



PRESS RELEASE

Project "*The Ljubljana, a River that Connects*" receiving European Heritage Days Grant Award 2018

European Heritage Days (EHD) is a joint action of the Council of Europe and the European Commission in the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018. The highlight was the European Heritage Days Assembly held in Strasbourg from 17th to 19th October. The debate focused on the future of European Cultural Heritage and storytelling, the European identity and the inclusion of young people. In the opening address Matjaž Gruden, Director of Democratic Participation at Council of Europe, stressed out the fact that the European Cultural Convention entered into force only a year after the European Convention on Human Rights and Freedoms. A joint action of the EHD aimed at the local communities to share their stories in the framework of the joint vision of shared European values.

European Heritage Stories is a pilot initiative intending to identify the European Dimension of heritage sites and heritage work undertaken by the communities in Europe. Short of 100 stories from Europe were submitted, with 25 entries being shortlisted. "*The Ljubljana, a River that Connects*" project was awarded as best 10 stories. The project is defined by natural and cultural heritage. Historically strategic location of Vrhnika tells the story about communications and borders, military areas and migrations, social and cultural borders, and about our common European heritage and the future. This message is the theme of the new temporary exhibition and will be open to the public at Ljubljana River Exhibition at Vrhnika.

The message of the presented award-winning story is that there is no shortage of opportunities for implementing the motto of the Year of Cultural Heritage – "*Where the past meets the future*". The knowledge of the past can direct us towards more reasonable decisions in the future.

Programme partners:

Museum and Galleries of Ljubljana, ZA.POLIS, culture cooperative, Humanist and Arts Society "O", Institute NaNovo.

European Heritage Stories: <http://www.europeanheritagedays.com/Story/>

<http://mojaljubljana.si/>

