

# GERMANY

## I.01. Introduction

**Year of adherence to the Convention: 1976**

Note: The former German Democratic Republic ratified the Convention in 1988. Through the accession of the German Democratic Republic to the Federal Republic of Germany, with effect from 3 October 1990, the two German States united to form one sovereign State

**Organisation(s) or institution(s) responsible for preparation of report**

- Standing Conference of the Ministers for Education and Cultural Affairs of the Länder of the Federal Republic of Germany (KMK)

## I.02. Identification of Cultural and Natural Properties

**Status of national inventories**

- Inventories, established at national, regional and local levels, have been used as a basis for selecting World Heritage sites

## I.03. The Tentative List

- Original Tentative List was submitted in 1984
- Revisions submitted in 1990, 1993 and 1999
- It is the responsibility of the Federal Government and the Länder, prepared in collaboration with the local authorities, based on public consultation

## I.04. Nomination of Cultural and Natural Properties for the World Heritage List

**Nominations**

- Nominations are the responsibility of the regional government, prepared in collaboration with consultants/experts, site managers, local organizations and private individuals
- Motivations for nomination: conservation, lobbying/political pressure, honour/prestige
- Difficulties during nomination: development pressures.

**Inscriptions**

- 29 cultural sites: *Aachen Cathedral* (1978); *Speyer Cathedral* (1981); *Würzburg Residence with the Court Gardens and Residence Square* (1981); *Pilgrimage Church of Wies* (1983); *Castles of Augustusburg and Falkenlust at Brühl* (1984); *St Mary's Cathedral and St Michael's Church at Hildesheim* (1985); *Roman Monuments, Cathedral of St Peter and Church of Our Lady in Trier* (1986); *Hanseatic City of Lübeck* (1987); *Palaces and*

*Parks of Potsdam and Berlin* (1990, first nominated in 1983 in the area of former GDR, extended in 1999); *Abbey and Altenmünster of Lorsch* (1991); *Mines of Rammelsberg and Historic Town of Goslar* (1992); *Town of Bamberg* (1993); *Maulbronn Monastery Complex* (1993); *Collegiate Church, Castle and Old Town of Quedlinburg* (1994); *Völklingen Ironworks* (1994); *Cologne Cathedral* (1996); *Bauhaus and its Sites in Weimar and Dessau* (1996); *Luther Memorials in Eisleben and Wittenberg* (1996); *Classical Weimar* (1998); *Museumsinsel (Museum Island), Berlin* (1999); *Wartburg Castle* (1999); *Monastic Island of Reichenau* (2000); *Garden Kingdom of Dessau-Wörlitz* (2000); *Zollverein Coal Mine Industrial Complex in Essen* (2001); *Upper Middle Rhine Valley* (2002); *Historic Centres of Stralsund and Wismar* (2002); *Town Hall and Roland on the Marketplace of Bremen* (2004); *Dresden Elbe Valley* (2004)<sup>1</sup>

- 1 transboundary cultural site with Poland: *Muskauer Park / Park Muzakowski* (2004)
- 1 natural site: *Messel Pit Fossil Site* (1995)<sup>2</sup>

**Benefits of inscription**

- Conservation, honour/prestige, strict application of legislation, raising awareness, working in partnership, increased funding

## I.05. General Policy and Legislation for the Protection, Conservation and Presentation of the Cultural and Natural Heritage

**Specific legislations**

- Cultural heritage: Constitutions of the 16 Länder (regions): various Land historic and cultural monuments protection acts; federal laws
- Changes to existing laws concerning cultural heritage are ongoing and envisaged
- Natural heritage: Federal Nature Conservation Act and corresponding acts of the Länder; national sustainability strategy
- Management plans are not required for national heritage
- There is specific planning legislation to protect World Heritage at federal, regional and municipal level

**Other Conventions**

Hague Convention (1954), Hague Protocol (1954), London Convention (1969), Granada Convention (1985), Malta Convention (1992), Hague 2<sup>nd</sup> Protocol (1999), Ramsar Convention (1971), CITES (1973), Bonn Convention (1979), Bern Convention (1979), Basel Convention (1989), Convention on Biological Diversity (1992), Alpine Convention (1991)

<sup>1</sup> Old town of Regensburg with Stadtamhof (2006)

<sup>2</sup> Other transnational site: Frontiers of the Roman Empire (2005) with the United Kingdom.

Provisions have been integrated into national legislation

### I.06. Status of Services for Protection, Conservation and Presentation

#### Organisations, local communities participating in protection and conservation

- Cultural heritage: Standing conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the Länder in the Federal Republic of Germany (KMK); Land ministries and agencies responsible for cultural heritage protection, regional governments, districts, specialist service); districts, municipalities, local authorities, city districts
- Natural heritage: Directorate for Nature Conservation and Sustainable Use of Nature in the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Federal Agency for Nature Conservation; Land ministries and agencies responsible for natural heritage protection; districts, municipalities
- Heritage conservation is institutionally integrated
- The private sector, local communities and NGOs are also involved

### I.07. Scientific, Technical Studies and Research

- Many research studies (universities, institutes, site itself), e.g.: Stone erosion and the conservation of environmentally-damaged stained glass windows
- HERICARE – software and online database for the documentation of conservation projects
- Natural Heritage and Cultural Landscapes
- Development of a series of natural heritage and landscape management projects

### I.08. Financial Resources

#### National resources and international financial assistance, fund raising

- National and local/regional authority budget allowances, fundraising, NGO's and private sector;
- The State Party has helped to establish foundations for raising funds

### I.09. Training

#### Professional and institutional training

- National educational institutions are considered important
- Identified training needs for the protection of World Heritage: training courses for the staff employed at the WH sites (senior management and educational staff)
- Heritage training has been provided

### I.10. International Co-operation

- Bi-lateral and multi-lateral agreements, hosting and/or attending international training courses/seminars, distribution of material/information, financial support, experts
- Creation of a World Heritage Foundation initiated by the WH site of Stralsund and Wismar
- Assistance to States Parties for preparation of nominations
- Measures to avoid damage to World Heritage on the territory of other States Parties: foundations for international cooperation, participation in other UN programs, contributions to private organisations, corporate sponsorship, fundraising
- Cooperation programmes between the Abbeys of Lorsch and Geghard (Armenia) and Aachen and Kotor (Croatia)

### I.11. Information, Awareness Building and Education

#### Information and awareness raising on local, regional, national or international level

- Promotion of the World Heritage site at international, national, regional and local levels through publications, films, postcards, media campaigns, internet, postage stamps/medals
- Establishment of an association 'UNESCO-World Heritage Germany' that brings together German WH sites
- Presentation and awareness are adequate
- Education of World Heritage protection: press and information service, publication of a magazine, network of 160 schools (UNESCO's ASP), participation in the "WH in Young Hands" programme, development of education services in each WH site, post-graduate courses
- Organisation of awareness-raising activities

### I.12. Conclusions and Recommended Action

#### Conclusion and proposed actions

- Strengths: Existing inventories, surveys and studies provide a sound basis for identifying potential world heritage sites; at the institutional level the protection and management of the natural and cultural heritage is well developed and sufficient resources made available for WH protection; well-developed network of universities and other institutions providing training not only for the higher education sector but also for the training of technicians, craft professionals and skilled workers; Thanks to information and education on World Heritage, public awareness is very high and UNESCO's WH Programme is the subject of intensive public debate; Strong attention to cooperation with inscribed and potential World Heritage sites
- Weaknesses: Tentative List and the nominations are indicative of both the mismatch between natural and cultural heritage sites and the

## Application of the World Heritage Convention by the States Parties

continuing bias in cultural heritage nominations; some difficulties encountered to meet UNESCO's increased standards of nominations; scope for enhancing the presentation of natural heritage sites as well as raising awareness of the need to protect them

Proposed actions:

- Study on Germany's cultural heritage in the light of the Cairns decisions
- Study for identification of natural sites – evaluation and consideration of the follow-up
- National guidelines for nomination files
- Better balance for the Tentative List
- General policy and legislation, services and financial resources
- Training on traditional know-how and skills
- Yearbook of cooperation
- Improvement of national conflict management
- These activities do not require assistance from the World Heritage Fund