



# H@V

## Heritage Values Network



## Project Summary

The project aims to examine the ways in which a conceptual and methodological framework for identifying, assessing and measuring the values that individuals or groups of people attribute to heritage can be developed and shared among heritage organisations and researchers across Europe. It will do this through fostering a European research network that will bring together academics, heritage practitioners /and policy makers in three transnational networking workshops. The networking workshops will invite participants from South-Eastern, Mediterranean, Scandinavian, Central and Eastern Europe thus covering a range of geographical regions that share common cultural encounters. The transnational approach to the proposed project and the nature of the workshops will advance our knowledge on heritage values and the ways in which they are measured. This is mainly because current academic knowledge relies on research conducted predominantly by American, Australian and UK researchers and heritage practitioners or European inter-governmental networks which are not publishing work read in academic contexts. The influence of cultural contexts on understanding and assessing heritage values has not thus been explored. One of the ultimate goals of the research network is to bring together collaborators who will devel-

op European research proposals under the Horizon 2020 framework after the completion of the proposed project.

## Application and impact

The project initiates a European, cross-disciplinary dialogue between heritage practitioners, researchers and policy makers on 'heritage values' through the conduct of three networking workshops in Eindhoven, Oslo and Barcelona respectively. The term 'heritage values' refers to the meanings and values that individuals or groups of people assign to heritage (including collections, sites, etc). The meetings will bring together academics, policy makers and heritage practitioners to discuss through interactive and innovative sessions:

- How are heritage values understood by policy makers, heritage professionals and heritage theorists across Europe?
- How can heritage values be assessed, measured and prioritized by policy makers and heritage practitioners in Europe?
- How can the public be involved in the assessment process of heritage values?

There is great ambiguity regarding the term 'heritage values' and how this is conceptualized in different disciplines, practices and countries.



Heritage Values Network discussion forum  
at Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage in Oslo



Heritage Values Network seminar in Barcelona University

In addition, there is limited research on methodological tools that can be used for assessing the diverse range of values that different individuals or groups of people assign to a wide array of heritage sites. Current methods focus mostly on measuring the economic benefits of heritage. More importantly, our limited current knowledge is based on research conducted predominantly in Anglophonic countries. The proposed project argues that a transnational approach to this subject will unpack the influence of cultural contexts on understanding and assessing heritage values. This process will facilitate the development of a conceptual and methodological framework on heritage values that can be shared by heritage organizations in Europe

## Coordinator

University College of London – UK

## Participants

- Leiden University - NETHERLANDS
- Eindhoven University of Technology - NETHERLANDS
- Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage - NORWAY
- Universitat de Barcelona

## Dates

1 November 2013 – 30 April 2015

## Budget

Total project budget: € 174,726

Funding awarded: € 131,817

## Subject Area(s)

Heritage values, methods of assessment, transnational and interdisciplinary research

## Project website

<http://heritagevalues.net>