Co-funded by the European Union

Carrefour Européen du Savoir-faire des Pays de la Pierre Sèche
Carrefour Européen
Carrefour

Charter of Ambassadors

of the European Centre for Dry-stone Craftsmanship

Preamble

This Charter is the result of the work carried out by the partners of the project: European Crossroad of Dry-Stone Craftmanship Countries, their associates, and other organisations involved in previous projects that share similar values and approaches.

It is a non-binding document that provides a common frame of reference and a basis of shared values for those wishing to participate in the network of Ambassadors of the European Crossroad of Dry-Stone Craftmanship Countries.

Preserve, transmit and promote

Convinced that dry-stone construction techniques constitute a living heritage, a peasant art that shapes the identity of territories and is based on universal know-how and values, the signatories of this Charter express their desire to contribute to its preservation, transmission and promotion.

For a new dynamic

Owned and passed on for centuries by rural communities – farmers and craftsmen – dry-stone techniques experienced major expansion in the 19th century, before undergoing a sharp decline in the 20th century due to rural depopulation and the gradual disappearance of its practitioners. Despite its international recognition as intangible cultural heritage by UNESCO, this technique requires renewed commitment to ensure its continuity.

Volubilis
Réseau euro-méditerranéen pour la ville et les paysages

Consell de Mallorca

Mediterranean Centre of Environment

Udruga Brač

Co-funded by the European Union

Carrefour Européen du Savoir-faire des Pays de la Pierre Sèche
Carrefour Européen
Carrefour

Become an Ambassador

Any adult who has successfully completed the online training course offered by the European Centre for Dry-stone Craftsmanship can recognise themselves in this Charter and join the network of Ambassadors.

Ambassadors of the European Crossroad of Dry-Stone Craftmanship Countries:

- Recognise and uphold the essential values of dry-stone construction techniques:
    - **Technical value:** based on precise rules of the art, it requires knowledge of the material and the transmission of demanding manual skills
    - **Ecological value:** using local and sustainable materials, without binders, the implementation of this technique contributes to water management, biodiversity and the fight against climate change
    - **Cultural and heritage value:** this technique bears witness to vernacular know-how and the history of the territories, the lifestyles of their inhabitants and their landscapes.
- They transmit and explain the advantages, fundamental principles and contemporary uses of dry-stone to a variety of audiences.
- Seek to promote a respectful, functional, historical and environmental vision of this technique.
- Support, within their means, projects for the maintenance, preservation and restoration of heritage.
- Contribute to keeping dry-stone alive in current practices by promoting it in new creations and contemporary developments.

Volubilis
Réseau euro-méditerranéen pour la ville et les paysages

Consell de Mallorca

Mediterranean Centre of Environment

Udruga Brač

Co-funded by the European Union

Carrefour Européen du Savoir-faire des Pays de la Pierre Sèche
Carrefour Européen

The network of Ambassadors

Those who identify with this Charter participate in a network of practitioners, trainees, novices and enthusiasts working at local, national and European level.

This network is designed to encourage the exchange of knowledge and expertise and to promote regional dynamics across all the countries involved in the project and beyond.

It helps to raise awareness among citizens, local actors and institutions of the importance of preserving this tangible and intangible heritage, and to promote an ecological and responsible approach to dry-stone.

The project promotes local initiatives and shares them with network members, mainly through:

- The online training forum
- The dry-stone initiatives platform

Organisation of the network

The **Network of Ambassadors of Dry-Stone Craftmanship Countries** is coordinated at European level by the Volubilis association, the project's lead organisation.
In each of the project's initial partner countries, the network is represented and run by partner organisations. These organisations ensure the dissemination of the Charter's values, connect Ambassadors and promote training, awareness-raising and cooperation activities in their territories.

This Charter constitutes a common reference framework and a networking tool. It does not create any legal or formal obligations for its members.

Membership of the Ambassadors' network is voluntary, individual and open to change.

Contacts:

- Coordinator: Christophe Lenfant, Volubilis: contact@volubilis.org

Volubilis Réseau euro-méditerranéen pour la ville et les paysages
Consell de Mallorca
Mediterranean Centre of Environment
Udruga BRAČ

Co-funded by the European Union

Carrefour Européen du Savoir-faire des Pays de la Pierre Sèche Carrefour Européen

- Croatia network representative: Lucija Puljak, Udruga Brac, lucijapuljak@gmail.com
- Representative of the Greek network: Isabelle Trinquelle, Mediterranean Centre of Environmentinfo@medcenv.org
- Representative of the Mallorca network: Unitat de Pedra en Sec i Senderisme Consell de Mallorca pedraensecsenderisme@conselldemallorca.net

Join the network!

The network of ambassadors

Volubilis Réseau euro-méditerranéen pour la ville et les paysages

Consell de Mallorca

Mediterranean Centre of Environment

Udruga Brac