

1. World Heritage Property Data

1.1 - Name of World Heritage Property

Mount Athos

1.2 - World Heritage Property Details

State(s) Party(ies)

- Greece

Type of Property

mixte

Identification Number

454


Year of inscription on the World Heritage List

1988

1.3 - Geographic Information Table

Name	Coordinates (latitude/longitude)	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Total (ha)	Inscription year
Mount Athos	40.267 / 24.217	33042.3	0	33042.3	1988
Total (ha)		33042.3	0	33042.3	

1.4 - Map(s)

Title	Date	Link to source
Mount Athos	21/12/2005	

1.5 - Governmental Institution Responsible for the Property

Comment

Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports, 10th Ephorate of Byzantine Antiquities

1.6 - Property Manager / Coordinator, Local Institution / Agency

- Ioannis Kanonidis
Hellenic Ministry of Culture
Head of the Ephorate, Archaeologist
10th Ephorate of Byzantine Antiquities (EBA)

Comment

Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports 10th Ephorate of Byzantine Antiquities Ioannis Kanonidis Archaeologist Director of 10th Ephorate of Byzantine Antiquities 12 Polytechniou Str., Polygyros 63100 Thessaloniki Greece Telephone: +30 2310 285163 Fax: +30 2310 251892 Email: 10eba@culture.gr

1.7 - Web Address of the Property (if existing)

1. [View photos from OUR PLACE the World Heritage collection](#)
2. [Hellenic Ministry of Culture](#)

1.8 - Other designations / Conventions under which the property is protected (if applicable)

Comment

Mount Athos is under the protection of the NATURA Convention 2000.

2. Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

2.1 - Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance

Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

Brief synthesis

Cloaked by beautiful chestnut and other types of Mediterranean forest, the steep slopes of Mount Athos are punctuated by twenty imposing monasteries and their subsidiary establishments. Covering an area of just over 33,000 hectares, the property includes the entire narrow rocky strip of the easternmost of the three peninsulas of Chalcidice which jut into the Aegean Sea in northern Greece. The subsidiary establishments include sketae (daughter houses of the monasteries), kellia and kathismata (living units operated by the monks), where farming constitutes an important part of the monks' everyday life. An Orthodox spiritual centre since the 10th century, Mount Athos has enjoyed a self-administered status since Byzantine times. Its first constitution was signed in 972 by the emperor John I Tzimiskes. The "Holy Mountain", which is forbidden to women and children, is also a recognized artistic site. The layout of the monasteries (which are presently inhabited by some 1,400 monks) had an influence as far afield as Russia, and its school of painting influenced the history of Orthodox art. The landscape reflects traditional monastic farming practices, which maintain populations of plant species that have now become rare in the region.

Criterion (i): The transformation of a mountain into a sacred place made Mount Athos a unique artistic creation combining the natural beauty of the site with the expanded forms of architectural creation. Moreover, the monasteries of Athos are a veritable conservatory of masterpieces ranging from wall paintings (such as the works by Manuel Panselinos at Protaton Church ca. 1290 and by Frangos Catellanos at the Great Lavra in 1560) to portable icons, gold objects, embroideries and illuminated manuscripts which each monastery jealously preserves.

Criterion (ii): Mount Athos exerted lasting influence in the Orthodox world, of which it is the spiritual centre, on the development of religious architecture and monumental painting. The typical layout of Athonite monasteries was used as far away as Russia. Iconographic themes, codified by the school of painting at Mount Athos and laid down in minute detail in the Guide to Painting (discovered and published by Didron in 1845), were used and elaborated on from Crete to the Balkans from the 16th century onwards.

Criterion (iv): The monasteries of Athos present the typical layout of Orthodox monastic establishments: a square, rectangular or trapezoidal fortification flanked by towers, which constitutes the peribolos of a consecrated place, in the centre of which the community's church, or the catholicon, stands alone. Strictly organised according to principles dating from the 10th century are the areas reserved for communal activities (refectory, cells, hospital, library), those reserved solely for liturgical purposes (chapels, fountains), and the defence structures (arsenal, fortified towers). The organization of agricultural lands in the idiorhythmic sketae (daughter houses of the monasteries), the kellia and kathismata (living units operated by the monks) is also very characteristic of the medieval period.

Criterion (v): The monastic ideal at Mount Athos has preserved traditional human habitations, which are representative of the agrarian cultures of the Mediterranean and have become vulnerable through the impact of change within contemporary society. Mount Athos is also a

conservatory of vernacular architecture as well as agricultural and craft traditions.

Criterion (vi): An Orthodox spiritual centre since the 10th century, the sacred mountain of Athos became the principal spiritual home of the Orthodox Church in 1054. It retained this prominent role even after the fall of Constantinople in 1453 and the establishment of the autocephalous patriarchy of Moscow in 1589. Mount Athos is directly and tangibly associated with the history of Orthodox Christianity which, in varying degrees, is present in more than 20 nations in the 20th century. It is no exaggeration to say that this thousand-year-old site, where the weight of history is palpable in the countryside, the monuments and the precious collections have been built up over time, has retained even today its universal and exceptional significance.

Criterion (vii): The harmonious interaction of traditional farming practices and forestry is linked to the stringent observance of monastic rules over the course of centuries, which has led to the excellent preservation of the Mediterranean forests and associated flora of Mount Athos.

Integrity

Closely associated with the history of Orthodox Christianity, Mount Athos retains its Outstanding Universal Value through its monastic establishments and artistic collections. All the monasteries are well-preserved due to on-going restoration projects carried out according to approved plans. The materials used for restoration are traditional and environmentally friendly.

Mount Athos encompasses an entire peninsula of 33,042 ha, an area of sufficient size to maintain a rich flora and fauna that has been well conserved by careful management of the forests and traditional agricultural practices. Although the natural environment is maintained, it is also vulnerable to forest fire, infrastructure development (mainly roads), and seismic activity. Monastic activities have kept their traditional character due to rules which have remained relatively unchanged throughout the centuries, and the evolution of monastic life need not harm the environment.

Authenticity

The property reflects adequately the cultural values recognized in the inscription criteria through the setting of the monasteries and their dependencies, together with the form, design and materials of the buildings and farms, their use and function and the spirit and feeling of the place.

Mount Athos has an enormous wealth of historic, artistic and cultural elements preserved by a monastic community that has existed for the last twelve centuries and constitutes a living record of human activities.

Protection and management requirements

Mount Athos has a peculiar self-administered system under Hellenic Constitutional Law. While the sovereignty of the Hellenic State remains intact (article 105), management is exercised by representatives of the Holy Monasteries, who comprise the Holy Community (article 105). The Hellenic State has placed the responsibility for the protection and conservation of the natural and cultural property into public agencies, namely the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, Culture and Sports, General Secretariat of Culture, through the responsible 10th Ephorate of Byzantine Antiquities, the Centre for the Preservation of the Athonite Heritage, the Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Directorate for Churches – Mount Athos Administration). The monuments are protected by the provisions of the Archaeological Law 3028/2002 “On the Protection of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage in general”, and by separate ministerial decrees published in the Official Government Gazette.

Restoration and conservation works, co-funded by the European Union, are performed by the Hellenic State (10th

Ephorate of Byzantine Antiquities and Centre for the Preservation of the Athonite Heritage). There is on-going collaboration between the responsible services of the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, Culture and Sports; the General Secretariat of Culture; and other Ministries with the monastic community. However, it should be stressed that the scheduling and execution of all work concerning individual Holy Monasteries requires their consent as well as that of the Holy Community.

Sustaining the Outstanding Universal Value of the property requires ongoing conservation of the buildings including their finishes and mural paintings, as well as of manuscripts and artworks. Studies concerning the installation of infrastructure in the monastery buildings, including fire protection, have been undertaken.

Protection and management of the forests, including provision of major infrastructure, is the subject of specialized programs planned by the monasteries, in cooperation with the Holy Community and relevant scientists.

Promotion of Mount Athos’ cultural heritage includes conferences, publications and more recently the internet.

Mount Athos is well-known to the Orthodox Christian world and attracts many thousands of visitors, scholars and pilgrims every year.

Once finalised and agreed upon, the Management Plan prepared by the Holy Community will address forest management in terms of ecological sustainability; road and port (arsana) construction and maintenance; waste management; the need for a consistent approach to conservation for all monasteries; and a risk preparedness plan for all the monasteries and their dependencies.

2.2 - The criteria (2005 revised version) under which the property was inscribed

(i)(ii)(iv)(v)(vi)(vii)

2.3 - Attributes expressing the Outstanding Universal Value per criterion

2.4 - If needed, please provide details of why the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value should be revised

2.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

3. Factors Affecting the Property

3.14. Other factor(s)

3.14.1 - Other factor(s)

3.15. Factors Summary Table

3.15.1 - Factors summary table

	Name	Impact						Origin	
3.1	Buildings and Development								
3.1.5	Interpretative and visitation facilities								
3.2	Transportation Infrastructure								
3.2.1	Ground transport infrastructure								
3.2.3	Marine transport infrastructure								
3.2.4	Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure								
3.3	Services Infrastructures								
3.3.1	Water infrastructure								
3.3.2	Renewable energy facilities								
3.3.4	Localised utilities								
3.3.5	Major linear utilities								
3.4	Pollution								
3.4.5	Solid waste								
3.5	Biological resource use/modification								
3.5.1	Fishing/collecting aquatic resources								
3.5.5	Crop production								
3.5.6	Commercial wild plant collection								
3.5.7	Subsistence wild plant collection								
3.5.10	Forestry /wood production								
3.7	Local conditions affecting physical fabric								
3.7.6	Water (rain/water table)								
3.8	Social/cultural uses of heritage								
3.8.1	Ritual / spiritual / religious and associative uses								
3.8.6	Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation								
3.11	Sudden ecological or geological events								
3.11.2	Earthquake								
3.11.6	Fire (wildfires)								
3.13	Management and institutional factors								
3.13.1	Low impact research / monitoring activities								
3.13.2	High impact research / monitoring activities								
3.13.3	Management activities								
Legend	Current	Potential	Negative	Positive	Inside	Outside			

3.16. Assessment of current negative factors

3.16.1 - Assessment of current negative factors

	Spatial scale	Temporal scale	Impact	Management response	Trend
3.2	Transportation Infrastructure				
3.2.4	restricted	on-going	minor	medium capacity	static
3.3	Services Infrastructures				
3.3.4	localised	on-going	minor	medium capacity	static
3.4	Pollution				
3.4.5	localised	frequent	minor	medium capacity	static
3.7	Local conditions affecting physical fabric				
3.7.6	extensive	intermittent or sporadic	minor	medium capacity	static

		Spatial scale	Temporal scale	Impact	Management response	Trend
3.8	Social/cultural uses of heritage					
3.8.6	Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation	localised	on-going	minor	medium capacity	static
3.11	Sudden ecological or geological events					
3.11.6	Fire (wildfires)	restricted	one off or rare	minor	high capacity	static
3.13	Management and institutional factors					
3.13.2	High impact research / monitoring activities	localised	intermittent or sporadic	minor	high capacity	static

3.17. Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to factors affecting the property

3.17.1 - Comments

4. Protection, Management and Monitoring of the Property

4.1. Boundaries and Buffer Zones

4.1.1 - Buffer zone status

There is a buffer zone

4.1.2 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are **adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.1.3 - Are the buffer zone(s) of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The buffer zones of the World Heritage property are **adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.1.4 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property known?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are known by both the management authority and local residents / communities / landowners.

4.1.5 - Are the buffer zones of the World Heritage property known?

The buffer zones of the World Heritage property are **known** by both the management authority and local residents / communities / landowners.

4.1.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to boundaries and buffer zones of the World Heritage property

4.2. Protective Measures

4.2.1 - Protective designation (legal, regulatory, contractual, planning, institutional and / or traditional)

The establishment of a Management Body for the area, as is stipulated in the Laws 1650/1986 and 2742/1999, has not progressed with regard to the Peninsula of Mount Athos. In general, first an area is legislated as a protected area (article 21 of the Law 1650/86), and then a system is set up for its management and operation at a local level. The organizational scheme is selected on the basis of objective criteria (importance, land surface, location, financial viability, particular religious importance, etc) to ensure the best management of the area, to the extent possible, and following consultations with the local community. In general, activities in the area have a limited effect on the environment, being small-scaled, and given the existing institutional framework, the expert opinion of the competent Ministry (YPEHODE) is not

required. Issues regarding the natural environment are taken care of by the Ecclesiastical Authorities.

The relevant laws are:

Cultural Aspects:

- Ministry of Culture decision /5980/16.10.1965, Government Gazette 714/29.10.1965
- Presidential Decree 941/77 «On the Organization of the Ministry of Culture and Sciences », Government Gazette 320/A/17-10-1977.

Natural Aspects:

- 2557/97 «Institution laws, measures and actions for cultural heritage», article 7 (on the special conservation status in Mount Athos),
- Government Gazette 271/A/24-12-1997
- Presidential Decree 264/99 « Organization and execution of Conservation Work in Mount Athos» Government Gazette 215/A/19-10-1999.
- Law 3028/2002 «On the Protection of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage in general », Government Gazette 153/A/28-6-2002.
- Presidential Decree 191/2003 «Organization of the Ministry of Culture », Government Gazette 146/A/13-6-2003.

The protection arrangements are considered sufficiently effective.

Periodic Reporting Cycle 1 (2001-2006) Section 2

Source: [Periodic Reporting Cycle 1 \(2001-2006\)](#)

Submitted on Monday, October 31, 2005

• Question 6.02

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Ministry of Culture decision /5980/16.10.1965. Government Gazette 714/29.10.1965

Presidential Decree 941/77 «On the Organization of the Ministry of Culture and Sciences » Government Gazette 320/A/17-10-1977.

N. 2557/97 «Institution laws, measures and actions for cultural heritage», article 7 (on the special conservation status in Mount Athos), Government Gazette 271/A/24-12-1997.

Presidential Decree 264/99 « Organization and execution of Conservation Work in Mount Athos » Government Gazette 215/A/19-10-1999.

Law 3028/2002 «On the Protection of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage in general », Government Gazette 153/A/28-6-2002.

Presidential Decree 191/2003 «Organization of the Ministry of Culture », Government Gazette 146/A/13-6-2003.

N

Please see under 03.06

Comment

1) Law "On Sanction of the Constitutional Law of Mount Athos" (Gov. Gaz. 309/A/16- 9- 1926). 2) P. D. "Region of Special Natural Beauty" (Gov.Gaz.11/Δ/24-01-1992). 3) P.D. "Determination of a Control of Structures Zone..." (Gov. Gaz. 326/Δ/26-4-2002). 4) Decision 4789 of the General Secretary of the Region of Central Macedonia... (Gov. Gaz. 332/ΑΑΠ/10-8-2010).

4.2.2 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the World Heritage property provides **an adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection

4.2.3 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the World Heritage property provides **an adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection

4.2.4 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the area surrounding the World Heritage property and the buffer zone provides **an adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection of the property, contributing to the maintenance of its Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity

4.2.5 - Can the legislative framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) be enforced?

There is **acceptable** capacity / resources to enforce legislation and / or regulation in the World Heritage property but some deficiencies remain

4.2.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to protective measures

4.3. Management System / Management Plan

4.3.1 - Management System

Cultural aspects

Mount Athos has a singular self-governing system under the Greek Constitutional Law; the sovereignty of the Greek state thereon remains intact (article 105, paragraph 1 of the Constitution), whereas the management is exercised by the representatives of the Holy Monasteries, who comprise the Holy Community (article 105, paragraph 2 of the Constitution). The Greek State has placed the responsibility for the protection and conservation of monuments with public agencies, namely the Ministry of Culture, through its 10th Ephorate of Byzantine Antiquities, and the Ministry of Macedonia-Thrace, through the Center for the Preservation of the Athonite Heritage, the Ministry for the Environment, Spatial Planning and Public Works, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Directorate for Churches– Mount Athos Administration). Restoration work, in particular works co-funded by the European Union, are performed by the Center for the Preservation of the Athonite Heritage (in accordance with the Law 1198/81), which comes under the authority and control of the Ministry of Macedonia-Thrace.

Within the framework of its competencies, the Ministry of Culture has proceeded with the enactment of a special regime for the execution of conservation work in Mount Athos, on the basis of Law 2557/1997 «Institution laws, measures and

actions for cultural development», where it is stipulated that conservation work carried out in Mount Athos by the Ministry of Culture Services constitute models; also on the basis of the Presidential Decree 264/1999 «Organization and execution of Conservation Work in Mount Athos» (Government Gazette 215/A/19.10.1999) article 2, where it is stipulated that the «Competent Services for overseeing the Conservation work in Mount Athos, performed by the Ministry of Culture, are the Directorate for Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Monuments, the Directorate for the Conservation of Antiquities and the 10th Ephorate of Byzantine Antiquities».

There is an ongoing collaboration between the competent services of the Ministry of Culture and of other Ministries. However, it should be stressed that the scheduling and execution of the above mentioned work requires the consent of the individual Holy Monasteries, when it comes to works pertaining to them, and of the Holy Community in order for the execution of works within its competency.

Natural aspects

The Law 2742/99, article 15, sets the procedures for the enactment and selection, the organization and competencies of the Management Bodies for the Protected Areas. They may be legal entities operating under private law, or they may be services and bodies performing work that they have been assigned, having knowledge and experience in the management of the object under protection. So far, 27 Management Bodies have been established and operate under private law, whereas for the area of the Peninsula of Mount Athos, no Management Body has been established, since this will follow the completion of the Special Environmental Study.

The current management strategy is judged sufficiently effective for natural aspects, and highly effective for cultural aspects.

At its 34th session, the World Heritage Committee requested the State Party, in collaboration with the Holy Community, to provide to the World Heritage Centre with a report on progress made in developing an integrated management framework and in implementing the recommendations of the joint 2006 World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/IUCN reactive monitoring mission, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 36th session in 2012.

Periodic Reporting Cycle 1 (2001-2006) Section 2

Source: [Periodic Reporting Cycle 1 \(2001-2006\)](#)

Submitted on Monday, October 31, 2005

• **Question 5.04** Plans in place to set up a "steering group: C N O N The establishment of a Management Body for the area, as this is stipulated in the Laws 1650/1986 and 2742/1999, has not progressed with regard to the Peninsula of Mount Athos. In general, first an area is legislated as a protected area (article 21 of the Law 1650/86), and then a system for its management and operation on the local level is opted for. The organizational scheme is selected on the basis of objective criteria (importance, land surface, location, financial viability, particular religious importance, etc) in order for the best management of the area, to the extent possible, and following consultations with the local community. In general, activities in the area have a limited effect on the environment, being small-scaled, and given the existing institutional framework, the expert opinion of the competent Ministry (YPEHODE) is not required. Issues regarding the natural environment are taken care of by the Ecclesiastical Authorities.

• Question 5.05

Overall management system of the site

- Management by the State Party
- Management under protective legislation

o Other effective management system

C

Mount Athos has a peculiar/singular self-governing system under the Greek Constitutional Law; the sovereignty of the Greek state thereon remains intact (article 105, 1st paragraph of the Constitution), whereas the management is exercised by the representatives of the Holy Monasteries, who comprise the Holy Community (article 105, paragraph 2 of the Constitution). The Greek State has placed the responsibility for the protection and conservation of monuments, into public agencies, namely to the Ministry of Culture through its 10th Ephorate of Byzantine Antiquities, the Ministry of Macedonia- Thrace, through the Center for the Preservation of the Athonite Heritage, the Ministry for the Environment, Spatial Planning and Public Works, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Directorate for Churches– Mount Athos Administration).

Restoration work, in particular works co-funded by the European Union, are performed by the Center for the Preservation of the Athonite Heritage (in accordance with the Law 1198/81), which comes under the authority and control of the Ministry of Macedonia- Thrace.

Within the framework of its competencies, the Ministry of Culture has proceeded with the enactment of a special regime for the execution of conservation work in Mount Athos, on the basis of the Law 2557/1997 «Institution laws, measures and actions for cultural development», where it is stipulated that conservation work carried out in Mount Athos by the Ministry of Culture Services constitute models; also on the basis of the Presidential Decree 264/1999 «Organization and execution of Conservation Work in Mount Athos» (Government Gazette 215/A/19.10.1999) article 2, where it is stipulated that the «Competent Services for overseeing the Conservation work in Mount Athos, performed by the Ministry of Culture, are the Directorate for Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Monuments, the Directorate for the Conservation of Antiquities and the 10th Ephorate of Byzantine Antiquities».

There is an ongoing collaboration between the competent services of the Ministry of Culture and of other Ministries. However, it should be stressed that the scheduling and execution of the above mentioned work requires the consent of the individual Holy Monasteries, when it comes to works pertaining to them, and of the Holy Community in order for the execution of works within its competency.

N

The Law 2742/99, article 15, sets the procedures for the enactment and selection, the organization and competencies of the Management Bodies for the Protected Areas. They may be legal entities operating under private law, or they may be services and bodies performing work that they have been assigned, having knowledge and experience in the management of the object under protection. So far, 27 Management Bodies have been established and operating under private law, whereas for the area of the Peninsula of Mount Athos no Management Body has been established, since this will follow the completion of the Special Environmental Study.

municipal etc.) coordinate in the management of the World Heritage Property ?

There is coordination between the range of administrative bodies / levels involved in the management of the property **but it could be improved**

4.3.4 - Is the management system / plan adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value ?

The management system/plan is only **partially adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.3.5 - Is the management system being implemented?

The management system is **only partially** being implemented

4.3.6 - Is there an annual work / action plan and is it being implemented?

An annual work / action plan exists and **most or all activities** are being implemented and monitored

4.3.7 - Please rate the cooperation / relationship with World Heritage property managers / coordinators / staff of the following

Local communities / residents	Good
Local / Municipal authorities	Good
Indigenous peoples	Not applicable
Landowners	Good
Visitors	Fair
Researchers	Fair
Tourism industry	Non-existent
Industry	Not applicable

4.3.8 - If present, do local communities resident in or near the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

Local communities directly **participate** in all relevant decisions relating to management, i.e. co-management

4.3.9 - If present, do indigenous peoples resident in or regularly using the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

No indigenous peoples are resident in or regularly using the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone

4.3.10 - Is there cooperation with industry (i.e. forestry, mining, agriculture, etc.) regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone?

There is **little or no contact** with industry regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone

4.3.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

4.3.12 - Please report any significant changes in the legal status and / or contractual / traditional protective measures and management arrangements for the World

4.3.2 - Management Documents

4.3.3 - How well do the various levels of administration (i.e. national / federal; regional / provincial / state; local /

Heritage property since inscription or the last Periodic report

4.4. Financial and Human Resources

4.4.1 - Costs related to conservation, based on the average of last five years (relative percentage of the funding sources)

Multilateral funding (GEF, World Bank, etc)	79%%
International donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	0%
Governmental (National / Federal)	21%%
Governmental (Regional / Provincial / State)	0%
Governmental (Local / Municipal)	0%
In country donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	0%
Individual visitor charges (e.g. entry, parking, camping fees, etc.)	0%
Commercial operator payments (e.g. filming permit, concessions, etc.)	0%
Other grants	0%

4.4.2 - International Assistance received from the World Heritage Fund (USD)

4.4.3 - Is the current budget sufficient to manage the World Heritage property effectively?

The available budget is **acceptable** but could be further improved to fully meet the management needs

4.4.4 - Are the existing sources of funding secure and likely to remain so?

The existing sources of funding **are secure** in the medium-term and planning is underway to secure funding in the long-term

4.4.5 - Does the World Heritage property provide economic benefits to local communities (e.g. income, employment)?

There is **some flow** of economic benefits to local communities

4.4.6 - Are available resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure sufficient to meet management needs?

There are **adequate** equipment and facilities

4.4.7 - Are resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure adequately maintained?

Equipment and facilities are **well maintained**

4.4.8 - Comments, conclusion, and / or recommendations related to finance and infrastructure

4.4.1: refers to the budget of the Ministry of Culture and Sports and to European funds managed by the Ministry. 4.4.1.8: Revenues from commercial operator payments are collected by the Archaeological Receipts Fund (T.A.P.), a public jurisdiction legal entity under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture & Sports, and they are redistributed to the archaeological sites and museums of the country according to their needs. Therefore, such revenues are subject to centralized administration and for that reason it is not possible to estimate their contribution to the total funding of each property.

4.4.9 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Full-time	100%
Part-time	0%

4.4.10 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Permanent	70%
Seasonal	30%

4.4.11 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Paid	100%
Volunteer	0%

4.4.12 - Are available human resources adequate to manage the World Heritage property?

Human resources are **adequate** for management needs

4.4.13 - Considering the management needs of the World Heritage property, please rate the availability of professionals in the following disciplines

Research and monitoring	Fair
Promotion	Good
Community outreach	Good
Interpretation	Good
Education	Fair
Visitor management	Fair
Conservation	Good
Administration	Good
Risk preparedness	Poor
Tourism	Fair
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Good

4.4.14 - Please rate the availability of training opportunities for the management of the World Heritage property in the following disciplines

Research and monitoring	High
Promotion	Medium
Community outreach	Low
Interpretation	Medium
Education	Medium
Visitor management	Medium
Conservation	High
Administration	Medium
Risk preparedness	Medium
Tourism	Medium
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Medium

4.4.15 - Do the management and conservation programmes at the World Heritage property help develop local expertise?

A capacity development plan or programme is **in place and fully implemented**; all technical skills are being transferred to those managing the property locally, who are assuming leadership in management

4.4.16 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

4.4.10: The distribution of the staff refers only to the Ministry of Culture and Sports.

4.5. Scientific Studies and Research Projects

4.5.1 - Is there adequate knowledge (scientific or traditional) about the values of the World Heritage property to support planning, management and decision-making to ensure that Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Knowledge about the values of the World Heritage property is **sufficient**

4.5.2 - Is there a planned programme of research at the property which is directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is a **comprehensive, integrated programme of research**, which is relevant to management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

4.5.3 - Are results from research programmes disseminated?

Research results are **shared widely** with the local, national and international audiences

4.5.4 - Please provide details (i.e. authors, title, and web link) of papers published about the World Heritage property since the last Periodic Report

1) Ιερά Μεγίστη Μονή Βατοπαιδίου, Βυζαντινές εικόνες και επενδύσεις, επιμ. Ε.Ν. Τσιγαρίδας, Κ. Λοβέρδου-Τσιγαρίδα, Άγιον Όρος 2006. 2) Actes de Vatopedi II, Des origins a 1329, Archives de l' Athos XXII, Ed. J. Lefort, V. Kravari, C. Giros, K. Smirlis, Paris 2006. 3) Χ. Μαυροπούλου-Τσιούμη - Γ. Γαλάβαρης, Ιερά Μονή Σταυρονικήτα, Εικονογραφημένα χειρόγραφα, τ.Α-Β, Άγιον Όρος 2007. 4) Π. Σωτηρούδης, Ιερά Μονή Ιβήρων, Κατάλογος ελληνικών χειρογράφων, τ.ΙΑ' (1387-1568), Άγιον Όρος 2007. 5) Ο Άγιος Νήφων, Πατριάρχης Κωνσταντινουπόλεως, Τόμος επετειακός επί τη συμπληρώσει πεντακοσίων ετών από της κοιμήσεως αυτού (1508-2008), Άγιον Όρος 2008. 6) Σ. Καδάς, Τα εικονογραφημένα χειρόγραφα του Αγίου Όρους, Θεσσαλονίκη 2008. 7) Ιερός Ναός Πρωτάτου 2007-2008, Παθολογία των τοιχογραφιών, Σχέδια – Αποτυπώσεις, έκδ. 10ης ΕΒΑ, Πολύγυρος 2008. 8) Ν. Γκιολές, Οι τοιχογραφίες του καθολικού της μονής Διονυσίου, Άγιον Όρος 2009. 9) Γ.Β. Μπάρσκι, τα ταξίδια του στο Άγιον Όρος 1725-1726, 1744-1745, έκδ. Αγιορειτικής Εστίας-Μουσείου Μπενάκη, Θεσσαλονίκη 2009. 10) Le Mont Athos et l' Empire byzantin. Tresors de la Sainte Montagne, Petit Palais- Musee des Beaux- Arts de la ville de Paris 10 Avril- 5 juillet 2009, Κατάλογος Έκθεσης, Paris 2009. 11) Ν. Τουτός - Γ. Φουστέρης, Ευρετήριο της Μνημειακής ζωγραφικής του Αγίου Όρους, 10ος-17ος αιώνας, Αθήνα 2010. 12) Το Άγιον Όρος στον 15ο και 16ο αιώνα. Πνευματικός βίος-Ιστορία-Τέχνη, Θεσσαλονίκη 2011. 13) Εικόνες Ιεράς Μονής Καρακάλλου, επιμ. Ε.Ν. Τσιγαρίδας, Άγιον Όρος 2011. 14) Το Άγιον Όρος στον 15ο και 16ο αιώνα, ΣΤ' Διεθνές Επιστημονικό Συνέδριο, Πρακτικά Συνεδρίου, Θεσσαλονίκη 2012. 15) Π. Σωτηρούδης, Ιερά Μονή Σίμωνος Πέτρας, Κατάλογος ελληνικών χειρογράφων, Άγιον Όρος, 2012. 16) Γ. Τσιμπούκης, Η Αποκάλυψη του Ιωάννη στη μνημειακή ζωγραφική του Αγίου Όρους, Αθήνα 2013.

4.5.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to scientific studies and research projects

4.6. Education, Information and Awareness Building

4.6.1 - At how many locations is the World Heritage emblem displayed at the property?

In many locations and easily visible to visitors

4.6.2 - Please rate the awareness and understanding of the existence and justification for inscription of the World Heritage property amongst the following groups

Local communities / residents	Excellent
Local / Municipal authorities within or adjacent to the property	Excellent
Local Indigenous peoples	Not applicable
Local landowners	Excellent
Visitors	Average
Tourism industry	Average
Local businesses and industries	Average

4.6.3 - Is there a planned education and awareness programme linked to the values and management of the World Heritage property?

There is a planned education and awareness programme but it only **partly meets the needs** and could be improved

4.6.4 - What role, if any, has designation as a World Heritage property played with respect to education, information and awareness building activities?

World Heritage status has influenced education, information and awareness building activities, **but it could be improved**

4.6.5 - How well is the information on Outstanding Universal Value of the property presented and interpreted?

There is **excellent presentation and interpretation** of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property

4.6.6 - Please rate the adequacy for education, information and awareness building of the following visitor facilities and services at the World Heritage property

Visitor centre	Adequate
Site museum	Adequate
Information booths	Adequate
Guided tours	Adequate
Trails / routes	Adequate
Information materials	Adequate
Transportation facilities	Adequate
Other	Not needed

4.6.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to education, information and awareness building

4.7. Visitor Management

4.7.1 - Please provide the trend in annual visitation for the last five years

Last year	Minor Increase
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Two years ago	Minor Increase
Three years ago	Static
Four years ago	Static
Five years ago	Static

4.7.2 - What information sources are used to collect trend data on visitor statistics?

Entry tickets and registries
Accommodation establishments
Transportation services
Tourism industry

4.7.3 - Visitor management documents

4.7.4 - Is there an appropriate visitor use management plan (e.g. specific plan) for the World Heritage property which ensures that its Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Visitor use of the World Heritage property is managed but **improvements could be made**

4.7.5 - Does the tourism industry contribute to improving visitor experiences and maintaining the values of the World Heritage property?

There is contact between those responsible for the World Heritage property and the tourism industry but this is largely **confined to administrative or regulatory matters**

4.7.6 - If fees (i.e. entry charges, permits) are collected, do they contribute to the management of the World Heritage property?

The fee is collected, and makes **some contribution** to the management of the World Heritage property

4.7.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to visitor use of the World Heritage property

4.7.6.4: The fee is collected by the Holy Community only once and relates to the entrance to Mount Athos.

4.8. Monitoring

4.8.1 - Is there a monitoring programme at the property which is directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is considerable monitoring but it is **not directed towards management needs** and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

4.8.2 - Are key indicators for measuring the state of conservation used to monitor how the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is maintained?

Information on the values of the World Heritage property is sufficient and key indicators have been defined but **monitoring the status of indicators could be improved**

4.8.3 - Please rate the level of involvement in monitoring of the following groups

World Heritage managers / coordinators and staff	Average
Local / Municipal authorities	Average
Local communities	Excellent
Researchers	Average

NGOs	Non-existent
Industry	Not applicable
Local indigenous peoples	Not applicable

4.8.4 - Has the State Party implemented relevant recommendations arising from the World Heritage Committee?

Implementation is **complete**

4.8.5 - Please provide comments relevant to the implementation of recommendations from the World Heritage Committee

4.8.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to monitoring

4.8.1.3: Monitoring of the property is partially directed towards management needs. 4.8.3.2: The local municipal authorities are involved in the monitoring of the buffer zone of the property only. 4.8.3.3: By local communities we mean the Holy Community.

4.9. Identification of Priority Management Needs

4.9.1 - Please select the top 6 managements needs for the property (if more than 6 are listed below)

Please refer to question 5.2

5. Summary and Conclusions

5.1. Summary - Factors affecting the Property

5.1.1 - Summary - Factors affecting the Property

		World Heritage criteria and attributes affected	Actions	Monitoring	Timeframe	Lead agency (and others involved)	More info / comment
3.2	Transportation Infrastructure						
3.2.4	Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure	There are no negative effects for the attributes of the property	Since the effects from the use are insignificant no actions are being taken at the moment.	Continuous monitoring by the competent state authorities, the Holy Community and the 20 monasteries	Whenever is needed	The Holy Community, the 20 monasteries and the state authorities	No comments
3.3	Services Infrastructures						
3.3.4	Localised utilities	There are no negative effects for the attributes of the property.	The effects are insignificant, however the competent authorities take the following measures: control of the number of cell phone towers, approval of relevant studies etc.	Continuous monitoring and control	On going	The Holy Community, the 20 monasteries and the state authorities	No comments
3.4	Pollution						
3.4.5	Solid waste	Solid waste does not affect the criteria according to which the property was inscribed in the WHList.	Regular collection of solid waste	Continuous monitoring	On going	Holy Community	-
3.7	Local conditions affecting physical fabric						
3.7.6	Water (rain/water table)	There are no negative effects for the attributes of the property. Instead there is an effort for saving water.	Plans exist for water saving.	Continuous monitoring and control	On going	The Holy Community, the 20 monasteries and the state authorities	No comments.
3.8	Social/cultural uses of heritage						
3.8.6	Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation	There are no significant effects for the attributes of the property.	The Holy Community controls the number of the visitors entering Mount Athos.	Continuous monitoring and control	On going	The Holy Community and the 20 monasteries.	No comments.
3.13	Management and institutional factors						
3.13.2	High impact research / monitoring activities	High impact research has no negative effects on the criteria of the property.	Scientific studies are being elaborated and approved by the relevant authorities before the restoration projects	Continuous monitoring and control	On going	Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports, Hellenic Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change, 10th Ephorate of Byzantine Antiquities, Holy Community	-

5.2. Summary - Management Needs

5.2.2 - Summary - Management Needs

4.3 Management System / Management Plan							
		Actions	Timeframe	Lead agency (and others involved)	More info / comment		
4.3.10	There is little or no contact with industry regarding management	Due to the nature of the property industry is not involved in the management of Mount Athos.	No timeframe	No agency	No comments		
4.7 Visitor Management							

4.7.5	Contact with the tourism industry is largely confined to administrative or regulatory matters	The Holy Community is responsible for controlling the number of visitors entering Mount Athos, the duration of their stay and the monasteries they visit.	On going	The Holy Community and the 20 monasteries.	No comments.
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5.3. Conclusions on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.3.1 - Current state of Authenticity

The authenticity of the World Heritage property has been **preserved**

5.3.2 - Current state of Integrity

The integrity of the World Heritage property is **intact**

5.3.3 - Current state of the World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value

The World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value has been **maintained**.

5.3.4 - Current state of the property's other values

Other important cultural and / or natural values and the state of conservation of the World Heritage property are **predominantly intact**

5.4. Additional comments on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.4.1 - Comments

6. World Heritage Status and Conclusions on Periodic Reporting Exercise

6.1 - Please rate the impacts of World Heritage status of the property in relation to the following areas

Conservation	Positive
Research and monitoring	Positive
Management effectiveness	Positive
Quality of life for local communities and indigenous peoples	Positive
Recognition	Very positive
Education	Positive
Infrastructure development	Positive
Funding for the property	Positive
International cooperation	Positive
Political support for conservation	Positive
Legal / Policy framework	Positive
Lobbying	Positive
Institutional coordination	Positive
Security	Positive
Other (please specify)	Not applicable

6.2 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to World Heritage status

6.3 - Entities involved in the preparation of this Section of the Periodic Report

Governmental institution responsible for the property
Site Manager/Coordinator/World Heritage property staff

6.4 - Was the Periodic Reporting questionnaire easy to use and clearly understandable?

yes

6.5 - Please provide suggestions for improvement of the Periodic Reporting questionnaire

6.6 - Please rate the level of support for completing the Periodic Report questionnaire from the following entities

UNESCO	Very good
State Party Representative	Very good
Advisory Body	Very good

6.7 - How accessible was the information required to complete the Periodic Report?

All required information was accessible

6.8 - The Periodic Reporting process has improved the understanding of the following

The World Heritage Convention
The concept of Outstanding Universal Value
The property's Outstanding Universal Value
The concept of Integrity and / or Authenticity
The property's Integrity and / or Authenticity
Managing the property to maintain the Outstanding Universal Value
Monitoring and reporting
Management effectiveness

6.9 - Please rate the follow-up to conclusions and recommendations from previous Periodic Reporting exercise by the following entities

UNESCO	Excellent
State Party	Excellent
Site Managers	Excellent
Advisory Bodies	Excellent

6.10 - Summary of actions that will require formal consideration by the World Heritage Committee

Automatically generated in online version

6.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to the Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise