

EN

E-002541/2025

Answer given by Commissioner Micallef
on behalf of the European Commission
(26.9.2025)

Article 167 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU)¹ stipulates that EU action is limited to encouraging cooperation between Member States and supporting and supplementing their actions, with a view to conserving and safeguarding cultural heritage of European significance.

The European Framework for Action on Cultural Heritage² was developed as a legacy to the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018. It aims to keep cultural heritage on the EU agenda and promotes an integrated and participatory approach to cultural heritage. The Framework for Action sets a common direction for heritage-related activities at European level, primarily in EU policies and programmes. It also serves as an inspiration for regions and cities across Europe, as well as for cultural heritage organisations and networks when developing their own actions on cultural heritage. At national level, the Commission invites Member States to draw up similar frameworks for heritage on a voluntary basis, to complement the EU Framework for Action.

The Commission therefore focuses on supporting European cultural diversity and heritage through dedicated actions, funded by the Creative Europe programme³, such as the European Heritage Awards⁴, the 7 Most Endangered⁵ Programme, and dedicated strands supporting cooperation projects, networks, and platforms in the field of cultural heritage.

¹ OJ C 202/1, 7.6.2016; <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:12016E/TXT>.

² <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/5a9c3144-80f1-11e9-9f05-01aa75ed71a1>.

³ <https://culture.ec.europa.eu/creative-europe>.

⁴ <https://culture.ec.europa.eu/cultural-heritage/initiatives-and-success-stories/european-heritage-awards>.

⁵ <https://7mostendangered.eu/>.