



European Day of Conservation-Restoration

14th October 2018

Thank you!

Dear members of E.C.C.O.,

We on the E.C.C.O. committee are incredibly proud of the powerful commitment and involvement that was demonstrated by you, our members, to this first 'European Day of Conservation-Restoration' last Sunday, 14th October 2018 !

In many countries, this same day, Conservator-Restorers opened their doors and gave precious, behind the scenes access, to our profession. Various formats; presentations, workshops, visits of studios, ateliers, labs, universities or sites, conferences and even consulting hours were offered to the public to raise awareness of the key role conservation-restoration plays in the safeguarding of our material Cultural Heritage.

Incredible numbers of events, in Germany alone 300 events attracted around 24.000 visitors, Conservator-Restorers were in the newspapers and gave interviews in the radio as in Spain more than 45 interviews for the press and an approach of more than 210.000 people in Twitter in one week. Our members from Portugal, Spain and Italy signed together a "Manifesto for the Profession of Conservator-Restorers".

This day also raised awareness at a political level: the E.C.C.O. Community got together all over Europe on the same date! We, the E.C.C.O. Community, presented not only our work, we also presented the Community of Conservator-Restorers in Europe. And they were impressed!

During Social Media Week, many institutions and politicians followed the #EUDayConservationRestoration and the #ECCOCommunity covering different themes such as #ConservationRestorationGoodExamples or #ThisIsNotConservationRestoration. In turn, some Twitter Followers from the E.C.C.O. Community may have learned a lot via #EUCulturalHeritageAwareness, #EUCulturalHeritageAccess, #EUCulturalHeritageSustainability. Please feel free to use these hashtags in the coming months for your tweets in announcing conferences, meetings, fieldtrips or project examples. We will see the impact of this Social Media Week soon and prepare a short movie of the Tweets and Posts for all those without these Medias.

The EU Parliament sent a video message:

"Only if we invest into mobility and exchange, our cultural landscape in Europe can really grow closer together." (...) "Though the care of our Cultural Heritage has to comply with pan-European and high professional standards, I specifically welcome the effort of the European Confederation of Conservator-Restorers' Organisations, to achieve homogenous quality standards for the education and work of conservator-restorers, as well as for the professional exchange." Petra Kammerevert, Chair of the Committee for Culture and education.

Siège social: rue Coudenberg 70, BE-1000 Bruxelles, Belgique, Entreprise N° 0447.118.530

In the Council of Europe's "European Cultural Heritage Strategy for the 21st century", this "European Day of Conservation-Restoration" will be used as a good example in the "Promote heritage skills and professionals" section of the Strategy.

The EU Commission's policy officer in the Directorate General Culture and Education, Erminia Sciacchitano wrote: "*Day by day conservator-restorers look after our precious cultural heritage. Elegantly, and often out of the spotlight, they ensure these values will be transmitted to the future generations. This day is an opportunity to thank them for their knowledge, skills, scientific approach, passion and ethical dedication.*"

We hope to be as present, prepared and focused for the next "European Day of Conservation-Restoration" which is already scheduled for the Autumn of 2019 and we look forward to your ongoing participation in this event. And also that the whole E.C.C.O. Community stay in this close exchange as it was shown and lived with professionalism, dedication and joy!

Meanwhile we will need your help and feedback in order to evaluate the impact of this first 'Day' and aggregate the information into some statistics. (Politicians, especially in the EU love numbers!). We will prepare a brief survey and kindly ask that you respond in this final effort to build on the achievements of this day.

But now, please be proud of your professional Community and celebrate this huge success! Each single Conservator-Restorer presenting her / his work on Sunday contributed critically and relevantly to the success of this European Day of Conservation-Restoration – from Portugal to Greece and from Norway to Malta!

Thank you, you tremendous bunch of wonderful Conservator-Restorers!

On behalf of the E.C.C.O. Committee,

Susan Corr, President of E.C.C.O.

Anja Romanowski, Secretary General of E.C.C.O.

Ana Galán Pérez, Vice Secretary of E.C.C.O.

Link to the "Manifesto for the profession of Conservator-Restorers": http://www.ecco-eu.org/news/news-detail/?tx_news_pi1%5Bnews%5D=76&tx_news_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=News&tx_news_pi1%5Baction%5D=detail&cHash=6575cc78e88f4e68eca4b862064f2f74

Link to the video greetings from the EU Parliament (in German language):

https://vimeo.com/294835900?fbclid=IwAR1VTeih5-ib4qO8TCc0_uU5TcsdgAJOE_fjasOGRfEPa_H2QhURLVomLU

E.C.C.O.s Statement for the Celebration of the European Day of Conservation-Restoration of Cultural Heritage: http://www.ecco-eu.org/news/news-detail/?tx_news_pi1%5Bnews%5D=75&tx_news_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=News&tx_news_pi1%5Baction%5D=detail&cHash=bf9d32e6b90e621a3e504d0de616dc3e

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