

Kick-off event of the European Partnership for Resilient Cultural Heritage

Mucem – Musée des civilisations de l'Europe et de la Méditerranée

29 September 2026 | Draft programme

Venue : Mucem – Musée des civilisations de l'Europe et de la Méditerranée, 1 esplanade du J4, 13002 Marseille (Auditorium)
& Online

The event is open to all. Registration is mandatory.

8:30–9:00 Welcome of participants

9:00–9:05 **Opening of the event**

9:05–9:30 **Institutional addresses**

- [tbd], Musée des civilisations de l'Europe et de la Méditerranée, France
- **Isabelle Pallot-Frossard**, president, Fondation des sciences du patrimoine, France
- **Glenn Micallef**, Commissioner “Intergenerational Fairness, Youth, Culture and Sport”, European Commission (video message)
- **Pilar Aguar**, Director “People: Health and Society”, Directorate-General Research and Innovation, European Commission (video message)
- [tbd], Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Space, France

Session 1 – Building resilience

The RCH Partnership results from longstanding efforts by Member States and the European Commission to fund collaborative research on cultural heritage, and is launched at a time of multiple EU-level initiatives for climate action. This session will present initiatives that paved the way for the RCH Partnership, as well as the pressing needs and challenges that this instrument shall address.

9:30–9:50 **Keynote**

Siri Veland, human geographer, senior researcher, NORCE Norwegian Research Centre, Norway

9:50–10:10 **A decade of joint transnational calls for cultural heritage research in Europe**

Pascal Liévaux, chair of the JPI CH and deputy head of the Delegation for Research, Inspection, and Innovation, in charge of research, Directorate General of Heritage and Architecture, Ministry of Culture, France

10:10–10:30 Objectives and challenges of the European Partnership for Resilient Cultural Heritage

Alexandre Caussé, RCH Partnership coordinator and head of international relations, Fondation des sciences du patrimoine, France

10:30–11:00 Break

11:00–12:00 Roundtable – European policies and initiatives to tackle climate change and safeguard cultural heritage

Moderated by **Johanna Leissner**, Scientific representative Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, chair of the EU OMC Group “Strengthening Cultural Heritage Resilience for Climate Change” (2021–2022)

- **Katja Reppel**, Head of Unit, DG RTD, European Commission
- **Angela Atzori**, Team Leader, DG EAC, European Commission
- **Katarzyna Bałucka-Dębska**, Head of Policy at EIT Climate KIC, Belgium

12:00–13:30 Lunch

Session 2 – Working together across disciplines and countries

The event’s second session will focus on cooperation in all its forms: across disciplines, sectors, regions and countries. Just as addressing climate change is a challenge that no country can tackle alone, developing innovative and applicable solutions requires collaboration among researchers and practitioners, and among heritage and climate science communities. As a purveyor of knowledge and good-practice exchange platforms and of collaborative research projects, the RCH Partnership provides its communities with the tools to overcome disciplinary and geographic fragmentation.

13:30–13:50 Keynote

Piero Baglioni, Professor of Chemistry, University of Florence, Italy

13:50–14:30 Dialogue – Interdisciplinarity and transsectoriality for an enhanced heritage-based climate action

Moderated by **Caitlin DeSilvey**, Professor, Environment and Sustainability Institute, University of Exeter, United Kingdom

- **Salma Sabour**, Postdoctoral research fellow, Southampton University, United Kingdom
- **Elise Van Riest-Dabek**, Head of the Collections and Documentation Department, and **Aude Fanlo**, Head of the Teaching and Research Department, Mucem, France

14:30–15:30 Roundtable – Transnational and international cooperation

Moderated by **Luiz Oosterbeek**, professor, Polytechnic Institute of Tomar, Portugal

- [tbd], European Commission
- **Sophie Gébeil**, Deputy Vice-President for the Humanities and Mediterranean, Aix-Marseille University (amU), France

- **Pelin Özden**, researcher, FireCULT project, İzmir Konak Vocational School, Türkiye

15:30–16:00 Break

Session 3 – Science, Policy and Society Interface

This session will discuss the active participation of local communities in (research) projects. Connecting diverse stakeholders through research endeavours helps generate scientifically robust, socially relevant knowledge for heritage-based climate action. In this regard, the session explores how both scientific research results and local and traditional knowledge offer necessary perspectives for effective policy-making, both at local and global scales. By examining the actors and processes that lead to the production, dissemination and adoption of research results, it highlights the need for an increased integration of heritage-based solutions into environmental and climate policies.

16:00–16:30 Keynote

Małgorzata Ćwikła, Senior Researcher at the Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Center for Arts Management, and in the "Culture for the Planet" Alliance; Convenor of ISO/TC 354/SC 1/WG 1 "Cultural Organizations", Poland

16:30–17:30 Roundtable – Place-based research and community-led initiatives

Moderated by **Matthew Rabagliati**, Head of Policy, Research and Communications, UK National Commission for UNESCO, United Kingdom

- **Enguerrand Lascols**, conservateur du patrimoine, Mucem, France
- **Sanela Klarić**, Chairwoman of the Green Council of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Map4Water: ONE THOUSAND FOUNTAINS CITY, 2024 winner of the New European Bauhaus public award, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- **Wang Yu**, Coordinator, Go2CHANGE COST action, Norway

17:30–18:00 Dialogue – From research results to evidence-based policy: how to bridge the gap?

Moderated by **Reetta Toivanen**, Professor of Sustainability Science, Department of Cultures, Faculty of Humanities, University of Helsinki, Finland

- **Andrew Okem**, Head of Science of the IPCC Working Group II Technical Support Unit, The Netherlands
- [tbd]

18:00–18:30 Conclusion by early-career researchers and practitioners

- [tbd], Association française des jeunes chercheurs et chercheuses en sciences du patrimoine, France
- **Ulrika Stevens**, NextGen Heritage Ambassador, Finland
- **Sandra Delali Kemeh**, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies – IFRC

18:30–19:30 Guided tours (on-site registration, limited capacity)

19:30–22:00 Cocktail reception