

11/06/2013

The Lisbon Declaration to Support Culture and Museums to Face the Global Crisis and Build the Future

Among its core missions, ICOM is committed to providing cultural institutions with the support and tools necessary to face threats and challenges ranging from natural disasters to budgetary cuts.



Presentation of the Lisbon Declaration by Alberto Garlandini, Chair of ICOM Italy. From left to right: Damodar Frlan, Chair of ICOM Europe; Lidija Nikocecic, Chair of ICOM Croatia; Rafael Azuar, former Chair of ICOM Spain (representing the current chairperson); Teti Hadjinicolau, Chair of ICOM Greece; and Wim De Vos, Chair of ICOM Belgium.

In keeping with these missions, ICOM's National Committees in Europe have released the Lisbon Declaration to Support Culture and Museums to Face the Global Crisis and Build the Future. This declaration came in the wake of an international conference held on 5 and 6 April, 2013 at the National Museum of Ethnology in Lisbon and entitled Public policies toward museums in times of crisis. The Lisbon Declaration is an appeal to the European Parliament and Commission, to the Parliaments and Governments of European countries and to regional and local governments, with the aim of defending European museums and cultural institutions and drawing the attention of the aforementioned bodies to the

precarious situation in which museums are finding themselves as they are faced with threats and difficulties in terms of economic sustainability.

The National Committees of six European countries (Belgium, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Portugal and Spain) have joined ICOM Europe in this appeal. The Lisbon Declaration was sent by Dr Hans-Martin Hinz, President of ICOM to Mr José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission and Mr Martin Schulz, European Parliament President on the occasion of International Museum