

25 September 2007
Synopsis No 2007/36

To the Members of the Committee on Culture, Science and Education

Synopsis

of the meeting held in Belgrade on 21-22 September 2007

The Sub-Committee on the Cultural Heritage (of the Committee on Culture, Science and Education) meeting in Belgrade on 21-22 September 2007 with Baroness Hooper in the chair:

- participated in the events marking the 2007 European Heritage Days, including a round table on regional cooperation, organised in the context of the Serbian chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe;
- held an exchange of views with a delegation from Europa Nostra led by its Vice President, Count Denis de Kergorlay, and discussed in particular the situation of cultural heritage in Kosovo;
- received a delegation of law students from Belgrade University, introduced by Ambassador Prica (Permanent Representative of Serbia), and discussed their project for a European Convention on Traditional Craft Skills;
- visited the Roman archaeological site of Viminacium, endangered by local farming, open-cast mining and a thermo-electric power plant, but now adopted as an integrated rehabilitation project within the joint Council of Europe / European Commission Regional Programme in South East Europe;
- heard a situation report from the General Rapporteur, Mr O'Hara, including the threats to cultural heritage from the construction of dams in Turkey (Allianoi and Hasankeyf), outstanding problems in Romania (Rosia Montana and St Joseph Cathedral Bucharest) and the recent collapse of his attempts to carry out a study visit on cultural heritage in the South Caucasus;
- took note of the programme of the Conference on Heritage Conventions to be organised jointly with DG IV and the Government of Lithuania in Vilnius on 11-13 October;
- confirmed its next meeting in Vilnius on 11-13 October 2007.

Christopher Grayson

cc: Secretary General and secretariat of the Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations to the Assembly
Secretaries of Political Groups of the Assembly
Directors General
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Director of Communication and Research
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe