

# SLOVAKIA

## I.01. Introduction

**Year of adhesion to the Convention: 1991**  
(within the Czechoslovak Federative Republic)

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

- Monuments Board of the Slovak Republic

## 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 submitted in 1993
- Revision submitted in 2002
- Responsibility lies with the central government, prepared with the assistance of consultants/experts, based on proposals from the local authorities, site owners and stakeholders

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

### Nominations

- Nominations are the responsibility of the central government together with site managers, prepared in collaboration with regional/local authorities, NGOs, site owners and consultants/experts
- Motivations for nomination: conservation, working in partnership, honour/prestige, increased funding, lobbying/political pressure, site in danger
- Difficulties during nomination: inadequate staffing
- Nominations: *High Tatras National Park* - withdrawn in 1992; *Kosice, St. Elisabeth's Cathedral, Chapel of St. Michael and Urbanova Veza Tower* - withdrawn in 1994; *Kysuce-Orava Logging Railway* - withdrawn in 1996; *Gullies of Slovak Paradise* deferred in 1998; *Tokaj Viticultural Area* deferred in 2002; *Natural Meadow-Pasture Areas of Slovakia* submitted in 2002; *Primeval Forests of Slovakia* submitted in 2003 – deferred in 2004

### Inscriptions

- 4 cultural sites: *Spišský Hrad and its Associated Cultural Monuments* (1993); *Historic Town of Banská Štiavnica and the Technical Monuments in its Vicinity* (1993); *Vlkolínec* (1993); *Bardejov Town Conservation Reserve* (2000)

- 1 natural site: *Caves of Slovak Karst and Aggtelek Karst* (1995, extension in 2000 – transboundary site with Hungary)

### Benefits of inscription

- Honour/prestige, increased funding, conservation, working in partnership, including internationally, lobbying/political pressure 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 of the Slovak National Council dealing with conditions for the protection of cultural monuments, including organization/competencies of the state and local governments, rights and obligations of owners and private persons, governmental decrees at the regional level, and specified rights and duties of sites, which are locally specified
- Revised Act on the Protection of Nature, with improved specification of properties and conditions of protection, environmental laws
- Constitutional amendment placing caves in state ownership
- Management plans are required for national heritage, but do not exist for sites inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1993
- There is specific planning legislation to protect World Heritage, and improved zoning, funding, monitoring and protective measures have been implemented
- No changes to legislation are envisaged

### Other Conventions

Hague Convention (1954), Hague Protocol (1954), London Convention (1969), UNESCO Convention (1970), Granada Convention (1985), Malta Convention (1992), UNIDROIT (1995), Second Protocol of the Hague Convention of 1954 (1999), Paris Convention (2001), Florence Convention (2000), Ramsar Convention (1971), CITES (1973), Bonn Convention or CMS (1979), Bern Convention (1979), Basel Convention (1989), Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)

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

- Ministry of Culture and various committees, Monuments Boards, at national and regional levels, Ministry of Environment, regional and

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

district environmental offices, self-governing regions and municipalities, specialised organizations, including nature protection agencies, museums, institutes and administrations of caves

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

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

- Report on cultural policy and legislation, review of central monuments registry, monitoring, including investigations on methodology
- Inventory of most endangered cultural heritage
- Diverse studies on caves, concerning natural phenomena, preservation and evaluation, particularly on World Heritage properties

### I.08. Financial Resources

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

- Funding of World Heritage sites through national and local/regional authority budget allowances
- Fundraising, NGOs, private sector
- World Heritage Fund
- The State Party has helped to establish associations to allocate funds for the protection of heritage
- No additional contributions to the World Heritage Fund have been made

### I.09. Training

#### Professional and institutional training

- Identified training needs: management, monitoring and teacher training in order to raise awareness of World Heritage at primary and secondary levels
- Heritage training has been received
- National and international educational institutions are considered important

### I.10. International Co-operation

- Cooperation for the protection of World Heritage on the territory of other State Parties through bi-lateral and multi-lateral agreements, hosting and/or attending international training courses/seminars, experts and joint preparation for trans-national property nomination
- Caves of Slovak Karst are twinned with Aggtelek Karst (Hungary)

### 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, professional events and working with children/youth

- Presentation and awareness are adequate
- Education of World Heritage protection: school courses, summer programs and university classes on heritage

### I.12. Conclusions and Recommended Action

#### Conclusion and proposed actions

- Strengths: Legislative coverage, research, monitoring and practical care of sites
- Weaknesses: Long-term stagnation in maintenance; Funds allocated to localities for cultural heritage are absent; Engagement of natural heritage authorities remains weak; Educational activities are scattered

#### Proposed actions:

- Preparation of additional nominations for the World Heritage List
- Organisation of course on the management of cultural World Heritage in the Slovak Republic
- Printing of information leaflets on World Heritage
- The majority of activities may require assistance from the World Heritage Fund