

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

### 7 MOST ENDANGERED PROGRAMME 2026

*Europe's cultural and natural heritage is a vast, multi-faceted mosaic which reflects who we were, defines who we are, and inspires who we aspire to be. We have a shared responsibility for the future of this priceless yet fragile inheritance.*

#### ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

The 7 Most Endangered Programme is run by [Europa Nostra](#) – the leading European heritage civil society network – which is supported by the [European Investment Bank \(EIB\) Institute](#), as a founding partner, and also by the [Creative Europe](#) Programme of the European Union.

Since its launch in 2013, the [7 Most Endangered Programme](#) has become a key civil society initiative dedicated to saving Europe's heritage at risk. It acts as a catalyst for mobilising expertise, halting unsuitable or unsustainable development, and/or ensuring necessary public and private support, including funding. Each selected site is eligible for an EIB Heritage Grant of €10,000 to assist in implementing an agreed activity that will contribute to the site's preservation.

Discover [here](#) the 70 threatened monuments and heritage sites from 33 countries across Europe that have been selected since 2013.

#### ABOUT THE 2026 EDITION

Climate change is one of the most pressing threats to Europe's and the world's cultural and natural heritage. For this reason, the 2026 edition of the 7 Most Endangered Programme especially welcomes nominations of heritage sites at risk due to current or anticipated climate-related hazards. These may include both slow onset events, such as sea level rise or shifting seasonal patterns, and rapid onset events, like wildfires or extreme flooding.

In recognition of the major crises affecting our continent, including armed conflicts, post-conflict situations, and natural hazards, we also strongly encourage applications from individuals and organisations based in impacted areas.

At a time when Europe is called to reaffirm its core values – human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law, citizen participation and other fundamental rights – we welcome nominations of heritage sites that have suffered as a result of violations of these principles. This may include, for instance:

- o cases where the rule of law has been undermined;
- o the neglect, damage or destruction of heritage linked to minority communities;
- o the loss of tangible and intangible heritage due to forced migration, poverty, or marginalisation.

We continue to welcome nominations of all other types of endangered heritage, including neglected sites and those lacking the financial resources required to ensure their preservation.

### **WHO CAN SUBMIT NOMINATIONS?**

- Public or private organisations active in the heritage field, registered in a country that is a [member of the Council of Europe](#); or
- Individual members of such organisations, provided they are permanent residents in a Council of Europe member country.

Each valid nomination must include at least 2 letters of support (in English) from public or private heritage organisations, including at least one from a Europa Nostra Member or Associate Organisation (see the [full list](#)).

### **WHAT TYPE OF ENDANGERED HERITAGE CAN BE NOMINATED?**

- o Historic buildings and their ensembles (including surrounding townscapes/landscapes)
- o Civil buildings of community value
- o Historic public spaces (e.g. city or village centres, squares)
- o Places of worship
- o Archaeological sites (including their surrounding landscapes)
- o Industrial buildings and areas
- o Places of remembrance (« Lieux de mémoire »)
- o Cultural landscapes
- o Natural landscapes (including parks and gardens)
- o Intangible heritage, such as oral traditions, performing arts, social practices, rituals, festive events, nature-related knowledge and traditional craftsmanship

## TIMELINE AND SELECTION PROCESS



An international [Advisory Panel](#), comprising specialists in history, archaeology, architecture, conservation, urban planning, management and finance, will assess the nominations and recommend a shortlist of sites to the Board of Europa Nostra, who will select the final list of 7 Most Endangered monuments, sites and practices. The 2026 List of 7 Most Endangered will be announced during the first quarter of 2026.

## CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

### Main criteria

1. European significance of the nominated site
2. Imminent threat or significant level of danger
3. The likelihood of a viable and sustainable future for the site

### Additional criteria

4. Nominator's active involvement
5. Positive attitude of the owner
6. Support by the local experts and/or community
7. The potential to act as a catalyst for sustainable socio-economic development of the area where it is located is important

## AFTER SELECTION: WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Once selected, each site benefits from a mission led by experts in heritage and finance nominated by Europa Nostra and the European Investment Bank Institute. These missions are conducted in close cooperation with the nominators.

The expert teams assess the threats and help shape a practical action plan for safeguarding each site, working with national and local public and private stakeholders, including the site owner(s).

The findings and recommendations are published in [mission reports](#) available on the 7 Most Endangered website.

## THE EIB HERITAGE GRANT

Each of the seven selected sites is eligible to receive an **EIB Heritage Grant** of up to 10.000 euros, intended to support initial steps towards safeguarding the site. This includes studies, planning, or other assistance measures.



## HOW TO APPLY?

Go to [7mostendangered.eu/nominate](https://7mostendangered.eu/nominate) and carefully read the instructions to apply.

Click on the red Nomination Form button at the end of the page and start your application. Once you have completed the application, click the **Submit** button.

The extended deadline to apply is **1 October 2025**.

## WHAT WILL YOU NEED TO SUBMIT AS PART OF YOUR NOMINATION?

- ✓ Nomination form (to be submitted in digital form via [this link](#));
- ✓ Letters of support;
- ✓ High resolution photos and video(s);
- ✓ Supplementary materials relevant to the site you are nominating (if available)

## DO YOU NEED HELP WITH YOUR NOMINATION?

If you need help with preparing and/or submitting your nomination, you can write to the Europa Nostra Secretariat (7mostendangered@europanostra.org).

You can also find answers to your questions on our dedicated [FAQ webpage](#).

If you would like to know more about the previously selected 7 Most Endangered sites, please visit the [7 Most Endangered website](#).

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## **ABOUT**

### **EUROPA NOSTRA**

[Europa Nostra](#) is the European voice of civil society committed to safeguarding and promoting cultural and natural heritage. It is a pan-European federation of heritage NGOs, supported by a wide network of public bodies, private companies and individuals, covering over 40 countries. It is the most representative heritage network in Europe, maintaining close relations with the European Union, the Council of Europe, UNESCO and other international bodies.

Europa Nostra campaigns to save Europe's endangered monuments, sites and landscapes, in particular through the [7 Most Endangered Programme](#). It celebrates and disseminates excellence through the [European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards](#). Europa Nostra actively contributes to the definition and implementation of European strategies and policies related to heritage, through a participatory dialogue with European Institutions and the coordination of the [European Heritage Alliance](#).

Europa Nostra has led the European consortium selected by the European Commission to run the [European Heritage Hub](#) pilot project (2023-2025). It is also an official partner of the [New European Bauhaus](#) initiative developed by the European Commission, and is a leading European member and supporter of the [Climate Heritage Network](#).

## **EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK INSTITUTE**

The [European Investment Bank Institute](http://institute.eib.org) was set up within the EIB Group (European Investment Bank and European Investment Fund) to promote and support social, cultural, and academic initiatives with European stakeholders and the public at large. It is a key pillar of the [EIB](#) Group's community and citizenship engagement.

More information at <http://institute.eib.org>

## **CREATIVE EUROPE**

[Creative Europe](#) is the EU programme that supports the cultural and creative sectors, enabling them to increase their contribution to Europe's society, economy and living environment. With a budget of €2.4 billion for 2021-2027, it supports organisations in the fields of heritage, performing arts, fine arts, interdisciplinary arts, publishing, film, TV, music, and video games as well as tens of thousands of artists, cultural and audiovisual professionals.