

# World Heritage List Nominations

Only countries that have signed the World Heritage Convention, pledging to protect their natural and cultural heritage, can submit nomination proposals for properties on their territory to be considered for inclusion in UNESCO's World Heritage List.

## Nomination process

### 1

#### Tentative List

The first step a country must take is to make an 'inventory' of its important natural and cultural heritage sites located within its boundaries. This 'inventory' is known as the [Tentative List](#), and provides a forecast of the properties that a [State Party](#) may decide to submit for inscription in the next five to ten years and which may be updated at any time. It is an important step since the [World Heritage Committee](#) cannot consider a nomination for inscription on the [World Heritage List](#) unless the property has already been included on the State Party's Tentative List.

### 2

#### The Nomination File

By preparing a Tentative List and selecting sites from it, a [State Party](#) can plan when to present a nomination file. The World Heritage Centre offers advice and assistance to the State Party in preparing this file, which needs to be as exhaustive as possible, making sure the necessary documentation and maps are included. The nomination is submitted to the World Heritage Centre for review and to check it is complete. Once a nomination file is complete the World Heritage Centre sends it to the appropriate Advisory Bodies for evaluation.

## 3

## The Advisory Bodies

A nominated property is independently evaluated by two [Advisory Bodies](#) mandated by the World Heritage Convention: the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), which respectively provide the [World Heritage Committee](#) with evaluations of the cultural and natural sites nominated. The third Advisory Body is the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM), an intergovernmental organization which provides the Committee with expert advice on conservation of cultural sites, as well as on training activities.

## 4

## The World Heritage Committee

Once a site has been nominated and evaluated, it is up to the intergovernmental [World Heritage Committee](#) to make the final decision on its inscription. Once a year, the Committee meets to decide which sites will be inscribed on the [World Heritage List](#). It can also defer its decision and request further information on sites from the States Parties.


## 5

## The Criteria for Selection

To be included on the World Heritage List, sites must be of outstanding universal value and meet at least one out of ten selection [criteria](#). These criteria are explained in the [Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention](#) which, besides the text of the [Convention](#), is the main working tool on World Heritage. The criteria are regularly revised by the Committee to reflect the evolution of the World Heritage concept itself.

Until the end of 2004, World Heritage sites were selected on the basis of six cultural and four natural criteria. With the adoption of the revised [Operational Guidelines](#), only one set of ten criteria exists.

# Documents




Format for the nomination of properties for inscription on the World Heritage List

Acrobat documents  
[English](#) [French](#)

Word documents  
[English](#) [French](#)

Nominations may be submitted at any time during the year, but only those nominations that are "complete" (see [paragraph 132](#)) and received by the Secretariat on or before **1<sup>st</sup> February\*** will be considered for inscription on the World Heritage List by the World Heritage Committee during the following year.

[Operational Guidelines](#)  
annex 5




Minor modifications to the boundaries of world heritage properties

[English](#) [French](#)

**Deadline\*:** 1<sup>st</sup> February of the year in which the approval of the Committee is requested.

[Operational Guidelines](#)  
annex 11




Form for the submission of factual errors in the Advisory Bodies evaluations

Acrobat documents  
[English](#) [French](#)

Word Documents  
[English](#) [French](#)

**Deadline:** The original signed version of the completed Factual Errors submission form should be received in English or French by the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, no later than 14 days before the opening of the session of the Committee.

[Operational Guidelines](#)  
annex 12



Format of a Statement of Outstanding Universal Value, and of a retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

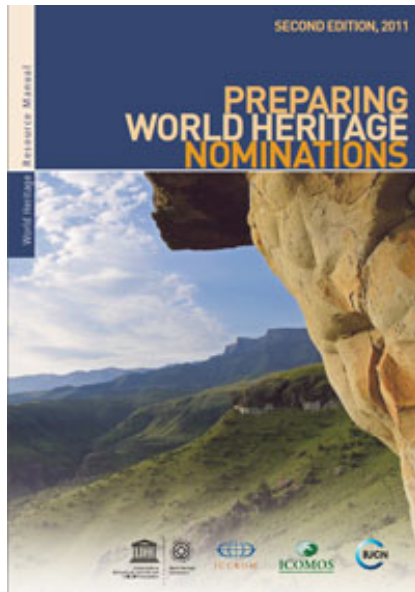
[English](#) [French](#)

**Deadline\*:** 1<sup>st</sup> February of the year preceding the one in which the approval of the Committee is requested.

[Operational Guidelines](#)  
annex 10

## Disclaimer

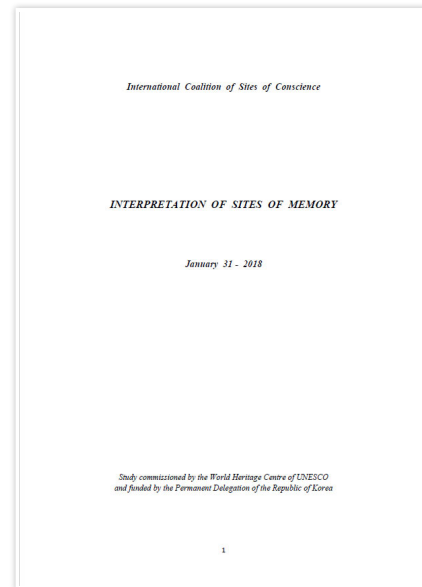
\* If 1<sup>st</sup> February falls on a **weekend**, the nomination must be received by **17h00 GMT the preceding Friday**



### Preparing World Heritage Nominations

(Second Edition, 2011)

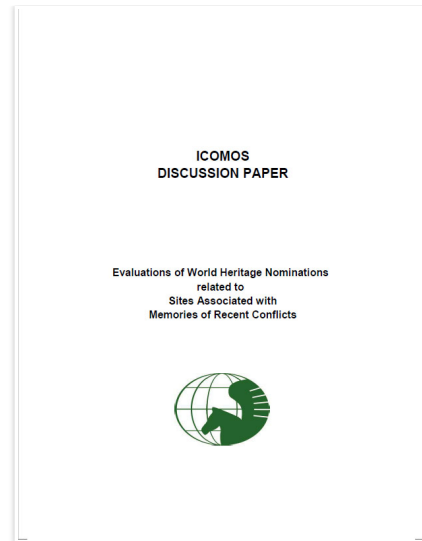
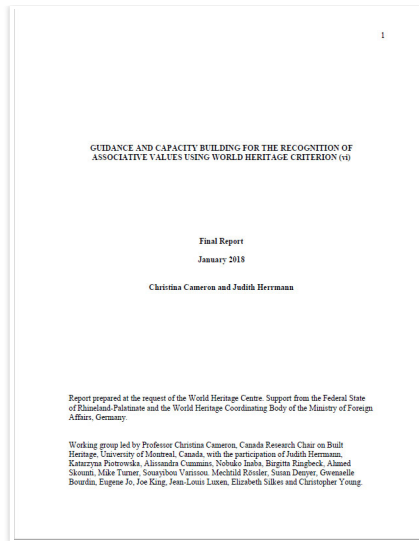
English French Arabic  
Portuguese Spanish



### Interpretation of Sites of Memory

International Coalition  
of Sites of Conscience  
January 31 - 2018

English French

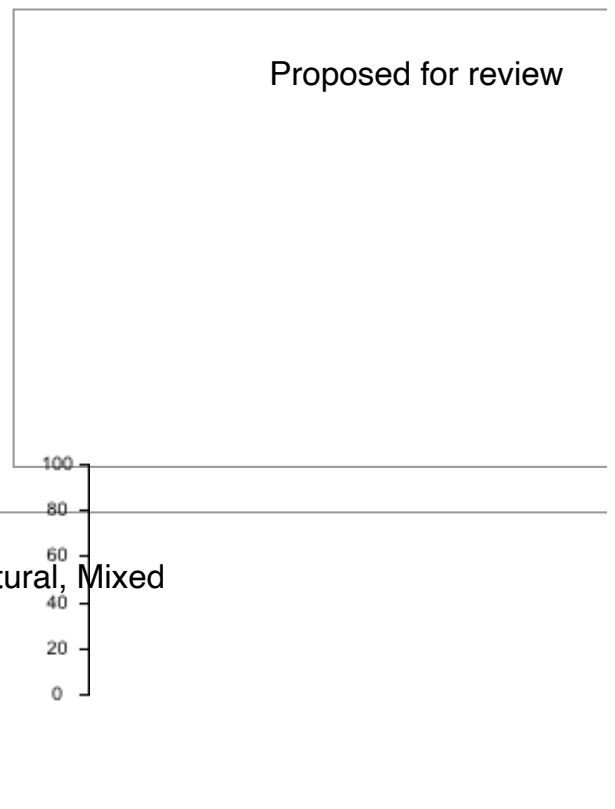
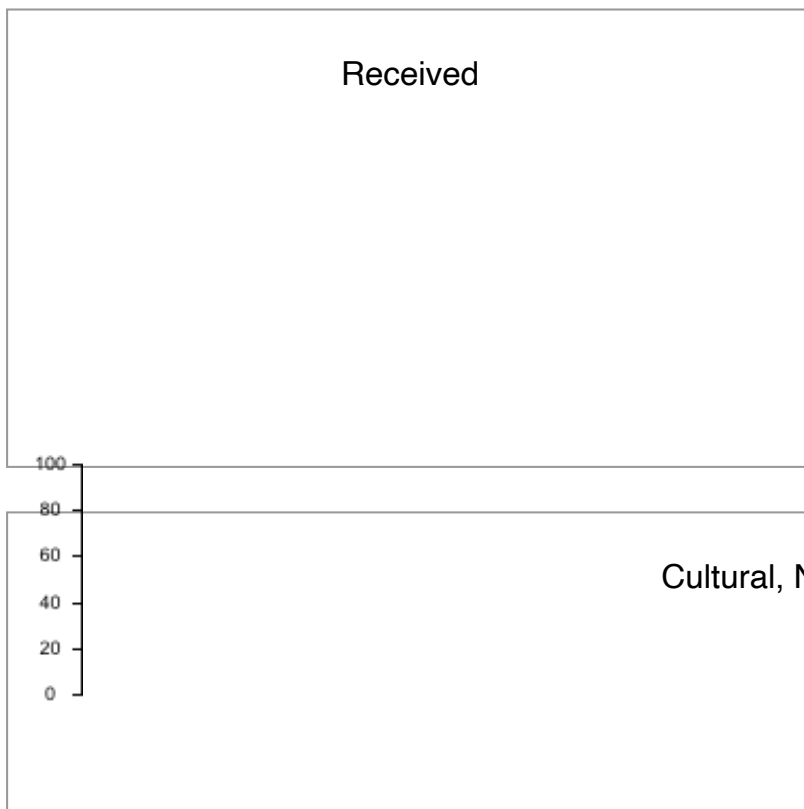


Guidance and Capacity Building  
for the Recognition of Associative  
Values using World Heritage  
Criterion (vi)  
January 2018

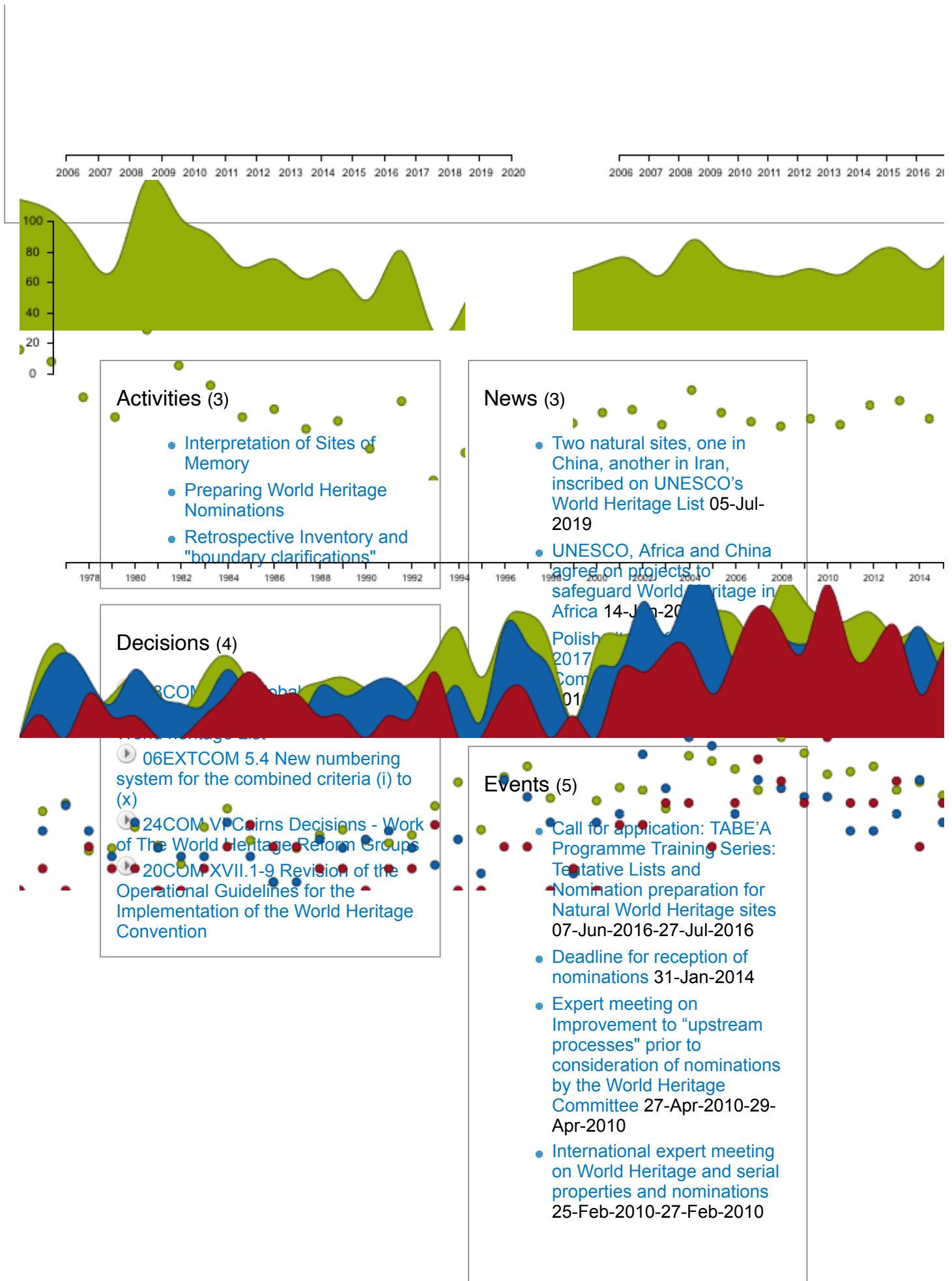
English French

Evaluations of World Heritage  
Nominations related to Sites  
Associated with Memories of  
Recent Conflicts  
2018

English French



Cultural, Natural, Mixed



- [International Expert meeting on World Heritage and buffer zones](#) 11-Mar-2008-14-Mar-2008