

Dear Members and Associates,

As for the past 4 years E.C.C.O. was part of European Cultural Heritage Skills Aliens funded by Erasmus+ program of the European Union, we would like to introduce to you the final work and outcome of the CHARTER project, designed to bridge the gaps between education, training, and labour market needs in the cultural heritage sector.

CHARTER is the first European blueprint in the field of culture and most specifically on the heritage sector, reuniting some of the most important stakeholders with the common goal of developing a sector skills strategy for cultural heritage, providing concrete education and training solutions for quick take-up at regional and national level.

CHARTER consortium involved the diversity and richness of European heritage with 47 partners, including education and training institutions, industry and employers, European and international networks and regions, all working together to write a new chapter for the sector.

From 2021 until 2024, CHARTER has investigated the heritage sector to:

- Map the needs and identify skills shortages and mismatches
- Clarify occupational roles and activities
- Identify curricula and learning outcomes for a responsive educational and training system
- Ensure qualitative professional development that can address current challenges
- Facilitate the upskilling and reskilling of core and transversal skills
- Make clear the power and value of cultural heritage in driving social cohesion, promoting a sustainable future for Europe and delivering economic benefits

Developed through extensive collaboration, the project has reached its end and the final results are already published. During our forthcoming General Assembly, we will present shortly CHARTER results from the perspective of the Conservator-restorer reality. Therefore, we invite all conservator-restorers across all member organisations to get acquainted with the outcomes of the project and also actively disseminating them freely. But foremost we encourage you to share your questions, thoughts or comments in regard of CHARTER's key outcomes.

For your convenience, here they are in a nutshell:

- ***Guidelines on innovative/emerging cultural heritage education and training paths*** - CHARTER identified eight pathways of E&T opportunities which are considered to be of high future potential. These pathways address current and future gaps and needs of the heritage sector. The term "pathway" was chosen to indicate that we are not talking about eight individual curricula or training programmes, but rather about segments of heritage E&T consisting of curricula/training programmes that share similar innovative/emerging content. The pathways constitute those segments of heritage E&T in which CHARTER recommends new curricula should be developed or current curricula should be adapted to new requirements.

https://charter-alliance.eu/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/D3.6.-Guidelines-on-innovativeemerging-cultural-heritage-education-and-training-paths_final.pdf

- ***Securing an innovative and enterprising heritage sector: Twelve transformative recommendations from the CHARTER project*** - The 12 Recommendations form a central part of the Skills Strategy and aim to achieve the goal of a well-functioning heritage ecosystem. They are the result of the research, enquiries, consultation and cooperation with regional, national and European stakeholders carried out by the project since 2021. They provide a blueprint for the main stakeholders (European Union level,

EU Member States & Regional authorities, E&T providers and Heritage institutions/ employers) on how to bridge the gaps between education & training systems and labour market needs in the heritage sector.

https://charter-alliance.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/CHARTER-Alliance_Recommendations_2024.pdf

- **Cultural Heritage Skills Alliance and Action Plan: Recommendations for Sustainable Strategies** - The document brings together the key results of the CHARTER project and uses them to formulate a sustainable strategy for the take-up of the results on a long-term basis. It is based on all previous work and findings of the project, which are referenced throughout the document to ease the overall understanding of the strategy. It provides context for the key findings concerning skills development, data-driven skills intelligence, and sectoral dynamics, which in turn have informed its strategic policy recommendations. It also contains specific papers detailing some of CHARTER work and proposals.

<https://charter-alliance.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/D5.3-CHARTER-Skills-Strategy.pdf>

- **CHARTER BOOKLET-1- A new model for profiling futureproof heritage practice and CHARTER Booklet-2-Actions for supportive Education and Training in a forward-looking Cultural Heritage sector** - CHARTER has produced a set of three booklets that showcase the main findings of the four years of project work. The booklets synthesise our work to (1) profile the heritage ecosystem, (2) support heritage education and training, and (3) understand sectoral dynamics.

https://charter-alliance.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/CHARTER-BOOKLET-1_A-new-model-for-profiling-a-futureproof-heritage-practice.pdf

https://charter-alliance.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/CHARTER-Booklet-2_Actions-for-supportive-Education-and-Training-in-a-forward-looking-Cultural-Heritage-sector.pdf

- **CHARTER Factsheets – Heritage in taxonomies and cultural statistics** - This factsheets aims at raising the attention on the challenges identified by CHARTER to make the heritage sector visible in cultural statistics. It conveys a brief summary of the research of CHARTER on the representation of heritage practice, highlighting complementary information for the implementation of CHARTER recommendations regarding the improvement of cultural statistics for the heritage sector.

https://charter-alliance.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/CHARTER_Factsheets_Heritage-in-taxonomies-and-cultural-statistics.pdf