cultural Heritage, Malta became the newest member to join the EAC at the 23rd Annual Meeting in Vienna, March 2023. See the full list of EAC members [here](#).

Promoting European values through education and culture

Towards a community of best practices at local and regional level: a collection of activities and experiences gathered in the form of a virtual map constitutes a concrete step towards creating a community of best practices at local and regional level on how to promote European values through education and culture. With more than 100 examples and contributions provided by the CoR's elected local and regional representatives and partners, its aim is to serve as an inspiration for further valuable ideas and projects, while also providing various opportunities to share experiences, exchange knowledge and start cooperation. Find out more [here](#).

European Charter for Youth and Democracy
In the context of the 2022 European Year of Youth and the Conference on the Future of Europe, the European Committee of the Regions, the EU's voice of regions and cities together with the European Youth Forum, the voice of young people in Europe, have launched the co-creation process of a European Charter for youth and democracy. The Charter will strive to build and consolidate a youth friendly democratic space to ensure the voices of young people are formally, continuously and permanently represented in the European Union. Find out more here.

ECHA's plan to include lead in the list of substances subject to authorisation
April 2022: ICOMOS, ICOM, ECCO, ICOMOS-Corpus Vitrearum ISCCSG and ICOM-Glass issued a joint statement to raise severe concerns about the European Chemicals Agency's (ECHA) plan to include the material lead in Appendix XIV (Authorisation List) of the REACH Regulation. This would not only pose a major threat to the conservation, maintenance, presentation and even the creation of a large number of art and cultural objects, but would also destroy the livelihoods of countless conservator-restorers, craftsmen and artists, an economic, cultural and social impoverishment on a massive scale. Read full statement here.

From ESPON 2020 to ESPON 2030
The online conference "From ESPON 2020 to ESPON 2030 – Building on 20 years of innovative support for territorial policy-making" in March 2022 gathered more than 400 participants to discuss achievements of the present and perspectives of the future of ESPON programme. The event informed about the ESPON 2030 Programme- the new strategic integrated approach and the first themes of research. Find out more here.

Microfunding Cultural and Creative Sectors
"ProCCS: Microfunding Cultural and Creative Sectors" is a project supporting the overall cultural and creative sectors (CCS) by bridging the skills gap of professionals in the sector and connecting them with the business and microfinance sector. Pro-CCS is co-funded by the European Union and will run until January 2024. Find out more here.

Europa Nostra participates as content partner in the Delphi Economic Forum, Greece
From 6-9 April 2022, Europa Nostra participated as a content partner in the 7th edition of the Delphi Economic Forum (DEF), organised in the World Heritage Site of Delphi, Greece. During this year's annual conference, Europa Nostra contributed to 4 heritage-related events addressing timely issues, such as the protection of cultural heritage, sustainability, climate change and the future of Europe. Secretary General Sneška Quaedvlieg-Mihailovic, shared the floor with prominent speakers. Find out more here.

3 Winners announced under the European Heritage Days' grant to European Heritage Label
In 2021, European Heritage Label sites were invited to implement short-term projects refreshing their vision of Europe's heritage through cooperation and cross-border projects, under the European Heritage Days joint action co-organised by the European Union and the Council of Europe. Winners: Fondazione Trentina Alcide De Gasperi in **Italy**; Stichting Herinneringscentrum Kamp Westerbork in **The Netherlands;** Ostia antica, Parco archeologico di Ostia antica in **Italy.** Find out more here.

Europe's 7 Most Endangered heritage sites 2022
March 2022: Europa Nostra and EIB Institute announced Europe's 7 Most Endangered heritage sites 2022. The Programme forms part of a civil society campaign to save Europe's endangered heritage. It raises awareness, prepares independent assessments and proposes recommendations for action. It also provides a grant of €10,000 per listed site to assist in implementing an agreed activity that will contribute to saving the threatened site. In most cases, the listing of an endangered site serves as a catalyst and incentive for the mobilisation of necessary public or private support, including funding. Find out more here.

How can Artificial Intelligence benefit the Cultural Heritage sector?
Cultural heritage professionals aim to improve the way we understand paintings by generating descriptions of them. However, since millions of cultural objects have been created throughout history, completing such a task seems impossible, but only for humans. The goal of the Saint George on a Bike (SGoaB) project is to provide high-performance metadata enrichment capability by using High Performance Computing (HPC) resources in the cultural heritage domain. The project trains natural language processing and deep learning algorithms in culture, symbols, and historical context to

automatically generate rich metadata for hundreds of thousands of images from various European cultural heritage repositories. Find out more [here](#).

Call for applications for 2028 European Capital of Culture
Call for applications from candidate countries and potential candidates participating in the Creative Europe Programme and to lead to the designation of one of these cities as European Capital of Culture 2028. Closing deadline 11 November 2022, find out more here.