



## News

### "A journey through space and time"

Deputy Secretary General opens Cultural Routes Annual Advisory Forum in Aranjuez  
Deputy Secretary General Aranjuez 29 October 2015



Paloma Sobrini, Gabriella Battaini Dragoni, Miguel Ángel Recio Crespo, Colette Flesch and Federico Palomera Güez

“Even as Europe was picking itself up from the devastation of the Second World War, even though our nations were consumed with giant questions of economic and political stability, our leaders still understood that culture is part of Europe’s DNA – and that recognising our common heritage would help heal divisions and sustain peace”, emphasised Gabriella Battaini Dragoni, while opening the 5th edition of the [Council of Europe Cultural Routes Annual Advisory Forum in Aranjuez](#) (Spain).

Deputy Secretary General highlighted the relevance of cultural democracy, diversity and mutual exchange across European boundaries.

“Centuries ago palaces were, of course, a sign of strength and power, but also the pride and inventiveness of nations. European societies have long conferred great importance on their surroundings”, she said.

The Forum provides a platform for sharing experiences, debating professional practices and launching new initiatives.

“The itinerary, seen as an intercultural laboratory to enhance high-quality tourism, is a journey beyond territorial and conceptual borders. It is a path which allows us to retrace our European roots”, underlined Gabriella Battaini Dragoni.