



**European Committee
of the Regions**



Regions and cities to celebrate the **EUROPEAN YEAR OF CULTURAL HERITAGE 2018**

**Information meeting
on**

Wednesday 4th October 2017
European Committee of the Regions
Rue Belliard 101, 1040 Brussels
Room : JDE 53

Organisers: European Committee of the Regions and DG Education and Culture of the European Commission

In 2018 the European Union will celebrate the European Year of Cultural Heritage (EYCH2018)¹ with the aim to:

- a) promote the role of Europe's cultural heritage as a pivotal component of cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue;
- b) enhance the contribution of Europe's cultural heritage to society and the economy, through its direct and indirect economic potential;
- c) promote cultural heritage as an important element of the relations between the Union and third countries.

The CoR supported the initiative from the onset² and following its commitment expressed in its Resolution³ in October 2016 calling for a "*comprehensive and visionary approach in making 2018 the European Year of Cultural Heritage, seen also as an opportunity to reaffirm our motto "United in diversity"*" will adopt its strategy and main priorities at the occasion of its next Bureau meeting on 9 October 2017 during the European week of regions and cities.

¹ Decision (EU) 2017/864 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on a European Year of Cultural Heritage (2018) (OJ L 131, 20.5.2017, p. 1)

² COR 5515/2014 fin

³ RESOL-VI/014, COR 4785/2016 fin

The involvement of local regional authorities as well as cultural heritage stakeholders is key to the success of the Year. As underlined by the European Commission, *"it will be an opportunity to involve citizens from all backgrounds, in particular children and young people, in events and projects emphasising Europe's heritage and values, helping to strengthen a sense of belonging to a European family."*⁴

This information session is organised to inform regional and local offices in Brussels on the main initiatives for action during the EYCH2018 and to encourage local and regional authorities to support these initiatives by organising events, by engaging in information campaigns notably in local media and by taking part in a series of activities that contribute to the objectives of this celebration.

14:00-14:30 **Registration and welcoming participants**

14:30-14:50 **European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018**

- Intervention of **Karl-Heinz Lambertz** (BE/PES), President of the European Committee of the Regions (CoR)
- Intervention by **Michel Magnier**, Director for Culture and Creativity, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (DG EAC)

14:50-16:15 **Presentation of the European Year of Cultural Heritage: How regions and cities can get involved?**

- by **Catherine Magnant**, Advisor, Head of the 2018 European Year of Cultural Heritage task force (DG EAC)
The presentation will focus on activities at EU and national levels; the regional dimension of the Year, its governance, EU funding for cultural heritage and communication aspects.

Followed by an open discussion.

16:15-16:30 **Concluding remarks**

- **Michel Magnier**, Director for Culture and Creativity, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (DG EAC)
- **Karl-Heinz Lambertz** (BE/PES), President of the European Committee of the Regions (CoR)

Interpretation will be available in EN and FR.