



“The ultimate goal is to establish a permanent European-wide system that monitors all legislative bills being planned for implementation by the European Union. This will act as an early warning system for identifying any potential threats posed to cultural heritage by planned European legislation. The observatory will bring the potential negative effects to the attention of the competent authorities at national, regional or local level as well as national and international organisations concerned with the cultural heritage.”

EUROPEAN WORKING GROUP ON EU DIRECTIVES AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

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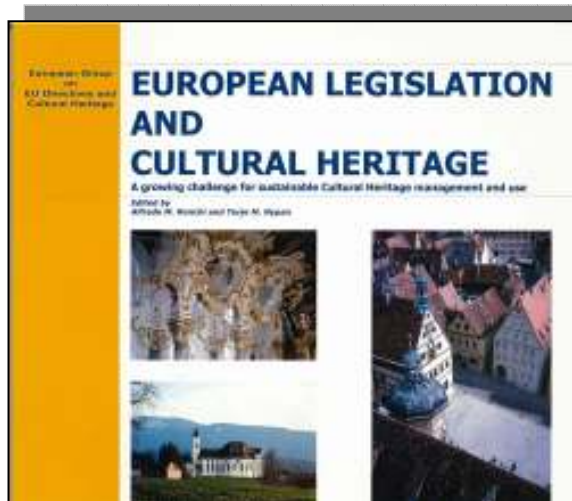
“We can not *build* our way to sustainability; we must *conserve* our way to it.”

Carl Elefante, AIA, LEED-AP



**EUROPEAN
WORKING GROUP ON
EU DIRECTIVES AND
CULTURAL HERITAGE**

The changing of the guard.



This is the last newsletter from the 'Working Group on EU Directives and Cultural Heritage' (the Working Group). A monitoring of EU legislation, often called ECHO, which was the goal of the Working Group has now been (partly) realised.

The EHLF, the European Heritage Legal Forum will start up in the fall of 2008 (next article).

The Working Group has done an exceptional job documenting the scope of the problems caused by EU Directives implemented in national legislation on the (built) cultural heritage. For that we must than all members and contributors. A special thanks to Prof. A. Ronchi of the Politecnico di Milan who secured funding for the book on European Legislation and

Cultural Heritage¹.

But, alas, it is not sufficient to document a problem for it to be solved. The problem must move on to the 'political' agenda. Here again all the members have contributed to assure that this question was and is always raised in different contexts. This constant hammering and focusing has contributed to placing the legal question on the political agenda.

When the EHHF (European Heritage Heads Forum) was started through the initiative of Working Group members in 2006 it represented a common European forum of competent authorities where the question of EU legislation could be raised. The EHHF warmly welcomes and supports the creation of the EHLF (European Heritage Legal Forum).

So in fact the task of the Working Group has metamorphosed to become the EHLF. The EHLF intends to improve the monitoring of legislation in Brussels and the reporting to national authorities. This is necessary to support sustainable management and conservation of the built heritage.

We believe we have laid the necessary foundations to reach this goal and we now pass the challenge on to the EHLF; the European Legal Heritage Forum, a European forum for monitoring legislation coming out of Brussels.

We were very pleased to get the following feedback on one of our 'Directives watch' communications on the possibilities for Reduced VAT.

Dear Terje,

In the name of EMH (European Maritime Heritage) and its secretary Thedo Fruithof I would like to thank you for the circulation of this message. Thanks to your information we were able to send our reaction to the European Commission in time.

Best regards,

Hendrik Boland, Vice-president EMH. www.european-maritime-heritage.org

I think the feedback demonstrates the usefulness of the monitoring task. I wish you all a pleasant summer.

T. Nypan

¹ "European Legislation and Cultural Heritage.

A growing challenge for sustainable cultural heritage management." Editors T. Nypan, A. Ronchi, Politecnico Milano, Leonardo da Vinci University, Italy. Delewa Editore. October, 2006. ISBN 88-88943-05-6.

EHLF, The European Heritage Legal Forum

A legal network of competent authorities is coming on-line. The successor of the 'Working Group for EU Directives and Cultural Heritage' is now established. This is the EHLF; the European Legal Heritage Forum, consisting of representatives from the competent cultural heritage authorities of the European countries.

The final statement of the EHLF meeting in Prague on 10-11 May 2007, asked that Norway, propose a way in which the members of EHLF can have influence on the development of EU legislation taking account of cultural heritage. Such a proposal was made at the EHLF meeting in Copenhagen in May this year and included the starting up of the EHLF.

The final communication from the Copenhagen meeting 2008 states:

"We welcome the proposal for the creation of a EUROPEAN HERITAGE LEGAL FORUM (EHLF), per appended proposal and individual members will indicate to Norway if they whether they are going to participate in the information-sharing process."

A more detailed description of the work and tasks of the legal group is available. See: COPENHAGEN 2008. Final Recommendations. http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/ehhf/upload/pdf/2008_Final_Recommendations.pdf

The objective of this group is to increase capacity for early identification of EU legislation a network of EHLF members is established. Every country appoints its member(s) cor-

respondent. Together they will constitute the



Laveaux St. Anne, Belgium. Threatened by the Water Framework Directive.

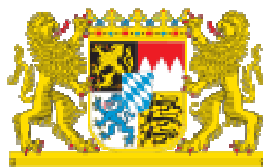
European Legal Heritage Forum EHLF. The objective of EHLF is to deliver timely information on the development of legal acts in Brussels to the EHLF members.

The EHLF will act as an early warning system for identifying potential threats posed to cultural heritage by planned European legislation.

Biannual meetings are planned to start up. A Secretariat function and an Executive Committee is appointed. All members carry their own costs for meetings etc. The EHLF cannot lobby independently.

A first meeting of this group is called on the 22-23 September 2008, in Brussels. Venue: Bavarian delegation to the EU.

The initiative to this meeting is taken by



The Energy Efficiency Directive 93/76/EEC; rehabilitation or change of windows?



A common European challenge.

Due to the Energy efficiency Directive the mandatory changing of old windows has been imposed in most European countries. But does it have the promised effect?

A number of countries are now organising seminars and information meetings in an effort to cope with the challenge and find alternatives to removal of historic windows to satisfy the demands for energy efficiency and energy certificates.

KÖH in Hungary is organising an international symposium on historic windows for 17-18 November. The objective is to *“Calling attention to and raising public awareness on the importance of the preservation of historic windows. Windows have particular importance in creating the characteristics of buildings and townscapes”*.

ICOMOS France is working to organise a common action of the French speaking countries.

Warning against changing windows.

H. Ibenholt from Riksantikvaren, the Directorate for Cultural Heritage, says in a newspaper article June 19th that ***the official information on energy to be saved from changing windows is a ‘blatant lie’***. When



Old windows insulate best. Harald Ibenholt.
Aftenposten 19.06.2008

Enova², states that 40% of the heat loss from buildings is caused by windows, this is not true.

- *“Houses with traditional windows have an outer window that open outwards and an inner window opening inwards. This is a good window construction because it isolates better than a modern insulation window (double glass). The original windows are an integral part of the building façade and this is difficult to recreate even if you choose a copy”*.

The representative from Enova Anne Guri Selnæs, agrees with Mr. Ibenholt. She states that older buildings often have a larger heat loss. Insulation of the roof is the most important energy saving measure. After the roof insulation follows insulation of walls, doors and around the windows.

Selnæs states: *“The real old windows are worthwhile repairing. But if the building is (only) 20-30 years old you may often save more by changing the windows that insulating the wall”*.

A seminar to develop alternative methods and initiate cooperation with the industry.

In February the Norwegian Directorate for cultural heritage organised a seminar on maintenance and repair of old windows. *“We have now experienced 40 years with a extensive changing of windows in older buildings. The question has always been; what do we need to do with the old windows to*

² Enova the agency responsible for promoting energy saving measures.

³ The building and material quality from the middle of the 70-ies was much lower than in the historic houses. So here the windows, in most cases now need to be changed.

achieve a satisfactory maintenance condition and quality."... "This seminar treats the following questions related to old windows: Can preservation of old windows be advised from an environmental perspective?

The main questions were:

1. How to achieve a satisfactory quality (insulation values)
2. Is it possible to do a window restoration without incurring important more costs?"
3. What are 'Good copies?'"

"Both 1st and 2nd generation windows in historic buildings are now ripe for replacement, due to an overall sub-quality of materials. This makes it important to discuss the demands we

must set for new copies so that we may keep the architectonic expression of the building in a better manner than the older copies and at the same time achieve a satisfactory quality and life expectancy. What is the correct combination of modern and traditional qualities?"

There is here a great potential for constructive a collaboration with the window industry as many windows must be changed anyway. We must counter the tendencies that half truths become the basis for prescriptive policies. Why not try to develop an active cooperation with the window industry when windows must be changed? In Norway we have good experience with such cooperation in other fields.

Energy Efficiency Directive 93/76/EEC. Why do the best intentions sometimes produce the opposite?

In the last issue we wrote about the computer application used in the UK to assess energy efficiency in buildings. The model underlying the calculations automatically assumes older buildings are less efficient than newer buildings and subsequently makes it harder to achieve energy certificates for older buildings.

The following formulation from the US is also worth taking into account.

"Razing historic buildings results in a triple hit on scarce resources. First, we throw away thousands of dollars of embodied energy. Second, we are replacing it with materials vastly more consumptive of energy. What are most historic structures built from? Brick, plaster, concrete, and timber. What are among the least energy consumptive of materials? Brick, plaster, concrete, and timber. What are major component of new buildings? Plastic, steel, vinyl, and aluminium. What is the most energy consumptive of materials? Plastic, steel, vinyl, and aluminium. Third, recurring embodied energy savings increase dramatically as a building life stretches over 50 years. You're a fool or a fraud if you say you are an environmentally conscious builder and yet are throwing away historic buildings, and their components."

Donovan Rypkema of PlaceEconomics. http://www.aia.org/aiarchitect/thisweek08/0208/0208p_pres.cfm

Can we build our way to sustainability? LEED®, energy efficiency in buildings.



THINK ABOUT IT: THE ARCHITECT'S VOICE That Old Building May Be the Greenest on the Block.

by James T. Kienle, FAIA AIA Historic Resources Committee

When was the last time you saw any

kind of architecture publication that did not have something on sustainability? It is difficult to be an architect today and not know about sustainability and the green building movement. Even if you do not have LEED® behind your name, you know what LEED is, and you or your clients—even some state and local governments—are demanding that your projects be LEED certified. But in our haste to make all things green, we may be losing the bigger picture.

http://www.aia.org/aiarchitect/thisweek08/0208/0208p_pres.cfm

Are old buildings ungreen?

Wayne Curtis writes: "New green buildings, brimming with the latest in modern technology, are perceived to be on one side; the old buildings, full of quaint, inefficient technologies and drafty windows, are on the other. Which leads one to ask: Just how "ungreen" and energy inefficient are those older buildings? ... Not very, it turns out. The reputation of older structures as energy sieves, in short, is simply not justified by the data."

Ultimately, as Carl Elefante, AIA, LEED-AP, eloquently says:

"We can not *build* our way to sustainability; we must *conserve* our way to it."

What is The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System, developed by the [U.S. Green Building Council](http://www.usgbc.org/), provides a suite of standards for environmentally sustainable

construction. Since its inception in 1998, LEED has grown to encompass over 14,000 projects in 50 US States and 30 countries covering 1.062 billion square feet (99 km²) of development area.^[2] The hallmark of LEED is that it is an open and transparent process where the technical criteria proposed by the LEED committees are publicly reviewed for approval by the more than 10,000 membership organizations that currently constitute the USGBC.

Individuals recognized for their knowledge of the LEED rating system are permitted to use the LEED Accredited Professional (AP) acronym after their name, indicating they have passed the accreditation exam given by the USGBC.

LEED [Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leadership_in_Energy_and_Environmental_Design) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leadership_in_Energy_and_Environmental_Design

Problematic regulation for plaster; Energy Performance in Buildings 2002/91/EC.

The Energy Performance in Buildings 2002/91/EC has an article 4.3 which has led to adjustments in the French norm for plaster (Norme enduits 13 914)

This French norm treats plasters; plaster of Paris, [lime plaster](#), or [cement plaster](#).

Traditionally plaster (plâtre) was a common building material for wall surfaces in a process known as [lath and plaster](#), whereby a series of wooden strips are covered with a semi-dry plaster and then hardened into surface. The plaster used in most lath-and-plaster construction was mainly lime plaster.

The problem with the changes in the norm is, according to our French colleagues that the **revised norm allows for too much cement** when treating historic facades. This creates a problem for the building as the plaster with a high proportion of cement has a reduced porosity (breathing) and is less flexible.

It becomes almost impossible to demand the use of traditional lime-only plasters as the norm states that this is not necessary.



Are all good things plastic? Health Conditions on Fishery Products 91/493/EEC

This research project is relevant for the use of wood in historic buildings used for production of food, with special relevance to the hygienic demands in the fisheries industry.

The challenge for historic wood buildings in coastal areas posed by this directive has been discussed by the Working Group. This legislation has been disastrous for many small local fish handling plants in coastal regions as wood is forbidden where it may come in contact with the fish.

Wood is considered porous and subsequently less hygienic than plastic.

A Scandinavia research project looked at the combination of wood and food processing. The results demonstrated that bacteria have less

positive developments on surfaces of oak and beach (bøk) than on plastic and steel. Wood has a self cleaning characteristic which is not reduced over time.

So maybe the national regulations have missed the point by demanding the use of materials that are easy to clean and water resistant and thereby in practice excluding wood? No change has been made in the Scandinavian regulations even though the research results were extremely clear.

Ref.: Journal of wood technical information. Nr 2 November 2007. Norwegian Tree technical Institute, PO box 113 Blindern, 00314 Oslo.

Information to you delegation in Brussels.



Ahengig av tradisjonell trebjørre. Venstre: Heddal stavkirke. Midt: Weisskirch, saksisk befestet kirke, Romania. © Riksantikvaren, T. Nyman. Høyre: Millebrenning av tradisjonell trebjørre. © NBA, Finland.

Kulturminner som ressurser.

I tillegg til de kulturelle og historiske verdier som finnes i historisk og fredet bebyggelse, er det også betydelige økonomiske verdier knyttet til kulturminnene.

Kulturminner har vist seg som ypperlige motorer i byutvikling. I Norge har vi et glimrende eksempel fra Møllebyen i Moss. I Berlin har det vist seg at ny virksomhet i gamle kraftstasjoner fra 20- og 30-tallet har gitt meget god avkastning for investorene og fungert som attraktive landemerker for stedsutvikling³.

Kulturminnene har antikvarisk verdi men er og danne grunnlag for store inntekter basert på turisme. Riksantikvarens egne analyser av Borgund stavkirke fra 2003⁴ viste at Borgund stavkirke genererer en omsetning på 36,3 millioner kroner i året. Borgund koster det offentlige ca. 500.000,- kroner i tilskudd i året. Stavkirken er instrumentell i å generere 168 årsverk som igjen genererer 11 millioner kroner i skatteinntekter til samfunnet.

Frankrikes viktigste slott og klostre står for 15 prosent av landets valutainntekter fra turisme, 15,1 milliarder euro (år 2000). Sikring og formidling av kulturminner er også en arbeidsintensiv virksomhet med stor betydning for lokal sysselsetting og arbeidsplasser i distriktene.

Bærekraftig forvaltning.

For at disse verdiene skal forvaltes bærekraftig må vedlikehold og reparasjon utføres mest mulig likt det opprinnelige og materialene må også være like de opprinnelige. Slik gjøres det på stavkirkene og på Versailles. Rembrandt, malerier må restaureres ved bruk av de samme fargestoffene som opprinnelig ble brukt. Dette ivaretar autenticitet som er grunnlaget for kulturminnernes verdi.

³ N. Haldor-Hass, J. Haspel, G. Lorenz „Denkmale als Immobilien“, Immobilien Zeitung, 2002. ISBN 3-9805824-3-4

⁴ Stortingetsmelding, St.meld. nr. 16 (2004-2005) Leve med kulturminner. "Direktiver som implementeres i nasjonal lovgivning påvirker også forvaltning og vedlikehold av kulturminner. Det er derfor viktig på et tidlig stadium å identifisere hvilke konsekvenser slike direktiver får for kulturminner og kulturminner og at nødvendige løsninger til kulturminnernes egenart blir satt i regler og forskrifter som vedtas." Se også: NOL 2002: 1 Forord former framtid – Urfordringer i en ny kulturminnepolitikk.

We advise you to try to use your contacts or your permanent delegation in Brussels to collect information on legislation and its consequences. Information on cultural heritage and EU legislation is also of interest to the

delegations.

The national delegations normally brief all national experts participating in the work of drafting legislation. And here is where the information has a access channel to persons working with legal development.

Above are the middle pages of the information folder, which contains the following themes: Cultural Heritage and EU legislation, Example of inadvertent consequences, Cultural Heritage as resources, the needed exemption or special considerations and information on whom to contact for further information.

New trends or old tunes? The Leipzig Charter, architecture and sustainable development



The Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities was voted by all European Ministers responsible for Urban Development. These Ministers agreed upon a number of principles for urban development. They state:

“Historic buildings, public spaces, and their urban and architectural value must be preserved.”

“Such a “Baukultur” is needed for the city as a whole and its surroundings. Both cities and Governments must make their influence felt. This is particularly important for the preservation of architectural heritage. Historical buildings, public spaces and their urban and architectural values must be preserved.”

“The quality of public spaces, urban man-made landscapes and architecture and urban development play an important role in the living conditions of urban populations. As soft locational factors, they are important for attracting knowledge industry, a qualified and creative workforce and for tourism.”

“Developing the future: The market and quality of life.”

In April a conference organised by the ACE; Architects Council of Europe, was held in Brussels. It had high level political support and was placed under the patronage of Mr. José Manuel Barroso, Président de la Commission Européenne.

The principal objectives of the conference were:

1. To reinforce the cultural, cross-cutting dimension as the fourth pillar of sustainable development, with special attention given to the creative management of both our built and natural heritage.
2. To promote and manage policies that fully take into account all aspects of sustainability – economic, social, environmental and cultural - in the



development of the built environment, while using holistic strategies.

3. To promote the future development of the built environment based on the highest quality criteria rather than lowest cost, from conception to maintenance, placing the citizen at the heart of all policies.

http://www.ace-cae.org/MemberN/Content/EN/mee/cnf/conf_lettre.html

Here are some other interesting statements:
Construction for the long-term: Set a new timescale to understand real costs

Examine the need to carry out an evaluation of the built environment in terms of real value, not limited to a quick return on investment.

Procurement and quality: Define guidelines for fair practice in order to protect public interest

Obviously, free market forces alone cannot guarantee quality and sustainability in the built environment. The Bristol Accord on Sustainable Communities, the new strategic guidelines for the Cohesion Policy of the European Union and the Leipzig Charter on Sustainable Cities all recognise that architectural quality plays a useful role in contributing to the improvement of the attractiveness of cities and regions as well as being a factor in the creation of growth and jobs.

Space as a limited element: Define the field of sustainability

It is no longer possible to consider that physical space, and earthly resources are infinite as has been the case until now. At the stage where, from now on, half of the world's population lives in cities and are faced with an exponential growth in urban areas, proper management of space seems impossible to achieve. How can this be addressed, what are the policies that, over and above a growing realisation will permit sustainable management of our environment and of our resources, and, in particular, what contribution can architectural policy and practice bring to this endeavour?

New antidiscrimination rules proposed by the Commission – another threat to many cultural heritage building and sites, maybe?

Stronger and more restrictive legislation is being prepared in Brussels. Responsible: EU-Commissioner Vladimír Špidla. This development is in line with the existing rules for universal access which is already creating problems for many cultural heritage buildings where the public has access.

Problem:

The Germans are asking themselves if more rules and stronger rules will lead to consequences such as:

- The Spanish steps, the Forum Romanum and the Palatine must be accessible for wheel chairs? (*Kann umfassender Schutz vor Diskriminierung für den Tourismus bedeuten, dass etwa in Italien die Spanische Treppe, das Forum Romanum, der Palatin rollstuhlfahrgerecht ausgebaut werden,)*
- That in Vienna the crypt under the Stephans cathedral, the Prater must be accessible to everyone?
- That public footpaths in the Alps must be without barriers?
- That French drip stone grottos in Herault must be accessible?
- That the old town of Carcassone or the the top of the Mont Blanc must have a handicap prepared access?
- That the walk around the walls of Rothenburg ob der Taube must be accessible too?

Comments: This is no easy question. We are, I believe, all in agreement that access should be made possible to all social groups. But, and it is a serious BUT for the cultural heritage business. There IS A LIMIT to what you can do to a historic building and site without damaging seriously the authenticity and historic integrity of the building. The same goes for a site, but as the site is often larger the possibilities for development towards universal access are also more numerous.

The legal problem and the work to make cultural heritage more accessible:

We support the intention of the lawmakers; universal access. But EU Directives are prescriptive; i.e. they tell you what must be done.



Pictures: Rothenburg. www.Rothenburg.de

As we have seen in so many cases the prescriptions are damaging to cultural heritage. A legislation more based on setting the objectives to be achieved rather than prescribing measures to implement is preferable. A number of different measures may then be implemented to achieve the objectives, but how and what is more open to the discretion of the building / site managers. This is always preferable to prescriptive standards.

Conclusions: The cultural heritage sector needs a clause in this legislation to be able to make exemptions (at national level, if need be) for historic buildings and sites where such measures will destroy the historic qualities of the building / site / boat / railway etc



Directives watch, March 14th. REACH – Removing exemptions in directives being replaced by REACH and included in Annex XVII. Not possible!

The exemption for lead based colours used for heritage conservation / maintenance will be removed!

It started in March, with a report by the NBA in Finland saying they had talked to their CA (competent authorities, in this case the pollution control authorities) and had been told that 25 countries were in agreement to remove the exemptions that existed. This was specially the case for the exemption for lead based paints; lead white in particular.



The Finns wondered if this was the case and what they could do to stop this. Based on this urgent request for assistance we started an action to involve the network and gather information.

We could not find out that any MS (member state) CA had been in contact with the

competent cultural heritage authority in their country.

We did find out that some provisions in the **REACH directive gives** the MS the possibility to give **exemptions for the use of some substances for the preservation of cultural heritage objects, restoration works etc.** We were told this was the case for lead and for pentachlorophenol.

The provisions are set out in Annex XVII which treats the substances, mixtures, articles or products which are forbidden or restricted in any manner. The coming into force of Annex XVII was postponed for 2 years, until June 1st 2009. The Commission has established a "Limitations Working Group" to rework the Annex XVII by September 1st 2008. The "Limitations Working Group" (LWG). This is the group which triggered the Finnish worries. The German lawyers state that this group has a limited mandate. Its task is just to review and edit the formulation of the restrictions. According to the German BMU (Federal Ministry of Environment) the group has no mandate to change any of the factual legislation, only a mandate to propose wording changes, or technical changes.

Material changes in the legislation can, according to the BMU, only follow from a separate legal procedure to substantiate such changes. **From this clear legalistic point of view there can be no question of the LWG removing any openings for exemptions etc. that are part of the Directive or Annex XVII.**

We think this brings this case to an end. **There will be no changes.** Lead based colours will still be permitted / exempted as today.

We might encounter other problems with REACH as its implementation proceeds. The case demonstrates the need to be informed and to be constantly vigilant. Special thanks to our Bavarian colleagues in this case.

REACH is a new European Community Regulation on chemicals and their safe use ([EC 1907/2006](#)).



Hearing on Creosot. Directive 98/8/EC Biocides.

We sent out a notification on the hearing earlier this spring notifying correspondents and contacts on this public hearing.

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/biocides/creosote.htm>

This is yet another example of traditional products disappearing or becoming almost impossible to procure. It demonstrates the need for a monitoring and early warning system.

Creosote [CAS No. 8001-58-9], as defined in the European Standard EN 12303 (CEN 2000), is a brownish-black oily liquid with a smoky odour. It is a distillation product of coal tar which itself is a by-product of the high-

temperature destructive distillation of bituminous coal to form coke.

In order to perform an overall risk/benefit analysis of the use of creosote as a wood preservative, the Commission services are inviting stakeholders to comment on the possible consequences of the inclusion or non-inclusion of creosote in Annex I to Directive 98/8/EC.

The consultation were opened from 30 April 2008 until 30 June.

8th EC conference on cultural heritage November 11-13

<http://www.chresp.eu/General.aspx>

Objectives:



November 11-13, 2008
Ljubljana, Slovenia

Our cultural heritage enriches our lives and strengthens our identity. With the growing importance of tourism, it is also becoming a major economic factor, enhancing the quality of life in Europe and contributing to employment. Yet

the changing environment, increasing numbers of tourists and use of non-sustainable practices impose a growing threat to the fragile remains of our past. The main objective of 8th EC conference on cultural heritage is to foster (the) exploitation and spin off of EU research results. New technologies, tools and devices will be presented through talks, posters, exhibitions and practical workshops. Interdisciplinary discussions among scientists, policy makers and end-users – e.g. conservators and restorers, managers and owners of the cultural patrimony- will aim at identification of future needs and development of funding strategies. Special attention will be devoted to pooling of expertise of key players in the field, such as ICOM-CC, ICOMOS, ICCROM, ECTP-FACH, EUROPA NOSTRA, UNESCO and others.

The aim of the final Conference is to present

the state-of-the-art in the field of the four defined thematic groups:

- Recent progress in cultural heritage research
- Knowledge and technology transfer, from research to industry and SMEs
- Education and training, communication
- Policies, **legislation**, standardisation, and sustainability strategies in cultural heritage.

The participation of researchers, end-users, practitioners, enterprises – manufacturers and suppliers of equipment and services, representatives of local and national administrations, public and private organisations responsible for the management, exploitation and maintenance of the cultural heritage are therefore warmly welcomed.

The 8th European Conference on Research for Protection, Conservation and Enhancement of Cultural Heritage will be held in Ljubljana, Slovenia, from 11th to 15th November 2008, supported by the European Union through its 7th Research Framework Programme (under the activity 6.3 "Environmental technologies").

The event will be organised, in close liaison with the European Commission, by the National and University Library of Slovenia, the "Construction Cluster" of Slovenia, and the University of Ljubljana