

24-26 September 2025

Valletta, Malta

The Valletta Convention 30 Years On: *Insights & New Horizons*

Adrian Olivier

EUROPEAN
HERITAGE
HEADS
FORUM



SOVRINTENDENZA
TAL-PATRIMONJU KULTURALI
SUPERINTENDENCE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE



London Convention (1969)

European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage

Original impetus (from Italy) to counteract:

- clandestine digging & illicit traffic in antiquities;
- control unlawful export & import of cultural property.

Mainly concerned with archaeological excavation not illicit excavation & antiquities trade.

Did not deal with destructive impact of:

- increasing pace of large-scale infrastructure (motorways, airports etc);
- extensive redevelopment of town & city centres;
- Destructive changes in agriculture & land holdings;

No reporting or follow-through mechanism.



European Treaty Series - No. 66

European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage

London, 6.V.1969

The member States of the Council of Europe, signatory hereto,

Considering that the aim of the Council of Europe is to achieve a greater unity between its members for the purpose, in particular, of safeguarding and realising the ideals and principles which are their common heritage;

Having regard to the European Cultural Convention, signed at Paris on 19 December 1954, and, *inter alia*, Article 5 of that Convention;

Affirming that the archaeological heritage is essential to a knowledge of the history of civilisations;

Recognising that while the moral responsibility for protecting the European archaeological heritage, the earliest source of European history, which is seriously threatened with destruction, rests in the first instance with the State directly concerned, it is also the concern of European States jointly;

Considering that the first step towards protecting this heritage should be to apply the most stringent scientific methods to archaeological research or discoveries, in order to preserve their full historical significance and render impossible the irremediable loss of scientific information that may result from illicit excavation;

Considering that the scientific protection thus guaranteed to archaeological objects:

- a would be in the interests, in particular, of public collections, and
- b would promote a much-needed reform of the market in archaeological finds;

Considering that it is necessary to forbid clandestine excavations and to set up a scientific control of archaeological objects as well as to seek through education to give to archaeological excavations their full scientific significance,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

For the purposes of this Convention, all remains and objects, or any other traces of human existence, which bear witness to epochs and civilisations for which excavations or discoveries are the main source or one of the main sources of scientific information, shall be considered as archaeological objects.

Lausanne Charter (1990)

Charter for the Protection & Management of the Archaeological Heritage (ICOMOS/ICAHM)

Intended to be equivalent to Venice Charter (1966) on architectural conservation & provide a strong philosophical basis for protection & management of the archaeological heritage.

Identified need for:

- adequate national heritage legislation;
- proper identification & study of heritage;
- integration of protection policies with spatial planning & economic development;
- professional standards;
- international cooperation.

Broad principles but without any detailed provisions.



CHARTER FOR THE PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE (1990)

Prepared by the International Committee for the Management of Archaeological Heritage (ICAHM) and approved by the 9th General Assembly in Lausanne in 1990.

INTRODUCTION

It is widely recognised that a knowledge and understanding of the origins and development of human societies is of fundamental importance to humanity in identifying its cultural and social roots.

The archaeological heritage constitutes the basic record of past human activities. Its protection and proper management is therefore essential to enable archaeologists and other scholars to study and interpret it on behalf of and for the benefit of present and future generations.

The protection of this heritage cannot be based upon the application of archaeological techniques alone. It requires a wider basis of professional and scientific knowledge and skills. Some elements of the archaeological heritage are components of architectural structures and in such cases must be protected in accordance with the criteria for the protection of such structures laid down in the 1966 Venice Charter on the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites. Other elements of the archaeological heritage constitute part of the living traditions of indigenous peoples, and for such sites and monuments the participation of local cultural groups is essential for their protection and preservation.

For these and other reasons the protection of the archaeological heritage must be based upon effective collaboration between professionals from many disciplines. It also requires the co-operation of government authorities, academic researchers, private or public enterprise, and the general public. This charter therefore lays down principles relating to the different aspects of archaeological heritage management. These include the responsibilities of public authorities and legislators, principles relating to the professional performance of the processes of inventories, survey, excavation, documentation, research, maintenance, conservation, preservation, reconstruction, information, presentation, public access and use of the heritage, and the qualification of professionals involved in the protection of the archaeological heritage.

The charter has been inspired by the success of the Venice Charter as guidelines and source of ideas for policies and practice of governments as well as scholars and professionals.

The charter has to reflect very basic principles and guidelines with global validity. For this reason it cannot take into account the specific problems and possibilities of regions or countries. The charter should therefore be supplemented at regional and national levels by further principles and guidelines for these needs.

Council of Europe

During 1980's CoE began to explore some of these issues in more detail:

- Colloquium on Archaeology & Planning (Florence 1984);
- Colloquium on Archaeology & Major Public Developments (Nice 1987)
- Recommendation Concerning the Protection & Enhancement of the Archaeological Heritage in the Context of Town & country Planning Regulations (1989);

Convened Select Committee of Experts on Archaeology & Planning to revise the 1969 Convention

1989-1991: 5 formal meetings



Committee of Experts

Chair: **Gustav Trotzig** (Sweden)

Hans Horcicka (Austria)

M P Darteville (Belgium)

Andreas Daveronas (Cyprus)

Carsten Lund (Denmark)

Torsten Edgren (Finland)

Marc Gauthier (France)

Christoph Rüger (Germany)

Charalambos Pennas(Greece)

Clelia Laviosa (Italy)

Willem Willems (Netherlands)

Fernando Real (Portugal)

Xavier Dupre i Raventos(Spain)

Charles Bonnet (Switzerland)

Metin Göker (Turkey)

Geoffrey Wainwright(UK)

CoE: Christopher Greyson (Secretariat)

Daniel Therond (Secretariat)

Patrick O'Keefe (Consultant)

COE216008

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg 7 July 1989
ACDPH35.89

CDPH (89) 35

STEERING COMMITTEE FOR THE INTEGRATED CONSERVATION OF THE HISTORIC
HERITAGE (CDPH)

SELECT COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON ARCHAEOLOGY AND PLANNING (PH-R-MA)
REVISION OF THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE

1st meeting
Strasbourg, 12-13 June 1989

21.434
09.4

40
Forty years
Council of Europe
Quarante ans
Conseil de l'Europe

This document will not be distributed at the meeting. Please bring this copy.
Ce document ne sera plus distribué en réunion. Prière de vous munir de cet exemplaire.

Committee of Experts

Differences of opinion & priorities:

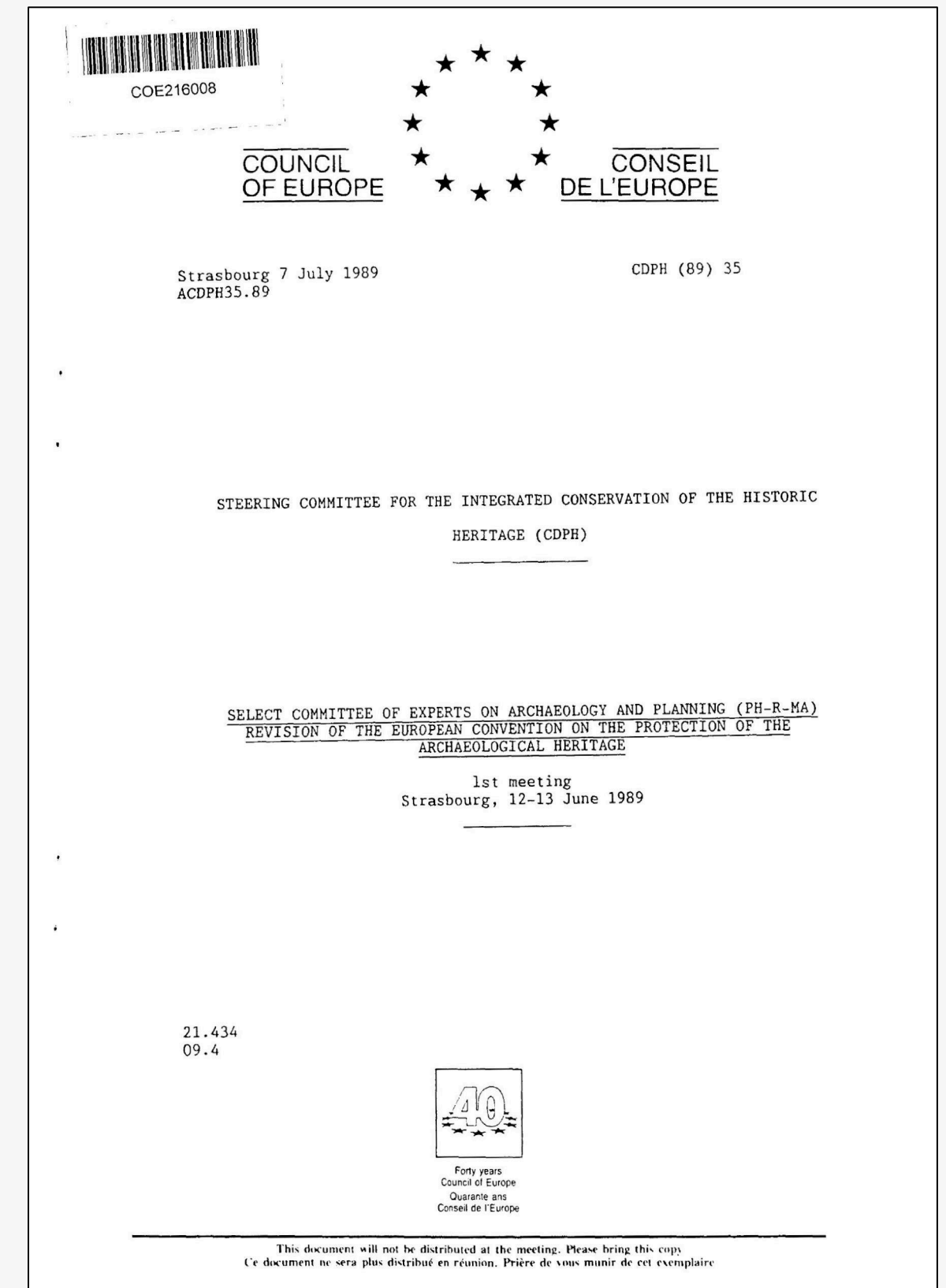
- scope of convention, definition of archaeological heritage;
- developer pays principle to fund archaeological costs;
- inclusion of subsequent scientific studies in costs;
- illicit excavation and trafficking in illegal goods;
- Use of metal detectors.

Drafting also subject to the constraints of national law & approval of ministries.

Difficulties of translation between French & English texts.

Certain topics (eg ownership of archaeological heritage) avoided or softened because of irreconcilable differences.

Presented for adoption by conference of Minister in Valletta in 1992.



Valletta Convention (1992)

Convention for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage of Europe (revised) (Valletta, 1992)

Adopted 16 January 1992.

Came into force 25 May 1995:

- 46 states have signed and ratified;
- 4 states not signed.

Reflected changing approaches to archaeological heritage management since London Convention (1969):

- nature of threats (impacts of major construction projects across Europe); and
- set new standards in line with emerging principles of integrated conservation within spatial planning context.



European Treaty Series - No. 143

European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Revised) *

Valletta, 16.I.1992

Preamble

The member States of the Council of Europe and the other States party to the European Cultural Convention signatory hereto,

Considering that the aim of the Council of Europe is to achieve a greater unity between its members for the purpose, in particular, of safeguarding and realising the ideals and principles which are their common heritage;

Having regard to the European Cultural Convention signed in Paris on 19 December 1954, in particular Articles 1 and 5 thereof;

Having regard to the Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe signed in Granada on 3 October 1985;

Having regard to the European Convention on Offences relating to Cultural Property signed in Delphi on 23 June 1985;

Having regard to the recommendations of the Parliamentary Assembly relating to archaeology and in particular Recommendations 848 (1978), 921 (1981) and 1072 (1988);

Having regard to Recommendation No. R (89) 5 concerning the protection and enhancement of the archaeological heritage in the context of town and country planning operations;

Recalling that the archaeological heritage is essential to a knowledge of the history of mankind;

Acknowledging that the European archaeological heritage, which provides evidence of ancient history, is seriously threatened with deterioration because of the increasing number of major planning schemes, natural risks, clandestine or unscientific excavations and insufficient public awareness;

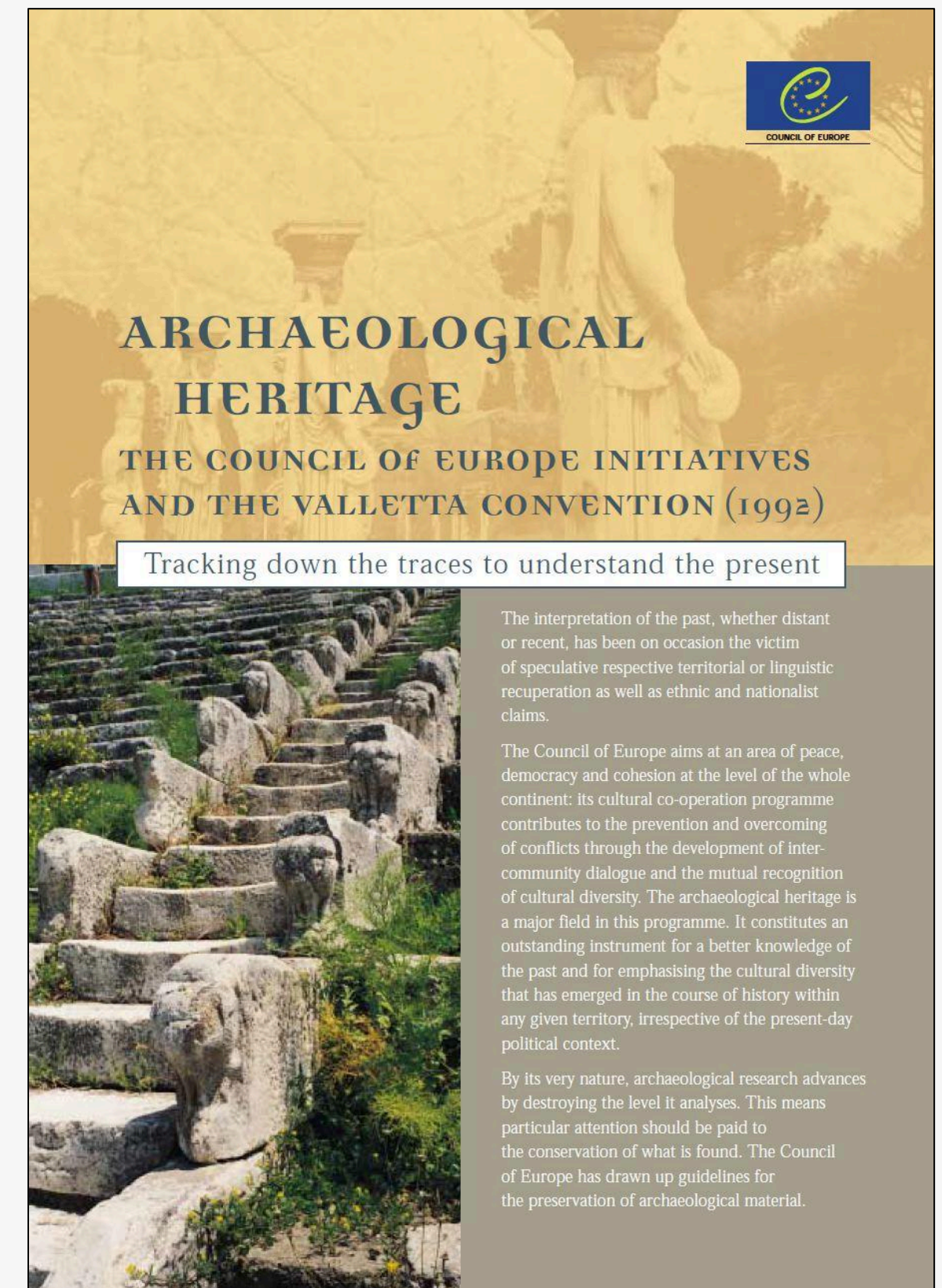
Affirming that it is important to institute, where they do not yet exist, appropriate administrative and scientific supervision procedures, and that the need to protect the archaeological heritage should be reflected in town and country planning and cultural development policies;

(*) The Treaty of Lisbon amending the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty establishing the European Community entered into force on 1 December 2009. As a consequence, as from that date, any reference to the European Economic Community shall be read as the European Union.

Key provisions

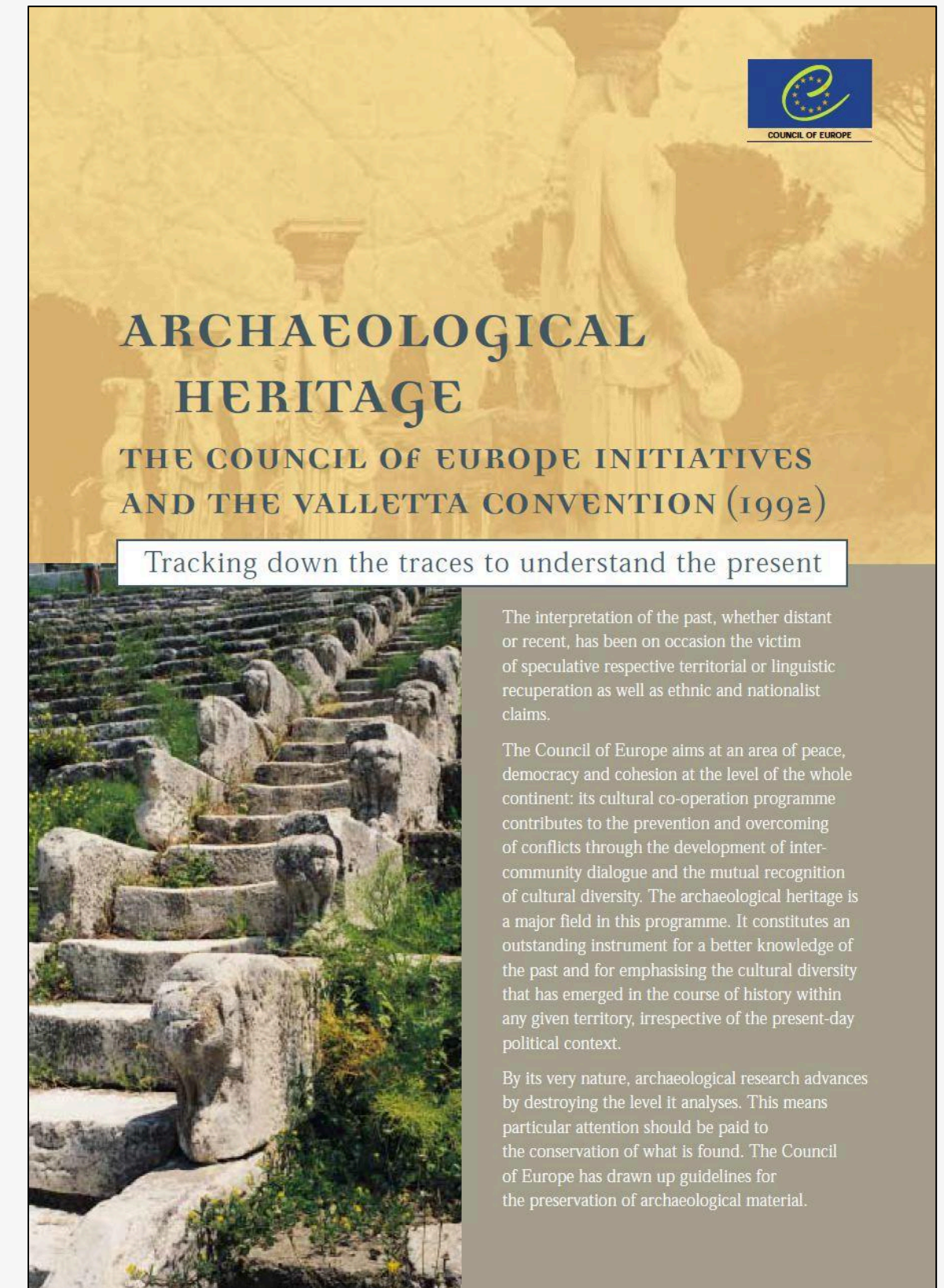
Focus: preservation, conservation, management, & presentation of archaeological sites & monuments:

- national legal instruments to enhance protection of areas & sites;
- integration of archaeology & conservation with planning policies;
- non-destructive investigation rather than excavation where possible (preservation in situ);
- all archaeological excavation defined as research & to be undertaken by competent persons;
- public responsibility to provide financial support for archaeological research;
- archaeological work included in budget of development schemes;
- costs of all archaeological operations to include 'full' recording & publication of findings;
- provision for archives and storage made explicit;
- framework for international cooperation (technical & scientific);
- obligation to disseminate information to the public.



Achievements:

- redefined archaeological heritage as a source of collective memory rather than focusing solely on aspects of material culture;
- embedded research values into protection mechanisms;
- integrated identification & protection with spatial planning;
- changed & extended the basis of funding for archaeological fieldwork;
- made no distinction between development-led archaeology & research archaeology;
- led to substantial increase in knowledge about the past especially at landscape scale;
- took some steps to limit illegal circulation of finds;
- resulted in saving countless sites from destruction without recording;
- clear increase in public awareness & public benefit.



Overview

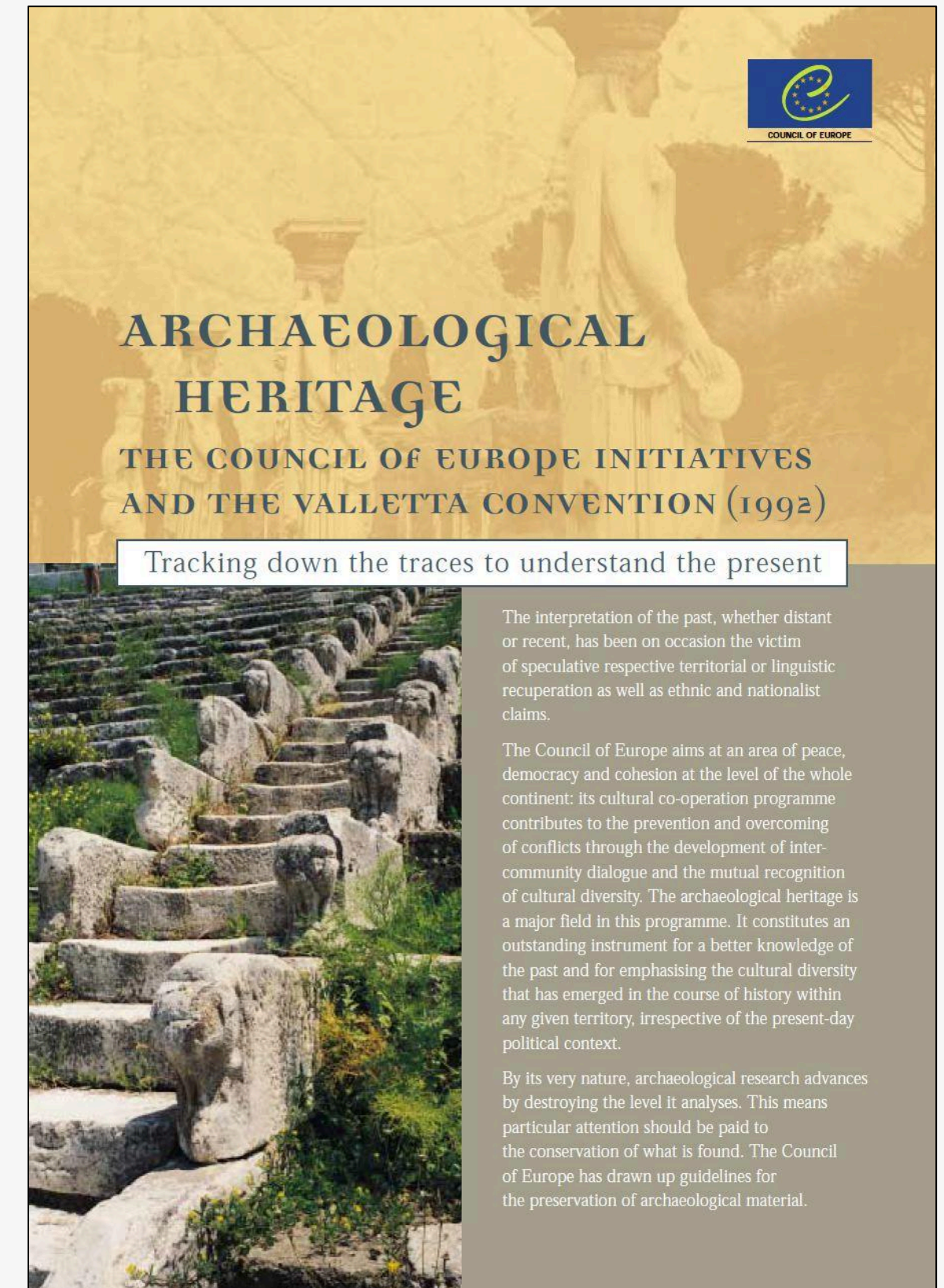
Conventions are not model laws but guidelines built around a vision of key principles intended to set a standard throughout Europe.

One of CoE's most successful conventions.

Framework for integrated management of archaeological heritage based on shared responsibilities & more effective protection by integration with spatial planning.

The Valletta Convention:

- is neither ideal nor perfect;
- has many strengths and significant achievements;
- contains inevitable compromises;
- includes some areas of weakness;
- has inspired & reshaped archaeological heritage management across Europe.



Overview

A wide-ranging statement setting out international standards for archaeological work & conservation.

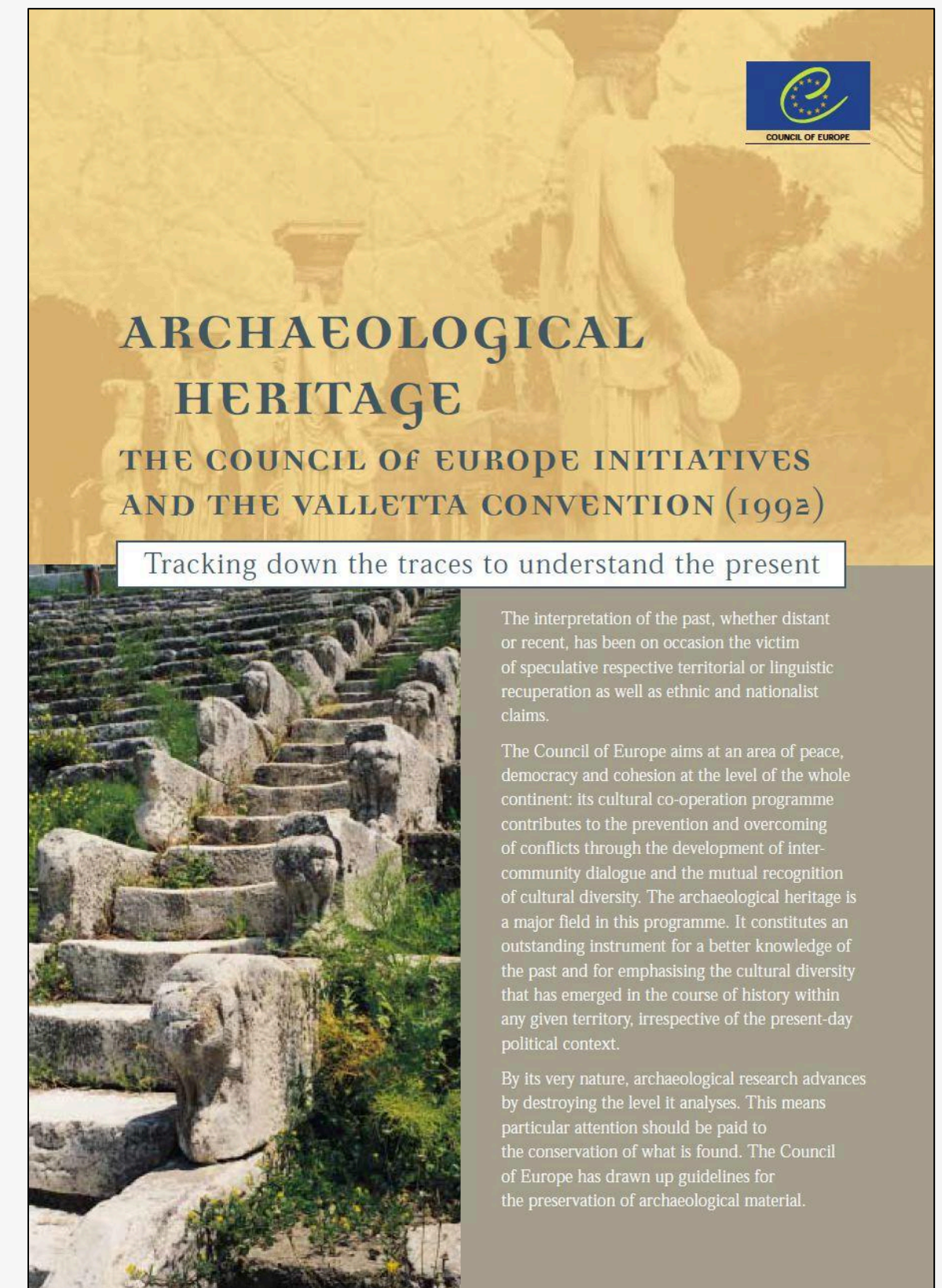
Each state applies Convention within its own legal system.

The aims & goals expressed in the Convention must be translated into each state's legal framework (ratification) accommodating all the complexities, constraints & technicalities of national law.

A general standard for the way in which European states should manage their archaeological heritage.

Provides a pluralistic but broadly consistent framework for archaeological heritage management.

As a result archaeological heritage management has gained wide acceptance and been promoted by decision-makers.



Some perceived problems

Standards:

- Divisive effects of commercialization & competition: sector isolation & fragmentation.
- Uneven standards & quality in self-regulated markets.
- Development-led work can be done simply for compliance with limited results.
- Poor pay, conditions, job security, and career prospects for archaeologists.
- High levels of disenchantment and fragmentation amongst some professionals.
- Little fundamental unity of purpose in the archaeological community.
- Can limit opportunities for voluntary (hobby) sector.

Quality Management in Archaeology



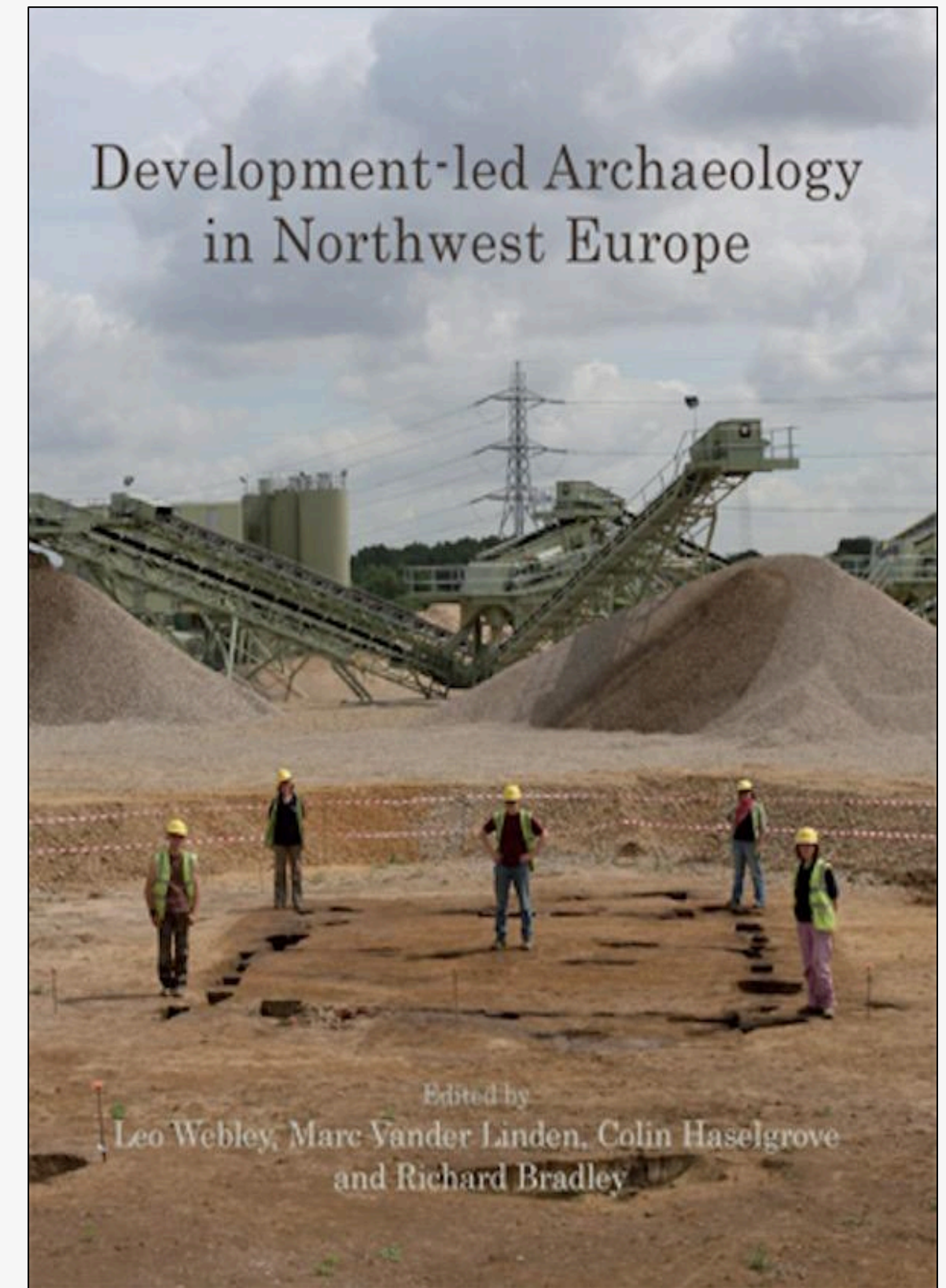
edited by

Willem J. H. Willems and Monique H. van den Dries

Some perceived problems

Research:

- *Preservation in situ* has become an instrument that favors simplistic cultural resource management hampering innovation.
- Increasing gulf between heritage management & academic institutions.
- Inconsistent approaches to the management of archaeological information.
- Lack of academic focus in much development-led work – research potential often untapped.
- Responsibilities for bringing research potential to fruition are limited.
- Destabilisation of local research continuity.
- Limited delivery of explicit public benefit



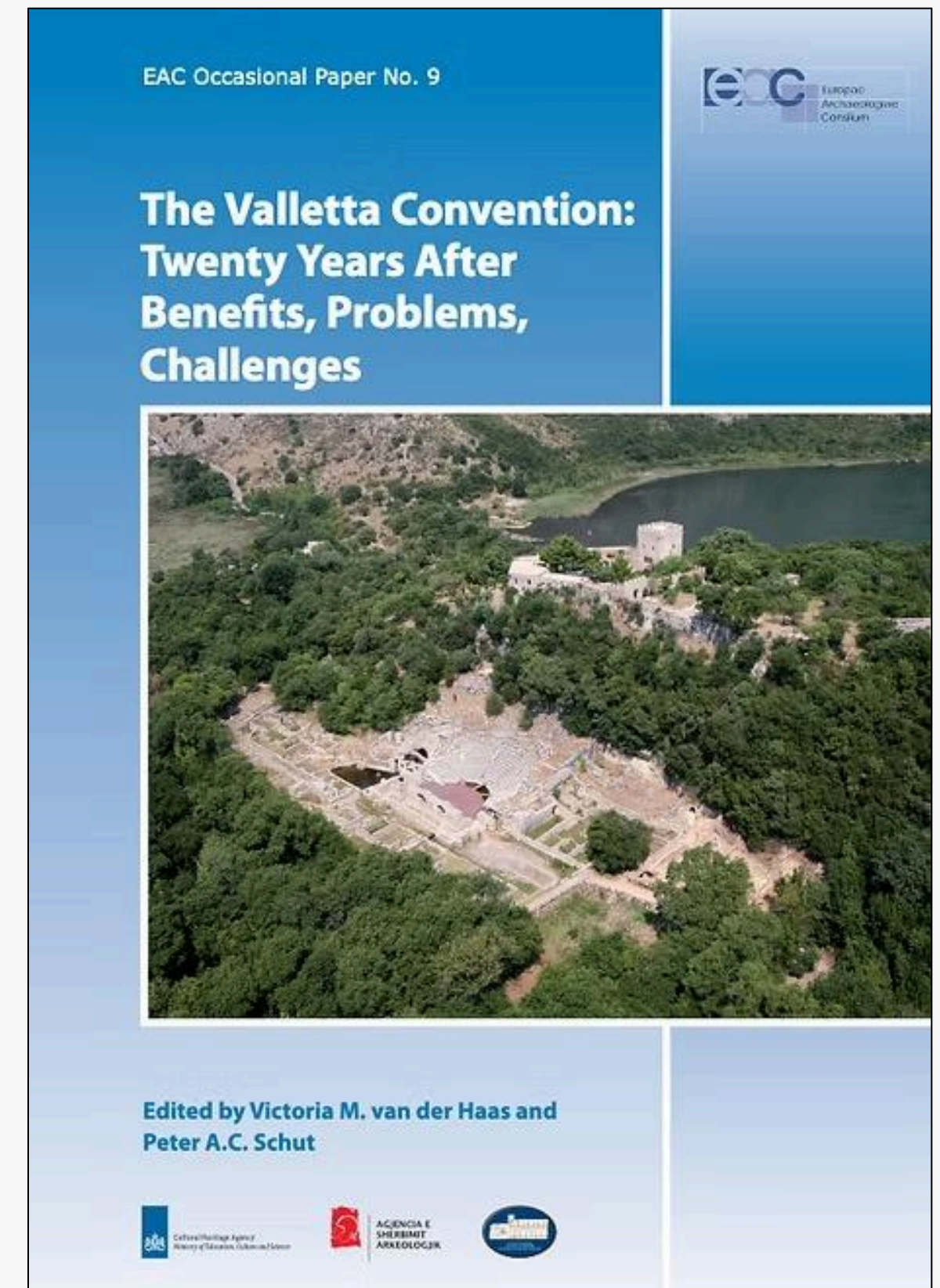
Some perceived problems

Problems & inconsistencies may relate to:

- how the Convention has been interpreted in different jurisdictions;
- how it has been implemented & put into practice in different political, administrative, & economic contexts;
- Distinctive cultural differences between states in approaches to research.

Need to explore the actual cause & effect of these problems.

Some may be rooted in pre-existing heritage management practices and not direct consequence of the Valletta Convention.



Consequences & Challenges

- Fundamentally changed the practice of archaeology in Europe since 1992.
- Significantly improved protection & conservation of European archaeological heritage.
- Massive growth in archaeological investigations but insufficient interpretation & synthesis.
- Inadequate dissemination of information & knowledge.
- Lack of involvement of people outside the archaeological profession.
- Financial pressures on developer funding can have a negative impact on quality of archaeological work.
- Implementation & practice is patchy and inconsistent.
- Public resources for archaeology in decline; private sector increasingly reluctant to meet costs.



Historic England

Building the Future, Transforming our Past

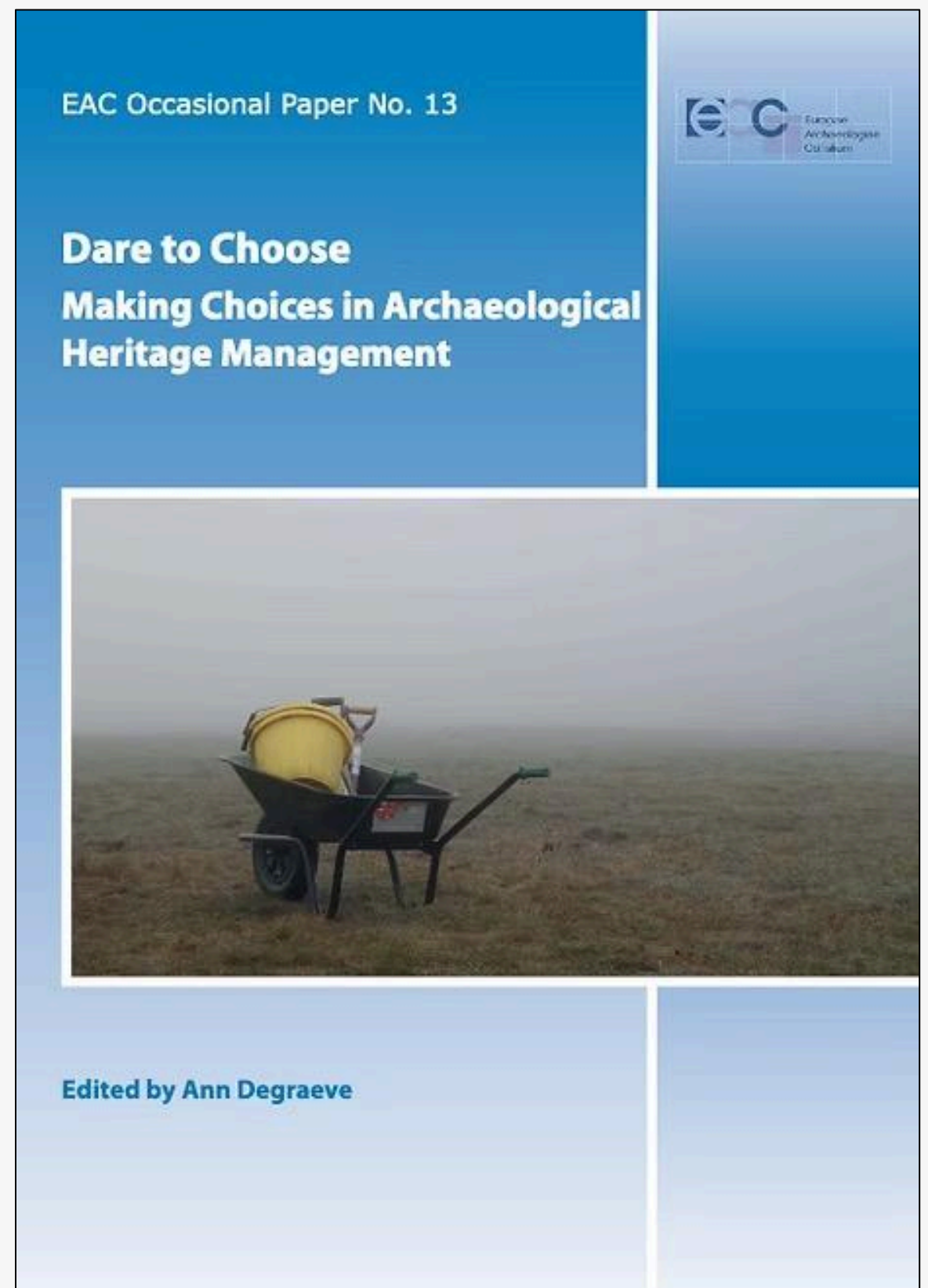
Celebrating development-led archaeology in England,
1990-2015



Is there a problem?

Preservation in situ?

- For most sites there is increasing recognition that a stark choice between preservation or excavation is no longer feasible or practical.
- Concept of excavation as an adequate proxy for physical preservation is already being abandoned.
- Debate has moved on to explore the choice between which sites:
 - should be excavated (to meet explicit research objectives), or
 - otherwise abandoned to their fate (cf *EAC Amersfoort Agenda and Action Plan*).
- Problems remain but any continuing shortcomings in development-led fieldwork should not be ascribed as the unavoidable consequences of *preservation in situ*.



Is there a problem?

Bureaucratization:

- Problems in implementation are more likely to relate to inadequate resourcing than to inherent issues of increasing 'bureaucratization' resulting from implementation of the Convention.
- In the UK & elsewhere, the resourcing of heritage management in the spatial planning process is reaching crisis point.
- Solutions are urgently required to support and improve heritage management so that the processes work and can be used to achieve the outcomes and consistent quality that is aspired to by the Convention.

ALGAAO: Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers UK

Home » Archaeology in Local Government » Planning advice

Home

ALGAAO:UK

National Associations

Subject Committees

Archaeology in Local Government

Overview

Community engagement

Conservation / Management

HERs / SMRs

Planning advice

Contact ALGAAO

Members' Login

Username:

Password:

Log in

Request new password

Request an ALGAAO web account

ALGAAO: Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers UK

Home » Archaeology in Local Government » Planning advice

Planning Advice

The provision of advice on strategic planning policies (at regional, unitary, county and district council level) and on individual planning applications through the development control process is a key aspect of the work of local government archaeological services. Whilst legislation (Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and National Heritage Act 1973) affords protection to some sites, recognised to be of national importance, provision for the protection and investigation of the majority of archaeological sites has come about through the development of planning legislation and the recognition of archaeology as a material consideration in the planning process.



Archaeology and development proposals

As a material consideration, planning authorities are required to take archaeology into consideration when determining planning applications. Planning policy guidance notes set out Government policy on planning issues and provide guidance to local authorities and others on the operation of the planning system. Local authority archaeological advisers ('curators') assess the likely archaeological impact of development proposals and advise an appropriate mitigation strategy where necessary. If you are planning a development which may affect archaeological remains, it pays to consult your local government archaeologist as early as possible. They can help by advising on modification of proposals to reduce their archaeological impact.

Archaeology in practice

In some cases it may be necessary for would-be developers to commission archaeological work before or during development, in accordance with government guidance (in particular **National Planning Policy Framework** (NPPF - published March 2012. **PPS 5 Practice Guide**) in England, **'Planning Policy Wales'** in Wales, **SPP** and **PAN 2/2011** in Scotland) and development plans. Such work can take a number of forms:

- **desk-based assessment** is an assessment of the known or potential archaeological resource within a specified area or site, consisting of a collation of existing written and graphic information in order to identify the likely character, extent, quality and worth of the known or potential archaeological resource in a local, regional or national context as appropriate.
- **field evaluation** is a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork aimed at gaining information about the archaeological resource within a given area or site. This includes the presence or absence, character and extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and relative quality of archaeological remains and may involve a variety of investigative techniques, including fieldwalking, trial trenching and geophysical survey. It enables an assessment of the worth of any archaeological remains in a local, regional, national or international context and provides the basis for recommendation of appropriate mitigation strategy. This may comprise full or partial preservation in situ, further investigation and recording, or the results may merit no further archaeological work.
- **excavation** is the excavation and recording of archaeological evidence which will be unavoidably destroyed by development. Its purpose is to examine the archaeological resource within a given area or site within the framework of defined research objectives, to seek a better understanding of and compile a record of that resource.
- a **watching brief** is a programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non -archaeological reasons where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed, enabling recording of archaeological evidence which comes to light during the course of development.
- **building recording** is a programme of work intended to establish the character, history, dating, form and archaeological development of a specified building or structure, or complex and its setting, including its buried components. It aims to both seek a better understanding of the structures and enable formulation of a strategy for their conservation, alteration, demolition, repair or management.

All would be followed by analysis of the results and preparation of a report for the client and deposition of the archive with a museum. All work should be subject to an agreed written scheme of investigation or project design.

Is there a problem?

Volume of material?

- The sheer volume of material & difficulties in accessing it have been a deterrent to exploiting the results of development-led projects to the full.
- This is being overcome by various initiatives.
- The success of ongoing programmes shows that it can make significant contributions to thinking.
- 'Big Data' and new digital technologies (power quantification, data modelling, & AI) are extending the ways this material can be used and integrated with other disciplines.
- The results of development-led fieldwork are revolutionising understanding of the past across territories, regions, and states.



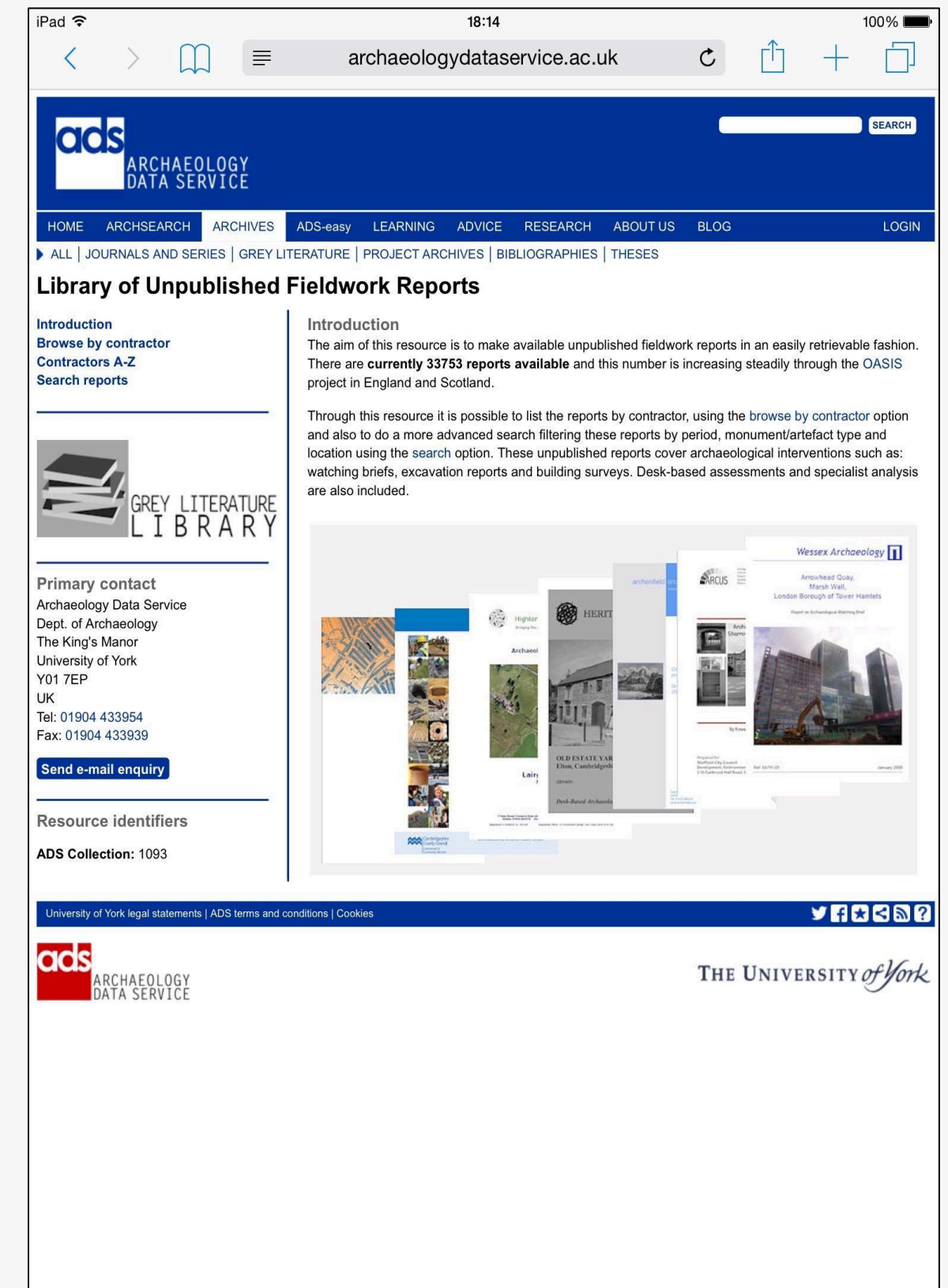
Is there a problem?

Publication & Dissemination?

- Changes in practice continue to evolve.
- Issues of content & quality can be addressed by strengthening heritage management in spatial planning process.
- Accessibility to data continues to improve, but digital access & open access are not always synonymous.

Significant challenges remain:

- future of development-led client reports;
- changing nature of archaeological process & product;
- democratisation of research;
- current approaches often one-way: 'educating' the public in 'scientific' & 'professional' values;
- listening to, understanding, & incorporating public values & perceptions of the past.



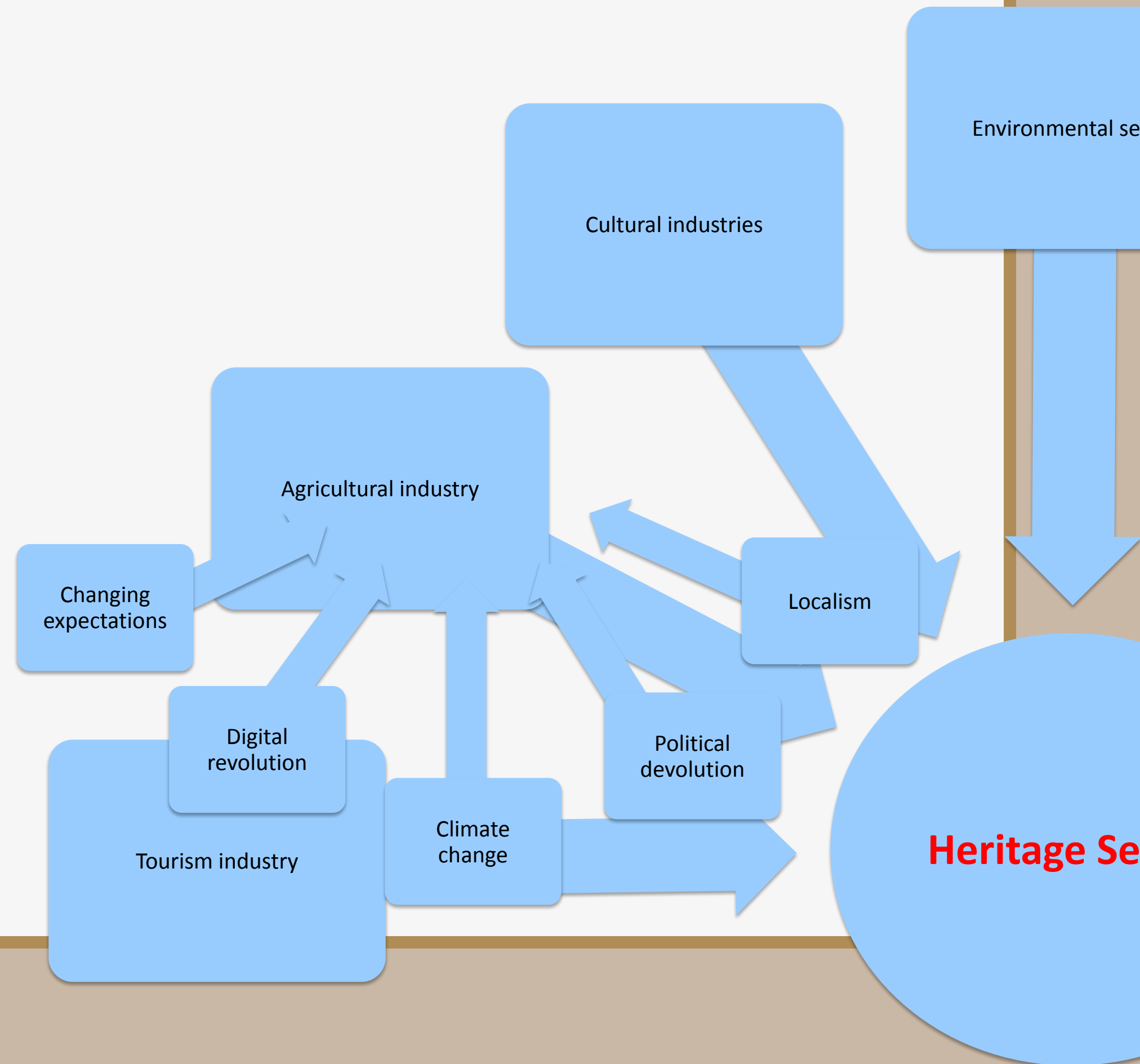
Changing context

External demands & social pressures

Heritage management practice continues to evolve.

Significant developments include:

- the continuing integration & merging of heritage institutions;
- major changes in legal frameworks;
- development of more open principles for the conservation and management of heritage;
- increased expectation for better cooperation and communication between different fields.



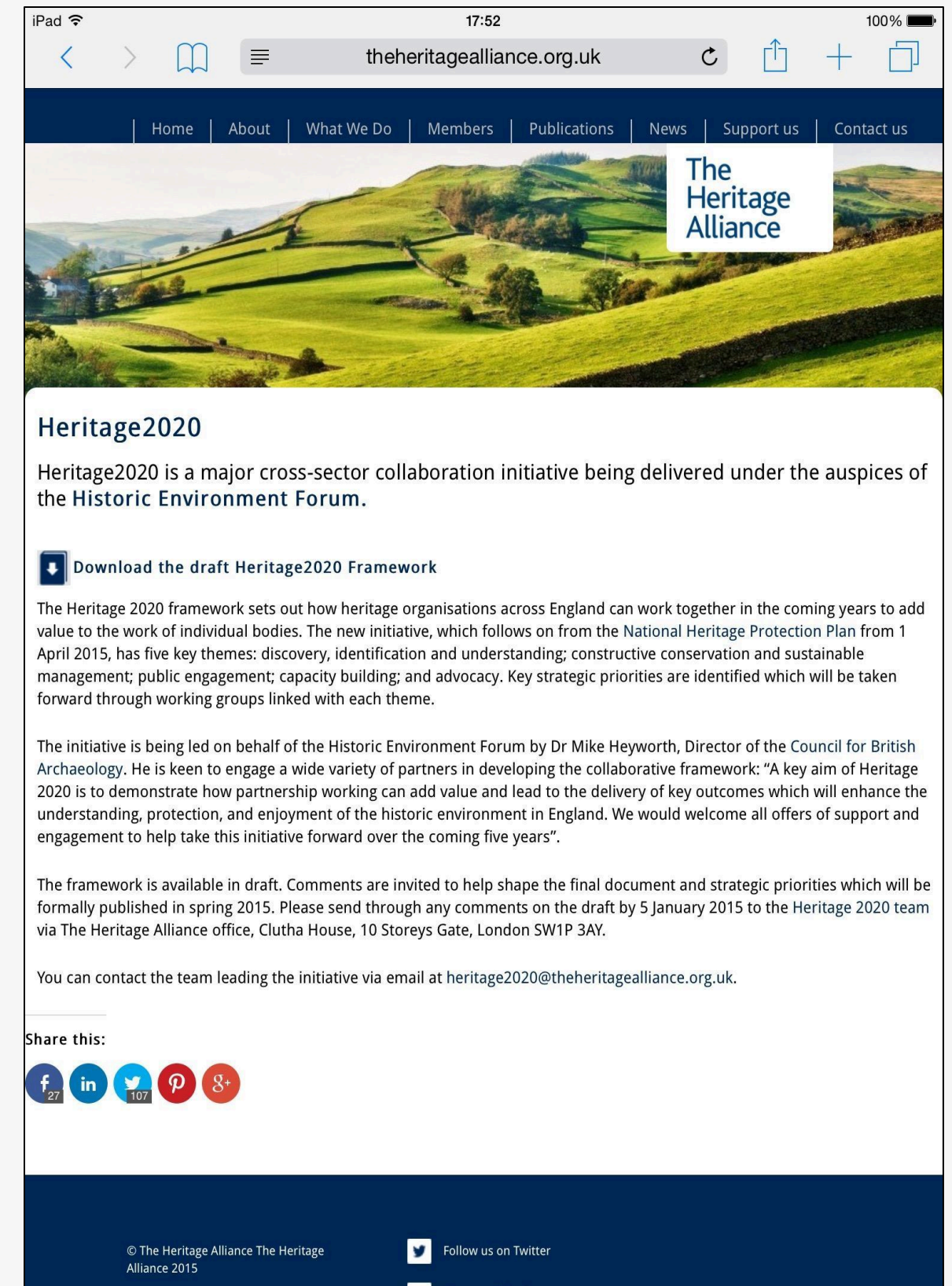
Changing context

Management frameworks are changing to accommodate changing practice

This requires:

- making results of investigations more accessible;
- securing maximum value from private sector investigations to ensure information is secure and accessible;
- extending joint working with higher education sector to address strategic and front-line priorities;
- extending responsibility for research & knowledge-sharing to national & local communities;
- Increasing public access to knowledge & information.

At a high level all these principles are already embedded in the Valletta Convention



Changing objectives

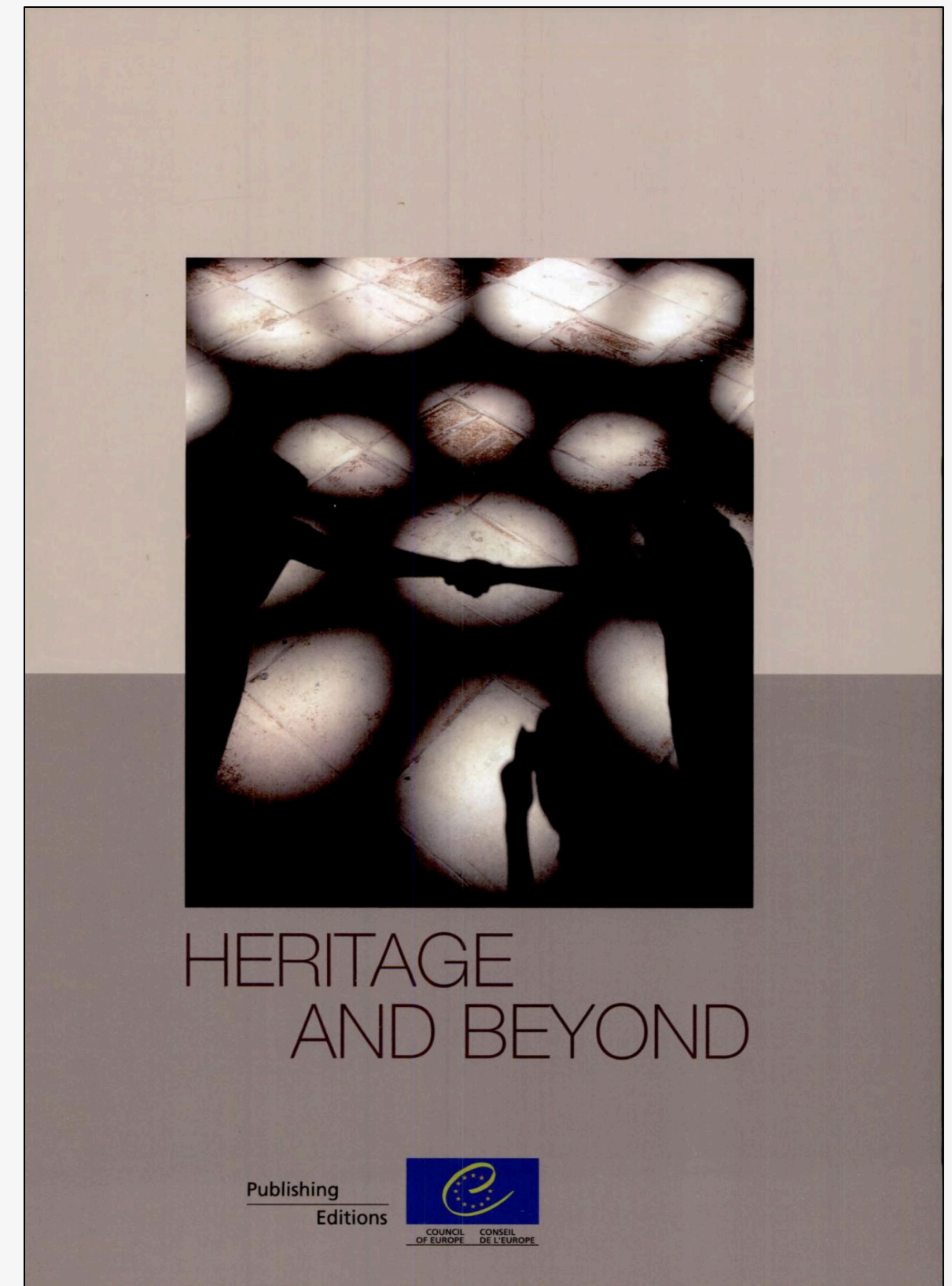
Moving away from protection

Council of Europe: focus on Human rights, Rule of Law, and Democracy.

'promoting diversity and dialogue through access to heritage to foster a sense of identity, collective memory, & mutual understanding within and between communities'

- enlarged cross-disciplinary approach within concept of a common European heritage;
- asserts the principle of every person's right of access to the cultural heritage of their choice;
- while respecting cultural diversity & the rights & freedoms of others.

Heritage belongs to everyone but is owned by no-one



Changing objectives

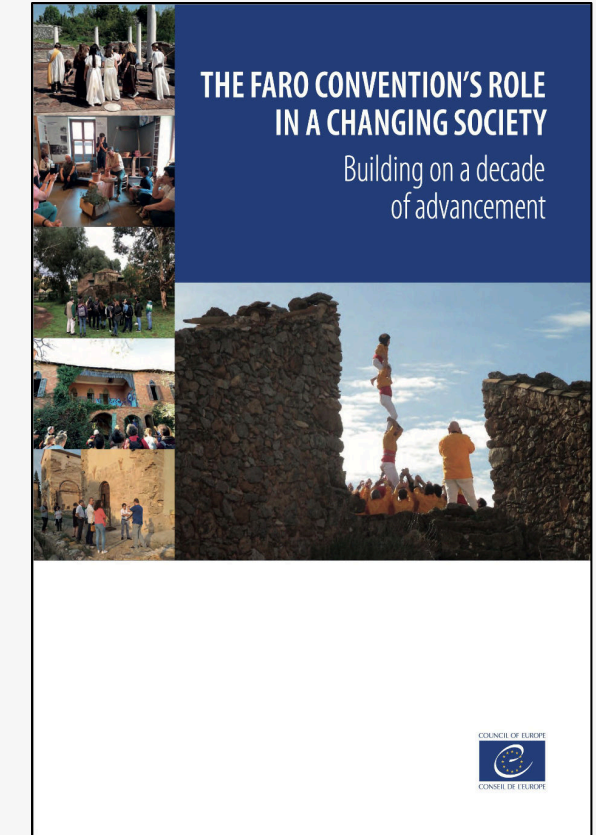
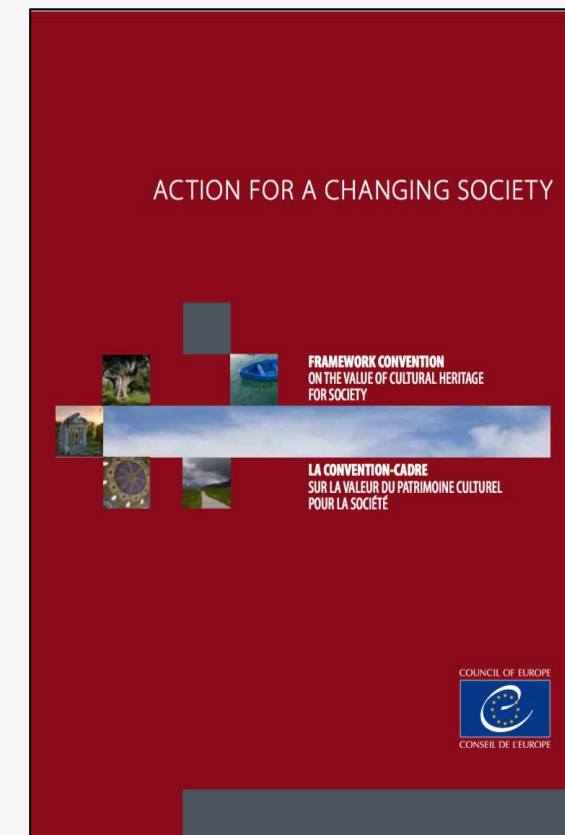
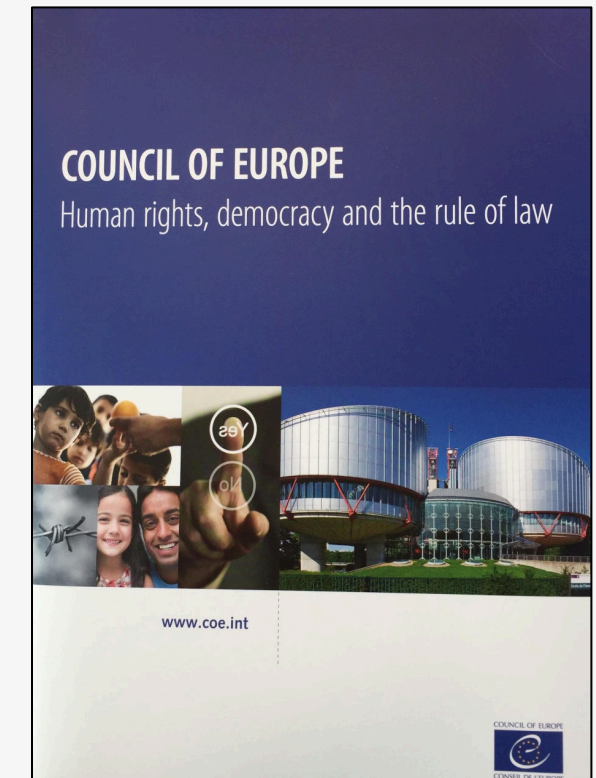
Integrated heritage conservation & management with an emphasis on social and cultural aspects and sustainable development.

Florence Landscape Convention (2000):

- public aspirations and ownership;
- public participation in decision-making.

Faro Framework Convention (2005):

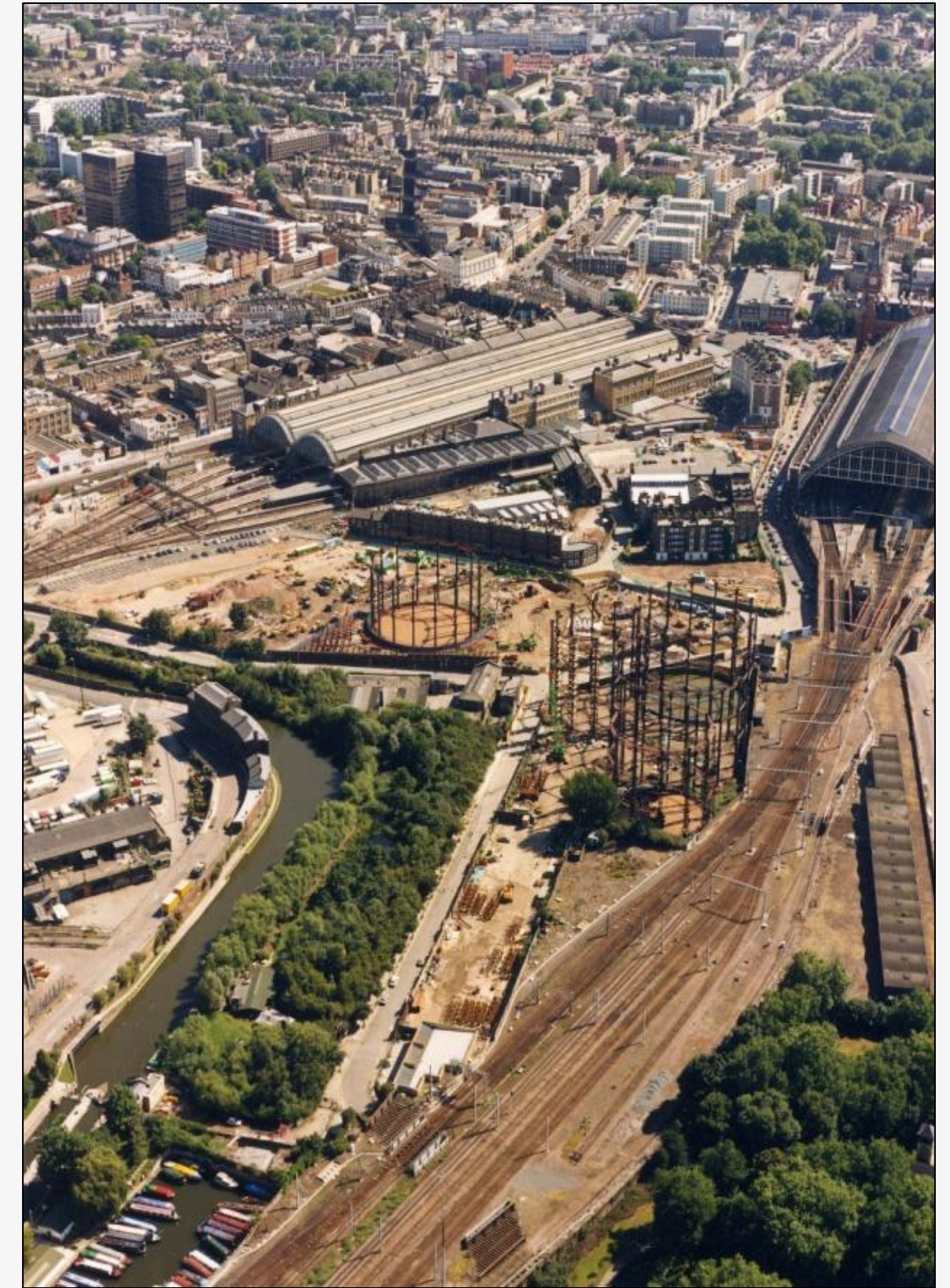
- values-based approach;
- individual & collective responsibilities;
- everyone's right of access to the cultural heritage of their choice;
- respecting the rights and freedoms of others and cultural diversity.



Heritage management today

Significance

- How do we identify the most important, most valued, & most significant: which elements of heritage can & should be conserved?
- Effective management is about defining significance at a point in time & making choices to manage change.
- In a dynamic world change is inevitable - knowledge is infinite - are existing outcomes appropriate?
- In what circumstances can preservation, conservation, or management of change be realistic & attainable?
- What is the appropriate balance between legislation, regulation, & other conservation & protection mechanisms?

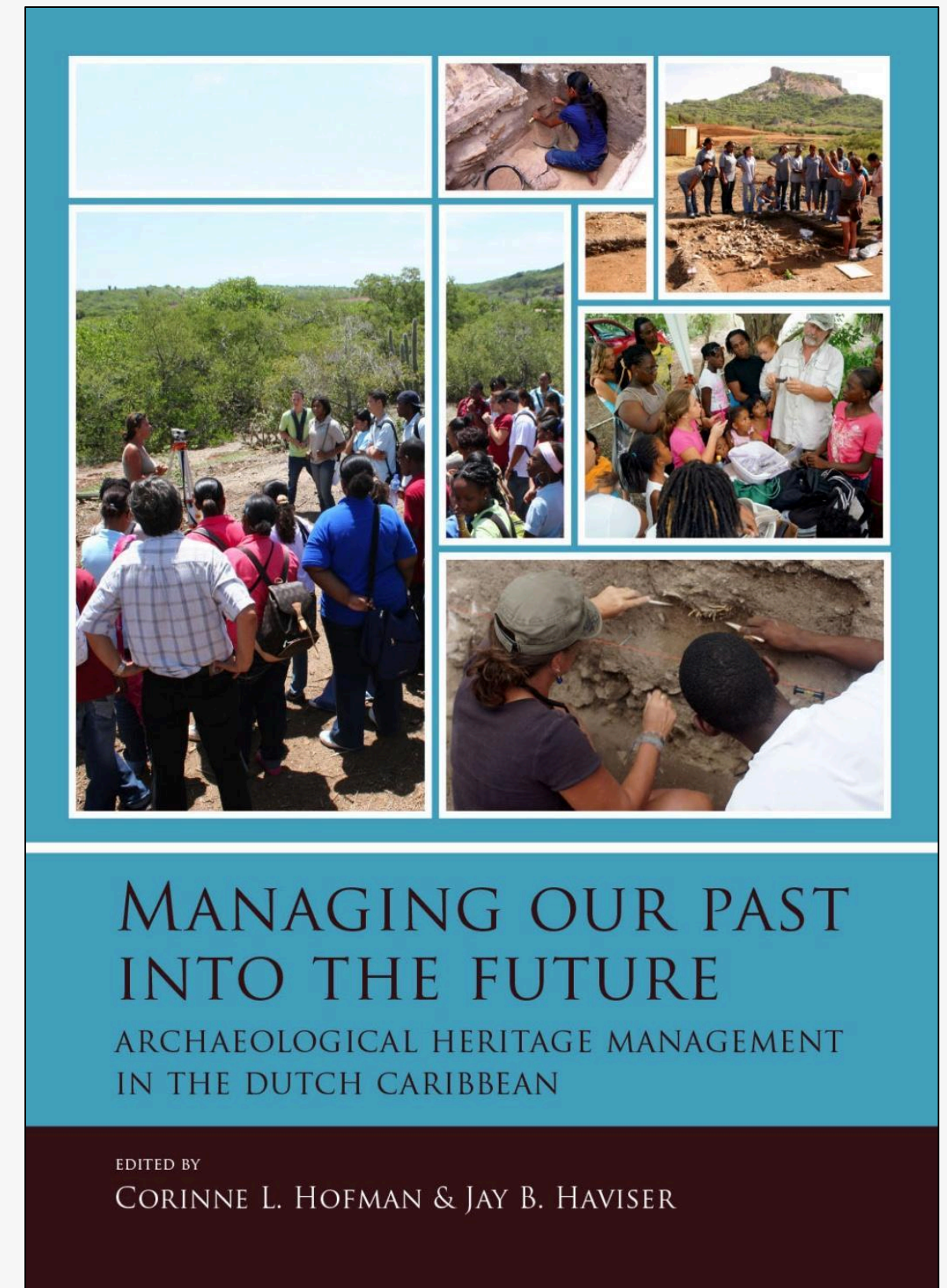


Heritage management today

Values:

The heritage management cycle requires:

- understanding & articulating multiple values & how they may be vulnerable to harm & loss;
- systematically assessing impacts of proposals for change on values and significance;
- making value judgements to reconcile conflicting priorities:
 - old vs new;
 - science vs belief;
 - preservation vs restoration.
- using a values-led approach to underpin more effective conservation management;
- developing long-term strategies to sustain values.



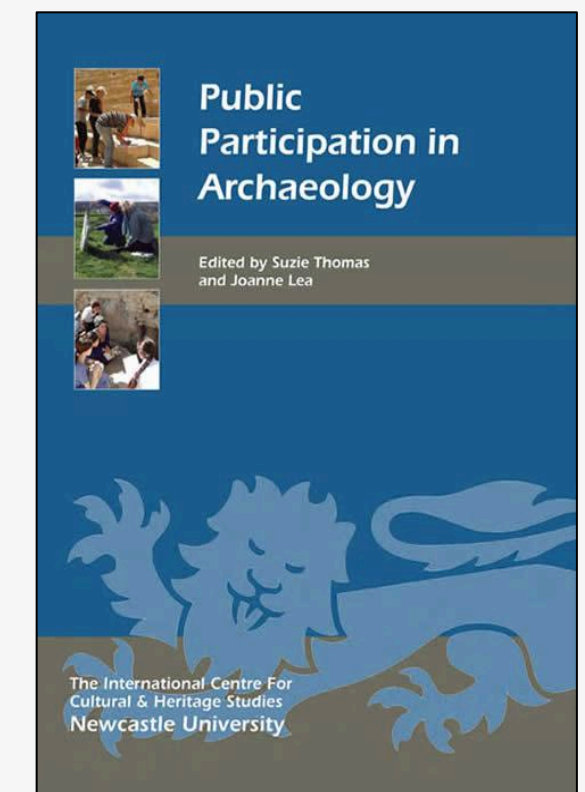
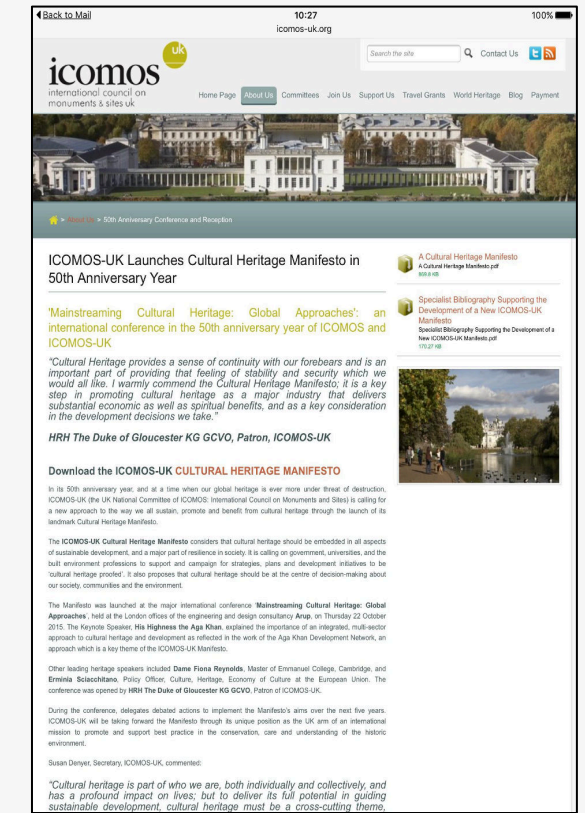
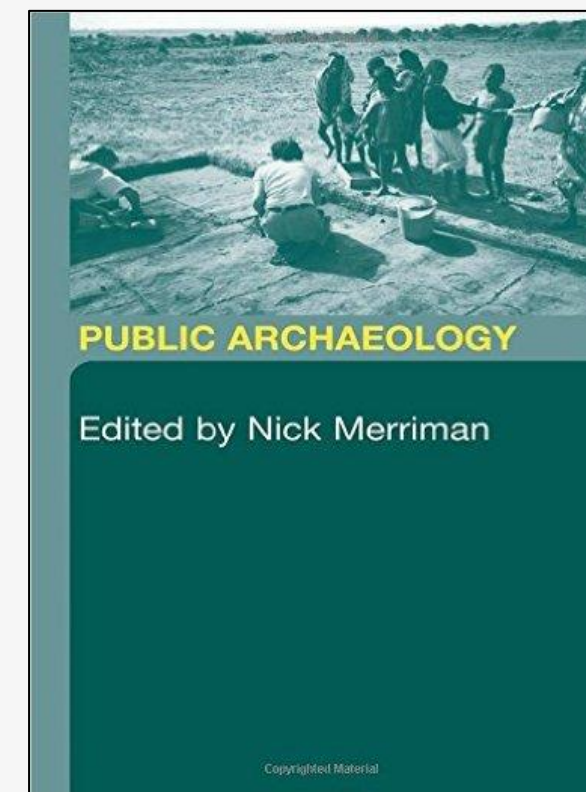
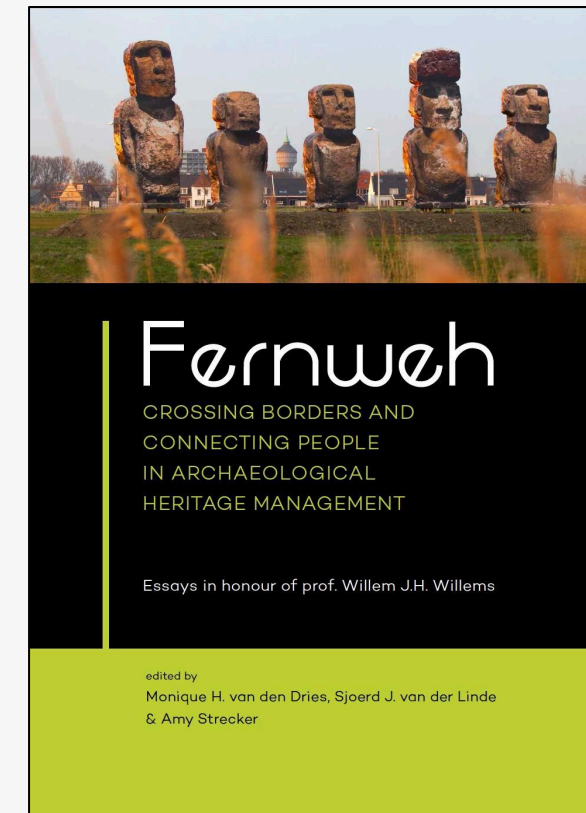
Heritage management today

A values-led approach can:

- contribute to & inform knowledge about Europe's past.
- make heritage management policies & practice more relevant to society at large.

Consistency in decision-making processes requires open, questioning, & flexible approaches supported by appropriate standards and guidelines.

Solutions to enhance or sustain significance can be unique & directly appropriate to specific places.



Heritage management today

New questions & new approaches:

- How do changing political & operational circumstances impact on heritage management? (national, cultural, legal, social, economic values)
- What is the role of the professional? (Author; Owner; Creator; Expert; Guardian; Scientist; Arbitrator; Facilitator; Advisor)
- Whose values? (Public, professional, academic, administrative)
- Where does public benefit lie: how can this be achieved/demonstrated? (Knowledge & understanding)
- How can public values be incorporated in scientific/professional decision-making)? (awareness raising & public access).
- Is consistency achievable? (spatial planning decisions)

INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY
CENTRE FOR APPLIED ARCHAEOLOGY

UCL

Not just commercial archaeology:
what are the alternative models?



The value of commercial archaeology seminar
23th January 5:30pm
Institute of Archaeology, Room 612

WINE RECEPTION AFTER SEMINAR

Contributors:
Dominic Perring: the good & the bad of contract archaeology in the UK
Tim Williams: alternative models for rescue archaeology
Gai Jorae: development and archaeology – some issues from recent CAA/ASE projects
Sjoerd van der Linde (University of Leiden): Out-of-the-box opportunities for professional archaeology: a view from abroad

This seminar will now take place without our friend Willem Willems, but in fond memory of his immense and irreplaceable contribution to European Archaeology (and beyond).

- Contract archaeology is a free market or mixed market: what is the role of universities, research institutes, and academics?
- What can be achieved through State archaeology?
- What are the pros and cons of different European models: are there lessons here for IoA/ASE/CAA?
- How can contract archaeology operate most effectively within the European regulatory framework (Grenada, Valletta, Florence, & Faro conventions) – and what are the key issues?
- How can we best identify our collective interests and objectives and then develop major initiatives and programmes for EU funding?
- How will the Institute engage with the JPI Cultural Heritage and Global Change Strategic Research Agenda – is there a role for contract archaeology?
- Do we have the appropriate collaborative research that will inform and underpin the full added value of contract archaeology?

For further details about Archaeology South-East visit our website at www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology or follow us on Twitter @ArchSouthEast

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Communicating the results of
developer-funded archaeology

The value of commercial archaeology seminar

19th December 4pm
ASE Sussex, Chapel Place, Portslade

WITH SHERRY & MINCE PIES

Contributors:
Jim Stevenson: How accessible is our data? Current approaches to publication and dissemination in commercial archaeology
Guy Hopkinson with Dan Swift: The ASEBASE initiative
Sjoerd van der Linde: New approaches to communicating archaeology
Paul Basu: 'Heritage of the people, by the people, for the people?'



- Do we understand how people use cultural heritage information and how the information we disseminate has influence?
- How do we change the emphasis of current work from our negative products (holes in the ground) into positive ones (diaries, reports, events, tweets, conferences, publications, etc.)?
- How do we tailor what is disseminated (content) to different mechanisms/media and to the different audiences that are using those media?
- What then is the future of the client report (grey literature)?
- Do we need to give more thought to how new technologies are not only changing the nature of the archaeological product (and therefore the nature of the archaeological process) and access to that product, but also the nature of research and who does research?
- The democratisation of research (with universal access to universal information) is taking us away from a one-way process of dissemination into a conversation of interests and ideas, but what are implications of this for research (in both academic and commercial spheres)?
- Can more be done to close the gap between grey literature and local/national databases prepared by academics?

For further details about Archaeology South-East visit our website at www.ucl.ac.uk/archaeology or follow us on Twitter @ArchSouthEast

INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY
CENTRE FOR APPLIED ARCHAEOLOGY

UCL

Impact: making a difference

The value of commercial archaeology seminar

5th December 5:30pm
Institute of Archaeology, Room 612

WINE RECEPTION AFTER SEMINAR

Contributors:
Fatima Raja: what 'impact' means to UCL
Louise Rayner: how commercial archaeology has impact
Jon Sygrave with Hilary Orange: Whitehawk Camp: a case study
James Steele: describing impact and the Institute of Archaeology REF submission
Barney Sloane: Public benefit and archaeology. A view from English Heritage

- How do we gain public benefit from the activities of Archaeology South-East, in a situation in which heritage management (which generates commercial contracts) is carried out in the public name but with little actual reference to the public?
- To what extent are our values understood by commercial clients, and how might we better champion them?
- What can contract archaeologists learn from the approaches to impact developed within the context of academic exercises such as REF?
- How can we develop frameworks for capturing and measuring impact: embracing not only the more easily measured outputs (such as visitor throughput, viewing figures, etc.) but also that identify the wider value of our outcomes?

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INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY
CENTRE FOR APPLIED ARCHAEOLOGY

UCL

Working with communities
in commercial archaeology

The value of commercial archaeology seminar

21st November 5:30pm
Institute of Archaeology, Room 612

WINE RECEPTION AFTER SEMINAR

Contributors:
Hilary Orange with Louise Rayner: How and why ASE works with different audiences
Andy Leonard: Managing community interest: problems and opportunities in public engagement during excavations at Walthamstow
Rodney Harrison: 'Towards a more democratic heritage? Dialogical heritage and dialogical decision making'
Dean Sully: new ways forward - a perspective from the Institute of Archaeology

- Who are the audiences for archaeological work and are we reaching them?
- How can we make contract archaeology better at listening and responding to communities?
- How can contract archaeology enhance knowledge, helping people connect to their own and others' histories?
- How do we facilitate community involvement in the design and execution of archaeological work?
- Can we 'make cultural heritage accessible to ensure the democratic right of everyone to share in its societal values' (Faro Convention) whilst working as suppliers to the construction industry?

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Heritage management today

New challenges:

- understanding how development-led work can be used to advance understanding & drive practice in new areas of research;
- monitoring & evaluating effects of change to inform future decisions;
- comparing effects of alternative courses of action;
- making & justifying decisions to present & future generations openly & publicly;
- providing a robust basis for reviewing & adjusting management.
- deciding who should be responsible for paying for, protecting, & conserving heritage;
- realising that awareness raising is not enough;
- translating public consciousness into political support

European Archaeological Council · Sep 4, 2024 · 1 min read

Future Priorities for EAC: member survey results



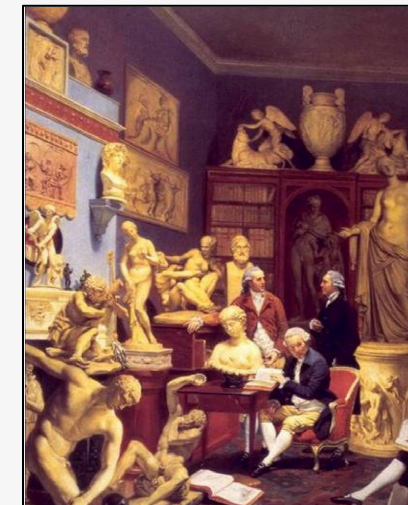
At the General Assembly in Brussels on 21 March 2024, the EAC celebrated its 25th anniversary by looking forward. The EAC Board invited members to share their priorities in the context of the Valletta and Faro Conventions, to guide future EAC activities.

The results of the survey created a clear list of the priorities and challenges that EAC members would like the EAC to help them address in the coming years. The EAC will use the survey when planning future initiatives and events, so these priorities can be explored and addressed to assist members. [Download the survey results here.](#)

Heritage 3.0 Framework

Heritage 1.0 (Conservation):

Preservation is the priority;
Heritage is for connoisseurs



Heritage 2.0 (Entertainment machines):

Attracting people & making profit is the priority;
Heritage is for customers



Heritage 3.0 (Community sense-making):

Involving everybody in the production,
circulation & conservation of heritage;
Heritage is made, preserved &
enjoyed by the whole community



(after *Pier Luigi Sacco*)

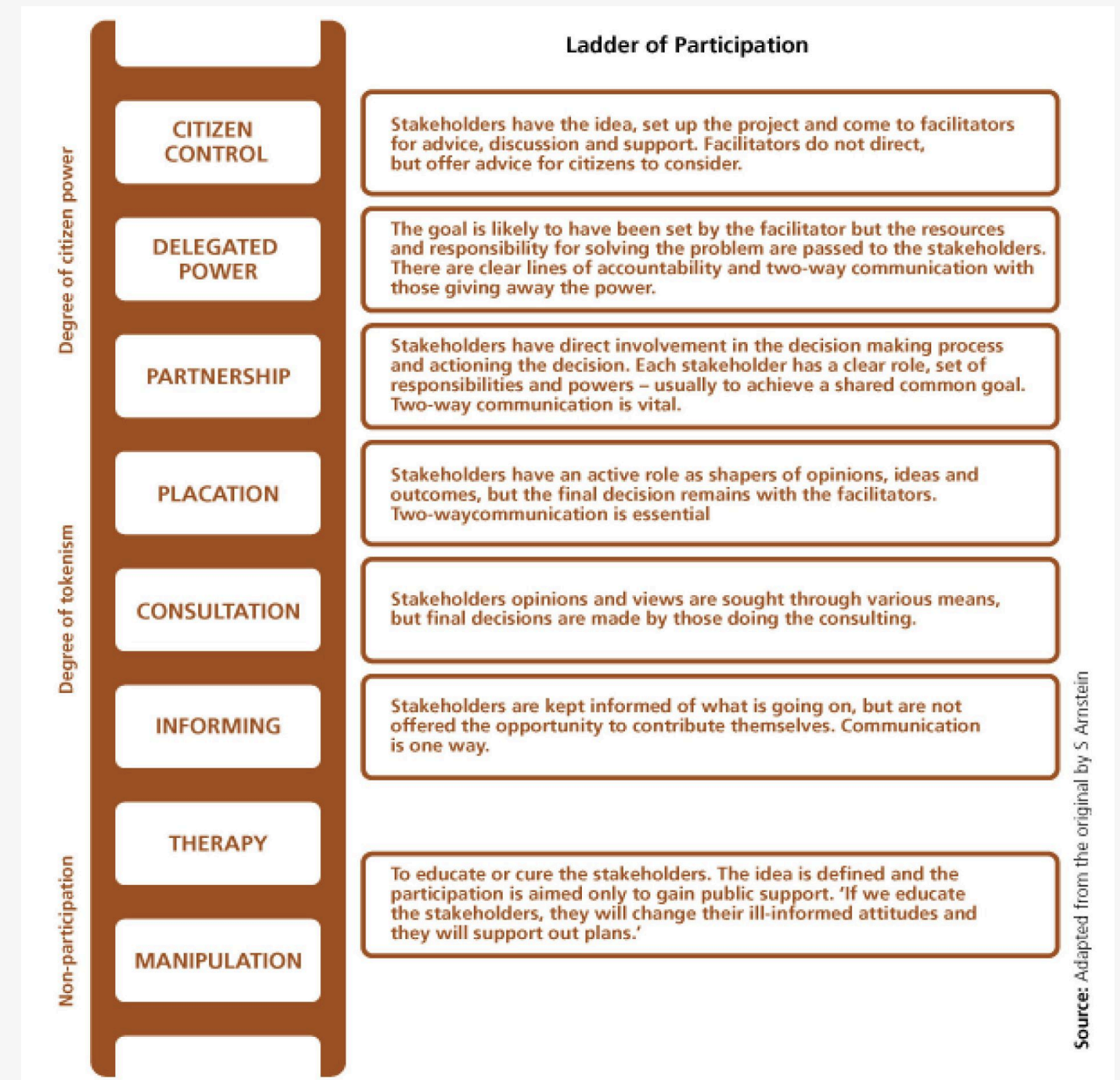
Heritage 3.0 Framework

- Heritage 3.0 does not cancel Heritage 1.0 & Heritage 2.0 but it builds on them.
- The only sustainable way to preserve physical heritage is to ensure it has meaning & importance for the whole community (not only experts).
- Economic instrumentalism about heritage puts at risk the future sustainability of everything that has no clear economic return.
- The entertainment dimension of heritage is only sustainable if the whole community takes responsibility & monitors its impact.



Heritage 3.0 Framework

- Participatory governance can only work if it questions and re-designs the representation of interests through participation.
- It is about trust building
- To generate real social responsibility we need to make space for the unengaged & disenfranchised;
- The only way to entitle the next generation to the transmission of heritage & defend it from threats is to help build an intrinsic motivation through active cultural participation
- If no-one is entitled or enabled to transmit the heritage, it will inevitably get lost.
- This calls for a strategy of massive cultural capability building (empowering).



New Opportunities

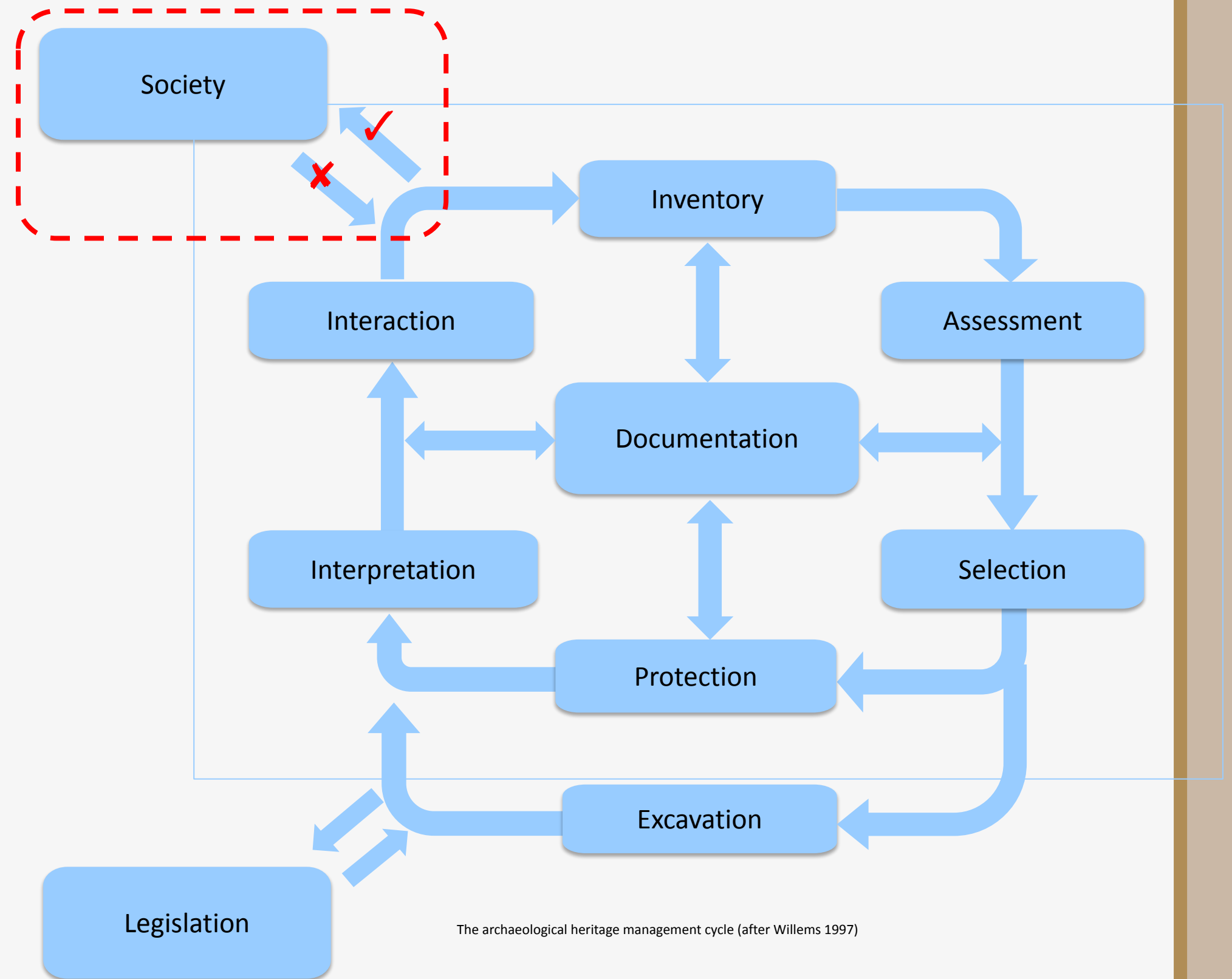
Each stage in the management cycle requires different inputs.

But much less attention has been given to engaging with society:

- to understand public values, and
- incorporating those values into the management process.

We are still learning how to *engage* with Society...

...and communication is often still one-way.



New opportunities

Public Engagement

Must engage with the public in a meaningful way to deliver real public benefit and build effective public awareness and support

ARCHAEOLOGISTS WORKING WITH THE PUBLIC
COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGY AND HERITAGE PROJECTS RUN BY MUSEUMS, UNIVERSITIES OR COMMERCIAL UNITS. ①

ARCHAEOLOGY BY THE PUBLIC
LOCAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES, METAL DETECTOR CLUBS, AMATEUR INTEREST GROUPS, INDEPENDENT SCHOLARS. ②

PUBLIC SECTOR ARCHAEOLOGY
HERITAGE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT WORK CARRIED OUT ON BEHALF OF NATIONAL, REGIONAL OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT. ③

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EDUCATION
FORMAL AND INFORMAL LEARNING ABOUT ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE ANCIENT WORLD IN SCHOOLS, MUSEUMS, ONLINE, AND OUT IN THE WORLD. ④

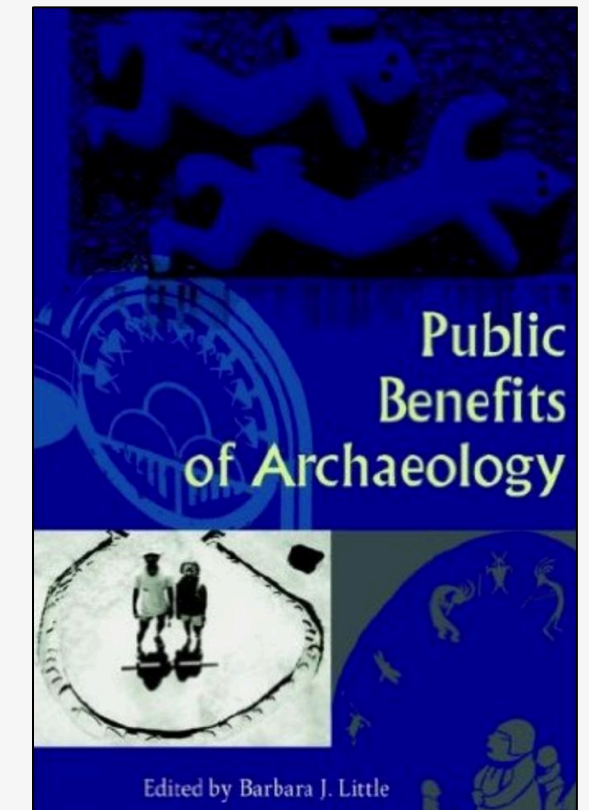
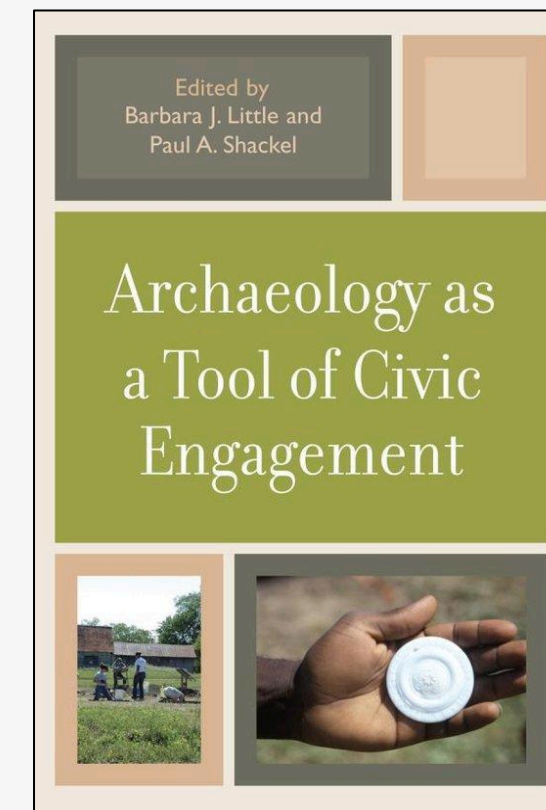
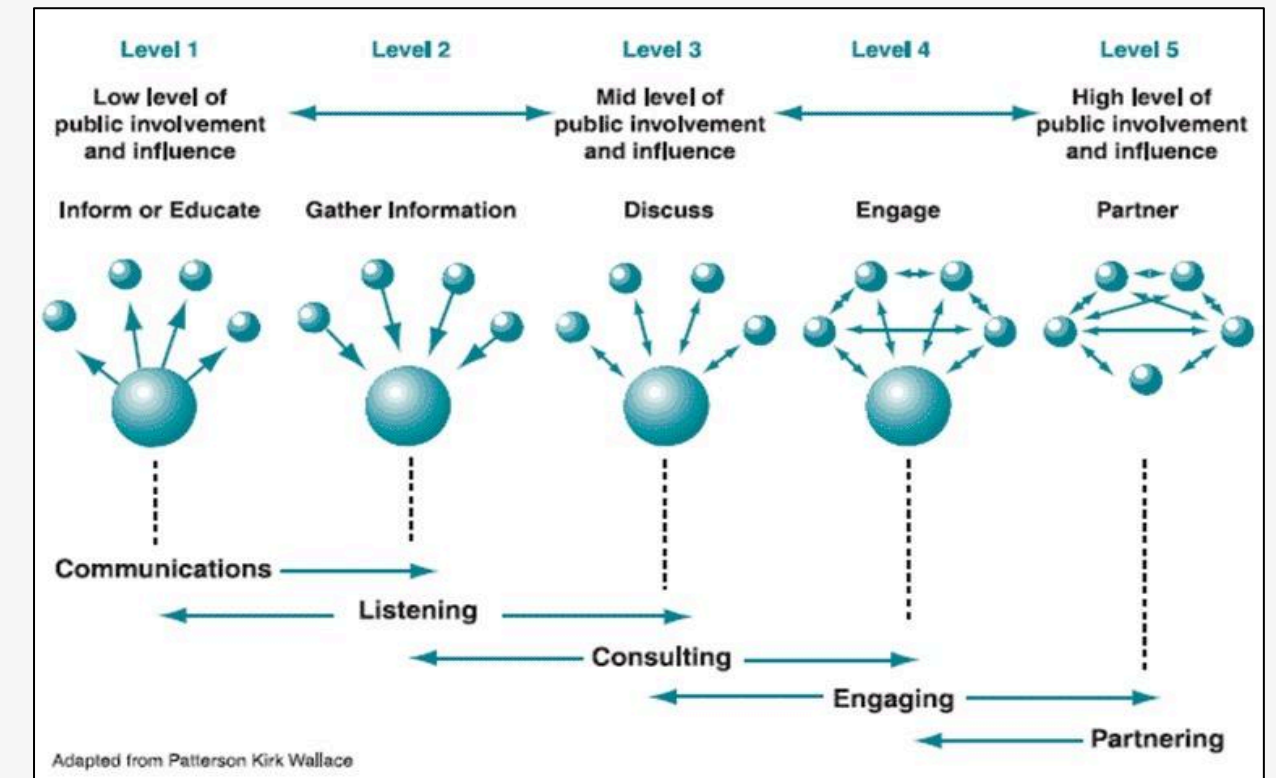
SOME COMMON TYPES OF PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY
BY GABE MOSHENSKA

OPEN ARCHAEOLOGY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK THAT IS MADE PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE THROUGH VIEWING PLATFORMS, WEBCAMS, GUIDES OR INTERPRETATION MATERIALS. ⑤

POPULAR ARCHAEOLOGY
TELEVISION SHOWS, MUSEUM EXHIBITIONS, BOOKS, MAGAZINES AND WEBSITES ABOUT ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE ANCIENT WORLD. ⑥

ACADEMIC PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY
THE STUDY OF ARCHAEOLOGY IN ITS ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, SOCIAL, CULTURAL, LEGAL AND ETHICAL CONTEXTS. ⑦

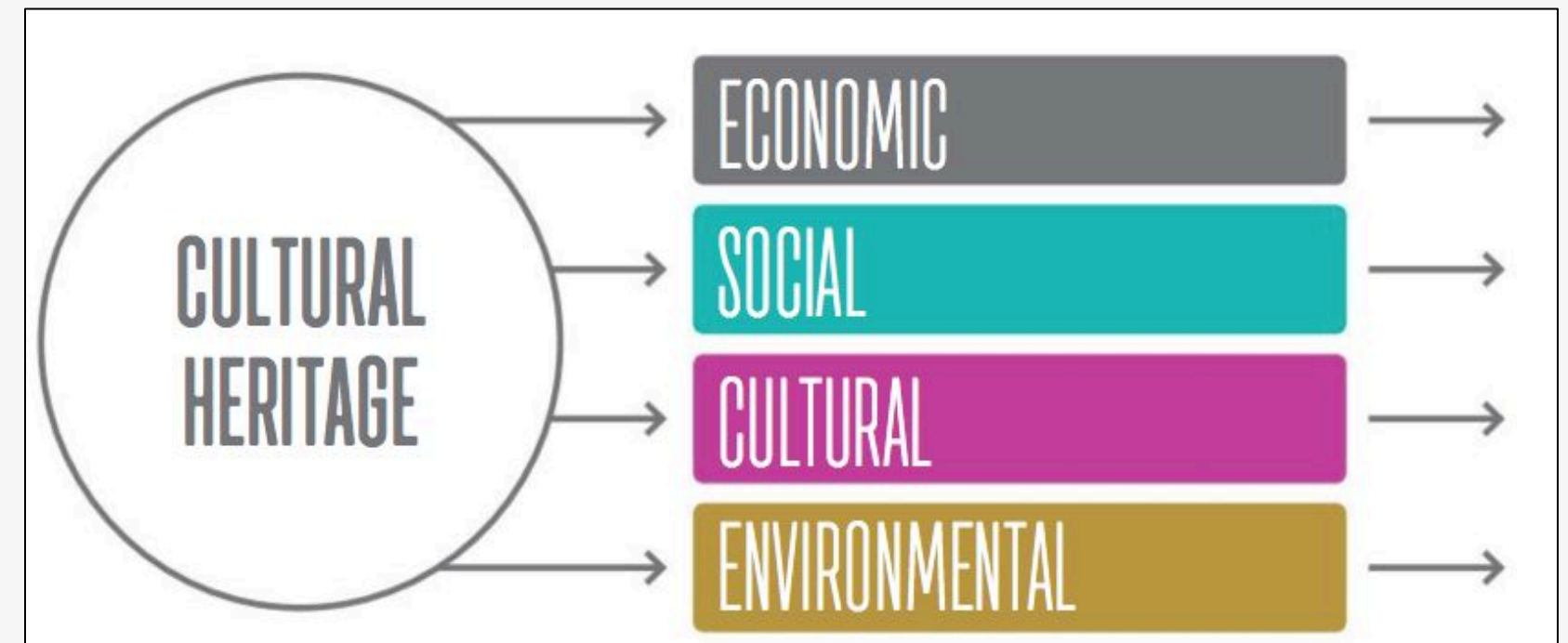
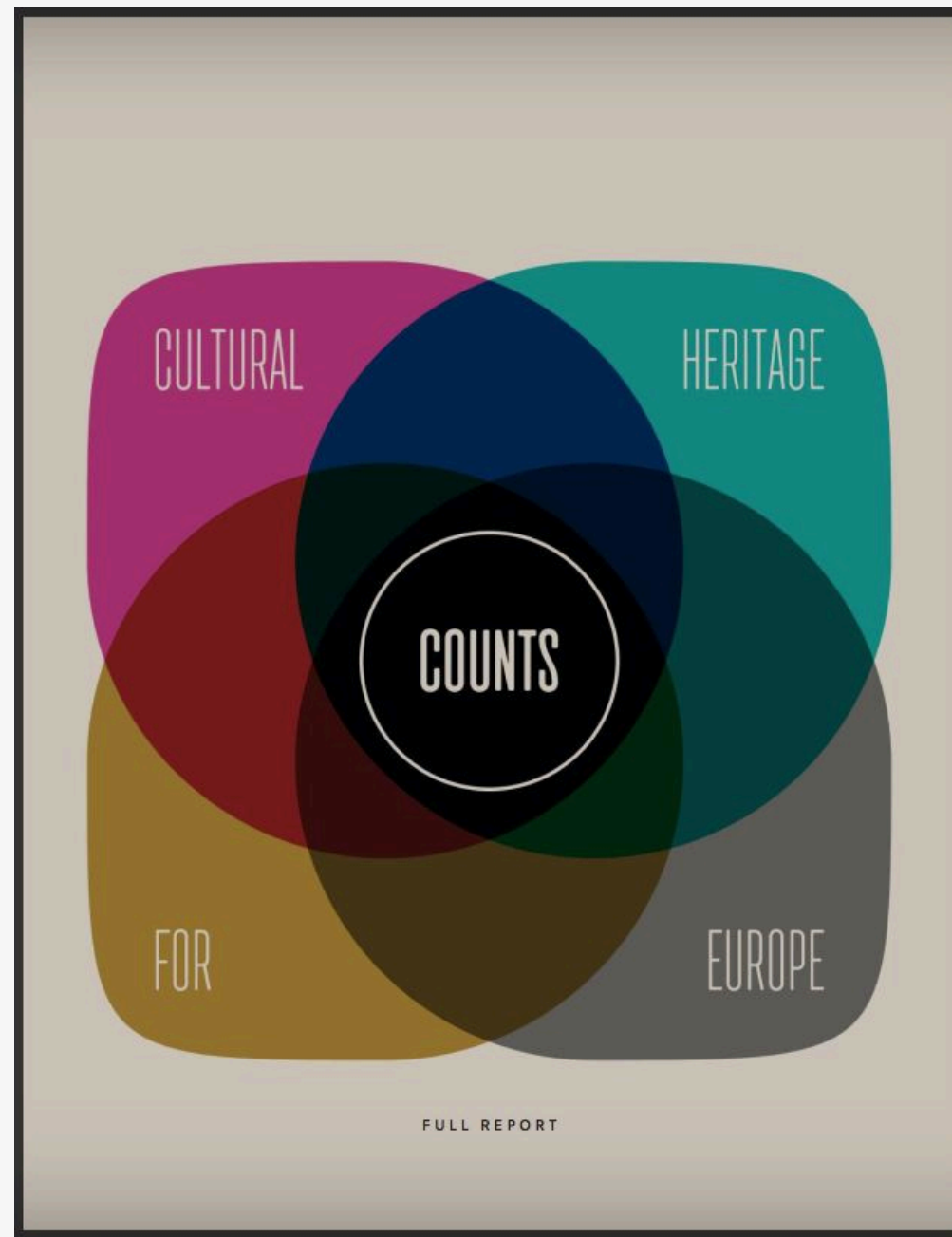
OTHER TYPES
THIS ISN'T SUPPOSED TO BE AN EXHAUSTIVE LIST, SO LET ME KNOW IF I'VE MISSED ANYTHING!
g.moshenska@ucl.ac.uk
@gabemoshenska
© GABE MOSHENSKA 2015



New opportunities

Europa Nostra: Heritage Counts

Integrating cultural heritage with wider societal issues & moving cultural heritage upstream.



New opportunities

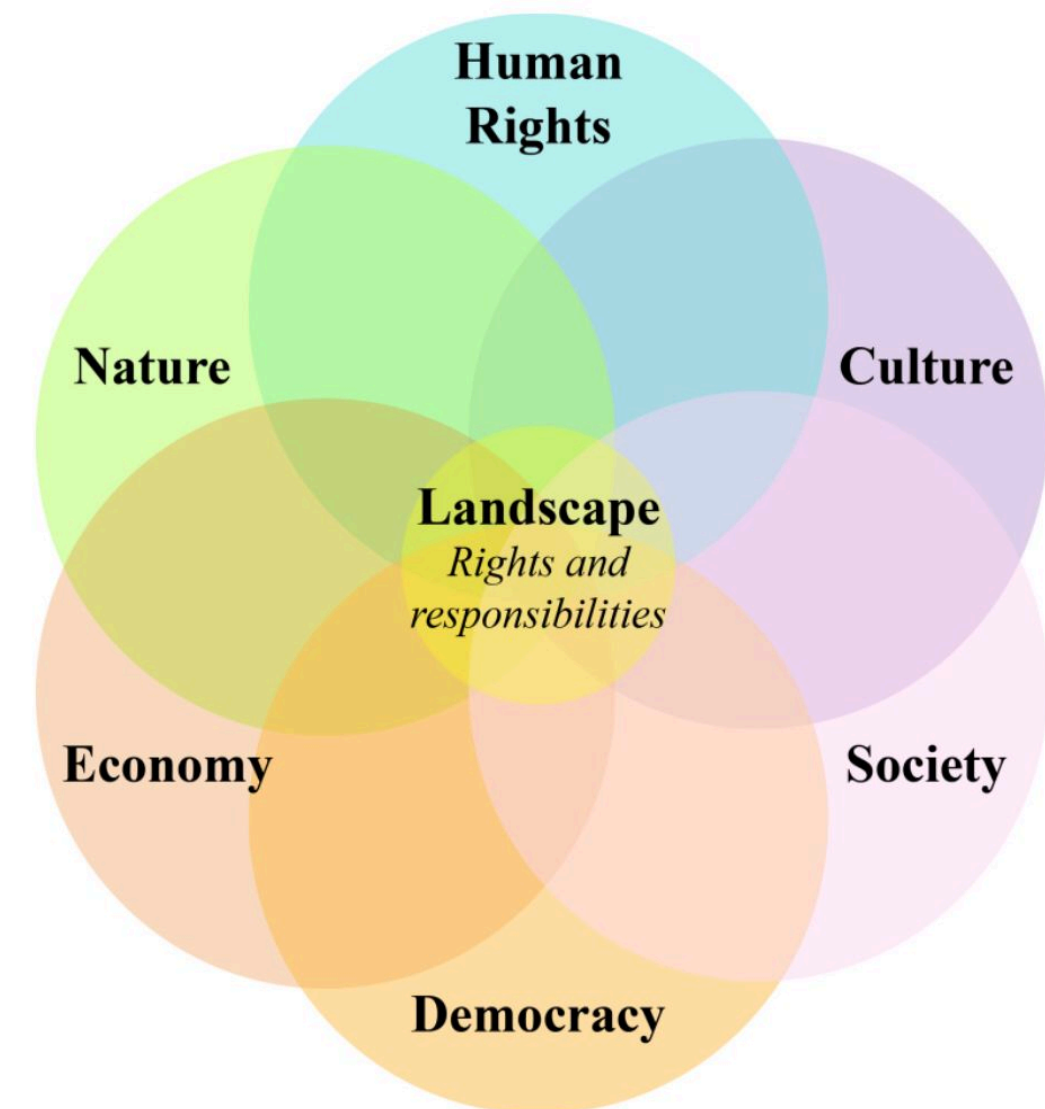
Common cause with the Landscape Convention:

Interactive democracy enables stakeholders to engage in discussions between political power & society, & within society itself (Rosanvallon 2008)

This requires:

- spatial planning policies that incorporate real public participation in plans & decisions;
- public participation in protecting, managing, & planning the historic & natural environments;
- participatory action programmes;
- developing experimental approaches to governance;
- exploring the relationship between scientific & technical knowledge & expertise, & action;
- using research in social science & ecology which are already active in this area.

Landscape and the European Landscape Convention's contribution to democracy, human rights and sustainable development: Prieur & Luginbuhl 2017



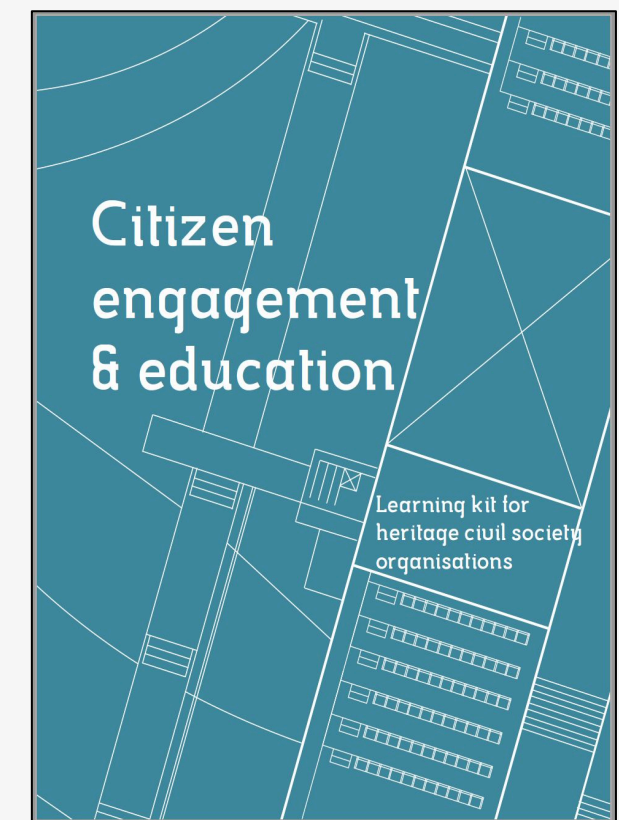
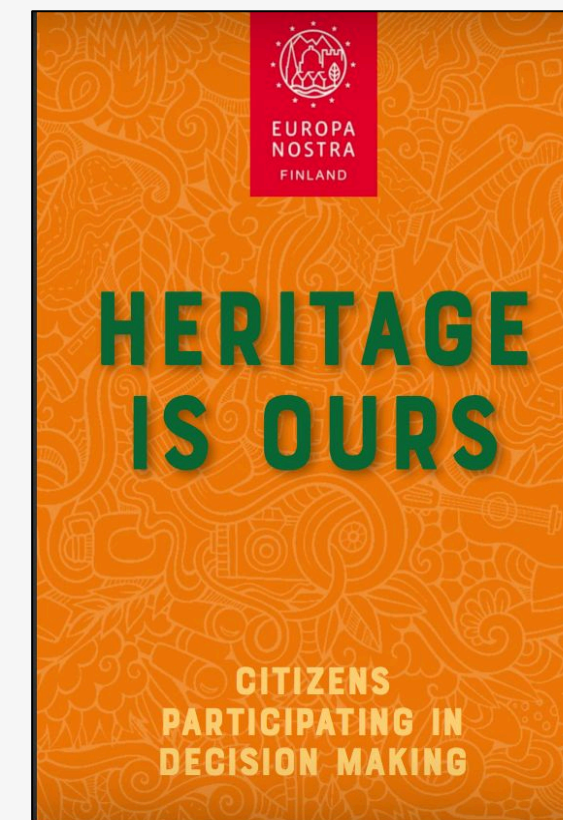
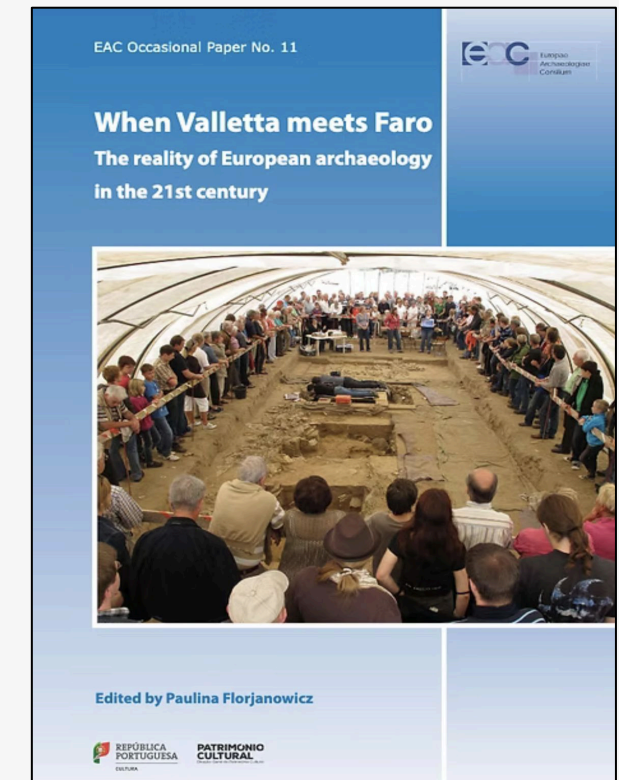
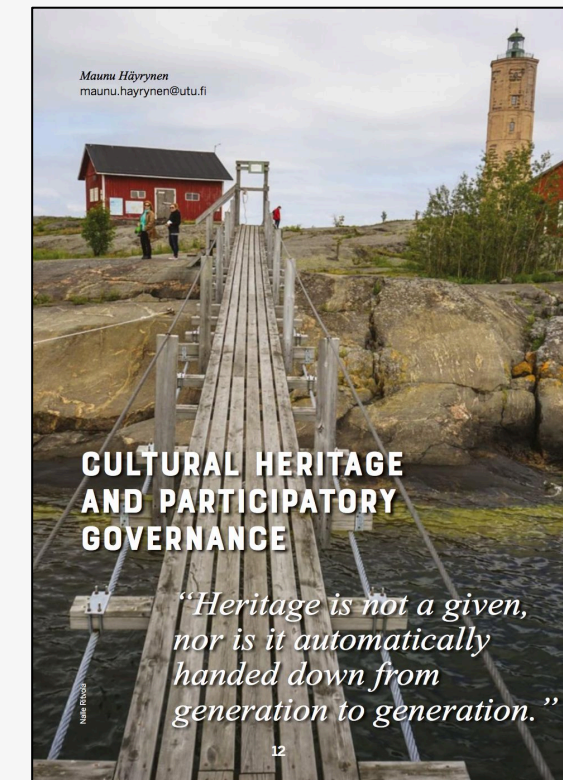
The "landscape flower": towards sustainable and harmonious development
Working Group "Landscape and Democracy" of
the European Landscape Convention, Council of Europe¹⁸

New opportunities

New dynamics

Finding new ways of using the environment that people occupy (landscape, open space, buildings, culture, and heritage):

- to increase the role that local populations play in understanding and defining their heritage;
- to build links between the past, the present, and the future to develop a stronger sense of place;
- to help them engage with decision making (spatial planning etc) that impacts on the environment in which they live every day;
- so that the local inhabitants of any 'place' become actors in their own territory and administration.

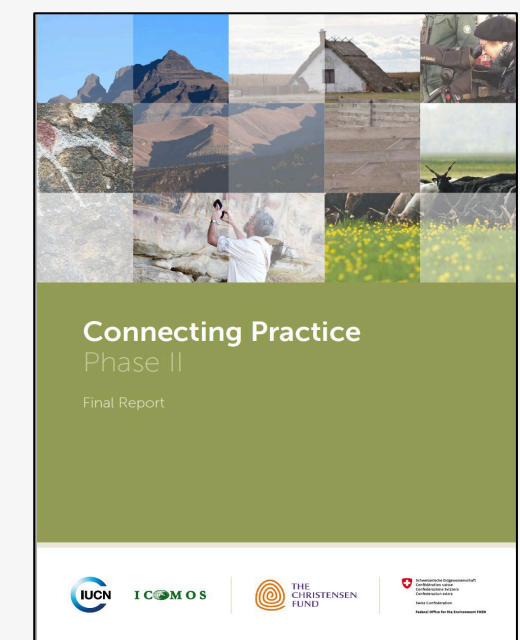
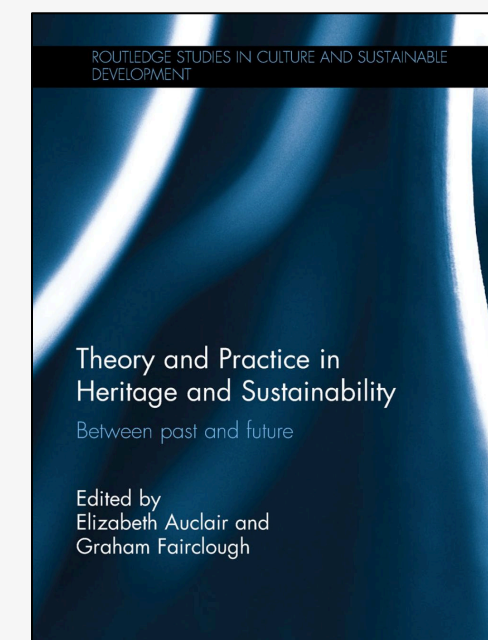
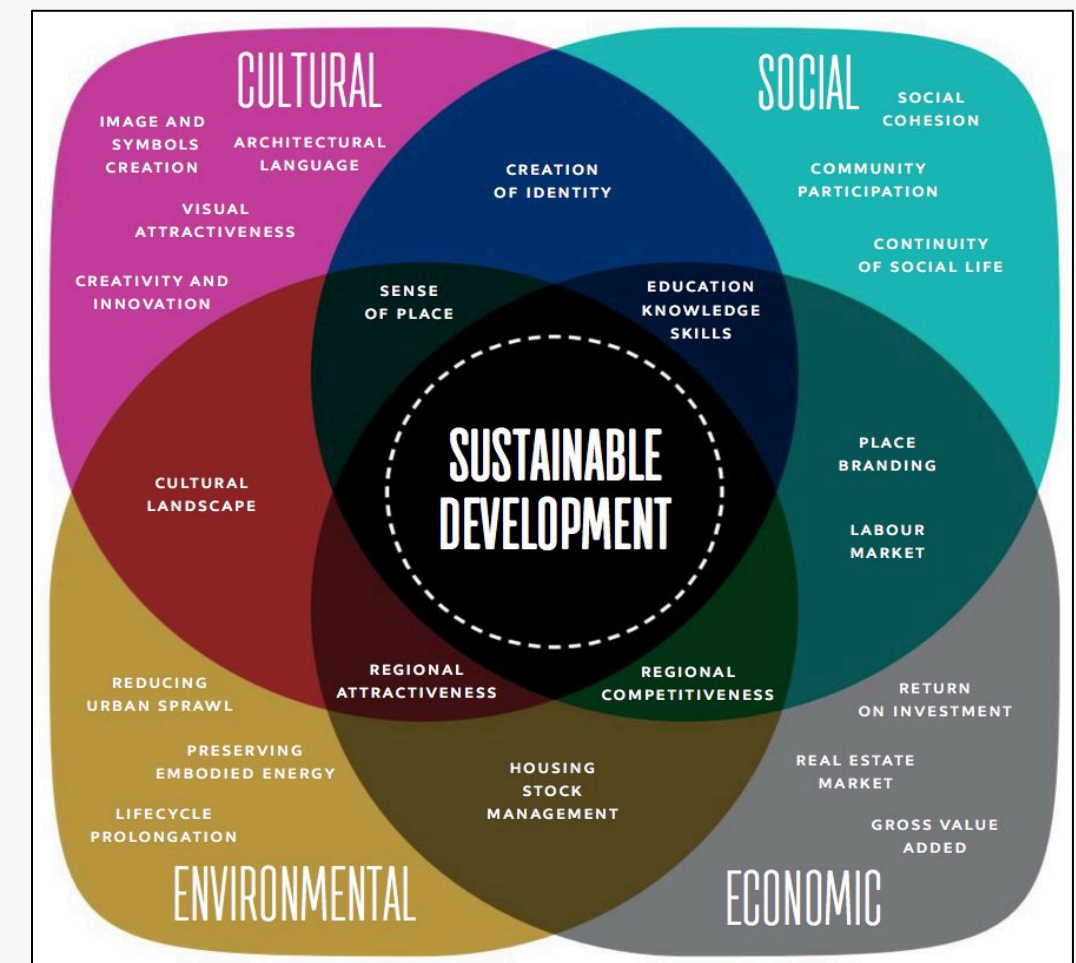


New opportunities

Concepts of social cohesion & sustainability:

- *Engagement*: empowerment requires radical changes in methods of participation (Elizabeth Auclair 2015);
- *capabilities*: helping people become aware of their potential to gain more power & change their (living) conditions (Amartya Sen 1985 & Martha Nussbaum 2011);
- *commons*: collective identification of resources considered essential for the whole group (including tangible & intangible heritage);
- *collective governance*: to protect & valorise these resources for the well-being of all;

Help people understand & appreciate their local environment, acknowledge their everyday heritage, & become proud of the 'place' where they live.

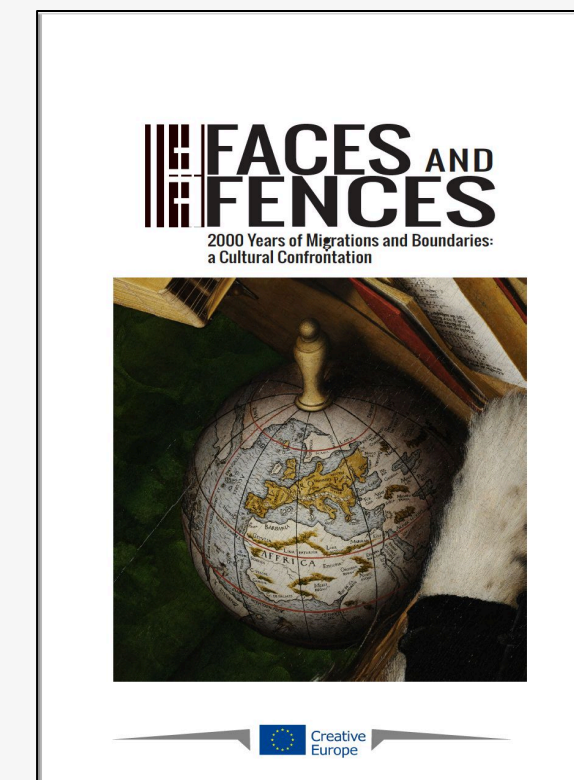
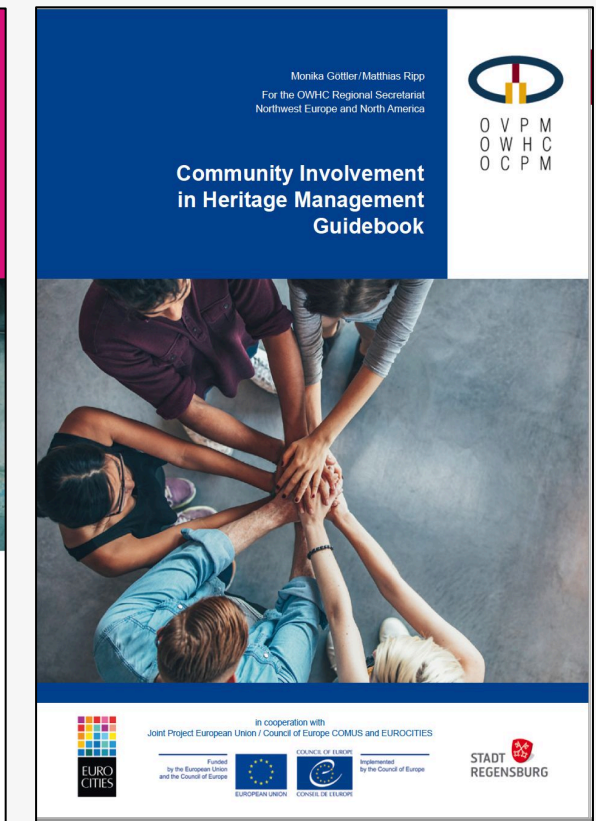
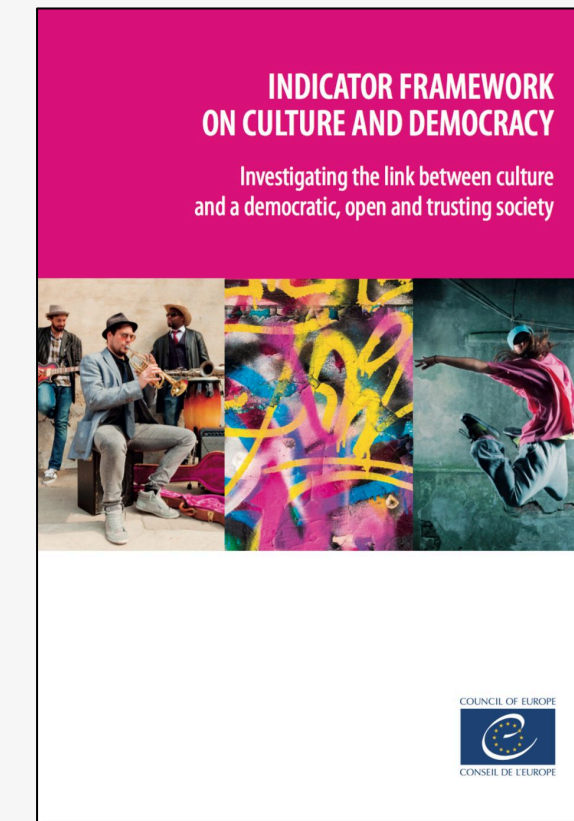


New opportunities

The Valletta Convention promotes public awareness and access, but...

...now need to move on & blend the best of existing heritage management practice with mechanisms for genuine public engagement to create:

- exemplary & productive citizen-science;
- inclusive place-making;
- community participation (at all levels and in all processes);
- collective & democratic management;
- seamless integration of social & heritage values that sustain and legitimise conservation;
- meaningful partnerships to share in the creation, circulation, enjoyment, & understanding of heritage.



EAC

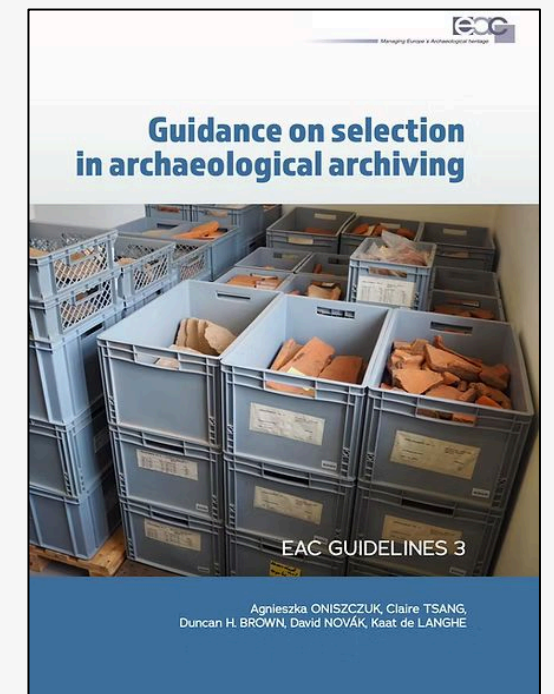
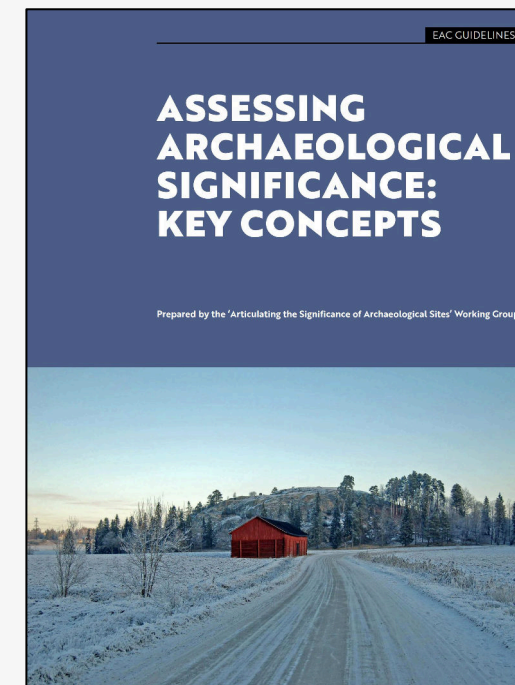
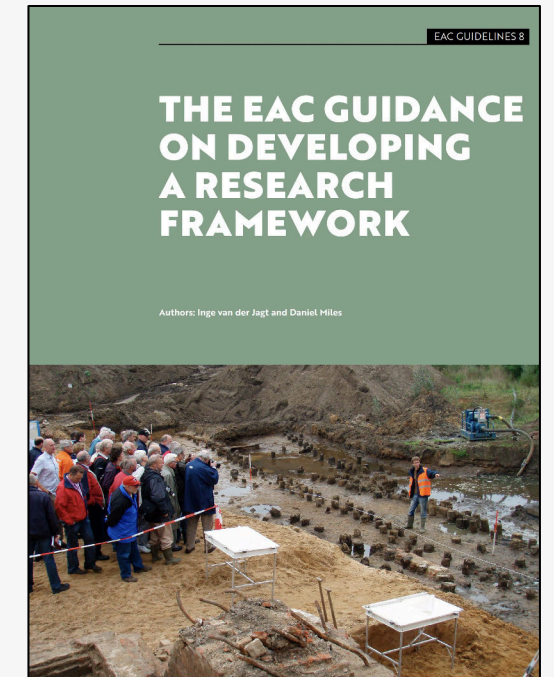
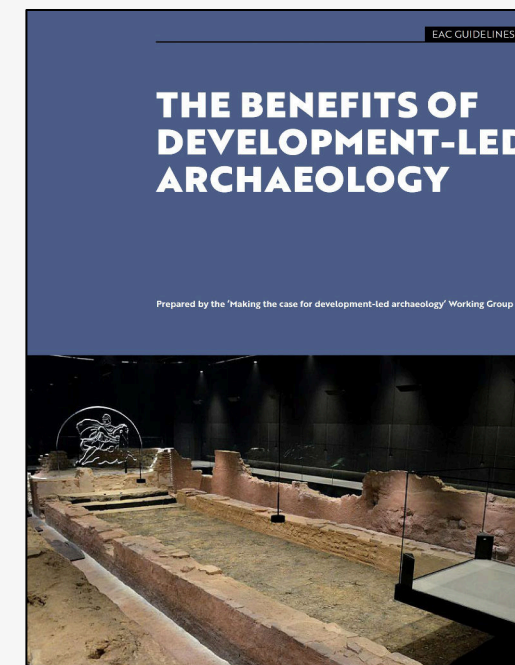
State organizations in Europe charged by law with the management of the archaeological heritage.

Since 2002 has worked regularly with CoE & on its to explore different aspects of the Valletta Convention (implementation & practice).

Making choices (2017) survey revealed that more united state approaches than divided them (despite a significant variety of policies & practices).

The results demonstrated very clear & strong need for:

- articulating a convincing case for development-led archaeology, &
- guidance and case studies on:
 - assessing & articulating significance;
 - developing national research frameworks;
 - managing archaeological archives.

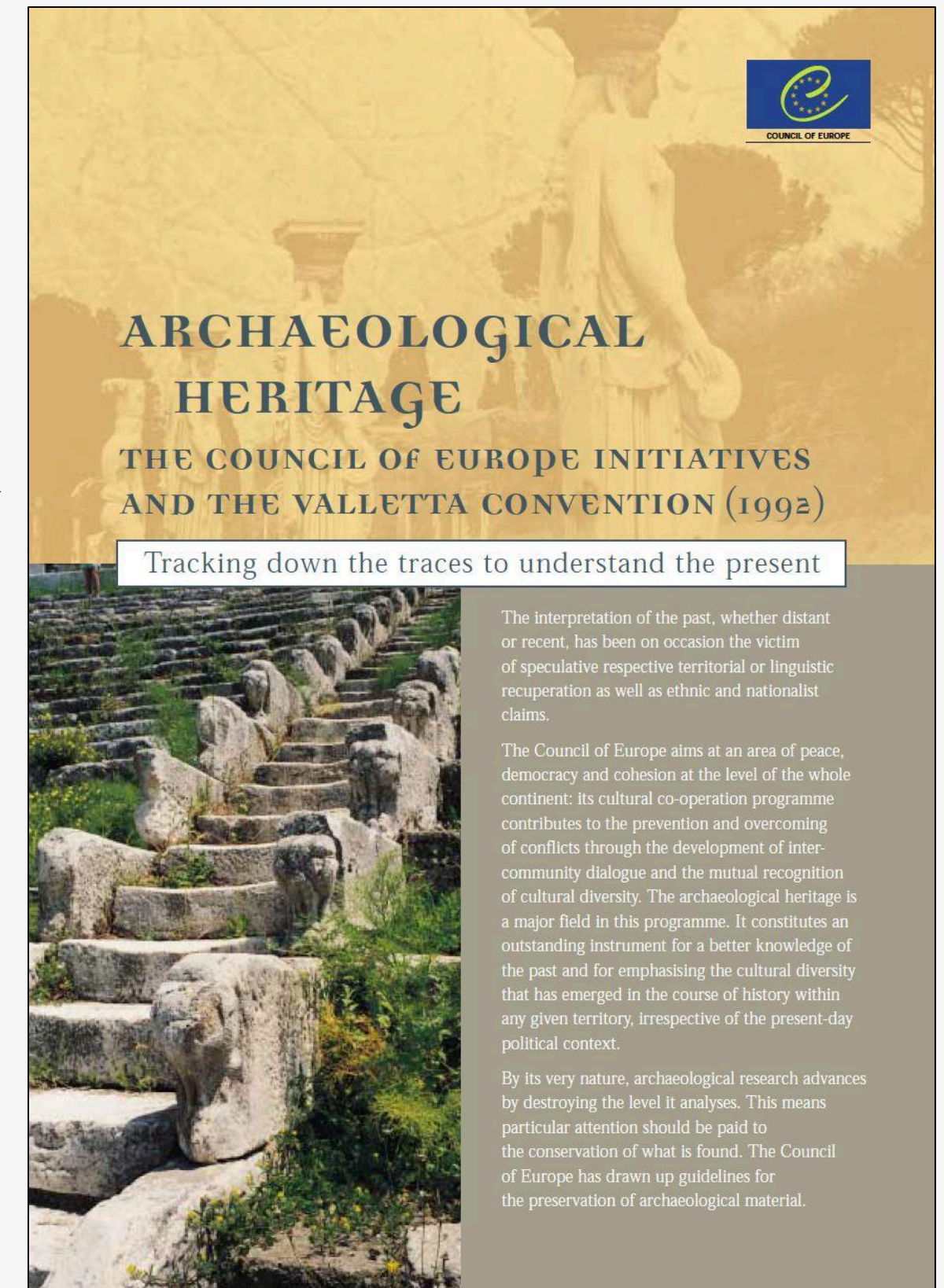


Conclusion

After 30 years the Valletta Convention remains the core text for archaeological heritage management.

Still work in progress & unfinished business:

- re-evaluation of orthodoxies & shift to value-led decision-making;
- relationship between archaeological fieldwork, spatial planning, & research;
- continuing pressing need for standards, guidelines, training, & information exchange;
- proper creation, maintenance, and care of archaeological archives;
- harvesting knowledge – research agenda & synthesis;
- better integration with other sectors to articulate mutual dependencies;
- embedding heritage in society – recognizing social values & social benefits;
- building higher levels of public engagement and political support.



Conclusion

Effective archaeological heritage management requires informed decisions about a similar range of choices

- regardless of whether or how the Valletta Convention has been ratified and implemented in each state;
- or of the specific nature of different national legal frameworks, practices and approaches.

Guidelines and good practice case studies can continue to be developed at a high (supra-state) level without requiring any legal changes to state approaches.

This work (by the EAC & other bodies) supports & contributes positively to achieving the ambitions of the Valletta Convention,

without any need either for lengthy & complex redrafting/revision or (impractically) for an entirely new convention.

The Valletta Convention: 30 years in Practice



**EHHF ANNUAL MEETING
19TH EDITION**

Valletta
24-26 September 2025

Programme for Speakers

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Thank you !



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