

# XI European Mountain Convention



Carpathian Biosphere Reserve, Transcarpathia, Ukraine  
Photo: Vian / Wikimedia Commons

## Towards a better valorization of cultural heritage in the Carpathian mountain range

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26/09/2018 , Vatra Dornei, Romania





# The Carpathians – a harbour of extraordinary natural and cultural heritage





Photo: Abel Molnar



International Festival of Mountain Folklore, Zakopane



Photo: Piotr Kohut



Photo: Marek & Ewa Wojciechowsky



# The Carpathian Cultural diversity under threat

Changing  
social and  
economic  
conditions

Depopulation  
of rural areas

Globalization  
of culture



**Loss of traditional knowledge  
and lifestyle**



# The Carpathian Convention - the first international agreement directly related to the cultural heritage of the Carpathians



Photo: Piotr Kohut



Photo: Nikolay Khoroshkov / Wikimedia Commons



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# The Carpathian Convention

- A framework Convention for cooperation and multi-sectoral policy coordination
- Adopted on 22nd May 2003
- Entered in force on 4th January 2006
- Ratified by all the seven Carpathian countries
- A platform for joint strategies for sustainable development
- A forum for dialogue between all stakeholders involved



Goal: Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathian Region

# Art. 11 of the Carpathian Convention on cultural heritage and traditional knowledge

**Article 11 of the Carpathian Convention** the Parties shall :

- pursue policies aiming at preservation and promotion of the cultural heritage and of traditional knowledge of the local people, crafting and marketing of local goods, arts and handicrafts
- aim at preserving the traditional architecture, land-use patterns, local breeds of domestic animals and cultivated plant varieties, and sustainable use of wild plants in the Carpathians

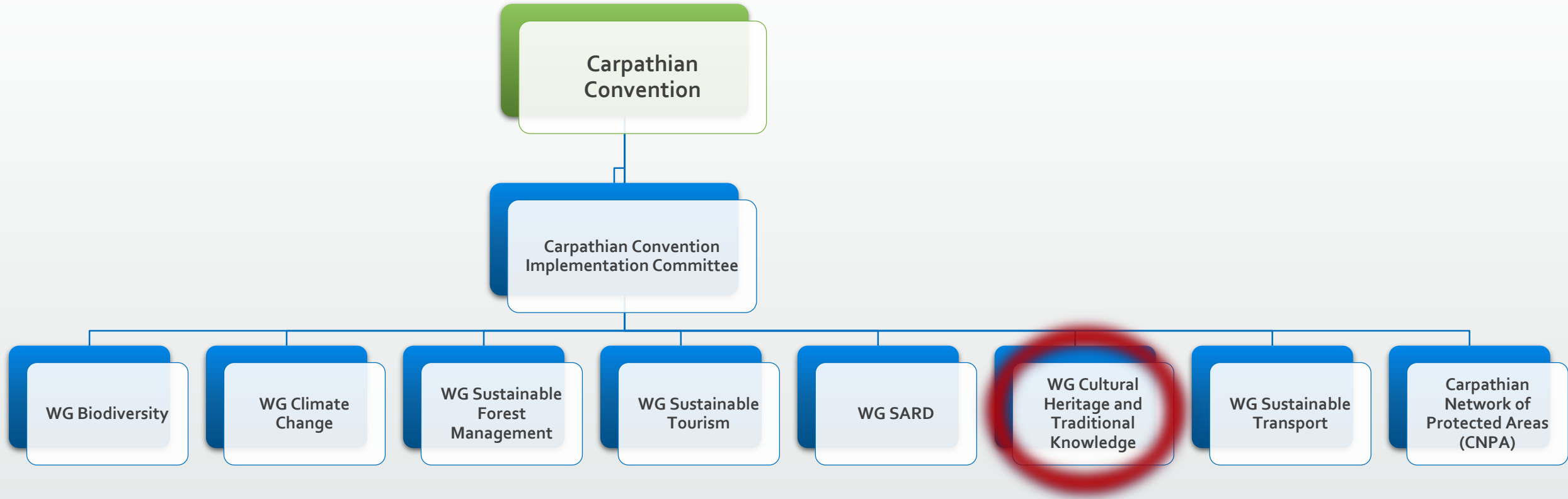
# Political commitment

- COP2 (Bucharest, Bucharest) decided to develop and establish a **Carpathian Heritage Inventory**, as a tool for the identification, protection and promotion of Carpathian Heritage
- COP4 (Mikulov, 2014) adopted the **Ministerial Declaration on Cultural Heritage in the Carpathians** supporting develop the draft Protocol on Cultural Heritage and a proposal for a corresponding Strategic Action Plan, in consultation with relevant institutions and local stakeholders
- COP5 (Lillafured, 2017) asked the Working Group on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge to **identify priorities for the implementation** of Article 11 of the Carpathian Convention





# Institutional Structure



- Protocol on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity *in place*
- Protocol on Sustainable Tourism *in place*
- Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management *in place*
- Protocol on Sustainable Transport *in place*
- Protocol on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development *in place*
- Protocol on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge *in progress*



# Working Group on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge – 5 meetings (Szentendre Skanzen, Hungary, April 2018 – the last WG meeting)



2018   
EUROPEAN YEAR  
OF CULTURAL  
HERITAGE  
#EuropeForCulture



# Protocol on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge

**Objective :** to support implementation of Article 11 of the Convention

## **Process:**

- First **draft Protocol on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge** elaborated in 2012-2014, and discussed at several meetings of the **Working Group on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge**, involving experts and official representatives of the Ministries responsible for policies of respective Parties concerning the cultural heritage
- Second draft of the Protocol ongoing consultation with the Parties



# Protocol on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge

## Structure :

- ❖ Objectives, geographic scope and definitions
- ❖ General obligations
  - Policies aiming at preservation and promotion of the cultural heritage and traditional knowledge of the Carpathians
  - Participation of regional and local authorities, and other stakeholders
  - Common programmes and projects
  - International cooperation

### **Protocol on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians**

The Parties to this Protocol

IN ACCORDANCE with their tasks, arising from the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians (Kyiv, 2003), hereinafter referred to as the “Carpathian Convention”, of pursuing a comprehensive policy and cooperating for the protection and sustainable development of the Carpathians;

IN COMPLIANCE with their obligations under Article 11 of the Carpathian Convention;

APPRECIATING the uniqueness, richness and diversity of the cultural heritage, which evolved throughout the centuries in the Carpathian region, under the influence of specific environmental conditions, in interdependence with the natural heritage, and in result of interactions and cultural exchanges between various ethnic groups;

CONVINCED that the richness and diversity of local cultures are part of the unique values of the Carpathian region, distinguishing it from other regions of Europe and the World;

NOTING that the cultural heritage of the Carpathian region, in particular its intangible manifestations, is increasingly threatened, also by social transformations and changing economic conditions, the ongoing depopulation of rural areas particularly concerning mountain areas, and globalization of culture, which can lead to its deterioration, abandonment and disappearance;

CONSIDERING the need to raise awareness of the values and importance of safeguarding the cultural heritage of the Carpathian region;

COMMITTED to preserving and promoting cultural diversity, and fostering dialogue and cooperation in the Carpathian region;

REAFFIRMING their obligations under other Protocols to the Carpathian Convention: on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity, on Sustainable Forest Management, on Sustainable Tourism, and on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development, being in favour of the preservation and promotion of the cultural heritage of the Carpathians;

NOTING that all Parties to this Protocol are Parties to the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (Paris, 1972), the Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada, 1985), the Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio de Janeiro, 1992), the European Landscape Convention (Florence, 2000), and the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (Paris, 2003);



# Protocol on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge

## Structure :

### ❖ Specific measures :

- identification and documentation of the cultural heritage (Article 9)
- inventory of the cultural heritage of the Carpathians (Article 10)
- preservation of the traditional architecture (Article 11)
- preservation of cultural landscapes (Article 12)
- preservation of the traditional land-use patterns (Article 13)
- preservation of local breeds of domestic animals and cultivated plant varieties (Article 14)
- sustainable traditional use of wild plants (Article 15)
- promotion of the cultural heritage (Article 16)
- promotion of the traditional local products, arts and handicrafts (Article 17)
- awareness raising, education and transmission of the cultural heritage and traditional knowledge (Article 18)
- research and exchange of information and experiences, capacity building (Article 19 and 20)



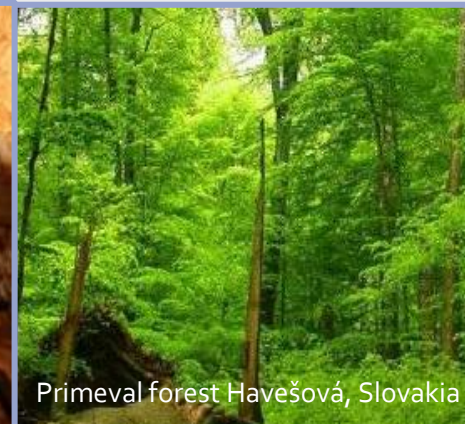
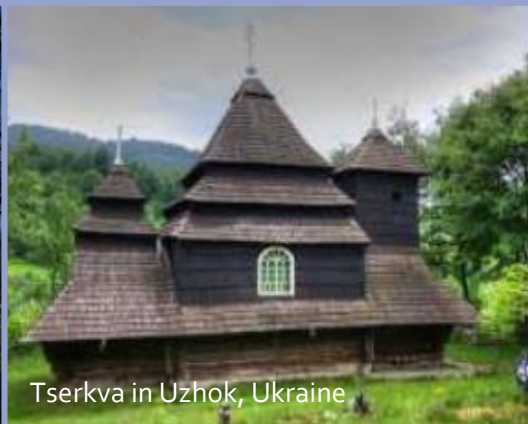
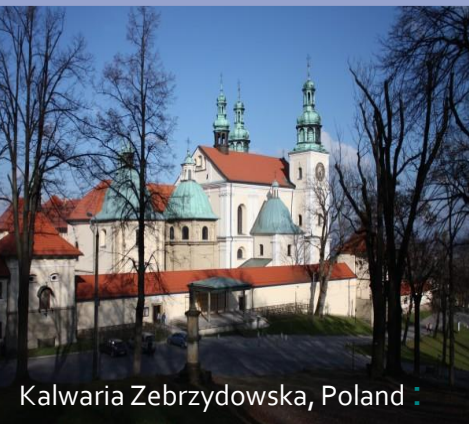


# Need for projects!

- For establishing the **Carpathian Cultural Heritage Inventory**
- For capacity building and awareness raising
- For development of **cultural tourism**, in particular by supporting the development of **thematic cultural routes and trails**
- For promotion of the **World Heritage Sites of the Carpathians**

# World Heritage Sites in the Carpathians

- 19 Carpathian properties on the World Heritage List in all 7 Carpathian countries (including 87 sites/objects)
- A majority of these sites are cultural, 2 are natural sites
- There is a high number of transboundary properties, compared to other regions
- And much more deserving international recognition and protection !







Thank you for  
your attention!

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