



MARGARITIS SCHINAS

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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Brussels, 07.06.2020

Dear Ms Quaadvlieg-Mihailović,

Sneška,

Dear Mr Verwayen,

Thank you for your letter of 15 May 2020, to which the President asked me to reply on behalf of the Commission. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you, and all members of the European Heritage Alliance, for preparing and sharing this timely Manifesto, which I read with great interest. I am delighted that the Europe Day Webinar was successful and that the Commission's commitment to supporting cultural heritage had been strongly conveyed on this occasion.

I understand that both the details of the Europe Day Webinar and the Manifesto were shared with members of the Commission's Expert Group on Cultural Heritage. This group, as you know, maintains and builds on the spirit of cooperation and policy dialogue achieved during the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018 and supports the implementation of the European Framework for Action on Cultural Heritage.

I whole-heartedly agree with you that the cultural heritage sector, like so many facets of our society, has experienced probably its worst crisis in living history. The impact of the pandemic is far reaching and the uncertainty around its containment is a serious cause for concern.

Ms Sneška Quaadvlieg-Mihailović
Secretary General of Europa Nostra

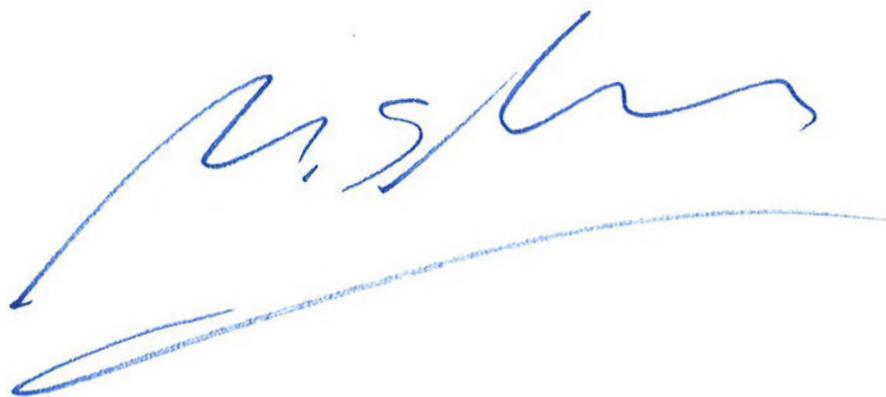
Mr Harry Verwayen

Executive Director of Europeana Foundation

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Against this background, you can rest assured that cultural heritage is, and will continue to be, a dynamic player in the future of Europe. Apart from its intrinsic value, we will continue to promote, in a sustainable way, the significant social and economic benefits cultural heritage brings to the European way of life.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'M. S. Gabriel', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Cc: Commissioner Mariya Gabriel