

Press Release

International experts of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe to meet in Görlitz

Görlitz, 02.07.2018

This year, the 8th Annual Advisory Forum of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe is to take place in Görlitz, which is located directly at the Via Regia. Around 250 international representatives of the Cultural Routes will meet here from 26 to 28 September 2018. The town of Görlitz in Saxony is hosting the Advisory Forum together with the Council of Europe, the Free State of Saxony and the Federal Foreign Office.

“We are delighted to host such a prestigious conference. It is a great incentive for us – apart from hosting a perfectly organised conference – to present the town of Görlitz and its outstanding architectural and cultural wealth in the best possible way,” said Lord Mayor Siegfried Deinege. “With more than 100,000 cultural monuments, Saxony is rich in cultural heritage,” stated Roland Wöllner, Minister of State at the Saxon State Ministry of the Interior. “Numerous testimonies to our history can be found on the Via Regia, the longest connecting road in Europe and one that also passes through our beautiful Saxony.”

The Advisory Forum is the most important annual event held by the members of the Cultural Routes. Besides exchanging information, trends and challenges related to the Cultural Routes are the principle topics of the conference. This year’s forum will focus on the development of strategies and synergies between the European Cultural Routes and other international organisations to support the maintenance as well as promotion of cultural heritage in the current European Year of Cultural Heritage. “The Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe invite us to go on a journey through space and time, and highlight Europe’s common values and cultural heritage,” said Michelle Müntefering, Minister of State at the Federal Foreign Office. “They are of great importance for cross-border cultural cooperation and the development of sustainable cultural tourism and support intercultural dialogue and awareness of the diversity of European culture.”

Composed by grass-roots associations, bringing together several stakeholders coming from local and regional authorities, the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe encourage European citizens’ sense of ownership and pride towards the cultural heritage of their local communities and regions, as well as of European heritage as a whole, contributing significantly to ensuring the right to access culture and participation in cultural life.

The conference will take place at the Cultural Forum Görlitz Synagogue. Highlights of the accompanying cultural programme will be presented at the Dom Kultury in the Polish sister city of Zgorzelec and at the Gerhart-Hauptmann-Theater in Görlitz.

Contact:
Europastadt GörlitzZgorzelec GmbH, Anja Schließ, Tel.: +49 (0) 3581 – 47 57 43, a.schliess@europastadt-goerlitz.de
www.goerlitz.de, www.facebook.com/StadtGoerlitz

Background:

The Cultural Routes programme was established in 1987 by the Council of Europe and currently comprises more than 30 routes in the 47 States of the Council of Europe and beyond. Nineteen of these routes lead through Germany. Görlitz, the host of this year's Advisory Forum, is located directly by the Via Regia. The aim of the Cultural Routes is to bring people and places together in networks of common history and common heritage, to invite them to travel and to discover Europe's rich and diverse heritage.

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/cultural-routes/all-cultural-routes>

Organisational Contact City of Görlitz: Europastadt GörlitzZgorzelec GmbH, Andrea Friederike Behr, a.behr@europastadt-goerlitz.de

PICTURES:

Synagogue, Photo: Rainer Weisflog;

Church of St. Peter and Paul, River Neisse, Photo: Rainer Weisflog