

European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018

*“Cultural heritage is not only
a legacy from the past, it is also
a resource for our future”*

Tibor Navracsics, European Commissioner in charge
of Education, Youth, Culture and Sport

2018 will be the European Year of Cultural Heritage. This is the opportunity to take part in an unparalleled year of events and celebrations!

Europe’s cultural heritage surrounds us in the buildings of our cities; our landscapes and our archaeological sites. It is preserved not only in literature, art, and objects but also in craft skills, stories, food and films. In its diversity, cultural heritage brings us together. Our digital world gives it an unprecedented access.

The aim of the Year is to encourage more people to discover and explore Europe’s rich and diverse cultural heritage, and to reinforce a sense of belonging to a common European space. The Year will pursue an integrated approach to heritage, and put people at the centre.

Thanks to Europe’s cultural heritage we can understand the past and imagine the future. In 2018, we will emphasise:

- its value to society;
- its contribution to the economy;
- its role in European cultural diplomacy;
- and the importance of safeguarding our common cultural heritage.

Cultural heritage plays a strong economic role in Europe. Over 300,000 people are directly employed in this sector and 7.8 million European jobs are indirectly linked to it, for example in tourism and building works, ancillary services such as transport, interpretation services, maintenance and security.

How will the Year be implemented?

As other European Years, 2018 will be implemented through initiatives and events at European, national, regional and local levels.

At country level, the Year is being organised by national coordinators, designated by each EU Member State.

At European level, implementation of the Year will be a joint effort of the European Commission, the European Parliament, the Council and also the Committee of the Regions and the European Economic and Social Committee.

Activities will encompass awareness-raising and knowledge-sharing events. Up to 10 highly visible European initiatives will build a legacy for the Year following 2018. A large amount of transnational projects will be funded, with the support of the Creative Europe programme, Horizon 2020, Erasmus +, Citizens for Europe, and a number of other EU funding programmes.



European
Commission

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What are the main themes at European level?

The 10 European initiatives will focus on four main objectives: engaging people with cultural heritage, promoting its value, fostering its protection and stimulating innovation.

Branding of events and projects

The Commission is preparing a visual identity for the Year, which will be available for both national and European initiatives. The name and the logo of the Year may be used in the branding of events and projects taking place between 1 January 2018 and 31 December 2018, which contribute significantly to achieving one or more of the objectives of the 2018 European Year of Cultural Heritage.

Europe's cultural heritage is about ...

Engagement

- **Shared heritage:** bringing Europe's cultural heritage, history and shared values closer to people
- **Heritage at school:** discovering Europe's treasures at an early age
- **Youth for heritage:** engaging the younger generation

Value

- **New uses for heritage:** re-imagining industrial, religious or military sites
- **Tourism and heritage:** promoting sustainable cultural tourism

Protection

- **Cherishing heritage:** developing standards for quality interventions in the historic environment and at heritage sites
- **Heritage at risk:** fighting the illicit trade in cultural goods and managing risks at heritage sites

Innovation

- **Heritage-related skills:** enhancing education and training for the traditional and the new professions
- **Heritage for all:** fostering participation and social innovation
- **Science for heritage:** using research, innovation, science and technology for the better conservation and presentation of heritage

Further information:

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