

HERITAGE CARE THROUGH ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP
European Conference on Civil Society Organisations
active in the Field of Heritage

Mechelen, Belgium

March 23-24, 2009

www.heritageorganisations.eu

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

It gives us great pleasure to invite you to participate in the forthcoming **'Heritage Care through Active Citizenship'** conference, which will take place in **Mechelen (Belgium)** on **23-24 March 2009**.

This **European Conference on Civil Society Organisations in the Field of Heritage** will address the issues of active citizenship, civil society and volunteer organisations (NGOs) within the European heritage sector. The conference will provide a platform for European organisations active in all fields of heritage – both tangible and intangible – to share relevant experiences, good practices and success stories.

The conference will involve 180 European participants representing the diversity of the European civil society for heritage. The delegates will be predominantly be representatives of European heritage NGOs, and prominent European heritage experts. Chief executives from national heritage authorities and representatives of international organisations will also contribute significantly to the content of the conference.

Themes include:

- support for voluntary heritage initiatives
- quality management in heritage NGOs
- visibility of heritage organisations
- creation of (international) heritage networks
- the value of cultural heritage for society
- intercultural dialogue

Conference programme

A provisional schedule and an overview of the workshops and confirmed speakers are available at the conference website www.heritageorganisations.eu
More detailed information and abstracts will be added soon.

Registration

You will find a registration form below (or you can download the form as a MS Word document at the conference website). Please return the completed form to the conference organisers.

If you register before 31 December 2008, you will qualify for the early-bird rate of 25 euro. After this date, the rate will increase to 50 euro. Please note that only 180 participants will be accepted to the conference, so please register as soon as possible. Registration will close on 28 February 2009.

The organisation of the conference will cover the cost of hotel accommodation in Mechelen. Participants should not make any arrangements for their own accommodation. You will receive more information after you have registered.

Travelling to Mechelen

Participants are expected to make their own arrangements for travelling to Mechelen. The organisation committee will not cover any travel costs.

Mechelen is located exactly midway between Antwerp and Brussels and can be easily reached by car (E19), train (IC/IR railway station) and airplane (Brussels National Airport and Antwerp-Deurne are both only 20 minutes away by car).

Conference venue

In 2005 a brand new Congress and Heritage Centre was developed from the remnants of the old Lamot brewery in Mechelen. The Congress Centre houses 9 conference halls, has the capacity to accommodate 700 people and is completely equipped with the latest technologies. The Heritage Centre tells the story of Mechelen, the region and its inhabitants.

Lamot is situated in the centre of Mechelen, along the Dijle, at walking distance from numerous tourist attractions.

Read more: www.lamot-mechelen.be/en/

The inspiration for this conference originates from an existing cooperation network of three Belgian heritage NGOs:

- Federation of Associations of Local History in Flanders
- VCM Contact Forum for Heritage Associations
- FARO. Flemish Interface for cultural heritage

International partners:

- Alliance for Regional Cooperation and Development (Bulgaria)
- Association Cultures et Traditions (France)
- Center for Citizenship Education (Poland)
- CIOFF - Conseil International des Organisations de Festivals de Folklore et d'Arts Traditionnels
- ECOVAST - European Council for the Village and Small Town
- Europa Nostra
- Dag Myklebust (Directorate for Cultural Heritage, Norway)
- Bénédicte Selfslagh (Secretary-general, ICOMOS)

We gratefully acknowledge the support of:

- European Commission – 'Europe for Citizens' programme
- Flemish authorities



Conference organisers

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Please contact the project coordinator for all your questions:
Mr. Tijn Vereenooghe: - tijn.vereenoooghe@heemkunde-vlaanderen.be

The conference organisation committee looks forward to welcoming you to Mechelen!



REGISTRATION FORM

Personal information

Title: Mr Ms

First name:

Surname:

Organisation:

Position:

Address:

City:

Country:

Telephone:

E-mail:

I understand English French

I want to present my own organisation / project at the info market: yes no

Registration Fee

Early registrations (until December 31st, 2008): 25 euro

Late registrations (after January 1st, 2009): 50 euro

Please ask your bank to make the transfer at no cost for the recipient:

Account Name: Heemkunde Vlaanderen vzw

Bank name and address: Dexia Bank NV, Grotebaan 192, B-9310 Herdersem (Belgium)

Account Number: 068-2218590-33

SWIFT: GKCCBEBB

IBAN: BE79-0682-2185-9033

Return this registration form:

- by email: conference@heritageorganisations.eu
- by fax: +32 15 20 54 23
- by post: Heritage Care through Active Citizenship,
Zoutwerf 5, B-2800 Mechelen, Belgium

Your registration will be valid after receipt of this form and the registration fee. No refunds can be given for cancellations. The organisation committee looks forward to seeing you at the conference!