



2018 ANNUAL MEETING IN LUXEMBOURG / 16 - 18 MAY

“Old sites and new functions -

Sharing the built heritage with the next generation”

LUXEMBOURG

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2018, the 13th Annual Meeting of the EHHF took place in Luxembourg, from Wednesday 16th to Friday 18th May. It gathered 58 participants, including seven representatives from international organizations (Council of Europe, European Commission, ICCROM, Europa Nostra, European Archaeological Council and RED International Association) ; three guests from Luxembourg (Ministry of Culture, National Museum of History and Art, Draï Eechelen Museum) and the Historian of the City of Habana (Cuba). 29 countries and regions were represented in total. The forum opened with a guided tour of Old-Luxembourg, followed by the traditional welcome reception on the Wednesday evening, which took place at the Draï Eechelen Museum.

Host: *Services des sites et monuments nationaux* of Luxembourg

Venue: Neumünster Abbey Cultural Exchange Center.

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The related documents (participants list, powerpoints and presentations) are available on the [EHHF website](#) and upon request to the Permanent Secretariat, which of course remains at your entire disposal.

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TABLE OF CONTENT

Thursday, 17th May 2018

Opening Speech	3
Intercontinental Exchange /Cuba	4
Keynotes I – RED Association	6
Keynotes II – Industrial Heritage	7

Friday, 18th May 2018

International Organizations	10
Plenary Session	12
News from the Heads	13
Troika hand-over	14

Thursday, 17th May 2018

Director Patrick Sanavia ([Service des sites et monuments nationaux of Luxembourg](#)), welcomed his guests and opened this first day of conference with a reminder about the widening process in which the EHHF has been involved since the last annual meeting in Iceland. Mr. Sanavia was very pleased to welcome Georgia for the very first time and expressed his hope to see other countries join the discussion in the future. The 13th edition was also a special edition of the EHHF, the Historian of the City of Habana, leading figure for the restoration of heritage in Latin America, was indeed invited by Mr. Sanavia for a special contribution about the Cuban model. After presenting his guests and giving a quick overview of the programme, Mr. Sanavia gave the floor to Mr. Guy Arendt, Luxembourg Secretary of State for Culture.

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Secretary of State Guy Arendt first thanked Mr. Sanavia for giving him the opportunity to address this opening speech to the EHHF members and to welcome such an important audience in the name of the Luxemburgish government. Mr. Arendt immediately stressed the particularity of hosting this forum during the European Year of Cultural Heritage, furthermore on the occasion of this intercontinental exchange. Luxembourg, one of the three European capitals, was born from a mix of cultures and nations, especially thanks to migration and foreign workers who helped shaping what Luxembourg is today. The memory and identity of this small country were forged by the relations with its neighbors. Its fate is and has always been undoubtedly European.

Mr. Arendt then mentioned Luxembourg's byword: « We want to remain what we are », implying the inherent role of cultural heritage in his country's values. He cordially expressed his gratefulness to the EHHF for maintaining the dialogue about the conservation and valuation of this important element of our society. In that matter, industrial heritage is a very important part of Luxembourg's history and the question raised by this new edition of the EHHF profoundly relates to this history: how to share heritage with the next generation? Mr. Arendt was honored to know that some Luxemburgish examples would help in this important discussion, as no one truly owns all possible answers to such a challenge. Referring to the fourth industrial revolution, Secretary of State Arendt underlined the importance of converting those sites and spaces into something useful for society. This topic, in his opinion, is indeed of European matter.

Before he officially opened the forum, Mr. Arendt finally mentioned the Davos declaration about built heritage, which Luxembourg co-signed few months ago. This important step will hopefully help in raising awareness about the true contribution of culture and heritage to society. Through a holistic approach, the declaration does stress a shared responsibility in the construction and promotion of a European culture. The Luxembourg Secretary of State for Culture thanked once again the EHHF and its members for their day-to-day contribution in this essential endeavour.

Mr. Eusebio Leal Spengler, Historian of the City of Habana (Cuba, [Oficina del Historiador](#)), was invited by Mr. Sanavia to open the Luxembourg meeting. This contribution, in the framework of the European Year of Cultural Heritage, is the second intercontinental exchange in the history of the EHHF.

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Señor Leal introduced his presentation with a powerful image: the lighthouse of the City of Habana facing the assaults of the sea while Cuba was hit by Hurricane Irma, in 2017. In the eyes of the Historian, these gigantic waves - up to 40m high - represent the very first challenge to which heritage is confronted: nature and climate change. The second challenge being the economy. National heritage authorities do not have any other choice than relying on economy to support their action, given the cost the conservation of heritage represents nowadays. According to Mr. Leal, this question is even more problematic for insular countries, and of course for Cuba, the biggest island of the Caribbean, the “American Mediterranean sea”.

Due to its geographical position, the Caribbean and especially Cuba have always been an intersection, a crossroad for cultures and civilizations. French, Dutch, Portuguese and Spanish ship-wrecks from the Renaissance were found all around the island. Cuba was actually given another name by Christopher Columbus: JUANA (after the Spanish King Juan), before it went back to its original name. Populations have always settled on these islands and in America, long before the European came, but the City of Habana will be the first to celebrate its 500 years in 2019. Habana is indeed the oldest town of the “New World”, with the oldest fortress. Cuban colonies reflected what the *conquistadors* had in their hearts and eyes. Cuban cities gave birth to a new reality: the mixing of cultures, the result of an odd encounter between the Spanish and the Islanders. One can say Columbus’ dream was born in Cuba, with one foot in the Middle-Age and the other in modernity, one hand holding the bible and the other Marco Polo’s story.

Mr. Leal thus introduced himself to the European Heads as a citizen of the New World. His city, Habana, was founded in its modern shape in 1519, the same year Hernan Cortes arrived in Mexico and Leonardo Da Vinci died in France. Habana is a turning point in history, an important step in the development of the modern world, and Cuba’s heritage is already considered as such by the UNESCO, with the classification of the seven most important Spanish-founded cities of the Island (in addition to its numerous biosphere reserves).

In respect to this rich history, the Historian’s office systematically excavates the City of Habana before conducting any urban development. The Historic Center, the “Old-Habana”, has been under restoration for the last 40 years. Fully pedestrian, this area is now one of the most visited places in Cuba. Cars used to invade every street, houses were abandoned, colors had disappeared. The main challenge for the Historian’s office, even before thinking about re-development, was to impeach any further deterioration. Once the traffic had been stopped and the street had been cleared, restoration could begin.

One of the most significant elements of the Cuban model is certainly the conciliation of housing, schools, health and social infrastructures, culture, private and public organizations in the same area, even in the most touristic neighborhoods. Every aspect of the citizen's life is meant to find its place in the community. Although most of small businesses and local services are used to disappear in historic centers and touristic areas, Habana succeeds in keeping a strong community life and atmosphere by conserving local and daily facilities in the heart of the city. The reconversion of heritage therefore goes through a strong social process. As Mr. Leal says, the loss of social memory is dramatic: "When there is a lot of money and no memory, identity is at risk". Of course, the pressure of tourism is a great deal. Cuba, with its 11 million inhabitants, welcomes 5 million tourists per year. But in the Historian's opinion, the island must not reject tourism, the most important is to show that Cuba is not only about palm trees and music, it is - before all - the depositary of a true and dynamic culture.

The work is far from being over. A thousand sites and especially housing facilities are still to be restored, but the Historian's office has established a 30 years master plan to pursue its development project. The main guidelines being to give back dignity to the communities, to combine the old and the new in a respectful way, to eliminate the harbour's contamination and thus to improve the quality of life. "Give me a lever and I will move the world". For four decades, the Historian's office has been using the same levers: the squares. The most iconic examples are of course the *Plaza Vieja* and the *Capitolio*, from which whole areas have been progressively restored and re-developed, following the same guidelines.

As for the organization, the Historian's office has been multiplying initiatives to raise funds and awareness, to promote the essential need for the restoration of heritage, to educate the population and especially the young generation. Both private and public companies thus pay a specific tax of 5%, dedicated to the renovation of the Old Town. Mr. Leal himself had his own private show on radio and then on TV for several decades. A school of restoration was created where all students are trained in archaeology, architecture, history of art and of course specific technics of restoration. The approach is holistic and eminently social.

International relations also play an important role in Mr. Leal's model. Building strong partnerships is absolutely essential for Habana, especially regarding restoration. The European Union, Italy, Belgium, Switzerland and Spain are amongst the international partners who have helped the Historian's office on specific issues. Sharing experience with other countries in America has also been of great importance at some point. In that matter, Mr. Leal knows that no-one can have all the solutions. He stressed the need for an integrated approach, for a multi-disciplinary collaboration and for the exchange of knowledge and expertise.

To conclude, the Historian of the City of Habana reminded how much courage and realism it takes to protect heritage: being everywhere at the same time is the only true way to work. After dedicating his whole life to fight bureaucracy and administrative issues, he will always put forward his profession before the political matters.

"We are the surgeons of time, our work is timeless."

The first Keynote Session of the Luxembourg meeting was dedicated to the [RED \(Rurality, Environment, Development\) International Association](#), whose Director Ms. Marie-Noël Neven was invited by Mr. Sanavia. RED was founded in the 1980s and counts 150 active partnerships in regards to the protection of rural heritage in the Grande-Région (Wallonia, Lorraine, Rhineland-Palatinate, Saarland, Luxembourg). Close to twelve million people live in this region in the heart of Europe, which counts 43 UNESCO sites alone. The association has been working in close collaboration with the *Service des sites et monuments nationaux* of Luxembourg for a number of years.

Ms. Neven first thanked warmly Mr. Sanavia for inviting her to participate to the forum and for giving her the opportunity to present the latest achievements of the association, especially in the last five years. She then referred to some aspects of Mr. Leal's presentation about integrated approaches for the development of territories. Dealing with heritage in rural areas indeed implies to consider a great number of fields and priorities: agricultural, non-agricultural, logistics, heritage management, etc. Fortunately, RED is supported by lots of organizations at both local and European level to run its projects. The association is also a member of the commission of NGOs at the Council of Europe.

Which leads to the first question raised by Ms. Neven: what does rurality mean in Europe? 80% of the European Union territory is considered rural. 58% of the population and 56% of total employment is found in rural areas. According to Ms. Neven, these are very important figures, which reflect essential challenges. Maintaining a population, a social cohesion, developing craftsmanship, tourism and giving access to technology are amongst the most important ones. In that matter, Ms. Neven reminded the importance of Rural Development Hubs, where social, economic and spatial evolutions are managed through an integrated and prospective approach. Heritage does play an important role in such developments. It is an opportunity for territories to promote intergenerational aspects, local economy and social link; to focus on specific technics, tools and memory. Of course, a positive communication is essential in this perspective, to establish a good perception of both rurality and rural heritage.

Therefore, RED has been implementing several projects to raise awareness amongst the public and the developers. Publications, exhibitions and conferences are often organized to discuss and promote a great diversity of subjects such as "Future heritage", "Village landscapes", "Borderless architecture", "Heritage and energy", "Heritage after 1945: Page 45+", "Converting rural heritage in housing", etc. The implementation of these projects are often focused on education and innovation. The objectives are to put heritage at the center of current challenges, to inform about what has been done in other regions and to stress the expectations of all parties, and especially the professionals.

The RED international association is a strong example of partnerships between neighbor-countries through an integrated, collaborative and pluri-disciplinary approach.

The second Keynotes Session was the opportunity for member countries to present concrete examples of industrial heritage reconversion. Flanders, England and Scotland gladly answered the invitation of Luxembourg to share information about related projects and achievements.

- Ms. Sonja Vanblaere, Director General of the [Flanders Heritage Agency](#), immediately stressed the important role of industrial heritage, which connects us with the working life of our ancestors, in a region “as small as hers”. This particular kind of heritage indeed founded the building blocks of the economy of the past, it also tells the story of the labour and often represented a new chapter in the life of a site or neighborhood. Industrial heritage often means a lot in the story of the people itself. In that matter, Ms. Vanblaere also wished to underline its richness, mainly in regards to the diversity of fields involved: food, mining, harbours, production, energy... Whether it was small or big industry, the reconversion of such sites therefore comes with numerous challenges: law and policy making, environment, safety, energy, spatial planning, lack of occupancy, budget, etc. After introducing some successful examples of how Flanders approach conservation and reconversion with “adaptive reuse” (Diamond polishing factories, the famous De Hoorn - Stella Artois brewery -, the impressive C-Mine and its new urban space), Ms. Vanblaere emphasized what she had learnt from such projects by listing, in her opinion, the necessary elements to make it a success. First, an enthusiastic inspirer and investor; second, innovation combined with expert knowledge and a tailor-made approach; then come time and economic viability; and finally: the essential support and participation of the public.
- [Historic England](#) Chief Executive, Mr. Duncan Wilson, also wished to introduce its presentation by reminding the importance of industrial heritage - “the heritage of working people” -, especially through the stories it contains. Much of England’s industrial heritage is regarded as of outstanding international significance, as it reflects Britain’s emergence and subsequent growth between the mid-18th and the mid-19th centuries. This international dimension is exemplified by the number of industrial World Heritage Sites in England, including the Ironbridge Gorge or the Maritime Mercantile City of Liverpool. Industrial heritage has had a profound influence on urban development and in the shaping of cultural landscapes, it thus resonates strongly with communities. In 2012, 85% of the people thought it should be valued and appreciated. To answer this growing concern and the numerous challenges, Historic England recently created a Senior post, a Head of Industrial Heritage Advocacy, to spearhead its activities in this specific area. Thanks to a long-lasting collaboration with funding bodies and the government, the national authority maximizes opportunities and successfully deals with both major and smaller sites and industrial quarters. The Heritage at Risk Register also helps in the prioritizing and the scheduling. By facilitating collaborative approaches, working creatively and producing guidance towards developers and local authorities, Historic England tries to deal with all related challenges, such as the functional redundancy (buildings no longer fit for their original purpose), the lack of public funding, the low land values, public engagement, etc. In that matter, Mr. Wilson shared its own ingredients of success: early involvement, innovative solutions, enhanced advisory services and iterative design process. “With collective expertise, we can achieve much”.

- Mr. Alex Paterson, Chief Executive of [Historic Environment Scotland](#), first thanked Ms. Vanlbaere and Mr. Wilson for introducing this session with such inspiring presentations. Whereas the two previous speakers stressed the richness and the diversity of industrial heritage, Mr. Paterson wished to focus on a specific project, run by Historic Environment Scotland itself. The Engine Shed is not only Scotland's new Conservation Center but also a new home for the national authority. The building was initially a military facility, which was used to distribute goods across the country. Because of its quite confidential nature, we actually do not know when it was built exactly, most probably in the late 19th / early 20th Century. We do know it was an important facility during both World Wars. In the 1990s, the warehouse was almost abandoned. Historic Environment Scotland bought it symbolically for one pound, to transform it into a modern facility. Two wings were added. As mentioned above, the Engine Shed has now become a place for conservation science where training, education and outreach are a very important focus. Even though it was not conceived as a touristic destination, people do show up thanks to its location and its proximity with the castles. The new conservation center combines offices and public spaces, promotes new technologies (digital documentation, virtual reality, etc.) and facilitates co-education through international exchange. Exhibitions and events are also taking place all year-long and the facility is central to a regeneration plan for the surrounding area.

Thursday afternoon was the opportunity to extend the discussion with two visits of Luxembourgish reconverted industrial heritage sites. Mr. Patrick Sanavia invited his guests to discover the [Dudelange Water-Tower](#), which has now become an exhibition center; and [Esch-Belval](#), a gigantic area which was entirely re-developed around its high furnaces.



Esch-Belval Furnaces



Audience with H.R.H the Grand-Duke Henri of Luxembourg

On Thursday afternoon, the EHHF delegation was received at the Grand-Ducal Palace for an audience with the Grand-Duke Henri. An opportunity to present briefly the history of the EHHF, its purpose and its developments. The Grand-Duke was very pleased to meet with some of the oldest members and to discuss the importance of such a forum for national heritage authorities.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS – Exchange and discussion

- Ms. Kathrin Merkle, Head of the [Culture and Cultural Heritage Division of the Council of Europe](#), opened this session dedicated to international organizations. Ms. Merkle first thanked the EHHF members and particularly Luxembourg for inviting her Organization to take part in this fruitful discussion. She then reminded the assembly about the context in which the Council has been developing its work in the last few years. The political challenges and importantly, recent budget cuts hurt the organization, especially in the field of culture and heritage. Fortunately, culture and heritage actors are very productive and innovative. The Department produced new policy recommendations in relation to sensitive issues and ongoing challenges such as digitalization and culture or cultural heritage facing climate change. The main objective remains to promote the values of culture and heritage in every possible way and to use the Conventions as main entries to future work and cooperation. Also, Strategy 21 became a real tool, with which practical recommendations can be produced on specific heritage issues. Ms. Merkle added a brief progress report on the Council of Europe's main heritage projects and concluded her intervention by reminding of the role of the member-states' governments in the implementation of the work programme and for the potential impact of the conventions.
- [European Commission](#) Policy Officer Mr. Hughes Becquart (Directorate for Education and Culture) then presented a detailed overview of the ongoing European Cultural Heritage Year (EYCH) and took this opportunity to thank the EHHF members for their contribution in its implementation at national level. So far, around 300 projects were planned at European level, 2.700 at national level and more than 8.000 are expected to take place before the end of the year. Mr. Becquart also underlined the role of the EYCH in the cooperation between Commission departments. Indeed, besides the DG Education and Culture, many other DGs are taking part in the process, such as Environment, Research, SMEs, etc. In that context, Mr. Becquart reminded that the inherent goal of such an initiative was not to stop everything at the end of the year. By allocating resources and promoting the value of cultural heritage (for instance through the Creative Europe Programme or the future Action Plan for Cultural Heritage), the EYCH aims to initiate and develop long-lasting commitments and collaborations, based on four pillars: engagement, sustainability, protection and innovation. Finally, Mr. Becquart announced that a new European Agenda for culture would be adopted by the Commission in May. He emphasized the need for sustainable support to culture and heritage at EU level and invited the assembly to join efforts and convince the elected representatives and governments to allocate the necessary funds.
- Mr. Webber Ndoro, the new Director General of [ICCROM](#), first expressed his pleasure to be invited in such events and reunions, as Europe is still the heart of ICCROM's actions. According to Mr. Ndoro, European developments - and especially some initiatives such as Creative Europe - are giving the opportunity to demonstrate the importance of Cultural Heritage and its capacity to build resilience in the society, and around the world. Now more than ever, in this time of regional conflicts, climate change and great concerns, it is necessary to share and

exchange expertise. In that respect and with its 136 member-states, ICCROM describes itself more as an international organization than a regional one, even though it is based in Rome. In the next 4-6 years, ICCROM will be developing a new action plan, which really relates to what Europe is trying to implement with its conventions. Communities and youth will be at the heart of the process, thanks to the implementation of "People Centred Approaches". According to its Director General, ICCROM also needs to increase impact and visibility by attending more events and producing further recommendations, besides the numerous ones which were already displayed. Finally, by presenting of few examples of bilateral cooperations, Mr. Ndoro encouraged the national authorities to help creating new synergies and to keep sharing their knowledge and expertise with each other.

- Mr. Leonard de Wit, President of the [European Archaeological Council \(EAC\)](#), presented the latest activities of the organization. First, he reminded the assembly about the similarities between the EAC and the EHHF, as they are both gathering national organizations, and most of these organizations are indeed members of both forums. The EAC comes up with guidelines and tries to develop a true agenda for the future of archaeological management in Europe. Besides the annual meetings, this objective is reached through a variety of publications (Symposium conclusions, newsletters, "European Affairs Update", etc.), with an increasing percentage of digital items. Finally, Mr. de Wit presented the last paper released on "Making Choices in Europe" and stressed the importance of surveying this particular matter. Even though conventions are helping a lot, they remain fragile as they come from a top-down process. However, there is a big need for guidance on the making choices issues. If heritage professionals are not able to make choices, then someone else will decide and it might take the wrong turn.
- [Europa Nostra](#)'s Vice President Mr. Piet Jaspert closed this session with a quick update on its organization's latest developments, especially in regards to the European Year of Cultural Heritage, of which Europa Nostra has been one of the main stakeholders. First of all, he warmly thanked the EHHF for this unique opportunity of getting in touch with national administrations. After announcing some changes in Europa Nostra's leadership, Mr. Jaspert gave an overview of Europa Nostra's participation and input in major events and committees related to European Cultural Heritage decision making. The NGO also mentioned the revision of the Cohesion Policy as an opportunity to look at other fields and to promote Cultural Heritage's complementarity: CH is a key resource for EU's future development in that matter, as it was recently developed in their evidence-based report "Cultural Heritage counts for Europe". Finally, Mr. Jaspert quickly presented the well-known annual initiatives such as the Most Endangered Programme, the Europa Nostra Awards and finally, the European Cultural Heritage Summit, one of the highlights of the European Year, on which occasion the award winners will be honoured and the Grand Prix will be announced.

PLENARY SESSION

The EHHF annual plenary session is the occasion to hear the reports from the two standing committees: the European Heritage Legal Forum (EHLF) and the Task Force on Economy and Statistics. Further information is available in the 2017 EHHF Annual Report and on the [website](#).

Mr. Terje Nypan (Norway), active member of the [Legal Forum](#), reported on the EHLF activities on behalf of chairman Wolfgang K. Göhner (Germany), who was excused for this session. Mr. Nypan first reminded everyone about the EHLF mandate, stressing the need for further quality criteria and control on the revision of European directives. Cultural Heritage (CH) is indeed and constantly impacted by other fields and their respective legislations. A trans-sectorial, integrated horizontal approach is becoming more and more necessary to include CH contribution in the revision process. A parallel with the EHHF Task Force on Economy and Statistics and its ongoing ESPON targeted analysis was made in regards to the comprehension of CH through a more holistic approach. Using integrated approaches and considering CH as an input instead of a result in business plans and regional developments might help in its preservation and would most certainly benefit to other sectors in the end. It would demonstrate its contribution and impact on development, employment and other socio-economic factors. Finally, Mr. Nypan announced the 10th EHLF Assembly (Berlin, 20-21 June 2018) and invited the assembly to look at the annual report for further details, mentioning chairman Göhner's word on the opportunities created by the European Year.

Ms. Christine Vanhoutte (Flanders), chair of the [Task Force on Economy and Statistics](#), then reported about the work done in the last year. In 2017, the working group indeed secured financing with ESPON for a targeted analysis meant to develop indicators and measure the impact of Cultural Heritage on society, not only economically, but in a more global perspective. Ms. Vanhoutte therefore presented the timeline, the inherent procedure and the contract winner (VVA Economics & Policy consortium). Results are expected in March 2019, right before the next EHHF annual meeting. The main objective of this project being to establish common methodology and to help in the monitoring of socio-economic impact of CH in the future. Ms. Vanhoutte also wished to present a position paper she and other members of the Task Force had prepared to discuss the future of the group and a potential renewal of its mandate with the Heads. With approval from the assembly, the EHHF Economic Task Force therefore became the Task Force on Economy and Statistics, in order to include other factors and variables than economics in the calculation of CH impact on society. Finally, Ms. Vanhoutte warmly thanked the Task Force members for their input in the last year and proposed Mr. Paul Mahringer (Austria) as new chair for the working group. The Heads thus expressed their gratitude to Ms. Vanhoutte and approved Mr. Mahringer's new responsibilities in the Task Force.

NEWS FROM THE HEADS

- Mr. Joern Holme, Director General of the Directorate for Cultural Heritage of Norway, whose country has been elected member of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee for the period 2017-2021, opened the News from the Heads session and expressed his wish to see many of his EHHF colleagues attend the [42nd World Heritage Committee](#), who will take place in Bahrain from June 24th till July 4th 2018.
- Mr. Stefan Balici, Director General of the [National Heritage Institute of Romania](#), then greeted warmly his EHHF colleagues and confirmed the will of Romania to be fully involved with the forum in the future, as the Luxembourg meeting was his first attendance. In that matter, Mr. Balici wanted to give some outlines about his administration, which is monitored by the Romanian Ministry of Culture. He also wished to present the two major projects to come. First, the entire re-design of the legal code for heritage protection, based on the European conventions, recommendations and principles. Second, the re-design of Romania's heritage inventory with the creation of a completely new data base and system, with help of European fundings.
- Finally, Mr. Uwe Koch, Director of the German National Heritage Board, wanted to present further details about the [European Cultural Heritage Summit](#), already introduced by Europa Nostra and which will be taking place in Berlin (18-24 June 2018) as one of the highlights of the European Year. Mr. Koch drew the Heads' attention on the fact that the Summit was not only about the Policy debate, but that there would also be a great variety of events, not only for professionals. One of the main purpose of this Summit is also to involve the public and most of all the younger generation. At the end of the week, heritage professionals and relevant authorities will have the opportunity to give the "Berlin Call", with an aim to help raising concern about CH protection. Mr. Koch hopes that a lot of EHHF Heads will be able to join this great gathering in Berlin.



14th EHHF ANNUAL MEETING IN SWEDEN, 22-24 MAY 2019

**“HERITAGE FOR 2030: A CASE FOR CROSS-SECTORIAL
MANAGEMENT OF OUR HISTORICAL ENVIRONMENT”**

Director Patrick Sanavia, the *Service des sites et monuments nationaux* of Luxembourg and the EHHF Permanent Secretariat were thanked for the organization of the 13th EHHF Annual Meeting, “a huge success, characterized by an excellent sense of generosity and hospitality”, as Mr. Lars Amréus (Sweden) declared with support from the whole assembly. Mr. Sanavia then greeted his Troika companions, Mr. Kristin Huld Sigurðardóttir (Iceland) and Mr. Amréus for the great collaboration, for their time and advises in the organization of the Luxembourg meeting. He also mentioned Mr. Cyril Meniolle de Cizancourt, Administrative Secretary to the EHHF, for its important role and support. Finally, the Region Brussels Capital was also thanked for welcoming the Secretariat.

Director General Lars Amréus ([Swedish National Heritage Board](#)) then officially announced the 14th EHHF Annual Meeting, which will be held in Stockholm on 22-24 May 2019. Mr. Amréus took this opportunity to say a few words about his administration: “a modern government agency with a very long history”. He also encouraged his colleagues to use social media and follow the hashtag #attjobbaparaa in order to get acquainted with the Swedish National Heritage Board. The theme of next year’s meeting will be “Heritage for 2030 – a case for cross-sectorial management of the cultural environment”, where we will discuss the benefits of mainstreaming heritage in other policy areas and establish how heritage can be perceived as the basis for an open and inclusive society. Mr. Amréus concluded by addressing warm thanks to the whole assembly: “The EHHF is what we make it. The Troika plays an important role but our forum is characterised by our common energy, communication, interaction and mutual generosity. I look forward to welcoming you all in Sweden in 2019”.

Finally, the new Troika member was introduced. In 2020, the hosting country for the 15th edition of the Forum will be Estonia, under the direction of Mr. Siim Raie, Director General of the [National Heritage Board](#). Until May 2019, the Troika will thus be composed of Luxembourg, Sweden and Estonia.