



## Monitoring Group on Cultural Heritage in the Baltic Sea States

Attachment 3 of Minutes of the MG Meeting in Schleswig April 8-9, 2014

6.5. 2014

### NATIONAL REPORTS

DENMARK, DANISH HERITAGE AGENCY –

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ESTONIA, MINISTRY OF CULTURE by LIINA JÄNES

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*Preparations for new Heritage Conservation Act* due to the new government's work plan. The draft has to be submitted to the Parliament in August 2014. Main task: how to better balance the responsibilities and rights of owners of the monuments and the state. The present law has been modified many times (latest in 2011) but its core reflects the middle of 1990s, when the ownership reform was ongoing and it was necessary to be very strict in heritage protection. By now, this has resulted in opposition when listing new monuments. Possible changes: to develop a network of consultants on engineering issues, architectural issues; to provide archaeological monitoring on smaller scale excavations for free; to provide free supervision on restoration objects.

*Implementation of new Museum Act* came into force 15th July 2013. Each museum has to have written policy document on collecting. These are prepared step-by-step. Ongoing digitisation of collections to be presented in museums' information system MUIS (<http://muis.ee>).

*Ongoing museum reform*; most of the museums will operate as foundation. This means they are more independent in their decisions and have possibility to earn profit as well. The collections of the previous state museums still belong to state, foundations keep and use state collections by contract.

*Publication of the 5th Cultural Heritage Forum of the Baltic Sea States*; most of the articles are edited and designed, some still missing. There will be an online publication and we are trying to find money for printed version as well.

There are 26 736 cultural monuments in Estonia: 1 268 historical, 6 626 archaeological, 5 260 architectural and 13 516 art objects. We are also very proud to have four cultural monuments listed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

One of the most important changes in 2014 is the amendments being prepared to change the Heritage Conservation Act. The process is currently underway and the draft proposal will be sent to the Parliament in August 2014.

Another important topic is the compliance with the EU directive according to which in the location of artificial dams a solution has to be found to create or free passages for anadromous fish. It concerns 16 cultural monuments that are a part of the artificial dams. Obviously, demolition in those cases is not possible so we are working together with the Environmental Board to find solutions that would enable to preserve the cultural monument at the same time also complying with the directive by creating a passage for the fish. So far there have been several options of building a special so-called staircase or a lift for the fish. The negotiations are ongoing.

The 2003-2013 Program for Conservation and Development of Places of Worship has been concluded and a new program period for 2014-2018 has been launched. As a result of the concluded program, the number of churches that have received restoration aid has increased. This is thanks to the new initiative according to which we supported very different places of worship not depending on whether the site is officially declared a cultural monument. There is an updated database available on <http://kirikud.muinas.ee/> where one can see the list of places of worship according to the county as well as an overview of a particular church. The new 2014-2018 program period is focused on the sustainability of churches and on finding alternative uses to places of worship that are currently not in daily use.

The Program for Historical Natural Sacred Sites 2008-2012 has reached its goals. The sites have been mapped and researched and their legal status has been defined more precisely as a result of a professional analysis. Several steps have been taken in order to raise the awareness about historical natural sacred sites among landowners and wider public in general. For example, university courses now include a special selective study on sacred sites. Additionally, a database on historical natural sacred sites has been created and can be accessed via the National Registry on Cultural Monuments. <http://register.muinas.ee/?lang=en>. There is an advisory expert committee formed at the National Heritage Board of Estonia which is to advise on matters relating to historical natural sacred sites in the future. The program will continue and currently the preparations for the next cycle are underway.

In terms of the developments of new e-services, the citizens can now submit their applications for state funding and construction permits online. The owners of a cultural monument who have applied for state funding for restoration will be able to follow their application process online until the final decision has been made. For construction companies wanting to work on cultural monuments a special permit by the National Heritage Board has to be issued. The e-service will enable uploading all the applications for these permits and the process of issuing can again be operatively followed online. E-service like the above mentioned will make the communication between the state and the citizen much easier as all the information is easy to access via Internet no matter where the person is. The same logic goes for a similar e-service that will enable to follow the process of declaring an object a cultural monument which is in development phase at the moment. As the negotiations and the gathering of expert opinions takes a long time the e-service will provide an overview of what has so far been done

and at what stage the process is. Of course, for the National Heritage Board, the use of e-services will make the day-to-day work more efficient and economic.

The Estonian Parliament has passed a document “Culture 2020” that sets the main objectives of cultural policy for the period until 2020. It includes overviews of all areas of culture, including national heritage. The main aim in the field of national heritage includes updating the strategy and process of the protection of monuments.

#### FINLAND, NATIONAL BOARD OF ANTIQUITIES by ULLA SALMELA

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The Minister of Culture, who represented the Left Alliance, resigned on the 4th of April due to the budget cut decisions directed towards the underprivileged and families with children. No new minister was appointed but culture was integrated to the tasks of the Minister of Housing, Ms Piia Viitanen. Culture was thus united with the Ministry of Environment where the Minister of Housing operates.

Budget cuts will be made also on arts and culture: they will be 15 M € within the next three years. This would mean an approximately 4 % reduction compared with the current situation. Where the cuts will be targeted remains to be decided in the autumn.

The Government approved the resolution on the cultural environment strategy in its plenary session on 20 March 2014. After this, strategy work will be continued in an implementation plan, where the implementation methods, parties responsible, schedules and their monitoring will be concretised in cooperation with various interest groups. The National Board of Antiquities is among these interest groups. An English translation of the strategy will be available in the near future on the website of the Finnish Ministry of Environment.

One of the proposals of the strategy is to further the ratification of the Council of Europe’s Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society. The aim is to ratify the Convention under the current term of government early 2015. The National Board of Antiquities has been given the task to carry out a project to prepare the ratification. We have launched a joint project with the Finnish Local Heritage Federation. The idea is to prepare for the ratification in the spirit of the Convention. In practice this means that we have started an interactive process which enables wide possibilities for participation. During open discussions and workshops we will gather ideas and opinions on three themes, namely 1) heritage as a resource in socially and economically sustainable development; 2) heritage as part of everyday life including the rights and responsibilities relating to cultural heritage; 3) open and fair heritage administration.

Finland was elected as member of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee at the election held in Paris on 19 November. 12 members were elected to the committee (Philippines, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, South Korea, Croatia, Lebanon, Peru, Portugal, Poland, Finland, Turkey and Vietnam). Finland’s term of office as the member of the committee is four years. Finland’s representatives in the UNESCO World Heritage Committee are Juhani Kostet, Director General of the National Board of Antiquities, and Rauno Väisänen, Director of Natural Heritage Services at Metsähallitus (a Forest state enterprise that administers above 12 million hectares of state-owned land and water areas, 1/3 of Finland’s total area. Thereby it manages also nature conservation tasks under the guidance of the Ministry of the Environment).

Finland joined the UNESCO's Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in May 2013. The task to plan the implementation of the Convention has been given to the National Board of Antiquities.

A new step was taken in the interesting case of the Åland shipwreck champagne sale: the Deputy Chancellor of Justice has reprimanded the Åland regional government for recovering the cargo from the shipwreck off the island of Föglö in 2010 before receiving a statement from the National Board of Antiquities. The cargo was 200-year-old champagne, still in drinkable condition. The Åland government even sold off some of the bottles at an auction in 2011 and 2012. That is problematic as the bottles were relics and needed an export license, which was provided by the same authorities that profited from the sale. The Deputy Chancellor of Justice pointed out that this dual role contravenes both national and European law on the export of cultural artefacts.

As reported earlier, the State of Finland has concentrated its possession of real estate to even fewer organisations. Real estates of cultural historical value were transferred from the possession of the National Board of Antiquities to the Senate Properties and Metsähallitus (a state enterprise that administers state-owned land and water areas) on the 1st January 2014. At the same time the National Board of Antiquities became a leaseholder in e.g. a number of castles and museums, such as the Häme and Turku Castle and the castle of Olavinlinna as well as Ainola, the home of Sibelius, and Urho Kekkonen Museum Tamminiemi among others. The transfer has also started a reorganization of certain sections of the NBA.

The revision of the Church Code's articles on the protection of ecclesiastical buildings was approved by the Parliament, and it came into force on the 1st January 2014. One of the consequences of the revision is that NBA supervises the reparations of all churches older than 50 years. All churches built before 1917 continue to be automatically protected by the Church Code.

An assessment of the Land Use and Building Act was finalized at the end of 2013 – what the assessment will mean for the protection of cultural environment remains to be seen.

A discussion forum on the Baltic Sea Cultural Routes, Eastern Viking Forum II, will be organized on the 20th – 21st May in Kotka, the Maritime Museum of Finland. It is organized by the Finnish Ministry of Education in the framework of Finland's Presidency of the Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS).

GERMANY, SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN, ARCHAEOLOGISCHES LANDESAMT SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN  
by CLAUS VON CARNAP-BORNHEIM

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In Schleswig-Holstein, during past ten years, each respective government had carried out renovation of heritage legislation. Now the Ministry of Justice, Cultural and European Affairs of the Schleswig-Holstein has taken this target. The first draft of the law shows basic improvements and has been commented mainly positive although there are major objections by lobbies of the house owners.

A WHS application, "Viking age sites in Northern Europe A transnational serial nomination to UNSECOs World Heritage List", was delivered to WH Committee in January 2014. It includes Pingvellir in Iceland; Jelling and the Trelleborg fortresses in Denmark; Hedeby and Denavirke in Schleswig-Holstein; Grobina burials and settlements in Latvia; Vestfold ship burials and Hyllestad quernstone quarries in Norway. Evaluations are to be expected in autumn 2014.

Dr. Titzck has sent outcome material of two projects concerning enhancement of cultural tourism;

- 1) Pomeranian Way of St James, RECRreate – Re-vitalisation of the European Culture Route in the South Baltic Area (a leaflet on pilgrimage blessing, a “pilgrimage passport”, leaflet on route, a map, a tourist guide)
- 2) European Route of Brick Gothic involving Denmark, Germany and Poland (a map).

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LATVIA, STATE INSPECTION FOR HERITAGE PROTECTION OF LATVIA by KATRINA KUKAINE

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The State Inspection for Heritage protection is preparing information report for the Cabinet of Ministers concerning Latvia’s chairmanship in MG on 2018 and about financial involvement from 2017 to 2019.

Latvia has a new Minister of Culture after the government resignation after the tragedy in Zolitude when the roof of the supermarket collapsed.

Increase of funding for the national conservation program for listed monuments, especially churches.

Changes in Construction law are going on. The State Inspection is working to introduce the heritage issues in it.

Work on coordination of grants for heritage protection and revitalization through different EU and international financial instruments is going on. There is a discussion on adequate grant amounts to not destroy the heritage but let sustainable and advised development, integrated in other socio-economic fields. The EEU/ Norway grants program is closed and the evaluation process is going on. The open call of EU grants for private owners and NGO (incl. local parishes) will soon be open.

Riga is the Capital of Culture 2014 and many different cultural events take place whole the year (the program is accessible on <http://www.riga2014.org/eng>). Latvia is preparing for presidency of the Council of EU in 2015. In relation with this duty the representatives from the State Inspection are involved in the Reflection group „EU and heritage”. Latvia’s duty will be to proceed with the political declaration concerning cultural heritage field elaborated by previous precedencies but as important issue Latvia would like to highlight the dialogue between culture heritage and contemporary architecture.

Many discussions are related with the protection of the underwater heritage taking into account that the spatial planning of the Baltic Sea will start on 2014 in Latvia. The State Inspection’s specialists are involved in the working group coordinated by the Ministry of the Environment and regional planning. The UNESCO Latvian National committee called for a need to ratify of UNESCO Convention 2001 on protection on the underwater heritage, and the State Inspection is planning to organise the inter-institutional consultations at the national level. The Baltic Maritime Spatial Planning Forum - PartiSEApate Conference will take place on 17th – 18th June, 2014 in Riga. Registration is available at <http://www.vasab.org/index.php/events/item/182-baltic-msp-forum-riga>

The actual discussion on national level; what to do with abandoned and unused churches where the parish is gone? How to find new ways of uses and new life for sacral monuments?

On 28th of January the transnational serial nomination “Viking age sites in Northern Europe” has been delivered to the UNESCO World heritage centre. Latvia is represented by the Grobina settlements and burials.

LITHUANIA, DEPARTMENT OF HERITAGE PROTECTION UNDER MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
by ALGIMANTAS DEGUTIS

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Lithuania had THE EU Presidency the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of 2013 and as a part of its program ‘Cultural Heritage and the EU-2020 strategy – towards an integrated approach’ conference was arranged 13.-14.11.2013 in Vilnius. Main arranger was the Department of Cultural Heritage Protection under the Ministry of Culture. The conference discussed how cultural heritage should cooperate with other sectors.

Legislation and policies to deal with Illegal (black) archaeology have advanced now.

A national project together with national libraries and archives; electronic books and music connected to heritage objects (intangible heritage).

Under preparation new legislation dealing with a new option to nationalise cultural heritage objects if they are ill-managed.

NORWAY, DIRECTORATE FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE by JØRGEN JØRGENSEN

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October 2014 - New «blue-blue» coalition government, consisting of the Conservative Party and the Progress Party. Few direct implications for the Directorate for Cultural Heritage, but the Planning Department has been transferred from the Ministry of Climate and Environment to the Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation, meaning that local development arguments, rather than environmental concerns, will have the final word in planning processes. The new Minister of Environment is Ms Tine Sundtoft, representing the Conservative Party.

2014 will be marked by the 200th anniversary of the Norwegian Constitution. Festivities will include the opening of the Eidsvold manor house, in which the Constitution was compiled, along with numerous other manifestations across the country.

Two world heritage nominations were submitted in January: Viking Monuments and Sites / Vestfold Ship Burials and Hyllestad Quernstone Quarries, a trans-national serial nomination in cooperation with Latvia, Germany (Schleswig-Holstein), Denmark and Iceland; and the Rjukan - Notodden Industrial Heritage Site.

EEA Grants: Directorate for Cultural Heritage (DCH) is donor programme partner in five countries (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, as well as Hungary and Romania) in the current 2009-2014 programme period. Open calls for projects have by now been closed in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, and the selection of project proposals is in progress. In addition, DCH is directly involved in a number of projects in a few other countries, including Poland. The EEA Grants have made it possible for an unprecedented number of Norwegian cultural heritage actors to take part in project activities abroad, and we are very pleased with the opening up of possibilities and horizons provided by the EEA grants.

## NORWAY, ARTS COUNCIL NORWAY by MARIE SKOIE

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The parliamentary elections in 2013 resulted in a change of government. The Conservative Party and the Progress Party (right wing) makes the new government. The New Minister of Culture and Church Affairs is Ms Thorhild Widvey (Conservative Party).

The new cultural politic is stressing the institutions and artists freedom and independence. The change of government may have an impact on the organization of the institutions working with cultural heritage and museums.

The Arts Council Norway has a key role in the EEA Grants in the cultural field for the period 2009-2014. The Norwegian Cultural Contact Point for the EU Culture Programme is located to the Arts Council. The Arts Council is involved in several other professional networks and projects at a European and international level.

Arts Council Norway has developed an international strategy for its international activities. The Arts Council will continue its international expertise and role as a facilitator of international cultural cooperation in their responsibilities. The strategy emphasizes collaboration, competence and communication as key areas in the Arts Council's work on international issues in the next five years.

## POLAND, NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR MUSEUMS AND PUBLIC COLLECTIONS by PAULINA FLORJANOWICZ AND NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM GDANSK by JERZY LITWIN

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Poland has become a member of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, for the first time in 37 years, after a successful campaign executed by the National Heritage Board of Poland.

NODEM 2014 conference will be held in Warsaw, on 1-3 December, 2014. NODEM (Network of Design and Digital Heritage) was established in 2003 by the research studio Visions for Museums at the Interactive Institute in Sweden and supported by the Nordic Council of Ministers. NODEM creates arenas for exchanges of experiences, best practices, and research aspects on the use of digital media in communicating with visitors and audiences at museums, galleries, and heritage attractions. More information on NODEM is available at [www.nodem.org](http://www.nodem.org) NODEM 2014 in Warsaw will be organized by the Swedish Interactive Institute in partnership with Museum of King Jan III's Palace at Wilanów, Museum of the History of Polish Jews, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Forum of Museum Educators and National Institute for Museums and Public Collections in Warsaw. Call for papers is now open. Abstracts must be submitted by the 30th of April, 2014 to Easy Chair

<https://www.easychair.org/conferences/?conf=nodem2014warsaw>

For more updates please follow the website <http://www.nodem.org/conferences/nodem-2014/>

**National Institute for Museums and Public Collections** (Narodowy Instytut Muzealnictwa i Ochrony Zbiorów - NIMOZ – [www.nimoz.pl](http://www.nimoz.pl)):

o continues to support the process of digitising museum collections in Poland. Since 2013, it has been operating as a formal Centre of Excellence for Digitisation in Museums within the framework of the long-term government programme Kultura+. In the end of 2013 the Institute signed a license agreement with Getty Research Institute for the translation into Polish of their Arts & Architecture Thesaurus.

- o launched a nationwide project on museum statistics (large survey addressed to all museums identified in Poland, of all types). The results will be available later this year. There will be a large database created on-line, with inclusion of archive information as well.
- o continues to develop its international relations. It has become an associate member of NEMO (Network of European Museums Organisations) and member of EGMUS (European Group on Museum Statistics).
- o Institute has also become the national contact point for the Heritage Plus research program (part of JPI: Cultural Heritage and Global Change under one of ERA-NET Plus actions in FP7).

### **National Heritage Board of Poland** (Narodowy Instytut Dziedzictwa – [www.nid.pl](http://www.nid.pl))

- o Implementation of a new project supported by the EEA grants (launched in 2013). The project entitled “HoME – Heritage of My Environment. Exploring cultural heritage values in local communities” aims to improve the management system of local heritage assets within the participating municipalities in Poland and Norway.
- o Publication of a report prepared in 2012-2013 on survey on how society regards the value of heritage in Poland and what is the economic impact of heritage. Publication can be downloaded free of charge at [www.nid.pl/pl/Dla\\_specjalistow/Opracowania\\_NID/](http://www.nid.pl/pl/Dla_specjalistow/Opracowania_NID/) - the first link on top (it's in Polish, with English summary)
- o Large-scale reorganization at the National Heritage Board of Poland – changes in senior management staff, change of departments' organization (multiple units in place of former large departments), department of archaeology was dissolved (archaeologists dispersed in different units).

### **National Maritime Museum Gdansk**

The Minister of Culture and National Heritage has exchanged the name for the National Maritime Museum (NMM) in Gdansk since the 10th of December 2013.

262 applications were prepared for the new EEA programme, and 18 received the founding. The NMM received financing for the construction of the new Conservation of Ship Wreck Centre and the Study Hall in Tczew (35 km from Gdansk) where the NMM has a branch - Vistula Museum.

Museum of the II WW is under construction and it will be constructed in the 16 m under the sea level.

Centre of European Solidarity is under construction - will be open 31st August 2014. It is situated in the south side of the former Gdansk Shipyard.

The NMM is preparing the seminar of river museums from Europe. There are about 50 of the such kind, and the museums looks forward to 25 participants in the first meeting.

In September 2015 the NMM will organize the 13th ISBSA conference (International Symposium on Boat and Ship Archaeology) – the first session will be devoted to the Baltic Sea underwater archaeology.

*The latest developments in the cultural heritage sector in Sweden*

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

The Swedish National Heritage Board 2014:

- Approximately 400 employees
- The Organization's Budget: 24 million EUR
- The Heritage Grant for projects to strengthen management of cultural heritage: 27 million EUR
- Research funding: 1,7 million EUR
- Labour Market Subsidies in the Cultural Heritage sector: 15 million EUR
- Revenues from the Archaeological Contract Service: 14 million EU

NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN ORGANISATION AND POLITICS

Transfer of the archaeological operations 1 January 2015:

The Archaeological Contract Service at the Swedish National Heritage Board will be transferred to the National Historical Museum. The transfer is made with the purpose to clarify the responsibilities between the public administration and the participants in the archaeological market. This means that the National Heritage Board will attain a more transparent government authority role by focusing on providing directives, supervision and follow-up.

New management of historical sites and properties:

The Government is currently undertaking a review of the management of state-owned historical buildings and properties. The main purpose is to gather the responsibility of all state-owned cultural sites and properties to one authority, the National Property Board. As a result the responsibility for managing the Swedish National Heritage Board's historical sites and buildings will be transferred to the National Property Board in 2015.

UPCOMING CHALLENGES AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES IN SWEDEN

Evaluation of the Ecclesiastical Heritage Grant:

The grant is exclusive for the care and preservation of churches. It is distributed by the Government directly to the Church of Sweden, and it currently amounts to approx 51 million EUR annually. There is a checkpoint evaluation of the grant every five years and an evaluation is being performed during 2014. The Government intends to present a proposal to the Parliament in the Budget Bill for 2015, concerning the size of the grant and its terms for the coming period.

Review of the policy for state museums:

Museums today face a range of challenges as a result of ongoing changes in society. The Government has therefore appointed an inquiry to study how the conditions for museums' activities have changed and the consequences for the Government's regulation of their operations. The inquiry is to review the responsibilities of the museums and propose national objectives for the state museums. Based on this, the inquiry shall also evaluate and, where necessary, propose adjustments to the overall structure of authorities and institutions in the museums area. The inquiry is to submit its report by 15 October 2015.

European capital of culture 2014:

Umeå (in the north of Sweden) has been chosen as European Capital of Culture 2014 together with Riga in Latvia.

Some priorities of the Swedish National Heritage Board in 2014:

- Evaluating how the cultural heritage field in Sweden is developing and to examine the interaction between cultural heritage activities on the national, regional and local levels. Based on this, a comprehensive vision shall be formulated for the cultural heritage sector, focusing on what shall be achieved by 2030. The task is to be carried out in conjunction with the Regional County Boards and in dialog with the other concerned stakeholders. The task is to be reported by 31 March 2016.
- Strengthening the structural funds in the context of the EU cohesion policy as an integrated part of sustainable growth. The main focus will be on assisting the government in implementing the partnership agreement.
- Making the cultural heritage more accessible and to provide guidance for measures concerning the needs of people with functional disabilities. This comprises both physical measures in buildings, landscapes etc. as well as information and digital services.
- Developing instruments and providing guidance in working with energy efficiency and the effects of climate change on buildings of heritage value.
- Increase cooperation between cultural policy and economic policy with the purpose to strengthen the labour market and to develop methods for sustainable growth. The main focus will be on supporting cultural and creative industries and facilitating sustainable tourism.

RUSSIAN FEDERATION, MINISTRY OF CULTURE -

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