



**E-FAITH**

*European Federation of Associations of Industrial and Technical Heritage*

## Annual Report 2014

2014 was an important year, during which most of the activities were in the context of the coming and the preparation of *2015 European Industrial and Technical Heritage Year*.

The managing committee met (as tradition is) during the second week of January in Barcelona, but this year held extraordinary meetings in Brussels on May 21<sup>st</sup> and in Lyon on July 5<sup>th</sup>. A fourth meeting took place on October 24<sup>th</sup> also in Lyon. Between those there was regular contact through Skype and other electronic media, especially after the Lyon weekend..

To establish contacts with *Poland* (a country missing in our list up to now) our general secretary made a study trip between March 4<sup>th</sup> and March 11<sup>th</sup>, establishing contacts in Warsaw, Zyrardow, Lodz, Wroclaw, Krakow and Gdansk. Adjacent to the 2014 Interpret Europe Conference in Primosten (May 10-13<sup>th</sup>), where he presented the 2015 Industrial Heritage Year, he made a quick trip in *Croatia*, establishing contacts in Zagreb, Sisak, Rijeka and the mills conservation program in the Krka National Park.

E-FAITH is member of the *European Heritage Alliance 3.3*. (Europa Nostra). The general secretary and the chairman took part in the EHA-meeting in Brussels on May 20<sup>th</sup>. They both also took part in the "*Identidad, Industria y Cultura*", 5th European Conference on Industrial Tourism in Ferrol (Spain, June 17- 20<sup>th</sup>) and on his way back Adriaan Linters had the opportunity to discuss the 2015 Industrial Heritage Year with the *Bask Association Industrial Heritage*. The Year was also explained by one of our board members, Jurr Vandalen, during the *Flemish-Dutch* meeting on Industrial Archaeology in Rotterdam on November 15th. Our chairman presented the Year at the *Italian* industrial heritage meeting in S. Cesario di Lecce on December 6th



The *8th annual Industrial Heritage Weekend for Volunteers and Associations* was organized by E-FAITH in Lyon-Vaulx-en-Velin (France). The 2014 theme was double "The industrial heritage: a holistic heritage in a global world" and "2015, the European Industrial and Technical Heritage Year". Distinct from previous years and additional day (Friday) was added to the program to allow much time to discuss the latter theme.

The website [www.e-faith.org](http://www.e-faith.org) was updated with new pages and information on '2015' and many translations of existing pages - for example: the 'Memorandum' for the European Industrial and Technical Heritage Year is now available in 19 languages - including even Esperanto and Latin. All these have been prepared by volunteers from different countries doing the translations in their mother tongue - a list with their names can be found at <http://www.e-faith.org/home/?q=content/colophon>

A new website, [www.industrialheritage2015.eu](http://www.industrialheritage2015.eu) is under construction, and will go online on January 1st 2015.

As concerning the planning and programming the '**2015 European Industrial and Technical Heritage Year**' - which took most of our time - let's summarise the steps who led to this

In november 2009, during the E-FAITH Industrial Heritage Weekend in Calais, the *idea* spontaneously rose launch the concept of an European Industrial and Technical Heritage Year - an idea which during the following meetings was further developed. In October 2012 the *Memorandum* was agreed upon, and during the next two years this text was endorsed by some 150 associations from 19 European countries.

In a resolution of March/April 2013 the *Assembly of the Council of Europe* has made a series of practical recommendations to member States with a view to preserving Europe's industrial heritage - and she also invited the EU and UNESCO to consider the possibility of launching, together with the Council of Europe, a European Industrial Heritage Year in 2015, referring to the E-FAITH campaign (Resolution, 1924 (2013) Final version, 08.03.2013).

Representatives of E-FAITH had a meeting with the author of the report (Mrs Ismeta Dervoz) and officials of the cultural committee of the CoE in *Strasbourg* on October 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss various aspects of the 2015 Industrial Heritage Year. The Industrial Heritage Year and the CoE Report were presented by Mrs Dervoz during the joint meeting of the Council of Europe and the European Union "Celebrating European Heritage Days - Local communities shaping the European dimension of Heritage" in Baku, 14-16 October. As a result the industrial and technical heritage was set as the general theme for the *European Heritage Days 2015*.

When it became clear that the 2015 European Industrial and Technical Heritage Year could/would become reality, E-FAITH immediately started discussions on how to fill in this year. These were for a first time discussed at the annual E-FAITH weekend at Neuchâtel-La Chaux de Fonds (Switzerland) of October 2013, then refined and clearly formulated by the managing committee in January 2014.

These are:

- 1) In each country the Year has to *rely on local and thematic associations and volunteers*. They should act creatively and develop activities to promote the Industrial and Technical Heritage Year. During 2015 they will organise special events (e.g. meetings, conferences, exhibitions, visits,...) to fill an agenda to celebrate the Industrial Heritage Year. They can launch campaigns to save industrial buildings, sites and collections.

2) One will draw a list of *anniversaries that can be celebrated in the course of 2015*. From 300 years till 25 years ago, there are a lot of meaningful dates and facts that offers brilliant occasions to look back, interpret and celebrate aspects of our industrial and technical past: great inventions in your country, the birth and/or death of important inventors or industrialists, the establishment of important industrial and technical (heritage) institutions or museums, etc...

3) The *twinning linking two associations from two different countries*. Whilst not legally binding, the signing of a formal twinning or agreement facilitates the setting up of a long-term, trusting relationship.

- To develop co-operation and exchanges between the associations involved
- To improve personal contacts and friendship.
- To exchange and discuss ideas and experiences, to learn from each other
- To arrange activities and visits, which encourage meetings between people and the development of lasting contacts and friendships
- To create the background for and to seek means for visits and exchanges both culturally, educationally and personally
- To set up common initiatives and activities.

The general principle of twinning is to share expertise both associations, to help and support each other, and to combine the expertise of both associations to develop common activities and projects or to make each other's activities more efficient. The basis of twinning is a form of transfer of know-how. It favours the creation of relationships on which to build future partnerships.

4) *Establishing international thematic steering groups*. This idea was already accepted during the E-FAITH weekend in Switzerland in October 2013, but was spread as from early 2014.

Steering groups prepare and launch, develop and co-ordinate thematic border-crossing initiatives during the European Industrial and Technical Heritage Year 2015 and beyond. Their first aim is to develop international co-operation and exchange of ideas between associations and volunteers from different European countries and to set up border-crossing networks on specific themes and topics.

As a result of the call eight steering groups have been set up by the end of December 2014:

- ▶ Canal barges - péniches
- ▶ Chimneys - Cheminées
- ▶ Dangerous industrial heritage - patrimoine industriel dangereux
- ▶ Enterprise Industrial Heritage
- ▶ European Crane Heritage
- ▶ M3 - May Month of the Mills
- ▶ Public opinion
- ▶ RESTOR Hydro

The *logo* of the 2015 European Industrial and Technical Heritage Year 2015 was presented and agreed upon at the E-FAITH weekend in Lyon, on October 24<sup>th</sup> - It has been designed by archit. Jordi Rogent I Albiol (Barcelona) and can be used in colour, black on white or white on black.



During the meeting in Lyon two other proposals were formulated.

- 1) As more and more associations ask E-FAITH to help and support a preservation campaign they have launched for an endangered building or site. One proposed to set up a committee dealing with these requests.
- 2) It is important to involve young people - but how to motivate them? In Catalonia the AMCTAIC has set up an awards scheme, the Premis Bonaplata per a Joves, which honours initiatives and projects carried out by these. Would it be possible to translate and find the funding for a similar awards scheme on a European level ?

The board was asked to develop both ideas and to give concrete form to them for 2015.

During November and December the board has discussed them in great length through e-mail and skype. One hopes to conclude these two items in January 2015 and to launch them in March.

Thanks:

We especially do thank for their practical support for the general organization of E-FAITH and for its activities

- as since years the 'Vlaamse Vereniging voor Industriële Archeologie' (VVIA, Flanders, Belgium) and the Associació del Museu de la Ciència i de la Tècnica i d'Arqueologia Industrial de Catalunya (AMCTAIC, Catalonia, Spain)
- the French Associations 'Le Non Lieu' (Roubaix), 'Usine sans Fin' (Lyon), 'Vive la Tase' (Lyon) and 'Patrimoine Rhônalpin' (Lyon)
- 'Stichting Erfgoed' (The Netherlands) and the 'Associazione Italiana per il Patrimonio Archeologico Industriale' (AIPAI, Italy)

and of course also the many volunteers who helped us with some aspects - especially those who prepared translations for the website

- see their names on <http://www.e-faith.org/home/?q=content/colophon>

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