Application of the World Heritage Convention by the States Parties

SPAIN

I.01. Introduction

Year of adhesion to the Convention: 1982

Organisation(s) or institution(s) responsible for preparation of report
- Ministry of Culture, Deputy Directorate-General for Protection of Spanish Historical Heritage, Directorate-General of Fine Arts and Cultural Properties
- In collaboration with the Ministry of the Environment

I.02. Identification of Cultural and Natural Properties

Status of national inventories
- Cultural properties inventories are done at three levels: municipal, regional and national level
- National inventories have been used as a basis for selection World Heritage sites
- Natural heritage category inventories on National Parks and Protected natural spaces
- Inventories are centralised in a standardised database and are included in Natura 2000 network;
- Other specific national inventories on natural heritage have been created on the basis of international conventions

I.03. The Tentative List

- Original Tentative List submitted in 1984
- Revision submitted in April 2004
- The Tentative List is prepared on national and regional level under the responsibility of Ministry of Culture, identified and proposed by Autonomous Communities, with the coordinating body Historical Heritage Council’s World Heritage Committee

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

Nominations
- The preparation process involves all levels, the Autonomous Communities as responsible, NGOs and experts are involved
- Local authorities are increasingly involved
- Motivations for nomination: conservation of site, honour/prestige, increased funding, lobbying/political pressure, working in partnerships, site in danger
- Difficulties encountered: The obligation of presenting one single candidacy per year

Inscriptions
- 34 cultural sites: Historic Centre of Cordoba (1984); Alhambra, Generalife and Albayzin, Granada (1984, extension in 1994); Burgos Cathedral (1984); Monastery and site of the Escorial, Madrid (1984); Parque Güell, Palacio Güell and Casa Milà in Barcelona1 (1984); Altamira Cave (1985); Old Town of Segovia and its Aqueduct (1985); Monuments of Oviedo and the Kingdom of the Asturias (1985, extension in 1998); Old town of Ávila with its Extra-Muros churches (1985); Santiago de Compostela (Old Town) (1985); Mudéjar Architecture of Teruel2 (1986, extension in 2001); Historic City of Toledo (1986); Old Town of Cáceres (1986); Cathedral, Alcazar and Archivo de Indias in Seville (1987); Old City of Salamanca (1988); Poblet Monastery (1991); Archaeological Ensemble of Mérida (1993); Royal Monastery of Santa María de Guadalupe (1995); Route of Santiago de Compostela (1993); Historic Walled City of Cuenca (1996); La Lonja de la Seda de Valencia (1996); Las Médulas (1997); Palau de la Musica Catalana and Hospital de San Pau, Barcelona (1997); San Millán Yuso and Suso Monasteries (1997); Rock Art of the Mediterranean on the Iberian Peninsula (1998); University and Historic Precinct of Alcalá de Henares (1998); San Cristóbal de La Laguna (1999); Archaeological Ensemble of Tárraco (2000); Palmeral of Elche (2000); Roman Walls of Lugo (2000); Catalan Romanesque Churches of the Vall de Boí (2000); Archaeological Site of Atapuerca (2000); Aranjuez Cultural Landscape (2001); Renaissance Monumental Ensembles of Úbeda and Baeza (2003)3
- 2 natural sites: Garajonay National Park (1986); Doñana National Park (1994)
- 2 mixed (cultural and natural) site: Ibiza, Biodiversity and Culture (1999); Pyrénées- Mont Perdu (transboundary site with France; 1997, extension in 1999)

Benefits of inscription
- Conservation of site, honour/prestige, increased funding, working in partnership, lobbying/political pressure, endangered site protected
- Benefits are also the enhancement of conservation through worldwide reference sites, the vertical and horizontal integration between different administration and increased social awareness

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

Specific legislations
- Cultural heritage is protected through national Spanish Historical Heritage Act

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3 Also: Vizzaya Bridge (2006).
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- Most Autonomous Communities have heritage legislation
- Local level urban development provision with Special Historical Ensemble Protection Plans
- National Plans for Intervention in the Historic Heritage developed in coordination with The Spanish Historic Heritage Institute
- Natural heritage has similar framework with national legislation Acts completed and extended by Autonomous Communities
- A special plan for the protection of the listed property is required by municipalities
- National parks are managed through a joint commission for World Heritage

Other Conventions


Provisions have been integrated in national legislation and policies

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

Organisations, local communities participating in protection and conservation

- The Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Environment and the Councils with historic competency in Autonomous Communities, in collaboration with municipalities
- A collective body, Historic Heritage Council coordinates heritage action and policies; Natural and cultural heritage are not yet institutionally integrated
- Private sector involved
- State Budget allocations to NGOs
- Local communities and citizen collaboration

I.07. Scientific, Technical Studies and Research

Proceedings of International conference and scientific symposium on World Heritage

I.08. Financial Resources

National resources and international financial assistance, fund raising

- Financial allocations in State budget, Autonomous Communities and local bodies
- Private corporations, Savings Banks involved
- Foundations and Patronage Act refers explicitly to investments in properties declared World Heritage sites. 'Cultural one per cent' regulation included in the budget for all state financed public works
- Additional contributions to the World Heritage Fund 2003-2004
- State Party supported the establishment of The Spanish World Heritage Cities Group

I.09. Training

Professional and Institutional training

- Training needs identified; focus on legal protection, management and restoration
- Staff has received training
- Ministry of Culture carries on annual courses on particularly World Heritage issues
- Cooperation and joint courses with Latin America. The Spanish Historic Heritage Institute is a main actor
- Ministry of Labour is running a professional training programme in the field of Historic Heritage for the young unemployed
- University teaching
- Regulated education in Senior Schools for the Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Properties

I.10. International Co-operation

- A wide scope of cooperation, mainly Latin America, North Africa and the Middle East
- Measures for avoiding damage have been taken through UN programmes and the Heritage Preservation Program of the Spanish International Cooperation Agency, mainly in Latin America. Andalusian Historic heritage Institute is implementing international projects
- Individual twinning and World Heritage Cities Association cooperation
- Contributions to the World Heritage Fund

I.11. Information, Awareness Building and Education

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

- World Heritage sites are promoted through publications, films, postcards, and media campaigns, internet
- A wide variety of actions linked to tourism promotion and cultural tourism
- Establishment of an image of quality for World Heritage
- UNESCO projects for young people’s participation, UNESCO Associated Schools Plan

I.12. Conclusions and Recommended Action

Conclusion and proposed actions
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- Strengths: broad institutional and political consensus in the nomination process, high community awareness and the establishment of a collective body coordinating heritage action and policies between the State and the Autonomous Communities. There is comprehensive informative work nationally and internationally, particularly in Latin America. Cultural tourism development

Proposed actions:
- Inventories, standardised data bases for management of all cultural property inventories; Enhanced presence of natural and mixed properties further studies for the identification of new properties
- A greater involvement of local communities and the private sector
- Increase funding sources through alternative sources of financing and tax deductions percentages
- Increased public access to sites
- Adaptation of university study programs to the social and employment requirements of heritage protection and management