



Europe's largest fortified sites association

PRESENTATION OF THE NETWORK ACTION



#weareefforts



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tooDfpr21xU>

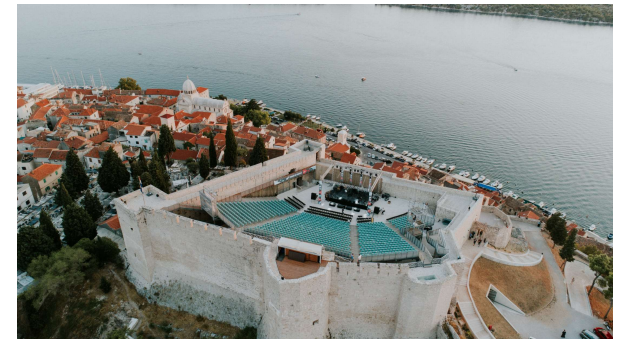
EFFORTS Europe presentation

- I. EFFORTS vision, mission, priorities and objectives of the association
- II. EFFORTS members network
- III. Members opportunities
- IV. Members commitments
- V. European projects and actions



EFFORTS – why fortified heritage ?

- Its historical importance in **shaping European history**;
- Its **architectural assets** and engineering courage;
- Strengthen **intercultural and international dialogue**;
- Restructuring due to the socio-economic impact of departure military.
- During the 1990s: the principle of **sustainability** In 2005 : Faro convention
- In 2014 : EU Council of Ministers Conclusions on Cultural Heritage as a Strategic Resource for a Sustainable Europe “Towards an **Integrated Approach** to Cultural Heritage for Europe”.
- In 2015 : “Getting Cultural Heritage to Work for Europe” agenda for cultural **heritage-related research and innovation** up to 2020.



→ This heritage should be recognizable as a European asset. By joining forces and intensifying cooperation, sites, cities and regions can make a difference.

1a. EFFORTS Vision

“Europe is faced with complex **environmental, social, economic, mobility, spatial and inclusivity challenges** on which the EU has formulated policy goals.

Military heritage is an integral part of **Europe’s cultural heritage and identity**. Wars and fortifications have had a profound impact on Europe’s history.

Preservation and **innovative re-use** of this shared heritage is important because

- ▶ fortified sites present **opportunities for finding answers for local or regional development needs, and for strengthening intercultural European or international dialogue between countries, regions, cities and people, and for establishing a European memory based on EU’s historical values.**
- ▶ its unique architecture and engineering aspects

The Efforts motto is: from stronghold to welcoming arms.“ (dd.10/2024)



Ib. EFFORTS Mission

“EFFORTS is a European association building the **network of local and regional members** and fortification site owners, using their fortified heritage assets to share innovative heritage reuse knowledge

For this, EFFORTS and its members **work together towards network or European projects solving regional or local environmental, social, economic, mobility, spatial and inclusive policy needs and to contribute to the EU’s policy goals i.e. climate change adaptation and regional or local development, or urban regeneration priorities**, like the New European Bauhaus.

In order to achieve this, EFFORTS cities and regions promote exchange of information, sharing expertise, and **long-term cooperation** within the objective of establishing European fortified heritage reuse projects on all policy levels with other EFFORTS members, and by constantly enlarging and reinforcing the network.” (dd. 10/2024)



Ic. EFFORTS Priorities

- ▶ Creating a **European network** of cities, fortification organizations and stakeholders
- ▶ Organizing access to sustainable **fundinG**
- ▶ Creating **joint action** opportunities for members
- ▶ Dissemination of **knowledge**, internal and external
- ▶ **Policy** influencing



IId. EFFORTS Priorities into Objectives

In order to increase its capacity in European projects networking and European position taking, EFFORTS had the following objectives.

- ▶ working with its members on the search for solutions for the **needs of its members on a local or regional level.**
- ▶ **creating and supporting a growing network of cities and regions:** in order to increase European capacities and capacities in the Members States, fortified sites need to find each other in a network
- ▶ **deepening its interest group role** in the EFFORTS Funding Professionals Network.
- ▶ working with each member towards a growing community of site owners / members committed to the principles of the organisation
- ▶ co-initiating and supporting with the members **opportunity-driven action**



IIa. EFFORTS Members Network



IIb. EFFORTS Member Network : 150 / 23

- Oudenaarde BE
- City of Antwerpen (i.e. Fort Merksem, Fort 8) BE
- Citadel Antwerpen BE
- Schans Landmolen, Kruibeke BE
- Stafort BE
- Stabroek, BE
- Province West-Vlaanderen BE (Atlantikwall Europe)
- Regionale Landschappen BE
- Zoutleeuw BE
- Menen, BE
- Diest, BE
- Dendermonde, BE
- Mons, BE
- Philippeville, BE
- Herentals, BE
- City of Namur BE
- Simon Stevinstichting VVC BE
- Garderhojfortet Gentofte - Copenhagen, DA
- Suomenlinna Governing Body UNESCO FIN
- Hamina FIN
- La Rochelle FR
- Association Espaces fortifiés H-d-France FR
- Cork County IE
- Fondazione Forte Marghera IT
- ISAM IT
- Forte di Bard IT
- Citadella Alessandria IT
- Centro Studi Medfort IT
- Valle Alpino and Galla Placidia line IT
- Terezin Masto CZ
- Jaromer CZ
- Fortress of Culture Sibenik HR
- Karlovac HR
- Fort Monostor HU
- Kaunas Fortress Regional Park LT
- Daugavpils LA

- Paola Heritage Foundation MA
- Herceg Novi MNE
- Ingolstadt DE
- Erfurt DE
- European Cooperation Center DE
- Polytechnic University of Lviv UA
- City of Ivano-Frankivsk UA
- Pidhirsti castle town UA
- 's-Hertogenbosch NL
- IJsselstein NL
- Breda NL
- Bergen op Zoom NL
- Hellevoetsluis /Op-Voorne NL
- Grave, NL
- Heusden NL
- Oost Gelre NL
- Culemborg NL
- Maastricht NL
- City of Venlo NL
- Kasteel ten Bergh, NL
- Stichting Monumentenbezit - Vesting Naarden NL
- Stichting Menno van Coehoorn NL
- Stichting Liniebreed Ondernemen NL
- Vauban Grands Sites UNESCO Association FR (12)
- Zuiderwaterlinie cities (all 12 cities full members, NL)
- Vereniging Nederlandse Vestingsteden (15 full member cities, NL)
- Associated with Forte Cultura (all 50 members as associate, # EU member states)
- Associated members from Ukraine in 'EFFORTS:Ukraine' (8)

+International Fortress Council (13 members, INT), Fortress Study Group, Palmerston Forts (UK), Coastal Defense Study Group (USA)
 +War Heritage Institute, Belgium Battlefield of Europe BE
 +EFFORTS Knowledge Center Forte Marghera and ICOFORT (ICOMOS)
 40 Individual Memberships across Europe (IT, PO, GR, ES, CH, UK, UA, BE, NL, ...)
 Memorandum of cooperation with Liberation Route Europe



EFFORTS:UA
 European Federation of Fortified Sites: Ukraine



IIc. EFFORTS Membership

- ▶ **Full members** : local or regional public authorities or of their regional organisations (with each public authority -city or region- member being a full paying EFFORTS member in its own right) or private fortified site owners. Only full members can be member of the EFFORTS governing organs
- ▶ **Associate members**: any EU or EU candidate country individual, business, private association or any other organisation interested in EFFORTS
- Partners: cooperation organisations, partners with an international / European sp work and with whom EFFORTS works on an equal footing of cooperation



EFFORTS Organisation

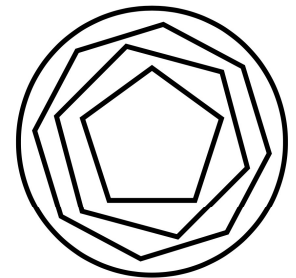
- ▶ EFFORTS **Members** : all members meet once per year in the AGM, and have opportunity to join in Members events (Congress Members Space, others)
- ▶ EFFORTS **Board**: max. 12 members, representatives of owners, cities or regions, of and from which are elected one president and two vice-presidents.
- ▶ EFFORTS **Executive Committee**: 1 president, 2 vice-presidents
- ▶ Support by the **Secretariat**: support and proposals

>>>>> The EFFORTS network is supported the **EFFORTS Fortification Heritage Knowledge Center** and the **EFFORTS European Funding Professionals Network**



III. Members Opportunities

- ▶ Working with representatives from sites and institutions, EFFORTS supports its members in :
 - establishing and giving **access to a permanent European network** of fortified heritage sites
 - **studies** on fortified heritage knowledges applications
 - **supporting members in the development of their fortification heritage**
 - understanding and promoting the **regeneration and redevelopment of fortified sites and their surrounding urban and rural landscape**
 - helping to set up **practical partnerships** between scientific experts, policy makers, enterprises and practitioners in order to allocate means for innovative development of sites
 - providing a **European exchange** of information and research and expertise on innovative (re)use of fortified heritage
 - recognizing **the tangible and intangible values and environmental, social and economic significance of fortified heritage**
 - promoting **accessibility for citizens and meaningful sustainable and green reuse of fortified heritage**
 - **highlighting and raising the profile of fortified heritage sites**

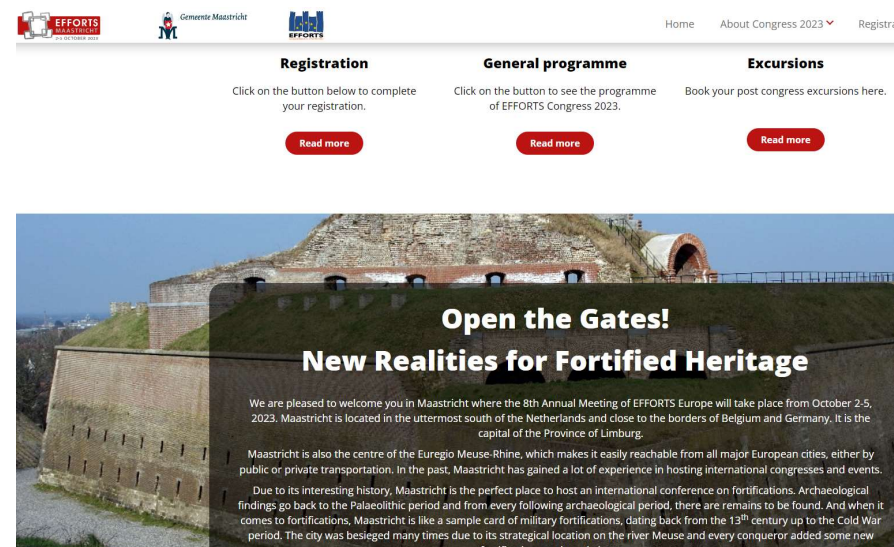


**EFFORTS
AWARD**



III. Network actions

- ▶ Annual congress
- ▶ Members Meeting Space (@ congress)
- ▶ European projects set-up meetings
- ▶ Workshops, capacity building
- ▶ EFFORTS Summer Academy
- ▶ Local, regional and European events



IV. Members Commitments

EFFORTS members ownership through EFFORTS commitment, visibility and success sharing.

Members have all opportunities to commit to work loyally towards the organisation's objectives.
Members therefore:

- ▶ **Full cooperation** within and with EFFORTS on intra-Member State, cross-border or European level.
- ▶ **Membership action** : bring in (new) EFFORTS members in European projects and promote EFFORTS in national and European projects that are relevant for the EFFORTS objectives.
- ▶ **Visibility of EFFORTS** : make the EFFORTS project origin or the EFFORTS participation in projects visible on all levels of their communication and this in a non-restrictive manner
- ▶ **Visibility of EFFORTS membership** : represent EFFORTS and its interests and visuals when participating in other projects or in all communications on EFFORTS matters



Fortress connections, clusters, routes, projects

Join the **Forts / Unchained** project

Stories of forts, camps and persecution

EFFORTS Europe, together with Liberation Route Europe Foundation and the City of Bergen op Zoom (NL), on the occasion of the remembrance of the liberation of the city in October 1944, presents the call for a 2022 EU Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values



Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values programme



Via Hispania

3 - Forte



Beschrijving:

In de regio Anwerpen, van Oost-Vlaanderen tot in de Kempen, liggen een 50-tal

en een karakter. Het zijn groene ruimtes waar we kunnen wandelen, fietsen, sporten,

Ingediend door:

- Raf Deroo, Forteneerdrals Antwerpen, Coördinator ism



WELLINGTON BARRIER



eten op je



Footer



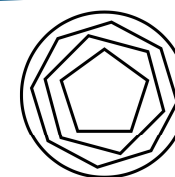
Va. European projects

- ▶ **EFFORTS Goes Green (2019)**
- ▶ **Recapture the Fortress Cities (2019)**
- ▶ **Forts/Unchained (2020)**
- ▶ **Partner of Kaunas 2022 Cultural Capital of Europe (2022)**
- ▶ **Fortitude (2022)**
- ▶ **Reviving the Fortresses Regions (Forthero) (2023)**
- ▶ **Fortic (2024)**
- ▶ **Resilient Fortress (2024)**
- ▶ **Interlinie (2024)**



Vb. EFFORTS Actions

- ▶ EFFORTS European Network of Funding Professionals (EFPN) (2018)
- ▶ EFFORTS European Fortress Day / Summer (2018)
- ▶ EFFORTS Fortification Heritage Knowledge Center (2019)
- ▶ EFFORTS Award (2019)
- ▶ Via Hispania (2020)
- ▶ Fortengordels Association (2020)
- ▶ Fortification Heritage Impact Study (2021)
- ▶ Liberation Route Europe partner (2022)
- ▶ Platform of Flemish Fortified Cities (2023)
- ▶ Wellington Barrier Cities Cooperation (2023)
- ▶ 'EFFORTS:Ukraine' Association (2024)
- ▶ Vauban UNESCO Association European network (2025)
- ▶ Platform of Finnish Fortified Sites (2025)
- ▶ Baltic Route (with Forte Cultura, 2025)



**EFFORTS
AWARD**



Contacts



- ▶ <https://www.efforts-europe.eu>
 - ▶ *Facebook* : Efforts
 - ▶ *Instagram* : efforts_europe
 - ▶ *LinkedIn* : EFFORTS – European Federation of Fortified Sites
 - ▶ *Address* : rue de Trèves / Trierstraat 67, 1000 Brussels
- info@efforts-europe.eu