

EFFORTS NEWSLETTER nr. 13
MARCH 2020



A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear EFFORTS Members,
Dear members of the EFFORTS community,

In these dire times, I want to present to you the latest EFFORTS news.

We decided, due to the anti-COVID 19 measures, and complying with EU Member States policy, to **annull** all EFFORTS meetings, visits and participation to conferences, **at least until May**. This has an impact on our first 2020 European Funding Professionals Network workshop, kindly hosted by Šibenik Fortress of Culture, and on the April EFFORTS Board meeting, hosted by Oudenaarde (BE). Our EFFORTS European Fortress Day will be organised in September. More on this underneath in our newsletter.

We see that our partners, like FORTECULTURA and Atlantikwall Europe also annulled their events for this period as I can imagine, you do to, in your respective cities and sites. Also for now, all meetings with the EU institutions will be postponed, like the one with European Commissioner, Mariya Gabriel to whom we want to present the **2019 EFFORTS Statement**. We will communicate soon more on this.

We are sure that the EFFORTS annual general meeting and **congress will still be on 18-20 November in SIBENIK**, Croatia.

Also, EFFORTS is active in the future cooperation around the **Wellington Barrier** Defence Line.

In the meanwhile, **EFFORT 2020 membership** is going strong and the new EFFORTS board has been working on the **EFFORTS ACTION plan**. I will present this to you shortly.

Good luck and good health to you and yours,

Frank Petter
Mayor of Bergen-op-Zoom, Netherlands
President of EFFORTS



→ and your **EFFORTS MEMBERSHIP** for 2020 !

-If you were a 2019 EFFORTS member, you have *received your invoice* via email, with a fee proposal. If you have not paid yet, you will receive a kind reminder.

-If you want to become a new EFFORTS member in 2020, apply via the website : <http://www.efforts-europe.eu/membership/> and pay your fee,

or contact the EFFORTS secretariat (see below).

The EFFORTS STATEMENT following the Antwerp Congress

You are invited to download the Statement from the EFFORTS website (with thanks to EFFORTS member Oost-Gelre). The EFFORTS Congress, on which results the Statement was based, brings us its **key message** :

Local and regional authorities with the involvement of Civil Society Organizations (CSO) should work together to establish European quality fortified heritage projects. This will help facilitate the preservation and re-use of common European heritage in a sustainable and economically viable manner. These sites are multifaceted and include water related activities, community projects multi agency cooperation with socio-economic benefits. These Heritage sites will contribute to the post-European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018 European Framework for Action on Cultural Heritage and the 2020+ EU policies such as INTERREG, Erasmus+, Europe for the Citizens and Horizon Europe.

EU ECONOMIC, INTERREG AND OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS



The European Union is strengthening its economic, social and territorial cohesion. In particular, the EU aims at reducing disparities between the levels of development of its various regions and cities. Special attention is paid to, among others, rural and urban areas, areas affected by industrial transition and cross-border regions, fostering mutual cooperation in an integrated holistic multi-dimensional framework of the Open Method of Coordination.

Fortified heritage reuse in Europe's regions and cities contribute to the improvement of regional or urban spatial and economic development.

Example: Antwerp fortifications sites are valorized as part of the urban space (16th century Kildorpsite).

EFFORTS and its European network support with this 2019 Statement the European Framework for Action on Cultural Heritage and its holistic, integrating and multi-stakeholder approach. It strives, with its partners in the cultural heritage field, to work toward a sustainable, resilient, innovative and inclusive Europe and its Member States. It supports the work of the European Commission and the European Heritage Alliance 3.3 and the Cultural Heritage Forum exchanging best practices for sustainable and participatory cultural heritage policies in Europe. In this framework, working towards mainstreaming fortified heritage policies in the new EU Commission Agenda is a key element of attention of the EFFORTS network.

CONTACT INFORMATION
Efforts EU-Liaison Rafaël Deroo
+32 47 623 792

EFFORTS Office
Trierstraat / Rue de Trèves 67
1000 Brussels Belgium

info@efforts-europe.eu
www.efforts-europe.eu



STATEMENT FOLLOWING THE 2019 ANTWERP CONGRESS

"The Future of Fortified Heritage – The European Dimension"

EFFORTS is a European network organisation established in 2017 to share knowledge and practical expertise on military heritage, such as walled towns, forts and defence lines. The basis for EFFORTS was laid during the final conference of the A4 Fort Interreg IV-C project in Suomenlinna, Helsinki (Finland 2014) and international conference on military heritage in Hertoogenbosch (Netherlands 2014), Berlin-Spandau (Germany 2017), Forte Marghera (Italy 2018) and Antwerp (2019). Today EFFORTS counts more than 50 European fortified sites and networks and is growing. Since 2018 EFFORTS has been a European professional representation of fortified sites. It is a member of the Europa Nostra managed European Heritage Alliance 3.3. Today EFFORTS' main mission is the structuring of European cooperation and helping military fortified heritage on the European policy agenda. EFFORTS believes that European cooperation is the key to achieving its goals. Any local or regional authority and any person actively engaged in the protection and reuse of military heritage at European, national, regional or local level is welcome to join EFFORTS. EFFORTS' aim is to enhance structural European cooperation and coordination, to share expertise, to promote personal cooperation and to put fortified heritage on the agenda of government and our common European history. This in order to make a sustainable contribution to Europe's economic, energy and spatial development and social challenges.

MORE INFORMATION: WWW.EFFORTS-EUROPE.EU

Established by the EFFORTS Annual Congress 29 November 2019, Antwerp (Belgium)

The Antwerp 2019 EFFORTS Congress had three main goals:

1. To support EFFORTS members and future members building European co-funded projects.
2. To discuss fortification issues, crucial to fortified heritage. The City of Antwerp offers an excellent opportunity for discussion on one aspect of fortification heritage, specifically the use of water for fortifications, drainage, and climate adaptation measures.
3. To foster a bottom-up approach of consensus-building, awareness and out-reach activities. The protection of fortified heritage is a universal concern across the European Community and the sustainable use and reuse of this heritage will lead to positive spill-over effects and economic multi-functional opportunities.

The EFFORTS Congress key message was:

Local and regional authorities with the involvement of Civil Society Organizations (CSO) should work together to establish European quality fortified heritage projects. This will help facilitate the preservation and re-use of common European heritage in a sustainable and economically viable manner. These sites are multifaceted and include water related activities, community projects multi agency cooperation with socio-economic benefits. These Heritage sites will contribute to the post-European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018 European Framework for Action on Cultural Heritage and the 2020+ EU policies such as INTERREG, Erasmus+, Europe for the Citizens and Horizon Europe.

The following positions on the future of cultural heritage in this EFFORTS 'Statement' and with added EFFORTS members project examples, is also based on the 2018 EFFORTS Venice Declaration and will be presented to the new Commissioner for Culture, Mariya GABRIEL:

1. WATER FOR DEFENCE / DEFENCE FOR WATER



City fortifications using water as a defence mechanism can play a role in spatial and environmental development and water management, as is the case in the Antwerp region. The system of inundation on the other hand, could prove very relevant for future developments, combining its engineering skills in climate adaptation. In addition, the use of (seasonal) inundation could improve soil qualities in agricultural areas by flooding agricultural areas, pests like nematodes can be better controlled, resulting in better yields and higher quality crops.

Fortified inundation landscapes have a role in climate adaptation and other inundation system reuse. Cities and regions are to pool their experience in the reuse of water fortifications and water management.

Interreg project Recapture the Fortresses Cities, with Regionale Landschappen (Belgium), establishes, on the basis of UN Sustainable Development goals, best practices in all fields of fortification development.



2. DEFENCE LINES (water and other defence lines)

Europe is composed of ancient and more recent fortified defence lines, from UK's Hadrian's wall, via the Spanish fortifications and the Wellington Barrier and WWI and WWII defences, to the Cold War Dutch IJssel-line. Former signs of the division of the continent their relevance, besides their architectural, technical and historical value, is to connect former European opponents in a modern European Union and its allies. Today, defence lines as their common European heritage have the role of a bridge between European countries, cultures and people.

Europe's defence lines have to play a key role in future European collaborative projects in built military heritage, such as historic and touristic routes or by establishing platforms for cultural action, or they can be the center of regional economic or environmental development.

Example: Atlantikwall Europe Creative Europe project (Norway, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Channel Islands, France).

3. FORTIFIED KNOWLEDGE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Cultural and creative industries can ensure innovation and high-quality services. Fortified heritage being an integral part of European cohesion, has the potential to build bridges between tradition, innovation and education. Its repair, maintenance and development offer opportunities not only for a large range of local businesses and larger professional companies but also for non-professionals. Fortified heritage triggers a spill-over effect into other industrial sectors, such as tourism, retail, and digital technologies. With innovative initiatives, fortified heritage presents an opportunity for job creation and multi-cultural and social integration, becoming an extraordinary driver of sustainable social and economic development and a catalyst of creativity. Moreover, the restoration, cultural and catering sectors for instance are suited for the influx of professionals who can transfer experience to younger generations or specific social groups distanced from the labour market.

Fortification sites need to work towards concrete proposals for action in social development.

Example: Suomenlinna Fortress (Finland) uses social insertion projects in the restoration of its site.

The EU LIFE programme consists of funding for nature conservation projects, in particular in the areas of biodiversity, habitats and species. It provides action grants for best practices, pilot and demonstration projects that contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, exploiting the potential for utilisation of renewable energies, such as shallow geothermal energy for retrofitting historical buildings, the implementation and development of EU policy and law. It also promotes knowledge sharing and integrated approaches, such as climate change mitigation strategies and action plans at local, regional or national level.

Fortification sites reuse has an added value for environmental and renewable energy projects.

Example: Hertoogenbosch (Netherlands) funded the restoration of its water fortifications with LIFE+ support.



4. ENVIRONMENTAL EU PROJECTS

5. CULTURAL EU PROJECTS



The EU Creative Europe programme is the only programme focusing exclusively on cultural and creative activities and enterprises. It falls under the 'Cohesion and values' heading of the 2021-2027 EU budget. Under the proposed programme, the economic sector and its contribution to job creation and economic growth and culture's contribution to international relations, fostering cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue in a long-term perspective of a strengthening and implementation of a global community good governance and a peaceful society.

Europe's defence lines and shared fortification heritage are good examples of cross-border shared European heritage. Their present-day relevance can be underlined by shared art and cultural projects.

Example: Oost-Gelre (Netherlands) fortified Grolle city bi-annual reenactment event and link with Spanish-European heritage.

NEXT EFFORTS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS AND CONGRESSES, with congress subjects



2020: SIBENIK (HR) : External funding of fortification heritage (18/11 AGM, 19+20/11 Congress)



2021 : CORK COUNTY (IE) : Fortifications and the environment



2022 : KAUNAS with KAUNAS EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE 2022 (LT) : fortifications and communities



2023 : OOST GELRE (Groenlo, NL) : Fortification heritage, tourism and cultural routes



2024 GRAVE (NL) : (to be decided)

2020 EFFORTS EUROPEAN FORTRESS DAY : ~~April~~ → SEPTEMBER 2020 !

Due to the COVID-29 measures in force in Europe, the 3rd EUROPEAN FORTRESS DAY will be organised in **SEPTEMBER 2020**. More information will be available soon on www.europeanfortressday.eu and the EFFORTS website. Contact the EFFORTS secretariat if you want to participate !



<https://www.liniebreed.nl/nieuws/european-fortress-day>

www.europeanfortressday.eu

www.efforts-europe.eu

www.forten.nl

EFFORTSnapshot : Wim Debaene



is a landscape architect and urban planner. After working in this capacity at the Belgian multidisciplinary architectural design and urban development agency Stramien, Wim became project officer at the Flanders landscape organisation, *Regionale Landschappen* (Regional Landscapes), an EFFORTS member since 2019. The teams of 16 Regional Landscapes in Flanders (BE) promote nature, landscape, heritage, identity and recreation. They join forces with locals, farmers, nature organisations

and other partners, even EFFORTS. Together they deliver actions and projects for nature and landscape that inspire and bring people together. Its main partners are the Provinces, but Regionale Landschappen also works closely with municipalities and realise Flemish & European projects. Wim has a special interest in fortification heritage and initiated and involving EFFORTS in the set-up of a European project in this field, the Recapture the Fortress Cities EU Interreg project. This project seeks to consolidate in the Flemish cities around the Antwerp region in a best practices exercise of fortification re-use policy.



The 16 regional landscape organisations in Flanders.

RFC pagina <https://www.interregeurope.eu/rfc/>

RL (EN) <https://www.regionalelandschappen.be/regional-landscapes-flanders/7993>

EN promotional film https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OhkauV_2YVY
wim.debaene@rldv.be

NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

EFFORTS member **Oost Gelre** (NL) incorporating fortification heritage in today's spatial use and water management.



The Brussels European Landowners Organisation 2019

Enjoying every support from ELO at its Brussels office, EFFORTS is proud to be mentioned in the 2019 ELO annual report.



ACTIVITY REPORT 2019



8.7 EFFORTS

EFFORTS is a European network organisation established in 2017 to share knowledge and practical expertise on military heritage, such as walled towns, forts and defence lines.



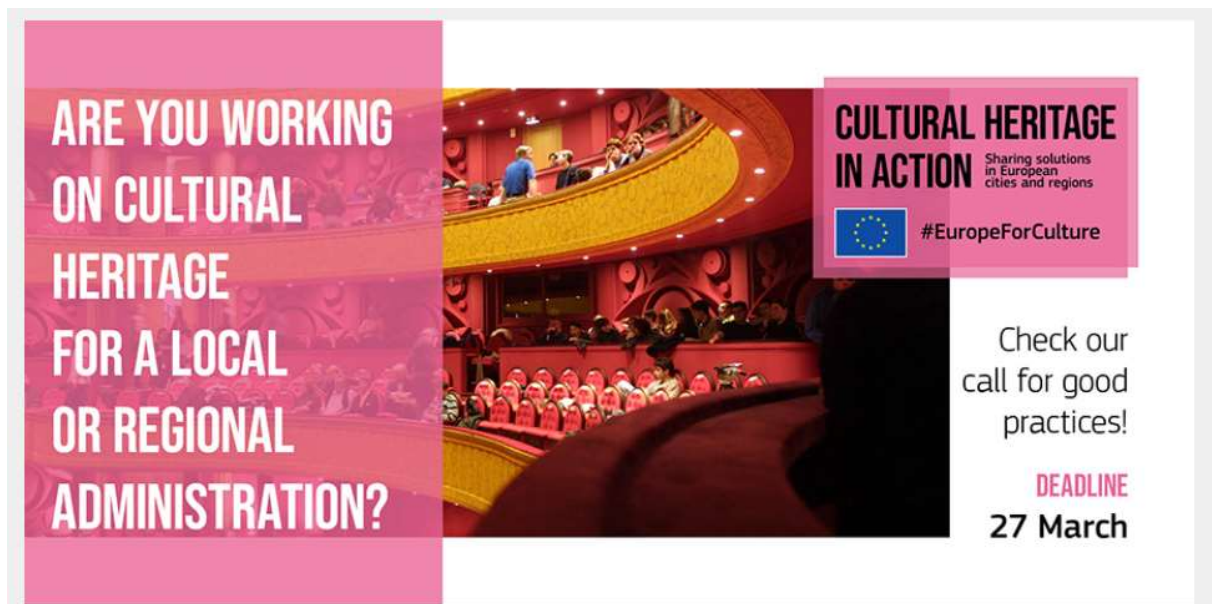
The basis for EFFORTS was laid during the final conference of the At Fort Interreg IVC project in Suomenlinna, Helsinki (Finland 2014) and international conferences on military heritage in 's-Hertogenbosch (Netherlands 2016), Berlin-Spandau Zitadelle (Germany 2017) and Forte Marghera (Italy 2018).

Today, EFFORTS unites more than 50 European fortified sites and its growing network. Since 2018, EFFORTS has been a European professional representation of fortified sites. It is a member of the Europa Nostra managed European Heritage Alliance 3.3. EFFORTS main mission is the structuring of Eu-

ropean cooperation and keeping military fortified heritage on the European policy agenda. EFFORTS believes that European cooperation is the key to achieving its goals. Any local or regional authority and any person actively engaged in the protection and re-use of military heritage at European, national, regional or local level is welcome to join the association. The aim of EFFORTS is to enhance structural European cooperation and coordination, to share expertise, to promote personal cooperation and to put fortified heritage on the agenda as a permanent link with our common European history. These elements were the subjects of its two workshops in 2019, trying to make a sustainable contribution to Europe's economic, energy, spatial development and social challenges. This will be published in the 2019 EFFORTS Statement of Antwerp, the result of its last annual congress. EFFORTS is also the organiser of the annual European Fortress Day.




**PARTICIPATE in the CULTURAL HERITAGE IN ACTION Creative Europe project
(DEADLINE 27 MARCH !)**



ARE YOU WORKING ON CULTURAL HERITAGE FOR A LOCAL OR REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION?

CULTURAL HERITAGE IN ACTION
Sharing solutions in European cities and regions

 #EuropeForCulture

Check our call for good practices!

DEADLINE
27 March

The European Commission has recently launched a new Creative Europe-funded project “Cultural Heritage In Action: Sharing Solutions In European Cities and Regions”. This project is an important element of the legacy of the EYCH2018.

WHAT IS CULTURAL HERITAGE IN ACTION?

Cultural Heritage in Action is an EU-wide peer-learning initiative for local and regional policymakers to exchange knowledge on cultural heritage. The aim of the European Commission with this programme is to empower EU cities and regions to strengthen their cultural heritage policies and initiatives and to develop innovative solutions to preserve cultural heritage assets.

The focus of this initiative is on participatory governance of cultural heritage, adaptive reuse of cultural heritage assets and the quality of cultural heritage-related interventions. The project is included among the actions of the Commission’s European Framework for Action on Cultural Heritage building on the momentum created by the 2018 European Year of Cultural Heritage.

The consortium led by EUROCITIES with its partners: KEA European Affairs, European Regions Research and Innovation Network (ERRIN), Europa Nostra and Architects’ Council of Europe is managing the programme between January 2020 and April 2021. The action is financed by the Creative Europe programme.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN?

Cultural Heritage in Action will produce a catalogue of 30 good practices from European Union’s cities, regions, non-urban and rural areas across the European Union and will organise 12 peer-learning visits bringing together 20+ participants per visit. It is estimated that more than 100 EU cities, regions and local stakeholders will get involved in the project!

HOW CAN YOU TAKE PART?

Cultural Heritage in Action is currently looking for 30 local practices that are innovative, inspiring for other cities and regions and have a real impact on the ground. A call is currently open until 27 March 2020:

http://www.culturalheritageinaction.eu/culture/Good_practices

https://ec.europa.eu/culture/news/european-commission-launches-cultural-heritage-in-action-programme_en

MOOC on Creating a Digital Cultural Heritage Community

Creating a Digital Cultural Heritage Community

Learn how to create a community for digital cultural heritage through innovative practices for user engagement.

KU LEUVEN



Learn how to create a community for digital cultural heritage through innovative practices for user engagement. Do you want to know what happens behind the scenes of museums, archives and libraries? Have you ever wondered what these organisations do to share their collections with audiences? Would you like to learn how to build a strong digital community for cultural heritage? The free 8-week MOOC is developed by the Fifties in Europe - Kaleidoscope and CultureMoves projects, co-financed by the Connecting Europe Facility of the European Union.

<https://www.edx.org/course/creating-a-digital-cultural-heritage-community>

SEND US YOUR NEWS

Members can send the secretariat info on calls and events that are of interest to all EFFORTS members, to be published here in the newsletter or, on request, by urgent mail by the secretariat to all or a group of members. This information may become the object of a separate Newsflash. Members of EFFORTS participating in events are kindly invited to share information and send the photos they gather to the secretariat for further dissemination in the EFFORTS Newsletters.

MEETING PLACE BRUSSELS

Are you planning coming to Brussels ? Need an ad-hoc workspace for a few hours or need to make a few copies ? We are happy to receive you @ the EFFORTS office in Brussels at Trierstraat 67 rue de Trèves, 1040 Brussels (around the corner from the European Parliament). You can make an appointment at rafael.deroo@efforts-europe.eu (EU liaison). Also: if you need help contacting an EU official, service or a Member of the European Parliament or you need info on finding your way around Brussels, contact the same mail address.

EFFORTS AGENDA

- The **next EFFORTS European Funding Professionals Network meeting**, only for the member's European officials, was organised in Sibenik, but has been ANNULLED. We will tackle the agenda 'fleshing out the concrete EU EFFORTS members post 2020 Interreg projects and possible Balkan membership action (with participation in a meeting of the FORTITUDE project, with our member Šibenik and Balkan partners)' with other means.



- The **April board meeting** has been ANNULLED due to COVID-29 measures. We will try to meet in Oudenaarde (Belgium) soon.
- **European Fortress Day** : due to COVID-29 measures, not in April, **but in September 2020** www.europeanfortressday.eu
- **2020 EFPN workshop** : on Wednesday 14 October at the EFFORTS Brussels office, part of the European Week of Regions and Cities, **12 to 15 October 2020**. The subject will be communicated.



- The **EFFORTS AGM and congress** will be organised in **Šibenik** on **19 and 20 November 2020** (with board meeting and AGM on 18 November and informal dinner on the evening of 17 November).

OTHER events and PARTNERSHIPS

- **EFFORTS** and **FORTECULTURA** : <https://www.forte-cultura.eu/en/>
- Save changes due to COVID-19, **EUROPA NOSTRA** organises its European Cultural Heritage Summit in Brussels, 20-23 June 2020. At this conference is planned the presentation of the **European Heritage Award**.
- is member of the **European Heritage Alliance 3.3** - check out the calendar : <http://europeanheritagealliance.eu/events/>

- EFFORTS is a partner of the **International Fortress Council (IFC)** : <http://www.internationalfortresscouncil.org/calendar.html>. Organisation of a joint meeting on EU FORT KNOW and Europeana is suspended until after COVID-19 measures. With IFC we will inform on the upcoming **Wellington Line conferences** in Belgium (Oostende) and the Netherlands. See the IFC website for confirmation of the events mentioned underneath, some co-organised with an EFFORTS member :

Jun 7 - 11	Rochefort, France	Annual Congress	Association Vauban
Jun 18 - 21	Paris/Lille, France	Study Tour	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Festungsforschung
Sep 4 - 7	Northern Ireland	Annual Conference	Fortress Study Group
Sep 10 - 13	Kufstein, Austria	Annual Meeting	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Festungsforschung
Sep 12 - 20	Kotor / Montenegro	Study Tour+Seminar	ECCOFORT
Sep 17 - 21	To Be Announced	Tour	Assn Saint-Maurice d' Etudes Militaires
Sep	To Be Announced	Member Day/AGM	Fortress Study Group
Oct 16	Luxembourg	Annual Meeting	International Fortress Council
Oct 18 - 25	Cartagena, Spain	Study Tour	Fortress Study Group
Nov 7	Birmingham, UK	Members Day	Fortress Study Group

- The international Mediterranean fortification conference FORTMED in Granada (ES) has been postponed to 1 October <https://fortmed2020.es/node/192>
- EFFORTS supports the **UN International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)**: <https://www.icomos.org/en/about-icomos/committees/regional-activities-europe/39374-upcoming-events-save-the-date>
- Due to COVID-19, the **ICOFORT** Marseille international conference will be postponed to the fall: <https://www.icofort.org/post/icofortmarseille>
- For more European news on cultural heritage : <https://heritagetribune.eu/>

NEXT EFFORTS NEWSLETTER nr. 14: MAY 2020. Send in your information by 1 MAY.

For more information and all other newsletters, see the EFFORTS website : www.efforts-europe.eu



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PRIVACY POLICY

EFFORTS collects, use and stores the personal data transmitted to us in accordance with legislation, and, in particular, Reg. 2016/679 of 27 April 2016 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and the free movement of such data (GDPR). If you have questions about or objections to the use of your data, please contact us by e-mail at:

EFFORTS contact secretariat at Trierstraat / rue de Trèves 67 in 1000 Brussels : info@efforts-europe.com / rafael.deroo@efforts-europe.eu
- T : +32.(0)477.623.792

