



## CULTURAL HERITAGE IN ACTION

Sharing solutions  
in European  
cities and regions



#EuropeForCulture

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## SHARING STORIES WEBINAR SERIES

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### INTRODUCTION

The Cultural Heritage in Action sharing stories webinar series showcases leading cultural heritage initiatives which are driving sustainable urban and regional development in European cities and regions. The webinar series has been designed to share good practices and insights on a range of topics relevant to cities, regions, and cultural heritage stakeholders, including cultural heritage policy, resilience and recovery, governance and participation, adaptive reuse, climate resilience, and social inclusion. Each episode clearly demonstrates the opportunities for cities and regions in contributing to innovative, impactful, and sustainable cultural, environmental, social, and economic territorial processes. Participants will hear from a range of inspirational examples and experienced speakers and have the opportunity to ask the experts questions and share ideas with their fellow listeners.

The webinar series are recorded and made available to all on the Cultural Heritage Action [website](#).

## EPISODE 4: MOBILISING CULTURAL HERITAGE FOR TRANSFORMATIVE CLIMATE ACTION

#Renovation #Transformation #Regeneration #CircularEconomy #SustainableDevelopment  
#NewEuropeanBauhaus #QualityPrinciples #Baukultur

Links to topic:



- Recovery and resilience through cultural heritage in a post-pandemic world
- Cultural heritage for local sustainable development
- Governance and financing new roles for local and regional authorities

**DATE: THURSDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2022, ONLINE 16.30 -18:00 CET**

Register and join the discussion on [Teams](#)

## OVERVIEW

As revealed by the recently published report by a group of EU Member States' experts entitled "[Strengthening cultural heritage resilience for climate change: Where the European Green Deal meets cultural heritage](#)", "*cultural heritage is under attack from climate change at an unprecedented speed and scale*".

The most evident threats stem from extreme climatic events: severe precipitation, long heatwaves, droughts, strong winds and sea-level rise – all of which will increase dramatically in the future. The impacts of these extreme weather events come in addition to slower deteriorations caused by increase in temperatures, the fluctuations in humidity or fluctuations in freeze–thaw cycles. Preserving cultural heritage from the effects of climate change is becoming an increasing challenge, which requires careful planning, financial means, and skilful experts, to ensure that adaptation and preservation measures do not undermine the cultural value of heritage places. Many cities and regions in Europe are already putting forward innovative, effective, and successful solutions to address the climate emergency, which can be further expanded, adapted, and transferred across the continent.

On the other hand, as demonstrated by the "[European Cultural Heritage Green Paper: Putting Europe's shared heritage at the heart of the European Green Deal](#)", cultural heritage has an immense potential to contribute to mitigating the climate and biodiversity crisis. From smart reuse of heritage buildings to using traditional agricultural know-how to support sustainable food systems, cultural heritage can support Europe's transition to become a green, resilient and climate-neutral continent. Europe's cities and regions are at the forefront of heritage-led climate action and are already incorporating cultural aspects in climate strategies and vice-versa.

Awareness of the increasing threats posed by climate change to Europe's heritage, as well as the contribution of cultural heritage to positive climate action is still very low. While the UN Climate Change Conference (COP27) will be running in Sharm el-Sheikh, the webinar will aim to spread the message about what is at stake.

## CASE STUDIES

- **Bosk - If trees can walk, humans can change (Leeuwarden, The Netherlands):**  
Leeuwarden was the European Capital of Culture (ECoC) in 2018, with *iepen mienskip* (open community) as its central theme. The city created Arcadia, a 100-day arts festival occurring every three years. The festival challenges inhabitants and visitors to reflect on the future of *mienskip*, the local landscape and heritage. Bosk was one of its main events in 2022, raising awareness of nature and climate change through art: every day for a hundred days, a different part of Leeuwarden city centre turned green. That is because over 1,000 trees were walking around the city. This walking

forest gave the trees – and with them, nature – a voice: what can we learn from trees and how does the forest view the human world? Together with people, neighbourhoods, villages, associations, entrepreneurs, and organisations, Bosk aimed to create a greener future by planting lots and lots of trees. When Bosk was done, 1,000 trees got a permanent location in Leeuwarden. Learn more [about this good practice](#) on the CHA website.

- **Morum Londinium project (London, UK):** The Morum Londinium project has raised awareness of the enormous contribution made by trees to urban living in terms of personal wellbeing, but also as generators of oxygen and organs for storing CO<sub>2</sub>, which in turn reduces the heat island effect of the built environment. By linking conservation and awareness of the natural heritage with built and intangible heritage, the project has become a pioneer in bringing heritage issues, the environment, biodiversity, and sustainable urban living into the same forum of public and political debate. At the heart of the project is an interactive online map on which, from 2016 to 2017, the public charted over 700 of the capital's mulberry trees with photos and their associated heritage stories, since the old trees often still stand in the grounds of built heritage sites that have long since disappeared. Thanks to Morus Londinium veteran trees of London are now perceived as living cultural objects, offering the public the ability to “read” the cultural heritage of a city like London through an entirely new lens.

## THEMES AND CHALLENGES TO BE DISCUSSED DURING THE WEBINAR

- Explore the contributions of cultural heritage to achieve the objectives of the European Green Deal.
- Present and discuss successful heritage-led climate action examples carried out in Europe's cities and regions.
- Identify threats and gaps related to cultural heritage in the context of climate change.
- Showcase good practices of climate action for heritage resilience from Europe's cities and regions.
- Present and discuss the findings of the latest policy documents on this topic, including the OMC Group report on *Strengthening cultural heritage resilience for climate change* as well as the “*European Cultural Heritage Green Paper: Putting Europe's shared heritage at the heart of the European Green Deal*”.

## AGENDA

Webinar moderated by Dr Hannah Fluck, Senior National Archaeologist, National Trust; Former Head of Environmental Strategy, Historic England; Vice-Chair for Europe of the Climate Heritage Network.

- Welcome and introduction
- Opening speech, Ruth Schagemann, President of ACE
- Case study 1: Bosk - If trees can walk, humans can change (Leeuwarden, NL)
- Case study 2: Morum Londinium project (London, UK)
- Policy - OMC Group report on Strengthening cultural heritage resilience for climate change
- Wrap up by the Moderator
- Conclusions, Sneška Quaedvlieg-Mihailović, Secretary General of Europa Nostra

## LINK TO CONNECT

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## ADDITIONAL READING RESOURCES

- OMC Group report on [Strengthening cultural heritage resilience for climate change: Where the European Green Deal meets cultural heritage](#)
- [European Cultural Heritage Green Paper: Putting Europe's shared heritage at the heart of the European Green Deal](#)