youth IN THE CULTURAL HERITAGE FIELD

European Heritage Hub

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YOUTH MAPPING INITIATIVE

Youth in the Cultural Heritage Field

Findings from the open call to map youth-led and youth-centred heritage initiatives across Europe

Youth.Heritage.Europe. × European Heritage Hub
Analysis of 75 form responses received January 2025 – September 2026

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Evolving from informal collectives to structured networks: a trajectory shared across mapped endeavors

Many of the initiatives in this mapping are at an early, informal stage. Eleven are grassroots or informal youth groups, and several youth-led initiatives describe themselves as voluntary and unfunded. The history of Youth.Heritage.Europe. shows that this is often a starting point rather than a limitation.

- **Step 1 – An informal, youth-led start (2017).** The European Students' Association for Cultural Heritage (ESACH) was created in 2017 as an informal, youth-led network in the run-up to the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018. Its aim was to put younger voices at the centre of Europe's cultural conversation.
- **Step 2 – Growing through the network.** ESACH grew into an international community of students, early-career professionals, researchers and heritage activists. Its reach is visible in this mapping. The Asociación de Jóvenes Profesionales por el Patrimonio Cultural (Madrid) describes itself as part of the ESACH network. The Albanian Heritage Conservation Foundation hosted an ESACH spin-off event at the European University of Albania.
- **Step 3 – Reflection and transition (2025).** After more than a year of reflection, growth and transition, ESACH became Youth.Heritage.Europe. in 2025. The organisation is based in Spain and active across Europe and internationally. The new name keeps ESACH's founding mission but extends it to a larger, more connected community with more initiatives and deeper impact.
- **Step 4 – A structured programme.** Today, Youth.Heritage.Europe. works "by young people, for young people" to empower them to safeguard, re-imagine and share cultural and natural heritage, bridging research, policy and practice. Its activities include annual forums, online exchanges, multi-country projects, research-to-practice initiatives, publications and mentoring.

Significance for this mapping exercise. The trajectory moving from a grassroots collective toward a structured European network reflects the current evolutionary path of several survey respondents, including the Generalštab Ensemble Initiative, Balkan Youth Cooperation, and Shurfa. Furthermore, this dynamic underscores the primary purpose of the Youth Mapping Initiative: identifying emerging efforts at an early stage and fostering meaningful connections among them.

1. Executive summary

Under the EU-funded European Heritage Hub, Youth.Heritage.Europe. launched an open call to identify youth-led and youth-centred cultural heritage projects, programmes, networks, associations and groups. This report analyses every response received through the mapping form to show who is active, where, and in what capacity.

74	**32**	**89%**	**16**
unique initiatives mapped (75 form submissions)	countries named – 25 in Europe, 7 beyond	have, or are setting up, a youth programme or group	initiatives are run by young people themselves

Key findings

- **The mapping has reached a broad and diverse field**. **Responses came from 32 countries**. Six in ten initiatives (44) are based in EU member states, a quarter (18) in the wider European region – notably the Western Balkans, Türkiye, Ukraine, the UK and Georgia – and eight outside Europe, from India to Ecuador and Yemen.

- **Youth engagement is widespread but takes very different forms. 56 respondents (76%) report an existing youth department, programme or group and a further 10 (14%) are setting one up**. Our qualitative classification distinguishes youth-centred programmes run for young people (21), youth-led initiatives run by young people (16), and early-career professional networks (13).

- **The field operates at three scales, each with its own profile**. Youth-led initiatives are mostly local or national (13 of 16), rooted in a specific site, city or community. Early-career networks are all national or international (13 of 13) and are typically attached to established heritage bodies such as ICOMOS, ICOM, ICA, IIC, Icon, ERIH or FRH.

- **Built heritage and intangible heritage dominate the themes**. Built and archaeological heritage features in 22 initiatives and intangible heritage, crafts and traditions in 18. **Emerging themes include heritage and the environment (8), social inclusion and migration (7), digital storytelling (6) and contested heritage and memory (6)** – often in post-conflict or

politically sensitive contexts (Ukraine, Iraq, Serbia, Yemen).

- **Education is the main tool**. Almost half the initiatives (33, 45%) run education activities or workshops, followed by events and festivals (21), networking and career development (16) and research and documentation (16). **Only two explicitly focus on jobs or entrepreneurship in heritage**.

- **Resourcing is the biggest blind spot and the biggest fragility. 61% of responses give no information on funding**. Where funding is described, youth-led initiatives rely on volunteer time, small project grants, sponsorship or personal money – none report stable core public funding. Several respondents explicitly describe themselves as unfunded or "zero-budget".

- **Barriers to starting are practical, not a lack of interest**. Of the eight organisations without a youth structure, three have considered creating one. **The reason given is economic sustainability** ("need to create activities for economical sustainability of the project first").

- **The mapping is also a network-building tool**. Around 20 respondents pointed to other initiatives – from the Estonian Youth for Heritage Team to INTACH Ahmedabad and ESACH (currently registered organisation, known as Youth.Heritage.Europe.) – and a further eight organisations are listed as leads. **These form a ready pipeline for the next round of outreach**.

2. About the mapping and method

2.1 Objective

The Youth Mapping Initiative aims to build a comprehensive overview of youth engagement in the heritage sector across Europe – identifying who is active, where, and in what capacity. The results are intended to help the European Heritage Hub and Youth.Heritage.Europe. connect youth actors with each other and with the wider heritage sector.

2.2 The questionnaire

The online form "Youth in Cultural Heritage Field" asked respondents for:

1. the name, city and country of their organisation;
2. whether the organisation has a youth department, initiative, programme or group (Yes / currently setting up / No);
3. for those answering No – whether they had considered opening one and why they had not done so;
4. a short description of the initiative: who leads it, how it is organised and how (if at all) it is funded;
5. the person in charge and a website or online profile;
6. other initiatives linked to youth participation in heritage that the respondent knows of.

2.3 How the data was processed

- Responses: 75 submissions were received between 20 January 2025 and 2 September 2026.
- De-duplication: the Future for Religious Heritage Young Professionals and Researchers Working Group was submitted twice (January 2025 and April 2026) and has been counted once, giving 74 unique initiatives. The ICOMOS Ireland and ICOMOS International Emerging Professionals groups are counted separately. Two entries submitted under the name "European Heritage Hub (NHA)" describe EUnexus and the REMPART Union and are analysed as those organisations.
- Normalisation: country names were standardised. Where an organisation works in several countries, it is recorded as multi-country.
- Qualitative classification: each free-text description was coded for organisation type, youth-engagement model, geographic scope, heritage

themes, activity types and funding source. Themes and activities are multi-select, so percentages add up to more than 100%.

2.4 Limitations

This is an open-call mapping, not a representative survey. The results show who has been reached so far, not the full population of youth heritage initiatives in Europe. In particular:

- Response depends on the reach of the call. Countries with several respondents (Greece, Belgium, France) partly reflect the networks through which the call was shared.
- The form does not ask for funding, age of participants or number of young people directly,.
- Four responses contain too little information to classify, and 13 (18%) describe broader youth, arts or research organisations where the heritage focus is limited or indirect.

3. Who responded

Types of organisations

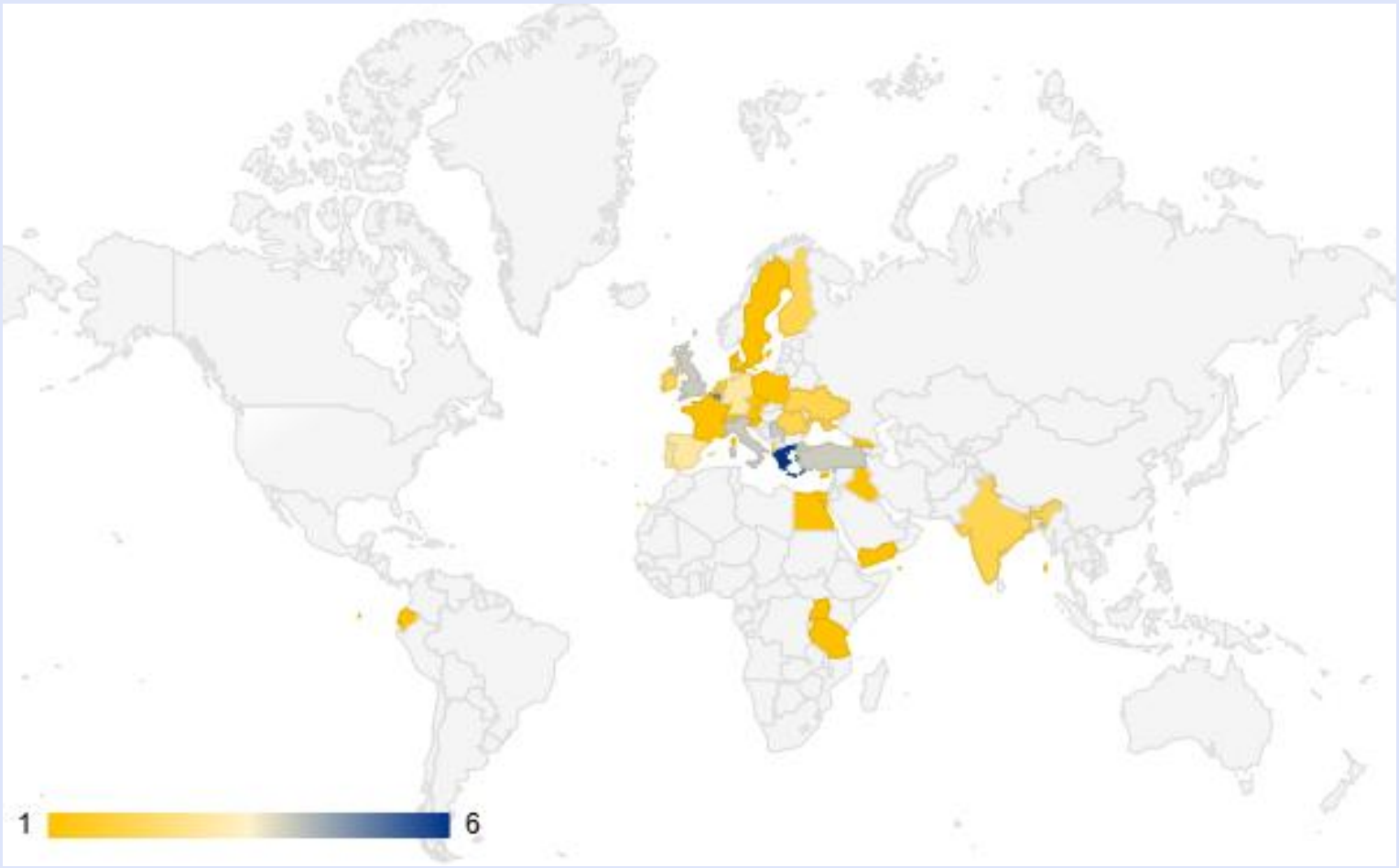
NGOs, associations and foundations make up the largest group (29, representing 39% of the total submissions). They range from small local associations such as Asociația Front la Dunăre in Romania to established heritage NGOs such as European Heritage Volunteers and REMPART. Two other groups are notable:

- **Grassroots and informal youth groups (11):** collectives of students and young professionals, often without legal status – for example the Brandejsův Dvůr Youth Team (Prague), the Generalštab Ensemble Initiative (Belgrade) and Balkan Youth Cooperation (Athens).
- **International professional bodies and networks (11):** the emerging-professional groups of ICOMOS, ICOM-CECA, ICA, IIC, Icon, ERIH and FRH, plus national young-professional associations in Spain and Slovenia.

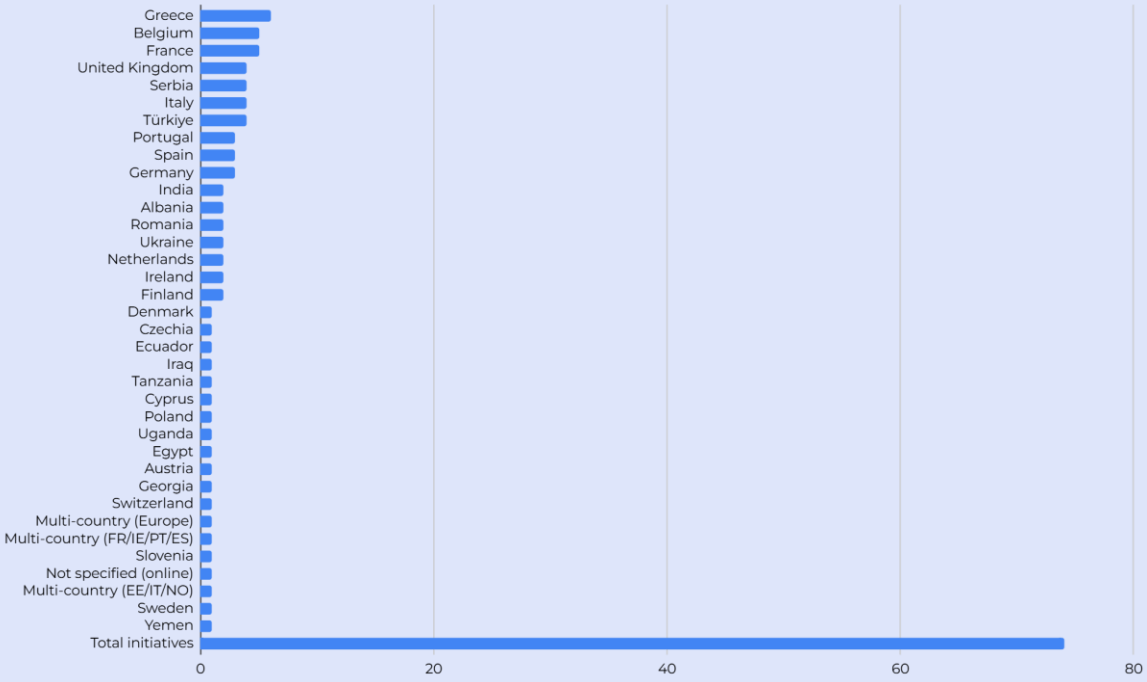
Public bodies and intergovernmental actors (9) include UNESCO in Mosul, Flemish heritage agency Onroerend Erfgoed, the Izmir Historical Port City Area Directorate, Creative Ireland and ICCROM's Youth.Heritage.Africa. Universities and research bodies (5), museums and creative hubs (3) and individuals or private companies (6) complete the picture.

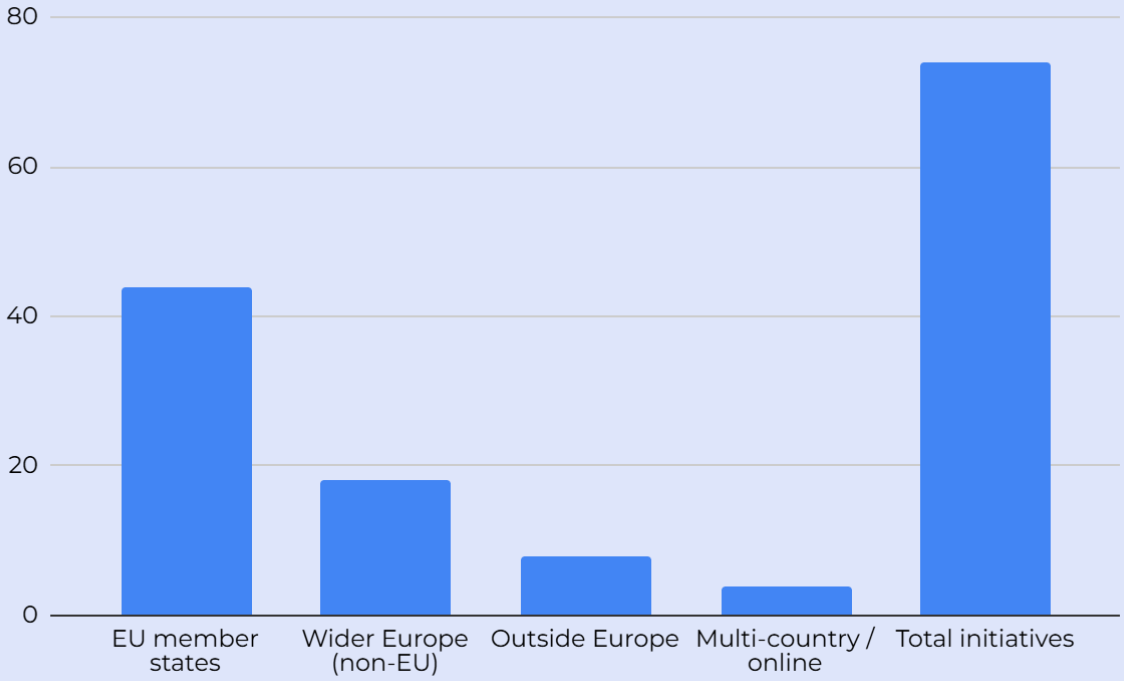
4. Where youth heritage initiatives are active

The 74 initiatives are spread across 32 countries[1]. Greece has the most (6), followed by Belgium and France (5 each) and the United Kingdom, Serbia, Italy and Türkiye (4 each). Belgium and France partly reflect the presence of European and international networks headquartered there.



[1] Region grouping: “EU member states” = the 27 EU countries; “Wider Europe (non-EU)” = United Kingdom, Switzerland, Western Balkans, Türkiye, Ukraine and Georgia; “Outside Europe” = all others.





Geographic patterns

South-East Europe is strongly represented. Together, Greece, Serbia, Albania, Romania and Türkiye account for 18 initiatives. Many are youth-led and address contested or under-valued heritage, such as modernist architecture in Belgrade,

the Danube waterfront in Drobeta-Turnu Severin and democratic history through a Belgrade walking-tour app.

Central, Northern and Baltic Europe is under-represented. There is only one response each from Czechia, Poland, Austria, Slovenia, Denmark, Sweden and Switzerland, and none from the Baltic states, Hungary, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Croatia or Luxembourg. The Estonian Youth for Heritage Team was named as a referral but has not yet responded.

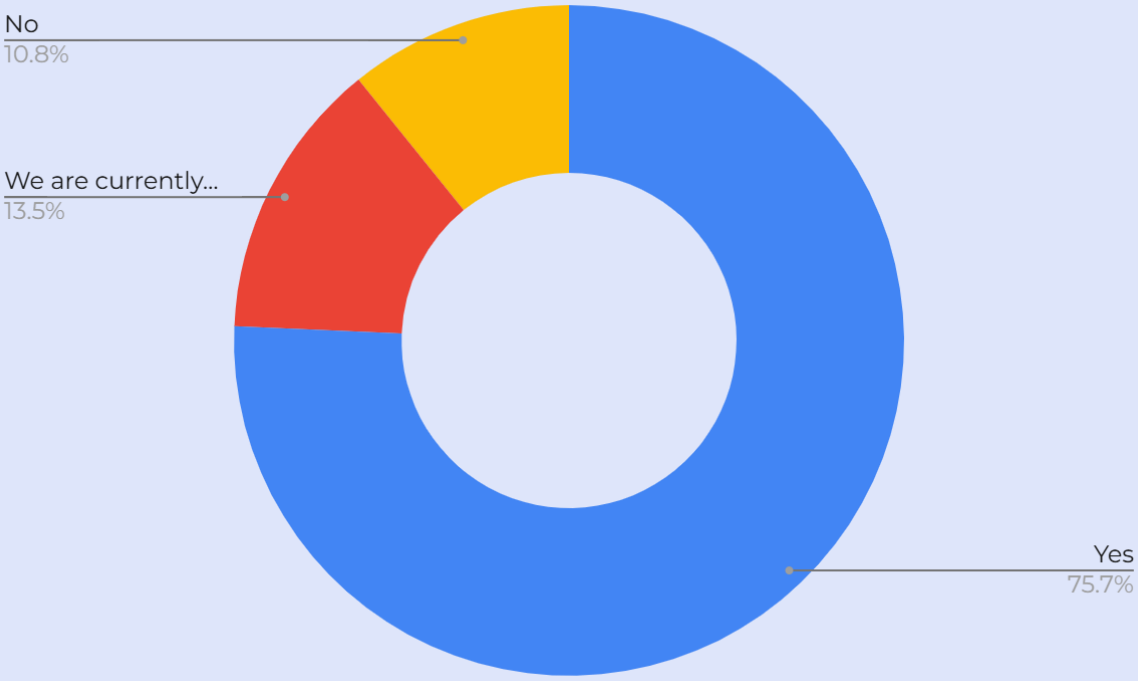
Conflict-affected heritage is a distinct cluster. Three Ukrainian-related initiatives (the Mykola Babak Foundation, the Museum of Stolen Art and The Shadows Project in Munich), plus UNESCO's work in Mosul and the Shurfa platform in Yemen, show young people documenting and communicating heritage under threat.

Interest from beyond Europe. Eight responses came from India, Ecuador, Iraq, Tanzania, Uganda, Egypt and Yemen. They fall outside the European scope but show demand for international exchange, which ICCROM's Youth.Heritage.Africa programme also addressed.

5. In what capacity: models of youth engagement

5.1 Do organisations have a youth structure?

The form asked directly whether the organisation has a youth department, initiative, programme or group. Three-quarters say yes. A further 14% are setting one up, which suggests a growing field: examples include the Albanian Heritage Conservation Foundation, the Europa Nostra Heritage Hub in Athens operated by Elliniki Etairia and KOERS Museum of Cycle Racing, which is launching a youth panel called “De Beloften” (The Prospects).

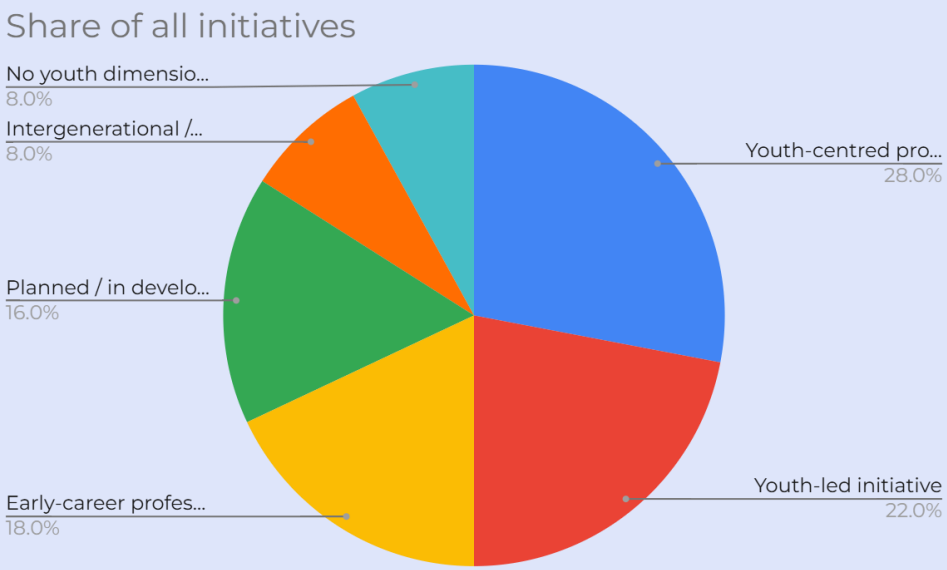


Existence of a youth department / programme / group (self-reported)

5.2 Five models of engagement

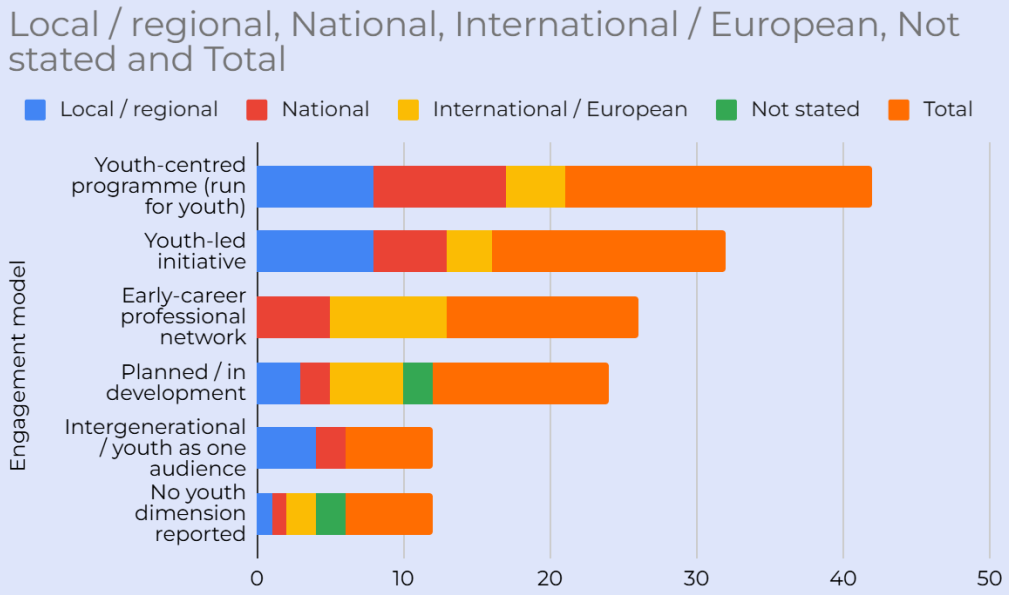
Analysing descriptions shows five distinct models:

Model	What it means	Examples from the mapping	n
Youth-centred programme	An organisation runs activities for young people	European Heritage Volunteers; REMPART; FusionACT (NovaTale); Local Creative Youth Partnerships (IE)	21
Youth-led initiative	Young people found, lead and run the initiative	CEE Notts; Front la Dunăre; Generalštab Ensemble; La Paranza; Erfgoed Jong; Shurfa	16
Early-career network	Peer networks for students and emerging professionals, usually within a professional body	ICOMOS EPWG; ICOM-CECA Young Members; ERIH Young Professionals; Icon EPN; Heri Sci	13
Intergenerational	Young people are one audience among several, or learn alongside elders and artisans	Boulouki; Silesian choral heritage initiative; UNESCO Mosul artisan training	6
Planned / in development	A youth strand is being designed or set up	KOERS (De Beloften); OPAN workshops; Museum of Stolen Art; Kentimiz İzmir	12



5.3 Scale of operation

Different models work at different scales. Youth-led and youth-centred initiatives are strongly local and national, anchored in a specific monument, neighbourhood or community. Early-career networks never work locally: they operate nationally or internationally, often online. This suggests two complementary ways to engage young people: place-based action, and professional peer networks. So far, there are few bridges between the two.



(4 are excluded due to insufficient information)

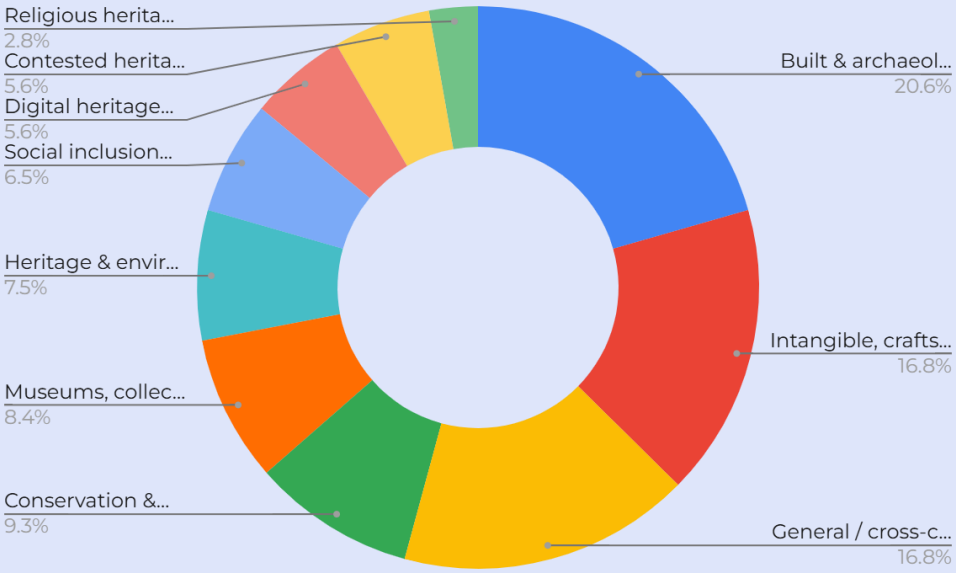
Youth-led in practice: what makes these initiatives distinctive

- Many were started recently (those giving a date mostly since 2021) by students or recent graduates, often architects, archaeologists or historians.
- They adopt a specific, often neglected site or theme: a medieval estate in Prague-Suchdol, the Generalštab complex in Belgrade, the Danube riverfront, or Rione Sanità in Naples.
- They combine heritage with present-day concerns: sustainability (Zaiafet pe Lună zero-waste festival), democracy (Belgrade Adventure), diaspora identity (CEE Notts, The Shadows Project) and social inclusion and jobs (La Paranza).
- **They are horizontally organised and run on volunteer time, with "collective decision-making" and "peer-to-peer learning" described explicitly.**

6. What they do

6.1 Heritage themes

Built and archaeological heritage is the most common theme (22 initiatives, 30%), followed by intangible heritage, crafts and traditions (18). A further 18 initiatives work across heritage in general, this is typical of professional networks and broad youth organisations. Specialist themes such as conservation and heritage science (10) and museums, collections and archives (9) are mostly addressed by early-career professional networks.



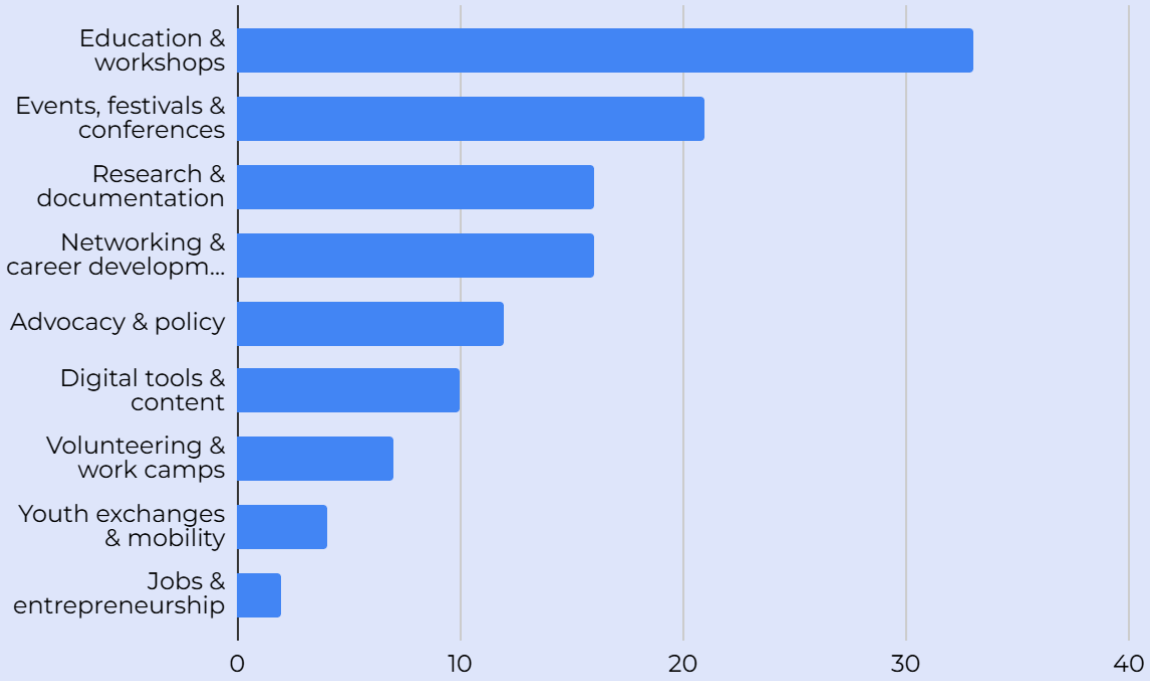
Multi-select: an initiative can address several themes.

Emerging, cross-cutting themes. The mapping shows young people linking heritage to wider social questions:

Environment and sustainability: YamoChori (permaculture and intangible heritage in mountain villages), Tanzania Eco Warriors (indigenous culture and climate), and Zaiafet pe Lună (heritage and zero waste).
Inclusion and migration: Connecting Communities (Aarhus) uses intangible heritage for immigrant integration, KADOC–KU Leuven's "To Bridge a Gap" works with young people on religious heritage and migration, and NextGen Heritage has youth working tables on climate and migration.

Contested heritage and memory: restitution of Ukrainian heritage, sites of protest and repression in Belgrade, decolonial documentation of African artefacts in European museums (Memory and Identity Project), and cooperation between young Balkanologists.
Digital heritage: apps (Albanian Historic Calendar, Belgrade Adventure), open archives and photo storytelling (OPAN / Fortepan), animated folk tales (NovaTale) and Instagram-first history (The Shadows Project).

6.2 Activities



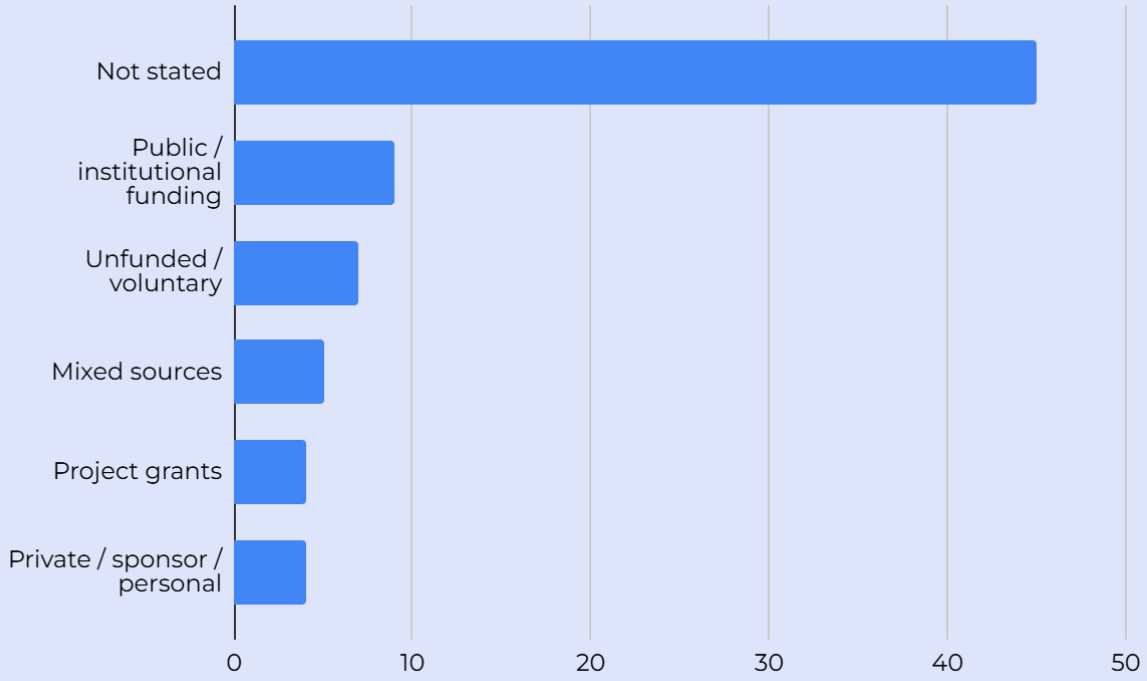
Based on a multi-select field of answer

Education and workshops are the main activity type (33). Events and festivals (21) are especially common among local youth-led groups, while networking and career development (16) is the core offering of professional networks. Advocacy and policy work (12) is significant. For example, young practitioners in NextGen Heritage are drafting a proposal to amend Italian heritage law, the FRH working group published a position paper on careers in religious heritage, and the Silesian initiative is pursuing a national intangible heritage inscription for amateur choral singing.

Few initiatives focus on heritage as a route to employment (La Paranza's job placement programme and Youth.Heritage.Africa) or on international youth exchanges (4). Given the career barriers reported by young professionals, this is a clear gap.

7. How initiatives are resourced

The form asked respondents to describe “how it is funded, if at all”. 45 descriptions (61%) give no funding information. Among those that do, sources are fragmented:



Public or institutional funding (9) goes almost entirely to institution-led activities, such as the Flemish government for KADOC–KU Leuven, AHRC/UKRI for RICHeS, EU funding via ERIH, and the UNESCO World Heritage Volunteers programme in Izmir.

Youth-led initiatives rely on a patchwork of volunteer time, in-kind support, small project grants (e.g. the Order of Architects in Romania for Open Waterways 2025), sponsorship and personal money. None of the 16 youth-led initiatives reports stable core funding.

Several describe themselves as explicitly unfunded: the FRH working group (“a voluntary, unfunded initiative”), the Arts and Cultural Management Conference, the Generalštab Ensemble Initiative, Shurfa and the “zero-budget” think tank ODETH.

> *“Currently, there is no funding available as we strive to secure both private and public funding.”* Arts and Cultural Management Conference, Vienna

> *"The initiative is currently not formally funded and operates primarily through volunteer work, partnerships, and in-kind support."* The Generalštab Ensemble Initiative, Belgrade

Why some organisations have no youth strand

Eight organisations answered that they have no youth department or programme. Five had never considered one. These are mainly research bodies and public administrations, such as the Hércules Laboratory, ISCTE-IUL, RICHeS and the Ayuntamiento de Madrid. Three had considered one:

- **Culture Hunters (Athens)** would like to run urban game-design workshops for young people but first needs "activities for economical sustainability of the project".
- **Boulouki (Greece)** already works in an intergenerational setting with young participants and has chosen not to create a separate youth structure.
- **An architecture practice in Nicosia** intends to create one ("I will").

Even among organisations without a formal structure, some plan youth activities (for example, ALIGHT's dissemination to children and young people). A lighter "youth strand" model, with templates and peer support, could help them take the step.

8. Initiative spotlights

The following examples show the range of youth engagement found in the mapping. All information comes from the respondents' own descriptions.

CEE Notts – Mansfield, United Kingdom
Youth-led · Intangible heritage & diaspora

The whole organisation is youth-led. With Historic England funding, it mapped and archived the Central and Eastern European diaspora in Mansfield, employing young artists and offering volunteering and training to students.

Asociația Front la Dunăre – Drobeta-Turnu Severin, Romania
Youth-led · Built & natural heritage

Founded in 2024 by student architects to "bring the river back into the daily life of local communities". Its project Open Waterways 2025, funded by the Order of Architects in Romania, connects the island with the city waterfront.

La Paranza Social Cooperative – Naples, Italy
Youth-led · Heritage & social inclusion

Started by five young people in Rione Sanità, one of Naples' most marginalised neighbourhoods. It uses job placement in the heritage sector to make local youth "powerful stakeholders of cultural heritage and social inclusion".

Erfgoed Jong – Arnhem, Netherlands
Youth-led · National network

An independent national network of young people aged 16–30 "with an interest in and an opinion about heritage", hosted by OPEN, the national platform of heritage houses.

The Shadows Project – Munich, Germany
Youth-led · Digital & memory

A cultural NGO and creative studio run by young professionals. Since 2021 it has reimagined Ukrainian history on Instagram for young people in Ukraine and the diaspora, and runs campaigns and school workshops.

FRH Young Professionals & Researchers WG – Brussels
Early-career network · Religious heritage

Founded in December 2023 and now with 15 members. It published the position paper "Building a Future in Religious Heritage" on career barriers and is researching heritage education at school, undergraduate and postgraduate level.

KOERS. Museum of Cycle Racing – Roeselare, Belgium
Planned · Museum co-creation

Is creating "De Beloften" (The Prospects), a group of young thinkers and doers with its own budget, who will help shape the museum's programme, for example at Open Monument Day. The programme is designed "for and by young people".

Shurfa Cultural Platform – Taiz, Yemen
Youth-led · Documentation & digital

Set up in 2025 by young Yemenis to document and communicate tangible and intangible heritage. It has a multidisciplinary volunteer team covering research, translation, visual documentation and design.

9. Leads for further mapping

The form asked respondents about other initiatives linked to youth participation in heritage. Around 20 respondents named at least one; most answered “No” or “not sure”. The worksheet “Sheet1” of the response file also lists eight further organisations to contact. Together, these give a starting list for the next outreach round:

Lead named	Suggested by / source
Estonian Youth for Heritage Team (Tallinn)	Brandejsův Dvůr Youth Team
BTU Cottbus department; ESACH[2]; Future is Heritage	Future for Religious Heritage YPWG
Creative Influencers at National Civil War Centre	CEE Notts
Asociación de Jóvenes Profesionales por el Patrimonio Cultural	UCM Research Group (now mapped)
INTACH Ahmedabad chapter	Studio IF
Moj Bač and Bač by Touch team	Praskozorje
Europa Nostra, Europeana, Balkan Museum Network initiatives	Association for International & European Affairs
Studiogovora	Asociația Front la Dunăre
Contested Histories	Education for the 21st Century
Hata Hub	Museum of Stolen Art
Europeana Digital Creativity Lab	Open Portal Archive Network
La Sorte community cooperative; MUDD – Diffused Diocesan Museum of Naples	La Paranza
“MAS in jonge handen” (MAS Antwerp)	KOERS Museum
Spira LAB	Boulouki
Georgian National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation youth programme	Multifunctional Centre Saba
European Young Heritage Professionals Forum (Zagreb)	
Balkan Heritage Field School; Balkan Heritage Foundation	

[2] Currently registered as Youth.Heritage.Europe.

Jeunesses Musicales International – Ethno Program	
Theresia Orchestra; Brave Festival – Brave Kids	
Multaka – Museum as Meeting Point	
EUSTORY – History Competitions	

10. Conclusion and recommendations

The mapping confirms a lively, diverse and growing youth heritage field. It is mostly grassroots, education-oriented and volunteer-driven, and increasingly links heritage with sustainability, inclusion, digital culture and democratic memory. It is also fragmented: local youth-led groups and international professional networks rarely connect, and resourcing is fragile.

For heritage organisations

5. **Open a youth strand.** Ten organisations are setting one up, and three more have considered it. Proven models from this mapping include:
    - KOERS' "De Beloften": a youth panel with its own budget;
    - the FRH Young Professionals and Researchers Working Group;
    - Erfgoed Jong, hosted by OPEN.
6. **Give young people a real role.** Involve them in designing projects and making decisions, not only as an audience. Offer informal groups a legal umbrella, space or in-kind support, as OPEN does for Erfgoed Jong.

For international professional networks

7. **Reach out to local youth-led groups.** None of the 13 early-career networks works at local level. Invite local groups to events, open mentoring to them, and offer free or reduced membership.

For funders and policymakers

8. **Fund small and early-stage initiatives.** None of the 16 youth-led initiatives reports stable core funding. Offer micro-grants, simple applications and multi-year support. Let informal groups apply through a host organisation, and make programmes such as Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps easier for them to access.
9. **Invest in heritage jobs and skills.** Only two initiatives address employment. Support traineeships and job-placement models such as La Paranza in Naples.

For youth-led initiatives

10. **Join the network and document your work.** Register in the directory, record your activities and funding, and partner with established organisations. The path from ESACH to Youth.Heritage.Europe. shows that informal groups can grow into European networks.

For Youth.Heritage.Europe.

1. **Close the geographic gaps.** Aim the next call at Central, Northern and Baltic Europe. There is only one response each from Czechia, Poland, Austria, Slovenia, Denmark, Sweden and Switzerland, and none from the Baltic states, Hungary, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Croatia or Luxembourg. Start with the 21 leads in Section 9, such as the Estonian Youth for Heritage Team.
2. **Publish the directory.** With respondents' consent, turn Annex A into a searchable online map on the European Heritage Hub platform.

Annex A. Directory of mapped initiatives

All 74 unique initiatives, sorted by country. “Model” and “Main focus” are extracted from the descriptions (see Annex B). Contact names are not listed here for data-protection reasons.

#	Organisation / initiative	Country	Model	Main focus
1	Albanian Heritage Conservation Foundation	Albania	Planned	Built/archaeological, Digital
2	FusionACT Centre – NovaTale	Albania	Youth-centred	Intangible & crafts, Digital
3	Arts and Cultural Management Conference	Austria	Early-career network	General
4	Future for Religious Heritage – Young Professionals & Researchers WG	Belgium	Early-career network	Religious
5	KADOC–KU Leuven – To Bridge a Gap	Belgium	Youth-centred	Religious, Inclusion/migration
6	KOERS. Museum of Cycle Racing – De Beloften	Belgium	Planned	Museums & archives
7	Onroerend Erfgoed	Belgium	Youth-centred	Built/archaeological
8	culture Solutions	Belgium	Planned	General
9	Ashraf Gounerman Architecture	Cyprus	Planned	–
10	Brandejsuv Dvur Youth Team	Czechia	Youth-led	Built/archaeological
11	Connecting Communities: integration through intangible cultural heritage	Denmark	Youth-centred	Intangible & crafts, Inclusion/migration
12	Fundación Ecuador Kawsay	Ecuador	Youth-centred	Intangible & crafts, Inclusion/migration
13	Cinema and Art for Development initiative	Egypt	Youth-centred	General
14	Allianssi Youth Exchanges	Finland	Youth-centred	General
15	Annantalo Arts Centre	Finland	Youth-centred	General
16	CECA Young Members Network (through ICOM)	France	Early-career network	Museums & archives
17	REMPART Union (submitted via European Heritage Hub)	France	Youth-centred	Built/archaeological, Conservation/science
18	Heritage Research Hub	France	None reported	Conservation/science

19	ICA- New Professionals Programme	France	Early-career network	Museums & archives
20	ICOMOS - Emerging Professionals Working Group (EPWG)	France	Early-career network	Built/archaeological, Conservation/science
21	Multifunctional Centre Saba – Gideli craft initiative	Georgia	Youth-centred	Intangible & crafts
22	European Heritage Volunteers	Germany	Youth-centred	Built/archaeological, Intangible & crafts
23	The Shadows Project	Germany	Youth-led	Digital, Contested/memory
24	Young.Living.Craft.Activists	Germany	Youth-led	Intangible & crafts
25	"Boulouki" Itinerant Workshop on Traditional Building Crafts	Greece	Intergenerational	Intangible & crafts, Built/archaeological
26	Association for International & European Affairs (ODETH)	Greece	Youth-led	General
27	Balkan Youth Cooperation	Greece	Youth-led	Contested/memory
28	Culture Hunters	Greece	Planned	Built/archaeological
29	Elliniki Etairia – Athens Heritage Hub	Greece	Planned	General, Environment
30	Youth Active Minds AMKE – YamoChori	Greece	Youth-led	Intangible & crafts, Environment
31	Independent researcher – courtyard houses of western India	India	None reported	Built/archaeological
32	Studio IF – Odkhaan Heritage Festival	India	Intergenerational	Built/archaeological, Intangible & crafts
33	UNESCO – Revive the Spirit of Mosul	Iraq	Intergenerational	Built/archaeological, Intangible & crafts
34	ICOMOS International Emerging Professionals Working Group	Ireland	Early-career network	Built/archaeological, Conservation/science
35	Local Creative Youth Partnerships	Ireland	Youth-centred	General
36	La Paranza Social Cooperative	Italy	Youth-led	Built/archaeological, Inclusion/migration
37	Memory and Identity Project Initiative	Italy	Planned	Museums & archives, Contested/memory
38	NextGen Heritage – Ca' Foscari University of Venice	Italy	Early-career network	Inclusion/migration, Environment
39	Youth.Heritage.Africa	Italy	Youth-centred	General

40	EUnexus (submitted via European Heritage Hub)	Multi (EE/IT/NO)	Youth-centred	General
41	European Route of Industrial Heritage e.V.	Multi (Europe)	Early-career network	Built/archaeological
42	Consultation Young Voices for the Atlantic	Multi (FR/IE/PT/ES)	Planned	General
43	Erfgoed jong	Netherlands	Youth-led	General
44	OPEN erfgoed stichting	Netherlands	Youth-centred	General
45	YRHS - Young Researchers in Heritage Science	Not specified (online)	Early-career network	Conservation/science
46	Silesian Association of Choirs and Orchestras	Poland	Intergenerational	Intangible & crafts
47	Hércules laboratory	Portugal	None reported	–
48	ISCTE-IUL – ALIGHT project	Portugal	None reported	Intangible & crafts
49	Portugal / Europe Initiative (ACDIPE)	Portugal	Youth-centred	
50	Asociația Front la Dunăre	Romania	Youth-led	Built/archaeological, Environment
51	Asociația Verde-n Față – Zaiafet pe Lună festival	Romania	Youth-led	Built/archaeological, Environment
52	Education for the 21st Century – Belgrade Adventure	Serbia	Youth-led	Contested/memory, Built/archaeological
53	Neozoik Foundation	Serbia	Youth-led	Built/archaeological
54	Praskozorje	Serbia	Youth-centred	General
55	The Generalštab Ensemble Initiative	Serbia	Youth-led	Built/archaeological
56	Heri Sci - Young Professionals in Heritage Science Slovenia	Slovenia	Early-career network	Conservation/science
57	Asociación de Jóvenes Profesionales por el Patrimonio Cultural	Spain	Early-career network	General
58	Ayuntamiento de Madrid	Spain	None reported	–
59	Universidad Complutense de Madrid – Heritage Mgmt Research Group	Spain	Youth-centred	General
60	STPLN Creative Hub	Sweden	Intergenerational	General
61	Open Portal Archive Network (OPAN)	Switzerland	Planned	Digital, Museums & archives
62	Tanzania Eco Warriors Initiatives	Tanzania	Youth-led	Intangible & crafts, Environment
63	Ankara Aks Association	Türkiye	Youth-centred	Built/archaeological, Environment
64	Culture Unleashed	Türkiye	Planned	–

65	Heritage for Future in the Historical Port City of Izmir	Türkiye	Youth-centred	Built/archaeological
66	Kentimiz İzmir	Türkiye	Planned	General
67	Agency for Rural and Urban Development (ARUD)	Uganda	Intergenerational	Environment
68	Museum of Stolen Art	Ukraine	Planned	Contested/memory, Digital
69	Mykola Babak Charitable Foundation	Ukraine	Youth-centred	Museums & archives, Intangible & crafts
70	CEE Notts	United Kingdom	Youth-led	Intangible & crafts, Museums & archives
71	Emerging Professionals Group (ICON)	United Kingdom	Early-career network	Conservation/science
72	IIC Student & Emerging Conservator Conferences	United Kingdom	Early-career network	Conservation/science
73	RICHeS: Research Infrastructure for Conservation and Heritage Science	United Kingdom	None reported	Conservation/science
74	Shurfa platform	Yemen	Youth-led	Intangible & crafts, Built/archaeological

Annex B. Classification framework

Each initiative's description was reviewed and classified according to the dimensions below. An initiative can fall under more than one theme or activity.

Dimension	Categories
Organisation type	NGO / association / foundation; Grassroots or informal youth group; International professional body or network; Public body / intergovernmental; University / research body; Museum / arts centre / creative hub; Individual / private company
Youth-engagement model	Youth-led (young people found and run it); Youth-centred programme (run by an organisation for young people); Early-career professional network; Intergenerational (youth as one audience among others); Planned / in development; No youth dimension reported
Geographic scope	Local / regional; National; International / European
Heritage themes	Built & archaeological; Intangible, crafts & traditions; Museums, collections & archives; Conservation & heritage science; Digital heritage & storytelling; Heritage & environment; Contested heritage & memory; Religious heritage; Social inclusion & migration; General / cross-cutting
Activities	Education & workshops; Events, festivals & conferences; Research & documentation; Networking & career development; Advocacy & policy; Digital tools & content; Volunteering & work camps; Youth exchanges & mobility; Jobs & entrepreneurship
Funding (as described)	Public / institutional; Project grants; Private / sponsor / personal; Mixed sources; Unfunded / voluntary; Not stated