



# STRENGTHENING CULTURAL HERITAGE RESILIENCE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

Open Method of Coordination (OMC) group of  
Member States' experts

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**“The science is  
clear.  
Climate change is  
happening.  
The impact is  
real.  
The time to act is  
now.”**

*Ban Ki moon, 2007, Bali Climate Change Conference*



# Overview

- Council Work Plan for Culture 2019-22
- What is an OMC?
- Rationale the OMC group
- Background
- Role and working approach
- Results
- Timeline



# Climate change: a challenge of our times

## ★ 2014-2019 – Jean-Claude Juncker Commission

One of the 10 priorities: “A Resilient Energy Union with a Forward-Looking Climate Change Policy”

EU played a key role in the successful outcome of the Paris agreement



## ★ 2019-2024 - Ursula von der Leyen Commission

Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission

**European Green Deal – striving to be the first climate-neutral continent**

[https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en)

### EU policies and targets

- ▶ EU Emissions Trading System
- ▶ Effort Sharing Regulation
- ▶ National Energy and Climate Plans
- ▶ Land use
- ▶ Clean transport
- ▶ Adaptation
- ▶ Energy Union
- ▶ Protection of ozone layer
- ▶ Global phase-down of HFCs







# Council Work Plan for Culture 2019-22

## 6 priorities

- **Sustainability in cultural heritage**
- Cohesion and well-being
- An ecosystem supporting artists, cultural and creative professionals and European content
- Gender equality
- International cultural relations
- Culture as a driver for sustainable development

***18 actions for MS, PRES, EC to be carried out over 4 years***

# Open method of Coordination Member States Working Group

- Form of 'soft' law
- Does not result in binding EU legislative measures
- Framework for cooperation between the EU countries
- Nominated experts from ministries of culture, cultural institutions, research bodies - meet 6 times over 18 months to exchange good practice and produce policy manuals or toolkits which are widely shared throughout Europe
- Work according to an agreed mandate



# OMC Group Rationale

Regard to 'The Paris Agreement' (2015) & UN Sustainable Development Goal 13 on climate action, **experts will identify and exchange good practices and innovative measures for the historical environment in relation to climate change.**

Specific focus on energy efficiency of historical buildings, design & transformation of cultural landscape & the safety of heritage under extreme climate circumstances.



# Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- SDG 11 'Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable'
- SDG 11.4 'Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage'.
- Other relevant SDGs include goal 7, 14, 15 & 17.



# Background

## EYCH 2018/New European Agenda for Culture/European Framework for Action on Cultural Heritage

- Agenda 2030 (SDGs)
- European Green Deal
- 2015 Paris Agreement
- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
- UN Sendai Framework
- Council conclusions on risk management

# Role of the OMC group - Objective

Identify and exchange **good practices and innovative measures** for the protection of cultural heritage (including both **tangible and intangible**) in relation to climate change.

Examine the **current and emerging threats and impacts of climate change on cultural heritage**, including cultural landscapes, discuss appropriate adaptation and mitigation measures, identifying potential risks & focus on building resilience of cultural heritage assets in the face of a changing environment while avoiding maladaptation.

Examine the contribution cultural heritage can make to mitigating & combatting climate change in line with Green Deal's goals.

# Role of the OMC group – Prepare a Report

**Mapping** of public policies; **analysis** of best practices and case studies; and policy **recommendations**

## **Specific tasks:**

- Exchange **national, regional and local policies**, foreseen threats or impacts. New strategies & innovative measures to avoid or reduce the climate impact on cultural heritage should be proposed. Early warning systems as foreseen by the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework 2015-2030 should be addressed; and
- Exchange on the **response** of cultural heritage sites and institutions and communities to mitigate impacts of climate change on cultural heritage, in accordance with the European Green Deal (energy efficiency, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, waste etc)



# Working approach

**Integrated approach** to heritage management, focusing on cultural heritage, and cultural landscapes.

**Complementarities and synergies** with other relevant initiatives of the Work Plan for Culture (e.g. **OMC on Cultural Dimension of Sustainable Development** and **OMC on High-quality Architecture and Built Environment**).

Support from European Expert Network on Culture

1<sup>st</sup> meeting 18-19 January / 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting 23–24 March / 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting 14-15 June

Austria - Belgium - Croatia - Cyprus - Estonia - Finland - France - Germany - Greece - Ireland - Italy - Latvia - Lithuania – Malta - Netherlands - Poland - Portugal – Spain - Romania - Slovakia - Slovenia - Sweden

Total number of MS so far: 22

# Role of the OMC group - Report

- **Inventory** of the relevant results from Horizon 2020 scientific projects, the Marie Skłodowska Curie actions, and EU activities including the '*Study on safeguarding heritage from disasters*' (2018) as well as relevant reports;
- **Proposals** for future research;
- **Recommendations** on preparedness, capacity building, and disaster risk reduction; and
- Guidance on contribution of cultural heritage to reduction of CO2 emissions.



# Results

Lead to **awareness-raising**

**Capacity-building** of national heritage experts on sustainability of cultural heritage.

Produce **recommendations** to contribute to discussions and planning of climate change measures at European and national level.



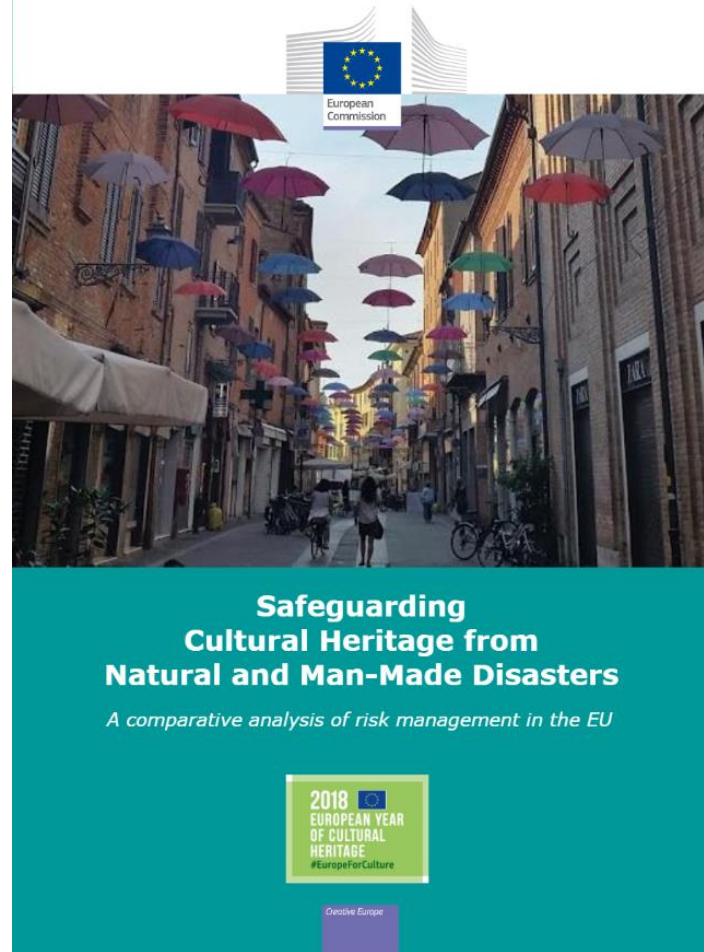


# Timeline

1-2021 (PT)	2-2021 (SI)	1-2022 (FR)	2-2022 (CZ)
OMC Strengthening Cultural Heritage Resilience for Climate Change			OMC report



# Safeguarding cultural heritage from natural and man-made disasters



- **Safeguarding cultural heritage from natural and man-made disasters (2018)**
- Study: it presents a comprehensive overview of the existing knowledge on safeguarding cultural heritage from the effects of natural disasters and threats caused by human action (at EU and national level).
- It maps existing strategies and tools for disaster risk management in Member States
- It provides evidence-based recommendations to support European cooperation and to improve the integration of cultural heritage in national platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction.
- Available at <https://europa.eu/!WV94TM>

# Relevant links

- Council Work Plan for Culture 2019-22 [https://ec.europa.eu/culture/news/2018/new-work-plan-culture-start-2019\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/culture/news/2018/new-work-plan-culture-start-2019_en)
- New European Agenda for Culture [https://ec.europa.eu/culture/news/new-european-agenda-culture\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/culture/news/new-european-agenda-culture_en)
- European Framework for Action on Cultural Heritage [https://ec.europa.eu/culture/content/european-framework-action-cultural-heritage\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/culture/content/european-framework-action-cultural-heritage_en)
- European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018 <https://europa.eu/cultural-heritage/>
- European Green Deal [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/european-green-deal-communication\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/european-green-deal-communication_en.pdf)
- Copernicus - <https://climate.copernicus.eu/>



# Relevant links

- Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development  
[https://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E](https://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E)
- The 2015 Paris Agreement  
[https://unfccc.int/files/essential\\_background/convention/application/pdf/english\\_paris\\_agreement.pdf](https://unfccc.int/files/essential_background/convention/application/pdf/english_paris_agreement.pdf)
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change  
<https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/convkp/conveng.pdf>
- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change <https://www.ipcc.ch/>
- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 – 2030 <https://www.undrr.org/publication/sendai-framework-disaster-risk-reduction-2015-2030>
- Council Conclusions on Risk Management in the area of Cultural Heritage  
<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/44116/st08208-en20.pdf>

# THANK YOU!



#EuropeForCulture

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