

Ad interim Executive Secretary

Luxembourg, 05 March 2025

Subject: 2025-2026 Cultural Routes Certification Cycle: Applications for Certification

Dear representatives of a network interested in the "Cultural Route of the Council of Europe" certification,

Each year, the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe (EPA) provides the opportunity to interested networks to apply for certification as a "Cultural Route of the Council of Europe", as provided for in Council of Europe Committee of Ministers Resolution CM/Res(2023)2.

Should you wish to **apply for certification in the framework of the 2025-2026 certification cycle**, we kindly ask you to inform the Secretariat by **written letter** for the attention of the Executive Secretary of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and Director of the European Institute of Cultural Routes (by email to evaluation@culture-routes.lu) by **31st March** at the latest. Upon reception of the letter, the Secretariat will acknowledge receipt of it and provide you with the 2025-2026 certification form, instructions on how to submit your application, and an invitation to an advisory meeting.

The evaluation file is composed of the following documents, which shall be submitted **in English or in French by 31st July 2025**:

1. Certification form completed (Document 1);
2. Self-assessment grid completed;
3. Declaration of Honour completed and signed;
4. Updated legal statutes of the network;
5. Updated list of members of the network;
6. Ordinary and extraordinary General Assembly meeting reports of the past three years (if applicable);
7. Financial information (Current operational budget, financial information of the past three years; 5-year Budget forecast; Extra-budgetary funding);
8. 5-year Programme of Activities forecast.

These documents will be submitted to an independent expert, chosen to evaluate your route and to prepare a report on the conformity of your network with the criteria of the Resolution CM/Res(2023)02. The expert will contact you and the members of your network to receive further information during the evaluation period and to arrange a field visit along your route as part of the evaluation process.

The evaluation report will be then submitted for decision to the Governing Board of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe at the meeting that will take place in **May 2026**. On this occasion, you will be invited to present your route and respond to questions from the Governing Board.

All submitted documents will be treated as confidential and become the property of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes (EPA) and kept in its archives at the European Institute of Cultural Routes.

For any questions concerning the application, please contact Ms. Crina ZUGRAV (crina.zugrav@culture-routes.lu; cc: evaluation@culture-routes.lu).

Best regards,



Irena GUIDIKOVA

Ad interim Executive Secretary, Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe;
Ad interim Director, European Institute of Cultural Routes