

TIMELINE



2-3 May, 2005, European Culture Meeting in Paris

Renaud Donnedieu de Vabres announces a series of propositions to create a Europe of Culture, one of which is the European Heritage Label, whose goal is to highlight the European aspect of cultural assets, monuments, natural and urban sites, as well as historical landmarks, testimonies to our common history and heritage.

17-19 November, 2005, European Culture Meeting in Budapest

Renaud Donnedieu de Vabres reaffirms his will to create the Label. András Bozóki, minister of national cultural heritage of Hungary, supports the initiative.

18 April, 2006, Bonn

A first meeting at the initiative of the Bundeskanzleramt is held on the procedural rules for the Label.

27-28 April, 2006, Meeting in Granada: "Europe for Intercultural Dialogue"

France, Hungary and Spain sign a declaration creating a list of European Heritage sites. The European Heritage Label is created and distinguishes itself from existing tools that highlight heritage, such as the UNESCO World Heritage List and the Council of Europe Cultural Routes.

18 May, 2006, Council meeting of the ministers of Culture and Audiovisual Affairs of the European Union

Renaud Donnedieu de Vabres calls his European colleagues to join the initiative. *"We are addressing all aspects of the European identity, as long as the criterion of a physical relation with a place is respected. It could be the European art of living, European projects, the European spirit, European creations, European holy sites, European businesspeople and industrialists, the Europe of battles and reconciliation."*

10 July, 2006, Paris

A European Heritage Meeting sees representatives of 20 Member States and the European Commission come together. On this occasion, they are able to thoroughly discuss the proposed procedural rules and the site application form

6 October, 2006, Athens

A workshop brings together representatives of 19 Member States and the European Commission where they are able to thoroughly discuss how to implement the Label (preamble, procedural rules, site application form). A first list of emblematic European sites is proposed, the first of which is the Acropolis.

12-13 October, 2006, Meeting in Lublin: "Europe of Neighbours: New Prospects"

The Label initiative is debated and highlighted in the final declaration.

13 November, 2006, Council meeting of the ministers of Culture and Audiovisual affairs of the European Union

The European Heritage Label is on the agenda. The outcome of the meeting in Athens is presented.

January, 2007

A first list of the cultural sites and assets is established by Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Spain, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia. The sites proposed by Germany and Austria are being defined.

25 January, 2007, Meeting in Madrid

Representatives of 17 Member States and the European Commission agree on site selection criteria, as well as on technical, material, logistical, and communication matters related to the official launch of the initiative. France announces that it will act as secretary for the initiative in 2007, followed by Spain in 2008. The 50-year celebration of the Treaty of Rome was the occasion on which most States officially launch the initiative and affix plaques to the labelled sites.

13 February, 2007, Berlin

The Label is on the agenda of the informal council meeting of the ministers of Culture and Audiovisual Affairs of the European Union.

19 March, 2007

The Label is launched at Cluny Abbey, the first edifice to receive the "European Heritage" Label. The house of Robert Schuman in Scy-Chazelles (Moselle) and the Honour Courtyard of the Palais des Papes in Avignon also receive the Label.

26 March, 2007

The Acropolis Agora is labelled as a European Heritage site to pay homage to the birth of democracy in Europe.

Autumn 2007

Work to communalize the procedure. Meeting of the heritage administrations of the various countries.

Preparation of the French EU presidency in the 2nd semester of 2008: the Label is one of the key projects.

14 February, 2008, Avignon

Preparation of the conference that will bring together the first labelled sites, a conference that will take place in December during the French presidency of the European Union.

18 April, 2008, Paris

European Heritage Label: meeting of experts

21-22 July, 2008, Versailles

Christine Albanel, minister of Culture and Communication, presides over the Informal council meeting of the ministers of Culture and Audiovisual Affairs of the European Union: the Label and emphasizing heritage are on the agenda.

September-November, 2008

Meeting of the Cultural Affairs Committee: member states examine the draft Council conclusions

27 October, 2008, Madrid

European Heritage Label: meeting of experts

20-21 November, 2008

Council meeting of the ministers of Culture and Audiovisual Affairs of the European Union.

4-5 December, 2008

Conference in Avignon brings together the first labelled European sites and the heritage administrations of those countries.