

Towards a European Cultural Nikolaos Route – La Via Nicolaiana®



Tangible and Intangible European Cultural Heritage of Nikolaos of Myra

START-UP PHASE

Focus on:



- The historical, cultural and religious heritage of Bishop Nicholas of Myra, later known as of Bari
- The promotion of the ancient European pilgrimages: from the impact of the cult in the European region to the arrival in 1087 of St. Nicholas relics in Bari and the modern times
- The recovery, enhancement and dissemination of the intangible heritage of Nicholas: from being a Christian archetype to the legend *Santa Claus*

Why a route on Nikolaos of Myra?

- Nicholas of Myra is revered both in West and East because he links tradition and innovation, orthodoxy and folklore together.
- He acted as spokesperson of people's emancipation from corruption and against social, political and religious discrepancies. His very name means "People's victory".
- His life and cult promoted a positive change in international relationships among People of both the Mediterranean Area and the rest of the European continent.

For these reasons

NikolaosRoute-ViaNicolaiana® aims to be a cultural and historical interpretation of the process of integration within the European Peoples and with its neighbors. It focuses on creating a network of sustainable related-activities based on the Nicholas's values. These principles are in fact the funding ideals of the EU.

What's new in this European Cultural Route?

- Technically, the targeted research and the territorial action led to the development and testing of a new social and economy model based on “searching and creating job opportunities”. Such a format is achieved building up of a network of local economy that stimulates the creation and share of knowledge, solidarity and transparency of all exchanges, artifacts and talents.
 - In Italy (Latium and Apulia Region) these proposals have already been tested, monitored and standardized by ISFOL, the Italian National Office for Research on Vocational Education, Training and Active Labour Market Policies . It acts in fully compliance with the objectives of the European resolution CM/Res(2013)67 and the Baku Declaration 2014 during the Annual European Cultural routes consultative forum. Here, the itineraries are regarded as potential accelerators of cultural and economic development.
- Under political, symbolic and spiritual points of view, the Nicholas subject embodies the *Zeitgeist*: the ecumenic efforts, the wars and tragic emigrations of our times, the need of promoting a welcoming approach to our next.

Objectives of NikolaosRoute



Sensibilization

To reinforce people' engagement and involvement on what's the meaning and sense of human rights, cultural democracy, diversity, dialogue, exchange, mutual enrichment and cultural European identity across borders and centuries.

Action

To redeem the European principles and to translate them into pragmatic solutions. Our scope is to create and to re-allocate educational, professional and cultural opportunities.

The European Itinerary is a concrete tool for boosting social innovation and accelerating a sustainable economy in MacroRegions Envolved.

Start-up phase

3 Crucial Questions in Start-Up Phase

What occurrence of the European History should be represented in the itinerary?

What criteria should be used in selecting its partners?

What kind of partnership should be built with the local communities across Europe?

The subject matter must follow 3 rules requested by Executive Agency for Cultural Routes

1. The European History - traits

The topic must *represent the European values and joint several countries*

- **NikolaosRoute-ViaNicolaiana®** respects this requirement as it reflects the values, the memory, the History and patrimony of the European Union. More in detail, the Nicholas' positive values of brotherhood, solidarity, faith orthodoxy, ecumenism, justice, charity, defense of outcasts, weak, migrants and children concur with the fundamental values of the Council of Europe. Nicholas represents the European People since his very name. *Nikolaos*, in fact, means "Victory of the People", and it stands for all his fights against iniquity, corruption and injustice.
- The restoration of the historical context of the project has been achievable thanks centuries of testimonies held by reporters, authors and by proofs of pilgrims across several European Countries. Among these paths, also **the prestigious journey walked by Russian Monk of Barlaam from Rostov (see linear routes)**.

2. The European History - traits

The subject must *arise a historical journey or a geographical itinerary (it is the case of cultural tourism)*

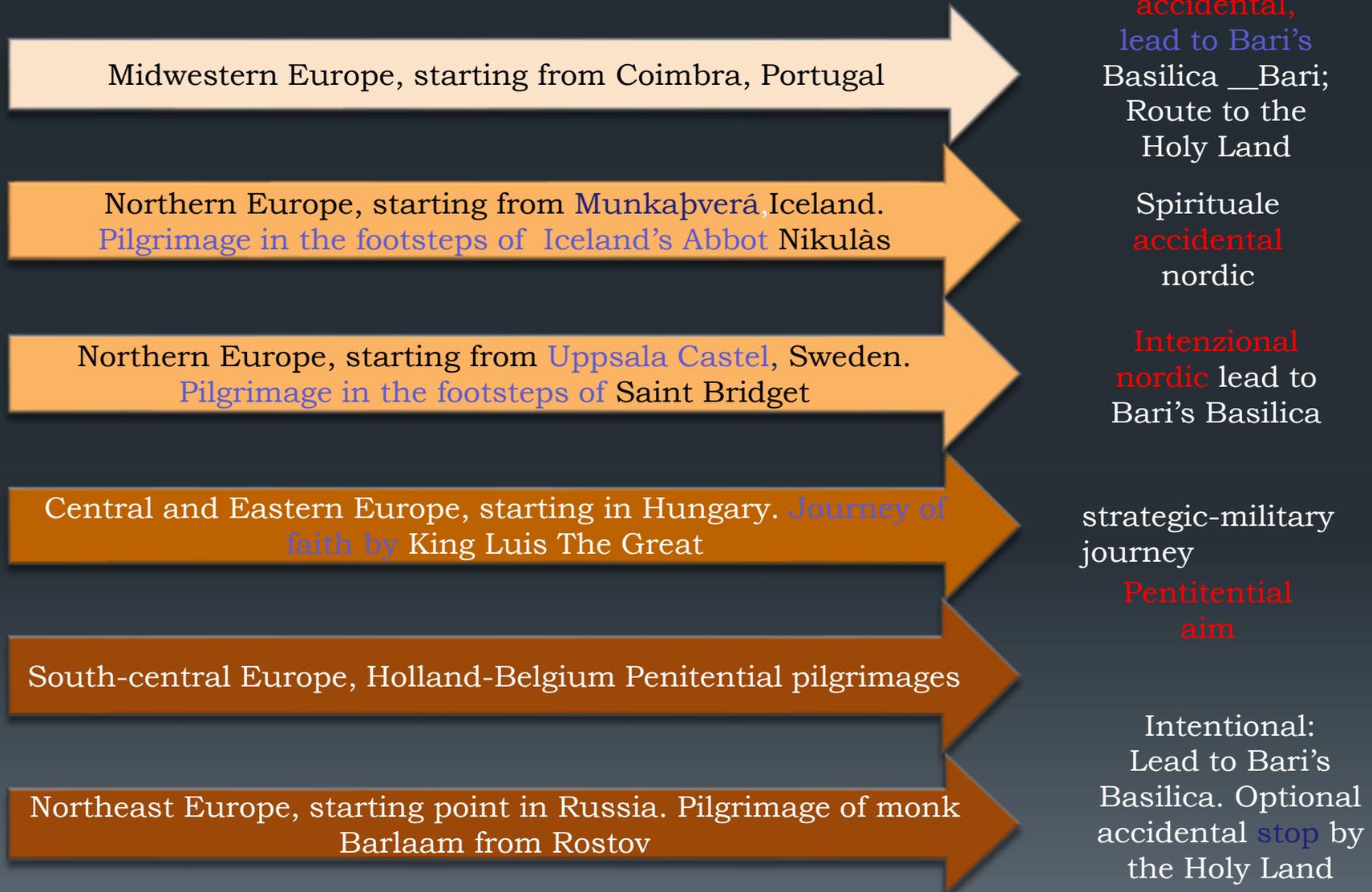
- The tangible and intangible patrimony linked to the Nicholas' subject is vast. A proof of it appears in the many forms of architectures, arts, literatures and folklore across Europe. For this reason, we aim to submit a mixed itinerary. We consider this path to be a physical and an unphysical journey at once. That said, on one side, the proposal will be shaped as a physical/geographical route. It will be based on a rose of documented pilgrimages that stand for four areas of the Old Continent and for diverse objectives. However, on the other side, the Nikolaosroute will be referring also to the discontinued patrimony of Nicholas's tangible and intangible heritage.
- The concentration of Europe; the orthodox esteem in East and South-East Russia and the protestant realities along the Hanseatic League. The latter were "perceiving expressions of a proper identity" even before the asset of themselves as cities.

3. The European History - traits

The subject should be represented via a *Road Map Design*

- Metaphor of the mixed route = a stylized rose garden.
- STEMS = selection of physical uninterrupted itineraries/ pilgrimages that represent the European history. The binding agents of a *Stem* can be the countries also collected in MacroRegions; or the historical characters involved. It can also be a specific scope or the fact that it take place only temporary;
- SHANKS = conjunction of the *stems* in Central-South Italy at/in occasion of? the *peregrinatio maior*. It partially crosses the South of Via Francigena, some stops ___ described in Via dell'Angelo e di San Nicola;
- ROSES = closed circular paths. They take place in the *stem*-countries. The *Rose* path aims to promote tourism and sightseeing in worships and/or in Saint Nicholas' patronage locations. It highlights the architectural, artistic and cultural patrimony of the route-stages involved as to be linked to a Saint Nicholas witness. An example: a *rose* can the path of the most represented Saint Nicholas' churches in the Hanseatic League. It can also represent a minor national pilgrimage such as the one to St. Nicolas de Port.

Proposal of European pilgrimages: Provision of the objectives and the geo-historical settings



Eastern European Itinerary

Pilgrimage in the footsteps of monk Barlaam from Rostov to Jerusalem

COUNTRIES INVOLVED: Russia, EUSALP, EUSAIR,
Turkey, Israel



Essential Bibliography

Eastern European Itinerary

Pilgrimage in the footsteps of monk Barlaam from Rostov to Jerusalem

Proposal of a journey in the footsteps of Rostov's monk Barlaam to Bari in 1460. This is not a pilgrimage that stops in Bari and ends in Jerusalem. It is a path targeting Bari's Basilica as its final destination. In a 1700 Russian manuscript, this itinerary is regarded as the first documented Russian Orthodox pilgrimage. According to the source, once the monk came to Bari, he had a vision of St. Nicholas claiming to reach a market nearby and buy an icon priced three pieces of silver. On the way back to Rostov, a few kilometers from the village, the Saint appeared to the monk again, asking him to stop. He was by the Ulejma river. The event turned quickly to be popular and Dubrovskoe's inhabitants built a small chapel for venerating the holy icon of Saint Nicholas. Later, Uglič's prince, Andrei Vasilievič, advanced the building of a monastery. This episode is an example of the universality of Saint Nicholas's veneration by a multitude of Russian pilgrims across the centuries, and the historical reason why they were directed to Bari.

List of Partner Organisations

Partner no	PIC	Role	Organisation Name	City	Country
P1	945985711	Applicant Organisation	COMUNE DI BRINDISI	BRINDISI	Italy
P2	933957226	Associated partner	Intelektualet e rinj, Shprese	Shkoder	Albania
P3	923932858	Associated partner	Bijeli vat udruga	Zagreb	Croatia
P4	931445411	Associated partner	GRAD DUBROVNIK	DUBROVNIK	Croatia
P5	948585602	Associated partner	UNITED SOCIETIES OF BALKANS ASTIKI ETAIREIA	THESSALONIKI	Greece
P6	939158754	Associated partner	Metropolitan Development Agency of Thessaloniki SA	Thessaloniki	Greece
P7	940270859	Associated partner	ELLINO-ITALIKO EPIMELITIRIO	THESSALONIKI	Greece
P8	917511458	Associated partner	Centro Studi Nicolaiani	Bari	Italy
P9	999640679	Associated partner	COMUNE DI BARI	BARI	Italy
P10	917975118	Associated partner	Work In Progress 10 APS	ROMA	Italy
P11	997991388	Associated partner	COMUNE DI ANCONA	ANCONA	Italy
P12	999988521	Associated partner	AGENZIA NAZIONALE PER LE NUOVE TECNOLOGIE, L'ENERGIA E LO SVILUPPO ECONOMICO SOSTENIBILE	ROMA	Italy
P13	948648652	Associated partner	PRISMS	Hamrun	Malta
P14	949245396	Associated partner	EKSPEDICIJA-EXPEDITIO UDRUZENJE	Kotor	Montenegro
P15	936620555	Associated partner	Kotor municipality	Kotor	Montenegro
P16	922009833	Associated partner	Art District	Požarevac	Serbia
P17	917527851	Associated partner	In linere aps	Bari	Italy
P18	938333769	Associated partner	Bashkia Shkoder (Municipality of Shkodra)	Shkoder	Albania

Horizon 2020

Excellent Science

- **European Research Council**
 - Frontier research by the best individual teams
- **Future and Emerging Technologies**
 - Collaborative research to open new fields of innovation
- **Marie Skłodowska Curie actions**
 - Opportunities for training and career development
- **Research infrastructures** (including e-infrastructure)
 - Ensuring access to world-class facilities

Industrial Technologies

- **Leadership in enabling and industrial technologies**
 - ICT, nanotechnologies, materials, biotechnology, manufacturing, space
- **Access to risk finance**
 - Leveraging private finance and venture capital for research and innovation
- **Innovation in SMEs**
 - Fostering all forms of innovation in all types of SMEs

Societal Challenges

- **Health, demographic change and wellbeing**
- **Food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research & the bioeconomy**
- **Secure, clean and efficient energy**
- **Smart, green and integrated transport**
- **Climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials**
- **Europe in a changing world: Inclusive, innovative and reflective societies**
- **Secure society**

European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)

Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation

Science with and for society

Joint Research Center (JRC)

SOCIETAL CHALLENGES

Societal Challenges

- Health, demographic change and wellbeing
- Food security, sustainable agriculture, marine and maritime research & the bioeconomy
- Secure, clean and efficient energy
- Smart, green and integrated transport
- Climate action, resource efficiency and raw materials
- Europe in a changing world: Inclusive, innovative and reflective societies
- Secure society



WORK PROGRAM SC5:

CLIMATE ACTION,
RESOURCE EFFICIENCY
AND RAW MATERIALS



**CULTURAL HERITAGE FOR
SUSTAINABLE GROWTH**

SC5-21-2016-2017

**Cultural heritage as a driver
for sustainable growth**

CULTURAL HERITAGE FOR SUSTAINABLE GROWTH



The objective of the actions in this part of the call is to harness the full potential of cultural heritage as a production rather than a cost factor and a strategic resource for a sustainable Europe and thus ensure its sustainability, safeguarding, resilience and enhancement.

The focus is therefore to maximise the intrinsic economic, cultural and societal value of cultural heritage in promoting well-being, cultural diversity and social cohesion.

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

SC5-21-2016-2017: Cultural heritage as a driver for sustainable growth

Deadline model : 2 stage

1st stage 8th march 2017

2nd stage 5th September 2017

Innovation Action

TRL: 6-7

Duration: 3 years

Budget: up to 10 million Euros

SC5-21-2016-2017

Cultural heritage as a driver for sustainable growth

Specific Challenge: European cities and rural areas are unique cultural landscapes full of character at the core of Europe's identity.

Cultural heritage (both tangible and intangible) can be used as a driver for the sustainable growth of urban and rural areas, as a factor of production and competitiveness and a means for introducing socially and environmentally innovative solutions.

Scope: Proposals should address **one** of the following:

A. Heritage-led urban regeneration (2016)

B. Heritage-led rural regeneration (2017)

For both, actions should develop and deploy via large-scale demonstration projects novel heritage-led systemic approaches and solutions for sustainable growth. In order to pave the way for their rapid replication and up-scaling, a 'Role models' and 'Replicators' approach should be implemented.

SC5-21-2016-2017

Cultural heritage as a driver for sustainable growth

The 'Role models' are urban or rural landscapes which have demonstrably and successfully pursued a heritage-led regeneration.

The 'Replicators' are urban or rural landscapes that will be assisted/mentored by 'Role models' and committed to their heritage-led regeneration within the duration of the project, replicating the heritage-led regeneration 'blueprints' of the 'Role models', properly contextualised to fit their particular contexts.

The 'Replicators' will therefore proactively seek advice, assistance and mentoring from the 'Role models', have privileged contact with them and access to their know-how, and will participate in the definition of user requirements and the methodology for transferability of solutions, data collection etc.

SC5-21-2016-2017

Cultural heritage as a driver for sustainable growth



Projects should aim to:

- Map, analyse and systematically document successful heritage-led regeneration models in 'Role models', linking where appropriate cultural and natural heritage; Particular emphasis should be paid to successful business and management models, financing mechanisms, leveraging of investments, governance structures, urban and territorial plans and legal frameworks.
- Assist 'Replicators' through provision of expertise, advice and capacity building in developing and implementing during the life of the project their heritage-led regeneration plans, including appropriate business and management models, financing mechanisms, governance structures, planning tools and legal frameworks.
- Develop methodologies enabling the replication and up-scaling of heritage-led urban regeneration projects in different contexts, including replication of innovative investment strategies, governance and business models;

SC5-21-2016-2017

Cultural heritage as a driver for sustainable growth

Expected Impact

Projects are expected to contribute to:

- providing new heritage-led urban and rural regeneration paradigms, up-scalable and replicable, replacing the object-oriented approach with a spatial approach in heritage planning and offering new economic and investment opportunities, new products and services, reduced regulative and administrative barriers, innovative governance adopting trans-disciplinary and participatory approaches and promoting citizens' engagement and new local skills and jobs;
- strengthening Europe's capacity as a world-leader in promoting, financing, developing, managing and replicating innovative use of heritage for urban and rural regeneration in Europe and beyond;
- securing heritage conservation and sustainability through fostering collective management, responsibility and ownership of cultural heritage, and establishing a “community of practice” to promote heritage potential as a production (rather than a cost) factor to the society through unlocking its potential as a driver for regeneration and a catalyser for economic growth and jobs;

Type of Action: **Innovation action**

Referral Technical department

European Institute of Cultural Routes
Abbaye de Neumunster, 28 rue Munster, L-2160 Luxembourg

+ 352 24125033/ cell: + 33 (0) 762692172
<http://www.coe.int>; www.culture-routes.net

Policy Papers

- **Baku's declaration of year 2014 and European Resolution CM/Res(2013)67:** these documents standardize the terms and conditions of an European Itinerary. They appeal a route for being able to prompt economic development.
- **Toolkits** about the certification process of a Cultural European Itinerary. They are generated within the **CERTESS** project.
- **“European Cultural Routes” A Practical Guide: simple guidelines.** It highlights the contents, the terms and the steps of the certification process.