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Comparative research CON.BE.FOR Conservator-Restorers of Cultural Heritage in Europe: education centers and institutes

The study and its purposes

CON.B.E.FOR. research was motivated originally by the desire to elaborate on some precise directives from the Document of Pavia referring to the education of the conservator-restorers.

Five of the thirteen actions of the Document of Pavia refer, directly or indirectly, to education, and in particular, to the creation of an instrument providing knowledge about the different education situations of the conservator-restorer in the various European countries.

The growing importance of professional figures linked to the Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Assets, the variety of methods used and their complexity, require a wide knowledge of the question of the education of conservator-restorers, that in Europe is very heterogeneous.

A great number of training centres, with different technological and organisation levels, with different teaching program, with different number of years/duration of the courses (in some countries the courses are linked to the University) exist in Europe. Over these various methods of training, the aims are often heterogeneous and the definition of this professional isn't always clear.

The aim was to provide a clear picture of the current provision in Europe for the education of conservator-restorers of cultural heritage in Europe, to reach a first definition of the basic requirements of conservation education at a high level/for a highly qualified training.

The research

To set the aims of the project, the Steering Committee defined three distinct categories for the identification of the education centres. On the basis of these three categories, each Partner then identified the education centres and institutions situated in their own country; so a list of the Institutions to be registered was compiled; these Institutions received a questionnaire.

For CON.B.E.FOR., 64 education centres in 15 European country, were contacted and 49 Institutes (which answered the questionnaire) were statistically studied, and were found to have 139 study programs in Conservation and Restoration.

The methodology

The research, coordinated by the Associazione Giovanni Secco Suardo, was carried out in close collaboration with the European Partners with the supervision of the Steering Committee in all its phases.

Information concerning conservation-restoration educational institutions and what they offer in Europe has been collected by means of a questionnaire, which investigated both the main aspects (such as the duration, the entrance selection procedures, the recognition of the course and the final certificate, the relationship between practical and theoretical teaching and the type of student that participates in the course) and the ones strictly connected to the institution (such as their legal status, regulations, the characteristic of the personell used and the activities carried out, the infrastructure and the service available to the student, the networks of co-operation, etc.)

The statistical analysis was undertaken by the Department of Statistic Sciences of the University of Udine.

The results

The research, with studies on the history of the profession and the development of education in conservation-restoration, with attention focussed on the Italian experience, is published in *Ricerca comparata CONBEFOR - Conservatori-restauratori di Beni culturali in Europa: centri ed istituti di formazione* (Conservator-Restorers of Cultural Heritage in Europe: education centers and institutes, Conservateurs-Restaurateurs de biens culturels en Europe: centres et instituts de formation).

In this book there are the results of the research, with the statistic elaboration on the dates and the analysis made by the Steering Committee, who propose a plan to develop conservation education to a high level. There are also a sintetic picture of the legislative organisational context of each country, editing by Adele Compagna Maresca (Ufficio Studi, Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali) and by Margherita Sani (Istituto per i Beni Artistici, Culturali e Naturali, Regione Emilia Romagna).

All the texts are in the mother-tongue of the authors, with the two translations (Italian, French, English).

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- Regione Lombardia – Direzione Generale alle Culture (Italia)
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- Regione Emilia-Romagna - Istituto per i Beni Artistici, Culturali e Naturali (Italia)
- Regione Lazio – Assessorato Politiche Culturali (Italia)
- Regione Piemonte – Direzione Generale Beni Culturali (Italia)
- Regione Toscana – Dipartimento politiche formative dei Beni culturali (Italia)

Patrocinatori

- U.N.E.S.C.O. - United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization - Paris (Francia)
- E.C.C.O. - European Confederation of Conservator-Restorers Organisation - Bruxelles (Belgio)
- ICCROM - International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property - Roma (Italia)
- ENCoRE - European Network for Conservation-Restoration Education, Copenhagen (Danimarca)
- Ministero dei Beni Culturali e Ambientali - Roma (Italia)
- C.N.R. - Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche - Roma (Italia)

- Istituto Centrale per il Restauro - Roma (Italia)
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- E.C.C.O. European Confederation of Conservator-Restores' Organisations Leefdaal (Belgio)
- ICCROM International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restauration of Cultural Property (Italia)
- ENCoRE (European Network for Conservation – Restauration Education)
- Meisterschule fur restaurierung und Conservierung, Wien (Austria)
- Koninklijke Academie voor Shone Kunsten Restauratia, Antwerpen (Belgio)
- Det Kongelige Danske Kunstakademi Konservatorskolen, Copenaghen (Danimarca)
- Vantaa Institute of Arts and Designe, Department of Conservation Studies, Vantaa (Finlandia)
- Ecole Nationale du Patrimoine Ifroa de Paris, St. Denis (Francia)
- Hochschule fur Bildende Kuste, Dresden (Germania)
- Technological Educational Istitute of Athenes, Egaleo (Grecia)
- Hamilton Kerr Istitute, University of Cambridge (Gran Bretagna)
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Consulenza e collaborazione

per la parte statistica:

- Marco Breschi (Dipartimento di Scienze Statistiche, Università degli Studi di Udine)
- Enrico Gori (Dipartimento di Scienze Statistiche, Università degli Studi di Udine)
- Monia Donadon (Dipartimento di Scienze Statistiche, Università degli Studi di Udine)

per lo studio e la ricerca sulle diverse legislazioni europee in materia di Conservazione e Restauro dei Beni Culturali:

- Adele Compagna Maresca (Ufficio Studi, Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali, Roma)
- Margherita Sani (Istituto dei beni artistici, culturali e naturali della regione Emilia Romagna, Bologna)

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DISSEMINATION

An opportunity for presenting results occurred with the public launch of the CON.B.EFOR Book.

- An anticipation of some statistic results of the research introduced the Seminar "La formazione dei restauratori di beni culturali. Il ruolo del Governo nazionale e dei Governi regionali per la creazione di un sistema qualità" ("The education of the conservator-restorers of Cultural Heritage. The role of the national government and of the regional government for the realisation of a QUALITY SISTEM), held in Rome, the 28th March 2001, in the seat of the Regione Lombardia – Delegazione di Roma. The Seminar, promoted by the Direzione generale alle Culture della Regione Lombardia, per il Coordinamento interregionale dei beni Culturali, was a specific studying meeting for representers of cultural bodies and organizations and for operators in this sector, was born from a Coordinamento interregionale dei Beni Culturali's need of a comparison between the Ministry and the Coordinamento about the themes of the high training of cultural staff.

I risultati sono stati presentati all'interno del **Salone dell'Arte e del Restauro di Ferrara 2001** (29 marzo-1 aprile)

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