

Europa Nostra, 27 September 2023

Good afternoon and welcome to everyone

I'm going to read a few words (and a warm welcome) on behalf of the Secretary General of the Giorgio Cini Foundation, Renata Codello, who unfortunately cannot be here today.

"I would like to thank Europa Nostra, its President Cecilia Bartoli and its Secretary General Sneška Quaedvlieg-Mihailović for this collaboration and for their their long-standing work in defending the European way of life and Europe's cultural and natural heritage.

The Giorgio Cini Foundation, for over 70 years, has worked in collaboration with many international institutions and the one with Europa Nostra aims to create a new model of culture: a great network between all humanistic and scientific disciplines.

A month ago, in this room, we hosted the 4th Soft Power Conference that put Culture at the core of all cooperations.

Today, with Europa Nostra, we are pursuing this important goal and celebrating its European Excellence Day. Over the years, Europa Nostra has succeeded in bringing together different generations by creating new proposals for the enhancement of Europe's great cultural heritage.

The occasion of hosting the winners of the European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards offers me the opportunity to underline how collaboration between local, national and international institutions is essential to create and sustain a network, to disseminate knowledge and many possible answers to the crucial problems of our time.

I wish everyone a good work and congratulations, in particular, to the award winners. Thank you."