

Association of Conservator-Restorers in Bulgaria (ACRB)

Асоциация на реставраторите в България (АРБ)

E.C.C.O. National report 2016

On 2nd April 2016 the General Assembly elected new Board and President of the Association. New Supervisory Committee was also elected. The new President of ACRB is Ivan Vanev, who already has experience as member of the Board for one term. The other Board members are Elitsa Tsvetkova, Roumiana Decheva, Alexander Vatov and Borislava Nacheva.

The eleventh annual meeting of ACRB took place in October 2016. This was a two-day event, where the focus of the first day was a national conference on conservation-restoration and a poster session. The meeting was hosted by the Town Gallery in the town of Kyustendil, westward of Sofia. The second day of the meeting was devoted to sight visits in the region and discussions.



The Annual meeting of ACRB in Kyustendil

In 2016 ACRB accomplished the project on conservation of the earliest floor mosaics in the church of St Sophia in Sofia, dated second half of fourth century. The department of Conservation at the National Academy of Art in Sofia is partner of the project.

The Association continued with the active position on the amendment of the Cultural Heritage Act. A representative of ACRB was invited to take part in the Working Group at the Ministry of Culture, which was entitled to elaborate new texts for amendments in the law. The main contribution of our member of the WG was in the discussion of the articles on the regulation of the conservation-restoration profession. The work for the amendment of the law couldn't be finished because of the resignation of the government in at the end of 2016.

The Ministry of Culture invited ACRB to appoint a representative in the Consultative Expert Commission for the Conservation of Immovable Cultural Heritage. The work in the Commission had limited success, because of its incorrect function.

ACRB is in close cooperation with the Department of Conservation-restoration in the National Academy of Art and with the Conservation Section of the Union of Bulgarian Artists. The partners made joint statements on number of issues on common interest in the field of conservation-restoration. The Association's prize for "Best Diploma Project in Conservation-Restoration" was awarded to a student of the department.

ACRB also continued to contribute to CEN TC 346 in the work on the standards on cultural heritage.

ACRB was using actively the Internet for communication with the general public and presenting our ideas, aims and objectives, along with increasing the awareness of the importance of high level of professionalism in conservation-restoration. Its Facebook page increased the number of visits in 2016.

Stefan Belishki,
E.C.C.O. Delegate