



# Reflection group "EU and cultural heritage" Report and actions

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# Cultural Heritage and EU No specific approach for cultural heritage at EU-level

#### **Cultural heritage is:**

- ✓ Primarily the responsability of the Member States
- Usually classified under general notion of 'Culture'
- ✓ Subject to subsidiarity principle of EU Legal basis: Lisbon Treaty (2007), art. 167 Agenda for culture
- Art 3.3, EU shall:

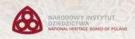
respect its rich cultural and linguistic diversity, and shall ensure the Europe's cultural heritage is safeguarded and enhanced.



## **Cultural Heritage & EU**

# The lack of horizontal integration of cultural heritage across all activities of the EU

- ✓ Cultural heritage is often affected directly and indirectly by EU legislation, policies and funding
- ✓ Concept of mainstreaming (included in article 167 of Lisbon Treaty) requires special attention
- ✓ Could lead to a more effective monitoring of EU legislation and policies
- Also problem at national level
- ✓ Positive evolution: Cultural heritage has recently been included in internal impact assessments of EC





### **Cultural Heritage & EU**

# Lack of organisation and visibility of the broad heritage sector at EU-level

- ✓ Recent launch of "European Heritage Alliance 3.3"
- ✓ Problem often starts at national level, not only at EUlevel
- ✓ Possible answer: an umbrella organisation
- ✓ First step: structural cooperation between e.g. EHLF, EAC and HEREIN aisbl





### **Declaration of Bruges**

Conference 'Cultural heritage: a resource for Europe. The benefits of interaction'

#### Main purposes:

- ✓ Called for a pro-active role of the broad heritage sector vis-à-vis the developments, challenges and opportunities which present themselves within European policy
- ✓ Interacting with the European policy-making level
- ✓ Ensuring that potential of cultural heritage is better incorporated in the general policy of the EU
- ✓ Setting up an umbrella organisation on the European level, representing several actors, such as: governments, professionals, academics, civil society etc.

These issues have become the main purpose for the establishment of the Reflection Group "EU and Cultural Heritage"





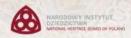
## Reflection group "EU and cultural heritage"

- ✓ Established under the auspices of Government of Flanders
- ✓ Gathers experts nominated by national authorities and observers from European governmental networks on cultural heritage (including CoE)

#### **Activity in 2011 - 2012:**

- ✓ 3 Group meetings in Brussels and Warsaw (framework for further work and mapping)
- ✓ Meeting of Group representatives with European Commission
- ✓ Meeting of Group representatives with EAC, EHLF and HEREIN aisbl

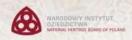
**2012** – Polish chairmanship in works of Reflection Group executed by the National Heritage Board of Poland on behalf of the Polish government





### **Priorities of the Reflection Group**

- ✓ Increase cooperation and join forces and achieve higher synergies between on-going initiatives in the heritage sector in Europe;
- ✓ Compensate lack of mainstreaming of heritage issues by enforcing dialogue with EC, developing tools and channels, and establishing a contact point with the EU institutions;
- ✓ Initiate a specific approach on added value of cultural heritage at EU level (preparing a document on EU policy towards cultural heritage together with EU presidencies 2013-2014, as well as enabling the gathering of reliable and comparable data on economic benefits of cultural heritage).





# Increase cooperation and join forces: achieve higher synergies between on-going initatives

- ✓ Action 1: Exploit synergy through collaboration between EAC, HEREIN aisbl and EHLF
- ✓ Action 2: Analysis of actors, their roles and duties and information flows at EU-level
- ✓ Action 3: Open up a more structured dialogue with most important civil society organisations in the field of cultural heritage at EU-level





## Actions to compensate the lack of mainstreaming

- ✓ Action 4: The reflection group continues to act as contact point and facilitator between the governmental cultural heritage sector and the EU
- ✓ Action 5: Analysis of actors, their roles and duties and information flows at EU-level
- ✓ Action 6: Member States participating in the reflection group develop actions towards their own representatives in the different council working groups





# Initiate a specific approach on added value of cultural heritage at EU-level

- ✓ Action 7: The European Heritage Heads Forum takes care of a better diffusion and follow up of its final statement, especially at EU-level
- ✓ Action 8: Preparation of Council Conclusions during the next Presidencies on specific policy approach of cultural heritage
- ✓ Action 9: Inclusion of cultural heritage as a theme in the next work plan of culture
- ✓ Action 10: The EHHF members are invited to create a temporary taskforce to work on a common methodology for collecting and monitoring socio-economic data of cultural heritage
- ✓ Action 11: Upcoming presidencies of the Council of the EU are invited to develop activities or strategies to put the concerns of cultural heritage on the EU-agenda

