



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



Intangible
Cultural
Heritage

NGO Review of Accreditation

ICH-08 Report – Form

REPORT BY A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION ACCREDITED TO ACT IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY TO THE COMMITTEE ON ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

**DEADLINE 15 FEBRUARY 2021
FOR EXAMINATION IN 2021**

File may be downloaded at:
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Please provide only the information requested below. Annexes or other additional materials cannot be accepted.

A. Identification of the organization

A.1. Name of the organization submitting this report

A.1.a. Provide the full official name of the organization in its original language, as it appears on the official documents.

Европейска асоциация на фолклорните фестивали - ЕАФФ

A.1.b. Name of the organization in English and/or French.

European Association of Folklore Festivals - EAFF

A.1.c. Accreditation number of the organization (as indicated in all previous correspondence: NGO-90XXX)

NGO-90338

A.2. Address of the organization

Provide the complete postal address of the organization, as well as additional contact information such as its telephone number, email address, website, etc. This should be the postal address where the organization carries out its business, regardless of where it may be legally domiciled. In the case of internationally active organizations, please provide the address of the headquarters.

Organization: European Association of Folklore Festivals - EAFF

Address: 47 Nikola Gabrovski str., Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria 5002

Telephone number: +35962621541

Email address: office@eaff.eu

Website: www.eaff.eu

Other relevant information: Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EAFForg>
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/EaffOrg>
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/eaff.eu/>

A.3. Contact person for correspondence

Provide the complete name, address and other contact information of the person responsible for correspondence concerning this report.

Title (Ms/Mr, etc.): Mr.

Family name: Nikolov

Given name: Kaloyan

Institution/position: President

Address: Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria 5002

Telephone number: +359887354425

Email address: kaloyanik(at)gmail.com

Other relevant information:

B. Contribution of the organization to the implementation of the Convention at the national level (Chapter III of the Convention)¹

Distinguish between completed activities and ongoing activities. If you have not contributed, this should be indicated. Also describe any obstacles or difficulties that your organization may have encountered in such participation.

B.1. Describe your organization's participation in State efforts to develop and implement measures to strengthen institutional capacities for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage (ICH) (Article 13 and Operational Directive (OD) 154), e.g. in the drafting of ICH-related policies or legislation, in the establishment of national ICH committees or in other government-led processes.

Not to exceed 250 words

European Association of Folklore Festivals - EAFF is an international /umbrella/ organization operating in more than forty countries. It was founded in 2007 and unites federations, associations, institutions and individuals active in the field of folklore, research, education, travel and culture. All are involved in the protection and promotion of traditional arts and festivities. EAFF operates mainly at European level and maintains close relations with partners in Africa (eg Morocco, Egypt,...), Latin America (eg Brazil, Mexico,...), Asia (eg India,

¹. In case your organization operates in several States, please indicate clearly which State or States are concerned by your answers when filling in parts B, C and E.

Iran, Indonesia, South Korea, China, Uzbekistan, Mongolia...). However, on the one hand, the Association supports and encourages its members to support the efforts of their countries in preserving the ICH, as well as the assimilation of its values by a wide range of communities, groups and individuals, and in particular young people.

On the other hand, the EAFF is involved, through its individual representatives, in the efforts of countries in drafting policies or legislation related to ICH. For example, in Bulgaria this is the case with the active participation of the head of the EAFF expert council - Prof. Mila Santova in an expert group appointed by the Minister of Culture, currently developing the complete documentation on national policies for safeguarding of ICH, as well as an inventory of the Bulgarian National list of the ICH.

The Association has registered 522 festival members and 386 individual and collective members. Last but not least, the Association encourages its members to be actively involved in the preparation of application files for inclusion in the national and world lists of elements of the ICH in cooperation with the national authorities.

B.2. *Describe your organization's cooperation with competent governmental bodies for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage (Article 13), including existing institutions for training on and the documentation of ICH (OD 154).*

Not to exceed 250 words

Individual and institutional members of the EAFF work with government authorities to safeguard the intangible cultural heritage in their own countries and are encouraged to do so by the EAFF. EAFF and the Institute of Mathematics and Informatics at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences organize an annual conference Cultural Historical Heritage: Preservation, Presentation, Digitization. EAFF and the St. Petersburg State Institute of Culture organize a scientific conference "Living Cultural Heritage".

In a systematic way the implementation of the cooperation can be presented as follows:

- with the Ministries of Culture (eg in Bulgaria the Chairman of the EAFF Expert Council is a member of the National Council for Intangible Cultural Heritage under the Minister of Culture, and over the years he has also been its Chairman)

- with the Regional Center for Intangible Cultural Heritage in Southeast Europe, cat. 2 under the auspices of UNESCO (EAFF President is a member of the Executive board and the General Assembly of the Center 2)

- with the scientific institutions working on the issues of ICH in the respective countries, respectively through common programs, training of experts (through the possibilities of PhD training), preparation and implementation of scientific forums, seminars and other forms of specialized dialogue.

Favourable situation provides the fact that EAFF has and maintains direct contact with the bearers, through events organized by the Association and other forms of communication, which is a direct opportunity to share the values proclaimed by the 2003 Convention and supports the actions of governments in this attitude.

B.3. *Describe your organization's involvement in or contribution to the drafting of the State's Periodic Report (OD 152).*

Not to exceed 250 words

Not applicable. The European Association of Folklore Festivals - EAFF is an international organization and does not participate directly in the periodic reports of the States parties. However, some of its activities and the participation of its members are taken into account in the preparation of national reports.

B.4. *Describe your organization's participation in the preparation of nominations to the Urgent Safeguarding List or Representative List, requests for International Assistance or proposals of Good Safeguarding Practices.*

Not to exceed 250 words

The European Association of Folklore Festivals - EAFF, as an organization, has not participated in the preparation of nominations in the Representative List, Urgent Safeguarding List and has not prepared a request for International assistance. Individual EAFF members are

involved in the preparation of documents for inclusion in the Representative List. For example, Bulgaria, which has a total of 4 national and 1 international inscriptions of elements in the Representative List, as well as 2 inscriptions in the Register of Good Safeguarding Practices or a total of 7 inscriptions, 3 of the inscriptions were made with files prepared by the Head of the International Council of ICH experts of the Association.

B.5. Describe your organization's participation in the identification, definition (Article 11.b) and inventorying of ICH (Article 12, OD 80 and OD 153). Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

Members of the European Association of Folklore Festivals – EAFF have participated in the identification, definition and inventorying of ICH see B.1., B.4., E.3.

B.6. Describe your organization's participation in other safeguarding measures, including those referred to in Article 13 and OD 153, aimed at:

- a. promoting the function of ICH in society;
- b. fostering scientific, technical and artistic studies with a view to effective safeguarding;
- c. facilitating, to the extent possible, access to information relating to ICH while respecting customary practices governing access to specific aspects of it.

Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals when participating in such measures.

Not to exceed 250 words

The main activity of the European Association of Folklore Festivals - EAFF is aimed at promoting traditional performing arts, customs, rituals and celebrations and organizing events. For this purpose, the Association is in constant contact with communities, groups, individuals and their representatives. Contacts are made in which the information flows on several levels, the most important of which are:

- from the bearers - the knowledge about the richness of forms of ICH in the member countries of the Association is enriched
- from the Association - an information fund is formed and accumulated by documenting and providing for use to a wide range of users (carriers, researchers, representatives of government agencies, etc.).

The organized annually from the members of the Association of over 500 folklore festivals, conferences and seminars contributes to the good visibility of the elements of ICH. By motivating the study, practice and presentation of the elements to a large audience, EAFF helps to carry out the transmission to future generations, which is the basis for the preservation of ICH. The use of social networks for direct access, as well as television and streaming video platforms favors the involvement of the younger generation. Through the news section of the electronic platform of EAFF, organization contributes to timely informing and inclusion in the events, as well as awareness of the achieved results. EAFF publishes a magazine, a weekly bulletin, an online platform "Online stage", a platform for holding online competitions with public voting and voting by the jury. EAFF's information internet channels enjoy over 1 million visitors annually.

B.7. Describe your organization's involvement in measures to ensure greater recognition of, respect for and enhancement of ICH, in particular those referred to in Article 14, ODs 105 to 109 and OD 155:

- a. educational, awareness-raising and information programmes aimed at the general public, in particular young people;
- b. educational and training programmes within the communities and groups concerned;
- c. capacity-building activities for the safeguarding of ICH;
- d. non-formal means of transmitting knowledge;
- e. education for the protection of natural spaces and places of memory whose existence is necessary for expressing ICH.

Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals when participating in such measures.

Not to exceed 250 words

The structure of EAFF is oriented towards the promotion and holding of folklore festivals with international participation. EAFF tolerates the organization of special meetings within the festival programs in order for participants to get acquainted, to share and study different elements of national cultures. In this way it supports the understanding and tolerance between different cultures not only during the stage performances in front of an audience, but also between the participants in the respective festival.

On average, more than 150,000 participants, holders of intangible cultural heritage, perform on the stages of the folklore festivals organized by the EAFF members every year. In the process of preparation for participation in various festivals by organized groups for recreation of traditional songs, dances and customs, there are many cases when forgotten and not practiced customs, celebrations or traditional songs and dances are revived for a new life. This line of thought supports the research activities of the local population and research institutes related to the identification, implementation of transmission activities such as training, documentation of their skills and knowledge and promotion of ICH.

On the web-based platform of EAFF is built a specialized section UNESCO, connection with E-knowledge centre, Live streams Archives - archives of live broadcasting of festival programs, streaming platform, TV channel. EAFF encourages video recording of the current state of the elements of the ICH. In cooperation with television channels, over 7,000 hours of festival performances, ethnographic films have been broadcasted and archived, and over 2,000 weekly folklore television programs have been produced and broadcasted.

C. Bilateral, sub-regional, regional and international cooperation

Report on any activities carried out by your organization at the bilateral, subregional, regional or international levels for the implementation of the Convention, including initiatives such as the exchange of information and experience, and other joint initiatives, as referred to in Article 19 and OD 156. You may, for example, consider the following issues:

- a. sharing information and documentation concerning shared ICH (OD 87);
- b. participating in regional cooperation activities including, for example, those of category 2 centres for ICH established under the auspices of UNESCO (OD 88);
- c. developing networks of NGOs, communities, experts, centres of expertise and research institutes at subregional and regional levels to develop joint and interdisciplinary approaches concerning shared ICH (OD 86).

Not to exceed 250 words

European Association of Folklore Festivals - EAFF is a NGO member in the General Assembly of the Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in South-Eastern Europe under the auspices of UNESCO – centre category 2. The President of EAFF –

Mr. Kaloyan Nikolov is a member of Executive board of the Centre.

European Association of Folklore Festivals - EAFF was one of the organizations included in the National workshop "Preparing nominations" which was held from 12 to 14 June 2019. The event was organized by the Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in South-Eastern Europe under the auspices of UNESCO in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture of Republic of Bulgaria.

President of the European Association of Folklore Festivals - EAFF, Mr Kaloyan Nikolov has shared his experience and knowledge in the Webinar: Life, Environment, and ICH along the Silk Roads & Strategic Meeting on Silk Roads ICH Networking organised by ICHCAP - Intangible Cultural Heritage Centre for Asia-Pacific.

EAFF is an organizer and co-organizer of several science conferences in the field of ICH see. B.2.

D. Participation in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

D.1 *Has your organization participated in the Committee meetings or those of the General Assembly? If so, please indicate which meetings you attended and describe the nature of your contribution to the Committee's work.*

Not to exceed 250 words

European Association of Folklore Festivals - EAFF was represented in 12 COM - 2017 in Jeju Island, Republic of Korea by Mr. Kaloyan Nikolov, Ms. Ttsaral Baatar, Ms. Tatyana Georgieva, 13 COM – 2018 in Republic of Mauritius by Mr. Kaloyan Nikolov, 14 COM – 2019 in Bogota, Colombia by Mr. Kaloyan Nikolov, Mr. Delyan Nikolov, 15 COM – 2020 online hosted by Jamaica, 7 GA – 2018 in Paris by Mr. Kaloyan Nikolov, 8 GA – 2020 – online, Paris.

The President of the European Association of Folklore Festivals - EAFF Mr. Kaloyan Nikolov is a member of Steering Committee of ICHNGO FORUM representing electoral group II – Eastern Europe for 2018 and cycle 2019-2021.

Mr. Kaloyan Nikolov is a member of Working group "Information and technology communication" and Working group "More balanced geographical representation of NGOs" at the ICHNGO Forum.

D.2 *Has your organization served as a member of the Evaluation Body (OD 26 to 31), or as a member of the Consultative Body (between 2012 and 2014)? If so, please indicate the period.*

Not to exceed 100 words

Association EAFF is serving as a member of the Evaluation Body in cycle 2020-2023 presented by prof. Mila Santova.

D.3 *In what way(s) has your organization provided advisory services to the Committee (OD 96) or in what way(s) do you foresee that it might provide such services in the future?*

Not to exceed 500 words

The European Association of Folklore Festivals – EAFF has established an International Council of ICH experts of EAFF, which seeks to promote the exchange of information and mutual assistance of experts in the field and to support the exchange of good practices in the field of search, preservation, documentation and presentation of intangible cultural heritage. The EAFF hopes that through the joint efforts of the Convention Secretariat and a possible NGO Capacity Building Program, it will support the efforts of responsible state institutions not only to describe and identify elements of the intangible cultural heritage in the national list and the list of intangible cultural heritage of humanity, but also in the efforts of the Secretariat of the Convention to assist States parties administrations and legislators in harmonizing legislation and taking supportive measures to help safeguarding the intangible cultural heritage.

E. Capacities of your organization to evaluate nominations, proposals and requests (as described in OD 27 and OD 96):

- E.1.** *Nominations, proposals and requests are available for evaluation only in English or French. Do members of your organization or your staff have a very good command of English or French? If so, please indicate which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.*

Not to exceed 250 words

Due to the specifics of the activities of the European Association of Folklore Festivals - EAFF, the team of the association speaks fluent English. As EAFF is an international organization it is used to work in a multilingual environment. The official EAFF working languages are English, Russian and Bulgarian. There are also members of the association who speak French. The members of EAFF that have a very good command of English or French and have knowledge for understand and can be involved in preparation of nominations, proposals and requests in context of 2003 Convention are more than 1.

- E.2.** *Does your organization have experience in working across several ICH domains? Please describe your experiences.*

Not to exceed 250 words

Focusing mainly on the performing cultural forms, EAFF has capacities in all areas of the ICH, described in Art. 2 of the 2003 Convention.

- E.3.** *Describe the experience of your organization in evaluating and analysing documents such as proposals or applications.*

Not to exceed 250 words

As Chairman of the International Council of ICH Experts of EAFF Prof. Mila Santova is a member of the National Council of ICH under the Minister of Culture of Bulgaria. She is the leader of the team of experts who prepared the ICH inventory in Bulgaria; Author of the decree of the Council of Ministers for filling in the national inventory; She was chairman of the National Expert Council on ICH, as well as a long-time director of such research organizations as the Institute of Folklore and the Institute of Ethnology and Folklore with the National Ethnographic Museum at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. Mila Santova is the main initiator and author of the Bulgarian national policies for protection of ICH, and is currently working on their inventorying.

- E.4.** *Does your organization have experience in drafting synthetic texts in English or French? Please describe your experience and indicate in which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.*

Not to exceed 250 words

The team and experts of ICH of the European Association of Folklore Festivals – EAFF have experience in drafting synthetic texts in English and French.

- E.5.** *Does your organization have experience in working at the international level or the capacity to apply local experience to an international context? Please describe such experience.*

Not to exceed 250 words

European Association of Folklore Festivals - EAFF works on an international level. One of the main objectives is to promote and foster exchange of experiences and good practices among festival participants and wide public. European Association of Folklore Festivals – EAFF helps its members to organize international festivals and events during which bearers of ICH can present their knowledge, safeguarding initiatives in order to share them with others.

European Association of Folklore Festivals - EAFF promotes international cooperation and issues information on promoting and safeguarding traditional arts.

Members of the European Association of Folklore Festivals - EAFF regularly participates in seminars and conferences around the world, on the one hand to share their own expertise in promoting and safeguarding intangible cultural heritage, at the other hand to learn from the experience of others.

F. Cooperation with UNESCO

Report on activities carried out by your organization in cooperation with UNESCO (both direct cooperation with UNESCO as well as activities carried out under the auspices of UNESCO or for which you have received the authorization to use the emblem of UNESCO/of the 2003 Convention, or financial support, such as funding from the Participation Program).

Not to exceed 250 words

V World Championship of Folklore "World Folk 2013" was held under the auspices of the National Commission of the Republic of Bulgaria for UNESCO. VI World Championship of Folklore "World Folk 2014" was held under the auspices of the National Commission of the Republic of Bulgaria for UNESCO. VII World Championship of Folklore "World Folk 2015" was held under the auspices of the National Commission of the Republic of Bulgaria for UNESCO. VIII World Championship of Folklore "World Folk 2016" was held under the auspices of the National Commission of the Republic of Bulgaria for UNESCO. IX World Championship of Folklore "World Folk 2017" was held under the auspices of the National Commission of the Republic of Bulgaria for UNESCO. Sixth International Scientific Conference "Digital Presentation and Preservation of Cultural and Scientific Heritage" was held under the patronage of UNESCO. X World Championship of Folklore "World Folk 2018" was held under the auspices of the National Commission of the Republic of Bulgaria for UNESCO. International Scientific and Practical Conference "Choreographic Folklore - History and Present" was held under the auspices of the National Commission of the Republic of Georgia for UNESCO. XI World Championship of Folklore "World Folk 2019" was held under the auspices of the National Commission of the Republic of Bulgaria for UNESCO. Asian Championship of Folklore - Asia Folk 2019 was held under the auspices of the National Commission of the Republic of Mongolia for UNESCO.

G. Membership in the ICH NGO Forum

Indicate below whether your organization wishes to (continue to) be part of the ICH NGO Forum. Please note that membership is contingent upon the decision of the Committee to maintain the accreditation of your organization.

For more information on the ICH NGO Forum and its activities, please see: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/ngo-forums-00422>.

Yes

No

H. Signature

The report must include the name and signature of the person empowered to sign it on behalf of the organization.

Name: Kaloyan Nikolov

Title: President of EAFF

Date: 10.02.2021

Signature: