

CZECH REPUBLIC

I.01. Introduction

Year of adherence to the Convention: 1990

(Within the Czechoslovak Federative Republic, reconfirmed in 1993 after establishment of the Czech Republic)

Organisation(s) or institution(s) responsible for preparation of report

- National Institute for the Protection and Conservation of Monuments and Sites
- Ministry of Culture

I.02. Identification of Cultural and Natural Properties

Status of national inventories

- Inventories, established at national, regional and local levels, have been used as a basis for selecting World Heritage sites

I.03. The Tentative List

- Original Tentative List was submitted in 1991
- Revisions submitted in 1993, 1996, 1997 and 2001
- It is the responsibility of the central government, prepared with the assistance of experts, following proposals from local authorities

I.04. Nomination of Cultural and Natural Properties for the World Heritage List

Nominations

- Nominations are the responsibility of the central government, prepared in collaboration with consultants/experts in the case of cultural World Heritage
- Motivations for nomination: honour/prestige, increased funding, lobbying/political pressure, working in partnership
- Difficulties during nomination: inadequate staffing and popular opposition for fear of increased tourism in the case of natural sites
- *Karlštejn Castle* submitted in 1991 – deferred in 1992; *Monastery Church of Our Lady in Kladruky* submitted in 1993 – rejected in 1994; *Rock Cities of the Bohemian Paradise* submitted in 2002 – withdrawn; *Trebon Fishpond Farming Heritage* submitted in 2003 - was examined at the 29th Session of the World Heritage Committee; *Renaissance Houses in Slavonice* considered in 2003 - was examined at the 30th of the World Heritage Committee

Inscriptions

- 12 cultural sites: *Historic Centre of Český Krumlov* (1992); *Historic Centre of Prague* (1992); *Historic Centre of Telč* (1992); *Pilgrimage Church of St John of Nepomuk at Zelená Hora* (1994); *Kutná Hora: Historical Town Centre with the Church of St Barbara and the Cathedral of Our Lady at Sedlec* (1995); *Lednice-Valtice Cultural Landscape* (1996); *Gardens and Castle at Kroměříž* (1998); *Holašovice Historical Village Reservation* (1998); *Litomyšl Castle* (1999); *Holy Trinity Column in Olomouc* (2000); *Tugendhat Villa in Brno* (2001); *Jewish Quarter and St Procopius' Basilica in Třebíč* (2003)

Benefits of inscription

- Honour/prestige increased funding, working in partnership, lobbying/political pressure, conservation of site and development of the local economy.

I.05. General Policy and Legislation for the Protection, Conservation and Presentation of the Cultural and Natural Heritage

Specific legislations

- Act on the State Care of Monuments, defining utilization, presentation and care of cultural heritage by central, regional, municipal and site specific offices, Act on the Protection of Nature and Landscape, providing general and specific protection to natural properties
- Management plans are required for national heritage
- There is specific planning legislation to protect cultural World Heritage, and a strategy for long-term development regarding legislation, expertise, and organisational and financial background for national heritage is in place
- A new law on monument care is currently being developed.

Other Conventions

Hague Convention (1954), Hague Protocol (1954), UNESCO Convention (1970), Granada Convention (1985), Malta Convention (1992). Florence Convention (2000), Ramsar Convention (1971), CITES (1973), Bonn Convention or CMS (1979), Bern Convention (1971), Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)

Provisions have been integrated into national legislation

I.06. Status of Services for Protection, Conservation and Presentation

Organisations, local communities participating in protection and conservation

- Ministries of Culture, of Environment, of Regional Development, Nature and Landscape Protection

Application of the World Heritage Convention by the States Parties

Agency, Administration of Protected Landscape Areas, regional/local authorities, managing bodies of national parks

- Heritage conservation is institutionally integrated
- The private sector, local communities and NGOs are also involved

I.07. Scientific, Technical Studies and Research

- Publications on art and art history, encyclopaedic additions on groups of heritage, methodological guidelines for site conservation and enhancement, Program of Research and Scientific Evaluation of Cultural Value of Localities, Identification, Protection, Conservation and Presentation of Heritage Properties, with diverse projects, including monitoring and restoration, impacting World Heritage

I.08. Financial Resources

National resources and international financial assistance, fund raising

- Funding of World Heritage sites: national and local/regional authority budget allowances, fundraising, NGOs, private sector, international assistance
- The State Party has helped to establish associations to allocate funds for the protection of culture and cultural heritage
- No additional contributions to the World Heritage Fund have been made

I.09. Training

Professional and Institutional training

- Training needs for the protection of World Heritage have been identified
- Heritage training has been received
- Domestic educational institutions and provisions are considered important

I.10. International Co-operation

- Cooperation to protect World Heritage on the territory of other State Parties: bi-lateral and multi-lateral agreements, hosting and/or attending international training courses/seminars, expert assistance for museums in Afghanistan and Iraq, exhibitions and exchange of information, particularly with the Slovak Republic
- World Heritage Towns and municipalities with heritage properties are members of various organisations some associated with similar establishments in Europe

I.11. Information, Awareness Building and Education

Information and awareness raising on local, regional national or international level

- Promotion of World Heritage is carried out at international, national, regional and local levels through publications, films, postcards, media campaigns, internet, postage stamps/medals and exhibitions
- General awareness is adequate
- Education of World Heritage protection: primary and secondary school curricula, art schools, graduate and postgraduate programs on cultural heritage, inclusion in UNESCO school network

I.12. Conclusions and Recommended Action

Conclusion and proposed actions

- Strength: cultural heritage protection in existing legislation is adequate
- Weaknesses: the new law on monument care should make particular provisions for cultural World Heritage; principle of multi source funding should be further developed and adequate funds for preservation should be ensured; civic participation, international exchange of information, and education, particularly awareness raising in the field of cultural heritage protection should be enhanced

Proposed actions:

- Analysis by Advisory Bodies of the comprehensiveness of the Tentative and World Heritage Lists
- Prevention of excessive impact of tourism on natural heritage
- Improve protection of cultural heritage and increase municipal involvement
- Expert training in World Heritage protection
- Develop educational plan for primary and secondary schools for cultural heritage preservation, and enhancement of public awareness of the World Heritage Convention
- Activities may not require assistance from the World Heritage Fund