

Europa Nostra 60th anniversary event

29 November 2023, Paris

Written message by European Commissioner IVANOVA

Dear Ms Lavandier,

Dear Ms Quaedvlieg-Mihailović,

Dear Mr de Feydeau de Saint Christophe,

Dear Laureates,

Dear Friends of cultural heritage,

Today marks **60 years** to the day since Europa Nostra's foundation as **Europe's largest heritage network**.

60 years of experience in the field of cultural heritage, 60 years of growing as an organisation, 60 years of reaching out to stakeholders beyond the heritage community and bringing people together. During these 60 years Europa Nostra also put societal challenges on top of the political agenda and demonstrates that culture and cultural heritage can play an important role.

The EU and Europa Nostra have long and very enriching partnership. We support many of the Europa Nostra projects with EU funding. Last year, we celebrated another jubilee, the

20th anniversary of the EU prize for cultural heritage, which is managed by Europa Nostra on behalf of the EU since 2002.

Today we celebrate also the newest edition of the **European Heritage Awards**.

The laureates we honour today, represent the very best practices in the cultural heritage sector across Europe. Their work and their initiatives are inspiring. We can all learn from their expertise and their experience. Each winner is unique. Yet they all have one thing in common: they are writing Europe's most successful heritage stories.

We can all be **deeply proud** of what they have achieved.

Thank you and enjoy this evening's celebration!