

The Regional Centre Sofia - UNESCO is one of the eight category 2 centres exclusively dedicated to intangible cultural heritage and is the only one in Europe

ALGERIA: Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Africa

BULGARIA: Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in South-Eastern Europe (RCSICH)

CHINA: International Training Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (CRIHAP)

IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF): Regional Research Centre for Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage in West and Central Asia

JAPAN: International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI)

PERU: Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Latin America (CRESPIAL)

REPUBLIC OF KOREA: International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (ICHCAP)

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: International Centre for Capacity Building in Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Arab States

MAIN DATES

2009

Recognized as category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO

2010

Signed Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria

2012

Official inauguration

2017

Renewed Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria

2023

Renewed Agreement between UNESCO and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria and signed Memorandum of Understanding

There are hundreds of ICH elements inscribed by the Member States in the UNESCO's Lists and Register, among which multinational nominations as:

Cultural practices associated to the 1st of March inscribed by Bulgaria, Republic of North Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, and Romania

Mediterranean diet inscribed by Cyprus, Croatia, Spain, Greece, Italy, Morocco, and Portugal

Art of dry-stone walling, knowledge and techniques inscribed by Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland

Transhumance, the seasonal droving of livestock inscribed by Albania, Andorra, Austria, Croatia, France, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Romania, Spain



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Centre
Under the auspices
of UNESCO



Regional Centre for the
Safeguarding of Intangible
Cultural Heritage in
South-Eastern Europe under
the auspices of UNESCO

SAFEGUARDING AND PROMOTING INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE



The Regional Centre Sofia - UNESCO

inaugurated in 2012, is dedicated to the safeguarding and promoting intangible cultural heritage (ICH), with the following main objectives:

- ◆ **to promote the 2003 Convention** for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage and contribute to its implementation
- **to strengthen the participation of communities, groups and individuals** in the safeguarding of ICH
- ◆ **to enhance the capacity of the Member States** for the safeguarding of ICH
- **to foster** regional and international **cooperation** for the safeguarding of ICH

The Intangible Cultural Heritage is manifested in the following domains:

- ◆ **oral traditions and expressions**, including language as a vehicle of the intangible cultural heritage
- **performing arts**
- ◆ **social practices, rituals and festive events**
- **knowledge and practices** concerning nature and the universe
- ◆ **knowledge and skills** associated with traditional arts and crafts

THE SOFIA REGIONAL CENTRE HAS 17 MEMBER STATES

- Republic of Azerbaijan
- Republic of Albania
- Republic of Armenia
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Republic of Bulgaria
- Republic of Croatia
- Republic of Cyprus
- Georgia
- Republic of Greece
- Republic of Moldova
- Montenegro
- Romania
- Republic of North Macedonia
- Republic of Serbia
- Republic of Slovenia
- Republic of Türkiye
- Ukraine



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