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**Falconry and Hunting  
A Living Human Heritage  
the UNESCO experience and know-how**

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# Falconry and Hunting

## Cultural heritage recognition timeline

- 2000 Early idea about cultural recognition for falconry
  - The idea to preserve falconry was supported by IAF, CIC, FACE, nat. falconry clubs and individuals, but there is no legal frame for the recognition at the time
- 2003 The new UNESCO ICH convention adopted
  - legal frame, which is currently recognized by more than 175 State Parties
- 2009 Nomination of 11 countries completed and sent to UNESCO
- Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> 2010 FALCONRY became UNESCO heritage**
- 2011 Falconry celebrations in EU parliament and Festival in UAE
- Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> 2011-HUNTING became Czech national heritage**
- Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> 2012 UNESCO falconry extension with Austria & Hungary
- July 2015 Denmark inscribed "The par force hunting landscape"**  
tangible UNESCO world heritage
- 2015 - HUNTING became Slovenian national heritage**
- Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> 2016 UNESCO falconry extension with : Italy, Germany, Portugal, Pakistan, Kazakhstan
- March 2019 or 2010 Multinational nomination of HUNTING for UNESCO with: Czech Republic, Slovenia, Poland, Hungary?, Germany?...

Nov. 2008 First draft of nomination  
created during Istanbul UNESCO session



UNESCO inscription on November 15th 2010, 10:00  
Kenyatta International Conference Center, Nairobi, Kenya



# UNESCO inscription on November 16th 2010, 18:10

The best comes at the end... the inscription of Falconry was scheduled at the end of the session after decision on other elements was taken. The secretary is introducing the nomination on one of the oldest cultural elements: "Falconry, a living human heritage"



# UNESCO inscription on November 16th 2011, 18:18

Short tension in the hall and the UNESCO delegates approve Falconry for inscription in the list of the world cultural heritage



# Cultural recognition of Falconry and Hunting Significance of UNESCO recognition for future

- Falconry and hunting method will never become illegal, because international convention has higher legal force
- Falconry and hunting receives financial support from governments
- UNESCO recognition will further improve dialog between communities and it makes excellent PR
- The full nomination incl. documentation is available for public at <http://ich.unesco.org>
  - UNESCO web receives millions of visit annually and serves as a reference for educational, scientific and cultural institutions
- Falconry gives a good example and know how for related UNESCO nominations such as general Hunting

# Strasbourg , France, January 2011

## FALCONRY UNESCO heritage celebration in EU parliament





# Strasbourg , France, January 2011

## FALCONRY UNESCO heritage celebration in EU parliament



Arab Emirates, December 2011  
FALCONRY festival celebrating UNESCO heritage



# Arab Emirates, December 2011 FALCONRY festival celebrating UNESCO heritage



# Meeting the Algannas Falconry Club in Qatar, Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>th</sup> 2012

Algannas centre in the Cultural Village “KATARA”



# 3<sup>rd</sup> Qatar Falconry Festival, Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>th</sup> 2012



# Falconry exhibition in EU parliament Brussels, Nov. 6th 2012

Falconers in front of EU parliament



# Falconry exhibition in EU parliament Brussels, Nov. 6th 2012

Bird's view



# Falconry exhibition in EU parliament Brussels, Nov. 6th 2012

Frank Bond giving speech





# UNESCO Headquarters Paris, December 6th 2012



# UNESCO Seventh ICH session, Headquarters, Paris

## Moments of the first falconry file extension in history



# Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> 2012 UNESCO extension with Austria & Hungary

## UNESCO Headquarters, Paris

### **DECISION 7.COM 11.33**

The Committee

Takes note that the United Arab Emirates, Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, France, Hungary, the Republic of Korea, Mongolia, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Spain and the Syrian Arab Republic have nominated **Falconry, a living human heritage** for inscription on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity:

Falconry is the traditional activity of keeping and training falcons and other raptors to take quarry in its natural state. Originally a way of obtaining food, falconry is today identified with camaraderie and sharing rather than subsistence. Falconry is mainly found along migration flyways and corridors, and is practised by amateurs and professionals of all ages and genders. Falconers develop a strong relationship and spiritual bond with their birds, and commitment is required to breed, train, handle and fly the falcons. Falconry is transmitted as a cultural tradition by a variety of means, including mentoring, learning within families and formalized training in clubs. In hot countries, falconers take their children to the desert and train them to handle the bird and establish a mutual relationship of trust. While falconers come from different backgrounds, they share common values, traditions and practices such as methods of training and caring for birds, equipment used and the bonding process. Falconry forms the basis of a wider cultural heritage, including traditional dress, food, songs, music, poetry and dance, sustained by the communities and clubs that practise it.





# UNESCO ICH session, Headquarters, Paris

After successful extension...satisfied involved representatives



# Global phenomenon of Falconry

## The largest nomination in UNESCO history

-  Nomination file has over 400 pages incl. documentation: text, photo, video ad audio.
-  This largest ever nomination in the history of the UNESCO convention was presented by 18 nations: Austria, Belgium, The Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Kazakhstan, Korea, Mongolia, Morocco, Qatar, Pakistan, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Syria and the United Arab Emirates (leader of the nomination)
-  March 2020 probably the last falconry extensions: Poland, Georgia, Netherlands, Croatia, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Turkey, Argentina, China, Ireland, Kyrgyzstan, Afghanistan, Malta ...
-  2019-2022 ? **Multinational nomination of Hunting** for UNESCO by Czech Republic, Slovenia, Poland... with support of FACE, CIC and IAF

# Falconry and Hunting UNESCO heritage as PR

- After UNESCO inscription, Falconry now benefits from much higher attention of media: TVs, radios, newspapers, magazines and internet media.
- Governments in 18 countries made obligations for financial support, which enables better PR
- Governments support educational, scientific and cultural aspects of Falconry, which results in extra PR
- However, UNESCO inclusion has a positive effect also in countries, which did not participated in nomination
- There is a proposal to create a dedicated website and communication platform for UNESCO nomination beyond basic information provided by official UNESCO website
- The historical UNESCO inscription improves global prestige, visibility and credibility

# Example of positive effect of UNESCO for Public Relations Exhibition on hunting in Brno, Czech Rep., March 2012

## MYSLIVOST

### NEMATERIÁLNÍ STATEK TRADIČNÍ A LIDOVÉ KULTURY ČR

**ODPOVĚDNOST MYSLIVCŮ  
PRO DALŠÍ GENERACE**

Seznam obsahuje v současné době tyto položky

Pořadové číslo položky	Název statku	Navrhovatel
1/2009	Slovácký verbeuň	Národní ústav lidové kultury ve Strážnici
2/2009	Vesnické masopustní obchůzky a masky na Hlínecku	Obec Hlínek
3/2009	Jízdy králů na Slovácku	Národní ústav lidové kultury ve Strážnici
4/2009	Sokolnictví - umění chovu dravců, jejich ochrany, výcviku a lovu s nimi	Ministerstvo zemědělství
5/2011	Myslivost - plánově trvale udržitelné obhospodávání zvěře a jejího prostředí jako přirozená součást života na venkově	Českomoravská myslivecká jednota, o.s.

Hlavním účelem seznamu nemateriálních statků tradiční a lidové kultury České republiky je ochrana, zachování, identifikace, rozvoj a podpora položek, které jsou na seznamu zapsány.

Pátá položka – Myslivost – byla zapsána na základě rozhodnutí ministryně kultury Mgr. Aleny Hanákové ze dne 23. prosince 2011.

Myslivost se v České republice stala zcela ojedinělým fenoménem ve srovnání s jinými zeměmi světa.

Spektrum mysliveckých tradic je široké. Kromě architektury nebo výtvarného umění je asi nejviditelnějším projevem oblečení, nebo myslivecká mluva. Oděv, stejně jako tradice a mluva současných myslivců má hluboké kořeny v historii. Nesmíme opomenout ani loveckou hudbu.

Životní filosofie myslivce se nedá vyčíst z knih, ale je to nekončící škola života a má i svůj mezigenerační rozměr. Vědomosti a zkušenosti jsou předávány zkušenými myslivci začátečníkům, často se dědí z otce na syna.

Hlavní náplní soudobé myslivosti a života na venkově je úsilí zachovat

## SOKOLNICTVÍ V ČR KULTURNÍM DĚDICTVÍM UNESCO



Dne 16. 11. 2010 byl v Keňském Nairobi na zasedání UNESCO odhlasován zápis SOKOLNICTVÍ na seznam světového kulturního dědictví.

Jde o historicky nejširší zápis, neboť zahrnuje kromě Klubu sokolníků ČMMJ i národní sokolnické organizace z Belgie, Francie, Španělska, Jižní Koreje, Mongolska, Maroka, Kataru, Saúdské Arábie, Sýrie a Spojených Arabských Emirátů.

Navrhovatelem nominace za Českou republiku bylo Ministerstvo zemědělství.

Podání nominace předcházelo zapsání sokolnictví na Národní seznam nemateriálních statků tradiční a lidové kultury České republiky.

**Nositeli kulturního statku - sokolnictví - jsou v naší zemi členové Klubu sokolníků ČMMJ.**








# Example of positive effect of UNESCO for PR

Document on falconry for teenagers for national TV, Czech Rep., June 2012





# Example of positive effect of UNESCO for PR

## Opening of Falconry museum in Czech Republic, June 23rd 2012

### Chateau Ohrada



# Example of positive effect of UNESCO for PR

## Opening of Falconry museum in Czech Republic, June 23rd 2012

### Chateau Ohrada



# Example of positive effect of UNESCO for PR

## Introducing 1<sup>st</sup> falconry lectures at Brno University, Czech Rep., June 2012



Kazakhstan, December 2013  
FALCONRY festival – falconers in traditional dress



United Arab Emirates, December 2014  
FALCONRY festival – heritage transmission from father to son



Namibia, December 2015

UNESCO session – renewal of IAF accreditation for next 4 years



# Efforts towards future UNESCO recognition of Hunting

- 🌐 Czech Republic is encouraging other countries in the region since 2011 for joint multinational nomination of HUNTING: Poland, Germany, Slovakia, Hungary, Austria, Croatia...
- 🌐 Czech Rep. is willing to become a coordinating country for UNESCO Hunting nomination
- 🌐 Provide technical details, deadlines, examples of documentation
- 🌐 FACE: maintain its UNESCO NGO status and follow meetings
- 🌐 CIC: be more proactive and do political lobbying
- 🌐 IAF: provide know-how, contacts, experience
- 🌐 National organizations: make local support and lobbying
- 🌐 All hunting NGOs: organize events and invite UNESCO people
- 🌐 FACE, CIC, IAF, the community, experts: setting up the strategy and collaborate on the UNESCO multinational submission file

# Advice for National inventory list of cultural heritage as the first necessary step



First necessary step to become eligible for UNESCO nomination is **to include HUNTING in your inventory list** of national heritage in your country.



The best approach is to take existing falconry national inventory documentation and generalize it and also consider general information from national hunting files of Czech Republic, Slovenia and Poland



The National Inventory List is not approved by UNESCO, but it is competence of a national government. There can be a single or even more inventory lists in one country for various regions or topics.






The process of inclusion in national inventory list of cultural heritage is individual to every country and every country has different documentation requirements and deadlines.



You can find your authority/experts contacts here <https://ich.unesco.org/en/preliminary-list-of-participants-00948>



# Advice for National inventory list of cultural heritage as the first necessary step

-  Usually the documentation is not required to be large. Typically it has a few or a few tens of pages of nomination text, photodocumentation , video and audio documentation (hunting horns). In general, national inventory lists of various countries have many items, but only best of them reach UNESCO list.
-  Mind that national inventory lists of various countries have similar, but not the same requirements as UNESCO representative list. First, you have to contact your authorities and ask about conditions, requirements and forms for national inventory list in your country.
-  Political support is very important

# The End...official recognition document from UNESCO

