



## Administration of Cultural Heritage



***Cultural heritage is, really, a big deal for showing who we are as a country and keeping peace around the world. Sadly, wars, when countries take over other countries, and when people sell important things illegally, they all put our cultural heritage in danger. The United Nations and UNESCO, they both say that it's everyone's job worldwide, to protect these important things.***

***SPECPOL makes political choices about keeping our cultural heritage safe, especially in places that are taken over and when countries are becoming independent again. As Poland we think keeping cultural heritage safe is one of the main duties of the government. The country has signed up for UNESCO agreements, and we really believe that cultural heritage is part of what makes us Polish and independent. Poland points out that places like Auschwitz Birkenau need to be kept safe by everyone in the world, with all countries working together.***

***In SPECPOL Poland supports linking the protecting cultural heritage with building peace. Poland has also signed on to the UNESCO 1972 World Heritage Convention and the 2003 Convention on Intangible Cultural Heritage. The country is home to 16 UNESCO World Heritage sites, including Krakow, the Bialowieza Forest, and Auschwitz Birkenau. The Ministry of Culture and National Heritage works on restoring old buildings and preventing illegal selling cultural artifacts. Poland has also cooperated with the Council of Europe and UNESCO, sharing its experience about keeping cultural heritage safe, especially after wars. Poland thinks that protecting cultural heritage requires efforts both from the country itself and from the international community. This is why Poland supports sending international teams to watch over conflict zones and keep cultural sites safe. They also want the UN to allocate more funds and provide knowledge to new countries, so they can protect their heritage better. Poland is aware of the importance of keeping digital copies of cultural materials and having disaster preparedness. At the same time we aim to encourage countries to cooperate more to stop the illegal trade of cultural artifacts by sharing information and collaborate. Poland also highlights the importance of education and volunteer involvement, as engaging young people raises awareness of these issues and maintaining long term commitment to protecting cultural heritage.***



*Administration  
of Cultural  
Heritage*



**Source: Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland Official Reports and Publications**

**UNESCO, Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972)**

**UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003)**

**Council of Europe, Cultural Heritage and Cooperation Initiatives**

**UNESCO World Heritage Centre List of World Heritage Sites in Poland**