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The President's Editorial

Dear friends,

It was a pleasure to see many of you at the “Days of European Stud Culture” at Lipica in October. Although if we were always convinced that our responsibility for the historic horse breeding institutions of Europe is closely connected to heritage preservation, we never thought those links could be as clearly recognized as it turned out at Lipica. During the symposium we discovered that the representatives of different Ministries of Culture, museum directors, historians and scientists all agree to help us explaining why the protection of our sites and the preservation of our traditions are essential. The support of experts of the cultural field is immeasurable, because now we have arguments to explain to the political and administrative authorities that our heritage is a capacity of local development in many ways, as they were presented during the symposium. The publication of the symposium-contributions is in progress and will be available soon.

Now, that the end of the year is coming close, it is time to look back. At the beginning of January 2012, the ESSA office at Marbach State Stud will be operating since three years. A lot has happened during this time: You are reading issue number 14 of our newsletter, providing you with news of our partner institutions, events and European policies. ESSA promotion material exists in three languages and was distributed to all partner institutions. The ESSA website is a valuable source of information for ESSA members and friends of European Stud Culture. Every day new virtual friends register on the ESSA presence at Facebook.

Our general assemblies at Topolčianky (2009), Neustadt-Dosse (2010) and Le Pin (2011) were great opportunities for our members to meet and to share experiences. The associated receptions attracted representatives from the equestrian sector, politics and media. Other first class events were the exhibition and reception “Horses : a European Heritage” at Brussels 2010 and the “Days of European Stud Culture” at Lipica 2011. We are very grateful for the grants of the Ministry for Rural Areas, Food and Consumer Protection of Baden-Wuerttemberg (Germany) and the Slovenian Ministry of Culture, which enabled us to organise those events.



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During this year, performances of ESSA-quadrilles and information stands promoted our objectives at the French horse fair “Cheval Passion”, the “International Pfingstturnier” at Wiesbaden (Germany) and the “Marbach Stallion Parades”.

It is remarkable how much was achieved during the last three years, considering the very limited budget we started with. Today, our association counts 32 partner institutions from 16 European countries, as well as personal and supporting members. Let’s take this success as motivation to keep up our good collaboration work and let’s continue to campaign jointly for the preservation of our cultural heritage!

Have a wonderful Christmas time and a good start in 2012!

Bernard Maurel

New ESSA members:

Welcome to the Irish National Stud

The lands around Tully have been associated with the breeding of horses since about 1300 when it is likely that war horses were bred here for the Knights of Malta. However, the first record of the existence of a stud farm is in 1900, when the lands were purchased from a local farmer James Fay, by Colonel William Hall-Walker, who later became Lord Wavertree. He succeeded in building up a collection of foundation mares which had tremendous influence on racing. In the ten year period 1904 – 1914 there were seven Classic winners bred at Tully.

During this period, Colonel Hall-Walker also decided to have a Japanese Garden built on a boggy site near Tully House. The garden was laid out by an eminent Japanese landscape gardener, Tassa Eida, assisted by an army of local labourers. In 1916, Colonel Hall-Walker presented his stud to the British government for the purpose of founding a British National Stud. In 1043, the newly formed Irish



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government took over the land and buildings at an agreed valuation. In 1945, the Irish National Stud Company Ltd was formed and it officially took over the running of the stud on 31st August, 1946. Since then, it has continued to expand and develop and is now a source of national pride and an international tourist attraction.

The Tourism side of the Stud is open 7 days a week from 12th February to 27th November each year, offering daily guided tours of the Stud, visits to the Japanese Gardens, the Horse Museum and the Millennium project – St. Fiachra's Garden. The Visitor Centre houses a Restaurant and a gift shop.

To find out more about the Irish National Stud see <http://irishnationalstud.ie/>

Welcome to the Equine College of Ypäjä

Education and training

Accommodated at the premises of the former Finnish National Stud, Ypäjä Equine College trains world-class professionals for the working life and is one of Europe's largest vocational institutes in the equine sector. Through an extensive range of study programmes and several options on orientation, the college offers students an opportunity for versatile education in the equine sector. Qualified professionals, such as grooms, riding instructors and tutors, graduate from the Equine College of Ypäjä.

Facilities and horses

Ypäjä Equine College has four riding halls (two of which are heated) - a lit one kilometre long trotting track and a three kilometre long track for speed training, several outdoor riding arenas and an international level cross-country track. The population of 300 horses consists of riding horses, trotters and draught horses. In the stud there is a group of 30 mares and approximately 15 foals are born per year. 150 of the horses are owned by the college, 30 horses owned by MTT Horse Research Centre are situated in the same premises, the other horses are privately owned. Special attention is paid to breed and training the "Finnhorse", the only native horse-breed.

The owners of Ypäjä Equine College are the State of Finland, the municipalities of Forssa, Jokioinen and Ypäjä as well as two central organizations in the equine sector, Suomen Hippos (the Finnish



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Trotting and Breeding Association) and the Equestrian Federation of Finland. The College operates by the authorization of the Government and under the control of the Ministry of Culture and Education.

Competitions and events

Ypäjä Equine College organizes several equestrian events annually, including show jumping, dressage, eventing, stud book shows, carriage driving and harness racing. The events are intended for enthusiasts from regional level to the top national level. The best-known events are the Finnderby, an international show jumping competition since the year 1973 and “Suomenratsujen Kuninkaalliset”, the main national event for Finnhorses in riding, with championships for 3-, 4-, 5- and 6-year old horses.

Top-class training, short courses and riding school

Ypäjä is a meeting place that offers equestrian enthusiasts an opportunity to improve their equine skills in an ideal environment by participating various training sessions, short courses or riding school. Equine College organizes several international training courses with top specialists every year. The courses are open to the public to attend. The riding school of the College offers courses for riders of all ages and levels. Part of the riding school horses are Finnhorses, part warm blood horses. The riding school also organizes summer camps for youngsters and adults.

Rooms and restaurants in historical premises

The history, buildings and premises of the former Ypäjä National Stud, where Equine College is situated today, as well as the Finnish Equestrian Museum are open for visitors the year round. The National Equine Competence Association of Finland is also situated in the premises of Equine College. In addition to restaurant activities, the two restaurants and a small, historical conference room can be booked for guests, celebrations and private parties. There is also the Auditorium for 70 persons available. Accommodation facilities are available in the College's course centre as well as in terraced house type buildings, where flats can be rented. The Finnish traditional Sauna is available in most of the flats.

To find out more about the Ypäjä Equine College see <http://www.hevosopisto.fi>



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Equitation in the French tradition is inscribed in the UNESCO list of intangible heritage

At its meeting in Bali (Indonesia) at the end of November the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of Intangible Heritage inscribed “Equitation in the French tradition” in the representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity according to the following statement: *“Equitation in the French tradition is a school of horseback riding that emphasizes harmonious relations between humans and horses. Practised throughout France and elsewhere, its most widely known community is the Cadre Noir of Saumur, based at the National School of Equitation. Here horsemen learn to combine human demands with respect for the horse’s body and mood. Riders desire to establish close relations with the horse and work towards achieving ‘lightness’. There is strong cooperation between generations and respect for the experience of older riders.”*

The dossier, which was put forward in August 2010 for an inscription during the autumn of 2011, was prepared jointly by the French Ministry of Culture in collaboration with the Cadre Noir of Saumur, France’s prestigious national riding school, now a partner within the French institute of the Horse, alongside the stud farms.

This dossier takes into consideration all the practices and savoir-faire (dressage techniques, saddler, farrier), the vocabulary, the rituals and the empirical knowledge of horsemanship (the horse’s behaviour, its reactions to the rider’s indications and gestures) associated with this French tradition. It identifies the characteristics of this heritage in terms of the legacy of continuous practice over more than five centuries. This French tradition of horsemanship is based on a doctrine, which is itself the result of the reflections of several generations of riders, the basic principles of which express the quest for a harmonious relationship between the rider and his horse, more than a mere technique, an education or an art. It is what is known as «lightness», based on the discretion of the rider’s gestures and the absence of force or constraint. It underlines exchanges and dialogue between the rider and the animal and this is perhaps its modernity. The UNESCO initiative is considered in an open-ended way and one of its ambitions is to reinforce exchanges with other riding schools, particularly in Europe. It also aims to encourage scientific research on horses and riding and to guarantee the transmission of the French tradition.

The term ‘cultural heritage’ has changed content considerably in recent decades, partially owing to the instruments developed by UNESCO. Cultural heritage does not end at monuments and collections



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of objects. It also includes traditions or living expressions inherited from our ancestors and passed on to our descendants, such as oral traditions, performing arts, social practices, rituals, festive events, knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe or the knowledge and skills to produce traditional crafts. While fragile, intangible cultural heritage is an important factor in maintaining cultural diversity in the face of growing globalization, an understanding of the intangible cultural heritage of different communities helps with intercultural dialogue and encourages mutual respect for other ways of life. The importance of intangible cultural heritage is not the cultural manifestation itself but rather the wealth of knowledge and skills that is transmitted through it from one generation to the next. The social and economic value of this transmission of knowledge is relevant for minority groups and for mainstream social groups within a state, and is as important for developing states as for developed ones.

The inscription of Equitation in the French tradition on the UNESCO list of Intangible Heritage is a sign for the growing awareness of equestrian heritage as an important part of our culture and shows that the objectives and activities of ESSA are really on the pulse of time.

For more information see www.unesco.org

Review: “Days of European Stud Culture” at Lipica National Stud

„The European State Studs are a first class cultural heritage, which needs protection and stewardship“, agreed the participants of the symposium which took place as part of the “Days of European Stud Culture”. From October 12th to 14th ESSA had invited to the Slovenian National Stud of Lipica, in order to bring experts from the field of culture and the equestrian world together and to raise awareness for the cultural significance of the European State studs.

High level representatives of different European Ministries of Culture, universities, museums and international Institutions had come to Lipica, first of all Dr. Gustavo Araoz, President of ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) and his colleague Dr. Ángela Rojas. Dr. Boštjan Žekš, Slovenian Minister of Culture and patron of the event opened the symposium.



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The cultural aspects of the European state studs were illustrated and discussed in a wide range of presentations. The thematic aspects reached from historic stud premises with their associated cultural landscapes, collections and archives to traditions, knowledge, the culture of classical riding and carriage driving to the heritage “horse”. Different horse breeds were in the focus of attention. First of all the native Lippizaner horses, which are regarded as a National Heritage of Slovenia, as well as Altkladruher horses which enjoy the same status at their country of origin, the Czech Republic. Dr. Stefan Rieder, director of the Swiss National Stud Avenches gave an introduction to questions of ethics surrounding the breeding and keeping of horses. Dr. Astrid von Velsen-Zerweck, director of the German State Stud Marbach, moderated the programme and the concluding panel discussion.

A guided stud tour with performance of the Lipica Classical Riding School and a visit to the recently opened museum “Lipikum“ completed the Days of European Stud Culture. The publication of the symposium contributions is in preparation.

Images of the event are available on www.europeanstatestuds.org.

Review: Heritage, conservation and museum’s fair Exponatec Cologne and colloquium “Monument doping in Germany – What can a monument bear?”

From November 16th to 18th the International Trade Fair for Museums, Conservation and Heritage “Exponatec Cologne”, the leading trade fair for museums, conservation and heritage in Europe, took place. Some 4,200 visitors from 24 countries and more than 200 companies and institutions from 18 countries encountered the future and got together for a dialogue in Cologne. As Europa Nostra member ESSA had the opportunity to present itself at the information stand of Europa Nostra and used the opportunity to get in touch with other cultural institutions and to raise awareness for the European State Studs as unique heritage sites of European significance.

Some 250 delegates representing German heritage organisations, industry and professionals working in the field of monuments’ restoration and conservation responded positively to the invitation of Europa Nostra Deutschland, Deutsche Stiftung Denkmalschutz und Deutsche Burgenvereinigung to discuss the controversial issue “Regulations for heritage buildings in Germany - how much can a monument bear?” Owners and managers of historical buildings are often confronted with great



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challenges when trying to fulfill specific legal requirements regarding energy efficiency, fire protection and accessibility for handicapped persons. This very well attended colloquium offered a forum for the presentation of different views and the exchange of information between many stakeholders concerned.

For more information see www.europanostr.org

European Heritage Label adopted by the European Parliament

At its plenary session in Strasbourg, the European Parliament adopted on 16th November 2011, in second reading, the European Heritage Label. This decision paves the way to a final decision by the Council, possibly even before the end of this year. From 2013, a voluntary European Heritage Label may be granted to symbolic sites for Europe's history or integration. Particular attention will go to "transnational" sites, given their special symbolism for Europe's common history.

Every two years, Member States will be able to propose up to two candidate sites, from which the jury of 13 independent experts will choose a maximum of one. The Label will guarantee the quality of selected sites such as monuments, natural, submerged, archaeological, industrial or urban sites, cultural landscapes, places of remembrance, cultural goods and objects or intangible heritage associated with a place. It may also be granted to contemporary heritage, for its relevance to Europe's common history and heritage, rather than its architectural or aesthetic merits. Member States may also apply for a "thematic" Label for several national sites linked by a common theme.

The European Heritage Label scheme builds on an intergovernmental one of the same name, started in 2006. Sites that have been awarded labels since 2006 under the old scheme may apply for labels under the new one. Within six years of the new scheme's entry into effect, a decision should be taken on whether European third countries may also take part. Managing, protecting and promoting the sites will remain the responsibility of Member States. The European Commission will run communication and awareness-raising work such as creating a specific internet site for the Label and encouraging promotional activities by the network of labeled sites.

Source: www.europanostr.org



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Reform of the Common Agricultural Policy and its impact on heritage

The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) is due to be reformed by 2013. After a wide-ranging public debate, the European Commission presented on November 18th, 2010 a Communication on “the CAP towards 2020”, which outlines options for the future CAP and launched the debate with the other institutions and with stakeholders. On 12 October 2011 the Commission presented a set of legal proposals designed to make the CAP a more effective policy for a more competitive and sustainable agriculture and vibrant rural areas. Following a debate in the European Parliament and the Council, the approval of the different regulations and implementing acts is expected by the end of 2013, with a view to having the CAP reform in place as from 1st January 2014.

Europa Nostra welcomes the Commission's recognition, in the proposed Rural Development Rules, of the importance the cultural and natural heritage plays in rural development. Rural economies, tourism and the well-being of Europe's citizens all benefit from the proper care of Europe's landscapes and the cultural and natural heritage of rural areas. There is a case to be made for the proposals to go further in assisting small farmers and in requiring farmers to deliver environmental benefits.

To better understand the heritage related issues on the ongoing reform of the Common Agricultural Policy of the European Union, you may wish to read the statement “Europe's living landscapes: cultural heritage as a force for rural development”, which is available at the ESSA member section of www.europeansstatestuds.org.

EEA Financial Mechanism 2009-2014: An opportunity for heritage

During the “Days of European Stud Culture” the participants of the event had the opportunity to visit the new stud museum “Lipikum”. The establishment of this fabulous source of information was supported by grants from Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway through the EEA Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism. We would like to introduce these initiatives here, because they might be a good funding opportunity for other ESSA partner institutions from the newest EU member countries.



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Through the EEA and Norway Grants - Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway contribute to reducing social and economic disparities in the European Economic Area (EEA) and to strengthening bilateral relations with the beneficiary countries. In the period 2004- 2009 the three donor states made available € 1.3 billion for EEA and Norway Grants to the 12 newest EU member countries (Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia) as well as for Greece, Portugal and Spain. Another € 1.79 billion is set aside for the period 2009-2014. Norway contributes around 97% of the total funding. Among the key areas cultural heritage is given an important priority with a share of 21%.

The above is an extract from the official presentation for the EEA Financial Mechanism. By now it seems that quite many of those of the Europa Nostra members being eligible for financial contribution through these funds are well informed of their existence. Based upon the agreed framework there has been - within each respective beneficiary country - a selection process regarding the thematic fields and sectors that would receive funding, culminating in the signing of a Memoranda of Understanding (MoU). Some countries have already concluded this process, but there should still be a possibility to influence upon the outcome of such processes. Europa Nostra Norway (ENN) plays a particular role in this connection. It has been involved - on donor's side - from a very early stage in the programme processes. It has been informing widely about the funds - prior to and during the respective presentation events in the various recipient countries and further advising EN member organisations on procedures. ENN seeks to maintain its involvement also during the current funding period (2009 - 2014).

For more information see www.eeagrants.org and www.norwaygrants.org

Summary: European Horse Network's annual meeting at Brussels October 26th, 2011

PART 1: short presentation of the participating organisations

- International Federation of Horse Racing Authorities (Philippe Casier)
Is concerned with gallop races at European level. Mutual betting gives life to races.
How can cooperation between countries be developed?



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- EPMA European Pari Mutuel Association (Florence Gras)
Ten members: betting operators. Objective: promotion of racing as sport through betting (because it is for breeding). The horse is the centre of a lot of issues that EPMA can promote (as long as racing people are convinced).

- ESSA (Bernard Maurel)
How can our association help to preserve the state studs' cultural heritage? Also the possibility for national studs to be places where people can find information about the standards to maintain horses (FEI study on that topic is already in progress)

- FECTU (Pit Schlechter) European Draught Horse Federation
Members of ten European countries; participates at Vet symposium at New Delhi; meets MEP; concerns animal power – working animals

- Confédération Belge du Cheval (Inge Vandael)
Manages the data bases of all Belgian horses (34 stud books)

- EEF European Equestrian Federation (Bo Helander)
40 members; recent sport conference and General Assembly at London in September. Is concerned with FEI system, where European countries contribute a lot and have just 1 voice like some countries who never organise an FEI event.

- FEI Fédération Equestre Internationale (Harald Müller)
Confirms necessity of «modern» organisation, already works by constitutional task force, but stays with principle 1 country 1 vote. Is concerned with health, education, welfare, connection of the sport unit with the horse industry.

- WHW World Horse Welfare (Roly Owers)
Campaign about transport of horses; promotes education to prevent welfare cases (due to ignorance); special program for Cambodia.

- SHCF Swedish Horse Council Foundation (Stefan Johanson)



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Umbrella of horse related organisations; Swedish government is not a funding partner for research on horses anymore; SHCF has now the responsibility for the three national centres; new business model to be established for Flying breeding activity.

PART 2: thematic issues and discussions

- Pierre Lekeux presents the strategic plan for the HIPPOLIA at CAEN (Basse-Normandie): regroup scientists from different universities; objectives: research, education, services, development.
- Roly Owers presents the transport issues: no change of the EU directive, and the diseases issues: Infectious anaemia in Italy
- Florence Gras presents the European Landowners Organisation. Public good or public heritage are their points of interest. Rural development is one of their objectives. Some funding is possible.

PART 3: official annual meeting

Activity report

EHN needs more help of the members to connect with MEP of their countries.
The EU meeting on the CAP reform is postponed to December or January.

Financial report

EPMA takes all the arrangements for EHN. 2010 was negative but covered by SHCF.

New members

Hippolis: The National Equine Competence Association of Finland is accepted and will introduce itself at the next EHN meeting.

Elections

The costs of the board members are covered by their own organisations. Maximum 7 members of different areas. Klaus Miesner is elected for WBFSh.



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Action plan for 2012

Adopted (see EHN-website)

EHN/MEP Horse Group meeting on January 25th, 2012

The European Horse Network has invited representatives of its partner institutions – including ESSA - to the second MEP Horse Group lunch in the European Parliament on the January 25th, 2012. Julie Girling, as the host of the meeting has chosen to focus on the Common Agriculture Policy Reform.

The purpose of the lunch is to discuss the significant impact of the horses in modern rural development and agriculture, and how the horse sector is affected by the current CAP reform process. The documents adopted early October by the European Commission should be discussed in the first months of 2012 in various EP Committees.

After an introduction from Julie Girling and an analysis of CAP challenges from Britta Reimers, European Horse Network experts will present the Horse sector within the context of the CAP reform and answer questions. The equine sector is particularly interested in this reform, as horses in Europe graze more than six million hectares of permanent pasture and provide more than 400 000 jobs, mostly in rural areas. Equine business, particularly horse breeding provide an important source of income for much of the European farming population.

A briefing from the European Horse Network on this issue can be found in the information part of the member's area of the ESSA website.

ESSA dates 2012

May 7th to 9th 2012 General Assembly at BUCHAREST

August 2012 EAAP annual congress at BRATISLAVA