

Young Climate Action for World Heritage

A transnational educational project for young people about World Heritage, climate change and sustainable action.

Climate change is the fastest growing threat to the safeguarding of World Heritage Sites for future generations.

Protecting World Heritage Sites from climate change while at the same time harnessing their potential for sustainable development is therefore a key task for current and future generations. The project thus made innovative use of the World Heritage Sites' potential as places of learning for Education for Sustainable Development.

Find out more about the project on our website: www.heritagestudies.eu/youngclimateaction



Sponsored by the German Federal Environmental Foundation and others:



Deutsche
Bundesstiftung Umwelt





“Climate change will not only ruin our future, but also our past by destroying World Heritage Sites.”

participating student

How can we take responsibility for the sustainable safeguarding of World Heritage Sites and for combating climate change locally? In international teams students discovered World Heritage Sites and the challenges of climate change. They were inspired to become active themselves and creatively developed and implemented their own projects on heritage and climate protection.



More than 80 students from 21 UNESCO Associated Schools and others in the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands and Poland worked hands-on at and together with six World Heritage Sites:

Wadden Sea

Archaeological Border Complex
Hedeby and Danevirke

Mines of Rammelsberg, Historic
Town of Goslar and Upper Harz Water
Management System

Palaces and Parks of Potsdam and Berlin

Erzgebirge / Krušnohoří Mining Region

Moravian Church Settlement Herrnhut
(World Heritage Candidate)



“Being at a World Heritage Site enables deep insights and helps to understand the link between the present and the past. This experience makes you want to protect the site.”

participating student

In podcasts, films, art projects, quizzes, local actions and research projects students impressively reflected their deep connections with the heritage sites from the past to the future. Their continuous motivation to take action and to raise awareness on heritage and climate protection among their communities has a sustainable effect beyond the project.

Photo on top left: Closing conference of the project at the Palaces and Parks of Potsdam and Berlin © German Commission for UNESCO / Laurent Hoffmann

Photo on right: Students' art exhibition on tree death related to climate change in the World Heritage in the Harz © Institute Heritage Studies / Frank Drechsler

Photo on bottom left: Participants of the Wadden Sea workshop supporting with local nature conservation activities © Institute Heritage Studies / Ralf Reinmuth