

POLAND

I.01. Introduction

Year of adherence to the Convention: 1976

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

- National Centre for Historical Monument Studies and Documentation

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

- Revision of Tentative List submitted in 1995, 1997, 1999, 2000 and 2002
- Responsibility lies with the central government, prepared with the assistance of regional authorities and experts, based on consultation with NGOs and the local community

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

Nominations

- Nominations are the responsibility of the central government, prepared in collaboration with regional authorities, following consultation with local communities, NGOs, site managers and experts
- Motivations for nomination: honour/prestige, conservation, increased funding, working in partnership, lobbying/political pressure, education and development of the economy
- Difficulties during nomination: development pressures
- *Monastery of Jasna Gora* - deferred in 1991; *Gdansk – Main Town, Estuary of Motława and Wisłoujście Fortress* - withdrawn and re-submitted in 2005; *Valley of Pradnik River in Ojcowski National Park* - not inscribed in 2003

Inscriptions

- 11 cultural sites: *Cracow's Historic Centre* (1978), *Wieliczka Salt Mine* (1978); *Auschwitz Concentration Camp* (1979); *Historic Centre of Warsaw* (1980); *Old City of Zamość* (1992); *Medieval Town of Toruń* (1997); *Castle of the Teutonic Order in Malbork* (1997); *Kalwaria Zebrzydowska: the Mannerist Architectural and Park Landscape Complex and Pilgrimage Park*

(1999); *Churches of Peace in Jawor and Swidnica* (2001); *Wooden Churches of Southern Little Poland* (2003); *Muskauer Park / Park Muzakowski* (2004 – transboundary site with Germany);

- 1 natural site: *Belovezhskaya Pushcha/Białowieża Forest* (1979, extension in 1992 – transboundary site with Belarus)¹

Benefits of inscription

- Conservation, honour/prestige, increased funding, working in partnership, education and development of the local economy

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

Specific legislations

- Act on the Protection of Monuments and the Guardianship of Monuments, assuring legal, organizational, and financial conditions of protection and maintenance on national and regional levels as well as by site owners. Act on the Protection of Nature, regulating preservation and utilization of natural properties, implemented at national, regional and local levels, in coordination with ecological development policies of the state and regional authorities
- Management plans are required, except for historical properties
- Beyond spatial development plans, there is no specific planning legislation to protect World Heritage
- Changes to legislation are not envisaged

Other Conventions

Hague Convention (1954), Hague Protocol (1954), UNESCO Convention (1970), Malta Convention (1992), Ramsar Convention (1971), CITES (1973), Bonn Convention or CMS (1979), Bern Convention (1979), Paris Convention (2003), Florence Convention (2000), Basel Convention (1989), Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)

Provisions have been incorporated into national legislation

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

Organisations, local communities participating in protection and conservation

- Ministry of Culture, National Centres for Culture, and for Historical Monument Studies and Documentation, Voivodeship (regional) Monument Protection Office, National and Landscape Park

¹ Also: *Centennial Hall in Wrocław* (2006).

Application of the World Heritage Convention by the States Parties

Services, with responsibility for inventories, compliance and care, investigation and dissemination of knowledge, and professional and conservation institutes

- Heritage conservation is institutionally integrated
- The private sector, local communities and NGOs are also involved

I.07. Scientific, Technical Studies and Research

- Ministerial programmes to identify existing needs and summarize research on protection and conservation of diverse types of properties, through various methodologies, monitoring and modelling, ecological studies, assessment and development of tourism, with some specific World Heritage analyses

I.08. Financial Resources

National resources and international financial assistance, fund raising

- National and local/regional authority budget allowances
- Fundraising and private sector, site owners and revenues of sites
- World Heritage Fund
- The State Party has helped to establish associations to allocate funds for nature protection and for the restoration of Cracow's heritage properties
- No additional contributions to the World Heritage Fund have been made

I.09. Training

Professional and institutional training

- Training needs for the protection of World Heritage have not been identified
- Heritage training has been provided
- Primarily domestic educational institutions are considered important

I.10. International Co-operation

- Bi-lateral and multi-lateral agreements, including a new agreement to be signed with Belarus, hosting and/or attending international training courses/seminars, distribution of material/information and experts
- Measures to avoid damage to World Heritage on the territory of other State Parties through hosting and organizing international training courses/conferences
- Entities within the Churches of Peace in Jawor and Swidnica and Wooden Churches of Southern Little Poland are twinned, and World Heritage sites in the country cooperate amongst themselves

I.11. Information, Awareness Building and Education

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

- World Heritage sites are promoted at international, national, regional and local levels through publications, films, postcards, media campaigns, internet, postage stamps/medals and exhibitions
- Presentation and awareness of World heritage in Poland is inadequately addressed
- References in school curricula to national and World Heritage
- Implementation of UNESCO's Special Project, Young People's Participation in World Heritage Preservation and Promotion

I.12. Conclusions and Recommended Action

Conclusion and proposed actions

- Strengths: Increased interest and awareness of heritage has brought additional funds and protection against the pressures of development; Quality of conservation and research is adequate
- Weaknesses: Growth of tourism remains a threat; Educational programs are insufficiently coordinated; Lack of personal responsibility and institutional cooperation concerning World Heritage; Restricted financing due to general budgetary conditions and the ongoing process of establishing institutions dedicated to sourcing funds; While international collaboration is in place, the exchange of information is limited

Proposed actions:

- Development of international cooperation
- Increase education in heritage in the country and sub-region
- Regional training and exchange among conservation staff
- Creation of National Centre for UNESCO World Heritage
- Appointment of advisory body to the Minister of Culture
- The majority of activities may not require assistance from the World Heritage Fund