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EUROPA NOSTRA

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
7 MOST ENDANGERED PROGRAMME 2027

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

The 7 Most Endangered Programme is run by Europa Nostra – the leading European heritage civil society network – which is supported by the European Investment Bank (EIB) Institute and also by the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union.

Since its launch in 2013, the 7 Most Endangered Programme has become a leading European civil society initiative dedicated to safeguarding Europe's endangered heritage. The Programme identifies heritage sites at risk and acts as a catalyst for action by bringing together heritage and financial expertise, public authorities, owners and custodians, civil society organisations and local communities to help develop viable pathways for their long-term safeguarding.

Each year, the Programme identifies seven most endangered heritage sites that illustrate some of the most pressing challenges that heritage faces in Europe. While providing direct advice to the selected sites, the Programme also generates knowledge, experience and inspiring examples that benefit the wider heritage community. By fostering collaboration between heritage professionals, financial experts, owners and custodians, public authorities, civil society organisations and local communities, it demonstrates how complex heritage challenges can be addressed and threats overcome through dialogue, shared expertise and collective action.

Since 2013, the Programme has highlighted **77 endangered heritage sites** in **35 European countries**, demonstrating that safeguarding Europe's shared heritage depends not only on recognising what is at risk, but on bringing together the people, expertise and commitment needed to secure its future. Over more than a decade, it has demonstrated that **constructive dialogue** and **multidisciplinary cooperation** can help strengthen conservation strategies, mobilise public and private support, influence decision-makers and create renewed momentum for saving endangered heritage.

Discover here the 77 heritage sites from 35 countries across Europe that have been selected since 2013.

WHY NOMINATE A SITE?

The 7 Most Endangered Programme offers an opportunity to place cultural heritage at risk on the European agenda and to benefit from a collaborative process that brings together expertise, advocacy and stakeholder engagement.

Participation in the Programme can help to:

- raise awareness of the site's European significance and the challenges it faces;
- benefit from independent expertise in heritage conservation, management and finance;
- strengthen cooperation among owners and custodians, public authorities, experts and local communities;
- support evidence-based outreach and dialogue with relevant stakeholders at local, national and European levels;
- help mobilise technical, political and financial support for ensuring the site's viable future; and
- reinforce the long-term capacity of stakeholders to safeguard the nominated heritage site.

PARTICIPATION AND COMMITMENT

The success of the Programme depends on the active engagement of the organisations and individuals who nominate a site.

Submitting a nomination represents more than an application for selection. It is a commitment to collaborate throughout the Programme should the site be selected.

Nominators are expected to:

- remain actively engaged throughout the process;
- facilitate dialogue with the owner(s), custodian(s) and other relevant stakeholders;
- support the preparation and organisation of the European experts' mission;
- provide information requested during the assessment process; and
- contribute to follow-up activities aimed at advancing the recommendations arising from the European experts' mission.

The Programme typically unfolds over the course of one year. Selected nominators are expected to remain actively engaged throughout this period and to contribute, where appropriate, to subsequent follow-up activities, evaluations and impact communication.

Selection for the Programme does not entail funding, financing or investment by Europa Nostra, the EIB Institute, the EIB Group or the Creative Europe Programme. The Programme provides expertise, visibility, advocacy and support for stakeholder dialogue.

WHO CAN SUBMIT NOMINATIONS?

- Public or private organisations active in the heritage field, registered in a country that is a member of the Council of Europe, or Kosovo*; or

- Individual members of such organisations, provided they are permanent residents in a Council of Europe member country, or Kosovo*.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Letters of support are an essential part of the nomination. They demonstrate that the owner(s), relevant stakeholders and the local community are aware of the nomination and support the site's long-term safeguarding.

We strongly encourage nominators to obtain letters of support from:

- **local or regional public authorities** and other relevant stakeholders;
- **local community organisations, heritage associations or other civil society organisations**;
- the **owner(s) and/or custodian(s) of the site**, where possible.

  While a letter of support from the owner(s) and/or custodian(s) is strongly encouraged, we recognise that some sites are nominated precisely because such support is not available. In these cases, applicants should explain the circumstances clearly in the nomination form and provide letters of support from other relevant stakeholders wherever possible.

As part of the eligibility requirements, **each nomination must include two letters of support, including one letter of support from a Europa Nostra Member or Associate Organisation**.

Nominators are encouraged to contact the most relevant Member or Associate Organisation — based on either the type of heritage or the country of the nominated site. Where a **Europa Nostra Country Representation** or a Europa Nostra Heritage City Hub exist, we also recommend getting in touch at an early stage for advice and support.

Nominations submitted by a Europa Nostra Member or Associate Organisation do not require an additional support letter from another Europa Nostra Member or Associate Organisation. However, they are still **strongly encouraged to include letters of support from the owner(s), local authorities and other relevant stakeholders.**

WHAT TYPE OF ENDANGERED HERITAGE CAN BE NOMINATED?

- Historic buildings and their ensembles (including surrounding townscapes/landscapes)
- Civil buildings of community value
- Historic public spaces (e.g. city or village centres, squares)
- Places of worship
- Archaeological sites (including their surrounding landscapes)
- Industrial buildings and areas
- Places of remembrance (« Lieux de mémoire »)
- Cultural landscapes
- Natural landscapes (including parks and gardens)
- Other (to be specified)

TIMELINE OF THE SELECTION PROCESS

The timeline for the 2027 edition is as follows:

- **Call for nominations opens**: 10 September 2026
- **Webinar to support potential nominators:** 30 September 2026
- **Deadline for nominations**: 23 October 2026
- **First notification of results (by email, under embargo):** Second half of January 2027
- **Interviews with pre-selected nominators:** Second half of January 2027
- **Final notification of results (by email, under embargo)**: Mid-February 2027
- **Public announcement of the 2027 List of the 7 Most Endangered**: March 2027

HOW ARE NOMINATIONS ASSESSED AND SELECTED

An international Advisory Panel comprising specialists in history, archaeology, architecture, conservation, urban planning, heritage management and finance assesses all eligible nominations and submits its recommendations to the Board of Europa Nostra, which selects the seven sites to be included in the annual 7 Most Endangered List.

Representatives of the pre-selected sites will be contacted in the second half of January and invited to participate in an individual interview as part of the assessment process.

The assessment considers both the significance and urgency of the nominated heritage site and the Programme's potential to make a meaningful contribution through its advisory and collaborative approach.

The selection process remains confidential until the final announcement of the **seven** selected sites.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The nomination form is structured around the Programme's selection criteria. Applicants are encouraged to provide clear, well-documented and evidence-based information demonstrating how the nominated site meets each criterion.

Main criteria

1. European significance of the nominated site
2. Imminent threat or significant level of danger
3. The likelihood of a viable and sustainable future for the site

Additional criteria

4. Nominator's active involvement
5. Positive attitude of the owner
6. Support by the local experts and/or community
7. The potential to act as a catalyst for sustainable socio-economic development of the area where it is located is important

AFTER SELECTION: WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Following the announcement of the selected sites, the Programme enters its implementation phase, which typically spans one year and requires the active engagement of the selected nominators throughout. Through close collaboration between the international expert team, the nominators and local stakeholders, each site benefits from a structured process to develop practical recommendations and support the long-term safeguarding of the nominated heritage site.

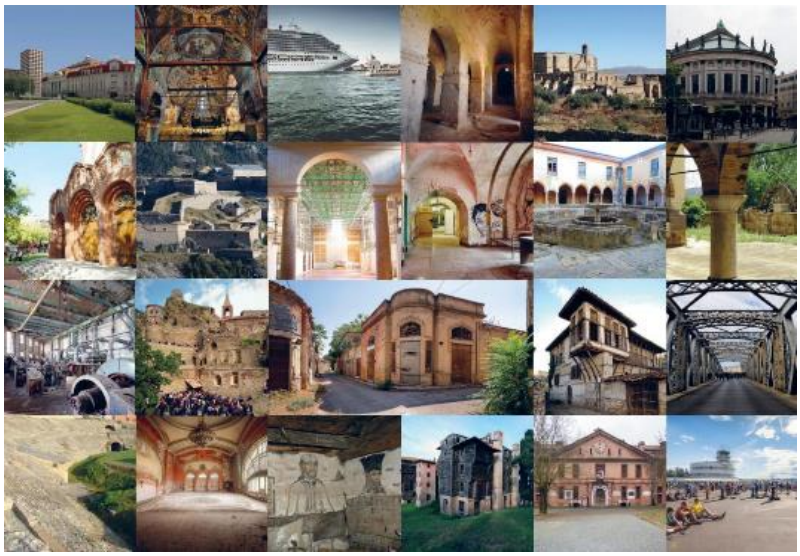
The key stages of this process are outlined below (the timings provided are indicative and may be adjusted where necessary):

Consultations with the international expert group and mission preparation: April-June 2027
On-site Missions: July-November 2027
Publication of Reports: February 2028
Impact Communication: March 2028
Follow-up and evaluation: from April 2028, on a yearly basis

The findings and recommendations are published in mission reports available on the 7 Most Endangered website. These reports serve as valuable tools for advocacy, planning and stakeholder engagement, helping build momentum for the site's future.

Participation in the Programme also offers access to a growing European community of practice, fostering networking, peer learning and the exchange of good practices.

Selected nominators should be prepared to actively engage in the Programme throughout its duration (minimum of one year).



HOW TO APPLY?

Go to **7mostendangered.eu/nominate** and carefully read the instructions to apply.

Click on the red Nomination Form button at the end of the page and start your application. Once you have completed the application, click the **Submit** button.

The deadline to apply is **23 October 2026**.

WHAT WILL YOU NEED TO SUBMIT AS PART OF YOUR NOMINATION?

- ✓ Nomination form (to be submitted in digital form via this link);
- ✓ Letters of support (at least 2);
- ✓ High-resolution photographs and video(s), accompanied by clear captions and copyright information.
- ✓ Any additional documentation that may help illustrate the significance, challenges and future potential of the nominated heritage.

DO YOU NEED HELP WITH YOUR NOMINATION?

You are invited to consult the Frequently Asked Questions and Website to explore previous editions of the Programme, including the mission reports and the stories of previously selected sites, to better understand the collaborative approach and potential impact of the Programme.

If you need help with preparing and/or submitting your nomination, you can write to the Europa Nostra Secretariat (7mostendangered@europanostra.org).

Disclaimer: Please note that the dates, procedures and conditions described are indicative and may be updated if necessary. The continuation and implementation of the Programme are subject to the successful completion of the necessary funding agreements. Any updates will be communicated through the Programme's official website.

* All references to Kosovo, whether the territory, institutions or population, in this document shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations' Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

ABOUT

EUROPA NOSTRA

Europa Nostra is the European voice of civil society committed to safeguarding and promoting cultural and natural heritage. It is a pan-European federation of heritage NGOs, supported by a wide network of public bodies, private companies and individuals, covering over 40 countries. It is the most representative heritage network in Europe, maintaining close relations with the European Union, the Council of Europe, UNESCO and other international bodies.

Europa Nostra campaigns to save Europe's endangered monuments, sites and landscapes, in particular through the 7 Most Endangered Programme. It celebrates and disseminates excellence through the European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards. Europa Nostra actively contributes to the definition and implementation of European strategies and policies related to heritage, through a participatory dialogue with European Institutions and the coordination of the European Heritage Alliance.

Europa Nostra has led the European consortium selected by the European Commission to run the European Heritage Hub since 2023. It is also an official partner of the New European Bauhaus initiative developed by the European Commission, and is a leading European member and supporter of the Climate Heritage Network.

EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK INSTITUTE

The European Investment Bank Institute was set up within the EIB Group (European Investment Bank and European Investment Fund) to promote and support social, cultural, and academic initiatives with European stakeholders and the public at large. It is a key pillar of the EIB Group's community and citizenship engagement.
More information at http://institute.eib.org

CREATIVE EUROPE

Creative Europe is the European Union's flagship programme to support the cultural and creative sectors, including cultural heritage, enabling them to increase their contribution to Europe's society, economy and living environment. With a budget of over €2.4 billion for 2021-2027, it supports organisations from various cultural and creative sectors such as heritage, performing arts, fine arts, interdisciplinary arts, publishing, film, TV, music and video games as well as tens of thousands of artists, and cultural and audiovisual professionals.