



HERITAGE FOR ALL: CITIZEN PARTICIPATION AND SOCIAL INNOVATION • INNOVATION PILLAR

WHY? • OBJECTIVES

Objects, places and traditions are important because of the meanings and uses that people attach to them and the values they represent. In the spirit of the Council of Europe's Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (**Faro convention**), this initiative aims to promote a wider understanding of heritage as a common good by placing people and communities at the centre and involving them in decision-making. **Social innovation** will be encouraged, as will ways of increasing civic participation in managing cultural heritage.

FOR WHOM? • TARGET GROUPS

Heritage professionals, cultural and creative industries, experts and practitioners, associations and interest groups representative of non-professionals and local societies, and policymakers in local, regional and national authorities.

WHAT? • CONTENT OF THE INITIATIVE

The 'Heritage for all' initiative draws inspiration from the work of an EU **expert group that worked on participative governance of cultural heritage**. The group identified best practices from EU Member States and their findings were **published in early 2018**.

The initiative has three main components:

COMPONENT I – IMPROVING EVIDENCE/RESEARCH AND EXCHANGE OF GOOD PRACTICE

Two projects funded by Horizon 2020, the EU research programme, will contribute to develop, test and promote innovative models of participatory governance:

- The **Horizon 2020 social platform 'REACH'** will invest €1.5 million in mapping research and practice in participatory preservation, reuse and management of cultural heritage. It will also evaluate bottlenecks and opportunities and will create European networks that help heritage communities to connect.
- Another **large Horizon 2020 research project, 'Culturelabs'** (worth €2.5 million), will assess the current state of cultural institutions and focus on how to support them to become cultural service providers and hubs of social innovation, in cooperation with the Council of Europe.
- The initiative will also identify and showcase successful cases of people-centred approaches to heritage in existing EU schemes, such as the European Capitals of Culture, the European Heritage Awards, the European Heritage Label and the European Heritage Days.

KEY DATES:

- **20 March 2018**
Joint RTD/EAC/CNECT Conference on science for heritage, Brussels, Belgium
- **November 2018**
Joint RTD/EAC conference 'Cultural heritage alive', Brussels, Belgium

COMPONENT II – TESTING AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

In cooperation with the Council of Europe, the Commission is currently implementing the **pilot project STEPS**, which is engaging communities in Lisbon and Rijeka in the heritage mapping of their neighbourhoods. The project will examine viable models for participative governance and measure the impact of these approaches to cultural heritage as a resource for community development and cohesion. In addition, four other pilot projects of the social platform REACH will target minority (Roma) heritage, institutional heritage, rural heritage and small towns' heritage.

The project will then present recommendations to national and regional policymakers at several conferences throughout 2018.

KEY DATES:

- **June 2018**
Final events of the STEPS project with the Council of Europe in Lisbon and Rijeka
- **October 2018**
Presentation of STEPS at the final conference of the 120 cities of the Council of Europe Intercultural Cities Network

COMPONENT III – PROMOTING THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONVENTION ON THE VALUE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE FOR SOCIETY (FARO CONVENTION)

A joint action of the Commission and the Council of Europe will be launched in May 2018 in order to increase the number of signatories and ratifications of the Faro Convention among EU and Council of Europe Member States and promote its implementation. A study on the lessons learnt with the promotion and implementation of Faro so far will be undertaken. Policy guidance will be issued, as well as documentary films. Up to three promotional seminars will be undertaken by the end of 2019.

KEY DATES:

- **Second half of 2018**
First promotional seminar with representatives from Ministries of signatory and non-signatory States

PARTNERS

- Within the European Commission, services dealing with Culture, Innovation and Research
- Council of Europe



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