

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC
AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF
THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Twenty-ninth Session

Durban, South Africa

10-17 July 2005

Item 11 of the Provisional Agenda: Periodic Reports

Presentation of the Periodic Report for North America and Section I of the Periodic Report for Europe (2005)

11B. Presentation of the Section I of the Periodic Report for Europe (2005) and Progress Report on the preparation of Section II of the Periodic Report for Europe (2006)

SUMMARY

This document contains a synthesis of the Periodic Report (Section I) for the European Region and a progress report on the preparation of Section II. Information Document INF 11B contains the Sub-regional Synthesis Reports.

The synthesis report for Section II for the European Region will be submitted to the 30th session of the World Heritage Committee.

This document is presented as follows:

- Chapter I Introduction
- Chapter II The implementation of the World Heritage Convention in Europe
- Chapter III The application of the World Heritage Convention by States Parties in Europe
- Chapter IV Regional Analysis and proposals towards and Action Plan for Europe
- Chapter V Progress report on the preparation of Section II
- Chapter VI Draft Decision

Draft Decision: 29 COM 11B see Chapter VI

Disclaimer

The authors are responsible for the choice and the presentation of the facts contained in this report and for the opinions expressed therein, which are not necessarily those of UNESCO and do not commit the Organization.

The designations employed and the presentation of material throughout this report do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UNESCO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries

THE STATE OF THE WORLD HERITAGE IN EUROPE

Periodic Report on Section I - 2005

(Draft)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *World Heritage Convention*, adopted by the UNESCO General Conference in 1972, is the key international instrument for the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage of the world. Under the *Convention*, States Parties commit themselves to take the necessary measures for the protection of its heritage and to participate in international co-operation activities. The *Convention* concerns the cultural and the natural heritage in general, as well as specific properties that the World Heritage Committee deems to be of *Outstanding Universal Value* and that are therefore inscribed on the World Heritage List.

This report constitutes the first Periodic Report on the state of the World Heritage in Europe, covering Section I that has been prepared under World Heritage reporting mechanisms introduced in 1998 in application of Article 29 of the *Convention*. This document, was prepared under the responsibility of the World Heritage Centre on the basis of Periodic Reports digitally submitted by the States Parties and sub-regional reports written by experts. Both an electronic evaluation tool of the on-line reports, as well as a sub-regional set-up with experts contributed to the analysis of the Periodic Reports. The recommendations towards an Action Plan are primarily based on conclusion drawn from general trends and asserted challenges in the sub-regions. However, this Action Plan will be refined after the submission of the Periodic Reports on Section II, for review by the World Heritage Committee in 2006.

Chapter 2 illustrates that, over the past thirty years, Europe has been a very active partner in the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* and has a long history in heritage conservation. With the exception of one country, which is not a Member State of UNESCO, all States Parties in Europe have ratified the *World Heritage Convention* and many of the States Parties of the region have served on the World Heritage Committee and its Bureau over the past thirty years.

The diversity of Europe's cultural and natural heritage, languages and traditions, its cultural and religious history, partly accounts for the high number of World Heritage properties inscribed in Europe (368), of which a majority are architectural monuments, historic centres and cities as well as archaeological sites. Natural heritage sites in Europe are mainly vast wilderness areas and national parks and sites of geological significance. In recent years, the diversity of Europe's cultural heritage is increasingly being recognised by States Parties in Europe and has brought about a change in the perception of heritage. It has shifted from the nomination of single monuments to the consideration and nomination of larger multipart properties such as landscapes, urban areas as well as transnational and serial sites. This has resulted in exemplary cooperative initiatives amongst States Parties in Europe and in other regions of the world, who are actively cooperating on the elaboration of transnational serial nominations. In the context of the Global Strategy, Tentative List harmonisation meetings have been organised by the World Heritage Centre in the Baltic region, the Caucasus region as well as in Central Europe. The majorities of Tentative Lists in Europe however remain accumulative and are in need of systematic reviews, with the exception of the Nordic region. In the framework of the cooperation of the Nordic Council of Ministers, the Nordic countries already in 1996 successfully harmonised their Tentative Lists on a regional basis, focusing on underrepresented cultural heritage and natural heritage categories. Evidently, the success of the Global Strategy is reflected in the increasing number of underrepresented types of properties and the serial and transnational nomination being submitted by States Parties in Europe and inscribed by the World Heritage Committee.

Over the past twenty years the World Heritage Committee has examined a great number of state of conservation reports on specific properties in Europe. Successful conservation and preservation efforts, responding to the threats to the sites caused by armed conflicts and civil unrest in the South Eastern European region, as well as successful conservation measures taken at a property in Central Europe, led to the removal of four sites from the List of World Heritage in Danger. The current List of World Heritage in Danger contains three properties from Europe. The main threats which justified the recent inscriptions of two properties on the in Danger List are mainly urban development pressures, as well as inadequate administrative and legislative provisions for the protection of the World Heritage property.

Considerable international cooperation for the preservation and conservation of World Heritage properties has been generated through international assistance under the World Heritage Fund and bi- and multi-lateral agreements. In the most recent years, several States Parties in Europe have offered their financial support to the *World Heritage Convention* through specific Funds-in-Trust arrangements and cooperation agreements signed with UNESCO. World Heritage Fund activities focussed mainly on support to the implementation of the *Convention* in European States Parties, specifically for improving site management and supporting conservation efforts in Central, Eastern and South Eastern Europe. In addition, a number of key institutions in Europe have established programmes for cultural and natural heritage available to European countries. However, despite the wealth of information and diversity of heritage related activities a systematic approach to funding under these programmes has yet to be established.

In the context of the implementation of the *Convention* by States Parties in Europe, considerable contributions to the preservation, management and presentation of World Heritage have been made in the region. In general, the analysis in Chapter 3 of the Periodic Reports submitted by States Parties in Europe highlighted significant achievements in terms of conservation policies and practices, technical studies and promotional activities. Furthermore, in reviewing the reports from a sub-regional perspective, specific needs and concerns were identified which will form a basis for the development of an Action Plan.

The answers provided in individual reports concerning the understanding of the requirements of the *Convention* and the decisions formulated by the *Committee* emphasised that considerable efforts still have to be made on a regional and local level to ensure the effective implementation of the *Convention*. Lack of documentation, loss of institutional memory and need for capacity building have been identified by States Parties, notably in Eastern and South Eastern Europe. In Western European States Parties the long history and tradition in heritage preservation and the experience gained through the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* in the past thirty years has brought to light the need for further revisions of legislative and administrative measures, taking into account present-day circumstances in heritage conservation and preservation. Systematic dissemination of information and documentation, as well as sharing of experiences among States Parties would greatly assist the revision process which is commencing in other regions of Europe.

A distinction between the abundance of scientific and professional expertise in Western Europe and the under valorised knowledge of experts and technical studies in some areas of Central, South Eastern and Eastern Europe became apparent in the reports. This is partly due to the lack of opportunities for experts, lack of recognition of scientific studies and limited funding for scientific institutions. Regional and sub-regional strategies for capacity building in administrative provisions, management of heritage and conservation techniques needs to be developed in close collaboration with the Advisory Bodies and the States Parties.

In recognition of decreasing national budgets for heritage preservation, States Parties have realised the need for fund-raising that is being achieved through grants from private foundations as well as lottery arrangements. The opportunities for fund-raising in Eastern and South Eastern Europe are rather more limited than in the other parts of Europe. Although EU programmes are available to a number of European States Parties, a more systematic approach to these funding sources needs to be established. While a number of countries contribute to conservation and preservation of heritage through particular cooperation agreements and Funds-in-Trust arrangements with UNESCO and the World Heritage Centre, enhanced cooperation in Eastern and South Eastern Europe is needed. Regional and sub-regional strategies need to be developed to ensure a systematic approach to funding, drawing on the existence of European networks, specialised institutions and foundations in the field of heritage conservation.

The Periodic Reporting exercise for Section I has provided an opportunity to reflect on the state of the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* in Europe, and the exercise itself is an important achievement for the whole region and has increased interest and awareness among governments and institutions in the *Convention*. The information provided in the Periodic Reports has shown that the extent of measures taken by States Parties to put into practice the recommendations of the *Committee* and implement the *Operational Guidelines* vary considerably. Concluding the report, Chapter 4 contains a comparison of strength and weaknesses as well as proposal towards a future Action Plan. The sub-regional analysis illustrates that certain strengths and weaknesses are common to a number of States Parties within a region. On the basis of this information, proposals for future actions have been made. Concerted efforts on the part of the States Parties, the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre have to be employed for the development of an Action Plan for Europe, taking into account the specificities of each sub-region. Moreover, an overall strategy for Europe can only be thoroughly developed and presented to the World Heritage Committee once the results of Section II have been analysed in 2006.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The World Heritage Centre and the Europe team preparing this document specifically thank all States Parties, all focal points and the Advisory Bodies for their contribution to the success of Section I of the Periodic Report for the European region. Without the continuous commitment of many individuals in the 48 countries of Europe, the 100% completion rate of the on-line Periodic Reports would not have been achieved. We therefore dedicate this report to our partners in the World Heritage system. We are also grateful for the substantive financial support received from the Flemish and Dutch Funds-in-Trust and the Nordic World Heritage Foundation.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

1.2. Methodology of the Report

1.3. Structure of the Report

2. THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE *WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION* IN EUROPE

2.1. An Introduction to the Cultural and Natural Heritage of the Region

2.2. *The World Heritage Convention*

2.2.1. States Parties

2.2.2. The World Heritage Committee

2.3. Identification of World Heritage in Europe

2.3.1. The World Heritage List

2.3.2. Tentative Lists

2.3.3. Global Strategy for a Representative World Heritage List

2.4. Examination of the State of Conservation

2.4.1. Systematic Monitoring Exercise

2.4.2. Reactive Monitoring

2.4.3. List of World Heritage in Danger

2.5. Cooperation for World Heritage

2.5.1. International Assistance under the World Heritage Fund

2.5.2. UNESCO Activities in Support of World Heritage in Europe

2.5.3. Bi- and Multilateral Cooperation

2.5.4. World Heritage Networks/ European Union funding for World Heritage

2.6. World Heritage Training and Education

2.6.1. Training

2.6.2. Education

2.7. Conclusions

3. THE APPLICATION OF THE *WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION* BY STATES PARTIES IN EUROPE

3.1. Introduction and Methodology of Analysis

3.2. Agencies Responsible for the Preparation of Section I of the Periodic Report

- 3.3. Identification of the cultural and natural heritage properties**
- 3.3.1. National Inventories
- 3.3.2. Tentative Lists
- 3.3.3. Nominations for Inscription on the World Heritage List
- 3.4. Protection, Conservation and Presentation of the Cultural and Natural Heritage**
- 3.4.1. General Policy Development
- 3.4.2. Status of Services for Protection, Conservation and Presentation
- 3.4.3. Scientific and Technical Studies and Research
- 3.4.4. Measures for Identification, Protection, Conservation, Presentation and Rehabilitation
- 3.4.5. Training
- 3.5. International Cooperation and Fund-raising**
- 3.6. Education, Information and Awareness Raising**
- 3.7. Conclusions**

4. REGIONAL ANALYSIS AND PROPOSALS TOWARDS AN ACTION PLAN FOR EUROPE

- 4.1. Strengths and Weaknesses of the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention in Europe and the Sub-Regional Context**
- 4.2. Proposals towards a Future Action Plan for Europe**

5. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE PREPARATION OF SECTION II

6. DRAFT DECISION: 29 COM 11B

ANNEX

Selected bibliography and further links

LIST OF TABLES AND FIGURES

Chapter 1:

Table 1:	Circular Letters sent to Permanent Delegations, National Commissions and focal points in Europe	11
Table 2:	Sub-Regional Grouping of States Parties in Europe	12
Table 3:	European Sub-Regional Meetings and Information Meetings on Periodic Reporting	13
Table 4:	Percentage of reports received in Sub-regions by the deadline of 31 December 2004	14
Figure 1:	Example of Section I report of a State Party using the Electronic Tool	10
Figure 2	Map of Europe and Overseas territories 1	16
Figure 3	Map of Europe and Overseas territories 2	17

Chapter 2:

Table 5:	Year of ratification of World Heritage Convention by States Parties in Europe	20
Table 6:	Historical information concerning States Parties to the World Heritage Convention in Europe	21

Table 7:	Participation in international conventions for the protection of cultural and natural heritage	23
Table 8:	European States Parties with overview of World Heritage Committee membership	25
Table 9:	Number of World Heritage properties up to 2004 located in European States Parties	29
Table 10:	Tentative List Harmonisation Meetings and Activities in Europe	30
Table 11:	Meetings on Cultural Landscapes and natural heritage in Europe	32
Table 12:	Reactive Monitoring reports on European World Heritage sites from 1986 – 2004	34
Table 13:	Sites in Europe which in the past have been inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger	35
Table 14:	Current List of World Heritage in Danger in Europe	36
Table 15:	Projects in Europe supported by cooperation agreements	39
Table 16:	Example of programmes and initiatives by the European Union and the Council of Europe	43
Figure 4:	Increase in Number of States Parties (World and European Region) from 1972 to July 2004	22
Figure 5:	Comparison of cultural, natural and mixed sites inscribed on the World Heritage List in Europe and Globally.	26
Figure 6:	World Heritage Properties by global regions and sub-regions in Europe	27
Figure 7:	Number of cultural, natural and mixed properties by sub-region in Europe	28
Figure 8:	Number of sites on the World Heritage List and on the Tentative List by State Party in Europe	31
Figure 9:	Total of reactive monitoring reports from all regions examined by the World Heritage Committee and its Bureau from 1986 to 2004.	35
Figure 10:	International Assistance by Regions in the periods of 1978 – 1992, 1992 – 2001 and 2002 – 2004	36
Figure 11:	Approved International Assistance requests in Europe (1978 – 2004)	37
Figure 12:	International Assistance (1978 – 2004) by Global Regions and by European Sub-Regions	38
Figure 13:	Number of European inscriptions per year	47

Chapter 3:

Table 17:	Inventories used as a basis for selecting World Heritage sites	50
Table 18:	Type of cooperation in Europe	64
Table 19:	Twinning of World Heritage sites	64
Table 20:	Evaluation of the Periodic Reporting Tool and general benefits of Periodic Reporting	69
Figure 14:	Number of European States Parties which have submitted updated Tentative Lists since 1992	51
Figure 15:	Number of sites on the World Heritage List and on the Tentative List by State Party in Europe	52
Figure 16:	Responsibility for preparation of nominations	53
Figure 17:	Motivations for nominating sites and perceived benefits of World Heritage listing	54
Figure 18:	Existence of legislations and general policies in European sub-regions	56
Figure 19:	Status of services for Protection, Conservation and Presentation in the European Sub-Regions	58
Figure 20:	Sources of Funding for World Heritage within the sub-regions in Europe	60
Figure 21:	Training	62
Figure 22:	Types of activities for promotion of World Heritage	66
Figure 23:	Information, Awareness Building and Education	66

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

Periodic Reporting is the procedure by which States Parties to the *World Heritage Convention* provide information, in accordance with Article 29 of the *World Heritage Convention*. It follows the decisions of the Eleventh General Assembly of States Parties and the 29th General Conference of UNESCO, "... on the legislative and administrative provisions which they have adopted and other action which they have taken for the application of the *Convention*, including information on the state of conservation of the World Heritage properties located on their territories."

To this end, the World Heritage Committee adopted a Format for the Periodic Reports and determined that these reports be examined region by region on the basis of a six-year cycle. Since the management and protection of World Heritage properties is the responsibility of the States Parties, the Periodic Reports are to be prepared by the State Party itself. The Committee therefore requested the World Heritage Centre, at its 22nd session in December 1998, to assist the States Parties in this process and to synthesize these reports on a regional basis, making full use of the expertise of the Advisory Bodies, States Parties, competent institutions and expertise available within the regions.

Based on experience and information acquired through the preceding Periodic Reporting exercises in the Arab States (2000), Africa (2001-2002) and Asia and Pacific (2003), and Latin America and the Caribbean (2004) the method and means for reporting were improved. To facilitate the work of both the States Parties and the World Heritage Centre, a Questionnaire was developed, which was based upon the Periodic Reporting Format and Explanatory Notes, adopted by the World Heritage Committee, to facilitate the work of the States Parties. The Latin American and Caribbean States Parties prepared their reports according to this questionnaire (in MS-Word version), while all the information provided was compiled into a database manually for the preparation of the overall report on Periodic Reporting for this region.

In order to adequately manage the immense amount of information which was to be provided by the European States Parties, the World Heritage Centre created an electronic database (*electronic tool*) to simplify the information management. The *electronic tool* was developed in close cooperation with the Rapporteur and the Chairperson of the Working Group¹ and the Advisory Bodies, following the format of the questionnaire. Its development was funded by a major grant from the Flemish Funds in Trust and the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust. It permits all States Parties to electronically answer the questions contained in the questionnaire. For the future Periodic Reporting cycles, it is expected that all States Parties will be able to submit information via this electronic tool and to digitally update it as necessary. The questionnaire itself was revised for the European Periodic Report on the basis of previous experience, and to provide data in a form more suitable for analysis.

¹ An open working group was established at the meeting in Nicosia, Cyprus, in May 2003 for the European Periodic Reporting. Mr Tamas Fejerdy (Hungary) was elected Chairperson and Mr Christopher Young (United Kingdom) Rapporteur. The working group, which consisted of all States Parties, the Advisory Bodies and World Heritage Centre staff did not meet formally, but exchanged views over e-mail and internet.

Figure 1: Example of Section I report of a State Party using the Electronic Tool

Periodic Reporting, Section I

01 Introduction	
Status report for this paragraph:	
Date and time of last save:	03 / 01 / 2005 10 : 50 : 24
Last modified by:	Josef Stulc
Date and time of submission to the World Heritage Centre:	03 / 01 / 2005 10 : 50 : 24
01.01 State Party:	The Czech Republic
01.02 Year of adherence to the Convention:	1993
01.03 Organisation(s) or entity(ies) responsible for the preparation of this report:	
Organisation name and department:	National Institute for the Protection and Conservation of Monuments and Sites (NIPROCCOMOS) and (as the institution superior to it) Ministry of Culture.

The on-line tool was a breakthrough in terms of information management, in particular for the European region, where 48 States Parties reported on Section I and 248 World Heritage properties (European sites included on the World Heritage List up to 1998) are to be reported on in Section II. It was made available on-line in January 2004 in English and French, accompanied by explanatory notes providing guidance for the preparation of the report. The World Heritage Centre has compiled all the data on Section I and analysed it with the assistance of an *electronic analysis and statistical evaluation tool*. The on-line tool will also be used by all European States Parties reporting on Section II to be examined by the World Heritage Committee in 2006.

The overall acceptance of the *electronic tool* and revised questionnaire was positive. It will be important to evaluate and refine this methodology for the future cycles in order for Periodic Reporting to truly become a dynamic and effective tool for States Parties and for the successful implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*.

This report comprises the World Heritage Periodic Report on Section I for Europe, which provides an assessment of the overall application of the *World Heritage Convention* and proposals for a future Action Plan.

1.2. Methodology of the Report

One of the objectives of Periodic Reporting is to encourage States Parties to cooperate on a regional and sub-regional basis and exchange information and experiences in the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*. This regional and sub-regional approach to Periodic Reporting is a means to promote collaboration among States Parties. Furthermore, this approach allows for the specific characteristics and needs of the sub-region to be identified and incorporated into an overall strategy and action plan.

The examination of the European Periodic Report in 2005 and 2006 was determined by the World Heritage Committee in order for the quantity of information to be provided by the 48 States Parties and 248 World Heritage properties inscribed up to 1998, to be analysed adequately. In this respect, the World Heritage Centre presented to the World Heritage Committee at its 21st session held in Helsinki, Finland, in 2001 (WHC-01/CONF.208/24) the proposal to divide the European reporting into the Sections. Accordingly, Section I should be completed by all European States Parties in 2005 whereas Section II should be submitted for review in 2006. This arrangement permits the Committee to have an overall view of the legislative and administrative application of the *Convention* by all European States Parties. Furthermore, this approach allows for a comparative analysis of the specific situations within

the different sub-regions of Europe, as well as providing insight into the diversity of heritage preservation approaches in Europe.

In the preparatory phase of the European cycle (2001-2002) different methodologies for data collection were being discussed and the Nordic World Heritage Foundation started a pilot project with GRID-Arendal for Periodic Reporting. At the same time, the World Heritage Centre initiated a partnership with the Cultural Heritage Committee of the Council of Europe, who had created a European Heritage Network (HEREIN), an electronic databank on national policies. The idea was to create a synergy between Periodic Reporting (Section I) and HEREIN, and to further develop their system for data collection and information sharing on heritage policies in Europe. Although this partnership was endorsed by the World Heritage Committee in 2001, this tool was nevertheless not fully adaptable for the purpose of World Heritage Periodic Reporting and issues of information storage and rights were not solved. In addition, many of the 48 States Parties to the World Heritage Convention are not (yet) part of the HEREIN project. Nevertheless, an additional chapter was added to the HEREIN project to include some World Heritage information². As agreed with the Council of Europe the future potential of information sharing with HEREIN will be further explored, once the Periodic Report is finalized as well as with the GRID-Arendal system.

In commencing the regional Periodic Reporting process, the World Heritage Centre presented the Periodic Reporting exercise to the European States Parties at Information Meetings in 2002 and 2003 (see Table 3). The World Heritage Centre also informed all European States Parties by Circular Letters (see Table 1, below) and requested to identify national focal points, in both the cultural and natural heritage domain, to integrate all relevant information for the Periodic Reporting by the State Party.

Table 1: Circular letters sent to Permanent Delegations, National Commissions and focal points in Europe

Nr.	DATE	REFERENCE	SUBJECT/OBJET
14	27/11/02	CL/WHC/14/02	Periodic Reporting on the application of the <i>World Heritage Convention</i> and on the state of conservation of World Heritage properties in Europe and North America Soumission de rapports périodiques sur l'application de la <i>Convention du patrimoine mondial</i> et sur l'état de conservation des biens du patrimoine mondial en Europe et Amérique du Nord
19	28/12/03	CL/WHC/19	Periodic Reporting on the application of the <i>World Heritage Convention</i> and on the state of conservation of World Heritage properties in Europe Soumission de rapports périodiques sur l'application de la <i>Convention du patrimoine mondial</i> et sur l'état de conservation des biens du patrimoine mondial en Europe
6	02/11/04	CL/WHC.06/04	LAST REMINDER for the Submission of Section I of the Periodic Reporting on the application of the <i>World Heritage Convention</i> and on the state of conservation of World Heritage properties in Europe by <u>December 2004</u> Dernier rappel pour la soumission de la Section I des rapports périodiques sur l'application de la <i>Convention du patrimoine mondial</i> et sur l'état de conservation des biens du patrimoine mondial en Europe en <u>décembre 2004</u>
1	20/02/05	CL/WHC.01/05	Periodic Reporting on the application of the <i>World Heritage Convention</i> and on the state of conservation of World Heritage properties in EUROPE - SECTION II - Submission date: <u>31 October 2005</u> Soumission des rapports périodiques sur l'application de la <i>Convention du patrimoine mondial</i> et sur l'état de conservation des biens du patrimoine mondial en EUROPE – SECTION II – Date limite de soumission : <u>31 octobre 2005</u>

² See: [http://www.coe.int/T/E/Cultural_Co-operation/Heritage/European_Heritage_Network_\(HEREIN\)/](http://www.coe.int/T/E/Cultural_Co-operation/Heritage/European_Heritage_Network_(HEREIN)/)

The first joint European meeting of national focal points was held at the UNESCO-Council of Europe meeting in Nicosia (Cyprus) on 7 to 10 May 2003 which coincided with the “3rd Meeting of the European Heritage Network (HEREIN) national correspondents”. The participants of the meeting agreed to establish an open Working Group, to provide advice and support throughout the European Reporting process. The former Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee, Mr Tamás Fejérdy, was elected as Chair and Mr Christopher Young as the Rapporteur of the Working Group.

Collaboration on sub-regional levels was initiated after the Nicosia Meeting. The Nordic-Baltic Countries agreed to collaborate for the European Periodic Reporting process for their region through the Nordic World Heritage Foundation (NWHF). Further sub-regional collaboration evolved in Central and South Eastern Europe with meetings in Budapest (Hungary) for Central Europe and Trieste (Italy), for South-Eastern Europe. The Russian Federation offered to coordinate the Eastern European meetings, whereas the Mediterranean Countries and the Western European countries did not foresee coordination meetings in the sub-regional groups, despite several attempts by the World Heritage Centre. The German speaking countries met on two occasions and prepared a sub-regional report for their countries.

It should be noted that the sub-regional grouping of Europe is artificial and was chosen for the convenience of this exercise. However, inter-regional collaboration, cooperation and coordination already established among some countries and the geographical and geo-cultural locations of other countries were some of the motivations behind this division into sub-regions, as was the need to accentuate the diversity in the implementation of the *Convention* in Europe.

Table 2: Sub-Regional Grouping of States Parties in Europe

Nordic and Baltic European Region	Western European Region	Mediterranean European Region	Central and South Eastern European Region	Eastern European Region
Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Latvia, Lithuania, Sweden	Austria, Germany, Switzerland	Andorra, Portugal, Spain	Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia & Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Ukraine
8 States Parties	Belgium, France, Ireland, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Monaco, United Kingdom	Cyprus, Greece, Holy See, Italy, Israel, Malta, San Marino, Turkey	12 States Parties	7 States Parties
5 Sub-Regional Synthesis Reports				
48 States Parties				

Several Information Meetings were organised by the World Heritage Centre in UNESCO and during World Heritage Committee sessions since 2001 to ensure that all States Parties were kept up-to-date. All the relevant documents and information for the completion of the on-line

tool questionnaire were presented as well as discussed and an e-mail mailing network with all the focal-points was established.

The Advisory Bodies identified their focal points for the European Periodic Reporting exercise who were invited together with the Chair and the Rapporteur of the Working Group to some of the sub-regional meetings. Some national and sub-regional meetings were organised within small working groups without the explicit participation of the Advisory Bodies or the World Heritage Centre. In general, sub-regional cooperation has been successful and was at times a natural outcome in some of the identified groups, who have held sub-regional coordination meetings and continuous discussion. Although there has been little collaboration among countries in the Western European Group and the Mediterranean Group, national cooperation was greatly enhanced by the requirements of Periodic Reporting and also brought together all relevant stakeholders within the each country. Accordingly, meetings were mostly held on a national level (in particular for countries with more than 20 properties inscribed) in smaller working groups.

Table 3: European Sub-Regional Meetings and Information Meetings on Periodic Reporting

June 2002	Information Meeting during the 26 th session of the Committee	Budapest, Hungary
January 2003	Information meeting for all European States Parties, UNESCO Headquarters	Paris, France
May 2003	First Joint European and World Heritage network meeting	Nicosia, Cyprus
July 2003	Periodic Reporting Information Meeting, during 27 th session of the Committee	Paris, France
July 2003	Periodic Reporting meeting for site managers from German speaking countries	Brühl, Germany
September 2003	Periodic Reporting meeting for the Nordic and Baltic Countries	Riga, Latvia
September 2003	Periodic Reporting meeting for cultural heritage for Russia and Eastern European CIS countries	Moscow, Russian Federation
March 2004	South Eastern Europe Periodic Reporting Meeting	Trieste, Italy
March 2004	Europe Periodic Reporting Information Meeting, (as part of the Information Meeting of the States Parties to the World Heritage Convention)	Paris, France
April 2004	2 nd Information Meeting for site managers from German speaking countries	Potsdam, Germany
April/May 2004	Follow-up meeting Russia and CIS countries, Section II	Moscow, Russia
May 2004	Periodic Reporting Workshop for Central Europe	Visegrad, Hungary
May 2004	Periodic Reporting Meeting of the Iberian Peninsula	Lisbon, Portugal
June 2004	2 nd Sub-Regional meeting on Periodic Reporting for Nordic and Baltic Countries	Stockholm, Sweden
December 2004	Europe Periodic Reporting Information Meeting during the 7 th Extraordinary session of the Committee	Paris, France
April 2005	Central-Eastern European Periodic Reporting Meeting, Section II	Levoca, Slovakia
April 2005	3 rd Sub-Regional meeting on Periodic Reporting for Nordic and Baltic Countries, Section II	Copenhagen, Denmark

All the European States Parties and the sub-regional groups have established very different mechanisms for the preparation of their reports. Every State Party has invested great efforts into organising the reporting process at the national level. Considering the vast diversity of languages in Europe (even within different States Parties) as well as the variety of governmental structures and administrative arrangements, several States Parties translated the questionnaire into national languages to facilitate the report preparation and established national working groups. Detailed timetables for the completion of the reports were set-up to ensure that the documentation was compiled and translated in time for the deadline of 31 December 2004.

Table 4: Percentage of reports received in Sub-regions by the deadline of 31 December 2004

Sub-Region	31 December 2004 On-line and/or hard copy report
Nordic and Baltic Region	88%
Western European Region	40%
Mediterranean Region	82%
Central and South Eastern Region	50%
Eastern European Region	43%

All national reports have been entered into the on-line tool, which was made available to all States Parties in January 2004, after each State Party had officially appointed focal points. The deadline date for submission of reports was 31 December 2004, at which time 29 reports were received in either hard copy or through the on-line tool. Two States Parties from the Western European Group were the last to complete their reports, the last being submitted on 16 February 2005. The 100% reply rate (six weeks after the deadline) alone is an immense success for the electronic tool and the methodology proposed for the preparation of the report.

An *electronic analysis and statistical evaluation tool* has been developed in the World Heritage Centre which allows for most of the numerical data on Section I to be analysed. Many of the graphs and tables in this document have been prepared with this *tool*.

For the preparation of the sub-regional synthesis reports, the World Heritage Centre appointed international experts to assist in their preparation. This work was also supported by selected resource persons who have particular knowledge of the sub-regions and assisted with the overall analysis of the information contained in the sub-regional reports. The Nordic and Baltic Region was coordinated by the Nordic World Heritage Foundation, who co-arranged the sub-regional meetings and has been responsible for the drafting of the sub-regional synthesis report. For Western Europe, the Rapporteur of the Working Group fulfilled this task, for Central Europe its Chairperson, as well as the Chairperson of the UNESCO Working Group for South Eastern Europe (SEE), for Eastern Europe the Chair of the Russian World Heritage Committee, whereas for the Mediterranean Europe the focal point for Italy was selected.

The World Heritage Centre held informal meetings with the Chairperson and the Rapporteur of the Working Group in October 2004 as well as in March 2005. The international experts responsible for the sub-regional synthesis reports participated in the meeting in March 2005 which was arranged to review the draft reports as well as to jointly define the framework for an action plan as follow-up to the Periodic Reporting on Section I. In terms of the action plan, the Chair and Rapporteur as well as the experts emphasised that the completion of Section I separately from Section II, has disadvantages, in particular with regard to the formulation of final conclusions, follow-up actions and regional programmes. Administrative and legislative provisions for the implementation of the *Convention* and the identification of training needs and capacity building are closely related to site specific issues. Therefore, the conjunction of both Sections is significant for the identification of future actions.

Follow-up to the preliminary results of Periodic Reporting on Section I, the preparation of recommendations for Section II and reflections on the process and methodology applied in the European Reporting cycle will be the subject of a two-day meeting to be held in Berlin (Germany) between 7 and 11 November 2005. At the invitation of the German authorities, this meeting will assemble the representatives of the Working Group, all European focal

points for Periodic Reporting, with the participation of the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre. The meeting will consider the results of Periodic Reporting and in particular the means and methods needed to address the requirements effectively.

1.3. Structure of the Report

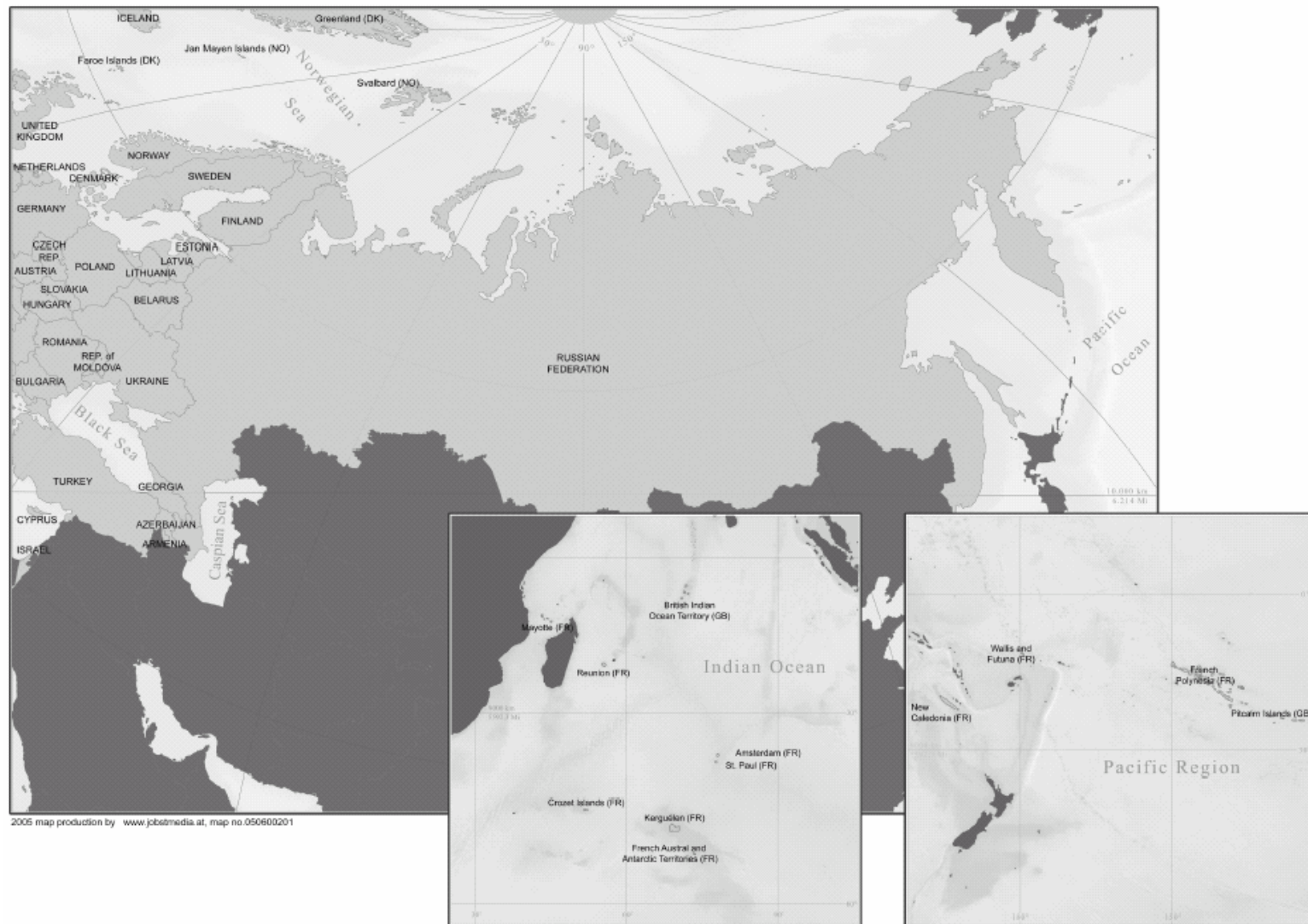
This report is structured according to the questionnaire for Periodic Reporting, draws conclusions from the sub-regional synthesis reports and proposes preliminary recommendations for the development of a regional action plan for the strengthened application of the *World Heritage Convention* in the region of Europe.

Divided into four chapters, *Chapter 1* describes the process and methodology applied for its preparation. *Chapter 2* introduces the reader to the diversity of the natural and cultural heritage of Europe and gives an overview of the implementation of the World Heritage Convention over the past thirty years. It summarises past research and information that is available in World Heritage Centre databases, technical reports and publications, working documents for the World Heritage Statutory Bodies and reports of the sessions of the World Heritage Committee and information available on European organisations and institutions. *Chapter 3* contains an analysis of the States Parties report on Section I on the application of relevant articles of the *World Heritage Convention* dealing with administrative and legal measures. *Chapter 4* provides a reflection on the results of *Chapter 3* and is based on the critical analysis of the sub-regional reports. The suggestions for follow-up and recommended actions made by States Parties in the Periodic Reports have been the basis for the proposals towards an Action Plan.

Figure 2: Map of Europe and Overseas territories 1



Figure 3: Map of Europe and Overseas territories 2



2. THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE *WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION* IN EUROPE

Considering the wealth of cultural and natural heritage as well as the diversity of cultures and languages in Europe, this Chapter is essential in order to lay emphasis on the array of the application of the *World Heritage Convention* by States Parties in Europe. Since the adoption of the *Convention* in 1972 and the Global Strategy in 1994, its implementation in Europe and especially Eastern and Central Europe, has seen considerable developments in terms of identification of World Heritage, international assistance and training, particularly following the political changes in Europe in the 1990s.

The implementation of the *Convention* in Europe is a very dynamic process. Over the past thirty years, knowledge and experience in the conservation and preservation of natural and cultural heritage has changed and advanced considerably. In Europe, this change in perception of heritage preservation has greatly influenced the attitudes towards identification of heritage, brought about legislative renewal and adjustments and furthered research and expert knowledge in this field. Changes in legal systems, institutions and administrations in many European countries have, however caused loss of institutional memory and absence of records. Therefore, the data provided in the Periodic Reports has to be interpreted taking into consideration the changes which have taken place as well as the differences in interpretation of terminologies. In *Chapter 2*, the World Heritage Centre has tried to complement the information provided by States Parties with additional data and available research.

2.1. An Introduction to the Cultural and Natural Heritage of the Region

Geography and environment

Europe is geologically and geographically considered to be a peninsula, the westernmost part of Eurasia. It is often considered to be a continent, which may be more a cultural perception than a geographic definition, so a “sub continent” may be more exact. Geographical Europe is delimited to the north by the Arctic Ocean, to the west by the Atlantic Ocean (including Iceland and Greenland), to the south by the Mediterranean Sea and the Black Sea, and to the east by the Ural Mountains and the Caspian Sea. In any case this definition does not coincide with the 48 countries which are the subject of the European Periodic Reporting exercise, which includes all of the Russian Federation (and not only the western part to the Ural) as well as Turkey and Israel in addition to some overseas territories (ranging from the sub-arctic to the tropics) of France, The Netherlands, the United Kingdom and Norway. Europe also includes the subtropical islands of the Canaries (Spain), Madeira and Azores (Portugal).

The topography and relief in Europe shows enormous variation within relatively small areas. The southern regions, with the Alps, Pyrenees, Carpathians and the Caucasus are more mountainous. Moving north and east the terrain descends to hilly uplands, and low plains, which cover vast areas in the east. Uplands also exist along the northwestern seaboard, in the western British Isles and Norway.

This description does not do justice to the diversity of Europe, as the Iberian Peninsula, Italy, Aegean Islands, etc. contain their own complex features. This generalization of the relief of Europe already illustrates its complex geological features as well as the regions of many different sub-regions, which are home to separate nation states and diverse cultural systems throughout its rich historical development.

In terms of biogeographical regions, Europe covers tundra and arctic, temperate and arid regions (semi arid and dry sub-humid). It shows a fine pattern of biogeographical provinces and ecoregions in Europe, which explain its varied biological and agricultural diversity.

Historical developments

It would be impossible to describe the diverse and complex history of Europe from Prehistory to today. However the rich cultural heritage of the region, its high number of cultural World Heritage properties and potential sites is intrinsically linked to this history. Europe's cultural history starts in the Paleolithic period and some of the origins of European culture are attributed to Ancient Greece and the Roman Empire. The influence of the Roman Empire remained strong in Europe for centuries after its decline. The vibrant cultures of Europe in the post Roman period are variously influenced by its legacy, by Christianity and Islam and by successive waves of migration.

Many of the characteristics of the Renaissance and the development of modern Europe can be traced back to the so-called Middle Ages which were a seminal era of European history. The Renaissance itself was an influential cultural movement, marking modern history, discovery, exploration and scientific revolution and knowledge. This also marked the expansion of Europe and the building of large colonial empires by Denmark, Portugal, Spain, France, Belgium, The Netherlands and the United Kingdom with vast holdings in Africa, the Americas, and Asia³.

Following the period of discoveries revolutionary ideas and democracy propagated across the continent. After much tension, civil unrest and wars, Europe entered a stable period.

The Industrial Revolution in the late 18th century was another key occurrence, leading to economic and scientific evolution and an immense population increase.

Europe is a diversity of different cultures and religions, West and East, North and South, Catholicism and Protestantism, Eastern Orthodoxy, Judaism, and Islam, which influenced the diverse heritage of the region. Many cultural innovations and movements, which spread across the globe, have originated in Europe.

After the First World War, many States in Europe took their present form. At the same time both the First and Second World War destroyed much of the cultural heritage and led to international protection efforts in safeguarding this heritage. After the Second World War, Europe was more or less divided politically and economically into two blocks through the Cold War: the communist East and the capitalist West. These developments resulted also in different heritage policies and perceptions. Europe today evolved with the break up of the divide in the 1990s, the fall of the Berlin Wall and the ongoing extension of the European Union to the East.

2.2. The World Heritage Convention

An overview of the involvement of States Parties in Europe commencing with the initial operational phase of the *World Heritage Convention* is presented in the following Chapter.

³ Some of this history and related colonial heritage has been covered in the Periodic Reports of Africa, Latin America and Asia.

2.2.1. States Parties

Among the first 20 States Parties to sign the *Convention* after its adoption in 1972, were Bulgaria, Cyprus, France, Switzerland and Yugoslavia which led to its entering into force in 1975. Europe has the most complete ratification rate of all regions. To date Liechtenstein is the only country in Europe that has not ratified the *Convention* and is not a Member State of UNESCO. The most recent ratification was the Republic of Moldova in September 2002.

Table 5: Year of ratification of World Heritage Convention by States Parties in Europe

YEAR of ratification	STATES PARTIES
1973	-
1974	Bulgaria
1975	Cyprus, France, Switzerland
1976	Germany, Poland
1977	Norway
1978	Italy, Malta, Monaco
1979	Denmark
1980	Portugal
1981	Greece
1982	Holy See, Spain
1983	Luxembourg, Turkey
1984	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
1985	Hungary, Sweden
1986	-
1987	Finland
1988	Belarus, Russian Federation, Ukraine
1989	Albania,
1990	Romania,
1991	Andorra, Ireland, San Marino
1992	Austria, Croatia, Georgia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Slovenia
1993	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Czech Republic, Slovakia
1994	-
1995	Estonia, Iceland, Latvia
1996	Belgium
1997	the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
1998	-
1999	Israel
2000	-
2001	Serbia and Montenegro
2002	Republic of Moldova
2003	-
2004	-

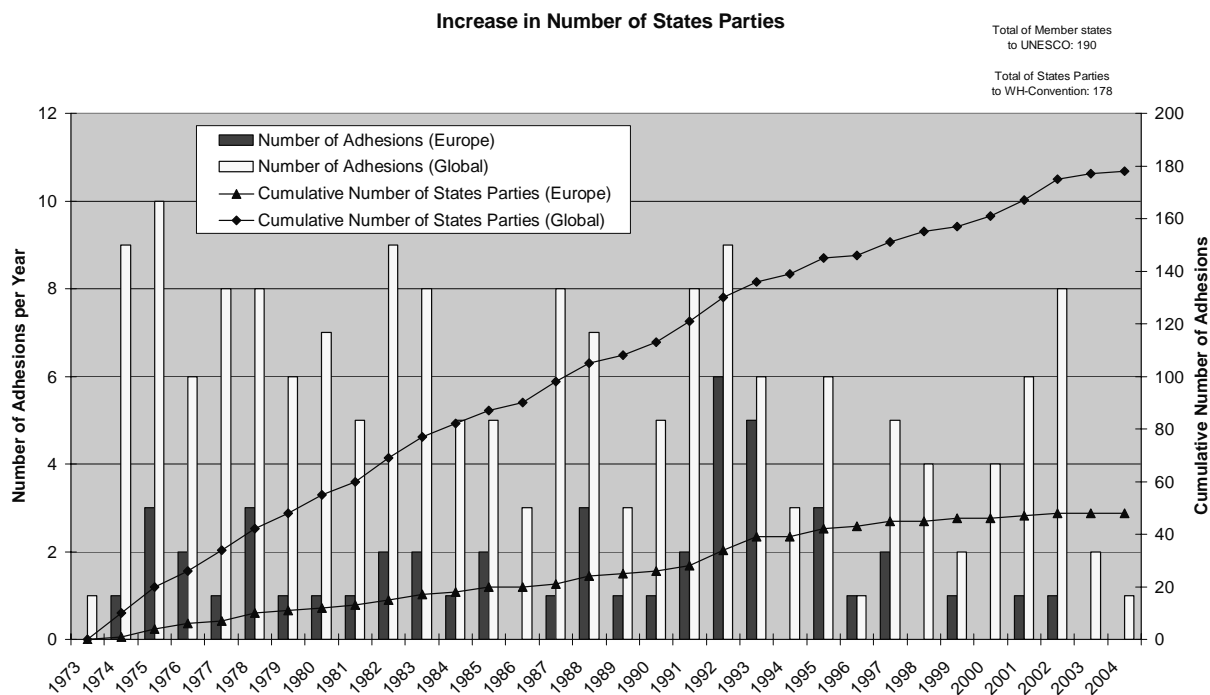
Many European countries ratified the *Convention* until 1991, on average two countries per year. A notable rise in numbers of European States Parties and increased participation in World Heritage activities is visible, in particular, after the change in the political landscape in the 1990's in Eastern and South Eastern Europe. This particular situation in Europe had a significant impact on the growth of the World Heritage List and requests for International Assistance submitted from those States Parties also increased considerably.

Table 6: Historical information concerning States Parties to the World Heritage Convention in Europe

STATE PARTY	DATE of Deposit of the original instrument of ratification/acceptance /accession	NOTES	STATE PARTY
Federal Republic of Germany	23 August 1976	Through the accession of the German Democratic Republic to the Federal Republic of Germany, with effect from 3 October 1990, the two German States have united to form one sovereign State	<i>Germany</i> 23 August 1976 (ratification)
German Democratic Republic (GDR)	12 December 1988		
U.S.S.R.	12 October 1988	After the dissolution of the former USSR, the Russian Federation informed the UN Secretary-General that as at 24 December 1991 the Russian Federation maintained full responsibility for all the rights and obligations of the USSR under the Charter of the United Nations and multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General. Belarus and Ukraine ratified the Convention in 1988 in their quality of UNESCO member States (since 1954).	<i>Russian Federation</i> 12 October 1988 (ratification)
Belarusian SSR	12 October 1988		<i>Belarus</i> 12 October 1988 (ratification)
Ukrainian SSR	12 October 1988		<i>Ukraine</i> 12 October 1988 (ratification)
			<i>Armenia</i> 5 September 1993 (notification of succession)
			<i>Azerbaijan</i> 16 December 1993 (ratification)
			<i>Estonia</i> 27 October 1995 (ratification)
			<i>Georgia</i> 4 November 1992 (notification of succession)
		<i>Latvia</i> 10 January 1995 (acceptance)	
		<i>Lithuania</i> 31 March 1992 (acceptance)	
		<i>Republic of Moldova</i> 23 September 2002 (ratification)	
Yugoslavia	26 May 1975	On 11 September 2001, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia notified its succession to UNESCO treaties to which the former Yugoslavia was a party. As of 4 February 2003, the name of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was changed to Serbia and Montenegro.	<i>Serbia and Montenegro</i> 11 September 2001 (notification of succession) <i>Bosnia and Herzegovina</i> 12 July 1993 (notification of succession) <i>Croatia</i> 6 July 1992 (notification of succession) <i>The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia</i> 30 April 1997 (notification of succession) <i>Slovenia</i> 5 November 1992 (notification of succession)
Czech and Slovak Federal Republic	15 October 1990	The Czech and Slovak Federal Republic was dissolved on 31 December 1992 and, as of 1 January 1993, was separated into two distinct States: the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic	<i>Czech Republic</i> 26 March 1993 (notification of succession) <i>Slovakia</i> 31 March 1993 (notification of succession)

A total of 17 countries became States Parties to the *Convention* in the years between 1992 and 1997. This is partly due to the additional number of countries in the South Eastern and Central European Region following the political changes in the regions along with an increased awareness of the *World Heritage Convention*. With a total of 180 States Parties further adhesions to the *Convention* has nearly reached its close. The current number of Member States to UNESCO is 190 with six Associate Members.

Figure 4: Increase in Number of States Parties (World and European Region) from 1972 to July 2004



31.12.2004

Overseas territories

It should be noted that several other islands and territories in the Caribbean and the South Pacific participate in the *Convention* through the governments of France, The Netherlands and the United Kingdom. A number of World Heritage properties are located in these territories and will be reported on in Section II⁴.

International Conventions

The 7th extraordinary session of the World Heritage Committee held in 2004, considered other standard-setting instruments elaborated by UNESCO aiming at the protection of cultural heritage and underlined the importance of the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and its 1954 and 1999 Protocols; the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property; the 2001 Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage; and the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. It specifically invited States Parties to consider adhering to other international, regional and sub-regional instruments related to the protection of natural and cultural heritage.

⁴ Please also see the Periodic Reports for the Latin America and the Caribbean and Asia and the Pacific for cross references.

Table 7: Participation in international conventions for the protection of cultural and natural heritage

State Party	UNESCO						Council of Europe				
	Hague Convention 1954	Hague Protocol 1954	Unesco Convention 1970	Hague 2nd Protocol 1999	Underwater Convention 2001	Intangible Convention 2003	London Convention 1969	Delphi Convention 1985	Granada Convention 1985	Valetta Convention 1992	Unidroit 1995
Albania	Accs	Accs	Accp								
Andorra									Rat	Rat	
Armenia	Notif	Notif	Notif							Rat	
Austria	Rat	Rat		Rat			Rat		Sig		
Azerbaijan	Accs	Accs	Rat	Rat						Accs	Accs
Belarus	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat							
Belgium	Rat	Rat					Rat		Rat	Sig	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Notif	Notif	Notif				Succ		Succ		
Bulgaria	Accs	Accs	Rat	Rat	Rat		Den		Accs	Rat	
Croatia	Notif	Notif	Notif		Rat		Den		Succ	Rat	Rat
Cyprus	Accs	Accs	Rat	Rat			Den	Sig	Rat	Rat	Accs
Czech Republic	Notif	Notif	Notif						Rat	Rat	
Denmark	Rat	Rat	Rat				Rat		Rat	Sig	
Estonia	Accs		Rat						Rat	Rat	
Finland	Accs	Accs	Rat	Accp					Rat	Rat	Rat
Former Yugoslav Rep. of Macedonia	Notif	Notif	Notif	Accs			Succ		Succ		
France	Rat	Rat	Rat				Den		Rat	Rat	Sig
Georgia	Notif	Notif	Notif						Rat	Rat	Sig
Germany	Rat	Rat					Den		Rat	Rat	
Greece	Rat	Rat	Rat				Rat	Sig	Rat	Sig	
Holy See	Accs	Accs					Den			Rat	
Hungary	Rat	Accs	Rat						Accs	Rat	Rat
Iceland			Rat				Rat				
Ireland									Rat	Rat	
Israel	Rat	Accs									
Italy	Rat	Rat	Rat				Rat	Sig	Rat	Sig	Rat
Latvia	Accs	Accs							Rat	Rat	
Lithuania	Accs	Accs	Rat	Accs					Rat	Rat	Rat
Luxembourg	Rat	Rat					Rat		Sig	Sig	
Malta							Den		Rat	Rat	
Monaco	Rat	Rat								Rat	
Netherlands	Rat	Rat							Rat	Sig	Sig
Norway	Rat	Rat							Rat	Rat	Accs
Poland	Rat	Rat	Rat							Rat	
Portugal	Rat		Rat				Den	Sig	Rat	Rat	Rat
Republic of Moldova	Accs	Accs							Rat	Rat	
Romania	Rat	Rat	Accp				Sig		Rat	Rat	Rat
Russian Federation	Rat	Rat	Rat				Accs		Accs	Sig	Sig
San Marino	Rat	Rat								Sig	
Serbia and Montenegro	Notif	Notif	Notif	Accs					Succ		
Slovakia	Notif	Notif	Notif	Rat					Rat	Rat	Accs
Slovenia	Notif	Notif	Notif	Accs			Den		Succ	Rat	Accs
Spain	Rat	Accs	Rat	Rat			Accs		Rat	Sig	Accs
Sweden	Accs	Accs	Rat				Den		Rat	Rat	
Switzerland	Accs	Accs	Accp	Rat			Den		Rat	Rat	Sig
Turkey	Accs	Accs	Rat					Sig	Rat	Rat	
Ukraine	Rat	Rat	Rat							Rat	
United Kingdom			Accp				Den		Rat	Rat	

20.1.05

Accs: Accession;
Accp: Acceptance;
App: Approval;

Cont: Continuation;
Den: Denunciation;
D Succ: Declaration of Succession
Succ: Succession;

Notif: Notification;
Rat: Ratification;
Sig: Signature;

State Party	UNESCO	Council of Europe			UNEP			
	Ramsar Convention 1971	Bern Convention 1979	Florence Convention 2000	CITES 1973	Bonn Convention 1979	Basel Convention 1989	Biodiversity Convention 1992	Alpine Convention 1991
Albania	Accs	Rat		Accs	Rat	Accs	Accs	
Andorra		Rat				Accs		
Armenia	Accs		Rat			Accs	Accp	
Austria	Accs	Rat		Accs		Rat	Rat	Rat
Azerbaijan	Accs	Accs	Sig	Accs		Accs	App	
Belarus	Notif			Accs	Rat	Accs	Rat	
Belgium	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Notif					Accs	Accs	
Bulgaria	Sig Rat	Accs	Rat	Accs	Rat	Accs	Rat	
Croatia	Notif	Rat	Rat	Accs	Rat	Accs	Rat	
Cyprus	Accs	Rat	Sig	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	
Czech Republic	Notif	Rat	Rat	D Succ	Rat	Succ	App	
Denmark	Accs	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	App	Rat	
Estonia	Rat	Accs		Accs		Accs	Rat	
Finland	Rat	Rat	Sig	Accs	Rat	Accp	Accp	
Former Yugoslav Rep. of Macedonia	Notif	Rat	Rat	Accs	Rat	Accs	Accs	
France	Rat	Rat	Sig	App	Rat	App	Rat	Rat
Georgia	Accs			Accs	Rat	Accs	Accs	
Germany	Rat	Rat		Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat
Greece	Accs	Rat	Sig	Accs	Rat	Rat	Rat	
Holy See								
Hungary	Accs	Accs		Accs	Rat	App	Rat	
Iceland	Accs	Rat		Accs		Accs	Rat	
Ireland	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	
Israel	Rat			Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	
Italy	Rat	Rat	Sig	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat
Latvia	Accs	Rat		Accs	Rat	Accs	Rat	
Lithuania	Accs	Rat	Rat	Accs	Rat	Accs	Rat	
Luxembourg	Rat	Rat	Sig	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	
Malta	Accs	Rat	Sig	Accs	Rat	Accs	Rat	
Monaco	Accs	Accs		Accs	Rat	Accs	Rat	Rat
Netherlands	Accs	Rat		Rat	Rat	Accp	Accp	
Norway	Sig Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	
Poland	Accs	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	
Portugal	Rat	Rat	Sig	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	
Republic of Moldova	Accs	Accs	Rat	Accs	Rat	Accs	Rat	
Romania	Accs	Accs	Rat	Accs	Rat	Accs	Rat	
Russian Federation	Rat			Cont		Rat	Rat	
San Marino			Rat				Rat	
Serbia and Montenegro	Notif			Accs		Accs	Rat	
Slovakia	Notif	Rat		D Succ	Rat	Succ	App	
Slovenia	Notif	Rat	Rat	Accs	Rat	Accs	Rat	Rat
Spain	Accs	Rat	Sig	Accs	Rat	Rat	Rat	
Sweden	Sig Rat	Rat	Sig	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	
Switzerland	Rat	Rat	Sig	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat
Turkey	Accs	Rat	Rat	Accs		Rat	Rat	
Ukraine	Notif	Rat	Sig	Accs	Rat	Accs	Rat	
United Kingdom	Rat	Rat		Rat	Rat	Rat	Rat	

20.1.05

Accs: Accession;
Accp: Acceptance;
App: Approval;

Cont: Continuation;
Den: Denunciation;
D Succ: Declaration of Succession
Succ: Succession;

Notif: Notification;
Rat: Ratification;
Sig: Signature;

2.2.2. The World Heritage Committee

Active involvement of European countries in the work of the *Convention* through participation in World Heritage Committee membership is illustrated in Table 8 below. Eastern and South Eastern European representation in the Committee commenced in the early years of the *Convention*, with Cyprus, Bulgaria, Poland and Turkey being members between late 1970s to late 1980s. This was followed by a long period without any Eastern European State Party being represented in the Committee until 1997, when Hungary was elected, followed by the Russian Federation in 2001 and Lithuania in 2003.

Table 8: European States Parties with overview of World Heritage Committee membership

State Party	DATE OF RATIFICATION OF CONVENTION	Years of Mandates to the World Heritage Committee	Total of years
Albania	10/07/1989	-	-
Andorra	03/01/1997	-	-
Armenia	05/09/1993	-	-
Austria	18/12/1992	-	-
Azerbaijan	16/03/1994	-	-
Belarus	12/10/1988	-	-
Belgium	24/07/1996	1999-2003	4 years
Bosnia and Herzegovina	12/07/1993	-	-
Bulgaria	07/03/1974	1978-1983 ; 1985-1991	11 years
Croatia	06/07/1992	-	-
Cyprus	14/08/1975	1980-1987 ; 1991-1997	13 years
Czech Republic	01/01/1993	-	-
Denmark	25/07/1979	-	-
Estonia	27/10/1995	-	-
Finland	04/03/0987	1997-2003	6 years
France	27/06/1975	1976-1978 ; 1978-1985 ; 1987-1993 ; 1993-1999	21 years
Georgia	04/11/1992	-	-
Germany	23/08/1976	1976-1978 ; 1980-1987 ; 1991-1997	15 years
Greece	17/07/1981	1985-1991 ; 1997-2003	12 years
Holy See	07/10/1982	-	-
Hungary	15/07/1985	1997-2003	6 years
Iceland	19/12/1995	-	-
Ireland	16/09/1991	-	-
Israel	06/10/1999	-	-
Italy	23/06/1978	1978-1985 ; 1987-1993 ; 1993-1999 ; 1999-2001	21 years
Latvia	10/04/1995	-	-
Lithuania	31/03/1992	2003-2007	4 years
Luxembourg	28/09/1983	-	-
Malta	14/11/1978	1995-2001	6 years
Monaco	07/11/1978	-	-
The Netherlands	26/08/1992	2003-2007	4 years
Norway	12/05/1977	1983-1989 ; 2003-2007	10 years
Poland	29/06/1976	1976-1978	2 years
Portugal	30/09/1980	1999-2005	6 years
Republic of Moldova	23/09/2002	-	-
Romania	16/05/1990	-	-
Russian Federation	12/10/1988	2001-2005	4 years
San Marino	18/10/1991	-	-
Serbia and Montenegro	11/09/2001	-	-
Slovakia	01/01/1993	-	-
Slovenia	28/10/1992	-	-
Spain	04/05/1982	1991-1997	6 years
Sweden	22/01/1985	-	-

Switzerland	17/09/1975	1978-1985	7 years
the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	30/04/1997	-	-
Turkey	16/03/1983	1983-1989	6 years
Ukraine	12/10/1988	-	-
United Kingdom	29/05/1984	2001-2005	4 years

A number of World Heritage Committee meetings were held in Europe in the years from 1980 to 2002. The following sessions were hosted in European States Parties with the names of the elected Chairpersons: **1980** - 4th session held in Paris (France) with Mr Michel Parent as Chairperson; **1983** - 7th session held in Naples (Italy) with Ms Vlad-Borrelli as Chairperson; **1995** - 19th session held in Berlin (Germany) with Mr Horst Winkelmann as Chairperson; **1997** - 21st session held in Naples (Italy) with Mr Francesco Francioni as Chairperson; **2001** - 25th session held in Helsinki (Finland) with Mr Henrik Lilius as Chairperson; **2002** - 26th session held in Budapest (Hungary) with Mr Tamás Fejérdy as Chairperson.

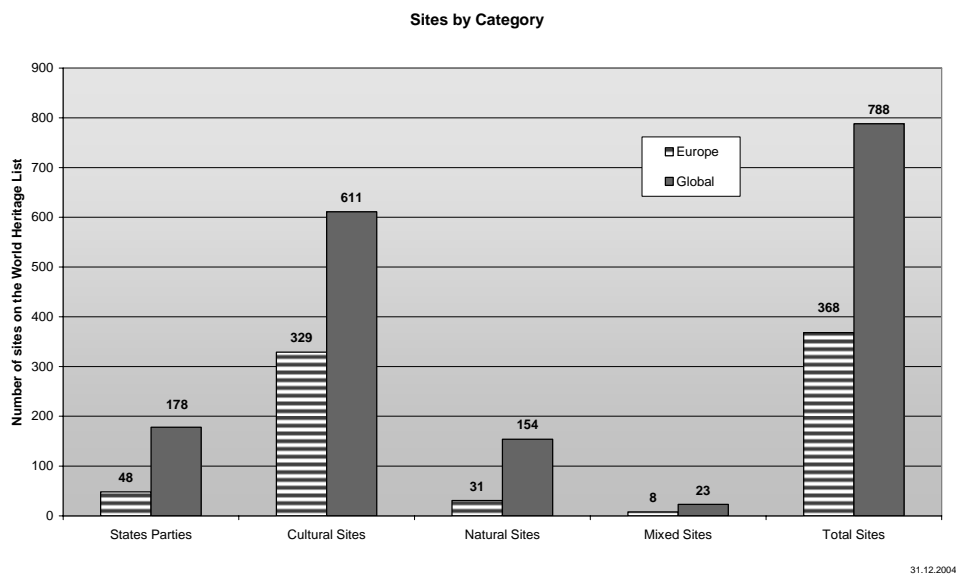
At the invitation of Lithuania, the 30th session of the World Heritage Committee (2006) is proposed to be held in Vilnius.

2.3. Identification of World Heritage in Europe

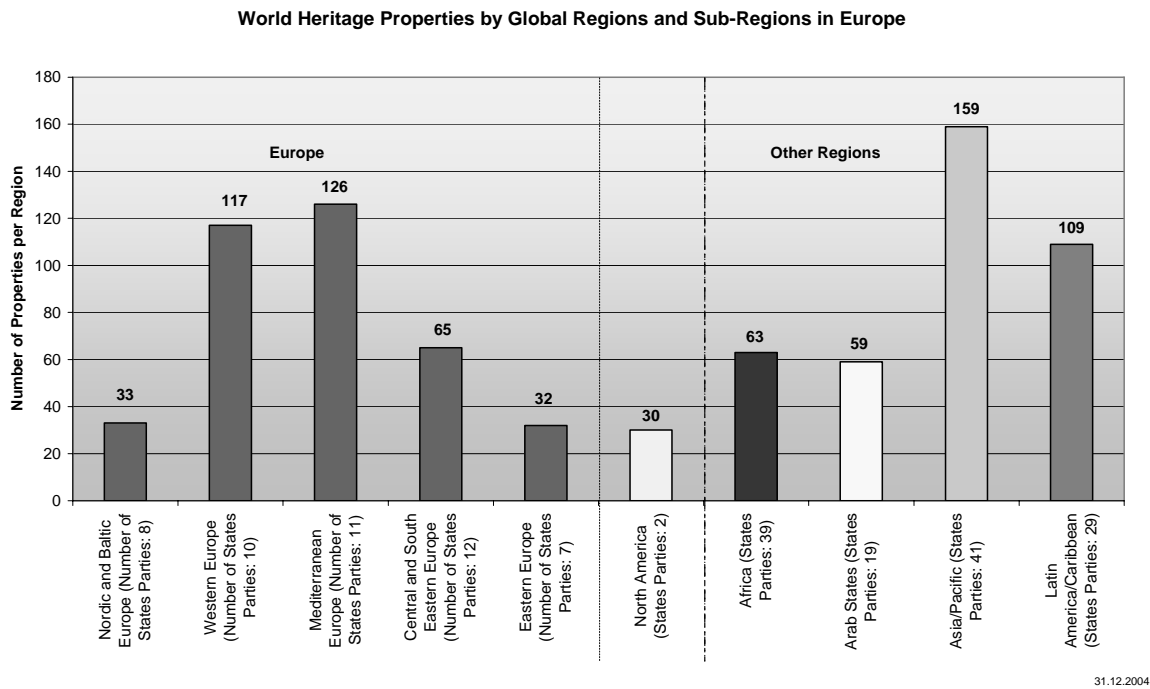
2.3.1. The World Heritage List

Since the first sites were inscribed in 1978, the World Heritage List has continuously increased. In Europe the total of properties currently inscribed is 368. The total number of cultural heritage properties in Europe comprises 329 which are more than half of the overall amount of cultural heritage inscribed on the World Heritage List, which number 611. On the other hand, the number of natural heritage properties in Europe is relatively low, 31 natural properties in comparison to a total of 154. The same applies for mixed heritage sites which number 8 in Europe in comparison to 23 in total inscribed on the World Heritage List.

Figure 5: Comparison of cultural, natural and mixed sites inscribed on the World Heritage List in Europe and Globally.



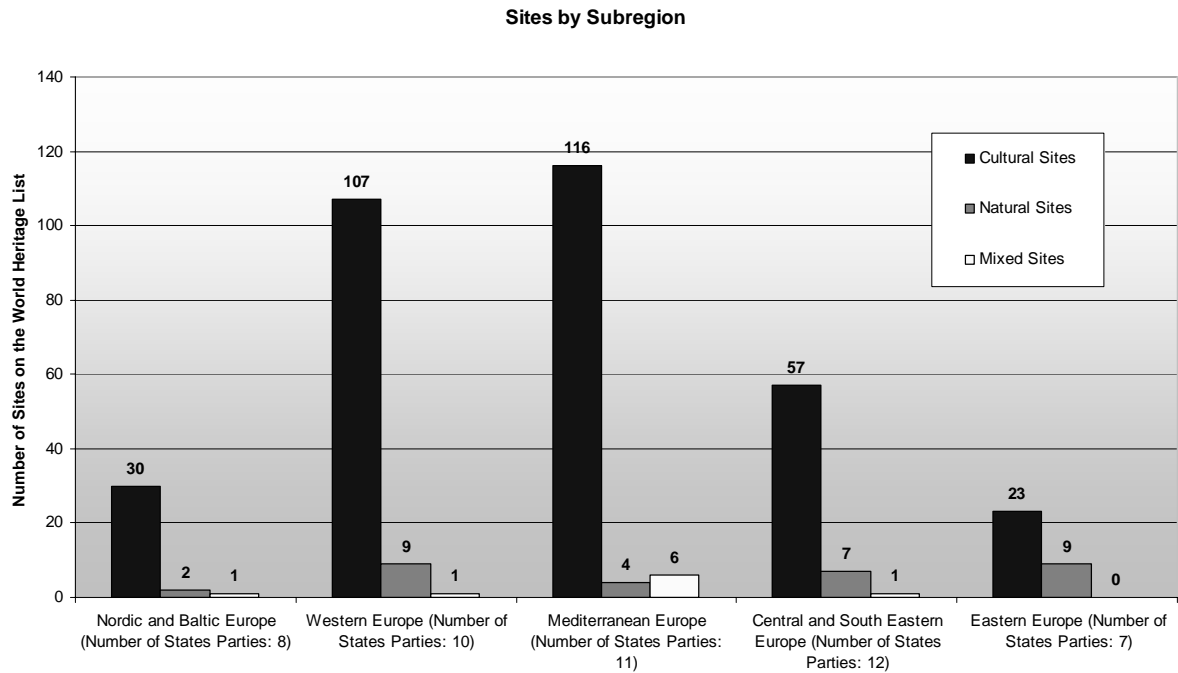
The following Figure 6 provides a comparison of the distribution of World Heritage properties between European sub-regions and global regions.

Figure 6: World Heritage Properties by global regions and sub-regions in Europe

The increasing predominance of some regions and types of heritage has widened the gap, both between cultural and natural heritage and between countries. Within Europe, the reasons for these gaps have to be seen in relation to several factors. In terms of number of properties, several States Parties that were very active in the early years of the *Convention* have acquired sufficient knowledge and practice in the preparation of nominations and have submitted nominations on average every second year. Other countries have experienced constraints in terms of technical capacities for the preparation of nominations and lack of effective legal systems and management structures which have hindered the nomination and inscription process. The predominance of architectural monuments, religious properties and historic urban heritage can be explained by the historically rooted concept and approach to heritage preservation which very much concentrated on single monumental entities. In recent years, the diversity of cultural heritage is being recognised by inclusion of technological and agricultural heritage, cultural landscapes, and cultural routes, and by recognition of cultural associations encompassing intangible values of monuments and landscapes.

The analysis of sites inscribed on the World Heritage List and Tentative Lists undertaken by ICOMOS and IUCN, as requested by the 24th and the 26th sessions of the World Heritage Committee, provides more detailed studies of the types of heritage⁵. Cultural heritage properties in Europe inscribed on the World Heritage List are predominantly historical centres or cities and religious monuments followed by architectural ensembles and archaeological sites. Although an increasing amount of industrial heritage properties have been inscribed in recent years as well as cultural landscape, these types of sites are relatively under-represented. A more detailed analysis will be made in Section II of Periodic Reporting.

⁵ WHC.04/28.COM/INF.13A and WHC.04/28.COM/INF.13B

Figure 7: Number of cultural, natural and mixed properties by sub-region in Europe

31.12.2004

Only 19 of the 48 States Parties in Europe have natural heritage sites, while mixed heritage sites are located in six States Parties. Natural heritage properties are mainly vast wilderness areas and national parks and sites of geological significance. Only recently (2004), two sites in the Arctic region have been inscribed. There is great potential for other natural and cultural heritage sites to be identified in the Arctic region. Similarly, potential sites in the Alpine region and the steppes of Eastern Europe have not been satisfactorily reflected on the World Heritage List. IUCN identified that lake systems, temperate grasslands and cold winter deserts have not been adequately represented on the World Heritage List.

IUCN also referred in its analysis of the World Heritage List to the importance of national, regional and other international protected area systems for natural heritage preservation, in particular the regional networks such as Natura 2000 as well as the Ramsar sites⁶, Biosphere Reserves and Geoparks. The degree of human intervention in many parts of Europe may limit the possibilities of future natural World Heritage nominations.

Since 1995 the World Heritage Centre has cooperated with the Council of Europe in the preparation of the European Landscape Convention to enhance the protection of this type of property in Europe. European States Parties are encouraged to also make use of this Convention for the protection and management of their landscapes.

To address the underrepresentation of natural heritage from Europe and following IUCN/WCPA Parks For Life Action Plan (1994), an identification study «Potential Natural World Heritage Sites in Europe» has been finalized. To address the under-representation of geological and fossil sites, a special World Heritage session to identify potential sites was organized at an International Geological Congress held in Sofia, Bulgaria, in June 1998. The number of incoming nominations and the number of cultural landscapes on Tentative Lists illustrate the need for thematic studies (such as vineyard landscapes in Europe etc.) to identify

⁶ Designated for inclusion in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance under the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971).

the sites of outstanding universal value within the region. Furthermore, cooperation with other instruments, conventions and programmes (European Landscape Convention, Pan-European Strategy, Council of Europe, etc.) has to be strengthened.

Although the number of World Heritage properties in Europe is very high, a great number of Eastern and South Eastern European States Parties have three or less, or no World Heritage properties inscribed. Table 9 below, lists States Parties to the *World Heritage Convention* by number of sites inscribed on their territories. This facilitates a clear comparison to be made between the States Parties with three or less, or no World Heritage properties inscribed and those States Parties with numerous sites, showing that these are not only European States Parties.

Table 9: Number of World Heritage properties up to 2004 located in European States Parties

Number of World Heritage sites	State Parties in Europe	Total Number of States Parties	Total Number of States Parties in Europe
0 WH sites	<u>Monaco, Republic of Moldova, San Marino,</u>	43	3
1 WH site	<u>Albania, Andorra, Azerbaijan, Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Luxembourg, Slovenia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia,</u>	35	9
2 WH sites	<u>Belarus, Holy See, Ireland, Ukraine</u>	18	4
3 WH sites	<u>Armenia, Cyprus, Georgia, Israel, Lithuania, Malta,</u>	17	6
4 WH sites	<u>Denmark,</u>	10	1
5 WH sites	<u>Norway, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia,</u>	10	3
6 WH sites	<u>Croatia, Finland, Switzerland,</u>	9	3
7 WH sites	<u>The Netherlands, Romania,</u>	7	2
8 WH sites	<u>Austria, Belgium, Hungary,</u>	6	3
9 WH sites	<u>Bulgaria, Turkey</u>	2	2
10 WH sites	-	1	-
12 WH sites	<u>Czech Republic, Poland</u>	3	2
13 WH sites	<u>Portugal, Sweden</u>	3	2
16 WH sites	<u>Greece,</u>	2	1
17 WH sites	-	1	-
20 WH sites	-	1	-
21 WH sites	<u>Russian Federation</u>	1	1
24 WH sites	-	1	-
26 WH sites	<u>United Kingdom</u>	2	1
28 WH sites	-	-	-
30 WH sites	<u>Germany</u>	2	1
38 WH sites	<u>Spain</u>	1	1
39 WH sites	<u>Italy</u>	1	1

*The numbers in this table include transboundary or transnational properties.

It should be noted that in recent years several States Parties in Europe have invested great efforts in taking account of the priorities identified by the World Heritage Committee and the gap analysis by the Advisory Bodies and have increasingly nominated properties from underrepresented categories. Furthermore, several States Parties in Europe, notably in the Western European region, have provided expert and financial assistance to States Parties in other regions for the preparation of Tentative Lists and nominations.

2.3.2. Tentative Lists

In recent years, activities of the World Heritage Centre concentrated on European regions currently underrepresented on the World Heritage List and where, in the past, nominations had not been successful partly due to the lack of technical capacities or insufficient information and documentation. These activities were concerned mostly with the Caucasus Region, the Baltic States and Central Eastern Europe.

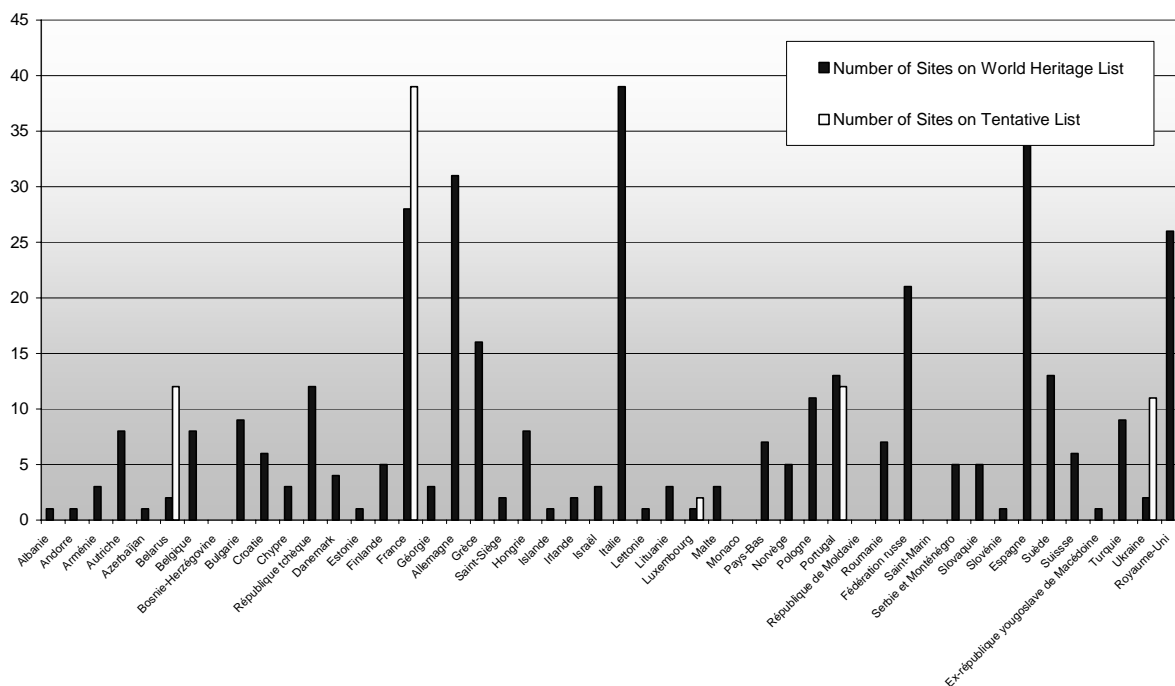
In the Nordic countries, coordination on Tentative Lists began as early as in 1986. In the framework of the Nordic Council of Ministers cooperation, an interdisciplinary project was started in 1994 which focused on the identification of natural heritage and cultural landscapes in the Nordic countries. The report, which was published in 1996, was the first example of a successful initiative to harmonise Tentative Lists in a region. Nominations which have been presented since then have largely been based on the recommendations of this project.

Following the requirements in *Operational Guidelines* and the Committee's repeated recommendation to States Parties for the harmonisation of Tentative Lists on a regional and sub-regional level, the World Heritage Centre in close collaboration with the Advisory Bodies, organised and encouraged sub-regional Tentative List harmonisation meetings, thereby also addressing the shortcomings and gaps in certain types of natural and cultural heritage in these regions.

Table 10: Tentative List Harmonisation Meetings and Activities in Europe

Region	Title	Place and date	Funding source
Nordic Countries	Nordic World Heritage: Proposals of new areas for the UNESCO World Heritage List Nordic Report – Nord 1996:31 Nordic Council of Ministers (NCM)	Interdisciplinary working group Nordic Countries 1994-1996	NCM
Baltic Countries	Harmonisation of Tentative Lists in the Baltic Region	Latvia June 2003	WHF, NWHF, German Foundation
Caucasus Region	Harmonisation Meeting for Tentative Lists in the Caucasus region	Georgia October 2002	WHF
Central European Region	International workshop on identification of cultural sites in the Ukraine and the harmonisation of Tentative Lists of neighbouring countries in Eastern Europe	Ukraine May 2003	WHF
Central European Region	International workshop on identification in Ukraine of potential natural World Heritage sites	Ukraine October 2004	WHF

A number of Tentative Lists have been revised following these meetings and in response to the World Heritage Committee request for potential natural heritage sites to be included in the Tentative Lists. These harmonisation meetings have also inspired these States Parties to include potential transboundary and transnational proposals in their revisions of Tentative Lists. Accordingly, in the years 2003 and 2004, the number of revised Tentative Lists submitted to the World Heritage Centre increased considerably. This can also be explained by the heightened awareness of potential World Heritage sites by States Parties in Eastern and South Eastern Europe, together with a better knowledge of the procedures and the scope of documentation required for Tentative Lists and subsequently nomination dossiers.

Figure 8: Number of sites on the World Heritage List and on the Tentative List by State Party in Europe

28.2.2005

In terms of cultural heritage, the analysis of ICOMOS⁷ shows that in Europe archaeological properties, architectural monuments, historic towns/urban centres and religious properties are predominant on these Tentative Lists. However, in comparison to other regions of the world, the number of cultural landscapes, and symbolic properties included on these Lists is also much higher. While modern heritage figures predominantly on European Tentative Lists, it is barely acknowledged in the other regions.

The high number of properties on European Tentative Lists are partly an accumulation of sites over time and are not necessarily a realistic prognosis for future nominations and their order in presentation. Regional and local pressures on national authorities often result in ad hoc decisions for sites to be included on Tentative Lists and for nominations to be prepared. A serious revision of Tentative Lists taking into account the recommendations of the Committee, the *Operational Guidelines*, regional harmonisation and a conscious application of the notion of *outstanding universal value* is necessary.

2.3.3 Global Strategy for a Representative World Heritage List

At the 18th session the World Heritage Committee in 1994, the Global Strategy for a representative and credible World Heritage List was adopted. By adopting this Strategy, the Committee wanted to broaden the definition of World Heritage to better reflect the full spectrum of our world's cultural and natural diversity and to provide a comprehensive framework and operational methodology for implementing the *World Heritage Convention*.

Concurrent with the development of the Global Strategy, and similarly responding to the redefinition of heritage, the Committee began considering the possibility of including cultural landscapes in the World Heritage List. At its 16th session in 1992 the World Heritage Committee adopted three categories of World Heritage cultural landscapes and revised the

⁷ICOMOS Analysis of the World Heritage List and Tentative Lists and follow-up action plan (WHC-04/28.COM/INF.13A)

cultural criteria used to justify inscription of properties on the World Heritage List to ensure the recognition of “the combined works of nature and of man”. Since 1992, 50 cultural landscapes have been inscribed globally on the List, of which 31 are in Europe, which illustrates an overwhelming response to this concept in the region.

Implementation of the Global Strategy 1994 to 2004

The World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies assisted States Parties in the preparation of Tentative Lists and nominations along with encouragement to States Parties to select sites from underrepresented categories. Numerous regional and thematic meetings on cultural landscapes were organised by the World Heritage Centre in cooperation with the Advisory Bodies and the States Parties concerned.

Table 11: Meetings on cultural landscapes and natural heritage in Europe

April 1996	Expert Meeting on European Cultural Landscapes of Outstanding Universal Value WHC.95/CONF.201/INF.09	Vienna, Austria
October 1998	International Symposium - Monument - Site - Cultural Landscape Exemplified by the Wachau (Austria, October 1998) Proceedings, Verlag Berger, 1999	Dürnstein, Austria
September/October 1999	Expert meeting on Cultural Landscapes in Eastern Europe WHC.99/CONF.209/INF.14	Bialystok, Poland
March 2000	Cultural Landscapes: Concept and Implementation WHC.00/CONF.202/INF.10	Catania, Italy
June 2000	Thematic Expert Meeting on Potential Natural World Heritage Sites in the Alps WHC.00/CONF.204/WEB.2	Hallstatt, Austria
July 2001	World Heritage Thematic Expert Meeting on Vineyard Cultural Landscapes WHC.01/CONF.208/INF.7	Tokaj, Hungary
July 2001	States Parties Meeting towards a joint nomination of areas of the Alpine Arc for the World Heritage List WHC.01/CONF.208/INF.6	Turin, Italy

At these meetings, experts from States Parties reviewed Tentative Lists in terms of regional and thematic definitions of categories of natural and cultural heritage of potential outstanding universal value. As a result, the States Parties were encouraged to revise their Tentative Lists, to harmonise them with the neighbouring States Parties, and to prepare nominations of properties, based on the Tentative List, from categories currently not well represented on the World Heritage List.

The increase of cultural landscapes inscribed on the World Heritage List in Europe is a direct result of these thematic meetings and a reflection of the change in the perception of heritage, shifting from the nominations of single monuments to larger multipart properties such as landscapes, urban areas as well as transnational and serial sites. Evidently the success of the Global Strategy is reflected in the increasing number of underrepresented types of properties and serial and transnational nominations being submitted and inscribed, consequently leading to enhanced international collaboration through networks and working groups.

Comparative and thematic studies by Advisory Bodies

In response to the increasing number of nominations and in support of the evaluation process of nominations undertaken by the Advisory Bodies, thematic and comparative studies have been carried out. Some of the comparative studies were also carried out in response to the

emergence of new types of nominations for which comparative studies are needed to assess the outstanding universal value.

Although most studies also concern other parts of the world some studies particularly concern European heritage, such as Brick Gothic cathedrals (1995), Teutonic Order castles in eastern Europe (1997), Roman theatres and amphitheatres (1999), Coal-producing sites in Europe, Japan and North America (2001), Orthodox monasteries in the Balkans (2003), Historic Fortified towns in Central Europe (2003) and Historic vineyard landscapes (2004) for cultural heritage; and Potential Natural World Heritage sites in Europe (WCPA, 1998) for natural heritage.

A number of specific initiatives were undertaken in the framework of the Global Strategy to review the situation of the World Heritage List in Europe and to identify gaps and specific categories important to this region.

The key exercise was a cooperation project by the World Commission for Protected Areas (WCPA, formerly CNPPA), who commissioned a study, which was presented at the “European Regional Working Session on Protecting Europe’s Natural Heritage” in Rügen, Germany in 1997. The conclusions⁸ were: a) the emphasis on the rich heritage linking culture and nature, including the recognition of the great potential of cultural landscapes in the region; b) the identification of outstanding natural features, including geological heritage, boreal forests and specific features such as the Wadden Sea. Other organizations, such as the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) and Progeo, proceeded with the identification of specific paleontological, fossil and geological heritage sites. Furthermore, a number of specialized workshops were organized, such as the one on Karst (Slovenia, November 2004) to discuss the potential of such sites in Europe, transboundary and transnational cooperation, and assist States Parties in their identification.

Valuable collaboration with the Council of Europe emerged concerning the protection of geological and fossil sites, which led to the participation of both UNESCO and World Heritage experts from different States Parties in the preparation of a Recommendation by the Council of Europe. The Recommendation Rec(2004)3 on Conservation of the Geological Heritage and areas of special Geological Interest was adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 5 May 2004.

Sub-regional collaboration among States Parties developed in a number of regions also for natural heritage, such as the Alpine Region, where the first natural World Heritage site was inscribed as recently as 2002. Meetings of all States Parties concerned, together with representatives of the Alpine Convention,⁹ were organised in 2000 and 2002 and reports were presented to the World Heritage Committee¹⁰. A number of natural heritage nominations within the Alpine region were presented, however, none of them as transboundary, transnational or serial properties, although discussions among States Parties re-commenced in 2005.

⁸ Synge, H. (ed). Parks for Life. Proceedings of the IUCN/WCPA European Regional Working Session on Protecting Europe’s Natural Heritage. The Federal Agency for Nature Conservation, Federal Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Federal Republic of Germany and IUCN – The World Conservation Union. Gland, 1998.

⁹ Adopted on 7 November 1991.

¹⁰ WHC-2000/CONF.204/WEB.2 and Umwelt Dachverband (ed): Proceedings of the Regional Thematic Expert Meeting on Potential Natural World Heritage Sites in the Alps, Hallstatt, Austria 18 to 22 June 2000. Vienna: text.um 4/01, 2001.

2.4. Examination of the State of Conservation

In the framework of the strategic objectives of the 4 C's, conservation of World Heritage properties has become one of the main concerns of the World Heritage Committee. To ensure an effective management and conservation of World Heritage properties, monitoring the state of conservation is an important tool to assist this process.

2.4.1. Systematic Monitoring Exercises

Recognising the need for an appropriate monitoring system to effectively measure the state of conservation of World Heritage properties, the World Heritage Committee and the Advisory Bodies focused their attention on this subject in the early 1980s. Monitoring reports on sites were being presented to the Committee by ICOMOS, IUCN and the World Heritage Centre in different formats. In response to the Committee's desire for a more systematic approach, the Advisory Bodies initiated experimental monitoring exercises which were instrumental during the expert meeting organised in Cambridge (United Kingdom) in 1993. This led to specific systematic efforts in a number of European countries, such as Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom. A number of States Parties, notably in Central and South Eastern Europe are developing or have commenced systematic monitoring exercises.

2.4.2. Reactive Monitoring

In recent years, the number of properties inscribed in Europe and which have been subject of a report to the World Heritage Committee has increased dramatically. Section II, on the state of conservation of World Heritage properties in Europe, will be examined by the World Heritage Committee in 2006. At this point, a general overview of reactive monitoring in Europe will be provided to illustrate the increasing responsibilities of the States Parties to provide information and to respond to particular situations at World Heritage sites and the increasing workload of the Committee, the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre.

Table 12: Reactive Monitoring reports on European World Heritage sites from 1986 – 2004

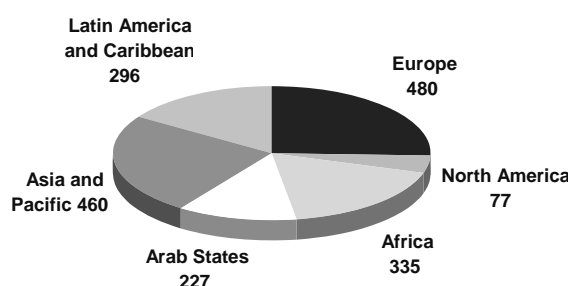
Reactive Monitoring Reporting	Total of reports presented to Bureau, extraordinary Bureau and Committee	Total of reports examined by World Heritage Committee
Number of reports/decisions	480	283*
Average per year	26.66	15.72

* Figure excludes state of conservation reports of which the Committee took note (Annexes to the Committee reports on session of Extraordinary Bureau from 1992-2001)

The figures in this Table are illustrative of the changing situation in Europe, with a notable increase in reports being presented and examined by the World Heritage Committee. This rise in reactive monitoring reports is due to (a) the numerous European sites inscribed on the World Heritage List and the high number

of new nominations from European States Parties which continue to be inscribed; (b) increase in threats ranging from civil unrest and war (e.g. Balkans), urban developments and infrastructure, natural threats (e.g. floods and earthquakes), man-made disasters (e.g. impact of mining, oil spills) and lack of appropriate management, staffing and resources; and (c) general deterioration of monuments and sites. State of conservation reporting is a time consuming exercise for all actors involved but is an important contribution to ensuring the credibility of the *World Heritage Convention*.

Figure 9: Total of reactive monitoring reports from all regions examined by the World Heritage Committee and its Bureau from 1986 to 2004.



A total of 1875 reports have been examined by the World Heritage Committee between 1986 and 2004, of which Europe amounts to 25,5 %. Many sites have been reported on continually over several years, especially those properties which are or were inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

2.4.3 List of World Heritage in Danger

The reasons for which some of the European World Heritage properties, listed in the tables below, were inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger have also changed in recent years. Successful conservation and preservation efforts in Croatia and in Serbia and Montenegro, following the threats to the sites caused by armed conflicts and civil unrest in the South Eastern European region, have led to the removal of those sites from the List of World Heritage in Danger. Bulgaria successfully addressed threats to the water levels of a major wetlands system, whereas Poland undertook appropriate measures by installing dehumidifying system at the salt mines.

Table 13: Sites in Europe which in the past have been inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

State Party	World Heritage site	Year of Inscription on the World Heritage List	Period inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger
Serbia and Montenegro	Natural and Culturo-Historical Region of Kotor	1979	1979-2003
Poland	Wieliczka Salt Mine	1978	1989-1998
Croatia	Old City of Dubrovnik	1979, 1994	1991-1998
Croatia	Plitvice Lakes National Park	1979, 2000	1992-1997
Bulgaria	Srebarna Nature Reserve	1983	1992-2003

Threats in terms of urban development projects and upgrading of infrastructure as well as inadequate administrative and legislative provisions for protection of a World Heritage property are the reasons for the recent inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger of the Walled City of Baku in Azerbaijan and Cologne Cathedral in Germany. In the case of Butrint, the threats to the property identified by the Committee in 1992, mainly looting of the archaeological remains, have been addressed and monitored carefully by the national authorities and three international expert missions.

Table 14: Current List of World Heritage in Danger in Europe

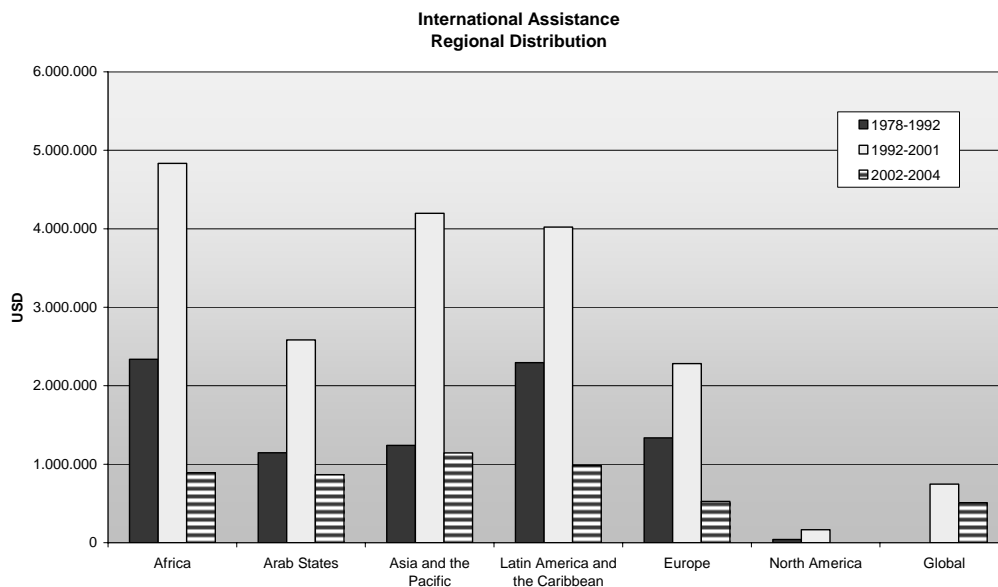
State Party	World Heritages site	Year of Inscription on the World Heritage List	Year of Inscription on the List of World Heritage in Danger
Albania	Butrint	1992	1997
Azerbaijan	Walled City of Baku with the Shirvanshah's Palace and Maiden Tower	1999	2003
Germany	Cologne Cathedral	1996	2004

In Section II of Periodic Reporting more detailed information on these sites will be provided.

2.5. Cooperation for World Heritage

2.5.1 International Assistance under the World Heritage Fund

The granting of International Assistance is based on priorities set out in the *Operational Guidelines*. In the European context, International Assistance takes on a different role in comparison to the other regions of the world, mainly as only countries in Eastern and Central Europe have priority access to the World Heritage Fund, whereas Western European countries are primarily contributing to the Fund as well as to extrabudgetary resources. Figure 10 for International Assistance, provides an overview of the total amounts contributed to the different regions in the periods from 1978 to 1992, 1992 to 2001 and 2002 to 2004.

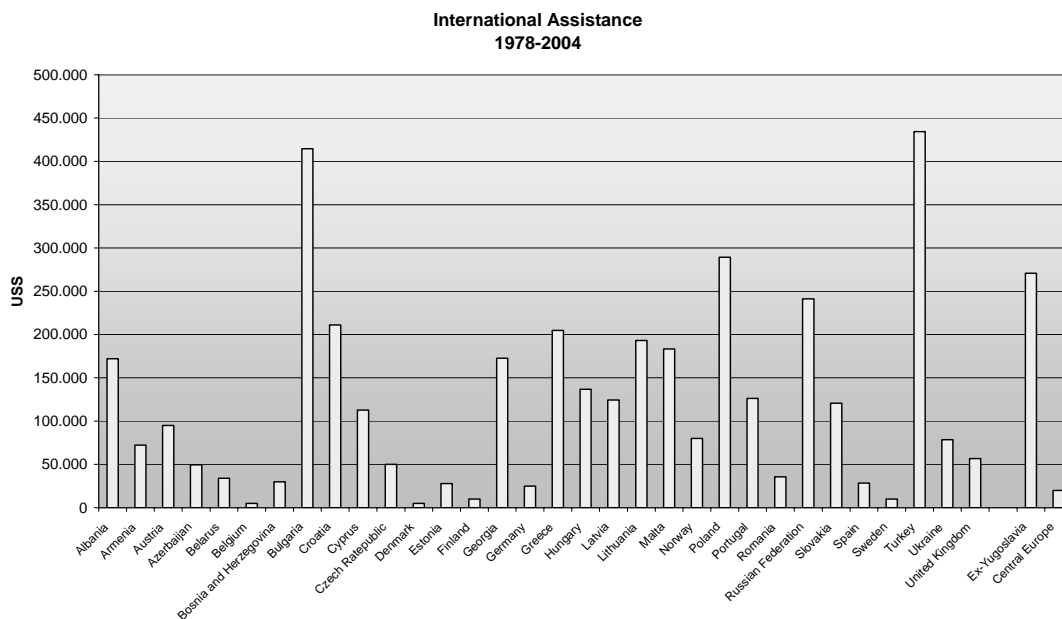
Figure 10: International Assistance by Regions in the periods of 1978 – 1992, 1992 – 2001 and 2002 – 2004

Predominantly, States Parties in Central and Eastern Europe and South Eastern Europe, whose World Heritage properties amount to more than 100 sites collectively, can request International Assistance. Most of these have received funding for conservation projects, training and the preparation of nominations and Tentative Lists. In recent years, a new focus emerged in the framework of the Global Strategy towards the harmonization of Tentative Lists and regional cooperation. The change in the political landscape of Central and South Eastern Europe in the 1990s brought about a considerable increase in assistance requests for

the preparation of first-time nominations as well as for urgent conservation measures. The current situation in these countries still requires additional financial assistance for World Heritage, in particular capacity building and identification of heritage.

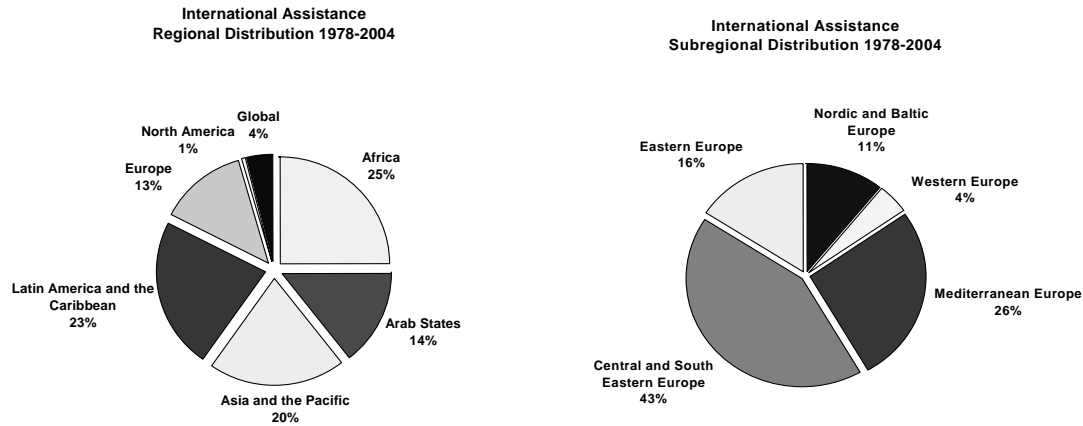
Several States Parties in Western Europe participated in International Assistance activities through their voluntary contributions to the World Heritage Fund and by providing support through international experts to conservation projects and campaigns for World Heritage properties located in other countries. In paragraph 2.5.3, the particular agreements established with some of these States Parties are discussed in more detail.

Figure 11: Approved International Assistance requests in Europe (1978 – 2004)



15.3.2005

The type of assistance provided ranges from preparatory assistance for nominations and the preparation of Tentative Lists, to conservation projects, international meetings and seminars. Some States Parties have received funding (e.g. Norway, Israel, Greece, Denmark, Finland) for a range of training activities and seminars of global or regional relevance and include travel funding for experts from Central and Eastern Europe or from other regions of the world. A number of States Parties have received funding for sites which have been the subject of extensive conservation and rehabilitation programmes. In this respect, Section II of Periodic Reporting will be of particular interest in order to assess the current situation of the properties.

Figure 12: International Assistance (1978 – 2004) by Global Regions and by European Sub-Regions

Funding through UNESCO's Participation Programme has also contributed to World Heritage properties and meetings which also concerned World Heritage and heritage conservation in general.

2.5.2 UNESCO Activities in support of World Heritage in Europe

UNESCO's Division for Cultural Heritage has provided valuable assistance to selected World Heritage properties in the region, such as the Old City of Dubrovnik (Croatia) (UNESCO major safeguarding programme); Historic Area of Istanbul (Turkey) (Division for Cultural Heritage), Caucasus Region (Division of Cultural Policies and Intercultural Dialogue).

Major World Heritage Cooperation Projects in the European Region were also carried out by the UNESCO Field Offices:

The UNESCO Moscow Office, which is the Cluster Office for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, and the Russian Federation, is carrying out decentralized World Heritage Fund projects. The Field Office also provides assistance for the preparation of nominations and re-nomination of properties for other values. It has also assisted the Russian National Committee for World Heritage in the organisation of the meetings and training workshops held in connection with Periodic Reporting. In addition, extrabudgetary projects are developed by the Office to assist in the management and conservation of cultural and natural World Heritage sites of the region. International cooperation and coordination with other organizations and partners, such as the UNDP/GEF Project "Demonstration of sustainable conservation of biodiversity in four Russian Kamchatka Protected Areas" is one of the key functions of the Office.

The UNESCO Venice Office (Regional Bureau for Science in Europe, ROSTE) very actively promotes the safeguarding of cultural and natural heritage in South Eastern Europe and in the Mediterranean region, as part of a larger environmental integration effort that transversally involves all the key development activities and well reflects the multi-faceted mandate. A recent example is given by the joint UNESCO-ROSTE-IUCN international workshop on "MAB Biosphere Reserve and transboundary cooperation in the SEE region", held in Belgrade and Tara National Park, Serbia and Montenegro, 13-17 June 2004. Other concrete actions are focused on fostering initiatives of territorial development, by assisting the Member

States in designing appropriate capacity-building programmes and training activities. Cooperation between the UNESCO-ROSTE and the World Heritage Centre in particular is devoted to foster initiatives to protect and promote natural and cultural heritage in South-eastern Europe, by integrating these assets into the national and regional territorial policies of the various countries.

Special efforts are being made by UNESCO-ROSTE to contribute to reconstruction and reconciliation following the tragic destruction of cultural heritage, such as in Mostar (Bosnia and Herzegovina), as part of a wider role that the Organization is playing as the leading and high-profile international institution coordinating complex operations to safeguard heritage damaged or threatened by conflicts, with the assistance of many different partners, both public and private. All these actions are to be seen as part of a larger policy and action framework of UNESCO-ROSTE in the SEE region to foster the intercultural dialogue and the scientific and technical cooperation among the countries, by promoting cross-border cooperation.

Other Offices, such as the CEPES, the UNESCO Centre for Higher Education (Bucharest, Romania), and the UNESCO Liaison Office in Geneva, Switzerland represent the UNESCO World Heritage Centre occasionally at events focusing on World Heritage partnerships.

2.5.3 Bi- and Multilateral Cooperation

Associate Experts: Through the UNESCO Associate Experts' Scheme young professionals with skills in the heritage fields have been funded by the following European Member States to assist the World Heritage Centre: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, and Sweden. In addition, some European States Parties have also chosen other mechanisms for staff support to the World Heritage Centre including secondments (e.g. Greece).

Cooperation Agreements: In response to the increasing challenges in conservation and preservation of cultural and natural sites, a number of States Parties in the Western European region have provided specific contributions to the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* and UNESCO. To this end, framework agreements with UNESCO at large involving several sectors of the Organization have been signed (France and Belgium) to help support and develop conservation and management of heritage. Other States Parties (Spain, The Netherlands, United Kingdom and Flemish Funds-in-Trust) have signed Funds-in-Trust agreements directly with the World Heritage Centre offering their support to the implementation of the *Convention*, in particular for the promotion of the Global Strategy and improving site management and supporting conservation efforts. In principle assistance is provided to the States Parties in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Arab States. However, select projects and programmes in Eastern Europe have received assistance in the framework of these agreements.

Table 15: Projects in Europe supported by cooperation agreements

AGREEMENT	COUNTRY – REGION – THEMATIC	PROJECT
France-UNESCO Convention (1999-2004)	Albania (1999)	La ville musée de Bérat (TL) : Restoration and conservation of the historic centre
	Eastern Europe (1999-2001)	Private property management in historic centres in European countries in transition

	Russia 1999	Moscow – restoration of the Saint-Basil Basilica
	2002	Natural sites, boreal forests
	Turkey 1999-2004	Istanbul: Technical assistance for presentation and urban requalification .
	2000	Istanbul: international conference on the resistance of historic buildings to earthquakes
	Italy (2002)	Cinque Terre: participation of an expert in a seminar on management guidance for cultural landscapes
	Romania (2001)	Sighisoara: safeguard and management of the site
	Armenia (2001)	Shirak Museum
	Latvia (2002-2004)	Management plan , conservation and development of the town
FIT Italy (2001- 2004)	Azerbaijan (2003)	The Gobustan Reserve (tentative list preparation)
	Armenia (2003)	Amagou Valley (tentative list preparation)
	Albania (2003)	Gjirokastra (tentative list preparation)
	Bosnia and Herzegovina (2004)	Mostar (tentative list preparation)
FIT Netherlands (2002-2004)	Celebration of 30 th anniversary of the World Heritage Convention	Ferrara Workshop on Cultural Landscapes (Italy 2003) Publication of WH series No.7
	Information Management tool for Periodic Reporting (2003)	Electronic questionnaire
	Support for the Periodic Reporting Exercise (Europe & N. America) (2004)	Technical support

Development Agencies: Through bilateral cooperation, development agencies in many European countries (e.g. Denmark, Finland, Germany, Norway, Spain and Sweden) have made contributions to World Heritage in other regions of the world. The programme “Africa 2009” carried out by ICCROM has received financial assistance through some of these development agencies notably, SIDA, NORAD, the Finnish Development Cooperation and the Nordic World Heritage Foundation (NWHF).

Nordic World Heritage Foundation: Established in 2002 in Oslo, the Nordic World Heritage Foundation (NWHF) was an initiative of the Norwegian Government in cooperation with the Nordic governments to support the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*. The Foundation was granted the status of an international centre under the auspices of UNESCO by the 32nd General Conference in October 2003. It has as objectives, support to World Heritage activities in other parts of the world through mobilising funds for conservation. The Foundation also acts as the focal point for the Nordic countries and has coordinated the Periodic Reporting exercise in the Nordic and Baltic Region.

German World Heritage Foundation: Following the inscription of the Historic Centres of Stralsund and Wismar (Germany) on the World Heritage List in 2002, the Hanseatic towns decided to establish a German World Heritage Foundation, in support of the preservation and protection of World Heritage properties. Through financial and expert assistance the Foundation has provided support to sites located in Central and Eastern Europe such as L’viv (Ukraine) and Baku (Azerbaijan) as well as actively assisting in the meeting on the Harmonisation of Tentative Lists in the Baltic States, held in Riga (Latvia) in 2003.

2.5.4 European Heritage Networks and European Cooperation

The protection of cultural and natural heritage was a central idea in the establishment of European institutions. In this Chapter, the key institutions and their relationship to World Heritage policies are briefly reviewed. However, the wealth of information concerning World Heritage related activities cannot be given justice in this brief overview.

Council of Europe (CoE): The Council of Europe (Strasbourg, France) founded in 1949, groups together 46 countries.¹¹ The Council of Europe's co-operation programme for cultural and natural heritage entails devising common policies and standards, developing transnational cooperation networks, providing technical support for member states and organising schemes to increase awareness of heritage values. Policy development is at the core of the Council of Europe programme on Culture, both at the political level, to identify democratic, participatory and empowering policies to ensure access to culture for the public at large and through a better knowledge of other cultures, to encourage intercultural dialogue and at the field level, to ensure access and creativity and sustain Europe's cultural richness in its identities and diversities. Specific programmes have been developed for managing change, in South-East Europe (MOSAIC) and in the South Caucasus (STAGE) as well as an Action Plan for the Russian Federation for research and development.

The European Heritage Network (HEREIN) is an information system of the Council of Europe linking European governmental departments responsible for cultural heritage conservation. Since the 4th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Cultural Heritage (Helsinki, Finland, 1996) it has been developed as an instrument for implementing and monitoring the European conventions on the architectural and archaeological heritage. Table 7 provides an overview of the ratification status of cultural and natural heritage Conventions in Europe including the Council of Europe instruments.

European Union (EU): The activities of the EU in the field of both culture and environment are diverse and multifaceted. They provide for legislative measures mainly in the environmental area¹². Environmental policies through European Union legislation have made significant progress. The Environment Action Programme takes a wide-ranging approach and gives a strategic direction to the European Commission's environmental policy over the next decade, when the Community expands its boundaries. Four main environmental areas are to be tackled: Climate Change, Nature and Biodiversity, Environment and Health and Quality of Life, Natural Resources and Waste.¹³

In 1991 the EU officially began to deal with culture: under the Maastricht treaty and its Article 151, the Union "shall contribute to the flowering of the cultures of the Member States, while respecting their national and regional diversity and at the same time bringing the common cultural heritage to the fore". Preserving and enhancing Europe's cultural heritage is one of the key objectives of the cultural cooperation programme "Culture 2000", approximately 34% of whose budget is earmarked for this purpose. The programme supports projects for conserving European heritage of exceptional importance - so-called "European heritage laboratories" - some of which have, for instance, played a part in the restoration of the frescoes in the Basilica of St Francis of Assisi in Italy.¹⁴

¹¹ The CoE has the application by another country (Belarus) and granted observer status to 5 more countries (the Holy See, the United States, Canada, Japan and Mexico).

¹² <http://europa.eu.int/scadplus/leg/en/s15006.htm>

¹³ <http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/newprg/index.htm>

¹⁴ http://europa.eu.int/comm/culture/portal/activities/heritage/cultural_heritage_vehic_en.htm

The draft Constitutional Treaty adds that one of the objectives of the Union shall be to “ensure that Europe’s cultural heritage is safeguarded and enhanced.” (Article 3.3). The EU contributes to sharing European cultural values based on cultural cooperation; specifically with the enlargement of the EU, it is supporting cultural exchanges, intercultural dialogue, raising awareness of a common European heritage and cooperation with third countries focusing on the countries under the new neighbourhood policy.¹⁵ The European Union also works through its “Neighbourhood Policy” with the States Parties in the East and South, including cultural exchange and environmental cooperation. An increasingly close relationship with the EU is offered towards economic integration and political cooperation founded on partnership and promoting European values.

The Union is called upon to promote cooperation between the Member States and, if necessary, to support and complement their activities in the dissemination of the culture and history of the European peoples; the conservation of cultural heritage of European significance; as well as cooperation with third countries and competent international organisations.

Designed to “contribute to bringing the peoples of Europe together”, the European City of Culture project was launched, on the initiative of Melina Mercouri, by the Council of Ministers on 13 June 1985. The programme for the European Capitals was established by Decision 1419/1999/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of the European Union of 25 May 1999, providing for Community action for the European Capital of Culture event for the years 2005 to 2019. In many cases, these activities coincided with World Heritage, as some of the European capitals were already inscribed on the World Heritage List¹⁶.

Of the 48 States Parties in Europe, 25 are members of the European Union: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands, and United Kingdom.

European Parliament: The European Parliament, the parliamentary body of the European Union which currently comprises 786 elected European Members of Parliament of the 25 European Union countries, passed a specific resolution on World Heritage in 2001: *European Parliament Resolution on the application of the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage in the Member States of the European Union (2000/2036(INI))*. This resolution states that “heritage is a key element of society” and that 30% of the World Heritage properties are located in EU countries. The Resolution calls for Member States of the European Union to reconsider their Tentative List, it acknowledges the Committees Global Strategy. It further calls on the Commission “to strengthen programmes to aid the training of professionals working in the field of conservation of cultural heritage” and “before approving projects financed by the Structural Funds, to examine the impact they may have on the cultural and natural heritage in the Member States of the Union”. The resolution was provided to the World Heritage Committee at its session in Helsinki, Finland (2001).

¹⁵ See also the Council Resolution of 21 January 2002 on the role of culture in the development of the European Union, (Official Journal C 032 , 05/02/2002 p.2)

¹⁶ Such as Porto (2001), Salamanca (2002), Graz (2003) and Avignon, Bergen, Brussels, Cracow, Helsinki, Prague, and Santiago de Compostela (2000).

European Commission (EC): The EC is the executive organ of the European Union, based in Brussels, which monitors the proper application of the Union treaties and the decisions of the Union institutions.

EC policy on biodiversity is expressed by the Community's ratification of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and subsequent development by DG Environment of the European Community Biodiversity Strategy (1998).¹⁷ EC cooperation with governments concerning protected areas and conservation relates to technical aspects of conservation, to the economic policies and fiscal incentives which may affect the sector, and to the in-country policy, legal and administrative framework governing natural resources management, including national strategies for sustainable development, national biodiversity strategies and duties under international conventions (multilateral environmental agreements), including the World Heritage Convention.

Funding can be granted to World Heritage sites, if they are included in one of the programmes. For example, the European Commission has approved funding for 77 nature conservation projects under the LIFE Nature programme 2004 for a total of 76 million Euros. These projects will further contribute to the establishment of the EU-wide Natura 2000 network of areas safeguarding important wildlife habitats and threatened species. The projects will physically restore protected areas and their fauna and flora, establish sustainable management structures and strengthen public awareness. Of the selected projects, 75 will be carried out in EU Member States and two in Romania. LIFE Nature is one of three funding strands under the EU's environmental programme LIFE whose goal is to support the implementation of EU environmental policies and legislation. In 2004, approved funding under LIFE totalled €160 million.

The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF): The ERDF¹⁸ was set up in 1975 mainly to redress regional imbalances through participation in the development and structural adjustment of regions whose development is lagging behind; and the conversion of declining industrial regions. It is the main instrument of the Community's regional policy. The major relevant programmes are: INTERREG, for cross-border cooperation projects between regions at the Community's internal and external borders; and URBAN, for problematic urban areas (high unemployment, run-down buildings, poor housing and inadequate social network).

European Development Fund (EDF): The European Development Fund (EDF) is the main instrument for Community aid for development cooperation in the African, Caribbean and Pacific states (ACP countries) and the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT). Articles 131 and 136 of the 1957 Treaty of Rome provided for its creation with a view to granting technical and financial assistance to African countries that were still colonised at that time and with which certain countries have historical links.

The European Union and the Council of Europe have launched a series of initiatives and programmes to protect and enhance heritage preservation. In a wider sense World Heritage properties have benefited from these programmes.

Table 16: Example of programmes and initiatives by the European Union and the Council of Europe

¹⁷ http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/body/theme/environment/env_integ/env_integration/envman-907.html

¹⁸ Articles 158 to 162 of the EC Treaty.

<p>Culture 2000 programme: support to project for conserving European heritage of exceptional importance.</p> <p>SOCRATES programme: support to educational projects in the field of cultural heritage involving schools and universities; within this the Leonardo da Vinci programme supports training in traditional crafts, restoration of cultural heritage.</p> <p>EUROMED Heritage programme: regional programme fostering development of cultural heritage in Mediterranean Europe.</p> <p>Asia-ProEco (replacing ASIA URBS): support to urban development projects launched jointly by Asian and European cities.</p> <p>European Heritage Days: held in different cities since 2001 as joint European Union and Council of Europe activity.</p> <p>Heritage Laboratories: projects which focus on World Heritage properties and natural heritage programmes for bio-diversity</p>	<p>European Parliament Resolution on World Heritage: Resolution adopted on 16 January 2001 with regard to the implementation of the Global Strategy in the European Region as well as the protection of World Heritage sites (2000/2036 (INI)). Presented to the 21st session of the World Heritage Committee in 2001 as INF.16.</p> <p>Interreg III: Community initiative that aims to stimulate interregional cooperation in the EU between 2000-06. It is financed under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). This new phase of the Interreg initiative is designed to strengthen economic and social cohesion throughout the EU. The Community Initiative Interreg III promotes the development of projects of this kind across borders. One of the chapters of the Innovative Actions provides incentives for regions to build cooperation with each other on the theme of the regional identity.</p>
---	---

*European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)*¹⁹: The EBRD was established in 1991 and assists in 27 countries from central Europe to central Asia. The EBRD mobilises significant direct foreign investment beyond its own financing. It provides project financing for banks, industries and businesses. The EBRD is the largest single investor in Central and Eastern Europe and the CIS. The Bank has committed more than €20 billion to over 800 large projects. One example is a project which relates to tourism and traffic management in the World Heritage site of the historic city of Dubrovnik. A €7.5 million EBRD loan to the transport company Libertas Dubrovnik d.o.o. for 31 buses and a new bus depot should ease the traffic problem and at the same time enhance the city's efforts to be a premium tourist destination.

Nongovernmental organizations in Europe:

There are numerous NGOs in the European region working on natural and cultural heritage. Among them are the following, which have been working with the World Heritage Centre in the past:

- Europa Nostra Pan-European Federation for Heritage (The Hague, The Netherlands);
- Europarc (Grafenau, Germany);
- Organisation of World Heritage Cities (OWHC) (Quebec, Canada) and its regional groups (European region: North-West Europe; Central and Eastern Europe; South Europe and Mediterranean; and Euro-Asia).

2.6. World Heritage Training and Education

2.6.1 Training

¹⁹ For further information see <http://www.ebrd.com/>;

The Global Training Strategy for World Cultural and Natural Heritage was adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 25th session held in Budapest (Hungary). Its primary objective is to support professional capacity-building in the field of administration and management as well as training in scientific, technical and traditional skills for the protection and conservation of World Heritage properties, thus ensuring a better implementation of the *Convention*.

In the past, training assistance under the World Heritage Fund was provided to States Parties in Central and Eastern Europe for national and regional training activities on a general basis. The Global Training Strategy encourages a more proactive use of the World Heritage Fund and ensures that training activities are carried out in the framework of the results of Periodic Reporting and the Global Strategy.

The Advisory Bodies have cooperated closely in defining the objectives of the Training Strategy and have developed numerous training materials and publications on management and training in support of the implementation of the *Convention*. World Heritage conservation and management issues are included in ICCROM's international and sub-regional training programmes, notably in the Mediterranean and the North Eastern European regions. In the framework of ICCROM's ITUC Programme (Integrated Territorial and Urban Conservation Programme) launched in 1995, a number of training activities and seminars were held in the Baltic States, increasing awareness of the need for integrated approaches to territorial and urban conservation among key authorities and decision-makers, and increasing the ability of managers and professionals to integrate concern for heritage conservation in mainstream developmental decision-making. ICCROM has also provided a training course for 10 Azerbaijani professionals in the management of heritage sites, both urban and archaeological sites which was held in Rome in June 2004 and an information course on the *World Heritage Convention* for Italian experts and administrators in March 2002.

In Eastern Europe, cooperation focused on meetings of natural heritage site managers to enhance capacity building including for potential nominations – seminars in the Russian Federation and for Russian site managers were financed by the German Agency for Nature Protection. In some instances, regional seminars and training workshops were financed and organized by other agencies, such as the Europarc Workshop on Natural World Heritage in Poland in 2001 for (potential) World Heritage site managers from Central and Eastern Europe, financed through the PHARE programme. In Sopron (Hungary) a meeting on site management planning for site managers from 9 countries in North Eastern, Central and South Eastern Europe was organised in 2003 with World Heritage Fund assistance.

2.6.2 Education

UNESCO Chairs

Numerous UNESCO Chairs have been established in both cultural and natural heritage fields in the European region, including on heritage studies, World Heritage and biodiversity²⁰.

World Heritage in Young Hands

In past years, a number of countries in Europe have actively participated in UNESCO's Young People's World Heritage Education Project launched in 1994 and supported this work through funding to meetings²¹.

²⁰(http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=1324&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html).

In June 1995, the first international World Heritage Youth Forum was held in Bergen, Norway, and was followed by regional and international ones held in many parts of the world. In Europe, World Heritage Youth Fora have been held in Dubrovnik (Croatia) in 1996, in Karlskrona (Sweden) in 2001; Novgorod (Russian Federation) in 2002, in Bratislava (Slovakia) in 2002, Veliky Novgorod (Russian Federation) in 2002, in Rhodes (Greece) in 2003 and in Newcastle (United Kingdom) in April 2005. The overriding aim of the Project is to mobilise young people to contribute to World Heritage preservation by fostering intercultural learning and exchange by bringing students and teachers together. An Educational Resource Kit for Teachers entitled *World Heritage in Young Hands* was first published in English and French in 1998 and followed by a second edition in 2002.

A number of International Workshops/Conferences on World Heritage Education have also been held in Europe, namely in Chartres, France, in February 1999, in Helsinki, Finland, in December 2001, in Treviso/Venice, Italy, in November 2002 and in Pont-du-Gard, France, in March 2005.

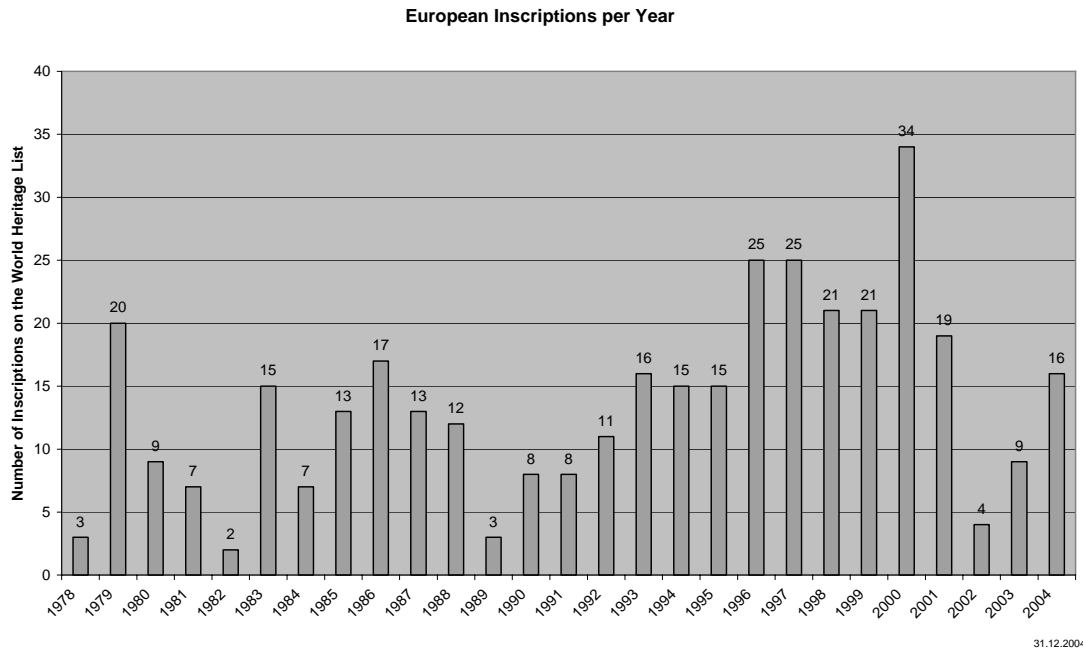
The World Heritage Youth Project has been very well received in Europe and several States Parties have from the very beginning of the project participated actively in its development, Youth Fora and the Teachers Training Kit, which has been translated into 12 European languages, and 5 other language translations are in progress.

2.7. Conclusions

The information and analysis provided in this chapter illustrates the significant participation by States Parties in Europe in the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*. Almost all countries in Europe are States Parties to the *Convention*, with the exception of Liechtenstein, and actively participated in the work of the World Heritage Committee. In Eastern Europe only Bulgaria and Poland served on the World Heritage Committee in the early years between 1976 and 1984. However, several countries from the Western European region and Mediterranean Europe have served several terms on the World Heritage Committee. After the change in the political situation in Europe in the 1990s, an increased participation in the *World Heritage Convention* and membership of the Committee by Central and Eastern European and Baltic countries occurred.

Nominations to the World Heritage List have been submitted by European States Parties commencing with three properties in 1978 and 20 properties already in the following year. The total number of properties inscribed in Europe is 368 of which alone 329 are cultural heritage properties, 31 natural properties and 8 mixed cultural and natural heritage properties. The number of nominations submitted increased hugely in the years between 1993 and 2000 after which the rate of submissions dropped slightly.

²¹ The project is co-ordinated by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and the Associated Schools Project Network (ASPnet) Co-ordination Unit and funded by the Norwegian Agency for Development Co-operation (NORAD) with previous support from the Rhône Poulenc Foundation, France.

Figure 13: Number of European inscriptions per year

Although properties in the Western European region and Mediterranean Europe are very well represented on the World Heritage List, a great number of States Parties in Central and Eastern Europe, the Baltic States and South Eastern Europe have none or up to three properties inscribed. In terms of types of heritage, historic centres, religious monuments and architectural ensembles have been predominant. In recent years however, the potential of underrepresented categories such as industrial heritage, cultural landscapes and modern architecture, is being recognised. Active participation in international meetings to address under-represented natural heritage from Europe has increased the awareness of national authorities to the potential of Alpine heritage, forests, and geological or fossil sites.

In the context of the Global Strategy, a series of Tentative List harmonisation meetings have focused on priority areas such as the Baltic Region, Ukraine and its neighbouring countries and the Caucasus Region. The recommendations of these meetings have yet to be fully implemented with a number of Tentative Lists still to be revised.

Noteworthy progress achieved in the implementation of the Global Strategy, is the exemplary project initiated by the Nordic countries in 1995, in the framework of the Nordic Council of Ministers meetings. It was the first active attempt at a regional harmonisation of Tentative Lists and resulted in a report, published in 1996. As a result of this study, the Nordic countries have identified heritage of underrepresented categories such as cultural landscapes and natural heritage properties and have selected the most outstanding example from the region for their Tentative Lists. In recent years, successful nominations have been submitted according to this study. This sub-regional cooperation is unique and should be adopted by other regions.

In Western Europe and in Mediterranean Europe harmonisation of Tentative Lists is lacking. A systematic approach, based on most recent studies and scientific information has not been followed in view of the high number of sites included on some of these Lists.

Systematic monitoring activities have been carried out in Europe, notably in Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom which were the basis for discussions on the overall monitoring process. State of conservation reporting on properties inscribed on the World Heritage List has increased drastically with issues ranging from development pressures, natural disasters,

deterioration of cultural sites and lack of appropriate management. The three sites currently inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger are partly threatened by development pressures or lack of appropriate protection and management mechanisms. Five sites were inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger in South Eastern Europe, which were included due to armed conflict and post conflict management issues. Only one of these sites remains on this List today. This success in addressing the threats is the result of the determined commitment of States Parties to the *Convention* and focused international cooperation.

Although a number of States Parties mainly in the Baltic States, Central and Eastern Europe, South Eastern Europe have been granted International Assistance under the World Heritage Fund, there is a discernable imbalance in the concentration of funding provided to some States Parties. World Heritage Fund assistance²² is linked in particular to conservation programmes and concentrated safeguarding initiatives, and a considerable diversity of activities in support of World Heritage receives funding through the World Heritage Fund, UNESCO field offices, bilateral agreements and funds-in trust arrangements. Furthermore, the chapter on European Heritage Networks and European Cooperation demonstrates diverse activities and programmes available to European countries. A systematic approach to funding under these programmes is not visible, despite the European Parliament Resolution on World Heritage presented to the World Heritage Committee in 2001. This fragmentation of funding has yet to be addressed.

A number of international training courses have concentrated on specific natural and cultural heritage issues, such as wooden heritage, cultural heritage management and ICCROM's Integrated Territorial and Urban Conservation programme (ITUC). Natural World Heritage training activities have also been organised in cooperation with other institutions and organizations, such as EUROPARC and WCPA.

²² An evaluation of international assistance is currently under way and will be presented in document WHC-05/29 COM/14B.

3. THE APPLICATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION BY STATES PARTIES IN EUROPE

This Chapter provides an analysis of the information contained in the Periodic Reports submitted by the European States Parties. It is also based on the sub-regional synthesis reports prepared by international experts for Western Europe, the Mediterranean, Nordic and Baltic Region, Central and South Eastern Europe and Eastern European sub-regions as well as on the individual State Party reports. Comparisons on a regional as well as on a sub-regional level are made. Additional analysis and information is provided in form of observations and followed by elements for a future action plan, where appropriate. The majority of proposals for the future action plan will have to be taken into account following the conclusion of Section II of Periodic Reporting, in 2006.

3.1. Introduction and Methodology of Analysis

All 48 States Parties in Europe have submitted the Periodic Report on Section I in hard copy. Most States Parties also provided their reports in the on-line *tool/questionnaire* with a few exceptions, where additional assistance from the World Heritage Centre was provided to complete the electronic reports. The data analysis of the Section I reports has been assisted by the *electronic analysis and statistical evaluation tool*. The majority of figures and graphs contained in this report have also been produced with this statistical evaluation tool.

The integration of both cultural and natural heritage in one Periodic Report has been successful, although a great number of countries have experienced difficulties due to lack of institutional cooperation and sharing of information. At times, this is reflected in the lack of information provided, specifically concerning the natural components of the questionnaire.

The reason for the absence of certain data in nearly all European Periodic Reports should be considered in the light of the specificities of the sub-regions. Differences in understanding of the World Heritage terminologies and particularly the monitoring terms, have caused diverse responses. Moreover, changes in administrative and legislative systems, as well as reorganization of responsibilities within ministries and agencies, have caused loss of institutional memory.

Based on a long and continuous tradition in heritage preservation in Western Europe, the understanding of heritage and its conservation has evolved considerably in the last 20 years due to increased knowledge and (best) practice. Eastern Europe has experienced great changes due to political events and pressures, and has had to adapt to new political situations. Heritage tradition and heritage memory play a vital role in the European context of the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*, which is truly a dynamic process. The Periodic Reporting exercise in Europe highlights some of these issues.

3.2. Agencies Responsible for the Preparation of Section I of the Periodic Report

State Party responses

In the European States Parties the majority of reports were prepared by the Ministries of Culture and their relevant departments. Only in very few cases the reports have been prepared jointly with natural heritage authorities. Although natural heritage institutions and specialised agencies were consulted at the national and/or regional level, the majority of State Party Periodic Reporting mainly concerned cultural heritage issues.

3.3. Identification of the cultural and natural heritage properties

Referred to in Articles 3, 4 and 11 of the *Convention*, inventories of natural and cultural heritage of national importance form the basis for the identification of potential World Heritage sites. The following three points clarify on which level, and to what extent national inventories and Tentative Lists are used as a planning tool for World Heritage nominations.

3.3.1 National Inventories

State Party responses

Inventories of cultural and natural heritage have been established in all States Parties in Europe, although the levels at which these are prepared varies from sub-region to sub-region. The overall responsibility lies with the national authorities, while regional and local participation in this process has been mentioned in most cases.

Natural heritage inventories have been prepared in the majority of countries and special mention has been made of protected areas listed under the EU Natura 2000 programme, especially in the Western European region and the Nordic countries.

Table 17 below illustrates that nearly all States Parties in the sub-regions have used these inventories for selecting World Heritage sites.

Table 17: Inventories used as a basis for selecting World Heritage sites

QUESTION	Nordic and Baltic Region	Western European Region	Mediterranean Region	Central and South Eastern Europe	Eastern Europe
Existence of inventories of cultural and natural properties	100,00%	90,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%
Used as basis for selecting World Heritage sites	87,50%	66,67%	90,91%	100,00%	100,00%

Observations

The inventories of cultural and natural heritage in some of the Eastern European countries and the Baltic States have been based on lists of cultural monuments compiled during the era of the Soviet Union. Although these lists have partly been revised, some States Parties in Eastern Europe, the Baltic States and South Eastern Europe have mentioned that these inventories are incomplete and revisions should be made, taking into account recent research and the diversity of heritage.

Elements for an Action Plan

- Encourage wider dissemination of ICOMOS and IUCN studies and results of 'gap' analysis;
- Participation in meetings on international and national level on the identification of natural and cultural heritage should be promoted.

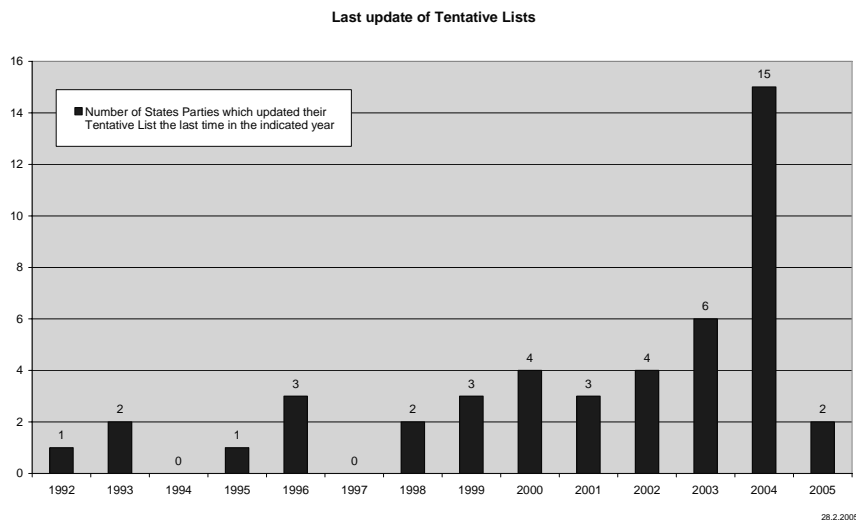
3.3.2 Tentative Lists

According to the decisions of the Committee at its 24th session (Cairns, December 2000) and the twelfth General Assembly of States Parties (UNESCO Headquarters, 1999) Tentative Lists are to be used as a planning tool to help reduce imbalances in the World Heritage List.

State Party responses

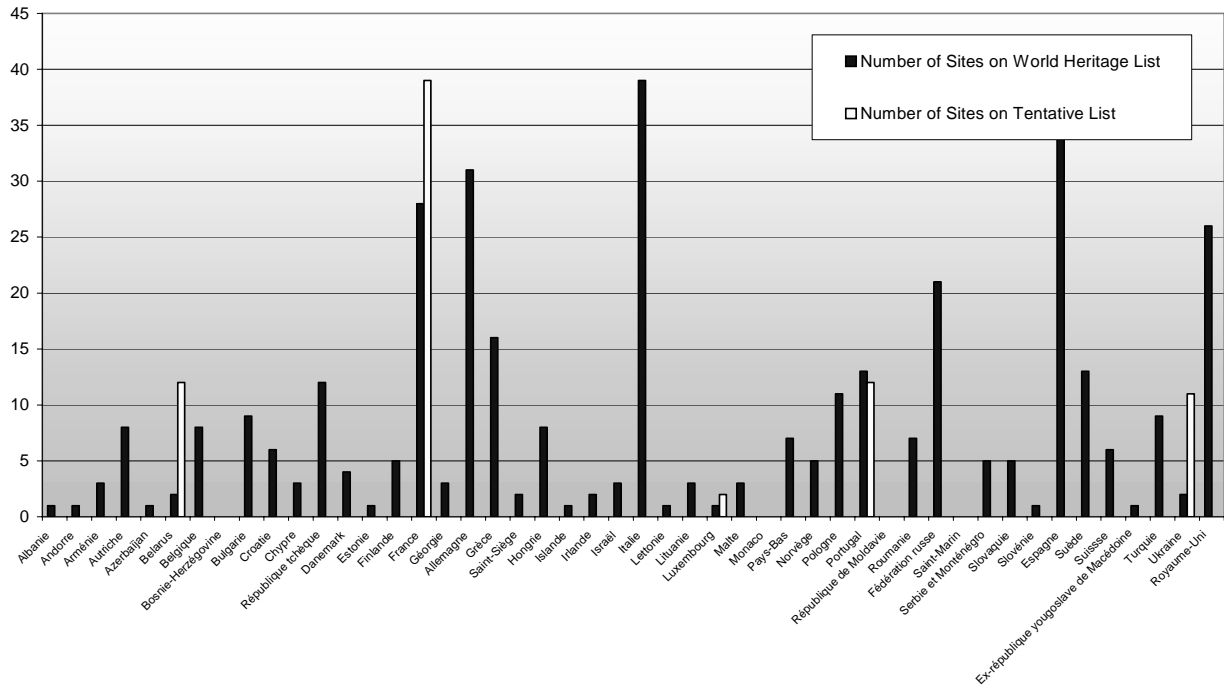
Out of the 48 States Parties in Europe, only two have not presented Tentative Lists: Monaco and the Holy See. The majority of Tentative Lists have been revised in recent years, in response to the decisions of the 24th and 25th sessions of the World Heritage Committee, whereby States Parties are required to prepare Tentative Lists of both cultural and natural heritage prior to their nomination. A great number of Tentative Lists was revised between 2002 and 2004 in compliance with the *Operational Guidelines*.

Figure 14: Number of European States Parties which have submitted updated Tentative Lists since 1992.



A number of the revised Tentative Lists submitted in early 2004 included additions related to the Struve Geodetic Arc nomination submitted jointly by 10 European States Parties by 1 February 2004.

All Tentative Lists are prepared by the cultural and natural heritage authorities. In several States Parties proposals for inclusion of sites on the Tentative Lists are based on a consultative process, whereby regional and local authorities, specialist groups and institutions and the public are involved. This increased involvement of the regional and local authorities, as well as national ICOMOS Committees was mentioned in most reports. The number of properties included on Tentative Lists remains very diverse, however, an increasing number of natural heritage sites and cultural landscapes have been included.

Figure 15: Number of sites on the World Heritage List and on the Tentative List by State Party in Europe

28.2.2005

Observations

Tentative Lists have been compiled for most of Europe on the national level; however an increasing involvement of regional and local institutions and communities can be seen in most States Parties. Greater importance is also being attached to the Tentative Lists as a planning tool at the national level, as well as at the regional level. Though, considering the high number of sites on some Tentative Lists, the correction of the imbalance of the World Heritage List is not realistic. In many cases Tentative Lists have not been compiled on the basis of a systematic review and sound inventories, but are accumulative due to ad-hoc revisions in view of new nominations and are partly outdated.

Harmonisation meetings for Tentative Lists have been carried out in the Baltic countries, the Nordic countries and in the Caucasus region with particular focus on the identification of types of heritage reflecting the diversity of the sub-regions and on heritage currently underrepresented on the World Heritage List.

Some States Parties in Eastern Europe have noted that access to information on cultural and natural heritage is often limited and that documentation is incomplete and requires substantive revision and supplement.

Elements for an Action Plan

- Provide international expertise to assist States Parties in the definition of policies for each sub-region concerning the procedures of revision, up-to-date and harmonisation of Tentative Lists into account the diversity of heritage;
- Encourage States Parties to implement recommendations of Tentative List harmonisation meetings, ICOMOS and IUCN 'gap' analysis, as well as best practice examples in Tentative Lists;
- Encourage further regional cooperation on Tentative List harmonisation and cooperation on joint themes.

3.3.3. Nominations for Inscription on the World Heritage List

The States Parties listed properties that had been nominated for inscription on the World Heritage List and their current status. Details on the process by which nominations were prepared, the motivations, obstacles and difficulties encountered, as well as perceived benefits, were also supplied

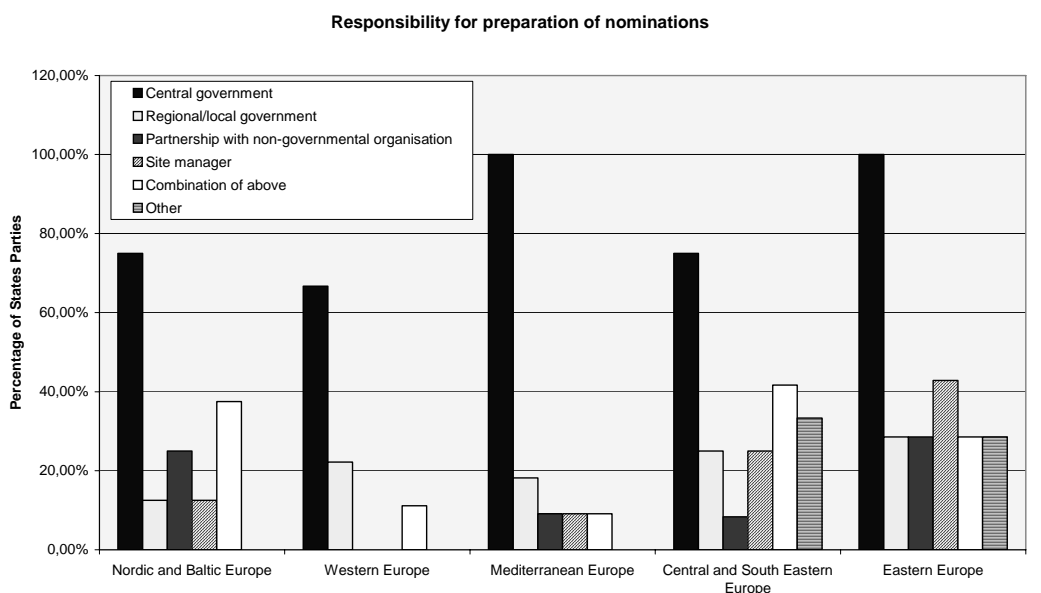
State Party responses

The difference in responses illustrates that not all States Parties understood the type of information that was requested. The listing of properties and their inscription status also included properties which are on the Tentative Lists and had not been submitted as nominations. Furthermore, the information on the status of some nominations was incorrect, i.e. nomination of properties which the Bureau did not recommend or Committee did not inscribe, were listed as ‘withdrawn’, etc. This inconsistency of information can be explained by the lack of information available within some States Parties due, in part, to changes in the responsibilities of national authorities and institutions, as well as loss of documentation. However, lack of understanding of terminologies and linguistic differences are a common cause for inconsistencies in responses provided.

Only three States Parties have no sites inscribed on the World Heritage List: Monaco, the Republic of Moldova and San Marino.

The principal authority for submitting nominations lies with the central governments. The responsibilities for preparation of the nominations are shared between the regional and local governments, specialist institutions and experts. The almost equal involvement of regional/local authorities, organizations and site managers in the preparation of documentation is very visible in the Eastern European sub-region, whereas the responsibility of site managers is very low in most other sub-regions.

Figure 16: Responsibility for preparation of nominations

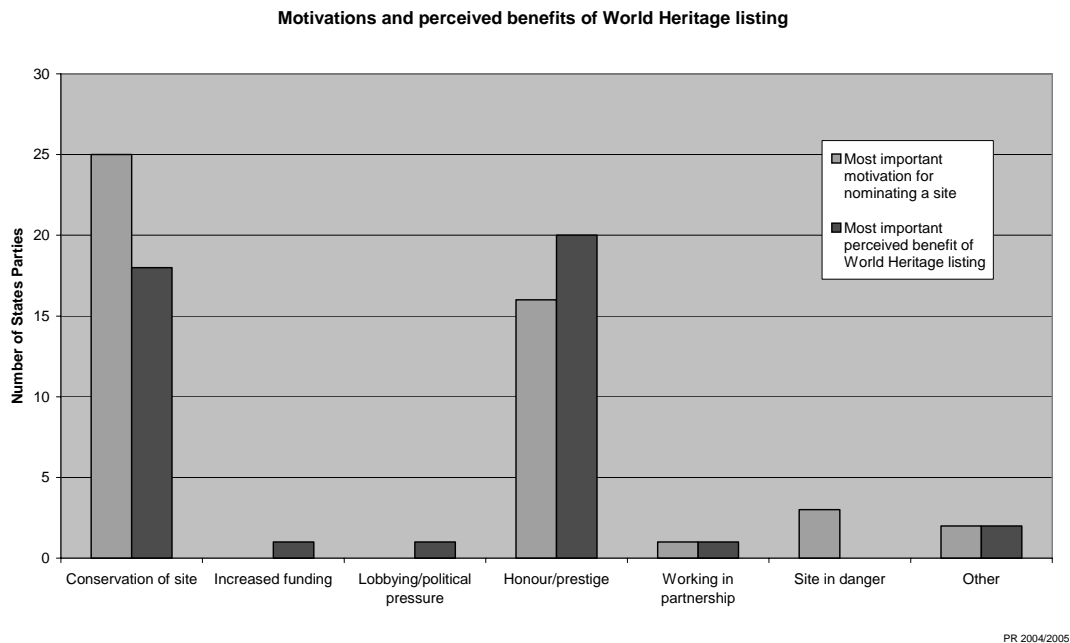


The majority of States Parties in Europe indicated that the preparation of nomination dossiers was by and large carried out by the central government and local authorities, with some input

from site managers. Increasingly the involvement of local inhabitants and authorities at the early stages of the nominations process is mentioned in the Western European and Nordic regions.

In analysing the answers provided regarding the motivations for nominating sites and the perceived benefits, European States Parties do not consider increased funding a primary motivation for nomination of a property, nor has funding been seen as a primary benefit. Around 50% of States Parties consider enhanced conservation as being the key motivation for nomination, a high number of States Parties replied that honour and prestige was the key motivation.

Figure 17: Motivations for nominating sites and perceived benefits of World Heritage listing



Some States Parties in the sub-regions of Central Europe and South Eastern Europe mentioned that if the site was under threat this could be a motivation for initiating the nomination process. In other regions this hardly applies due to the well established legal provisions and protection mechanisms.

The main obstacles and difficulties encountered during the nomination process were lack of staffing, lack of funding and development pressures. Several States Parties located in the Eastern European and South Eastern European region mentioned that the inadequacy of available documentation, as well as difficulties in accessing information, had been an obstacle in preparing nominations. Other issues mentioned in the reports were the increasing complications encountered in the delimitation of boundaries and buffer zones of properties, stemming from increasing pressures of urban development and, for natural sites, the potential threats from mining and other extraction industries.

Observations

A greater awareness of the *World Heritage Convention* in all States Parties has considerably raised public attention to the importance of nominations. Political interest and economic prospects associated with World Heritage listing have increased the pressures on the central governments to submit new nominations. However, it is evident that there is a considerable gap between awareness of the international significance of the *World Heritage Convention*

and the understanding at regional and local levels of the recommendations made by the World Heritage Committee.

There is still a need for a better integration of cultural and natural heritage conservation concerns on a regional and local level. Pressures for nominations are immense and an improvement in information management, institutional support and assistance is particularly needed in some Eastern European States Parties and South Eastern Europe.

The variation in responsibilities is due to the different management structures in Europe.

Elements for an Action Plan

- Strengthen understanding of the concept of ‘*outstanding universal value*’, authenticity and integrity;
- Encourage States Parties to respect decisions of the World Heritage Committee relating to balance of the *World Heritage List* and thereby prioritising nominations of categories which contribute to a balanced representation of the diversity of cultural and natural heritage of the region;
- Assist, in particular, those States Parties in Europe whose cultural and natural heritage of potential *outstanding universal value* is underrepresented on the World Heritage List;
- Encourage all States Parties to consider linking cultural heritage properties representing a certain category inscribed on the World Heritage List on a national and international level, by preparing transboundary/transnational agreements;
- Encourage the strengthening of management systems prior to inscription;
- Disseminate best practice nominations as models and assist in documentation and information collection for better prepared nominations.

3.4. Protection, Conservation and Presentation of the Cultural and Natural Heritage

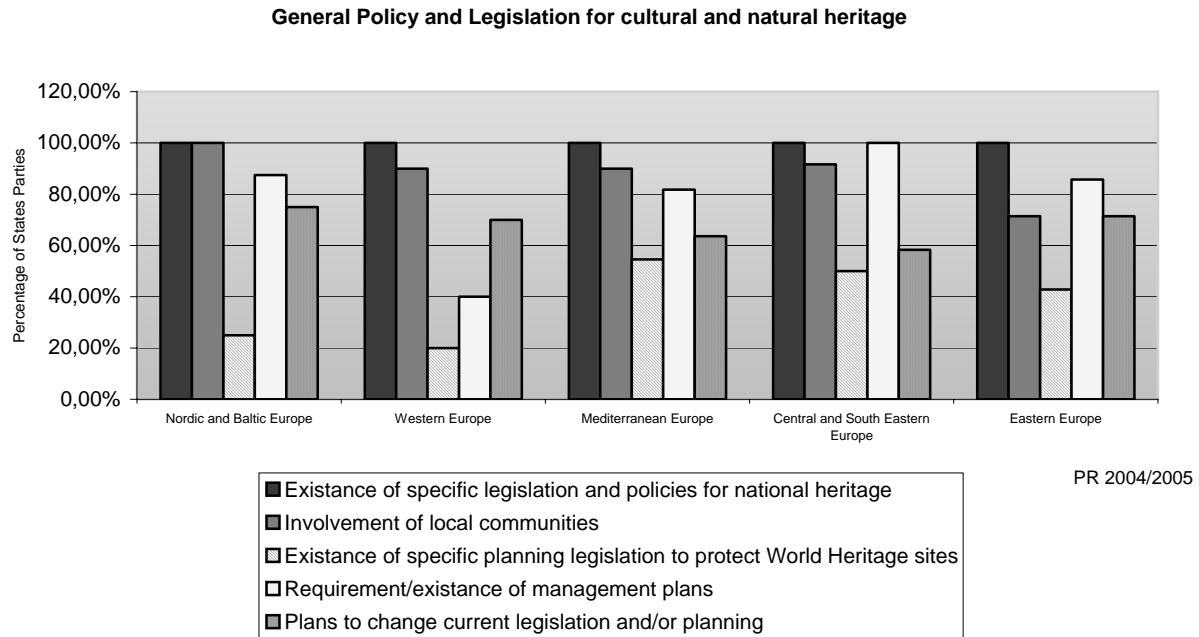
3.4.1 General Policy Development

States Parties in Europe have provided information on the measures and policies established to integrate conservation and protection into comprehensive planning programmes.

State Party responses

All States Parties in Europe have legislations and regulations for cultural heritage protection and separate legislations for natural heritage conservation. The majority of States Parties have regional and local regulations, while only a few have specific World Heritage related planning regulations. National strategies are in some cases being developed to enhance natural heritage conservation.

Figure 18 illustrates that only very few States Parties in Europe have specific planning legislations for World Heritage, however particular mention of legislations and regulations for World Heritage have been made by Germany, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania and Switzerland. A number of countries have created special agencies responsible for World Heritage.

Figure 18: Existence of legislations and general policies in European sub-regions

The requirement of management plans for World Heritage sites has become a principal concern for the World Heritage Committee. The importance of management plans is reflected in the percentages shown in Figure 18 above, whereby Central and South Eastern as well as Eastern European countries have 100% existence of management plans. In the United Kingdom for example, management plans have been completed for most sites and several more are being prepared while in Germany management plans are not required.

Interestingly, changes to legislations and regulations are foreseen in all sub-regions, however not all changes are in support of conservation. A new system of heritage protection is planned in the United Kingdom, whereby pilot projects are being carried out in view of legislative changes for the 2006/2007 biennium.

As mentioned in Chapter 2, the rate of ratification of other International Conventions by European States Parties is very high. Table 7 illustrates that the Biodiversity Convention of 1992 and the Ramsar Convention of 1971 have almost equally as many States Parties as the *World Heritage Convention*. The level of integration of the requirements of international conventions is very different in all States Parties, although the measures required by the conventions are either integrated into national laws, implemented through government actions or taken into account in policy planning.

Observations

The detailed information provided by some States Parties concerning legislative provisions and policy development has shown that protecting World Heritage properties and the importance given to it has guided preservation planning and the elaboration of policies in general. Greater understanding and experience of heritage preservation and protection has progressed considerably in the past 30 years. Accordingly, some European States Parties are making changes to their legislation and adopting new management policies to specifically integrate World Heritage concerns.

The need for assistance with setting-up adequate management mechanisms/plans has been mentioned by several States Parties. Although management mechanisms have increasingly been established, the extent to which these ensure adequate preservation in terms of World Heritage status is questionable, especially considering the high number of conservation and preservation issues raised in state of conservation reports, presented to the World Heritage Committee over the past 10 years. Section II of Periodic Reporting will be providing more insight into these issues.

Elements for an Action Plan

- Share experiences in policy development with other States Parties;
- Strengthen collaboration among national and regional authorities as well as natural and cultural heritage agencies;
- Analyse management frameworks in the sub-regional context and assistance to be provided to develop model management systems.

3.4.2. Status of Services for Protection, Conservation and Presentation

States Parties in Europe have provided information on services which have been set up for the protection, conservation and presentation of the cultural and natural heritage.

State Party responses

In all countries, the state authorities are responsible for the implementation of legislation. In most countries, services for cultural heritage and natural heritage are separate. In general, the organisational structure and levels of services for cultural heritage is more elaborate than for the natural part. Commonly mentioned in all reports is the sharing of responsibilities between national and regional authorities and specialised agencies and local organisations. Institutional integration of the cultural and natural heritage is generally achieved through cooperation between the national authorities rather than legislative frameworks. However, in Eastern Europe institutional integration is very low.

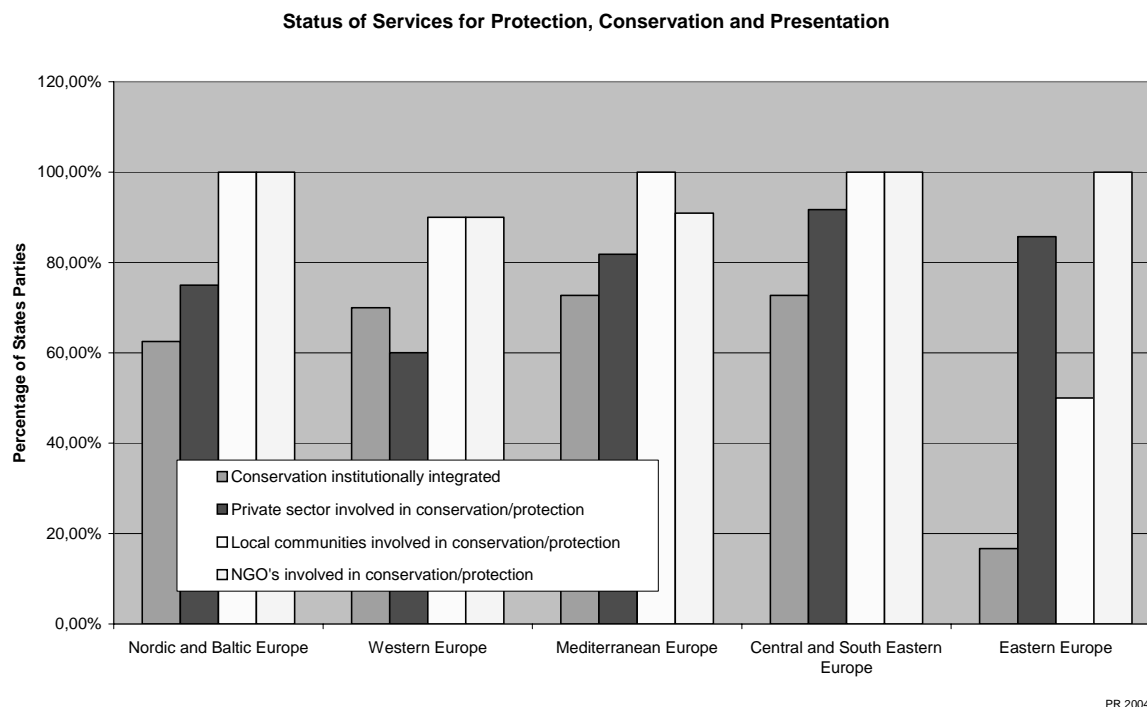
There are slight variations in the role of the private sector in all sub-regions. While in Western Europe the private sector participates in heritage conservation issues due occasionally to ownership of heritage sites, in Eastern Europe and Central South Eastern Europe the private sector is primarily a funding partner, providing sponsorships and funds for conservation and restoration efforts.

Local communities are very active in nearly all sub-regions, participating in discussions, projects, and the consultative process and hearings. In Eastern Europe, the local communities more commonly provided with assistance through voluntary participation in heritage conservation work.

The important role of NGOs in Europe is clearly visible in Figure 19. A network of foundations, associations and charitable bodies is actively providing expertise and funding for the cultural and natural heritage, in particular in the Western European region, the Nordic countries and Mediterranean Europe. The history and tradition of heritage conservation originates from some of these associations which were founded in the middle of the 19th century, and today continue to play an important and proactive role in heritage conservation.

Lottery funding for heritage conservation has been mentioned by some States Parties, particularly in Germany and in the United Kingdom, involving considerable amounts. Fund raising is also carried out by some of these institutions and foundations. More details are found in the sub-regional reports.

Figure 19: Status of services for Protection, Conservation and Presentation in the European Sub-Regions



Increasingly States Parties have established special World Heritage agencies, occasionally within the National Commissions or in the national agencies, to coordinate the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* and managing both the natural and cultural heritage aspects.

Observations

Information on human and financial resources was not provided, although in general, lack of staffing and financial means was mentioned.

The very active involvement of NGOs such as foundations and associations for heritage conservation and protection issues are partly historically founded in Western Europe. In other parts of Europe the increased involvement of private institutions and charitable foundations reflects greater awareness of the importance of heritage preservation and is also a response to the limited resources available for this kind of activity.

In general, financial and human resources are considered insufficient in many States Parties while the Eastern European States Parties have particularly mentioned the need for institutional capacity-building.

Elements for an Action Plan

- Improve financial allocations to natural and cultural heritage through private sector funding;
- Ensure a systematic approach to public and local involvement in heritage

management and preservation;

- Enhance capacity-building at the institutional level as well as through specific courses and preparation of training manuals by ICCROM and IUCN;
- Promote best practice through World Heritage site partnerships and twinning arrangements.

3.4.3 Scientific and Technical Studies and Research

State Party responses

States Parties in Europe have provided information on a range of documents, research and publications, technical studies and conference proceedings which are related to heritage issues in general and not necessarily related to World Heritage issues.

In recent years, numerous studies relating to specific World Heritage properties and the typology of sites have been carried out in several States Parties. In this regard, it is worth mentioning that several research projects as well as survey methods were carried out on a bilateral and international level, and were of particular benefit to World Heritage sites and related issues.

The long tradition in heritage preservation is one of the foundations for scientific expertise and professional knowledge in several countries. Therefore, a wide range of scientific studies, heritage conservation methodologies and conservation and restoration techniques, as well as visitor/tourism management strategies have been developed. The State Party Periodic Reports should be consulted for more detailed information on the subject of studies and publications, although some of this information is available on the Internet.

The loss of knowledge of traditional craftsmanship applied to conservation has been mentioned, and some States Parties in Eastern Europe and South Eastern Europe have indicated the need for wider dissemination of these studies and the opportunity for national experts to participate in research studies and discussion at an international level.

Observations

Europe has a long history in scientific research and some of the oldest universities and institutions are located in the region which accounts for the wealth of information and heritage related studies. In Eastern European countries there is a great wealth of scientific and professional expertise, which due to limited funding of scientific institutions, has not been developed and has little influence at the international scientific level. Mention was also made of the limited access to international scientific literature within the region.

Elements for an Action Plan

- Develop sub-regional programmes focused on capacity-building for institutions involved in the heritage management, preservation and conservation activities;
- Enhance capacity building at institutional level through specific courses and training manuals by ICCROM and IUCN;
- Promote best practice through World Heritage site partnerships and twinning arrangements;
- Enhance capacity building mechanisms and disseminate information;
- Increase funding for focused conservation and heritage programmes in institutions, academies, universities.

3.4.4 Measures for Identification, Protection, Conservation, Presentation and Rehabilitation

States Parties provided information on relevant financial measures that have been adopted for the identification, protection, conservation, preservation and rehabilitation of cultural and natural sites.

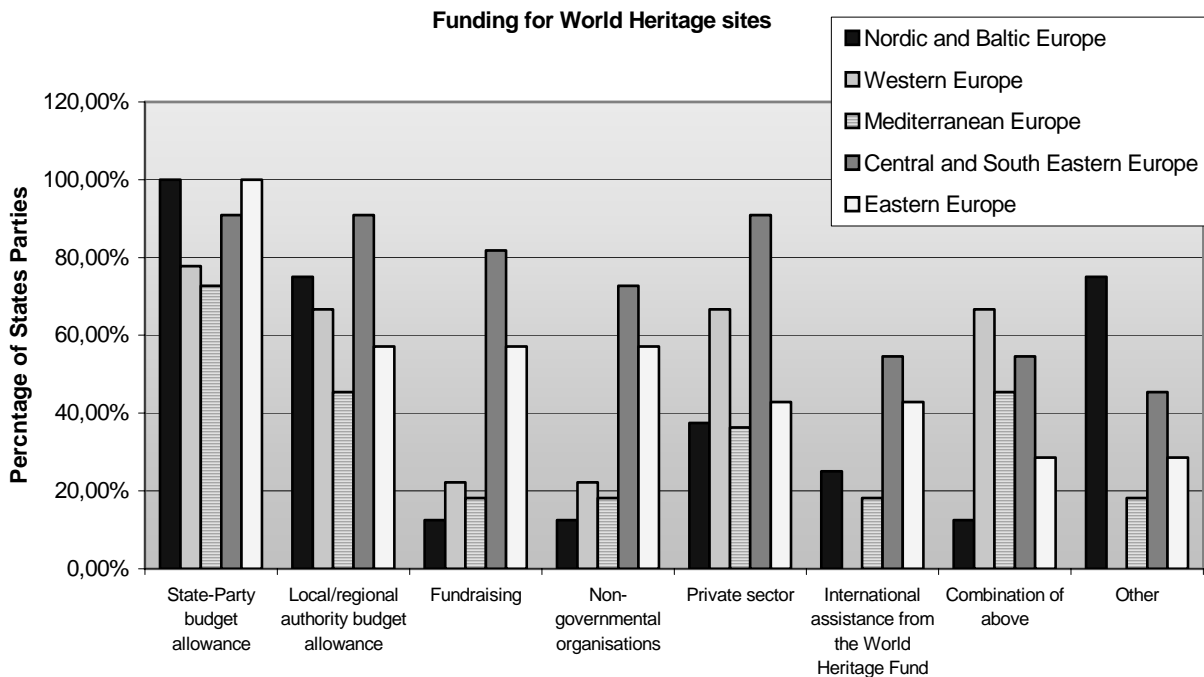
State Party responses

For a vast majority of States Parties the principal funding source is provided from State budgets. However, similar to the complexity of management structures and services, the funding sources vary according to the type of heritage, ownership and other partners involved. Interventions and funding for urban centres, State-owned monuments and buildings, religious monuments and private properties differ greatly, and frequently multiple funding sources are mentioned in all sub-regions. Natural heritage also receives funding from State budgets as well as additional funding through foundations and grant schemes. A number of sites in Western Europe, Nordic and Baltic regions and Central and Eastern Europe have received EU funding for heritage preservation (see also Chapter 2.5.3).

While in Western Europe and the Nordic countries funds from regional and local authorities are viewed as very important and at times comprise the main source of funding, some States Parties in Eastern European and Mediterranean Europe mentioned that funding from regional and local authorities was minimal.

Important funding in Central and South Eastern Europe is received through the private sector. The immense differences in levels of budgets and funds received for heritage in all sub-regions are very striking. States Parties only provided partial information on this subject.

Figure 20: Sources of Funding for World Heritage within the sub-regions in Europe



PR 2004/2005

Several States Parties have assisted in the establishment of private foundations for World Heritage, notably Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Norway and the Russian Federation.

In terms of additional funding for World Heritage, Belgium, France, the Flemish authorities, Italy, The Netherlands, Spain and the United Kingdom support specific World Heritage projects in all parts of the world through cooperation agreements and Funds-in-Trusts. Thirteen out of 48 States Parties have provided direct financial assistance to World Heritage or through (earmarked) contributions the World Heritage Fund. World Heritage sites have benefited from such funding within the framework of the European Union programmes.

Observations

From the information provided by States Parties, it is clear that State budgets for heritage preservation are rather limited and that complementary funding and fund-raising is being sought through the various public and private institutions and foundations, as well as with European programmes.

Elements for an Action Plan

- Coordinate approaches to funding sources;
- Further acquaintance with funding institutions and access to resources;
- Provide training for project proposal preparation and funding applications in several sub-regions;
- Bring together and share information on funding for World Heritage with a view to optimise the limited resources of the World Heritage Fund;

3.4.5 Training

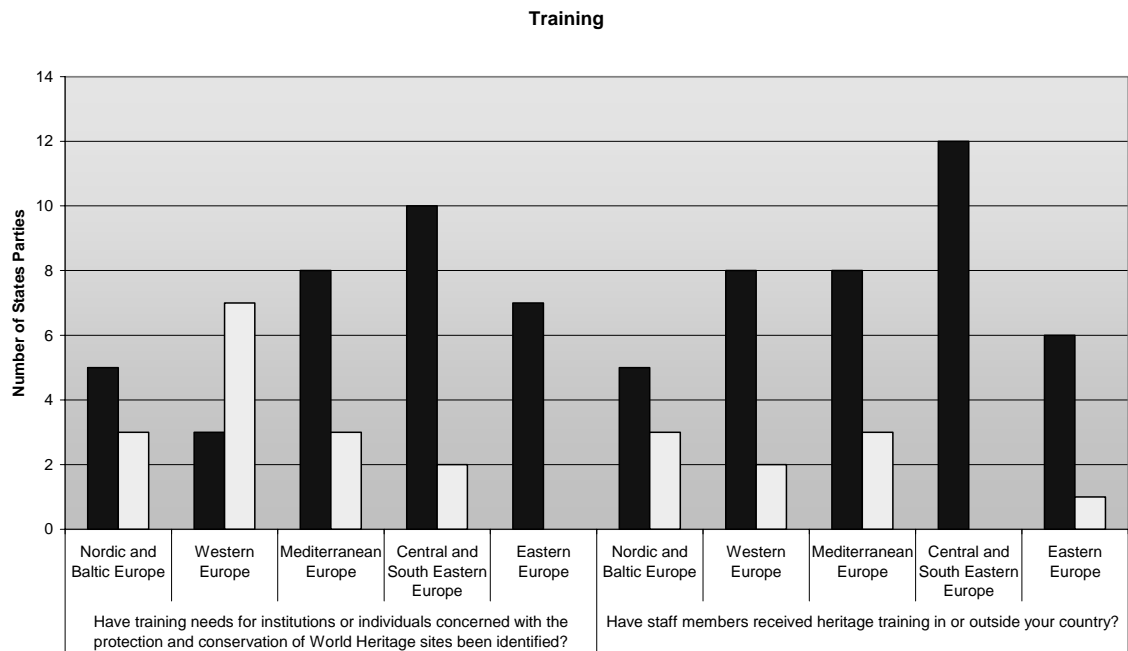
States Parties have provided information on training and educational activities that have been employed for professional capacity-building along with information on the establishment of national or regional centres for training and education in the field of protection, conservation and presentation of cultural and natural heritage.

State Party responses

In this section there is a notable difference in the needs identified in the sub-regions. Eastern European States Parties have underlined the need for institutional training and the creation of training opportunities for site managers. In South Eastern Europe, the States Parties have underlined the need for education in specialised domains such as conservation and preservation of wall paintings, icons, and mosaics, as well as enhanced competence in languages and computer skills. Central Europe and South Eastern Europe require capacity building of staff, particularly with regard to management planning and mechanisms.

The high-level of answers provided in replying to the question concerning identification of training needs in the questionnaire illustrates that the majority of States Parties have identified training needs, with the exception of Western Europe, where seven States Parties have not explored these issues.

The need to explore training opportunities on a national and international level was mentioned by Eastern European States Parties. South Eastern European countries require specialised training in conservation techniques. In general, most States Parties proposed further capacity-building and professional training programmes and expressed the need for better coordination in training.

Figure 21: Training

The majority of States Parties in the Nordic and Baltic region, Western European and Mediterranean Europe have a number of universities and institutions specialising in heritage conservation and preservation. The list of these institutions is extensive and the State Party reports should be consulted for further information. Specialised courses in conservation techniques and building traditions are also mentioned. Particular World Heritage related courses, Heritage programmes and masters degrees related to World Heritage have been established in universities in Ireland, and Germany, while Spain and Italy have organised training courses on World Heritage management.

World Heritage site manager meetings in the Nordic countries have been held for a number of years, dealing with specific themes such as tourism management, conservation and site accessibility. Similarly, some National Commissions organise training and briefing sessions for staff and site managers.

Observations

The lack of information on national institutions and universities or other relevant bodies in South Eastern Europe and in Eastern Europe illustrates an absence of adequate national institutions. There is little encouragement for scientific research in support of educational and training activities. Increased support to universities and better collaboration with current institutes are required, as well as ensuring participation at the international level in research and training activities.

Elements for an Action Plan

- Request ICCROM and IUCN to play a leading role in these regions for the development of an action plan for training in the framework of the Global Training Strategy;
- Encourage States Parties to collaborate with national institutions and universities and foster experts' participation in international conferences and workshops;
- Analyse the specific needs for training and capacity-building in the sub-regions of

Europe and determine an overall programme to be executed at national, regional and local levels as well as at the international level. Within this programme national training institutions should be closely involved and scientific and technical studies carried out in the relevant countries;

3.5. International Cooperation and Fund-raising

Information on cooperation with States Parties from other regions for the identification, protection, conservation and preservation of World Heritage has been provided by States Parties in Europe.

State Party responses

A range of responses has been provided by States Parties. International cooperation in a number of States Parties is based on bi- and multilateral agreements in the field of heritage conservation which is the case mainly in Western Europe, the Nordic Countries and in Mediterranean Europe. In Eastern Europe, Central and South Eastern Europe international cooperation has mainly occurred at the expert level (participation in seminars and training courses).

International cooperation for States Parties in the South Eastern part of Europe has been very limited which is partly due to the rather isolated position of these countries and due to the changing political circumstances.

In Europe, around 77% of States Parties have cooperated with other States Parties for the identification, protection, conservation and preservation of World Heritage sites. Cultural heritage cooperation within the Nordic region has in recent years been extended to the Baltic States, partly through the Nordic Council of Ministers' programme and on bilateral cooperation levels. Western European States Parties have mentioned in particular bilateral assistance to States Parties for the preparation of nomination dossiers in other regions of the world, as well as cooperation agreements with UNESCO and Funds-in-Trust arrangements for World Heritage.

Following the EU enlargement, the programmes of the Union for cooperation in the field of cultural and natural heritage are available to the new member countries.

States Parties in South Eastern Europe have mentioned that international cooperation has been insufficient and that networks need to be further developed. On the whole, numerous States Parties have established networks for cooperation for the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* and have created specific centres and foundations providing financial as well as expert assistance. A success story is the creation of the Nordic World Heritage Foundation with representation on its Board of all Nordic countries. The Nordic World Heritage Foundation was established as a Foundation by the Norwegian Government in March 2002. The 32nd General Conference (2003) granted the Foundation the status of a regional centre under the auspices of UNESCO ²³.

²³ Records of the General Conference, 32nd session, Paris, 29 September to 17 October 2003, v. 1: Resolutions.

Table 18: Type of cooperation in Europe

FORMCODE	QUESTION	Europe				
		Total of States Parties: 48				
		YES	YES	NO	NO	RATE OF ANSWERS
I.10.01	Has your country co-operated with other States Parties for the identification, protection, conservation and preservation of the World Heritage located on their territories?	37	77.08%	11	22.92%	100%
I.10.02	If yes, please indicate the type of co-operation that best describes your activities.					81.25%
	Bi-lateral and multi-lateral agreements	27	69.23%			
	Hosting and/or attending international training courses/seminars	32	82.05%			
	Distribution of material/information	18	46.15%			
	Financial support	25	64.10%			
	Experts	35	89.74%			
	Other	13	33.33%			

Differing information has been provided by States Parties concerning the question on twinned sites. Transboundary properties have in some cases been used as examples for twinning, although other transboundary properties were not mentioned as an example for co-operation. Arrangements for collaboration among municipalities have been set up in several countries, especially through OWHC. Particularly in Western Europe, the Nordic and Baltic Countries specific site twinning within Europe and with World Heritage sites in other parts of the world exist and further twinning arrangements are being developed.

A low rate of participation in hosting/attending international training courses and seminars is visible in Eastern Europe with less than half the States Parties having hosted or participated in training courses and seminars.

Table 19: Twinning of World Heritage sites

QUESTION	Europe			Nordic and Baltic Europe			Western Europe			Mediterranean Europe			Central and South Eastern Europe			Eastern Europe		
	States Parties : 48			States Parties : 8			States Parties : 10			States Parties : 11			States Parties : 12			States Parties : 7		
	YES	NO	RATE OF ANSWERS	YES	NO	RATE OF ANSWERS	YES	NO	RATE OF ANSWERS	YES	NO	RATE OF ANSWERS	YES	NO	RATE OF ANSWERS	YES	NO	RATE OF ANSWERS
Do you have World Heritage sites that have been twinned with others at a national or international level?	15	32	97.92%	3	5	100%	5	5	100%	1	9	90.91%	5	7	100%	1	6	100%

In terms of measures which have been taken to avoid damage directly or indirectly to World Heritage on the territory of other States Parties, the participation in other UN programmes of States Parties is in Western Europe and Mediterranean Europe considerably higher than in any of the other sub-regions.

Observations

Cooperation through the programmes of the European Union have been mentioned by some States Parties although a more detailed overview of the various activities have not been provided. In the future, the participation of several new EU members countries in the various programmes will increase. More detailed information can be expected in Section II of Periodic Reporting, where specific activities concerning World Heritage properties will be reported on.

Bi-lateral agreements as well as cooperation agreements and Funds-in-Trust arrangements have greatly supported World Heritage activities around the world. Similarly, the creation of specific foundations and working groups for World Heritage has increased in recent year.

Due to the past isolation and post war restructuring in a number States Parties in South Eastern Europe networking in this region is very limited.

Elements for an Action Plan

International cooperation and fundraising:

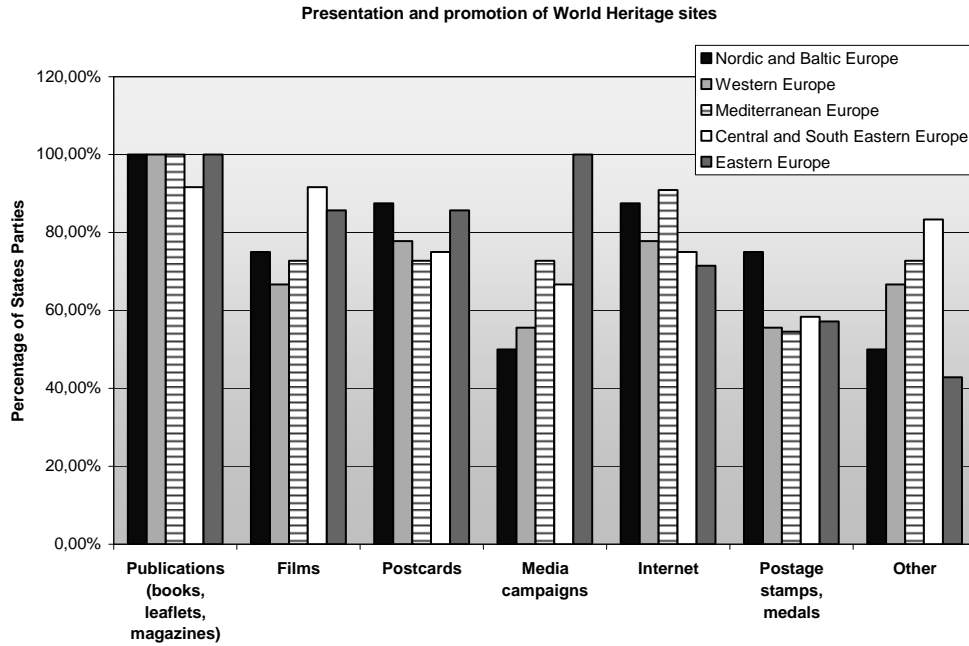
- Develop a programme aiming to improve cooperation at the European and global levels and activate circulation of scientific ideas, technological experience and contacts between specialists of different countries involved in the World Heritage related activities;
- Encourage States Parties to collaborate with national institutions and universities and foster experts participation in international conferences and workshops;
- National institutions responsible for the heritage protection and Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the States Parties to further review the whole complex of their international legal base in order to define strength and weaknesses of international cooperation in the field of heritage conservation and to develop general policies for future actions in this realm;
- Explore possibility for creation of a European Programme and Fund for World Heritage with the European Union;
- Develop partnership with Council of Europe and its heritage related programmes;
- Encourage creation of a 'year book' on international cooperation;

3.6. Information, Awareness Building and Education

State Party responses

The inscription of a site on the World Heritage List greatly increases public attention to the *World Heritage Convention*. In the majority of European States Parties the promotion of World Heritage properties and the Convention is achieved through publications, films, media campaigns, internet and other related activities such as Heritage days and festivities.

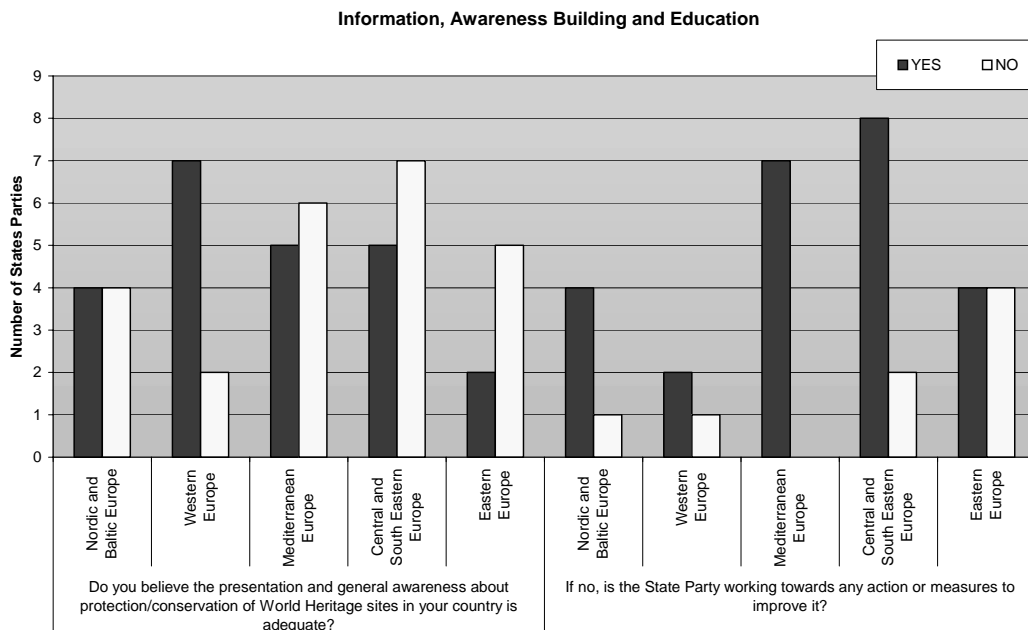
Figure 22: Types of activities for promotion of World Heritage



PR 2004/2005

Around 51% of States Parties in Europe have reported that activities undertaken to increase public awareness through the above-mentioned activities and means is inadequate. Proposals to ameliorate this situation include the organisation of seminars/workshops, media events and publications, training of researchers and the dissemination of their findings, establishment of museums and the conducting of restoration and excavation activities.

Figure 23: Information, Awareness Building and Education



PR 2004/2005

States Parties provided diverging information on education programmes in the field of protection and conservation of World Heritage. In several cases university programmes were mentioned, as well as UNESCO programmes. Other international organisations and institutes such as ICCROM and universities in other countries were also mentioned.

UNESCO's Associate Schools programme and World Heritage in Young Hands have been well received in many European countries, although the information on the level of participation has not been very detailed. A number of States Parties have played leading roles in the development of the Teachers' Training Kit and in the organisation of annual activities for children and students.

Observations

In general the majority of States Parties feel that improvements in education, information and awareness-raising have to be made and are working on measures to remedy this situation. A more systematic approach to development of educational programmes, information and promotional activities is needed.

Elements for an Action Plan

- Develop strategy for information, awareness-building and education, based on identified needs in sub-regions in collaboration with the Advisory Bodies;
- Develop models and standards for information material;
- Support community participation in heritage preservation and management;
- Encourage States Parties to actively join the Young Peoples Participation in World Heritage Preservation and Promotion Project

3.7. Conclusions

All States Parties in Europe have presented Periodic Reports on Section I. This 100% response and the overall rate of replies provided in the questionnaire by all States Parties illustrates that this stage of the Periodic Reporting process has been very successful. The majority of reports have been prepared by the cultural heritage agencies with some input from the natural heritage agencies. Some shortcomings of reports are the lack of information explained by deficiency of documentation and information available within the competent institutions, difficulties in understanding questions and/or differences in interpretation as well as lack of co-ordination between the different institutions and agencies. At times very formal answers were provided while some reports were very detailed and explanatory. Confusion also occurred between questions relating to cultural and natural heritage in general, and those relating specifically to World Heritage. However, some States Parties have provided very detailed information and precise explanations on administrative structures, institutions and scientific studies which is commendable. Regrettably, this report does not do justice to all of these efforts.

The Periodic Reporting exercise has contributed to increased collaboration among States Parties within sub-regions, though Western Europe and Mediterranean Europe did not attain this sub-regional level of co-operation. The German speaking countries did prepare a synthesis report for their part which was integrated into the Western European sub-regional report.

Inventories of cultural and natural heritage have been used in all States Parties as the basis for the identification of World Heritage properties. Improvements to these lists are felt necessary in South Eastern Europe and Eastern Europe, especially seen in conjunction with the revision of Tentative Lists which are at times outdated and do not reflect the diversity of cultural and natural heritage. Although harmonisation meetings for Tentative Lists have been held in the Baltic region, Ukraine with neighbouring countries, and the Caucasus region the recommendations have yet to be applied. Furthermore, States Parties in these regions have highlighted deficiency of documentation and difficulties of access to relevant information. Noteworthy is the initiative of the Nordic countries, which in 1996 harmonised their Tentative Lists on a regional basis and identified sites of underrepresented categories, particularly focusing on natural heritage. For Mediterranean and Western Europe, a revision and updating of Tentative Lists has not been completed, as they have a tendency to be cumulative rather than systematic and reflective.

Difference in numbers of nominations and inscription in the sub-regions can be explained by the long period of participation in the implementation of the *Convention* by some of these States Parties in Western Europe and the Mediterranean region. Lack of capacities and the shortcomings of inventories have been an obstacle for some of the other sub-regions. Serious consideration should be given to the possible linking of World Heritage properties representing parallel categories at a national level and at an international level. Increased awareness of the full diversity of cultural and natural heritage is emerging and States Parties are investing great efforts into serial transnational nominations, which are a particular collaborative accomplishment. Similarly, increased regional, local and public participation in the nomination process can be seen in the majority of States Parties. This move from a purely central government-driven exercise to a participatory process is at the heart of the *Convention* and needs to be supported in some sub-regions.

Administrative and legal measures undertaken by States Parties in the field of identification, protection, conservation, preservation and presentation of World Heritage vary within the sub-regions. For most of Western Europe, the Nordic countries and the Mediterranean, the provisions are adequate and measures to improve planning policies and management mechanisms are being planned. Ratification of international standards legislative and policy reforms as well as capacity-building are needed in South Eastern Europe and Eastern Europe and special World Heritage policies are increasingly being developed in these countries. Only some national legislations cover both cultural and natural heritage and separate approaches vary especially in States Parties with federal systems.

Although the majority of States Parties in Western Europe, the Nordic countries and Mediterranean Europe have a wide range of training facilities and extensive studies in heritage matters, the overall need for more specialised training as well as institutional capacity-building has been identified in all reports.

International cooperation is being carried out in all States Parties, however to varying degrees. While a number of countries contribute to conservation and preservation of heritage through particular cooperation agreements and Funds-in-Trust arrangements with UNESCO and the World Heritage Centre, enhanced cooperation in Eastern and South Eastern Europe is needed. In recognition of decreasing national budgets for heritage preservation, States Parties have recognised the need for fund-raising that is being achieved through grants from private foundations as well as lottery arrangements. The opportunities for fund-raising in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe are rather more limited than in the other parts of Europe. Although EU programmes are available to a number of European States Parties, a more systematic approach

to these funds is needed, in particular, in view of the rather complex procedures for funding applications.

Regional centres and national World Heritage committees are increasingly being set up in States Parties, which ensure a more systematic approach to the implementation of the recommendations of the World Heritage Committee, the General Assembly and the application of the *Convention*.

States Parties have employed various means to promote and present the *Convention* at national levels and partly at the international level. However, awareness-raising and appropriate presentation of World Heritage sites need to be further explored at the regional and local levels.

The potential of educational programmes for heritage matters has not been fully explored although a number of States Parties in the different sub-regions have actively participated in the UNESCO Associated Schools programme and the World Heritage Education Project.

In terms of the electronic questionnaire used by States Parties for the completion of Periodic Reporting on Section I , the overall assessment of the electronic tool has been positive, the user-friendliness being rated as good (43.48%), average (34.78%) and very good (19.57%). Improvements and changes will be discussed during a meeting, arranged for all European focal-points, to be hosted by the German authorities in Berlin in November 2005. Specific recommendations and suggestions for the reflection years for Periodic Reporting in 2007 are also a subject of this meeting.

Table 20: Evaluation of the Periodic Reporting Tool and general benefits of Periodic Reporting

FORMCODE	QUESTION	Europe				
		Total of States Parties: 48				
		YES	YES	NO	NO	RATE OF ANSWERS
I.13.02	How do you assess the clarity and user-friendliness of the questionnaire?					95.83 %
	Very good	9	19.57%			
	Good	20	43.48%			
	Average	16	34.78%			
	Bad	0	0.00%			
	Very bad	1	2.17%			
I.13.03	Do you think the Periodic Reporting process will produce any benefits to the State Party?	39	97.50%	1	2.50%	83.33 %

The future potential for information sharing with the Council of Europe (HEREIN) will be further explored. Translation of the questionnaire into different European languages may also be useful and may be taken into account in the further development of the methodology for Periodic Reporting.

A detailed report on the use of the electronic tool and its further development for all regions as well as specific recommendations for the 2007 Reflection Year is currently under preparation.

4. REGIONAL ANALYSIS AND PROPOSALS TOWARDS AN ACTION PLAN FOR EUROPE

4.1. Strengths and Weaknesses of the Implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* in Europe and the Sub-Regional Context

Considering the substantial efforts invested by States Parties in Europe for the completion of the Periodic Reports and the overall rate of answers, the implementation of the Periodic Reporting exercise can be considered successful. For the most part, the requirements of the *Convention* have been fulfilled by States Parties. However, the information provided in the Periodic Reports has shown that the extent of measures taken by States Parties to put into practice the recommendations of the *Committee* and implement the *Operational Guidelines* vary considerably. The sub-regional reports illustrate that certain strengths and weaknesses are common to a number of States Parties within a region. Listed herewith are the accomplishments and shortcomings seen in the European context, followed by a focus on the sub-regional aspects. In general most focal points agreed that the Periodic Reporting exercise itself is an important achievement for the whole region and has increased interest and awareness among governments and institutions in the *World Heritage Convention*.

Strengths

- In replying and analysing the different aspects of the implementation of the *Convention* in the Periodic Report, States Parties in Europe have identified existing weaknesses and future actions ;
- Cooperation at the regional and national level has been enhanced, bringing together the different actors in the field of cultural and natural heritage and thereby contributing to the exchange of information.
- Inventories on natural and cultural heritage have been compiled in all States Parties and have been used as a basis for the Tentative Lists;
- Recognition of the diversity of heritage in Europe and of underrepresented types of heritage has increased;
- Preparations of nominations of serial, transboundary and transnational properties have augmented and thereby enhanced international cooperation;
- Involvement of regional and local authorities as well as public participation in the nomination process has greatly increased;
- Positive legal and administrative arrangements have been undertaken in the field of heritage preservation and planned revisions are based on “lessons learnt” from World Heritage;
- Active international cooperation for World Heritage has been enlarged;
- Interest of authorities and public in World Heritage has been strengthened through promotion.

Weaknesses

- Only very few legislations cover both cultural and natural heritage in one system;
- Tentative Lists have in general not been systematically established or revised. With some exceptions, Tentative Lists remain cumulative, outdated and have not been prepared in a sub-regional context;
- Considerable imbalances remain in the number of cultural and natural properties on the World Heritage List within Europe;
- Overrepresentation of certain types of cultural heritage;

- Management plans have not been systematically prepared or implemented;
- Considerable divergence of information management, outdated systems and loss of institutional memory;
- Lack of integrated policies for both cultural and natural World Heritage conservation;
- Deficiencies in a coordinated approach to funding sources;
- Shortage of staff in the competent institutions responsible for heritage preservation and conservation;
- Lack of cooperation and coordination among national and regional agencies and institutions responsible for heritage preservation and conservation;
- Limited capacity-building at institutional levels;
- Lack of resources at some national, regional and local levels has been noted.

In the following, an attempt is made to specifically review the strengths and weaknesses in each of the sub-regions:

WESTERN EUROPE

Strengths

- Strong governmental and public awareness and increasing interest in heritage and particular World Heritage in recent years;
- Enhanced World Heritage dynamics which foster integrated development schemes;
- Sound legal basis and good regulatory tools for protection of cultural and natural heritage;
- General support from governments for Tentative Lists and nominations;
- Good network of professionals involved in heritage conservation, high-level of expertise and professionalism;
- Good national data survey systems;
- Considerable involvement of the private sector;
- Strong international solidarity through international cooperation (national, regional, and local levels) and active solidarity through exchange of expertise, and cooperation agreements. Wish to enhance cooperation, expertise and scientific exchange;
- Active involvement of NGO's and civil society;
- Measures and incentives to promote information and education on heritage.

Weaknesses

- High number of World Heritage properties leading to a great workload in the World Heritage system;
- Awareness for heritage but not always a good understanding of the *Convention* and World Heritage;
- Lack of systematic approach to properties on the Tentative Lists and nominations.
- Need to harmonise Tentative Lists and lack of proper identification of natural properties;
- Lack of integration between natural and cultural heritage;
- Need for better information regarding management plans and buffer zones;
- Difficulties to implement management plans;
- Lack of coordination at times, due to dilution of responsibilities;

- Reorganisation of functions and loss of expertise, division of responsibility between central and local government;
- Lack of local resources, and/or irregular resources.

NORDIC AND BALTIC EUROPE

Strengths

- Sound national legal systems for protection and conservation of cultural and natural heritage;
- Inventories on cultural and natural heritage compiled through regional and national cooperation and used as a basis for Tentative Lists;
- Long-term cooperation on Tentative List harmonisation in the Nordic countries;
- Properties in Nordic countries being nominated from underrepresented categories;
- Active role and involvement of NGO's and civil society in heritage conservation;
- Nordic World Heritage Foundation as an example of international cooperation and contribution to the implementation of the *Convention*;

Weaknesses

- Tentative Lists in the Baltic countries have not been revised, and consideration to Tentative List harmonisation not implemented;
- General lack of funding, especially in Baltic countries;
- Need for capacity building at different levels for improved management of World Heritage;
- Involvement of local communities to be improved at site level;
- Better coordination of media for promotion of World Heritage;
- Lack of coordination and communication between authorities in Baltic countries;
- NGO's position in Baltic countries to be strengthened.

MEDITERRANEAN EUROPE

Strengths

- Comprehensive national inventories and good data survey system;
- Legal basis and good regulatory tools for protection of cultural and natural heritage
- Some recently updated Tentative Lists;
- Good cooperation and collaboration with national, regional and local organisations;
- Active NGO and civil society participation in heritage protection;
- Particular working groups or committees established for World Heritage issues;
- International cooperation and expert cooperation with other regions;
- Very active promotion of World Heritage, through heritage days and festivities;

- IUCN Mediterranean Office.

Weaknesses

- Need for further understanding of World Heritage criteria and the nomination process;
- Need to increase involvement of local communities in site management;
- Need to strengthen management planning;
- Lack of integration of natural and cultural heritage legislations;
- Need for coordination of cultural and natural heritage management;
- Dilution of heritage responsibilities;
- Need for partnerships and fund-raising;
- Need for further professional training programmes and regional and international coordination in training.

CENTRAL AND SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE

Strengths

- Provision of selected positive administrative and legal measures in the field of identification, protection, conservation and presentation of World Heritage in the sub-region;
- Enhanced World Heritage activities for education, professional training and awareness raising in parts of the sub-region;
- Enhanced conservation activities in parts of the sub-region resulting in removal of properties from the World Heritage in Danger;
- Increased interest of governments and the general public towards the *World Heritage Convention* and World Heritage properties;
- Growing and recent involvement of local communities in conservation process;
- Ongoing EU integration processes contributing towards sub-regional or regional cooperation;

Weaknesses

- Lack of heritage policies in the sub-region or the implementation of existing policies;
- Inadequate legal protection for World Heritage;
- Loss of institutional memory and documentation;
- Damage to the heritage from political conflict in parts of the sub-region;
- Inadequate capacity building and training in the institutions and of individuals involved in the World Heritage;
- Inadequate funding in the field of heritage;
- Inadequate representation of heritage of the sub-region on the World Heritage List and lack of adequate inventories in parts of the sub-region;
- Overall lack of national and sub-regional strategy for the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*;
- Difficulties in developing focused strategies for the sub-region because of different needs resulting from political and historical background in each country.

EASTERN EUROPE*Strengths*

- Provision of selected positive administrative and legal measures in the field of identification, protection, conservation and presentation of World Heritage in the sub-region;
- Increased interest of governments and the general public towards the *World Heritage Convention* and World Heritage properties;
- Growing participation of NGOs in the field of heritage conservation;
- Positive impacts of ratification of the *World Heritage Convention* on the safeguarding of national heritage;

Weaknesses

- Lack of heritage policies in the sub-region or the implementation of existing policies;
- Inadequate legal protection of World Heritage;
- Lack of capacity and training in the institutions and of individuals involved in World Heritage;
- Gaps in conservation techniques and professional skills;
- Inadequate funding in the field of heritage;
- Inadequate representation of heritage of the sub-region on the World Heritage List.
- Overall lack of national and sub-regional strategy for the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*.

4.2. Proposals towards a Future Action Plan for Europe

The Periodic Reporting exercise has provided an opportunity to reflect on the state of the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention* in Europe. On the basis of the information provided by States Parties in the Periodic Reports and on the basis of the sub-regional analysis, proposals for future actions have been made herewith. A concerted Action Plan for Europe taking into account the specificities of each sub-region has to be developed. The proposals towards a future Action Plan are to be considered as the basis for discussion with States Parties and their focal points. However, an overall strategy for Europe can only be developed and presented to the World Heritage Committee once the results of Section II have been analysed.

The proposals are primarily structured according to the Strategic Objectives adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 26th session in 2002 and are grouped according to the requirements of the *Convention*.

<p><u>Strategic Objective:</u> <i>Strengthen credibility of the World Heritage List</i></p>
--

INVENTORY, DOCUMENTATION, INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- Develop sub-regional programmes aiming to help States Parties in the modernisation of their national inventories and conducting information management activities (digitisation, information systems and databases);
- Wider dissemination of information and documentation available on the Advisory Bodies studies and gap analyses;
- Regional and sub-regional incentive to promote exchange of expertise and scientific knowledge;
- States Parties to give national experts more opportunities to attend international meetings and seminars concerning natural and cultural heritage preservation;
- Strengthen the concept of ‘*outstanding universal value*’, authenticity and integrity;
- Encourage States Parties to respect the recommendation of the World Heritage Committee relating to balance of World Heritage List and thereby prioritising nominations of categories which contribute to a more balanced representation of the diversity of cultural and natural heritage of the region.

TENTATIVE LISTS

- International expertise to assist States Parties in the definition of unified general policies for the sub-region concerning the procedures of revision, the up-date and harmonisation of Tentative Lists in a European context;
- Encourage States Parties to implement recommendations of Tentative List harmonisation meetings, ICOMOS and IUCN ‘gap’ analyses, as well as best practice examples on Tentative Lists;
- Encourage further regional cooperation Tentative List harmonisation;
- States Parties to share knowledge on the development of regulations and definition of boundaries and buffer/core zones for World Heritage sites;
- Encourage States Parties to consult the information and documentation available through the Secretariat and Advisory Bodies.

NOMINATIONS

- States Parties to work on the definition of general policies in the field of nomination decision-making and on the development of more comprehensive interdepartmental cooperation at the national, regional and local levels;
- Encourage all States Parties to consider linking and merging cultural heritage properties representing a certain type of heritage inscribed on the World Heritage List, at national and international levels;
- Encourage strengthening of management planning processes prior to inscription;
- Disseminate best practice nominations as models;
- Assist in documentation and information collection for better nominations.

Strategic Objective: *Ensure the effective **conservation** of World Heritage properties*

LEGAL AND POLICY REFORMS

- States Parties to define integrated policies for both cultural and natural World Heritage conservation;

- Provide international expertise for the reforming of existing heritage legislation;

MANAGEMENT

- Establish sub-regional programme aiming to assist States Parties in setting up effective management mechanisms for cultural and natural properties;
- States Parties to establish appropriate mechanisms to ensure that management systems are in place for all inscribed properties.

Strategic Objective: *Promote the development of effective **capacity-building** in States Parties*

FUNDING

- States Parties to increase funding and improve staffing for the competent institutions responsible for the heritage preservation and conservation as well as for scientific institutions and programmes that would benefit World Heritage properties;
- Improve financial allocations to natural and cultural heritage through private sector funding;
- Systematic approach to public and local involvement in heritage management and preservation.

CAPACITY-BUILDING

- Establish sub-regional programmes focused on capacity-building for institutions involved in heritage management, preservation and conservation activities;
- Enhance capacity-building at the institutional level, as well as through specific courses and manuals by ICCROM and IUCN;
- Promote best practice through World Heritage site partnerships and twinning arrangements;
- Enhance capacity-building mechanisms and disseminate information;
- Increase funding for focused programmes in institutions, academies and universities.

TRAINING

- Establish sub-regional programmes aiming to create training opportunities for policy and decision makers, site managers, conservation specialists and NGOs;
- Set up sub-regional programmes to enhance traditional know-how and sharing of skills;
- Stimulate circulation of scientific ideas, technological experience and contacts between specialists of different countries involved in World Heritage related activities;
- ICCROM to cooperate with States Parties on the development of a global training strategy for World Heritage in the sub-region;
- Provide States Parties with international expertise in order to help them develop regulations on the definition of boundaries and buffer/core zones for World Heritage sites.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

- Develop programmes aiming to improve cooperation at the European and global levels and activate circulation of scientific ideas, technological experience and contacts between specialists of different countries involved in World Heritage related activities;
- Encourage States Parties to collaborate with national institutions and universities and foster experts' participation in international conferences and workshops;
- National institutions responsible for heritage protection and Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the States Parties to further review the whole complex of their international legal base in order to define strengths and weaknesses of international cooperation in the field of heritage conservation and to develop general policies for future actions in this realm;
- Explore possibility for creation of a European Programme and Fund for World Heritage with the European Union;
- Develop partnerships with Council of Europe (Herein Programme);
- Encourage the creation of a 'year book' on international cooperation;
- Experiences in policy development to be shared with other States Parties;
- Collaboration among national and regional authorities to be strengthened;
- Coordinated approach to funding sources and acquaintance with funding institutions;
- Establish close collaboration with the European Union and other related heritage programmes and to examine complementarities of activities related to World Heritage;
- Training in the application process for project funding.

Strategic Objectives: *increase public awareness, involvement, and support for World Heritage through **Communication***

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

- States Parties to improve community participation mechanisms in heritage conservation and management;
- States Parties to join *Young People's Participation in World Heritage Preservation and Promotion Project*.

INVOLVEMENT OF VOLUNTARY PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS

- Initiate sub-regional projects to support the involvement of NGOs and the private sector in the implementation of the *World Heritage Convention*;

AWARENESS-RAISING

- Encourage coordinated sub-regional projects for awareness-raising activities at the (sub)regional level;
- Develop strategy for information, awareness-building and education, based on identified needs in sub-regions, in collaboration with the Advisory Bodies;
- Develop models and standards for information material;
- Coordinate awareness-raising activities at the national and sub-regional level – e.g. World Heritage site networks, publications, and web sites.

5. PROGRESS REPORT ON THE PREPARATION OF SECTION II

On 7 December 2004 the World Heritage Centre organised the 5th Information Meeting for

States Parties from North America and Europe, during the 7th Extraordinary session of the World Heritage Committee. The participants were informed of the sub-regional grouping of States Parties in Europe and the preparation of sub-regional and regional synthesis reports. The World Heritage Centre has developed an electronic analysis and statistical evaluation tool which facilitates the statistical comparison of data submitted in the States Party reports, electronically provided in the on-line questionnaire. A demonstration of this tool was given during the information meeting.

Due to the very limited time available for the analysis of **Section II**, which concerns a total of **258 sites**, participants of the meeting agreed to advance the deadline date for the submission of Section II to **31 October 2005** (see Circular Letter of 20 February 2005). The synthesis analysis on Section II will be based on the submission of reports from States Parties. Furthermore, on the basis of the results and the analysis of this Section, the elements proposed for the Action Plan presented to the 29th session of the World Heritage Committee will be completed to provide strategic orientations for the future implementation of the Convention in Europe.

During the information meeting the German representative offered to host on behalf of the German State Party a meeting for European and North American States Parties to reflect on the process and methodology applied in the European Reporting cycle. The two-day meeting to be held in Berlin (Germany) from 8 to 9 November 2005 will assemble the representatives of the Working Group, all European focal points for Periodic Reporting, with the participation of the Advisory Bodies and the World Heritage Centre.

A number of sub-regional coordination meetings and workshops have been held to discuss the preparation of Section II, notably in Central and South Eastern Europe (Levoca, Slovakia, April 2005) and Nordic and Baltic Region (Copenhagen, Denmark, April 2005).

The Retrospective Inventory Project, initiated in 2004, is a detailed examination of the contents of the nomination files of properties inscribed between 1978 and 1998. This information, together with an analysis of Bureau recommendations, Committee decisions, and various other changes made by States Parties to nomination proposals during the nomination process, will contribute to improved documentation on World Heritage sites and form the basis for the work of the World Heritage Committee, the World Heritage Centre, the Advisory Bodies and States Parties to manage and monitor properties on the World Heritage List. States Parties in Europe have been requested to provide this additional and improved documentation (in particular detailed maps with clear definition of boundaries) to the World Heritage Centre in parallel to preparing Section II reports. Letters presenting the results of this analysis and requests for clarification and/or improved maps have been sent to 35 of the 40 Periodic Reporting focal points and States Parties the European Region with sites inscribed through 1998.

Draft Decision: 29 COM 11B

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined document **WHC-05/29COM/11B** and taking note of document **WHC-05/29COM/INF 11B**,
2. Recalling Decisions 25 COM VII.25-27 and 7 EXT COM 5A.2, adopted respectively at its 25th session (Helsinki, 2001) and 7th extraordinary session (Paris, 2004),
3. Expressing its sincere appreciation for the considerable efforts by all 48 States Parties in Europe in submitting the Periodic Reports for Section I,
4. Notes the successful use of an electronic tool, the development of an evaluation tool and the storage in a World Heritage Centre database of all information submitted by the States Parties;
5. Welcomes with satisfaction the synthesis report of the European Region illustrating a growing cooperation among States Parties;
6. Thanks the German authorities for offering to host a European meeting to be held in Berlin, Germany, in November 2005 on the results of Periodic Reporting Section I and finalization of Section II, as well as the development of an overall Strategic Action Plan;
7. Acknowledges the recommendations made in the European synthesis report on Section I and the sub-regional reports and requests the sub-regions to make an effort towards a coordinated approach for the future implementation of the World Heritage Convention;
8. Requests States Parties to review these recommendations and to work with the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies towards an overall Strategic Action Plan for the European Region, including a time table, budgetary implications and priorities for examination by the Committee at its 30th session in July 2006;
9. Further notes the progress made in the preparations of Section II for Europe;
10. Recalls its decision **WHC-04/7EXT COM/5** to allow for a Reflection Year in 2007 and to give strategic directions and requests that the Berlin meeting also discusses lessons learned from the first cycle (including methodology, format of the reports, electronic tool and production processes);
11. Strongly encourages the States Parties in Europe to continue the enhanced cooperation and requests all States Parties to submit in a timely fashion their reports using the electronic tool by 31 October 2005 at the latest, for examination by the Committee at its 30th session in 2006.

ANNEX: SELECT WORLD HERITAGE BIBLIOGRAPHY

BASIC TEXTS

UNESCO, *Convention concerning the protection of the world cultural and natural heritage*, adopted by the General Conference at its seventeenth session, Paris, 16 November 1972,
<http://whc.unesco.org/en/conventiontext>

UNESCO, World Heritage Centre, *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* published for the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, WHC.05/2, 2 February 2005,
<http://whc.unesco.org/en/guidelines/>

UNESCO, World Heritage Centre, *Properties inscribed on the World Heritage List*, WHC.2004/3, September 2004,
<http://whc.unesco.org/en/list>

STRATEGIC DOCUMENTS

World Heritage Committee, *Strategic Orientations*, in Annex II of the Report of the 16th Session of the World Heritage Committee, Santa Fe, United States of America, 7-14 December 1992, Paris, December 1992 (WHC-92/CONF.002/12)

Report of the Expert Meeting on the "Global Strategy" and thematic studies for a representative World Heritage List (20-22 June 1994) (WHC-94/CONF.003/INF.6)

World Heritage Committee, *A Strategic Plan for World Heritage Documentation, Information and Education Activities*, Paris 1998 (WHC-98/CONF.203/15)

World Heritage Committee, *Global Training Strategy for World Cultural and Natural Heritage*, adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 25th session in Helsinki, Finland, 11-16 December 2001 (see ANNEX X of WHC-01/CONF.208/24)

World Heritage Committee, *Budapest Declaration on World Heritage*, 2002
<http://whc.unesco.org/en/budapestdeclaration>

OTHERS

World Heritage in Young Hands. To Know, Cherish and Act, an Educational Resource Kit for Teachers, UNESCO 2002. <http://whc.unesco.org/education/>

WEB ADDRESSES

UNESCO
<http://www.unesco.org>

UNESCO World Heritage Centre
<http://whc.unesco.org> (See <http://whc.unesco.org/pg.cfm?cid=58> for Periodic Reporting)

ICCROM
<http://www.iccrom.org>

ICOMOS
<http://www.icomos.org>

UNESCO-ICOMOS Documentation Centre

http://www.international.icomos.org/centre_documentation/index.html

IUCN

<http://www.iucn.org>

UNEP - World Conservation Monitoring Centre, Protected Area Database

<http://sea.unep-wcmc.org/wdbpa/>

NWHF – Nordic World Heritage Foundation

<http://www.nwhf.no>

OWHC - Organisation of World Heritage Cities

<http://www.ovpm.org>