



# FUTURE FOR RELIGIOUS HERITAGE

*The European network of historic places of worship*



Co-funded by  
the European Union

# 1. Mission

Future for Religious Heritage (FRH) is a non-faith, non-profit European network founded in 2011 to promote and safeguard **historic places of worship**, bringing together organisations and individuals in an international organisation engaged in **multi-level forums and events** to bring the voice of religious heritage to **relevant stakeholders** and **policymakers**.



The European network for historic places of worship

## 2. The Network

+ 200 members  
+ 52 countries



# Religious heritage importance



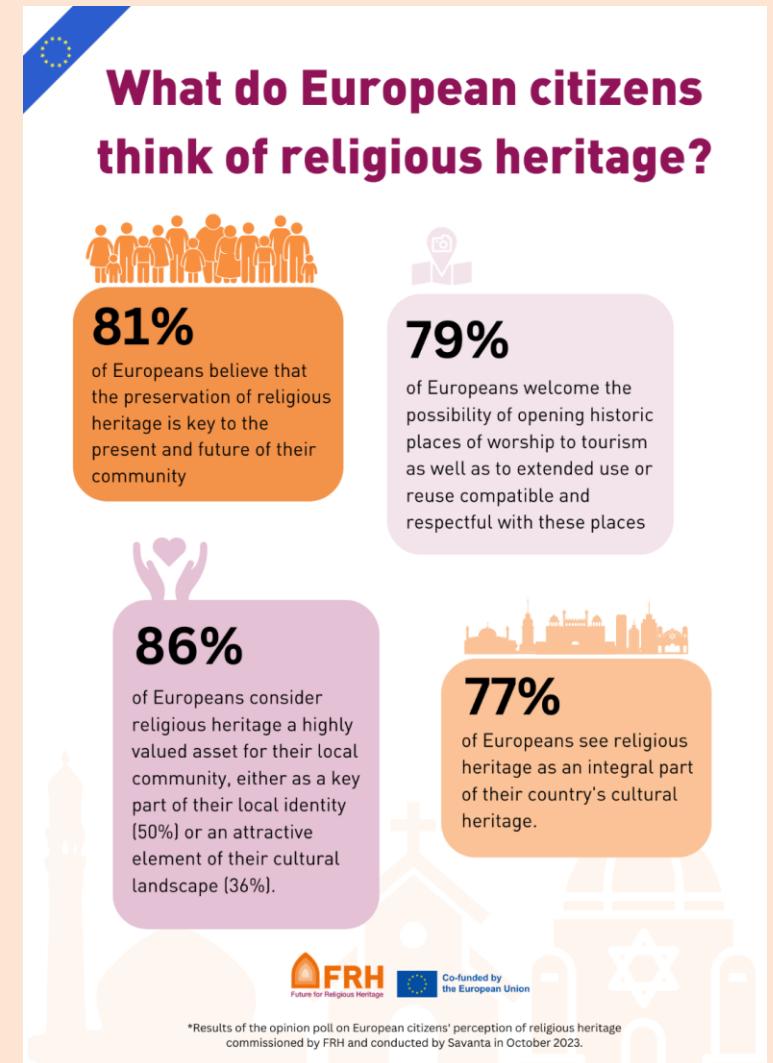
## The survey

FRH commissioned a Europe-wide survey in October 2023 to know the perception of European citizens of religious heritage across the continent and how they relate to it. This survey followed up on a previous survey from 2014.

## Methodology

The survey was conducted **in October 2023 by Savanta**, one of the UK's main data and research companies offering opinion polling and fast survey services. It was run online on **8,000 Europeans in 8 countries (1,000 contestants per country): France, Germany, Greece, Poland, Romania, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.**

## Poster



Available at: <https://bit.ly/3VKbNpy>

### 3. Our activities



# 3.1 Biennial Conferences

FRH Conferences analyse the current scenario of religious heritage in Europe, sharing examples of good practice at local, national and international levels and feeding the debate on the most urgent issues from an interdisciplinary perspective. These conferences are organised in collaboration with an FRH member who acts as a local partner.



Upcoming conference:



**Title:** Future-proofing religious heritage (TBC)

**Dates:** 22-23 October 2026

**Location:** Leuven, Belgium

**Sub-themes:**

- 1) Ownership of Religious Heritage
- 2) The Holistic Approach
- 3) Policies and Instruments Across Europe

**More information:**

# 3.2 Training & capacity building



The FRH Talks are a series of one-hour virtual chats in which we invite the public to learn more about a specific topic with an expert in the field of cultural heritage.

A collage of four event banners for FRH TALKS. 1. Top left: "ESACH TALKS! YOUNG VOICES IN RELIGIOUS HERITAGE" on 2 March 2023, featuring Marcos Gerardo Calles Lombao. 2. Top right: "Museums in sacred spaces: keys to success by the Diocesan and Cathedral Museum in Lugo" on 16 December 2023, featuring Daniel Carpenter and Mary Lewis. 3. Bottom left: "European Year of Skills: the future of endangered heritage with the Heritage Crafts Association" on 25 May 2023, featuring Daniel Carpenter and Mary Lewis. 4. Bottom right: "FRH TALKS" general banner.



The FRH Masterclasses aim to enhance FRH members' ability to deal with challenges by providing them with a deeper understanding of innovative concepts and methodologies. They are organised in collaboration with FRH members who act as local partners.

Two event banners for FRH Masterclasses. 1. Left: "MASTERCLASS Understanding, reconnecting and rethinking the soul of religious architecture" on 19-21 October 2023 in Batalha, Portugal. 2. Right: "MASTERCLASS Reconstruction of religious buildings in 20th and 21st century Europe: monuments, heritage and identity" on 25-26 September 2023 in Aachen, Germany.

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(exclusive for members)

These meetings are organised exclusively for FRH members and are an excellent opportunity to meet and network with other member organisations and individuals, while exploring the religious heritage landscape of a European region/country. Each meeting is organised in collaboration with FRH members who act as local partners.

Three images showing the locations of FRH Face-to-Face Members' Meetings. 1. Top: Aerial view of Naumburg, Germany. 2. Bottom left: Aerial view of Bucevina, Romania. 3. Bottom right: Aerial view of Valletta, Malta.

# 3.3 Awareness raising



## Run for Heritage

The Run for Heritage campaign (2021-2023) combined sports and religious heritage through fun, educational activities that invite young people to discover their historic places of worship, a part of their heritage that often goes unnoticed.



## Religious Heritage Innovator of the Year

This award celebrates excellence and innovation in religious heritage by recognising every year five outstanding contributions to the understanding, safeguarding, enhancement and/or promotion of Europe's places of worship.



## FRH Photo Competition

The world is full of unknown religious architectural wonders, fascinating artefacts, and unique celebrations. Every year the FRH Photo Competition selects the 9 best photographs of religious heritage from around the globe.

# 3.4 Digital initiatives

Your guide to discovering Europe's religious heritage while travelling

More than 9,000 sites

[www.religiana.com](http://www.religiana.com)

+9,500

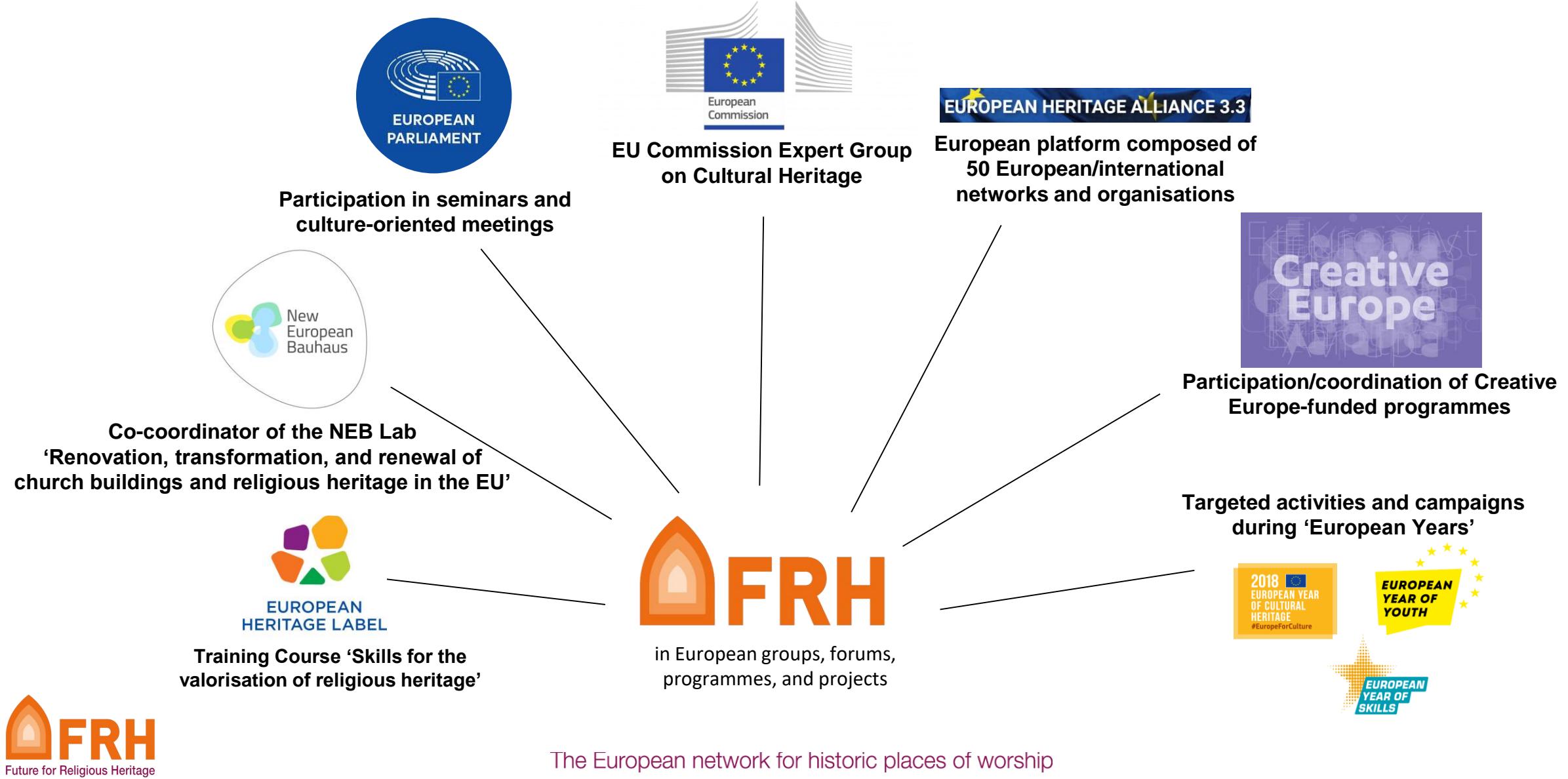
Religious heritage sites in Europe

+500

new sites in the last year

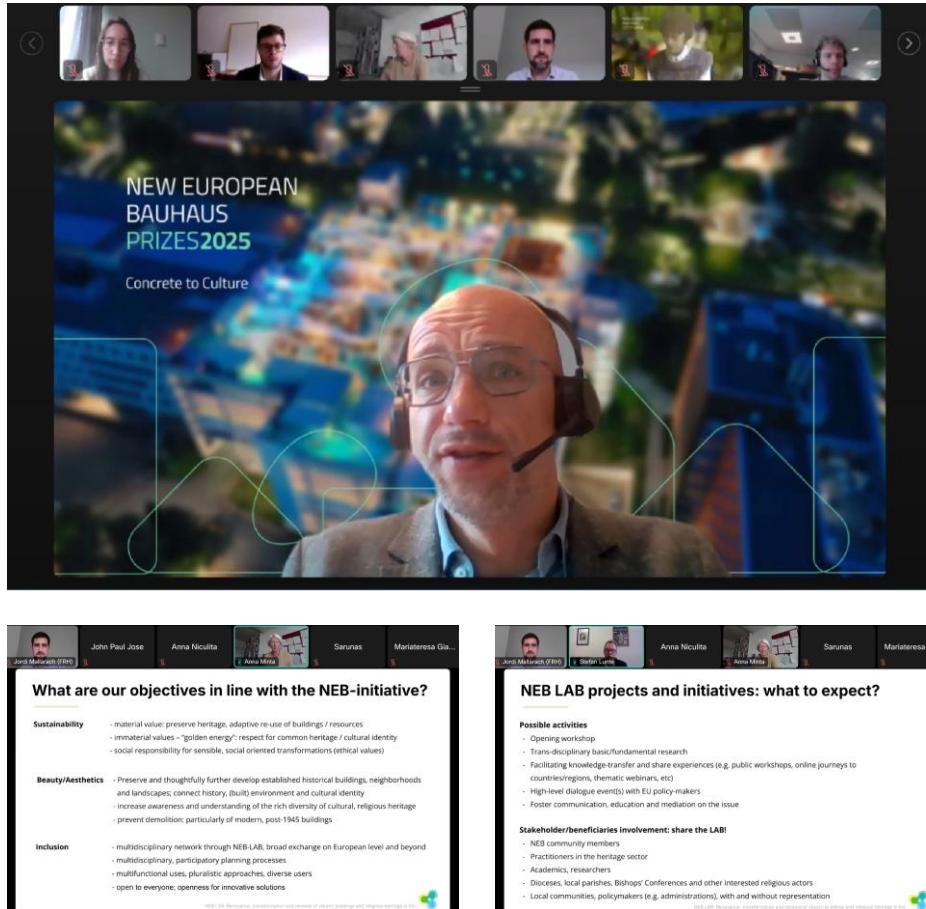
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# 4. Advocacy and EU relations



# 4.1 New European Bauhaus Lab

FRH, COMECE and the Catholic Private University of Linz presented a joint proposal to set up a New European Bauhaus Lab ‘Renovation, transformation, and renewal of church buildings and religious heritage in the EU’



## What is a NEB Lab?

The New European Bauhaus (NEB) Labs are co-creation spaces gathering different actors to deliver beautiful, sustainable, and inclusive solutions for built environments across the EU.

## Our goal

We aim to gather practical examples of renovation, transformation and renewal, and engage in a high-level dialogue with politicians and stakeholders across Europe, as well as to build a strong consortium for Horizon Europe projects.

+20

organisations  
& individuals

have expressed  
their interest in  
joining this lab

## How can you join us?

The lab will be open to any religious heritage professional, research groups interested . If you want to join us as a partner, please contact our office at [members@frh-europe.org](mailto:members@frh-europe.org)

# 5.1 Current EU-funded projects



## MIRETAGE - European Pathways to Minority Religious Heritage

MIRETAGE aims to develop new **methodologies for adult education** through minority religious heritage. The results will include **three heritage trails** will be co-created through heritage labs with local religious communities in **Almere (the Netherlands)**, **Borgerhout (Belgium)**, and **Barcelona (Spain)**.

<https://www.miretage.eu/>



**Erasmus +**

Cooperation partnerships in adult education



**36 months**

December 2023 – December 2026



## 5.2 Current EU-funded projects



**Creative Europe**

Cooperation projects. Artistic creation and circulation



**24 months**

October 2024 – October 2026

### **POLYVERSE - Promoting multicultural dialogue & religious heritage by creating a European Interreligious Choir**

POLYVERSE aims to unleash the power of music for intercultural and interreligious dialogue by co-creating an **original interfaith musical composition** (bringing together the musical traditions of Christianity, Judaism and Islam) that will be performed by a **European Interreligious Choir**.

<https://www.polyverseproject.eu/>



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# BENEFITS OF BECOMING A MEMBER

- Access to an **extensive network connecting professionals and organisations**
- Exclusive **face-to-face meetings** and **masterclasses** across Europe
- **Discounts** to attend **FRH conferences** and other events where we are partners
- Possibility to be a partner in new **European projects** (Erasmus +, etc.)
- **Visibility** of your work and activities in our newsletter, social media and events
- Relevant **information** on the cultural heritage sector and European policies

FRH's network in Europe and beyond



# HOW TO JOIN FRH?

1. Fill in the **application form** on our website:  
<https://forms.monday.com/forms/daa2930b6f24bec46680d474e2562aae?r=use1>
2. You will receive a **welcome package** with your **membership invoice** in a few days
3. Start benefiting from all the advantages of the network!

FRH's network in Europe and beyond



# FUTURE FOR RELIGIOUS HERITAGE

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Follow us to keep updated on the latest religious heritage news

-  **Facebook** - @FutureForReligious Heritage
-  **Twitter** - @FRH\_Europe
-  **Instagram** – @frh\_Europe
-  **LinkedIn** – Future For Religious Heritage (FRH)
-  **Website** – [www.frh-europe.org](http://www.frh-europe.org)
-  **Email** – [info@frh-europe.org](mailto:info@frh-europe.org)

## Join the network!