

Country :Netherlands

Committee :UNESCO

Agenda Item :Preserving Cultural Heritage

Netherlands, country located in northwestern Europe, also known as Holland. The Netherlands is a small country sandwiched between Belgium and Germany in Western Europe. Tourism is important to the country, and many visitors come to see Dutch art, architecture and the flowers. Tulips are a major industry, and the Dutch produce billions of bulbs a year. Because the Netherlands has no mountain ranges or natural borders, it was not able to protect itself from invading neighbors. Foreigners occupied the country.The Netherlands is republic with a constitutional monarchy. The Dutch monarchy dates back to Prince William of Orange in the 16th century. King Willem-Alexander is the reigning monarch.The Dutch parliament called the States General has two houses. The 150 members of the Lower House are elected by the people every four years. The king or ruling monarch appoints ministers who become part of the cabine.

Every day, the majority of the world’s historical monuments are damaged. To safeguard our cultural heritage for future generations, it is imperative that we prioritize its preservation. By embracing technology, engaging communities, preserving language, celebrating traditional practices, empowering museums, documenting intangible heritage, conserving cultural landscapes, recognizing culinary heritage, implementing legal frameworks, promoting education and awareness, considering economic aspects, fostering global collaboration, and more, we can ensure that our cultural legacy endures.Preserving cultural heritage is not merely a choice, but an obligation. Our cultural heritage serves as a testament to our identity, history, and values. It connects us to our roots and provides a foundation for future innovations. However, numerous threats loom over cultural heritage, making its preservation crucial.When we talk about cultural heritage, we are referring to the tangible and intangible aspects of our shared history. It encompasses the physical structures, artifacts, and artworks that have been passed down through generations, as well as the customs, traditions, and knowledge that define our communities. Cultural heritage is a living entity, constantly evolving and shaping our present and future.

The Cultural Heritage Agency is the Netherlands’ centre of expertise for heritage. It is an executive body of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science. Together with the The Dutch Research Council (Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek, NWO) the RCE is the Dutch representant of the Joint Programming Initiative on Cultural Heritage and Global Change (JPI CH).Heritage care is a public interest, for which the Dutch government also takes responsibility. Its tasks go beyond merely preserving and protecting historical buildings, sites and works of art. Today, society devotes increasing attention to how cultural historical values can be given a place within spatial development plans and projects. Doing so ensures that we can give the future a – recognizable – past.The Cultural Heritage Agency its strength lies in connecting 3 key elements: practical expertise, scientific knowledge and government policy. These elements are mutually reinforcing, whereby we can base our practical advice on scientific knowledge, on our extensive experience and on the objectives of government policy. Conversely, our practical expertise and knowledge make a significant contribution to the development of policy.The Kingdom of the Netherlands has thirteen national sites considered so important for humanity that we want to pass them on safely to future generations.As an example ;The religious heritage of the Netherlands is unprecedentedly rich and can count on the support of a wide audience. Monumental churches, monasteries and their interiors are appreciated by everyone, young and old, regardless of whether they go to church or not. But the declining number of active religious people is putting pressure on the survival of many churches and monasteries. As a result, a large part of it is closed to worship, used for other purposes, and sometimes even in danger of being demolished.AlsoThe Dutch Agency for Cultural Heritage (RCE) ensures the preservation of a selection of Dutch military heritage. These are the objects, collections, buildings and sites that we experience as iconic in the Netherlands. Together they tell our military history.The Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands (RCE) implements Dutch government policy related to our World Heritage sites by:coordinating the preparation of nomination files and management plans;cooperating with siteholders;providing public information in conjunction with the Netherlands World Heritage Foundation; maintaining contacts with UNESCO.We know that we cannot end the damage to historical monuments in one day. Our aim is to raise awareness of future generations and to increase the values left to the next generations.

Yağmur SAĞLIK