

PARIS MANIFESTO

RELANÇONS L'EUROPE PAR LA CULTURE ET LE PATRIMOINE CULTUREL !

30/10/2019¹

***WE, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WORLDS OF CULTURE AND CULTURAL
HERITAGE, COMING FROM ALL PARTS OF EUROPE,***

ASSEMBLED in Paris from 27 to 30 October 2019, on the occasion of [the European Cultural Heritage Summit](#), organised by Europa Nostra, under the high patronage of Mr. Emmanuel Macron, President of the French Republic, in cooperation and with the support of the European Commission and the French Government, as well as in partnership with the Fondation du Patrimoine;

ENCOURAGED by the impact of the [Berlin Call to Action of 22 June 2018](#), presented during the European Cultural Heritage Summit in Berlin, and by the positive results of the [European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018](#), in particular the adoption of the [European Framework for Action on Cultural Heritage](#) by the European Commission in December 2018;

APPLAUDING the commitment of the European Council to invest "in culture and our cultural heritage, which are at the heart of our European identity", as included in the [new Strategic Agenda for the EU](#) for the next five years (2019-2024) adopted on 20 June 2019;

MOVED by the impressive wave of European and international solidarity for the safeguarding of endangered cultural heritage that followed the dramatic fire at the Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris on 15 April 2019; solidarity which was confirmed, among other occasions, at the informal meeting of the EU Ministers responsible for Culture and for European Affairs with their adoption of the [Paris Declaration](#) on heritage at risk on 3 May 2019;

CONCERNED about the rise of extremism and populism as well as of anti-European narrative, which undermine the fundamental values of fraternity and solidarity in Europe;

CONSCIOUS of the compelling need to revive the European project - in particular following the likely departure of the United Kingdom from the European Union - by means of a comprehensive and ambitious project, which can both reinforce Europe's position on the world scene and trigger new impetus for wider popular support. This renewed vision must give greater priority to education, culture and

¹ The draft text of this Manifesto was presented at the European Policy Debate "Cultural heritage at the heart of the revival of the European project" held on 30 October 2019 at the *Collège des Bernardins*, as the concluding event of the European Cultural Heritage Summit 2019 in Paris.

cultural heritage, which, thanks to their cross-cutting dimension and positive impact on society, can help developing lasting responses to the challenges which Europe's citizens and inhabitants face today;

CONVINCED of the strong and unquestioned contribution of culture and cultural heritage to all priorities and policies of the Union, particularly in terms of social cohesion; sustainable development with the preservation of ecological and human equilibria as well as the fight against climate change; research and innovation; job creation; advancement of sustainable tourism; regeneration of cities and rural areas; education and professional training; transmission of values, knowledge and local, national and European histories; and also of intercultural dialogue within the Union and in the context of its external relations with the rest of Europe and of the world;

MINDFUL of the election, in May 2019, of a new European Parliament, the appointment of a new President of the European Council and the imminent taking of office of the new European Commission;

WE, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WORLDS OF CULTURE AND CULTURAL HERITAGE, COMING FROM ALL PARTS OF EUROPE,

WE ASSERT how much culture and cultural heritage lie at the centre of the European project, and represent an undeniable part of its DNA and its identity;

WE CALL UPON all leaders at European, national, regional and local level, to explicitly place culture and cultural heritage at the heart of the revival of the European project, thus generating a stronger support of its citizens which is of vital interest for the very future of this project;

WE INSIST that "culture" should be explicitly mentioned in the title of the portfolio of the member of the new European Commission who will have a direct responsibility, for, among others, culture and cultural heritage ;

WE STRESS the importance of involving all Council of Europe member countries and countries of the Mediterranean basin in future EU action with regard to culture and cultural heritage, thus recognising the existence of a common cultural space and shared cultural heritage that goes beyond the geographical borders of the Union;

WE COMMIT OURSELVES to prepare a series of concrete proposals for action to be submitted to the EU Institutions and Member States during the forthcoming European Cultural Heritage Summit to be held in Brussels in June 2020.

In view of the above, WE LAUNCH, through this Paris Manifesto, A VIBRANT APPEAL:

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