

## BROAD VARIETY OF SUPPORTED CULTURAL HERITAGE PROJECTS

### New life for Estonian manor

The Kilti manor house in Estonia, dating back to the 1790s and currently housing Kilti elementary school, is given a new lease of life with a renovation grant from Norway. After lying derelict for almost a century, Kilti manor, located in north-eastern Estonia, is now being renovated to allow the building to remain in use as the local community's public school.

### Digitising historical documents in the Czech Republic

A new centre for digitisation of historical documents has been established in Prague, to microfilm and convert Czech documents threatened by decay to digital format. The project targets historical manuscripts and rare documents from the 19th century, something that will ensure the availability of important Czech documents for generations to come.

### Saving Czech Benedictine monastery and library

With support from Norway Grants, Benedictine monks are now able to restore one of oldest libraries and monasteries in Moravia. The project will reconstruct parts of the building, which will enable the completion of an extensive library exhibition. The Benedictine Abbey Rajhrad manages one of the oldest library collections in the region, counting 65,000 historical books.

### Renovating the Hungarian Ibsen Palace

The Ibsen Palace, located in the heart of Bekescsaba's old city centre, will undergo extensive renovation works in order to provide the city and its region with an artistic, educational and cultural centre. The Ibsen Palace was built in 1874, and is a monumental building of historical significance for Békés County.

### Reviving the Cittadella in Gozo, Malta

On the small Mediterranean island of Gozo, the EEA Grants are supporting the development of a large scale plan to renovate the Cittadella, the island's main historical site. The project will create a long term policy framework, to cover issues ranging from geology, ecology, tourism, land use, and traffic management to economical sustainability.

### Polish centre for contemporary art

The Centre for Contemporary Art, a large and active organisation that runs an art museum in the Ujazdowski Castle, is behind a project to renovate additional parts of the castle. The renovated space will host an Artists-in-Residence programme, which will offer young artists the opportunity to temporarily live in the castle while taking part in an international artist exchange programme.



In May 2004, the European Economic Area (EEA) was expanded to include the ten new Member States of the EU, with a further enlargement to include Bulgaria and Romania in 2007. At the same time the three non-EU members of the EEA - Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway - established the EEA and Norway Grants to support social and economic cohesion within the enlarged EEA.

The 30 members of the EEA share access to the Internal Market, characterised by the free movement of goods, services, capital and persons.

Over the five-year period 2004-2009, the EEA and Norway Grants will make available €1.3 billion to 15 beneficiary states in the EU. Norway provides 97% of this funding. Projects are supported in a wide range of priority sectors such as protection of the environment, conservation of the European cultural heritage, health and childcare, and development of human resources.

### EEA AND NORWAY GRANTS

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Further information: [www.eeagrants.org](http://www.eeagrants.org)



## CULTURAL HERITAGE FACT SHEET

DECEMBER 2008



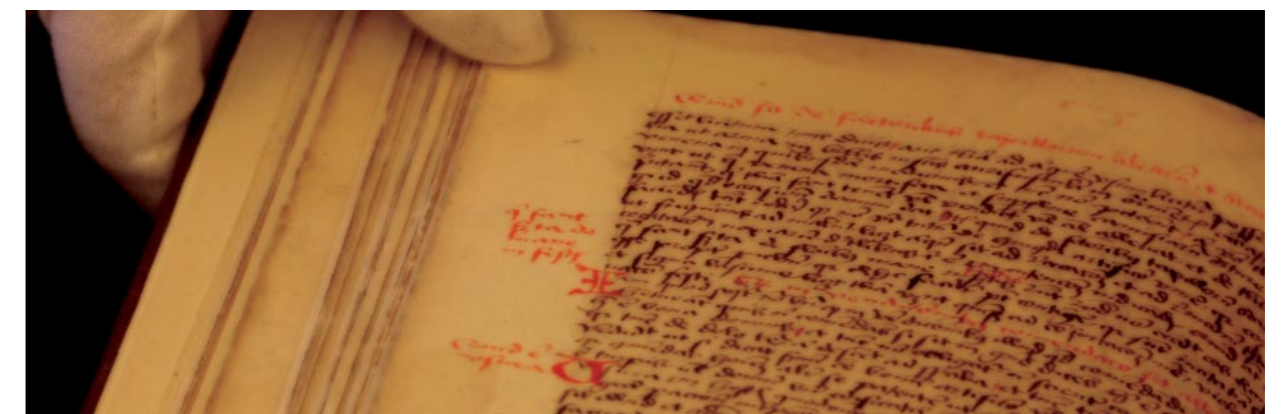
## Conservation of European cultural heritage

### Preserving our shared history

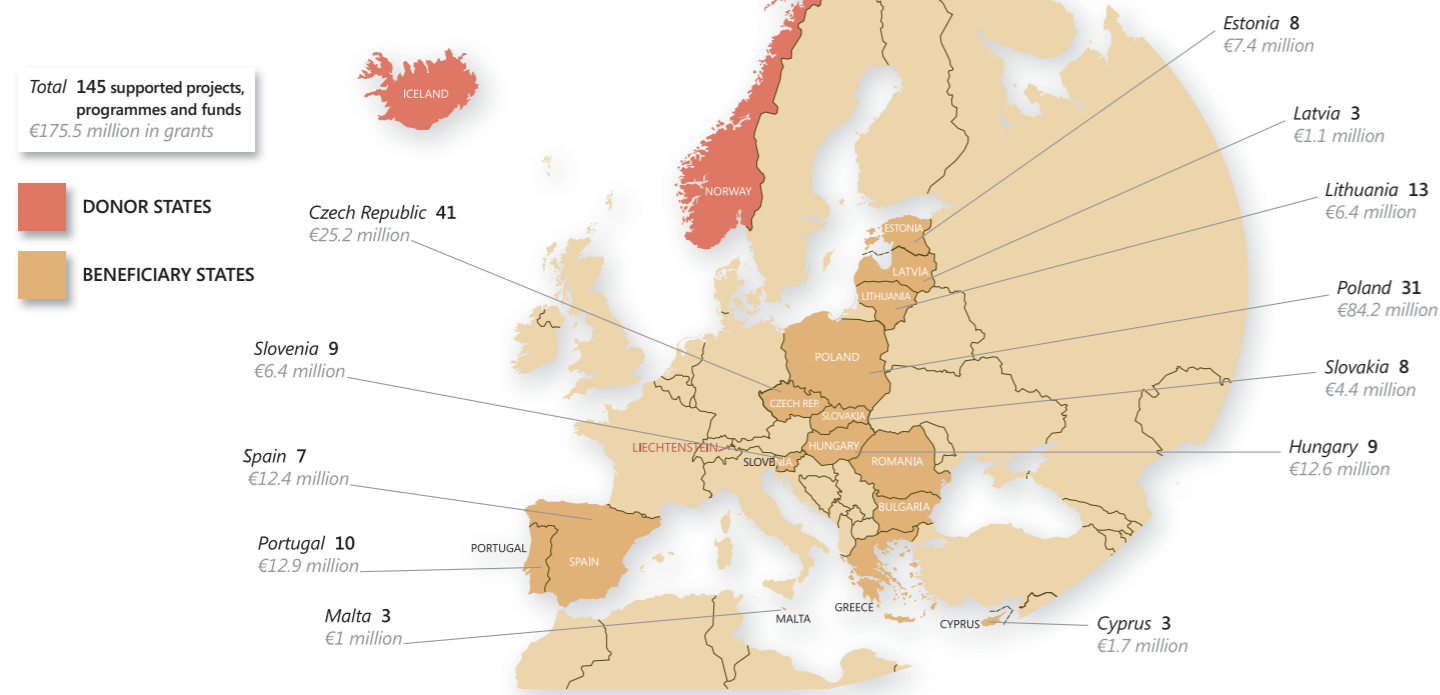
History has left the countries of Central and Southern Europe with a rich and diverse heritage. The stories told by their historical relics are an important part of our shared European history, whether they are about the toil of common folk, the splendour of the aristocracy, the development of religious thought or of the growth and decline of international trade routes.

With strained public finances, limited interest from private investors, and scarce EU funding for the cultural heritage sector, financing care and maintenance of cultural relics and monuments has often proved hard. By making protection of cultural heritage one of the EEA and Norway Grants' core priority sectors, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway help to alleviate this lack of funding and contribute to securing our cultural heritage for future generations.

Protection of European cultural heritage is a priority sector in all countries, and is the largest priority sector under the EEA and Norway Grants in terms of funding size. Around two thirds of the approved cultural heritage projects contribute to the renovation of immovable cultural heritage in the shape of historical buildings, fortresses, manor houses, religious monuments and historical urban areas. Several of the projects also aim to revitalise buildings by providing public access and developing venues for the performing arts.



## CULTURAL HERITAGE PROJECTS BY COUNTRY



## BENEFICIARIES

### Projects

Grants aimed at conservation of European cultural heritage have been made available to a broad range of applicants through close to 30 highly popular open calls across Central and Southern Europe. The beneficiary states have steered much of the grant support towards this sector and to date more than 20 percent of all approved grants have been made towards cultural heritage projects.

The project portfolio includes protection of World Heritage sites in Poland, restoration of manor houses in Estonia and Lithuania, renovation of wooden buildings in Latvia and urban regeneration and revitalisation of historic centres in Portugal and Spain. Slovenia, Slovakia and the Czech Republic have supported several small-scale projects involving a wide array of building styles.

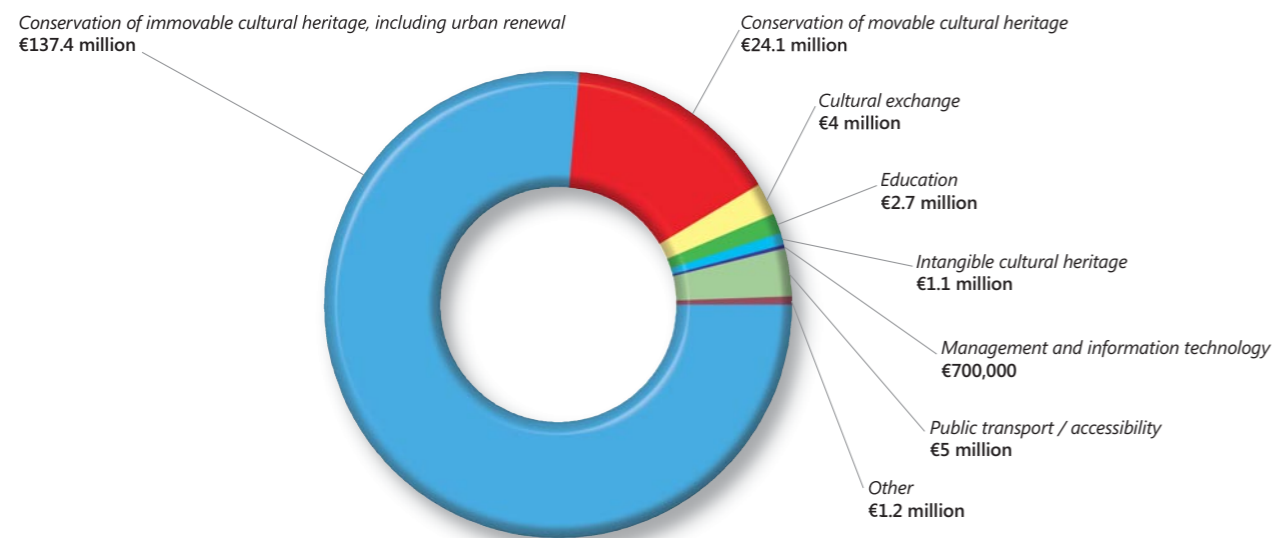
### Funds and programmes

Specific funds and programmes have been established in the beneficiary states to channel further funding to the cultural sector.

Most notable is the €4.4 million Cultural Exchange Fund in Poland, supporting partnership projects with the donor states Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway. Grants will be awarded to activities that strengthen the countries' cultural cooperation within the field of cultural heritage, including music and stage arts, plastic and visual arts, and literature and archives.

Specific programmes are also in place in the three Czech regions of Zlín, Vysočina and South-Bohemia, aimed at preserving valuable cultural heritage in the regions and making cultural sites more accessible to the public. Several of the NGO funds in the beneficiary states also make available funding for cultural heritage projects.

## TYPES OF PROJECTS



## PROJECT FOCUS

### Revitalising the Rogalin Palace in Poland

With support from the EEA Grants, the Rogalin Branch of the National Museum in Poznan will be renovated and modernised. Situated in the small village of Rogalin, just west of Kórnik, Poland, the Rogalin Palace was the seat of the aristocratic Raczyński family until the Second World War. The palace was plundered during the war, but it remained largely undamaged, and was later taken over by the Polish government. Today, the Rogalin Palace forms part of the National Museum in Poznan.

With support from Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, the historic interiors and surroundings of the palace will now be recreated, to resemble its original building style. The project will also allow for extensive renovation of the palace's main building, which has been closed to visitors for the last 19 years due to uncompleted restoration works. Backed by financial support from the EEA Grants, the project now aims to make the entire palace and park available to visitors.

## PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS

Bilateral partnership projects between the beneficiary states and Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway are possible under the EEA and Norway Grants. The cultural project portfolio counts 24 approved partnership projects, all with Norwegian entities.

### Czech open air museum

The Wallachian open air museum is cooperating with its Norwegian counterpart, the Norwegian Craft Development/Maihaugen, to implement a joint project. The two museums will exchange experience and know-how on preservation of material and immaterial examples of traditional folk culture, as well as pooling ideas on making the museum exhibits more interesting to visitors.

### Restoring the Kuldiga District Museum, Latvia

The Norwegian Craft Development will also be participating in a project to restore the Kuldiga District Museum in Latvia. The museum served as the administrative pavilion of the Russian imperial exposition at the World Fair in Paris in 1900, and was later transported to Kuldiga by boat. Now, the building will be renovated and equipped with a training centre for restoring wooden architecture.

### Old town renewal in Slovenia

Historic buildings in the old town centres of five cities in the Gorenjska region will be renovated to preserve important Slovene cultural heritage and provide local inhabitants with new public venues. Hedmark County in Norway is actively involved in the project, providing coaching and guidance for the five old town teams as well as the Gorenjska regional team.

### Polish transport museum

In collaboration with Norwegian Museum of Science and Technology, a museum of technical science and transport will be established in the historic tram depot of Szczecin. The building will be renovated in order to house exhibition halls showcasing veteran vehicles. The museum will also be linked with the city's tramway to enable organised tours by vintage trams in the streets of Szczecin.

## RESULTS SNAPSHOT

Number of cultural sites made available to the public	94
Buildings constructed or renovated	297
Conserved, restored and/or protected items	966