

Luxembourg, 28 May 2020

EUROPA NOSTRA
European Heritage Alliance Coordination Office
p/a/ Europa Nostra Brussels Office
Rue de Trèves / Trierstraat 45
B – 1040 Bruxelles / Brussel

Subject: Europe Day Manifesto “Cultural Heritage: a powerful catalyst for the Future of Europe”

Dear Mrs Quaedvlieg-Mihailović,

Thank you very much for contacting the EIB and sending President Hoyer this inspiring Europe Day Manifesto highlighting the crucial role of Cultural Heritage for the European Project.

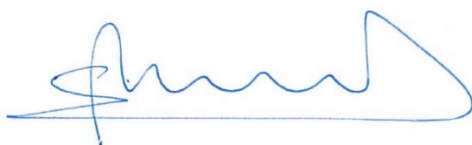
Cultural heritage is indeed at the heart of what makes the European Union so special and it plays a great role in defining and maintaining our shared European identity. It is no wonder an overwhelming majority of Europeans take pride in their cultural heritage and consider it personally important as well as important for the EU.

Cultural heritage is also a key asset contributing to making Europe the world’s no. 1 tourist destination. At a time tourism is severely hit by the current pandemic, let us not forget that it is one of the largest economic sectors for the EU, with more than 15 million people employed, and a major contributor to GDP, with EUR 415 billion. For many regions and cities, tourism is the main source of income.

As the Bank of the EU, the EIB has been supporting cultural heritage for many years, investing for the European Capitals of Culture as recently in Plzen, Pecs or Malta, financing the refurbishment or development of cultural heritage buildings directly, as well as through urban framework loans where cultural heritage is often an important element of urban regeneration projects, as in Warsaw or Nancy. And of course, there is the fruitful and ongoing cooperation with the EIB Institute on the 7 Most Endangered Programme to which we recently decided to increase our support in order to make it a yearly programme.

For all these reasons, as we signed the Berlin Call to Action for Cultural Heritage in 2018, I am pleased to reiterate that cultural heritage is important for the EIB and that we will continue to support cultural heritage projects or projects that have a cultural heritage component.

Warm regards,



Emma Navarro
Vice-President