

European Affairs Update

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Urban Archaeology and the Cities of Tomorrow
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- Presidency Council of the European Union: Jul-Dec 2023 Spain. Jan-Jun 2024 Belgium. Jul-Dec 2024 Hungary. Jan-Jun 2025 Poland.
- Committee of Ministers (CoE) chairmanship: May-Nov 2023 Latvia. Nov 23-May 24 Liechtenstein. Nov 24- May 25 Luxembourg.
- European Capitals of Culture 2023: Elefsina (Greece), Veszprém (Hungary) and Timisoara (Romania).

Joint initiative of European Archaeological Council (EAC) and European Association of Archaeologists (EAA). Prepared by the EAC Assistant Jenni Butterworth. [You can join the mailing list here](#). If you wish to be removed from the mailing list, please email info@e-a-c.org.

European Union

Cáceres declaration on culture adopted

26 Sep: The Ministers of Culture of the European Union adopted the [Cáceres declaration](#) at the informal meeting held in Cáceres on 25-6 Sept, within the framework of the Spanish Presidency of the Council of the EU. The declaration in support of culture is to be placed at the highest policy level, and hereafter considered to be an essential public good. The Ministers pledged to work to make culture a crucial element of policies promoting peaceful, fair and egalitarian societies, because culture plays an essential role in the construction of democratic societies and in the personal development of citizens; culture is essential for achieving societies that are healthier, fairer, freer and more discerning, tolerant, inclusive and egalitarian. Without pre-empting the coming post-2030 discussions, the Ministers committed to working for culture to be recognised in and of itself as a new sustainable development goal.

2024 Annual work programme for Creative Europe published

14 Sep: The newly-published [Annual Work Programme for Creative Europe](#) confirms that there will be no open call for large-scale cooperation projects in 2024, and that open calls will be announced once in every two years. Culture Action Europe, on behalf of a group of more than 70 networks and organisations from across the Cultural and Creative Sectors and Industries (CCSIs), had addressed a letter of concern to the EU Member States and the Council of the EU regarding the proposed cuts by 40 million. They argued that such a cut will significantly weaken the Creative Europe programme, the only EU's funding envelope dedicated to European cultural cooperation. The co-signatories hoped that the Council would reconsider the current budget cuts and rather contribute to further strengthen the Creative Europe programme for the year 2024 and in the future, in line with the position expressed by the CULT Committee of the European Parliament, which requested an increase by €43 million for next year. However, the EU's executive did not change its mind. Find out more here.

EU budget 2024: addressing next year's challenges through mid-term revision

18 Oct: [Parliament's position on the 2024 EU budget](#) was adopted ahead of negotiations with member states. MEPs boosted the 2024 EU budget to tackle the fallout from Russia's war against Ukraine, support SMEs, young people and research, and bolster the EU's strategic autonomy. They aligned their position on the 2024 budget with their stance on the proposed mid-term revision of the EU's long-term budget (MFF, multiannual financial framework), which Parliament expects to inject up to €75.8 billion into the EU budget over the period 2024-2027. Drawing from this planned top-up, MEPs bolstered initiatives to improve the EU's strategic autonomy in 2024, but also humanitarian aid, migration and external assistance. Parliament also reversed the cuts made by the Council in its negotiating stance (€772 million) to the level of the original draft budget proposed by the Commission. They have also increased funding for programmes and policies, to further aid post-pandemic recovery and fortify the green transition, and support young people with a boost for Erasmus+, to account for higher inflation and higher living costs and make the programme accessible to all. The plenary vote kicks off three weeks of "conciliation" talks with the Council, with the aim of reaching a deal between the two institutions in time for next year's budget, to be voted on by Parliament and signed by its President before the end of the year.

Exchange of views on the future of the European Capitals of Culture scheme

24 Oct: CULT Members joined in a [reflection on the future development of the European Capitals of Culture](#) (ECOC) scheme by representatives of past, current and future titleholders and the European Commission. This initiative, started in 1985, aims to highlight the diversity of cultures in Europe, celebrate the cultural features that we share as Europeans, and foster the contribution that culture makes to the development of cities. Up to now, the title of European Capital of Culture has been awarded to more than 60 cities across the EU and beyond. Two years ahead of the 40th anniversary of the scheme, it is appropriate to assess whether it is still relevant today, how local artists, cultural and community organisations and inhabitants can be even more actively involved, how the European and cross-border dimensions can be strengthened and what enduring legacy Capitals leave for local communities.

Council of Europe

12th Annual Advisory Forum on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe

22 Sep: The 2023 Advisory Forum in Łódź, Poland, focused on "[Cultural Routes: the social and creative dimensions of cultural heritage in a post-industrial context](#)". Participants from 40 EPA member states and representatives from 47 certified Cultural Routes explored "the role of cultural heritage in the construction of a peaceful and democratic society" within post-industrial societies and linking it with contemporary challenges to heritage posed by conflicts, natural disasters, and climate change. Forum participants provided evidence of how Council of Europe standards, policies, and initiatives such as the Cultural Routes programme contribute to the dynamic evolution of European cultural heritage preservation and promotion, harnessing digital platforms and inclusivity to bring heritage to life through citizens' participation and local community involvement.

Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP)

The [12th session](#) will be held 15-17 November 2023 in Strasbourg.

Funding and investments

Budgets and programmes

Multiannual Financial framework (MFF)

The multiannual financial framework for 2021-2027 was implemented January 2021. €1.074 trillion is available for beneficiaries of EU funding during these seven years. Find out how the EU distributes the budget of the [Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027](#) - here you can see how much is allocated to each programme.

Please consult the sources provided to check details of calls, as they may change.

Creative Europe

Creative Europe 2023 work programme

Sep 22: The European Commission adopted the [2023 work programme for Creative Europe](#). The programme will continue to contribute to the implementation of the New European Bauhaus initiative through its CULTURE, [MEDIA] and CROSS SECTORAL strands. Specifically:

- [Mobility of artists and their works](#): the mobility instrument, Culture Moves Europe, will also stimulate artistic residencies linked to the New European Bauhaus.
- [European Capitals of Culture \(ECOC\)](#): a resourceful laboratory for policy reflection and experimentation on culture and Europe at a city level, promoting sustainability, participatory approaches and cross-sectoral linkages.
- [Creative Innovation Lab \[Cross-sectoral\]](#): will bring together stakeholders from audiovisual, cultural and creative industries and the technology sphere, to undertake projects to deploy innovative digital solutions to respond to the common challenges and opportunities of the digital transition across the cultural and creative sectors. One of the focuses for projects is greening and circular economy thinking, including innovation for sustainability, inclusion and well-being in line with the priorities of the new European Bauhaus.
- [European Cooperation projects](#): this action supports transnational cooperation projects involving organisations in the cultural and creative sectors from different countries taking part in the programme. It covers the EU and beyond. Through this funding, Creative Europe aims to improve access to European cultural and creative works and to promote innovation and creativity.
- [Creative Networks Europe](#): the EU cofinances 37 pan-European Networks of culture and creative organisations, under the Creative Europe programme (2021-2027). These networks support cultural organisations and professionals who contribute to strengthening the competitiveness and diversity of the European cultural and creative sectors.
- [European Platforms](#): support to platforms for cultural operators which promote emerging artists and stimulate a truly European programming of cultural and artistic work.

- Pan-European Cultural Entities: aims to support cultural entities – such as orchestras – with a large geographical reach, whose aim is to offer training, professionalization and performance opportunities for young, highly talented artists.

Open Calls:

- FLIP (Finance, Learning, Innovation and Patenting/IPR for Cultural and Creative Industries - Policy Project Grant– [EAC-S11-2022](#). Deadline **1 Dec 2023**.
- European Cooperation projects (small)– [CREA-CULT-2024-COOP-1](#). Deadline **23 Jan 2024**.
- European Cooperation projects (medium)– [CREA-CULT-2024-COOP-2](#). Deadline **23 Jan 2024**.

Forthcoming calls:

The indicative timetable for 2023-2024 calls is available [here](#).

JPI on Cultural Heritage and Global Change

Open Calls:

There are no open calls.

Forthcoming calls:

There are no forthcoming calls.

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 Horizon Europe programme is structured around three pillars, divided into specific subjects: Pillar I: Excellent Science; Pillar II: Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness, including cluster Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society; Pillar III: Innovative Europe. The full programme structure can be found [here](#).

Open Calls (all deadline 7 Feb 2024):

- Europe's cultural heritage and arts – promoting our values at home and abroad [HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-01-04](#).
- Cultural and creative industries for a sustainable climate transition [HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-01-02](#).
- Leverage the digital transition for competitive European cultural and creative industries [HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-01-03](#).
- New European Bauhaus – Innovative solutions for greener and fairer ways of life through arts and culture, architecture and design for all [HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-01-01](#).
- Culture, the arts and cultural spaces for democratic participation and political expression, online and offline [HORIZON-CL2-2024-DEMOCRACY-01-08](#).

Forthcoming Calls:

There are no forthcoming calls.

UK participation in Horizon Europe: The UK agreed a deal to associate to Horizon Europe on 7 September 2023. All calls in [Work Programme 2024](#) will be covered by association, and the UK guarantee scheme will be extended to cover all calls under Work Programme 2023. The 'Horizon Europe guarantee' scheme provides funding to researchers and innovators who were unable to receive their Horizon Europe funding while the UK was in the process of associating. UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) is delivering the funding through its grant systems on behalf of the Department for Science, Innovation & Technology (DSIT).

European Research Council

The [ERC Work Programme for 2023](#) with a total budget of around €2.2 billion for grants was adopted in July 2022 by the European Commission. 10 Jul 2023: The ERC's 2024 Work Programme was adopted by the European Commission. The plan includes new elements in the assessment of research proposals and candidates' CVs, and in the evaluation process, and introduces lump sum funding in Advanced Grants and makes changes in the structure of evaluation panels. Find out more here. <https://erc.europa.eu/news-events/news/ercs-plan-2024-adopted>

Open calls:

- ERC Starting Grant [ERC-2024-StG](#). Extended deadline **7 Nov 2023**
- ERC Synergy Grant [ERC-2024-SyG](#). Extended deadline **15 Nov 2023**
- ERC Consolidator Grant [ERC-2024-CoG](#). Deadline **12 Dec 2023**.

Digital Europe

The [Digital Europe Programme](#) is the first EU programme that aims to accelerate the recovery and drive the digital transformation of Europe. Worth €7.6 billion, the Programme is a part of the next long-term EU budget, (the Multiannual Financial Framework), covering 2021-2027. It will provide funding for projects in five crucial areas: supercomputing, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, advanced digital skills, and ensuring the wide use of digital technologies across the economy and society. The Digital Europe Programme will complement the funding available through other EU programmes, such as the Horizon Europe programme for research and innovation and the Connecting Europe Facility for digital infrastructure, the Recovery and Resilience Facility and the Structural funds.

28 Sep: The Commission has opened new calls for proposals under the 2023-2024 Work Programmes of the Digital Europe Programme to strengthen digital capacities across the EU. These Digital Europe Programme calls will see €8 million in grants for projects relating to the European tourism data space and €4 million for the deployment of a data space for cultural heritage. These investments continue the European Commission's roll-out of the European Data Strategy and its efforts to develop a thriving European data economy.

Open calls:

- Developing citiverse – [DIGITAL-2023-CLOUD-AI-04-DEVELOPCITI](#). Deadline **22 Nov 23**.
- Data Space for Cultural heritage – [DIGITAL-2023-CLOUD-DATA-AI-05-CULTHERITAGE](#). Deadline **23 Jan 2024**.
- Data Space for tourism – [DIGITAL-2023-CLOUD-DATA-AI-05-DATATOURISM](#). Deadline **23 Jan 2024**.

Forthcoming calls:

Further calls under the 2023-2024 Work Programme will be published later this year.

Post-2020 European Territorial Cooperation Programmes (INTERREG)

Interreg programmes for the 2021-2027 period were agreed in January 2022. 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:

There are no open calls.

Forthcoming calls:

The [third call in the 2021-27 period](#) is expected to open early in 2024.

The Citizenship, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV)

Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV): EU program 2021-2027

CERV - with a budget of around EUR 1.55 billion - consists of four funding areas with the general goal of maintaining and developing open, rights-based, democratic, equal and inclusive societies. The Commission adopted and published Implementing Decision on the financing of [the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values programme](#) and the adoption of the work programme for 2023-2024 in Dec 2022.

Open calls:

There are no open calls.

Erasmus+

Open Calls:

- [ERASMUS-EDU-2024-EUR-UNIV-2](#) European Universities- Community of practice. Deadline **6 February 2024**.
- [ERASMUS-EDU-2024-EUR-UNIV-1](#) European Universities- Development of deep institutional transnational cooperation. Deadline **6 February 2024**.

UK participation: The [UK has opted not to take part](#) as an associated third country in the Erasmus+ programme 2021-27. All projects in the 2014-2020 programme will continue until their completion on the same basis under which they were selected. A limited number of opportunities from 2021 onwards will remain open to UK participation because they are open to institutions or individuals from all over the world.

Other calls

Call for submissions: Religious Innovator of the Year 2023

The [Religious Heritage Innovator of the Year](#) is a competition launched by the Future for Religious Heritage in 2022 to celebrate and promote excellence in the field of religious heritage. Each edition of this annual award recognises five projects that have contributed or contribute significantly to the safeguarding, enhancement and/or promotion of Europe's places of worship. Entries to the competition are evaluated by a high-level jury of experts according to the values of inclusion, sustainability, resilience, innovation and cooperation, in line with the pillars of the European Commission's Framework for Action on Cultural Heritage. The 2023 edition is open for applications from 28 June to 30 November.

Call for membership: ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Economics on Conservation

The [ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Economics of Conservation](#) (ISCEC), is looking to enlarge and diversify its membership. Past and possible future fields of work by ISCEC include indicators for assessing the contribution and impact of cultural heritage to sustainable economic development and quality of life, adaptive reuse and circular and creative economy, economic considerations in assessing the contribution of cultural heritage in climate action, issues relating to the conservation of commemorative sites, and analysis of costs and options. Members professionally involved in economic aspects linked to heritage conservation and interested in actively participating in ISCEC are invited to submit their application in English, French or Spanish before 13 November 2023.

Call for submissions: Targeted Analyses for the ESPON Programme 2030

2 Oct: Since 2007, [ESPON Targeted Analyses](#) has been supporting territorial development processes at local, regional and national levels in Europe by bringing together policy makers who share the same kinds of challenges and who are looking for new territorial evidence and a European perspective. Applying sound methodologies and providing scientific expertise, ESPON Targeted Analyses deliver demand-driven and tailor-made analytical studies in support of territorial decision-making. The third round of submissions is open until 29 Mar 2024.

2024 Young European Heritage competition announced

15 May: [Young European Heritage Makers](#) is a competition for the young people of Europe, part of the European Heritage Days. It is an opportunity for them to explore their surroundings, learn about their local tangible and intangible cultural heritage and share a story of Europe. The competition is open to entries 1 Sep 2023 – 28 Feb 2024.

Call 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

- [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

Call for papers: 2024 Annual Meeting of the European Archaeological Council (EAC)

The 25th EAC General Assembly and Heritage Symposium will be held on 21-23 March 2024, in Brussels. The theme is 'Urban Archaeology and the Cities of Tomorrow'. The event is hosted by Urban.Brussels and is organized within the framework of the Belgian presidency of the Council of the European Union during the first semester of 2024. [The call for papers is now open](#).

Call for sessions: 2024 Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists (EAA)

The 30th EAA Annual Meeting will be held 28-31 August 2023 in Rome, Italy, and online. The concept of the meeting is 'Persisting with Change', and the themes are: the material record; archaeological science, humanities and the digital age; archaeological heritage in society; theory and archaeological scrutiny; all road lead to Rome, multiscale interactions; the Mediterranean from within; archaeology of sustainability. [The call for sessions closes on 9 Nov, and the call for papers will open on 18 Dec](#).

Registration: CHNT28 ICOMOS Austria

The CHNT28 conference takes place 15-17 November 2023 in Vienna, Austria, on the theme of Cultural Heritage as a Resource – Technologies for the Paradigm Shift in Archaeology, Conservation and Education. [Registration is still open](#).

AI for local authorities and policymakers

The Policy Learning Platform (interreg) is hosting a webinar on [7 November 2023 online](#) on the topic of [Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) for local authorities and policymakers](#). AI has a growing impact on local authorities as it can be used to help them automate tasks, improve decision-making, and enhance citizen engagement. AI algorithms can be used to analyse large amounts of data quickly and accurately. This can help local governments make more informed decisions about issues such as traffic management, waste management, and public safety. The webinar will explore the benefits of AI for local authorities and how it can be implemented effectively. In addition, it will discuss the latest milestones at the European level towards a legal framework for AI.

Symposium: The economic and social context of illicit trafficking in archaeological artefacts

In the framework of the European project [ANCHISE](#), the laboratory HERMA of the University of Poitiers and the European University Institute of Florence are organising a two-day Symposium. The event has the main objective to exchange knowledge about the economic and social contexts that allow the illicit trade of cultural heritage, in particular archaeological goods, from the source countries to the market countries. The symposium is [8-9 Nov 2023, Poitiers, France](#).

Creative FLIP final conference: Culture & Creativity beyond boundaries

More than two years have passed since Creative FLIP kicked-off a new project cycle, continuing to pursue its overall goal, to support a healthy ecosystem for the cultural and creative sectors and industries (CCSI). Supported by the growing community, our dedicated consortium of five partners, the Goethe-Institut, European Creative Hubs Network, IDEA Consult, 3s Unternehmensberatung and Intellectual Property Institute Luxembourg, has worked intensively to present a wide range of topics, tools and activities. [The event](#) will showcase the main results produced by Creative FLIP Project in the past two years, and look forward to continuing the exchange with the community under the slogan 'FLIP Forward: Culture & Creativity Beyond Boundaries'. The event takes place [15 Nov 2023, Brussels, Belgium](#).

NEMO European Museum Conference 2023 "and... ACTION! Museums in the climate crisis"

As the sector stands at the brink of change, NEMO wants to inspire and offer guidance on how museums can be part of the solution and identify where they can contribute to climate action and sustainability. At the conference, we will draw on learnings from NEMO's recent report to explore sustainability strategies, risk management as preventive measures and how to transform museums into futureproof and sustainable organisations. [The conference](#) takes place [19-21 Nov in Lahti, Finland](#). Selected presentations will be documented and made available online after the conference.

2023 International Image Interoperability Framework (IIIF) meeting

This meeting will be held from [5-7 December 2023 online](#). The [Online Meeting](#) is intended for a wide range of participants and interested parties, including digital image repository managers, content curators, software developers, scholars, and administrators at libraries, museums, cultural heritage institutions, software firms, and other organizations working with digital images and audio/visual materials. As a counterpart to the IIIF in-person Annual Conference, this event is meant both to introduce newcomers to IIIF and to provide a forum for discussion and dissemination for those with experience implementing and working with IIIF in a variety of contexts.

Resources and Publications

Please find below a list of publications and resources 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.

- Jakobsson, U, Novák, D, Richards, J, Štular, B and Wright, H '[Digital Archiving in Archaeology: Additional State of the Art and Further Analyses](#)' Internet Archaeology 63 (2023)
- [Aerial Survey and Remote Sensing in Archaeology Characterising the Community](#) (dataset, EAC AARG Survey 2023)
- [EU funding programmes 2021-2027 in culture, media, education, youth and sports: first lessons, challenges and future perspectives: Creative Europe](#) (Research for CULT committee 2023)
- [Report on the State of the Digital Decade 2023](#) (European Commission 2023)
- [DARIAH Tools & Services Catalogue](#) (Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities 2023)

- [Cultural Heritage: Policy recommendations to promote heritage as a source for innovation and international relations](#) (ILUCIDARE 2023)
- [Culture and Creative Sectors and Industries driving Green Transition and facing the Energy Crisis](#) (Voices of Culture 2023)
- [Museums, libraries and archives in the face of climate change challenges](#) (EPRS 2023)
- [Culture in voluntary national reviews: an overview of the 2023 reports](#) (IFLA, #Culture2030Goal campaign, 2023).
- [Understanding copyright for a digital creative project](#) (Creative FLIP 2023)
- [Cross-border claims to looted art](#) (European Parliament's Policy Department for Citizens' Rights and Constitutional 2023).
- [Nicosia Convention: short film](#) (COE 2023)

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:

- Second phase of Europa Nostra and Global Heritage Fund's [crowdfunding campaign](#) to support the defenders of Ukraine's endangered heritage
- [Polish Support Center for Culture in Ukraine](#): the task of the Center is to coordinate support to save the Ukrainian cultural heritage threatened by hostilities.
- The [Working Group of the Europeana Initiative](#) is open to anyone who would like to volunteer their efforts to support Ukraine's cultural heritage sector and our Ukrainian colleagues.
- [EU supports Ukraine through culture.](#)
- European Parliament: [Russia's war on Ukraine's cultural heritage](#)
- Council of Europe: [War in Ukraine.](#)
- Statements by [UNESCO](#), [ERC Scientific Council](#), [Europa Nostra](#), [ICOMOS](#), [ICOMOS Europe Group](#), [Europeana Foundation](#), [ENCATC](#), [JPI CH](#), [Libraries for Ukraine](#), [EESC](#)
- 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.](#)
- [SUM- Save the Ukraine Monuments-](#) project to save digital documentation of Ukrainian cultural heritage.

ICOMOS Appeal on the situation in Gaza and Israel

Oct 23: [ICOMOS expresses its deepest condolences and solidarity](#) to all those who have lost or are still missing their loved ones. Both in light of the situation in Gaza, and the increasing spillover in the region, we remind all parties involved in the conflict and those who have influence on these, that this region contains many of humanity's most precious and sacred sites, as well as institutions and people who care for and study them. This irreplaceable cultural heritage is of vital importance to all living communities attached to it. Under international humanitarian law, respect and safeguarding of cultural heritage is not optional, and intentional destruction is a war crime.

Draft 'Venice Manifesto' announced at European Cultural Heritage Summit

18 Oct: In September, 700 heritage practitioners and enthusiasts came together in Venice to participate in the [European Cultural Heritage Summit 2023](#). It coincided with Europa Nostra's 60th anniversary. The event addressed challenges confronting the continent, including conflict and climate change. The European Heritage Policy Agora ended with the presentation of the draft [Venice Manifesto: 'For a European Cultural Citizenship'](#). Culture and cultural heritage represent more than ever the key forces that link Europeans together. This sense of togetherness and belonging to a wider community is all the more crucial in today's times of fear and uncertainty.

European Heritage Hub Forum: cultural heritage and effective climate policy

29 Sep: The [Forum entitled 'Reimagining the Anthropocene'](#), organised in the frame of the European Heritage Hub and as part of the European Cultural Heritage Summit 2023 launched discussions to feed into a Global Call to Action to put culture and heritage at the heart of climate action. The final session aimed to connect directly to the policy discussions at EU level and at the 2023 UN Climate Conference (COP28) being held in November in Dubai, UAE, as well as to COP29 expected to be held in Europe in 2024. Forum discussions will inform the Call to Put Culture at the Heart of Climate Action, a global campaign that will be launched soon by diverse partners asking national governments that are parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to adopt a "Joint Work" decision (JWD) on culture and climate action at the COP.

Call for culture and cultural heritage to be at the core of 2024 EU elections

11 Oct: Ahead of the European Parliament elections in 2024, Europa Nostra, Culture Action Europe and the European Cultural Foundation have launched a [joint open letter](#) calling for culture and cultural heritage to hold a central place in electoral campaigns: in political groups' programmes and in public conversations with Europeans about the future of our continent. 8 out of 10 European citizens consider cultural heritage to be important to their community, region, country and the European Union as a whole, according to a 2017 Eurobarometer survey. As unique features that underpin European values and bring citizens together, culture and cultural heritage must be at the core of the current and upcoming political agenda.

#Culture2030Goal applauds growing government recognition of role of culture in development

24 Oct: Following the call for an explicit Culture Goal in future development agendas in the MONDIACULT 2022 Declaration convened by UNESCO, the [Culture2030Goal campaign](#) strongly welcomes the fact that in the last two months, four key high-level, cross-governmental declarations recognise the need for an explicit culture goal. The members of the United Nations, G20, the European Union and BRICS in the past months.

"Culture is foundational": A call to urban leaders

17 Oct: At the 11-13 October [2023 Eurocities Culture Forum](#) in Birmingham, culture experts, urban planners and local leaders came together to discuss the ever-growing significance of culture in an urban setting. The main message emerging from the three-day event was that arts and culture aren't mere embellishments, but rather, part and parcel of urban life and that should be treated as public goods. The key note speech stressed that while culture is foundational to the identity and vibrancy of a city, it's often overlooked or undervalued. Cities were urged to recognise the transformative power of culture, not just as an afterthought but as a core part of urban development, even more so in the current challenging times.

Common European data space for cultural heritage

6 Sep: The [common European data space for cultural heritage](#) accelerates the digital transformation of Europe's cultural sector and fosters the creation and reuse of content in the cultural and creative sectors. It is the new flagship initiative of the European Commission to accelerate the digital transformation of Europe's cultural sector, and foster the creation and reuse of content in the cultural and creative sectors. The deployment of the common European data space for cultural heritage is funded under Digital Europe Programme (DIGITAL) of the European Union.

ATRIUM proposal successful for Humanities infrastructures

The ARIADNE RI has won further funding with the proposal [Advancing FrontTier Research In the Arts and hUManities \(ATRIUM\)](#) – awarded through the HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions. ATRIUM will exploit and strengthen complementarities between leading European Humanities infrastructures: DARIAH, ARIADNE, CLARIN and OPERAS in order to provide vastly improved access to a rich portfolio of state-of-the-art services available to researchers across countries, languages, domains and media, building on a shared understanding and interoperability principles established in the SSHOC cluster project and other previous collaborations. ATRIUM aims to make a groundbreaking contribution to the consolidation and expansion of services, including data services, specifically in the field of archaeology, while, on the other hand, facilitating access to a wide array of essential text, image and sound-based services that benefit a number of other disciplines within the Arts and Humanities, and cover all phases

of the research data lifecycle (creating, processing, analysing, preserving, providing access to and reusing). The project has 29 partners and affiliates from 14 countries across Europe. The project will start in early 2024.

5Dculture – Deploying and Demonstrating a 3D cultural heritage space

24 Oct: '5Dculture – Deploying and Demonstrating a 3D cultural heritage space' a project funded by the European Health and Digital Executive Agency, was presented at the [2023 CARARE conference](#). The project aims to deliver high quality 3D content on the topics of Fashion, Archaeology and Architecture, to the European Data Space for Cultural Heritage; develop and evaluate reuse scenarios of this content in several domains, such as education, tourism and the wider cultural and creative sectors; deploy innovative digital technologies and tools for 3D work on capacity building for the CH sector for a wider reuse of 3D cultural assets. 12 partners are involved, including CARARE, which is responsible for the Work Package "reuse of Archaeological content". 5DCulture will establish a Community of Practice to deploy digital technologies and tools for 3D and work on capacity building to equip CH institutions with the necessary knowledge and skills for a wider reuse of their 3D cultural assets.

21st ICOMOS Triennial General Assembly and Scientific Symposium

The 21st ICOMOS Triennial General Assembly took place in Sydney, Australia, 31 Aug – 8 Sept 2023. With the theme "Heritage Changes", the 21st General Assembly was a resounding success, bringing together 1,300 participants from around the world to celebrate Australia's – and the world's – cultural heritage and promote responsible conservation. The diversity of participants (members, delegates, guests, exhibitors, partners and patrons) reflects the global reach of ICOMOS and its commitment to international collaboration: representatives of more than a hundred National Committees and 31 International Scientific Committees were present. [Find the final communiqué from the General Assembly, resolutions and other papers here.](#)

17th annual EHHF meeting

The 17th edition of the Forum took place 27-29 September 2023, in Sevilla, Spain during the Spanish Presidency of the EU Council. The meeting entitled "Heritage: A Living Being" coincided with the 20th anniversary of the 2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. [Find the programme and presentations here.](#)

European Heritage Days 2023 shine a light on "Living Heritage"

Sep 23: Living Heritage was the pan-European theme for the [2023 European Heritage Days](#). Tens of thousands of events taking place in 48 participating countries showcased the vibrancy, diversity and significance of cultural traditions, knowledge, and skills in Europe. Organised jointly by the Council of Europe and the European Commission since 1999, the European Heritage Days celebrate the wealth and diversity of European cultural heritage, while promoting dialogue, inclusion, and co-operation across borders. Thousands of monuments and remarkable sites, often inaccessible to the public during the year, will open their doors to visitors until November.

DE-BIAS is developing a methodology for knowledge co-creation

One key element of DE-BIAS - a two-year project funded under the Digital Europe Programme - is the active involvement of communities in the definition of a vocabulary. The vocabulary's terms will be fed to an [AI-driven tool](#) intended to detect use of inappropriate language in metadata and signal this to people using Europeana.eu. The vocabulary will be developed based on research and a series of community-oriented and -driven events. The events are intended to help participants and the project to produce knowledge together, co-creating insights that can help the cultural heritage sector to (re)investigate metadata.

"WOODPDLAKE": 4th user meeting event for JPI-CH funded projects

10 Oct: this event delved into the [JPI CH-funded project "WOODPDLAKE"](#) dealing with Wooden Pile Dwellings (WPD) in volcanic and karstic lakes, a subject of significant historical and archaeological importance. The project focuses on ancient structures submerged in Mediterranean volcanic and karstic lakes. Wooden pile dwellings serve as sources of insight into landscape evolution and the cultural activities of bygone eras. While significant investigations have been conducted in Alpine areas, a pressing need for research persists in understanding the context of these submerged structures in different geographical settings. The 4th User Meeting Event was the beginning of a series of webinars organized by HS Academy to showcase JPI-CH funded projects. Two more sessions are programmed for the 14 November and 12 December. Each webinar will analyse the impact and the results of JPI CH projects.