



ICOM-Europe, In der Halde 1, 14195 Berlin, Germany

Chairman

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Pressrelease

ICOM Europe wishes to assure that it very much welcomes the celebration of the Long Night of Museums in Europe on the 16th of May 2009. All experiences with such events in various cities in Europe have shown that this endeavour will increase the public acceptance of museums and its audience. European museums prove their commitment to join on this day and to open their doors in order to participate and share the richness of Europe's cultural goods. This means to acknowledge the importance of museums to act as social and cultural memories to all people in Europe, including those who have immigrated. ICOM Europe believes that the Long Night of Museums in Europe can raise the profile and promote the unique qualities of museums in the region, that it can support transcultural learning and contribute to a democratic culture, respecting cultural diversity, ethnic minorities and the cultural heritage of the region.

The Long Night of Museums is an outstanding occasion to show the broad variety of activities, that characterize the European museum world today. It should, though, also remind cities, communities and national governments to increase their support of museums, may they be small or big, as an essential part of the cultural landscape in Europe.

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