



Mapping of Cultural Heritage actions in European Union policies, programmes and activities

This mapping report aims to contribute to the development of a strategic approach to the preservation and promotion of European heritage.

It responds to the "Conclusions on cultural heritage as a strategic resource for a sustainable Europe" adopted by the Council of the European Union on 20th May 2014, and complements the European Commission Communication "Towards an integrated approach to cultural heritage for Europe", published in July 2014.

The report provides a wide (but not exhaustive) range of information about EU policies, legislation, programmes and funding opportunities relevant to cultural heritage.

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1. CULTURE

Responsible DG: [Directorate-General for Education and Culture](#) (DG EAC)

1.1 EU policy / legislation

Council Work Plan for Culture 2011-2014

The [Work Plan for Culture 2011-2014](#), adopted by the EU Council of Ministers for Education, Youth, Culture and Sport in November 2010, defined priority areas for action, subdivided into three to seven topics. Each topic contained one to two action points as well as an indication of the outputs to be delivered and the instruments to be used to that end. Instruments and working methods include working groups of Member States' experts meeting under the [Open Method of Coordination \(OMC\)](#), expert groups convened by the Commission, studies, and reports.

Priority Area A: Cultural Diversity, intercultural dialogue and accessible and inclusive culture

The Open Method of Coordination (OMC) working groups (composed of Member States' experts) focused, in a first phase, [on the role of public arts and cultural institutions in the promotion of better access to and wider participation in culture](#) (2011-2012) and, in a second phase, on the role of public arts and cultural institutions in the promotion of cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue (2012-2013). The groups identified policies and good practices of public arts and cultural institutions promoting better access to and wider participation in culture, including by disadvantaged groups and groups experiencing poverty and social exclusion, and enhancing cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue.

Priority Area B: Cultural and Creative Industries (CCIs)

The Open Method of Coordination (OMC) working groups (composed of Member State experts) on Cultural and Creative Industries have been working on various key topics. The experts have identified, compared and modelled good practices on how to foster the potential of culture, including cultural heritage, for local and regional economy. Experts also examined the spill-over effects of the CCIs on the wider economy, particularly in terms of innovation, and the potential for making better use of EU support programmes to foster these effects. [A handbook on how to strategically use the EU support programmes, including Structural Funds](#), to foster the potential of culture for local, regional and national development and the spill-over effects on the wider economy was published in 2012. Besides, the external dimension was explored with a specific group on CCIs export and internationalisation strategies that produced a [Good Practice report on the cultural and creative sectors' export and internationalisation support strategies](#) in January 2014.

In addition, an OMC group on the access to finance for the cultural and creative sectors has been launched in 2014 and is accompanied by a study mapping existing funding mechanisms (public and private) in EU Member States.

Priority area C: Skills and Mobility

Open Method of Coordination (OMC) working groups

The Open Method of Coordination (OMC) working groups (composed of Member State experts) on Skills and Mobility have been working on various key topics.

After having screened and assessed numerous mobility schemes operating in EU Member States, the OMC working group on Mobility Support Programmes issued in 2012 a policy report providing concise and practical advice to policy-makers entitled "[Building a strong framework for artists' mobility: five key principles](#)". In 2013, the OMC group on Creative Partnerships delivered a policy handbook identifying and modelling the types of successful Creative partnerships and practices, to encourage interaction between culture and sectors such as education and training, but also business, and to help transfer creative skills from culture into other sectors.

The OMC working group on Artists' Residencies launched in 2013 will deliver a good practice manual on preparing, organising and following-up residencies, establishing networks and support mechanisms.

Expert groups and Seminars

In 2011, an expert group convened by the European Commission produced common standards for information and advice services to artists and culture professionals seeking to be mobile. This set of quality standards and best practices can now be used by the EU Member States to create, for instance, information portals.

Finally, in 2013 the European Commission organised a thematic seminar bringing together its competent services, government and other experts from the EU Member States, and representatives of the cultural sector to analyse administrative practices related to artists' mobility Schengen visa-related issues, with a view to recommend improvements to the current situation. In June 2014, a second seminar will focus on taxation and social security issues which hamper the intra-EU mobility of artists and culture professionals.

Priority Area D: Cultural heritage including mobility of collections

Open Method of Coordination (OMC) working groups

The OMC working groups (composed of Member State experts) on the mobility of collections have examined the ways and means to simplify the process of lending and borrowing of cultural objects among Member States of the European Union. Experts identified good practices on relevant issues in the context of mobility of collections. In 2012 they have produced a [good practice report](#) for national authorities and an [operational toolkit](#) containing guidelines for the introduction of state indemnity schemes, shared liability and risk assessment; valuation checklist; best practices in risk assessment and in reducing transport costs, as well as a glossary.

Research on systems for valuation of works of art

A research on systems for valuation of works of art for lending and borrowing purposes was published in November 2012. It is a theoretical and empirical analysis, which includes recommendations to contribute to the simplification of the process of lending and borrowing of works of art between museums in the EU Member States. It provides a deeper insight and an evidence base into the complexity and heterogeneity as well as into the challenging requirements that European museums and States are faced with.

Commission-convened expert group on prevention of and fight against illicit trafficking of cultural goods 2012-2013

The Commission has been intensifying collaboration between its services. The Work Plan for Culture 2011-2014 invited the Commission to convene an expert group, in cooperation with the Member States, which could propose a toolkit including European good practice guidelines and a code of ethics on due diligence in the fight against illicit trafficking.

The brainstorming meeting concluded that there was no need to draft code(s) of ethics on due diligence at the European level as several codes already exist, in particular the 1999 UNESCO International Code of Ethics for Dealers in Cultural Property, but that guidelines for interested parties would be a useful initiative.

Commission proposed to abide by the conclusions of the experts with regard to the code of ethics and to come back to the opportunity of composing guidelines for professionals once the recast directive 93/7 on the return of cultural goods illicitly removed from the territory of a Member State has been adopted, and in the framework of the discussions on the new work Plan for Culture.

A new Work Plan for Culture, including new priorities and activities, will be adopted by the Council at the end of 2014. It will be implemented as of 2015.

1.2 EU programmes / funding

1.2.1 Creative Europe programme (2014-2020)

Creative Europe aims to safeguard and promote cultural and linguistic diversity and to strengthen the competitiveness of the cultural and creative sectors. Between 2007 and 2013, the Culture Programme –which Creative Europe has replaced– funded 130 co-operation projects in the cultural heritage sector, for a total amount of about €40 million. Creative Europe continues to offer opportunities to cultural heritage projects.

It provides more funding for artists and cultural professionals to develop their skills and to work across borders; more funding for transnational cultural activities within and outside of the EU; support schemes tailored to the specific needs of the audiovisual and the cultural sectors in the EU; easier access to private funding through a financial guarantee facility; increased banking expertise in the cultural and creative sectors; and it helps develop Europe's competitiveness in culture and film while safeguarding cultural and linguistic diversity.

The Creative Europe programme is one of the tools stimulating transnational cooperation in the cultural heritage sector.

With a total budget of €1.46 billion (€422 million for the Culture sub-programme) allocated for the period 2014-2020, the Creative Europe programme supports cross-border projects in all fields of culture. In addition to grants for individual projects, it also supports special actions.

The programme is open to all creative and cultural organisations, from the EU Member States, but also from a wide range of non-EU countries¹.

1.2.2 Special actions relevant for the heritage sector, supported under the Creative Europe programme

1.2.2.a European Heritage Days (EHD) Joint Action with the Council of Europe (CoE)

Launched in 1985, the European Heritage Days have been organised since 1999 as a joint action of the European Union and the Council of Europe. The 50 signatory States to the [European Cultural Convention](#) take part in the European Heritage Days by putting new cultural assets on view and opening up historical buildings or sites normally closed to the public. The cultural events highlight local skills and traditions, architecture and works of art, but the broader aim is to promote mutual understanding among citizens. More than 20 million people are estimated to participate in the EHD every year. The Council of Europe and the European Commission encourage the selection of trans-national themes which can be illustrated by cross-border activities that are jointly set up by the different countries.

1.2.2.b European Capitals of Culture (ECOC)

The European Capitals of Culture are one of the most ambitious cultural projects both in scope and scale, and one of the best known and most appreciated by European citizens.

The aim of the initiative is to promote and celebrate Europe's rich cultural diversity and shared aspects of our heritage, and thereby promote mutual understanding and intercultural dialogue. The European Capitals of Culture are also a unique opportunity to regenerate cities, to give new vitality to their cultural life, to boost their creativity and to change their image. This contributes to the long-term development of European cities and their regions.

There is no specific requirement mentioned in the ECOC legal basis concerning the role of heritage in the Capitals. However, the richness of heritage is an asset for any city bidding for the ECOC title.

¹ Details on the geographical coverage can be found at: http://ec.europa.eu/culture/creative-europe/calls/index_en.htm

The cities get two benefits from the European Union: the title or “brand”, which is an official EU designation, and a grant of €1.5 million. This is cost-effective as this amount is only a small proportion of the funding for their cultural programmes, which in total vary between €6 and €100 million. The amounts invested in capital expenditure have ranged between €10 and €220 million, sometimes partly from the [Structural Funds](#).

1.2.2.c European Heritage Label (EHL)

The European Heritage Label is an initiative designed to highlight heritage sites that celebrate and symbolise European history, ideals, and integration. These sites are carefully selected for the role they have played in European history and the activities they offer to highlight it. Through this Label, the aim of the Commission is to give European citizens, especially young people, new opportunities to learn about our common yet diverse cultural heritage, and about our common history. This will contribute to bring European citizens' closer to the European Union. The European Heritage Label can also help to increase cultural tourism, bringing significant economic benefits.

The scheme was established by Decision 1194/2011/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council. The Label is open to the participation of the Member States on a voluntary basis. In 2013, the European Heritage Label was awarded to 4 sites: [Park Carnuntum](#), [Great Guild Hall](#), [Camp Westerbork](#) and [Peace Palace](#).

1.2.2.d European Union Prize for Cultural Heritage / Europa Nostra Awards

The EU Cultural Heritage Prize/Europa Nostra Awards celebrate excellence in cultural heritage work in Europe, raising visibility among professionals, decision-makers and the general public. The Prize also aims to promote high standards and high-quality skills in conservation practice, to stimulate cross-border mobility among heritage professionals and to encourage heritage-related projects throughout Europe. Awards are made in four categories: conservation; research; dedicated service by individuals or organisations, and education, training and awareness-raising. All countries participating in the Creative Europe Programme are eligible.

2. EDUCATION

Responsible DG: [Directorate-General for Education and Culture](#) (DG EAC)

ERASMUS+ programme

The ERASMUS+ programme (2014-2020) aims to boost skills and employability through education, training, youth, and sport. The programme provides opportunities for over 4 million Europeans to study, train, gain work experience, and volunteer abroad. It supports many different types of activities of varying scales.

These include the European Voluntary Service, mobility for Adult Education staff, Strategic Partnerships, Sector Skills Alliances, Knowledge Alliances, Youth Capacity Building, and Transnational Youth Initiatives.

The main opportunities of relevance to the cultural heritage sector are the following strands under [Key Action 2 of the Erasmus+ Programme - Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices](#):

- **Strategic partnerships** These are transnational projects open to organisations active in the fields of education, training or youth as well as enterprises, public authorities, and civil society organisations (at least 3 organisations from 3 different programme countries per partnership). The partnerships are intended to test, implement and promote innovative practices leading to high quality teaching, training, learning and youth work, institutional modernisation and societal innovation.

- **Capacity building in the field of higher education** These are transnational cooperation projects based on multilateral partnerships between higher education institutions from programme countries (EU-34) and some partner countries. Non-academic partners (such as cultural sector stakeholders who are explicitly eligible) can take part in order to strengthen links with society and business. The idea is to involve the most appropriate and diverse range of partners in order to benefit from their different experiences. The accent is put on the international dimension and the capacity building namely in partners countries (improving the quality of higher education and the level of competences and skills enhancing its relevance for the labour market, modernisation of national policies and governance).

- **Capacity building project in the field of youth** These are transnational cooperation projects based on multilateral partnerships between organisations active in the field of youth, from programme countries (EU-34) and some partner countries. Non-academic partners can take part (such as cultural sector stakeholders who are explicitly eligible). Projects are intended to strengthen relations between the EU and the third countries by providing young people and youth workers from Europe with the opportunity to take part in exchanges and other non-formal education activities with their peers living outside the Union

- **Knowledge Alliances.** These are transnational, structured and result-driven projects, between higher education and business partners (must involve at least 6 organisations from 3 different programme countries (EU-34) – out of which at least 2 Higher education institutions and 2 enterprises). Knowledge Alliances are open to any discipline, sector (including cultural and creative sectors) and to cross-sectorial cooperation. They are intended to strengthen innovation capacity (creativity) and foster innovation in higher education, business and the broader socio-economic environment.

In 2011 and 2012, two pilot action calls were published to test the concept of Knowledge Alliances, and included two alliances in the culture and audiovisual sector:

[CIAKL - Cinema and Industry Alliance for Knowledge and Learning](#)

[EDUCCKATE - Education Cultural & Creative Knowledge Alliance for Tomorrow's Entrepreneurs](#)

- **Sector Skills Alliances.** These are transnational, multi-partner projects (must involve at least 9 organisations from 3 different programme countries (EU-34) out of which at least 2 EU Member States). They are intended to design and deliver joint vocational training programmes and teaching and training methodologies in a specific economic sector (can include cultural and creative sectors). They must draw on evidence of trends and skills needed in order to perform in one or more professional fields. A particular focus is put on work-based learning, providing learners with the skills required by the labour market.

3. COHESION POLICY

Responsible DG: [Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy](#) (DG REGIO)

EU structural funds 2014-2020

Cultural heritage management is one of the investment priorities for the EU structural and investment funds.

From **2007-2013**, out of a total of €347 billion for cohesion policy, the European Regional Development Fund allocated €3.2 billion for the protection and preservation of cultural heritage, €2.2 billion for the development of cultural infrastructure and €553 million for cultural services, which also benefited cultural heritage.

Moreover, joint initiatives, such as JESSICA, were developed by the Directorate General for Regional Policy in co-operation with the European Investment Bank group and other financial institutions in order to make cohesion policy more efficient and sustainable. [JESSICA](#), Joint European Support for Sustainable Investment in City Areas, is an initiative of the European Commission developed in co-operation with the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB), supporting sustainable urban development and regeneration through financial engineering mechanisms.

In the **2014-2020** period, cultural heritage investments are possible under the specific regulations of cohesion policy, whose overall budget is €325 billion. The relevant funds are the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), the European Social Fund (ESF), the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF). These can cover a wide spectrum of actors and activities in the public and non-for-profit sectors as well as in the private sector (in particular small and medium-sized enterprises – SMEs).

The **European Regional Development Fund** regulation mentions specifically the protection, promotion and development of cultural heritage among its investment priorities under the objective "Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency". In addition, there are funding opportunities under other thematic objectives such as: research and innovation, information and communication technologies (ICT), SME competitiveness, employment (-friendly growth through the development of endogenous potential), social inclusion and education and training. Investments in small-scale cultural heritage should contribute both to the development of endogenous potential and to the promotion of social inclusion, particularly among marginalised communities, by improving their access to cultural and recreational services in both urban and rural contexts.

These funding opportunities exist for mainstream Operational Programmes focusing on individual countries or regions under the investment for jobs and growth goal of the ERDF as well as for multi-country cooperation programmes under the European Territorial Cooperation goal.

The **European Social Fund** mentions cultural and creative skills; the heritage sector can indirectly address the aims of this fund.

The **European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development** continues to support restoration, maintenance, and upgrading of cultural and natural heritage of villages, rural landscapes and high nature value sites. The EAFRD also addresses related socio-economic aspects, and environmental awareness actions; and is complemented by the LEADER programme (Liaison entre actions de développement de l'économie rurale) which funds actions for community-led local development. For more details, see section 11 on the Common Agricultural Policy.

Within the **European Maritime and Fisheries Fund**, under shared management, €5,7 billion are available for community-led local development projects that promote cultural heritage –including maritime cultural heritage– in fisheries areas. Under direct management (€647 million), a multi-resolution seabed map of European seas will be produced including sites of cultural interest (with appropriate safeguards in the case of sites in danger of looting). The map is meant to be used for tourism-promotion purposes, but also to ensure that such sites are not damaged by offshore developments. For more details see section 12 on Maritime Policy.

In addition to the structural funds, whose management is decentralised, various [EU initiatives](#) directly support cultural heritage in regions and cities, such as [INTERREG](#) and [URBACT](#).

4. DIGITAL AGENDA

Responsible DG: [Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content & Technology](#) (DG CONNECT)

4.1 EU policy / legislation

4.1.1 Commission Recommendation on the digitisation and online accessibility of cultural material and digital preservation

Commission Recommendation 2011/711/EU on the digitisation and online accessibility of cultural material and digital preservation, adopted on 27 October 2011 calls for the widest possible re-use of cultural material; bearing in mind that the cost of digitisation of cultural material is estimated at €100 billion. The Recommendation sets the target of 30 million objects available through Europeana by 2015 and invites Member States to create the legal framework conditions underpinning licensing mechanisms for the large-scale digitisation and cross-border accessibility of works that are out-of-commerce and to promote the availability of databases with rights information, connected at the European level, such as [ARROW](#).

While the Orphan Works Directive² and the Memorandum of Understanding on Out-of-commerce Works³ aim to facilitate the digitisation and accessibility of copyrighted material, the Recommendation on digitisation encourages public-private partnerships, as well as the use of structural funds, to support digitisation. It also calls for the reinforcement of national strategies for the long-term preservation of digital material.

4.1.2 Directive on the re-use of public sector information

Directive 2013/37/EU (amending Directive 2003/98/EC) adopted on 26 June 2013 lays down the general principle that documents from libraries, museums and archives shall be re-usable for commercial and non-commercial purposes, and promotes availability in open, machine-readable format together with metadata and the use of open standards.

² [Directive 2012/28/EU of the European Parliament and Council on certain permitted uses of orphan works](#)

³ [Memorandum of Understanding on Key Principles on the Digitisation and Making Available of Out-of-Commerce Works](#)

4.1.3 Member States Expert Group on Digitisation and Digital Preservation

This Expert Group, set up in 2007, provides a forum to monitor progress and exchange information and good practices in Member States on digitisation and online accessibility of cultural material and digital preservation. Its mandate has recently been extended to assist the Commission in monitoring developments on innovatively re-use to the benefit of the cultural and creative industries.

4.1.4 Film heritage

The Commission has recommended the Member States⁴ to systematically collect, preserve, restore and facilitate cultural and educational uses of film heritage⁵. Every two years, they send to the Commission information on what they have done; the fourth Implementation Report is currently under preparation.

The [Digital Agenda for European Film Heritage \(DAEFH\) study](#) identifies research areas to improve film archive stability, durability and archive content security, including open source systems, architectures optimised to preserve film collections, stable digital formats and cloud-based storage, access and content security systems.

In addition, a [Cinema Expert Group/Subgroup film heritage](#) was set up by the Commission to facilitate exchange of best practices in this area, with experts from Member States and industry.

4.2 EU programmes / funding

4.2.1 EUROPEANA

Digitising Europe's cultural heritage, making it accessible online and preserving it for future generations is one of the challenges of the Digital Agenda for Europe. The objective is thus to make the collections held by Europe's libraries, museums, galleries and archives and audiovisual archives available online – vast numbers of books, paintings, museum objects, archival records, periodicals and millions of hours of film and video covering the whole of Europe's rich diverse history and culture.

Europeana, Europe's digital library, archive and museum, was set up in 2008 and today provides access to over 30 million objects from the collections of some 2,500 cultural institutions from all over Europe. As such, it is a reference for accessing and reusing culture online, having contributed strongly to the development and implementation of standards and interoperability in this area. It showcases also how Europeans can actively engage with their cultural heritage and contribute their own memorabilia, e.g. from landmark historical events such as World War I. Cooperation with Twitter or Facebook allows Europeana to engage with new audiences through their favourite social media platforms.

Under the [Connecting Europe Facility](#), Europeana is funded by the EU as a Digital Service Infrastructure that makes culture widely accessible and provides data, technology, tools and services to Europe's cultural heritage sector and the creative industries. A number of EU projects, such as [Europeana Creative](#) are trying to explore the potential for creative re-use of Europeana's material.

⁴ Recommendation 2005/865/EC on film heritage and the competitiveness of related industrial activities

⁵ Implementation report on the Recommendation on film heritage.

4.2.2 Horizon 2020 programme

Horizon 2020, the new EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, encompasses many activities and opportunities linked with information & communications technologies serving the Digital Agenda.

5. RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Responsible DGs: [Directorate-General for Research and Innovation](#) (DG RTD) primarily; but also [DG CONNECT](#) for the management of some Horizon 2020 specific calls.

5.1 EU policy / legislation

5.1.1 Joint Programming Initiative in Cultural Heritage and Global Change (JPI CH)

The Commission Recommendation (2010/238/EU) of 26th of April 2010 encourages Member States to "develop a common strategic research agenda establishing medium to long-term research needs and objectives in the area of preservation and use of cultural heritage in the context of global change". The process of the JPI aims to improve the interdisciplinary cooperation between sciences, art and humanities for the benefit of citizens. The JPI CH has been an innovative and collaborative research initiative, with EU support, to help streamline and coordinate national research programmes to enable more efficient and effective use of scarce financial resources, exploit synergies and avoid duplication. It addresses tangible, intangible and digital heritage and is intended to ensure a reinforced coordination between Member States, Associated and Third Countries to help achieve the European Research Area (ERA) in the field of cultural heritage.

5.1.2 High Level Horizon 2020 Expert Group on "Cultural Heritage"

The Horizon 2020 Expert Group on "Cultural Heritage" will build on past and present activities on cultural heritage and will support the Commission to set out a forward-looking and innovative EU agenda for future cultural heritage research and innovation. It will focus on future opportunities, trans-disciplinary and multi-stakeholder potential, innovative financing and investment, new governance modes and innovative business models and services for cultural heritage, as well as possible linkages with natural heritage.

5.1.3 Social Platform on Reflective Societies

The Social Platform on Reflective Societies (call REFLECTIVE-9-2014 of Horizon 2020) will bring together researchers, stakeholders and policy-makers to address policy issues in a comprehensive way. The platform will also support the European Commission in the definition of an innovative and focused research agenda on, *inter alia*, cultural heritage and cultural expressions in Europe.

5.2 EU programmes / funding

5.2.1 Horizon 2020 programme

Since 1986 the EU has supported cultural heritage research within the framework of its research framework programmes mainly under the environment theme. Under the [Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development \(FP7\)](#), around €100 million were invested in projects related to key aspects of cultural heritage, addressing cultural interactions, museums, identities and linguistic diversity, dedicated research infrastructures and, developing materials for the protection, conservation and restoration of cultural heritage assets, predictive models, early warning devices, technologies for adaptation and mitigation strategies, tackling energy efficiency of historic buildings and strengthening collaboration and cooperation between member states and non-EU countries.

Horizon 2020 is the new EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, (€80 billion for 2014 to 2020). Support for heritage-related research will be available in the three pillars of the programme: Excellent Science, Industrial Leadership, and Societal Challenges. In the latter, Challenge 6 "[Europe in a changing world: Inclusive, Innovative and Reflective Societies](#)" mainly focuses on the transmission of European cultural heritage, identity formation, heritage of European wars, European collections of archives, museums and libraries and digital opportunities. Challenge 5 "[Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials](#)" addresses solutions for environmental degradation and climate change impacts. Particular emphasis will be placed on the development of converging technologies for preservation and restoration, as well as on multidisciplinary research and innovation for innovative methodologies, products and services for the preservation of cultural heritage assets. As such, Horizon 2020 will further reinforce the EU's position as leader in the field of cultural heritage preservation, restoration and valorisation.

The Horizon 2020 programme will allow major steps to be taken by European research and innovation in the field of cultural heritage preservation, restoration and valorisation.

Relevant funding strands include:

- Call (REFLECTIVE -1-2014): [ERA-NET on the uses of the past](#)
- Call (REFLECTIVE-9-2014): [Social Platform on Reflective Societies](#)
- Call (REFLECTIVE-2-2015): [Emergence and transmission of European cultural heritage and Europeanisation](#)
- Call (REFLECTIVE-3-2015): [European cohesion, regional and urban policies and the perceptions of Europe](#)
- Call (REFLECTIVE-4-2015): [Cultural opposition in the former socialist countries](#)
- Call (REFLECTIVE-5-2015): [The cultural heritage of war in contemporary Europe](#)
- Call (REFLECTIVE-7-2014): [Advanced 3D modelling for accessing and understanding European cultural assets](#)
- Call (INT-11-2015): [European cultural and science diplomacy: exploiting the potential of culture and science in the EU's external relations](#)
- Call (EE-03-2014): [Energy strategies and solutions for deep renovation of historic buildings](#)

- Call (DRS-11-2015): [Disaster Resilience & Climate Change topic 3: Mitigating the impacts of climate change and natural hazards on cultural heritage sites, structures and artefacts](#)
- Call (REFLECTIVE-6-2015): [Innovation ecosystems of digital cultural assets](#)
- Call (NMP-21): [Materials-based solutions for the protection or preservation of European cultural heritage](#)
- [Horizon 2020 dedicated SME Instrument](#) (business model innovation: INSO-10-2015-1)
- [Call \(INFRAIA-1-2014\) for European research infrastructures for restoration and conservation of cultural heritage](#)
- Grants for frontier research in all scientific fields (including cultural heritage) under the Excellent Science pillar at the European Research Council
- [Marie-Sklodowska Curie grants for international mobility and cooperation](#)

5.2.2 Other initiatives

Furthermore, the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) on "[Energy-efficient Buildings](#)" (EeB), launched by the European Commission in cooperation with industrial partners as part of the [European Economic Recovery Plan](#) in 2008, managed to attract a high industrial participation and helped innovate the building sector, including historic buildings. Under Horizon 2020, the PPP aims to develop affordable breakthrough technologies and solutions at building and district scale, facilitating the road towards future smart cities.

6. SCIENCE

Responsible DG: [Joint Research Centre](#) (DG JRC)

6.1. EU policy / legislation

The Council Conclusions on "cultural heritage as a strategic resource for a sustainable Europe" of 20 May 2014 recognize that "cultural heritage has an important economic impact, including as an integral part of the cultural and creative sectors" and calls on Member States and the Commission to "improve the collection and analysis of qualitative evidence and quantitative data" on broadly understood cultural heritage.

The JRC is currently investigating the importance of the Cultural and Creative Industries (CCIs) to economic growth, with three research projects. The first – based on a qualitative and quantitative study – aims to identify common features of European regions with the highest concentration of CCIs. The latter two are data driven statistical analyses that aim to explore the relative standing of Europe compared to the US and Japan with respect to (1) 21st century competences (with creative thinking included) and (2) the preferential teaching approach of teachers (with the approach centred on students' conceptual change included).

6.1.1 Characterization of the Europe's top regions for creative and cultural industries

Recently, JRC has initiated a qualitative and quantitative research project aiming at analysing the characteristics of some of the Europe's top regions for creative and cultural industries, ultimately aiming at finding some regional conditions that would allow explaining the higher concentration of CCI in those regions. A documentary analysis is being conducted aiming at studying historical, geographical and social characteristics of these regions, complemented by a quantitative analysis. Regarding the quantitative analysis, JRC's aim is to characterise some of the European regions with high concentrations of CCI taking into account region indicators, for instance, life satisfaction rate, lifelong learning, skilled migrants, and population aged 15-34.

6.1.2 Creativity related skills

As various scholars claim that innovation is a success factor in economic development, JRC intends to investigate skills and competences related to creativity. Creativity not only enables us to come up with new ideas (whatever the field), it also enables us to deal with new situations or problems that we have never confronted before. This research is of exploratory nature. Its aim is to work out the profiles of competences of adults taking into consideration both (1) skills (e.g. communication, mathematical, problem solving, interpersonal, technological) and (2) types of thinking derived from psychological theories (e.g. practical abilities, crystallised analytical, fluid analytical and creative abilities). The method to be applied is a multivariate statistical modelling of latent variables, e.g. latent class modelling or item response modelling; the dataset to be used comes from the Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC). Providing there is an adequate sample size for the results to be representative, these profiles are to be compared:

1. Across countries and regions - thanks to this the relative standing of Europe in comparison to the US and Japan will be determined;
2. Across different type of industries - thanks to this the relative standing of the CCI in comparison to other industries will be determined;

6.1.3 Exploring creativity - teaching oriented approach

The conclusions from the Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council meeting (20th May 2014) emphasize the strong contribution of cultural heritage, which includes CCIs, to the achievement of the EU 2020 strategy goals for a smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. The Council of the European Union calls on member states and the commission to "continue to promote education on cultural heritage, raise public awareness on the potential of cultural heritage for sustainable development and to encourage public participation, especially of children and young people, in cooperation with civil society".

Research on the preconditions for developing creativity suggests that the environment in which students learn is crucial and that teachers play a key role in structuring and maintaining this environment. JRC is therefore conducting a project based on data from the Teaching and Learning International Survey (TALIS) to define socio-economic characteristics of 'creative class' among teachers. Providing there is an adequate sample size for the results to be representative, teachers' attitudes will be compared across countries and regions - thanks to this the relative standing of Europe compared to the US and Japan will be determined.

6.1.4 European Cultural Index

The JRC also supports the European Cultural Foundation and the Boekman Foundation in constructing the European Cultural Index (ECI) by providing statistical expertise and performing a statistical audit. The audit comprises methodological tests of the suitability, reliability and robustness of the composite index.

7. TOURISM, ENTERPRISE AND INDUSTRY

Responsible DG: [Directorate-General for Enterprise and Industry](#) (DG ENTR)

7.1 EU policy / legislation

7.1.1 Recast of the Directive 93/7/EEC on the return of cultural objects unlawfully removed from the territory of a Member State

This Directive aimed to ensure the return within the EU of cultural goods classified as "national treasures possessing artistic, historic or archaeological value" and belonging to the categories referred to in the Annex or forming an integral part of public collections or inventories of ecclesiastical institutions. The Directive provided for the return of a cultural object when it has left the territory of a Member State unlawfully after 1 January 1993 and is located in the territory of another Member State.

On 15 May 2014, the European Parliament and the Council adopted Directive 2014/60/UE on the return of cultural objects unlawfully removed from the territory of a Member State, a recast of the Directive 93/7/EEC, with the aim to contribute in a more effective way to the protection of the Member States' cultural heritage. The main changes of the new Directive in relation to Directive 93/7/EEC are: i) the broadening of its scope to cover all cultural objects classified or defined by a Member State as being among the "national treasures possessing artistic, historic or archaeological value" with the consequent deletion of the Annex; ii) the use of the Internal Market Information System (IMI) for the administrative cooperation and exchange of information among the central authorities; iii) the lengthening of the time-limit for initiating return proceedings to three years and the time-limit for checking cultural objects to six months; iv) the provision that the possessor must provide proof that he exercised due care and attention when acquiring the cultural object for the purpose of compensation and the setting-up of non-exhaustive common criteria for the interpretation of due care and attention.

The provisions of the new Directive shall apply from 19 December 2015.

7.1.2. Commission Communication "Europe, the world's n°1 tourist destination - a new political framework for tourism in Europe"

The Communication on "[Europe, the world's n°1 tourist destination – a new political framework for tourism in Europe](#)" was adopted by the Commission in June 2010. It encourages a coordinated approach for initiatives linked to tourism and defines a new framework for action to increase its competitiveness and its capacity for sustainable growth, thus implying the [promotion of cultural tourism as a driver for sustainable social and economic development](#) and the identification of good practices in sustainable management of cultural tourism, including tangible and intangible heritage.

7.1.3 Joint Management European Union-Council of Europe (CoE) 2011-2013

The Joint Management agreed between the EC and the CoE in 2011 provided a follow-up to the [Study on European Cultural Routes' impact on Small and Medium Enterprises \(SMEs\) innovation and competitiveness](#), which identified the following series of challenges: a lack of coordination at European level in the development and promotion strategies of the Cultural Routes; a weak brand image of the routes; very weak marketing strategies and almost no joint promotional initiatives; limited human and financial resources of the routes; lack of expertise in the management of such routes, especially of marketing skills and knowledge of business models; poor consumer-oriented web portals; low degree of exchange of good practices; low trans-national connectivity of the cultural route networks; unavailability of network management and performance evaluation tools; and absence of SMEs clusters. An action plan has been agreed among the two Institutions. The JM ran around 4 main axes: Training, governance strengthening, branding and marketing, international cooperation.

7.1.4 Testing new support approaches to support sustainable tourism in rural areas and access to cultural heritage under the European Mobile and Mobility Industries Alliance and the European Creative Industries Alliance

Under the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme, three large-scale demonstrators (CultWays, LIMES and GrowMobile) were launched under the European Mobile and Mobility Industries Alliance (EMMIA) to test and demonstrate better support to sustainable tourism in rural areas, where innovative mobile solutions could be used to facilitate access to cultural heritage sites, for better informing tourists about the manifold but often dispersed activities in a region and/or to offering smarter solutions. The three large-scale demonstrators addressed information, location, access and safety needs for tourists in Europe, who wish to visit cultural heritage sites and routes that are off the beaten tourist track. They develop and test scalable and transferable concepts for providing mobile services for tourists. They were implemented between 2012 and 2013 through public-private partnerships and in close collaboration with local tourism agencies, authorities and businesses in rural areas with valuable but under-exploited cultural heritage. For more information, see <http://www.mobilise-europe.mobi/large-scale-demonstrators-real-live-testing/>

In addition, two European Creative Districts (Creative Wallonia in Belgium and CREATE in Tuscany, Italy) were launched in 2013 with the aim to demonstrate the transformative power of creative industries for the rejuvenation of traditional industrial regions. The 'Creative District' project is an initiative by the European Parliament and has been implemented through two grant agreements by the European Commission's Enterprise and Industry Directorate-General. The European Creative Districts were linked to and are contributing to the policy discussions of the European Creative Industries Alliance. This initiative was set up in 2012 to develop and test new policies and tools for better business support, better access to finance and facilitating cluster excellence and networking for the further development of creative industries and for promoting linkages with other industries. For more information, see <http://www.eciaplatform.eu/project/creative-districts/>

7.2. EU programmes / funding

7.2.1 COSME Programme (2014-2020) and Cultural tourism

7.2.1.a. European cultural routes

The Commission supports projects promoting sustainable thematic tourism products, having a potential to contribute to [sustainable tourism](#) growth (linked to, for instance, cultural routes crossing several countries on different topics, cycling paths, eco-tourism products, historical, religious-pilgrim tourism, tourism capitalising on the maritime and sub-aquatic cultural heritage, industrial heritage).

In 2015, a call for proposals will support, together with the Council of Europe, the development and/or promotion of European and transnational tourism products with special emphasis on cultural and industrial heritage.

7.2.1.b. EDEN - European Destinations of Excellence

The initiative "EDEN – European Destinations of Excellence", launched in 2006, draws attention to the values, diversity and common features of European tourist destinations. It enhances the visibility of emerging European destinations, creates a platform for sharing good practices across Europe and promotes networking between awarded destinations. National competitions take place every year and result in the selection of a tourist "destination of excellence" (EDEN award) for each participating country. The key feature of the selected destinations is their commitment to social, cultural and environmental sustainability. This European quest for excellence in tourism is developed around an annual theme, chosen by the Commission together with the relevant national tourism bodies. So far, rural tourism, intangible heritage and protected areas have been the main EDEN themes. In 2011 the EDEN award focused on destinations which have regenerated a physical site of their local heritage (such as an industrial, transport infrastructure, or an agricultural or military site) and converted it into a tourism attraction to be used as a catalyst for wider local regeneration.

7.2.1.c. "Crossroads of Europe – Carrefours d'Europe"

The initiative "Crossroads of Europe" promotes the European cultural itineraries and raise awareness about their potential for tourism among stakeholders and businesses, destination managers, national and local authorities. This annual fair takes place at a cross point between different cultural routes.

7.2.1.d. Diversification of the tourism offer through synergies with creative and high-end industries

A pilot project "From 'Goods' To Experience – Maximising the synergies between Tourism, High-End and Creative Industries" will be launched in 2014-2015 to test synergies between tourism and creative industry at European level by funding the development and promotion of a (new) European Route around a high-end product.

8. EXPORT OF CULTURAL GOODS

Responsible DG: [Directorate-General for Taxation and Customs Union](#) (DG TAXUD)

EU policy / legislation

[Council Regulation \(EC\) No 116/2009 on the export of cultural goods](#) (previous: Council Regulation (EEC) No 3911/92)

Council Regulation 116/2009 on the export of cultural goods lays down provisions to ensure that exports of cultural goods are subject to uniform controls at the Union's external borders. It was adopted in view of the creation of the internal market in January 1993, in an attempt to reconcile the principle of free movement of goods and the need for Member States to protect their national treasures.

The categories of cultural objects covered by the Regulation are listed in its Annex I. The export of cultural goods outside the Union's customs territory is subject to the presentation of an export licence.

9. COMPETITION

Responsible DG: [Directorate-General for Competition](#) (DG COMP)

EU policy / legislation

As part of the on-going review of state aid rules, the EU's Council of Ministers adopted the revision of the enabling regulation on 22 July 2013. This created the legal basis for the exemption from notification for state aid for culture and heritage conservation.

The exemption will be provided by the new General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER), provisionally adopted in May 2014. GBER provides conditions for exemption from the obligation to notify state aid to – amongst others - culture and heritage conservation and audio-visual sectors. The GBER is expected to enter into force in July 2014.

10. INTERNAL MARKET

Responsible DG: [Directorate-General Internal Market and Services](#) (DG MARKT)

EU policy / legislation

[Communication from the Commission on content in the Digital Single Market](#)

The Communication, adopted in December 2012, sets out the Commission strategy to ensure that copyright rules stays fit for purpose in the digital environment. The strategy establishes 2 parallel tracks of action: on the one hand the structured stakeholders' dialogue "Licenses for Europe" which resulted in 10 industry pledges to improve the availability of content online; and on the other hand, a parallel on-going review of the EU framework for copyright legal is being completed, based on market studies, impact assessment and legal drafting work, with a view to a decision in 2014 on whether to table legislative reform proposals.

11. COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY (CAP)

Responsible DG: Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI)

11.1 EU policy / legislation

Launched in 1962, the overall aim of the CAP is to improve agricultural productivity so that consumers have a stable supply of affordable food, and to ensure that EU farmers can make a reasonable living.

One of the instruments of the CAP, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)⁶ aims to promote social inclusion, poverty reduction and economic development in rural areas, with a focus on (i) facilitating diversification, creation and development of small enterprises, as well as job creation (ii) fostering local development in rural areas.

The EAFRD has supported the upgrade of rural cultural heritage and improved access to cultural services in rural areas, by providing investment and training support to cultural and creative businesses, which also promotes networking and the development of clusters.

In 2007-2013 the EAFRD invested the following amounts:

1. Conservation and upgrading of rural heritage: €1,221,036,980
2. Support for the creation and development of micro-enterprises with a view to promoting entrepreneurship and developing the economic fabric (€2,082,234,786).

11.2 EU programmes / funding

- Support for studies and investments associated with the maintenance, restoration and upgrading of the cultural and natural heritage of villages, rural landscapes and high nature value sites, including related socio-economic aspects, as well as environmental awareness actions
- LEADER community-led local development – funds available to upgrade rural cultural heritage and improve access to cultural services in rural areas
- Business development (start-up aid for non-agricultural activities in rural areas and related investments): business support for rural micro- and small businesses. Provides start-up money – up to 70,000 for new businesses
- Vocational training and skills acquisition

Examples of rural development projects are available on the [European Network for Rural Development website](#), which is searchable by theme, e.g.: culture / heritage.

⁶ Relevant provisions: Recital 18 natural and cultural heritage; Article 20 – Basic Services and village renewal in rural areas: (1d): local basic services, including leisure and culture, and the related infrastructure; (1f) studies and investments associated with cultural and natural heritage

12. MARITIME POLICY

Responsible DG: [Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries](#) (DG MARE)

12.1. EU policy / legislation

An Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) – Communication on a European Strategy for Growth and Jobs in Coastal and Maritime Tourism "*encourages the diversification and integration of coastal and inland attractors, including through transnational thematic itineraries like cultural, religious or ancient trade routes*" (Action 11) and suggests Member States to "*develop cultural heritage based tourism, underwater archaeological parks (based on work done by UNESCO), and nature and health tourism in coastal destinations*".

The European Marine Observation and Data Network ([EMODnet](#)) which is an initiative from the European Commission (DG MARE) as part of its [Marine Knowledge 2020 strategy](#) aims to provide better information on whereabouts and nature of underwater cultural heritage sites.

12.2. EU programmes / funding

During the programming period 2007-2013, under the **European Fisheries Fund** (4.3 billion EUR), funding has been available for community-Led Local Development in fisheries areas. Projects promoting cultural heritage in coastal and inland fisheries areas could be supported.

Within the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund⁷ (EMFF) which is the new fund for the EU's maritime and fisheries policies for 2014-2020, funding is available for community-Led Local Development in fisheries areas, under shared management with a budget of 5.7 billion EUR: *local development strategies can promote social well-being and cultural heritage in fisheries areas including maritime cultural heritage and fund projects in these areas.*

Under direct management (€647 million), a multi-resolution seabed map of European seas will be produced including sites of cultural interest (with appropriate safeguards in the case of sites in danger of looting). This will be useful not only for tourism but in ensuring they are not damaged by offshore developments.

Examples from 2007-2014

DE: A small, rustic fishing village was established at the port entrance of Bremerhaven, made up of 11 thatched huts based on traditional fishing huts from the year 1906.

EE: A project to promote the fishing heritage and products of the Lake Peipsi region through traditional festivals.

UK: The Ilfracombe Fish Trail in North Devon described harbour and maritime areas and activities both now and in the past.

⁷ The [European Maritime and Fisheries Fund](#) (EMFF) promote the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy and Integrated Maritime Policy (incl. promoting a balanced & inclusive territorial development of fisheries areas), with a budget of 5.7 billion EUR in shared management (plus 647 million in direct management).

For more project examples see also the [European Fisheries Areas Network \(FARNET\)](#).

13. ENVIRONMENT POLICY

Responsible DG: [Directorate-General for the Environment \(DG ENV\)](#)

13.1 EU policy / legislation

[Environmental Impact Assessment Directive \(EIA\)](#)

The EIA Directive, adopted in 1985, applies to the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment. Several elements of the Directive refer to the need of a proper assessment of the effects of projects on cultural heritage. Article 3 provides that the environmental impact assessment shall identify, describe and assess the direct and indirect significant effects of a project on material assets and cultural heritage.

On 16 April 2014, a new Directive (2014/52/EU) was adopted, further strengthening the cultural heritage dimension of the Environmental Impact Assessment process. The revised Article 3(d) now refers to "material assets, cultural heritage *and the landscape*". The revised Directive will enter into force in 2017.

[Natura 2000 Network](#)

Cultural and natural heritage are frequently linked, including in the [Natura 2000 network](#) - the European network of nature protection areas. Most of the sites included in Natura 2000 result from the interaction between people and places through time, including physical remains of past human activity, deliberately planted or managed flora, or extensive agricultural and fisheries practices. For centuries people have developed different ways of working the land, which has given rise to many so called 'semi-natural' habitats, rich in wildlife (hay meadows, wooded pastures, open heaths) yet entirely dependent upon continued human use for their survival.

13.2 EU programmes / funding

EU programmes which contribute to enhancing and preserving natural heritage include the [European Green Capital Award](#), the [LIFE programme](#), Horizon 2020 (Challenge 5 "Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials" - for heritage-specific calls see section 5) and again the [European Structural and Investment Funds](#) (see section 3) .

14. CITIZENSHIP

Responsible DG: [Directorate-General for Communication \(DG COMM\)](#)

[Europe for Citizens programme](#)

The Europe for Citizens programme (2014-2020) aims at contributing to citizens' understanding of the Union, its history and diversity and at fostering European citizenship and improving conditions for civic and democratic participation at Union level. The remembrance strand of the programme, focusing on keeping the memories

of the past alive as a means of moving beyond the past and building the future, is linked to cultural heritage and history. Town-twinning projects also encompass activities related to cultural heritage.

15. EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT

Responsible DGs: Directorate-General for Development and Cooperation - EuropeAid (DG DEVCO); Directorate-General for Enlargement (DG ELARG)

15.1 CANDIDATE AND POTENTIAL CANDIDATE COUNTRIES

In the enlargement context, bilateral and regional cultural cooperation activities are recognised as making a fundamental contribution to the promotion of European values and intercultural dialogue. This is of particular relevance in the Western Balkans, where in addition to fostering democratisation, reconciliation and respect for human rights, culture contributes to the development of the local economy.

15.1.1 EU programmes / funding

15.1.1.a. Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance IPA and IPA II

The IPA offered financial assistance to candidate and potential candidate countries, with an estimate €33 million dedicated to cultural heritage between 2007 and 2011. Its successor, IPA II (2014-2020) will build on the results already achieved, including for cultural heritage projects. In addition, funding for heritage purposes is also provided through bilateral Actions.

15.1.1.b. "Integrated Rehabilitation Project Plan/Survey of the Architectural and Archaeological Heritage (IRPP/SAAH)" –Joint Action with Council of Europe

The EC and the Council of Europe have conducted, as from 2003, a joint action in South East Europe: the "Integrated Rehabilitation Project Plan/Survey of the Architectural and Archaeological Heritage (IRPP/SAAH)" better known as "[Ljubljana Process I](#)". This project developed a methodology to rehabilitate sites and contribute to economic development and reconciliation. Participating countries were Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia,⁸ Kosovo⁹, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania and Serbia.

After this successful first phase, in 2011 a new operational framework was launched, the "Ljubljana Process II. Rehabilitating our Common Heritage" with the agreement of the Ministers of Culture of South East Europe. The project has been implemented by the "[Regional Cooperation Council \(RCC\) Task Force on Culture and Society](#)" with the financial support of the Instrument for Pre-Accession.

The second phase of the process, concluded in May 2014, put the basis for the sustainability of the rehabilitation processes by ensuring that they will be managed by the countries themselves.

⁸ Croatia has been a Member State of the European Union since 1st of July 2013.

⁹ Under UNSCR 1244/99.

15.2 EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD

Cooperation with [European Neighbourhood](#) partner countries in the East and in the South on a regional basis, as well as cooperation among the partners themselves, is crucial. It complements national assistance programmes, addresses challenges with a regional dimension and promotes cooperation among partners on issues of mutual interest.

Projects have been funded by the [European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument](#) (ENPI), the main financial mechanism through which assistance is given to European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) countries, plus Russia. Around 90% of ENPI funds were used for bilateral actions, that is country initiatives and regional actions involving two or more partner countries, while the remaining 10% were allocated to [Cross-Border Cooperation and the Neighbourhood Investment Facility](#) (NIF).

Information on projects in the field of heritage can be found on the [webpage of the info centre](#).

15.2.1 Eastern Neighbourhood

15.2.1.a. EU policy / legislation

Cooperation in the cultural field, including heritage, is promoted in the context of the [Eastern Partnership](#) –a joint initiative between the EU, EU countries and the Eastern European Partner countries. It enables partner countries interested in moving towards the EU and increasing political, economic and cultural links to do so. It is underpinned by a shared commitment to international law and fundamental values –democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms –and to the market economy, sustainable development and good governance.

As part of this framework, the "[Tbilisi declaration](#)", an outcome of the Eastern Partnership Ministerial Conference on Culture held in June 2013 in Georgia, provides confirmation from the Eastern Partners of their intention to pursue the reform and modernisation of their cultural policies and to fully implement the 2005 UNESCO Convention.

Moreover, in October 2013 Ukraine hosted a seminar on the implementation of the 2005 UNESCO Convention on the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions in Lviv. The seminar proved to be instrumental in promoting regional cooperation and exchange of national practices regarding the implementation of the Convention, including from EU Member States.

15.2.1.b. EU programmes / funding

[Eastern Partnership Culture Programme 2011-2015](#)

The Eastern Partnership Culture Programme implemented from 2011 to 2015 aims to strengthen regional cultural links and dialogue within the ENP East region and between the EU and ENP Eastern countries' actors in the field of culture. Heritage conservation is one of the priorities of the programme. The total budget of the Eastern Partnership Culture Programme is €13 million. The Programme includes support to the project [Community-led Urban Strategies in Historic Towns](#) (COMUS), implemented by the Council of Europe. This initiative aims to develop local development strategies for the historic centres of up to twelve towns in the Eastern Partnership.

15.2.2 Southern Neighbourhood

15.2.2.a. EU policy / legislation

Strategy for the development of Euro-Mediterranean cultural heritage: priorities from Mediterranean countries (2007-2013)

The Strategy has been destined to be a reference for regional, bilateral or cross-border cultural cooperation in the Mediterranean area. For the first time, partner countries (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, the Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey) had the opportunity to articulate their priorities concerning cultural heritage in the specific sectors of education and public awareness-raising, economic and social impact, legislation and institutional framework.

15.2.2.b. EU programmes / funding

Euromed Heritage IV (2008-2012)

The Euromed Heritage programme has represented a milestone in the process of recognizing culture as a catalyst for mutual understanding between the people of the Mediterranean region. It brought together leading organization and various partners from the European Union and Mediterranean Partner Countries.

Moreover, a programme of support to protection and valorisation of cultural heritage in Algeria has been put in place with a budget of €21.5 million.

15.2.2.c. UNESCO-EU Cooperation in the Southern Mediterranean region

The European Union and its Delegations in the Southern Mediterranean Region actively cooperated with UNESCO in the past years. The bi-lateral cooperation has been focused mainly on cultural heritage. The EU supports the UNESCO's Action Plan to safeguard cultural heritage in Syria, launched in 2014, with €2.46 million. Heritage-related activities are also supported in Egypt and the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

The European Union has been collaborating with UNESCO through its regional programmes in the Mediterranean, in particular the Euromed Heritage programme. UNESCO was the leader of the [Medliher](#) project focusing on safeguarding the intangible cultural heritage of the partner countries.

15.3. REST OF THE WORLD

15.3.1 EU policy / legislation

China

Cultural heritage has also been identified as one of the three priority areas of cooperation in the 2012 EU-China Joint Declaration on cultural cooperation. It is, in addition, one of the 3 main areas covered by the mapping of the EU-China cultural and creative landscape which is currently being finalised.

India

The preservation (and digitisation) of cultural heritage has been set as the priority of the Policy dialogue on culture with India.

Brazil

Cultural heritage is one of the priority areas of the Joint Programme on Culture between the European Commission and the Ministry of Culture of Brazil (2011-2014).

This includes policy dialogue and exchange of expertise and practices on the protection and promotion of cultural, natural and historical heritage.

15.3.2 EU programmes / funding

The [Development Co-operation Instrument](#) (DCI) for the period 2007-2013 was composed of a wide range of geographic and thematic instruments, including “[Investing in people](#)”, which aims to support actions in the area of human and social development, including culture and cultural heritage. Although culture has not been flagged as a priority in the new external instruments (2014-2020) a number of cultural heritage projects may still be funded in the future as part of EU cooperation with third countries.

Examples of projects funded under the Development Co-operation Instrument:

Heritage Recovery and Cultural Development in Havana: Segundo Cabo Palace (2010-2014)

This project contributes to the sustainable preservation of threatened heritage sites in Old Havana for the benefit of all, and contributes to strengthening cultural and scientific EU-Cuba relations.

Cultural Heritage & Management Venture Lab in Ahmedabad, India (*to start in 2014*)

This project focuses on strengthening capacities of cultural agents and facilitating an environment for creativity, innovation, professionalization and entrepreneurship in Cultural Heritage & Management, in order to allow the people of the region of Gujarat to fully benefit from the potential of cultural heritage as an economic value.