

**Involvement of Communities in the Process of Protection and Socialization
of Cultural Heritage – Legal and Normative Documents
of Major International Organizations**

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(Summary)

This article explores the changing approaches to the preservation and socialization of cultural heritage. The analysis of the normative documents of the leading international organizations in the field of cultural heritage – from the 50s of the twentieth century to the present day – shows a slow transition to the integration of people and communities in the processes of its preservation. This transition has three main phases: from separation of people and communities from the heritage, through awareness and access to it, and finally, to inclusion in the decision-making process concerning cultural heritage protection. The article also examines where Bulgaria is in this process and how these changes in cultural policies affect the mechanisms of protection of our cultural heritage.

Keywords: heritage community; cultural heritage; international normative documents, socialization; safeguarding; inclusion

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