

FRH Press Release

FRH Torch of Heritage and Culture continues its journey around Europe, making a stop in Mont-Devant-Sassey, France.

31 May 2018

The FRH Torch, a memory treasure box carrying personal stories related to religious heritage, is continuing its journey around Europe. Part of the European Year of Cultural Heritage, the FRH Torch is a unique opportunity to involve people more closely with religious heritage.

BRUSSELS, BE – Since the start of the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018, [the FRH Torch](#) has been traveling across Europe and has been hosted at various events. With the launch in Leeuwarden, Netherlands, it has since visited Aschaffenburg, Germany, followed by Potes, Spain, and Lund, Sweden.

On Saturday, **June 2nd at 18:00**, the FRH Torch will be lit again and new contributions will be added to the ever-expanding collection of memories. We are proud to announce that among the contributors we will welcome; **Mr. Stéphane Bern**, TV journalist and special Heritage Advisor for the President of the French Republic; **Ms. Nanou Bouillet**, President of the Amis de l'Église de Mont-Devant-Sassey (Friends of the Church of Mont-Devant-Sassey) and President of the réseau Eglises Ouvertes dans la Région Grand-Est de France (Open Churches Network in the Greater East Region of France); **Mr. Quentin Dujardin**, guitarist-

Future for Religious Heritage

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Co-funded by the
Creative Europe Programme
of the European Union





composer for the Resonance project; **Mgr. Jean-Paul Gusching**, bishop of Verdun; **Ms. Rita Jabourn**, of Syrian origin, very sensitive about the preservation of religious heritage; **Mr. Pierre Leroy**, lecturer at the Collège de France and founder of the project 'Un jour, une église'(letter will be read by Bernard Bouillet); **Ms. Juliette Roy**, President of the Office National des Anciens Combattants et Victimes de Guerre de la Meuse (National Office of Veterans and Victims of War of the Meuse); and **Mr. Kevin de Zorzi**, one of the first guides of the Jeunes Ambassadeurs du Patrimoine (Young Heritage Ambassadors).

The FRH Torch will be hosted at the medieval Church of Notre-Dame de Mont-devant-Sassey, in the context of the Open Churches Days, followed by a concert performed by the Resonance group.

The contributions are collected at the official FRH Torch Ceremonies and are now open for participation from all European citizens via the FRH Torch website (www.frh-europe.org/projects/frh-torch). As Janet Gough OBE said in her letter: *Our challenge is to create the conditions to sustain a working partnership of local and national support to preserve, use and develop these precious historic religious buildings to serve everyone now and for the future.* FRH is truly hoping that the Initiative will motivate European citizens to share their stories and raise awareness about the importance of religious heritage.

On the FRH Torch of Heritage and Culture

Inspired by the Olympic Torch of Athens, FRH launched the "[Torch of Heritage and Culture](#)" initiative at the beginning of 2018, the [European Year of Cultural Heritage](#). The aim is to raise awareness of the importance of Europe's rich religious heritage. The FRH Torch is a memory treasure box, containing personal letters from prominent members of the international community but also from European citizens themselves. These letters, contributed during an official Torch ceremony held at



various events all over Europe, describe personal memories related to religious heritage.

The journey of the FRH Torch will end at the [FRH Biennial Conference](#) (Paris, 11-12-13 October 2018), and the box and its valuable contents will be presented to European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport, Tibor Navracsics.

On Future for Religious Heritage (FRH)

Founded in 2008, [Future for Religious Heritage](#) is the only European network for historic places of worship, bringing together those who work to protect religious heritage across Europe. A not-for-profit, non-religious organisation, FRH is proud to represent nearly 150 members in Europe and beyond.

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For further information:

- FRH Torch Initiative: www.frh-europe.org/projects/frh-torch
- FRH Torch video: <http://bit.ly/2GHfwuq>
- Open Churches Days: <https://bit.ly/2H6blIz>
- Año Jubilar Lebaniego: <https://bit.ly/2JlfD08>
- Preserve, Use and Develop Conference: <https://www.svenskakyrkan.se/lundsstift/pud>

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