

Programme Heritage Day Russia 19 March 2010
Doelenzaal Amsterdam

Chair: Robert Parthesius, director CIE

9.30 **Welcome**

10.00 **Opening** of the day by our host of the University of Amsterdam Steph Scholten and by the director of the Centre for International Heritage Activities Robert Parthesius.

10.15 **Key note speech** by Sjeng Scheijen

10.30 **Panel 1: Collection Management and Capacity Building**

With contributions by:

Lia Gorter, Foundation for Cultural Inventory (SCI)

Benno van Tilburg, The Netherlands Cultural Heritage Agency (RCE)

Moderator: Sjeng Scheijen

11.00 **Break**

11.30 **Panel 2: Management in Built Heritage**

With contributions by:

Peter van der Toorn Vrijthoff, STAG

Marieke Kuipers, The Netherlands Cultural Heritage Agency (RCE)

Moderator: Sjeng Scheijen

12.00 **Panel 3: Research and Public Awareness**

With contributions by:

Marlies Kleiterp, Hermitage Amsterdam

Hans van Koningsbrugge, Groningen University

Moderator: Sjeng Scheijen

12.30 **Lunch** and poster exhibition

13.30 **Workshops, parallel sessions:** please register

- Collection management and capacity building
- Management in built heritage
- Research and public awareness
- The mutuality of Russian-Dutch cultural heritage

15.00 **Conclusion:** presentation results and recommendations of the workshops

15.30 **Drinks**

16.30 **End of Heritage Day Russia**

The Workshops

The themes of the presentations will return in the workshops in the afternoon for further elaboration. Share experiences, lessons learned, best practices and possibilities in the Russian-Dutch cooperation to formulate recommendations for the Dutch Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Education, Culture and Science.

Workshop 1: Collection Management and Capacity Building

Chair: Pauline Kruseman, member of the board, CIE

This workshop focuses on the process of collection management and capacity building in various institutions, such as museums, libraries and archives. Related themes are collection policy, acquisition and de-accession policies, preservation and conservation, loan policy, capacity building by means of education and training programmes. Capacity building in the field of collection management focuses among other things on preventative restoration and conservation, security and storage of collections. Other important issues for collection management related to recordkeeping are making inventories and digitizing the collection.

In this workshop we would like to discuss with you the way of collection management in Russian and Dutch Institutions. Did the Russian Federation and the Netherlands undergo a different development in the field of collection management? How do Russian institutions deal with collection management, and with the preservation, conservation, and digitization of their collections? How does a possible difference in the development of collection management influence the cooperation between the two countries? How can both countries learn from each other's practice?

Workshop 2: Management in Built Heritage

Chair: Frits van Dulm, member of the board, CIE

The preservation and conservation of built heritage is important to preserve heritage for future generations. Good conservation policies can save heritage, like monumental buildings, gardens or townscapes, from destruction or oblivion. In order to preserve built heritage high quality and up to date methods of restoration and conservation are required. While preserving built heritage one is often confronted with different interests of various interest groups: economic interests; marketing plans, groups with contested views about the meaning and purpose of a heritage site. In particular the reallocation of industrial heritage, country estates and (adjacent) landscape architecture face an increasingly expanding attention of Russian experts, local and federal government and the public, at the moment.

Important issues for cooperation between the Russian Federation and the Netherlands in the field of management in built heritage are technical cooperation, exchange of knowledge and the influence of different interest groups in the Russian Federation and the Netherlands and how to deal with this. How can knowledge be exchanged in a bilateral way? How can the Netherlands set an example in the field of reallocation of

industrial heritage, country estates, gardens and landscape architecture? Other important topics are: what insight in governmental policies of the counterpart organisation or country is needed for a healthy cooperation? And which role do these policies play?

Workshop 3: Research and Public Awareness

Chair: Martine Gosselink – Head of the History Department, Rijksmuseum

Research is important for heritage activities; it should be one of the first steps when starting a heritage project. Research not only plays an important part in heritage projects, but can also be the core business of a mutual project itself: cooperation between the Russian Federation and the Netherlands in the field of academic research. The accessibility to information and sources can be problematic. Not only on account of possible language barriers, but also because Russian archives might have a restricted accessibility. A second level in the problem of accessibility concerns the limited reach of academic research, which is often only published in databases or academic magazines. Journalists on the other hand are experts in disclosing information to the public through various media channels. Museum curators are also aware of the importance of opening up their research or 'stories' through exhibitions and other forms presentations to create public awareness for a research project.

An interesting question in this regard would be how to reduce the first level of the accessibility problem. How should Dutch research into Russian archives be stimulated and encouraged? In addition the second level should be discussed. Are there or should there be different methods in reaching the Dutch and the Russian public with research results? Does the language barrier influence attempts on reaching the public and how does the language barrier influence cooperation between for example universities, archives, museums and journalists? What examples are there of journalists and academics working together and how can this cooperation be strengthened? What role do museums and exhibitions play in the creation of public awareness of cooperation between the Russian Federation and the Netherlands?

Workshop 4: The Mutuality of Russian-Dutch Cultural Heritage

Chair: Jozien Driessen

Mutual Cultural Heritage is a loaded term; it defines the cultural heritage between the Netherlands and the Russian Federation. In this workshop the mutuality of heritage is discussed.

Which heritage is labeled with this definition and how does the Russian Federation experience mutual cultural heritage? How do we share this heritage and what are the problems of formulating a reciprocal definition? Next to this, why is Russia part of the eight priority counties, appointed by the Dutch government while there is no colonial past as there is for many of the other priority countries. In addition, how is Russian heritage in the Netherlands experienced compared to Dutch heritage in the Russian Federation? The responsibilities for this type of heritage for the Netherlands and for the Russian Federation can be discussed and the definition of mutual cultural heritage specified.