

## **Representation by the Members of the ARCCHIP Workshop**

As participants in the ARCCHIP workshop, held in the Czech Republic during April 2001, we would like to make representations about the Draft 6<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme.

The workshop in Prague brought together representatives from 15 European countries, including 7 associated countries. The purpose of the workshop was to discuss the possibilities for research into the cultural heritage under the current 5<sup>th</sup> Framework document, particularly the topic of economic and social benefits of cultural heritage. The workshop has demonstrated that this topic is of very great relevance to Europe. Understanding of cultural heritage is central to European identity.

Having noticed that the draft of the forthcoming 6<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme document does not mention cultural heritage, we are afraid that research into the cultural heritage will be discontinued. Without such research, all of us will lose an opportunity to strengthen European unity.

Therefore we would like to recommend that the forthcoming 6<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme includes

- the involvement of cultural heritage in each of the priorities
  - Sustainable Development and Global Change
  - Citizens and Governance in European Society,
- cultural heritage as be one of priorities for the ERA base strengthening new national programmes,
- cultural heritage to be one of priorities for networks of excellence.

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