



**A Network of UNESCO Accredited NGOs
Safeguarding Living Heritage**

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Executive Board representing Region II – Eastern Europe

Non-Governmental Organizations in the system of Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage

Article 15 – Participation of communities, groups and individuals

Within the framework of its safeguarding activities of the intangible cultural heritage, each State Party shall endeavour to ensure the widest possible participation of communities, groups and, where appropriate, individuals that create, maintain and transmit such heritage, and to involve them actively in its management.

Article 9 – Accreditation of advisory organizations

1. The Committee shall propose to the General Assembly the accreditation of non-governmental organizations with recognized competence in the field of the intangible cultural heritage to act in an advisory capacity to the Committee.
2. The Committee shall also propose to the General Assembly the criteria for and modalities of such accreditation.

Advisory functions

(Article 96 of Operational Directives)

Accredited non-governmental organizations who, according to Article 9.1 of the Convention shall have advisory functions to the Committee, may be invited by the Committee to provide it, inter alia, with reports of evaluation as a reference for the Committee to examine:

- (a) nomination files for the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding;
- (b) the programmes, projects and activities mentioned in Article 18 of the Convention;
- (c) requests for International Assistance;
- (d) the effects of safeguarding plans for elements inscribed on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding.



Active since 2010, formalized in 2016

The platform for communication, networking, exchange and cooperation for NGOs accredited by UNESCO to provide advisory services to the Intergovernmental Committee in the framework of the 2003 UNESCO Convention for the safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

In 2026:

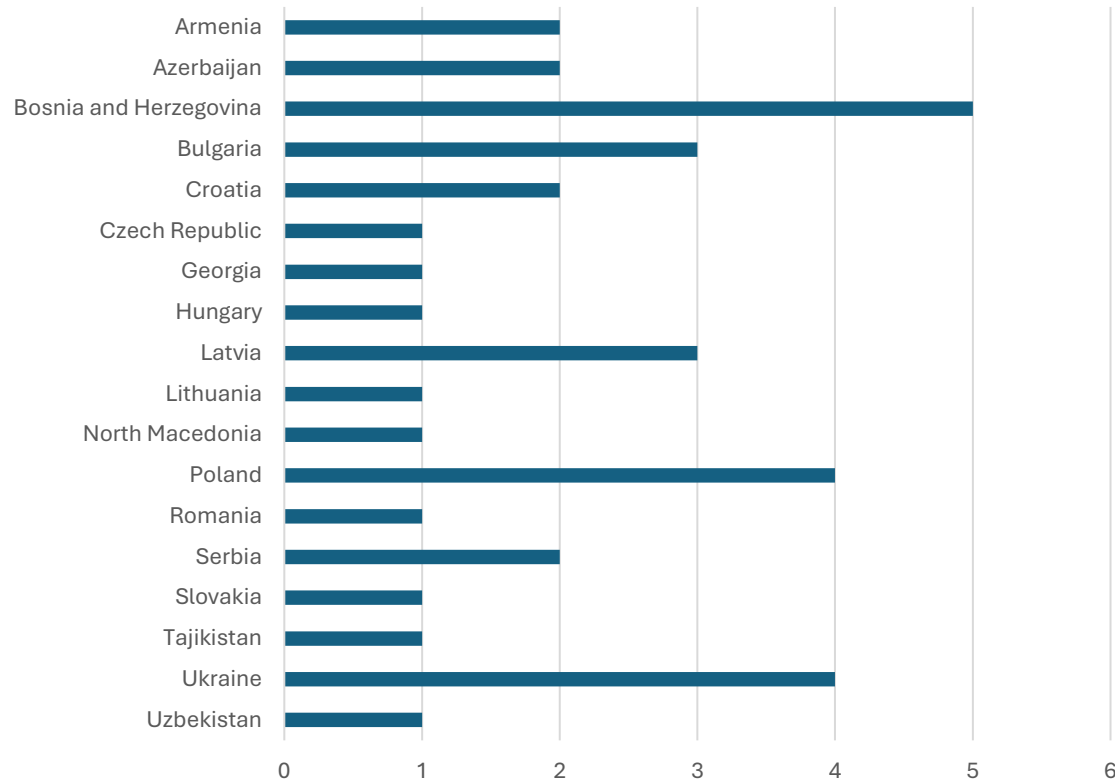
Family of



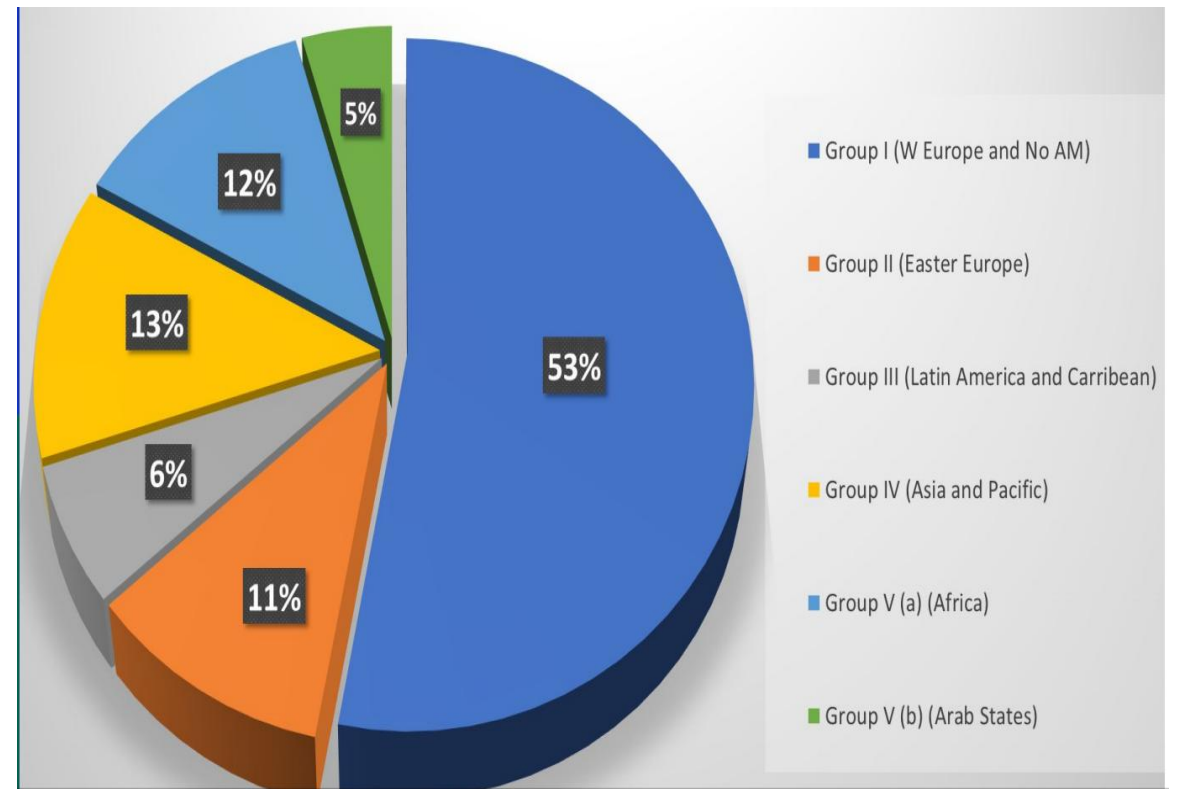
**NGOs from ALL over the
World!**

ICHNGO FORUM Family

Region II - Eastern Europe per country



Geographic representation of accredited NGOs



Executive Board

Consist of one representative from 6 regions:
Region I – Western Europe and North America;
Region II – Eastern Europe;
Region III – Latin America and Caribbean;
Region IV – Asia and Pacific;
Region Va - Africa; and Region
Vb - Arab states.

Engagement is fully voluntary.

Responsibilities include:

- implementing the policy decided by the General Assembly of the Forum and manages its operations,
- finances,
- administration, and affairs.
- Communication around Forum's activities: Newsletter



11th General Assembly of State Parties to the
Convention on Safeguarding Intangible
Cultural Heritage

Paris, June 18th, 2026

Working Groups

- The Conflict and Displacement Working Group
- The Gender and Intellectual Property Rights Working Group
- The Working Group Research
- The Working Group on Legal and Policy Developments
- Working Group on ICH, Climate Change and the Environment
- Working Group for more balanced geographical representation of accredited NGOs.

Read more: <https://www.ichngoforum.org/wg/>

& #HeritageAlive

Activities (ICH NGO Forum Bylaws, Article 4)

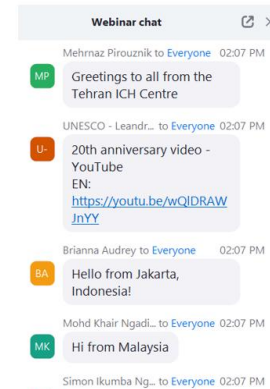
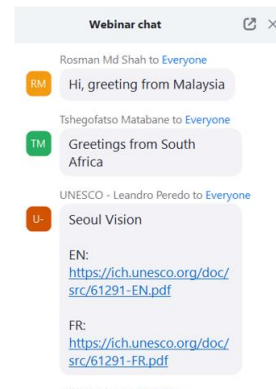
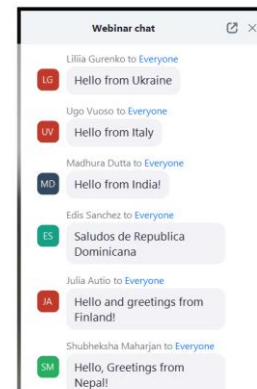
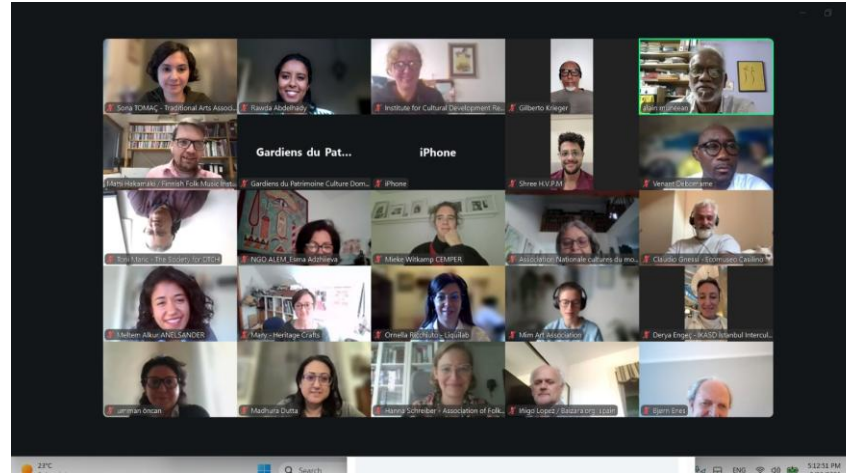
- (a) serve as a forum for the exchange of information and ideas about safeguarding ICH;
- (b) act as a platform for networking, promote high-level dialogue and identify opportunities for cooperation and synergies among ICH NGOs;
- (c) foster ethical principles, environmentally responsible practices and participation of civil society for the safeguarding of ICH;
- (d) provide resources, reports, briefing documents and information about safeguarding practices to UNESCO, States Parties, communities, practitioners and other ICH stakeholders;
- (e) support ICH NGOs in advancing their cooperation with relevant governmental and intergovernmental entities (such as National Commissions for UNESCO, regional offices of UNESCO, Category 2 centers), especially as regards implementation of the principles of community agency and community-based, participatory, bottom-up approaches;
- (f) contribute to the capacity building programme and to experience sharing on good safeguarding practices;
- (g) advise the Intergovernmental Committee on specific thematic issues, and participate in reporting and monitoring on inscribed ICH elements and safeguarding practices;
- (h) organize symposiums, conferences, presentations, workshops and similar activities, aimed to build capacity building, foster partnerships and highlight the work of all Accredited NGOs, during the sessions of the Intergovernmental Committee; the General Assembly of States Parties to the Convention and any additional activity that helps achieve its goal to serve the Accredited NGOs to the 2003 Convention;
- (i) Promote the publication of journals, books, newsletters, videos, websites and other media outlets, within digital and analogue environments that supports and respects the intellectual and cultural property of communities, groups and bearers of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Activities of ICHNGO FORUM

← Meetings

↓ Webinars

→ Symposium



News Symposium

Open Call for Presentations and Contributions – Symposium 2026

ICH NGO Forum Annual Symposium 2026 (In person and online) Sunday, November 29, Xiamen, China Open Call for Presentations and Contributions Digital inclusivity for Living Heritage: Opportunities and Challenges for Communities and NGOs in the Age of Technological Innovation The 2026 Symposium of the ICH NGO Forum, organized on the...

Launched in 2021 with the aim to map the competences and capacities of accredited NGOs.

Phase I (2021 – 2022):
cataloguing 65 NGO profiles

Phase II (2025 – 2026):
100 NGOs added with Infographics;
Indexing system to enhance user-friendly search
@ich.unseco.org website

Phase III – Work in progress

ICHNGO FORUM

<https://www.ichngoforum.org/>

&

<https://www.facebook.com/IchNgoForum>

<https://x.com/IchNGO>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/ichngoforum>

