

# The European Heritage Network

Overall presentation

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## **Fifth European Conference of Ministers responsible for the Cultural Heritage (Portorož/Slovenia, 2001)**

Following the decision to establish the Network (Helsinki, 1996). The project developed through successive project phases, based on partnerships between public authorities and outside operators, with strong support from the European Union (Information Society DG).

The 5<sup>th</sup> Conference of Ministers responsible for the Cultural Heritage (Portorož, April 2001) proposed that, once it was fully operational, the HEREIN network should be run by the Council of Europe, as part of its intergovernmental programme, with backing from the heritage authorities in the various countries and other international bodies.

## Definition and focus of the European Heritage Network

The European Heritage Network (HEREIN Network) is a permanent information system gathering European governmental services in charge of heritage protection within the Council of Europe.

The “Herein Network” focus is on cultural heritage, particularly on architectural and on archaeological heritage *in the context of activities under the European Cultural Convention, the Granada (1985) and Valetta (1992) Conventions, looking ahead to the application of the European Landscape Convention (2000).*

## Countries (25) involved in the European Heritage Network in 2002



**Andorra, Armenia, Belgium (Brussels-Capital, Flemish Region, Walloon Region), Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.**



Ultimately, any country of the European Cultural convention (48) can freely join the group and become a member of the Herein Network



## Aims, activities and services of the European Heritage Network

1. To facilitate co-operation among all European countries by promoting the involvement of the new Council of Europe member states in information exchanges and in the devising of joint programmes;  
→ Herein 2E, Forum and project on Industrial Heritage ....
2. To offer countries a practical tool for communicating the cultural heritage reports required under the conventions in the field of cultural heritage.  
→ <http://herein.european-heritage.net>, OPRT (UNESCO/WHC)
3. To observe the development of cultural heritage policies and to foster the adaptation of public authorities' policies and widely to publicise good practice.  
→ Core system : Database, Portal and Thesaurus

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4. To promote joint experimentation and information exchanges relating to the place of the heritage in the knowledge society and the use of information technologies to encourage interest in the heritage.  
→ Digitisation, Co-operation with Minerva, Heritage-Discovery
5. To encourage and facilitate the starting of projects and partnerships. The Network is an international catalyst for initiatives and an ideal “meeting place” for the heritage family and a number of professions and persons active in this sphere and awaiting ways of improving their co-operation  
→ Spin-off projects, contacts with others projects and networks ...



## Members of the European Heritage Network

The HEREIN Network is composed of governmental services in charge of heritage from the countries of the European Cultural Convention. HEREIN members are officially designated by their government.

According to the 'central' or 'federal' alike administrative structure of a country, the body is designated at national or regional level. The national representative to the CDPAT informs the Council of Europe of the designated body(ies).



## National correspondants of the European Heritage Network

The Herein Correspondent - is the person officially designated by a Member of the Herein Network to exercise its rights and obligations.

The Herein Correspondent is the interface between the designating Member and the Herein Secretariat for any question concerning the Herein Network.

### Specifically the Herein Correspondent

- is responsible for coordinating the collection and updating of data for its country / region,
- participates in the yearly meeting organised by the Council of Europe.

# Management and operating structures

