

PRESS RELEASE

A new President for Europa Nostra : HRH the Prince Consort of Denmark passes the baton onto his successor HRH The Infanta Doña Pilar de Borbón of Spain

Stockholm, 6 June 2007: After 17 years at its helm, **HRH the Prince Consort of Denmark** is stepping down as Europa Nostra's President. At its Annual Congress in Stockholm on 6 June 2007, **HRH The Infanta Doña Pilar de Borbón** of Spain was proposed by the Europa Nostra Council to the General Assembly and was unanimously elected as the new Europa Nostra President. HRH The Infanta Doña Pilar de Borbón, sister of HM The King of Spain, is Honorary Chairwoman of the Spanish branch of the World Monuments Fund, an active member of the Board of "The Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum" in Madrid, and is involved in a number of other organisations of a cultural and charity nature. Until April 2006, she served as President of the International Equestrian Federation, and in that capacity, she was also an elected member of the International Olympic Committee.

For the **CV of HRH The Infanta Doña Pilar de Borbón:**

http://www.europanostra.org/lang_en/0120_about_cv_president_dpdb.html

During the General Assembly, long standing members of the Europa Nostra governing bodies praised the 17 year tenure of HRH the Prince Consort of Denmark as President of Europa Nostra, and his dedication, loyalty and commitment to the work of protecting and enhancing Europe's cultural heritage. **Dr Andrea H. Schuler, Executive President of Europa Nostra**, in his speech of appreciation stated that "HRH the Prince Consort of Denmark genuinely identified himself with the mission and deeply involved himself with the action of our federation". Dr Schuler added that Europa Nostra "valued HRH the Prince Consort of Denmark's truly humane and warm manner of speaking with people and of communicating to them his thoughts and observations, often with an inspiring poetic touch". "We are grateful for his determination to help us make the voice of Europe's heritage movement heard more loudly and spread more widely across our continent", concluded Dr Schuler.

HRH the Prince Consort of Denmark looked back on his time leading Europa Nostra with pride and left the General Assembly with the following message of confidence and encouragement: "I very much hope that Europa Nostra will maintain this spirit of conviviality and solidarity that it has developed during the last four decades". He also added that "Europa Nostra must impose itself as the advocate of cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible, and must ensure the protection of cultural diversity by promoting intercultural dialogue in a Europe that is currently undergoing profound change". While recalling that "asserting a sense of national identity goes hand in hand with the development of European citizenship", HRH the Prince Consort of Denmark stressed that "by enlarging and giving added dimensions to our national, regional or local specificity, we discover certain elements which unite us beyond all our diversities".

In her acceptance speech, **Europa Nostra's new President, HRH The Infanta Doña Pilar de Borbón** stated: "I accept this responsibility with my full personal commitment. I believe in cultural and natural heritage. I believe in the mission of Europa Nostra, and I am willing to share with you the challenge of the future."

For further detail please contact
Laurie Neale, Communications Officer
co@europanostra.org
t +31 70 302 40 55

Visit our **website** www.europanostra.org