

SoPHIA's Stakeholders Virtual Conference Cultural Heritage ? Rethinking Impact Assessments



[SoPHIA](#) [Social Platform for Holistic Heritage Impact Assessment], an EU research and innovation Horizon 2020 funded project, reviewed the literature, policy programmes and practices and mapped existing gaps, issues and problems. After consultations during the first Workshop with members of the Social Platform, a draft model was designed. The draft model has been tested in twelve case studies across Europe.

Against this background, SoPHIA invited researchers, practitioners, policymakers from Europe and beyond and anyone interested to a collective reflection on the diverse impact of cultural heritage during the **two days SoPHIA's Stakeholder Virtual Conference**. The first day faced pressing issues of cultural heritage. Those issues have proven to be relevant to the cases of cultural heritage interventions analysed in the project. Representatives from the cases and invited guest discussed with the audience main challenges and opportunities that have been encountered, in parallel panels:

- bridging the gap between culture and sustainability
- access and inclusion in public spaces and in cultural heritage education
- opportunities and challenges of evaluation requirements
- dissonant European cultural heritage
- over-tourism in urban environments.

In the framework of panel 3, focused on how to assess social capital and access to larger cultural areas, Prof. Gabor Sonkoly from Eötvös Loránd University, Hungary, presented the contribution of the UNCHARTED project to this specific topic.

Based on the discussions, the programme of the second day centred on the findings of the SoPHIA case studies and the debate on the cultural heritage draft model for impact assessment was spurred. A virtual World Café allowed Conference participants to provide feedback and input on issues that related the concrete findings and the discussions of the first Conference day.

Agenda.

Speakers.

[Conference's topics.](#)

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