



EHHF VIRTUAL FIKA MINUTES

Date: 27th March 2024, 15:00 - 16:30 CET

Location: Online

PARTICIPANTS

Katarzyna Zalasińska (Poland)
Aleksandra Brodowska (Poland)
Margarita Cruz (Spain)
Sergio Vidal (Spain)
Carmen Cabrera (Spain)
Kurt Farrugia (Malta)
Corinne Caruana (Malta)
Tove Elise Ilher (EHLF)
Zintis Hermansons (ESPON)
Lluís Bonet (CHARTER project)
Alison Turnbull (Scotland)
Pavol Ižvolt (Slovakia)
Noelle Dahl-Poppe (Norway)
Marilyn Mihkelson (Estonia)
Tiina Merisalo (Finland)

Tanja Hohneč (Slovenia)
Stefan Wessman (Finland)
Dubravka Djukanovic (Serbia)
An Verhelst (Flanders)
Davor Trupković (Croatia)
Susanne Thedeén (Sweden)
Agate Pudāne (Latvia)
Margarita Trendafilova (Bulgaria)
Jana Michalcakova (Czech Repub.)
Geraldine Magni (Switzerland)
Elis Marcal (CHARTER)
Nessa Roche (CHARTER)
Rúnar Leifsson (Iceland)
Ben de Vries (The Netherlands)
Juliette Toussaint (EHHF)

TABLE OF CONTENT

Welcome and agenda.....	p.2
Krakow meeting update.....	p.3
Exhibition on cultural heritage in Ukraine.....	p.4
EHLF update.....	p.6
Taskforce update: ESPON project.....	p.7
CHARTER project.....	p.8

WELCOME AND AGENDA

The 4th EHHF Fika was held online on **Wednesday 27th of March 2024**. The Fika formats were adopted by the EHHF during the Covid period in order for members to meet despite the travel restrictions. Nowadays, the Fikas format has been retained as an **informal online meeting for the Heads** in between two physical meetings , in order to maintain contact, to share news and relevant information.

The **agenda** for the day was planned by the Troïka and the Secretariat as follows: first, an update on the postponement of the 18th Annual Meeting in Krakow and an explanation of the thematic and programme, followed by a request for feedback on new dates for the Annual Meeting. Then, an update from the secretariat on an **exhibition in Brussels** around the destruction of Ukrainian cultural heritage. During the next session, a presentation of the results and recommendations from the **CHARTER project** on skills and education in cultural heritage. The end of the meeting to update on the current projects of the two working committees, the **EHLF** and the **Taskforce**.

Ms. **Juliette Toussaint**, on behalf of the Troika and the EHHF secretariat, was very happy to welcome the representatives from the **20 countries** present for this social and informal discussion.

Ms. Toussaint thanked the participants for their presence in this meeting and their willingness to learn about and collaborate on the topics discussed hereinafter.

In terms of acknowledgements, the secretariat thanked the members of the Troïka (**Poland, Spain** and **Malta**) for their help in organising this meeting.

EHHF 18TH ANNUAL MEETING: UPDATE ON KRAKOW EVENT

Cancellation in May and postponement

Following a meeting with the Troika mid-March, it is with great regret that the Troika and the secretariat had to announce in an email the impossibility of holding the EHHF annual meeting on 27 - 29 May 2024 as originally planned.

Ms. Katarzyna Zalasińska - the current Chair of the Troika - explained that changes beyond their control in the Polish government have led to a potential major reorganisation of the Polish National Institute for Cultural Heritage. These discussions are taking place at the moment with final results expected in the course of May. These uncertainties surrounding the future of the Institute mean that the secretariat and the Institute are unable to serenely plan an event of this scale at the end of May.

Ms. Zalasińska apologised for any inconvenience this unexpected situation may have caused .

The members were then asked to vote for their favourite dates for postponing the annual meeting in September. The votes are currently heading for 18-20 September.

If you were not present during the meeting and have not voted yet, you will find below the link to do so. Please note that you can vote for both dates if the two suggested slots suit your agenda.

Vote on the new dates : <https://eu.jotform.com/form/240793691792066>

Presentation of the theme and programme

In 2024, we commemorate the 70th anniversary of the *Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict*.

The theme "**A New Architecture for National Heritage Security**" seems to be an opportunity to strengthen cooperation, networking and coordination mechanisms between cultural institutions and civil-society organisations in order to increase preparedness to crises and threats.

As Poland is a neighbour to war-torn Ukraine, this subject has a special meaning for our hosts. Kraków, with its rich history and cultural importance, will therefore serve as a

fitting backdrop for our discussions on the importance of protecting cultural property in times of Conflict.

The Fika also gave the opportunity to **Ms. Aleksandra Brodowska** to present the city of Krakow and to introduce the programme of sessions and social events.

Participants were also presented with accommodation and transport options.

All this information is given in the **Practical Information document**, which will be updated to take account of the relocation of the meeting in September. It will then be circulated to all members.

Ms. Zalasińska thanked the participants for their understanding and assured that Poland is eager to welcome the Forum in Krakow, where they look forward to edifying exchanges and showcasing the treasures of the city.

For any other suggestions or questions related to the annual meeting, members can contact - secretariat@ehhf.eu

UPDATE FROM THE SECRETARIAT: EXHIBITION IN BRUSSELS ON THE DESTRUCTION OF UKRAINIAN CULTURAL HERITAGE

Context

The idea for the project started at the last EHHF Annual Meeting in Sevilla when Ms Katarzyna Zalasińska presented to the EHHF members the report "*Saving Ukraine's Culture*". After the meeting, the [report](#) and a [video](#) were shared with the minutes of the meeting.

Appealed by the strong images, the director of cultural heritage for the Brussels region (Mr Thierry Wauters) asked the secretariat to seek the cooperation of the Polish National Institute for Cultural Heritage to organise an **exhibition** to raise awareness among the public in Brussels on the **massive destruction of cultural heritage in Ukraine**.

The Polish National Institute for Cultural Heritage responded positively to this request and made a selection of pictures from Polish and Ukrainian photographers, both professional and amateur.

The exhibition will be held at the **Halles Saint-Géry**, which is a historic building in the centre of Brussels, and which also hosts the office of the EHHF secretariat. The exhibition will be launched during the month of April.



An EHHF-wide exhibition?

The secretary explained that the reason to mention this project during the Fika is not only due to the fact that it was born within the EHHF network but also because the final goal would be to document this exhibition and to propose it to all EHHF members, who could then **set up the exhibition in their own countries** to continue to draw attention to this issue throughout Europe.

For any suggestions or questions concerning the exhibition on the destruction of cultural heritage in Ukraine, members can contact - secretariat@ehhf.eu

UPDATE FROM THE EHLF: IMPORTANT ALERTS AND EHLF OBSERVATORY FUNCTION – CRASH COURSE IN BRUSSELS FOR MEMBERS

EHLF Mandate and Alerts

Ms Tove Ihler, Chair of the EHLF, wanted to raise awareness on the alerts sent out to the Forum on European directives with possible negative impact on cultural heritage. The initial aim of these alerts is to encourage the representatives of each country to check whether the alert is confirmed in their country as well. Secondly, the countries concerned may decide to jointly draft a proposal to amend the text and/or obtain an **exemption** for the cultural heritage sector.

Ms Tove Ihler encouraged the Heads to open the alerts and to look at them in order for the EHLF to receive inputs from different countries. When cooperating this way, it often appears that more than one country has negative effects with a given legislation. Then, it enables the EHLF to act appropriately.

If you have any suggestion on the format or content of these alerts please feel free to advise the EHLF and/or secretariat.

Some current topics

- Energy Performance of Buildings Directive: how do we get general/specific exemptions?
- Led ban through EU-REACH-Regulation
- Photovoltaics in cultural heritage buildings and landscapes
- EU Taxonomy – several countries have negative effects with this legislation. Examples given concern the restoration of old windows costing more than knocking them down due to higher interest rates ; difficulties to find fundings to restore old buildings if they cannot prove a very high energy score ; etc.

We are interested in experiences from the members on these regulations.

- Competition law group: **if you would like to join this group or can appoint someone to do so it would be very helpful.**

EHLF Meeting in Brussels

An EHLF meeting is planned in Brussels on April 29–30, 2024. The EHLF members will be given a reminder on the EHLF observatory function. To give members the ability to monitor new legislation in their own country, the EHLF will provide a **crashcourse from an EURLEX representative**.

The meeting will also discuss the following topics: Competition working group; EHLF session in EHHF Annual Meeting in Krakow: input on topics; Ukraine: helpful EU initiatives we should know about as lawyers in the CH-field.

You will find attached the list of EHLF representatives per country. Please contact the secretariat if you want to **update the information regarding your country's representative** or if you wish to add a representative for your country.

For any other suggestions or questions, members can contact - tove.ihler@ra.no and/or secretariat@ehhf.eu

CHARTER PROJECT ON SKILLS AND EDUCATION IN CULTURAL HERITAGE: RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Prof. Lluís Bonet, coordinator of the CHARTER project joined in order to present the outcomes and recommendations of their study.

CHARTER - Cultural Heritage Actions to Refine Training, Education and Roles

The CHARTER consortium represented a European alliance of 47 members gathering the following key stakeholders:

1. The **education and training providers** that seek to improve clarity on curricula provision, types, levels and delivery routes to promote quality in learning outcomes, equivalence and mobility.
2. The **industry** that wish to be certain of the availability of high-quality expertise, distributed regionally to facilitate the sustainable access, use and promotion of cultural heritage.

3. **Public bodies and agencies** that need to articulate policies that safeguard, sustain and promote cultural heritage for the common good by resourcing the transmission of skills

4. Cultural Heritage **professionals** that seek recognition for their roles and mission as these relate to experience, expertise and professional qualification.

Mission and objectives of the CHARTER project

CHARTER identifies skills shortages and mismatches in the cultural heritage sector to bridge the gap between education and occupational systems to ensure the sector's viability and illustrate its contribution to social, economic and environmental sustainability in Europe.

Mr Bonet presented some key focus areas of the project:

- Blueprints for sectoral cooperation on skills
- Circular value chain
- The Heritage Ecosystem principles
- Curricular guidelines for 8 innovative / emerging fields
- Findings on occupational profile classifications

The details of these topics can be found in the presentation attached and in the "CHARTER project in a nutshell" document.

For any other suggestions or questions on the CHARTER project, members can contact - lbonet@ub.edu and/or secretariat@ehhf.eu

UPDATE FROM THE TASK FORCE ON ECONOMY AND STATISTICS: PRESENTATION OF THE ESPON PROJECT

Mr Zintis Hermansons from ESPON joined the Fika in order to present their new project aiming at acquiring specific data on cultural heritage, with the help of the Taskforce.

ESPON and its mission

ESPON is one of EU INTERREG programmes and is in service for over 20 years. ESPON delivers quality expertise (territorial analyses, data and policy advice) to public

authorities in 27 European Union countries and 4 partner states (Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway, Switzerland).

They help public authorities to benchmark their country, region or city, identify new challenges and potentials, and shape successful policies for the future.

Mr Hermansons insisted that ESPON functions with calls for tenders, not grants. They fund studies based on the needs of European public authorities at all levels. Any local, regional or national authority as well as an EU institution can inform them about policy support needs and become an ESPON stakeholder.

A study on cultural heritage statistics

Rationale:

- The study is suggested by the European Heritage Heads Forum (EHHF) to support the gathering of meaningful cultural heritage statistics.
- It follows up on the outcomes of the ESPON projects (HERITAGE and HERIWELL) and stakeholder discussion at the two knowledge-development events held in Vienna, in which a cultural heritage satellite account was indicated as the best means to do so.
- It aims to develop a full-fledged methodology, outlining in detail all the aspects of a material cultural heritage satellite account (with subnational breakdowns where possible).
- The satellite account would provide supplementary information for the system of national accounts in order to acquire an accurate picture of the contribution of cultural heritage to economy. Therefore, it would be a viable alternative to proxy estimations.

Timeframe : March 2024 – December 2024

The role of the Taskforce and EHHF

The Taskforce and the Heads will be mobilised in the project to give expert feedback on the methodology being developed and on the relevant/accessible data and statistics.

You will find attached Mr Hermansons' presentation as well as the list of Taskforce representatives per country. Please contact the secretariat if you want to **update the**

information regarding your country's representative or if you wish to add a representative for your country to be actively involved in the project.

For any other suggestions or questions, members can contact - paul.mahringer@bda.gv.at and/or secretariat@ehhf.eu

THANK YOU !

