

# CARPATHIAN CONVENTION

Wednesday 21 February 2024 – Videoconference

## IYRP International year of Rangeland and Pastoralism

### Declaration of Transhumance UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage

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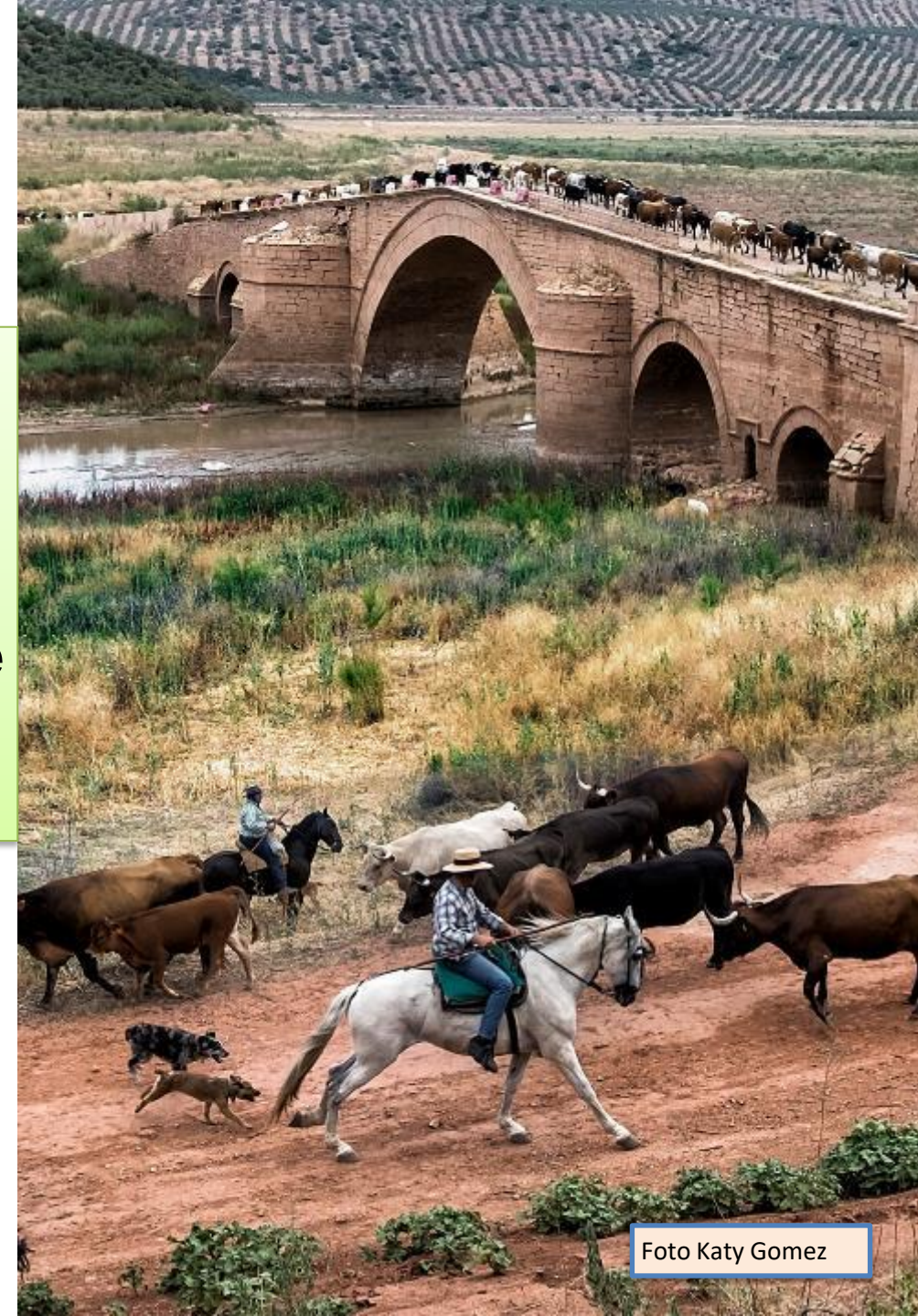
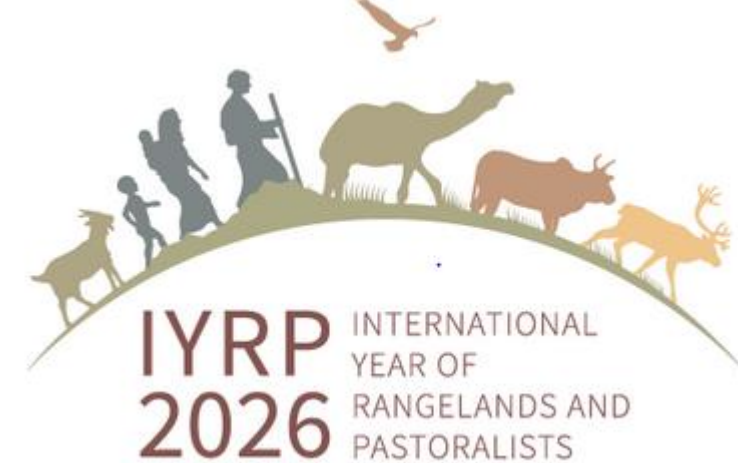


Foto Katy Gomez

# 2026 IYRP International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists

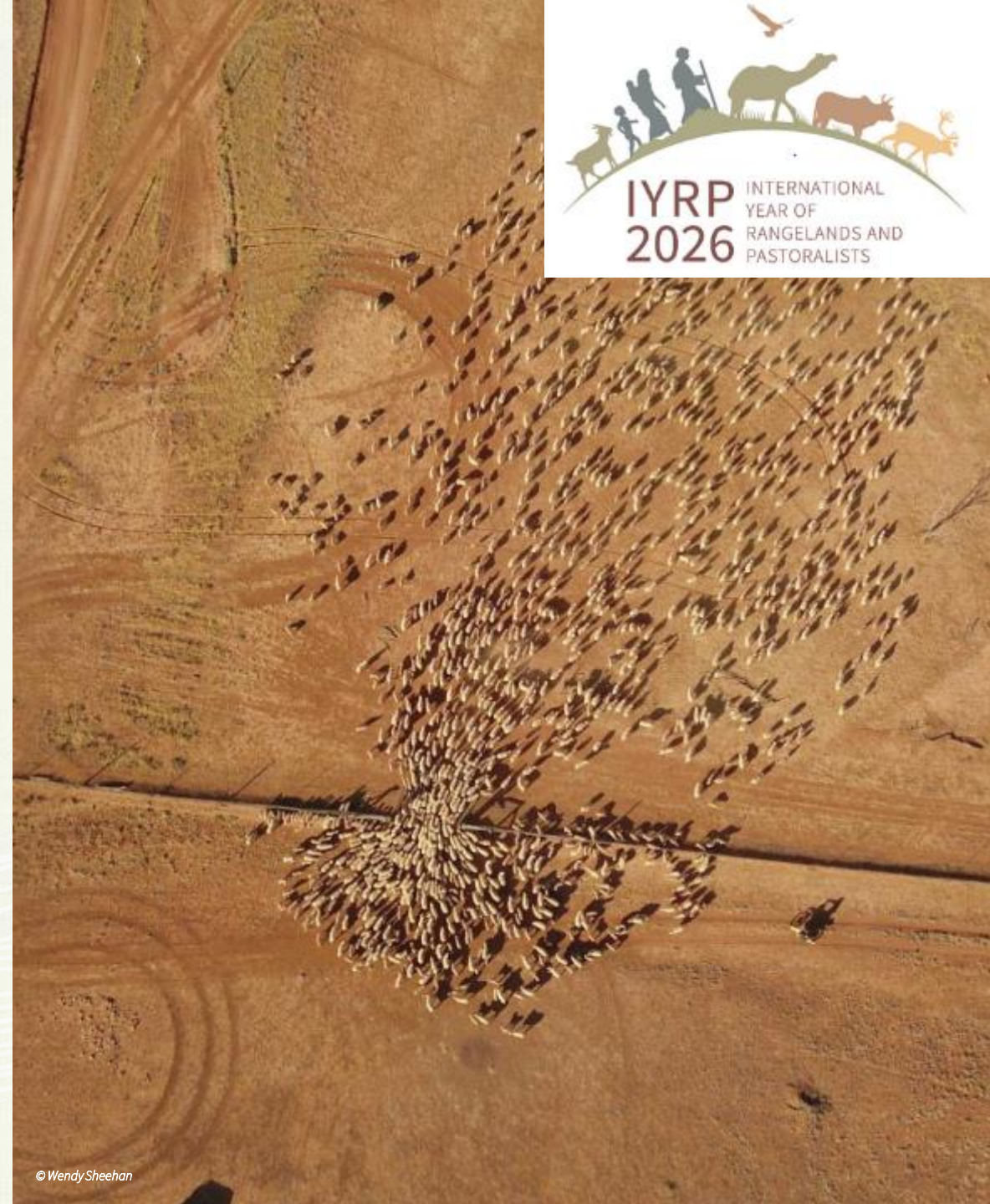


- **2019 - Mongolian Government submits proposal to FAO**
- **2022 - UN Declaration of the International Year of Grasslands and Pastoralists**



# Why an IYRP?

- To **increase worldwide understanding** of importance of rangelands & pastoralists for food security, economy, environment & cultural heritage
- To help **fill knowledge gaps** about rangelands & pastoralists through participatory research & communication
- To promote **informed, science-based policy & legislation** for current & future generations
- To **mobilise people** worldwide to grasp new opportunities in rangelands & pastoralism





# Regional IYRP Support Groups (RISGs)

**Arctic  
Europe**

**East Asia**

**South Asia**

**Central Asia &  
Mongolia**

**Australasia**

**North Africa &  
Middle East**

**Eastern &  
Southern Africa**

**West & Central  
Africa**

**North America**

**South America**

## **Multistakeholder RISGs to generate partnership:**

- to expand network of supporting organisations and governments in the 11 regions of the world
- to work with Government of Mongolia and IYRP International Support Group to plan and implement IYRP activities in these regions
- Central role for pastoralist organisations in the RISGs & their activities



Photo: J.Dillan/MercyCorps

# Activities up to & during IYRP 2026 on various themes

Joint research & publishing

Policy briefs / statements

Pastoralist gatherings

Social media campaigns

Films / Photo exhibits

Pastoralist innovation fairs

Side events

Conferences / Webinars ... etc



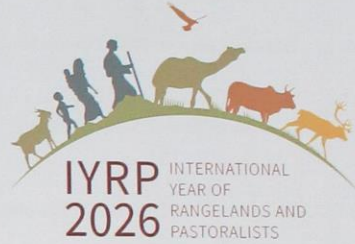


Signature of a MoC  
between  
IYRP and the Carpathian Convention

during the COP 7 in  
Belgrade- Serbia  
12-10-2023



Memorandum of Cooperation  
Carpathian Convention and IYRP 2026



Carpathian Convention  
11-13 October 2023



Memorandum of Cooperation  
Carpathian Convention and IYRP 2026

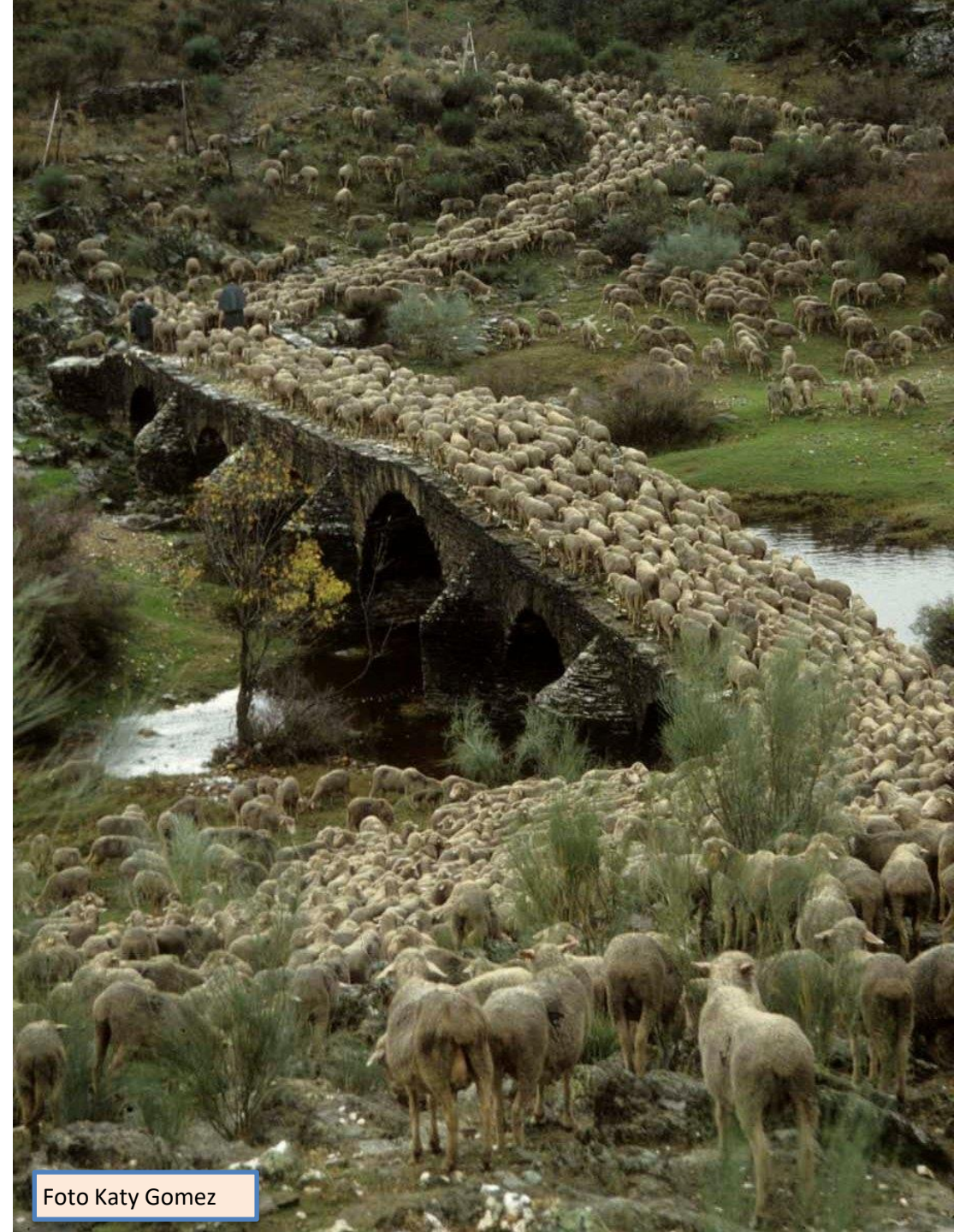


# Transhumance,

a traditional practice,  
in serious danger of disappearing,

therefore the need for its

Declaration as  
UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage



# The Nomination of Transhumance as UNESCO ICH

- **History of the Nomination**
- How does Nomination help pastoralists
- How is the process of Nomination

- 
- How to give Visibility to Transhumance
  - Safeguard Plan



# Steps taken to include Transhumance in the UNESCO list of World Heritage sites

## 1st Recognition

Austria- Greece - Italy

**“Transhumance: the seasonal droving of livestock along migratory routes in the Mediterranean and in the Alps”**

Recognised as a UNESCO ICH  
Bogotá - 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019

The **multinational nomination file** of Transhumance as International ICH

was submitted to UNESCO by

ten European countries

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Recognition

Albania, Andorra, Austria, Croatia, France, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Romania, and Spain

**Transhumance, the seasonal droving of livestock** declared UNESCO ICH

## IYRP

**“International Year of Rangeland and Pastoralism”**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Recognition?**

2008-2017

2019

2020

Mars 2022

5 déc 2023

2026

Decision to submit a joint application: France and Spain, both co-leaders  
Many requests from other countries for second wave

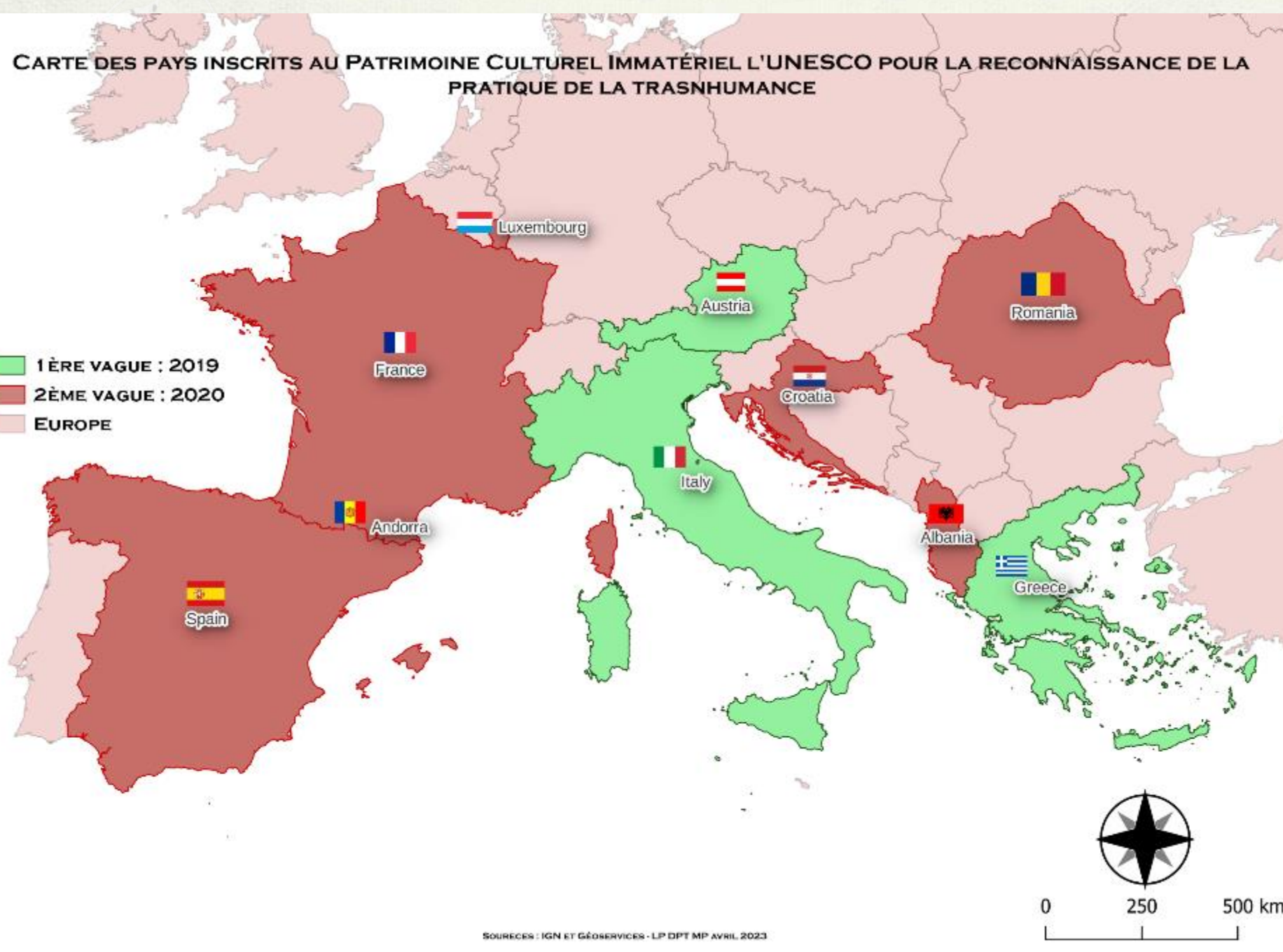
Collective work by all countries  
**Recognition of the practice as ICH (Intangible Cultural Heritage) at national level for each country**

Drawing up of the an **International Safeguard Plan**, and its management  
Exhibition of the **Transhumance film** of the **nomination file** in English (¿and other languages?)



# CARTE DES PAYS INSCRITS AU PATRIMOINE CULTUREL IMMATÉRIEL L'UNESCO POUR LA RECONNAISSANCE DE LA PRATIQUE DE LA TRANSHUMANANCE

- 1 ÈRE VAGUE : 2019
- 2 ÈME VAGUE : 2020
- EUROPE





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# Impact of inscription for communities and States?

The inscription of the element Transhumance has helped to

- bring **visibility**: the pastoral community become part of wider societal debates.
- to broaden the **understanding of Immaterial Cultural Heritage** in a rural context
- enhance the **regional and global cooperation**, given the important role of the ICH in sustainable development
- **promote dialogue among different communities** regarding the agropastoral life, such as landscape, crafts, food, traditional assignment of grazing areas, history and culture
- **popularize the concept** at all level, specially
  - **government level**, (who have to take responsibility and put resources for its safeguarding plan)
  - **consumer on products quality** and its importance at **environmental level**



Spain  
1930



# Challenges of Transhumants in some countries of Europe



No longer being able to use pastoral routes, their ancestors have used for centuries

(South Italy)  
The Colantuono Family has to do the first 38 km of their traditional transhumance (285 km long) only on asphalt.

## Well known problems for mobile herding world wide

Rights on access  
land and  
rangelands

Access to clean  
water

Transregional or  
**Cross-border**  
mobile pastoralism

Arctic Europe  
Sami and the  
mining

Generation  
renewal

While the **ecological changes**  
they're facing may be hard to  
reverse, **man-made borders or**  
**other constraints can be**  
**adjusted.**

Eastern  
Africa,  
pastoralists  
directly  
involved in  
**violent**  
**conflicts**

**World Recognition of Transhumance and Nomadism, and collaboration between countries for common safeguard measures is urgent**



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# Steps for Nomination UNESCO ICH

## What we need at National Level:

- 1) Be a Country that has signed the UNESCO ICH Convention 2003
- 2) Have both the **Ministry of Culture**, and the **Bearing Communities** willing to work together, and create a **Common National Steering Committee** responsible for
- 3) Nomination of Transhumance National Intangible Heritage (required time: more or less one year)



# UNESCO Convention

## Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

### October 2003

- (a) to **safeguard** the intangible cultural heritage;
- (b) to **ensure respect** for the intangible cultural heritage of the communities, groups and individuals concerned;
- (c) to **raise awareness** at the local, national and international levels of the importance of the intangible cultural heritage, and of ensuring mutual appreciation thereof;
- (d) to provide for **international cooperation** and assistance

**Signed by 173 State parties**, except (august 2021): Australia, Canada, Guyana, Holy See, Israel, Liberia, Libia Lichtenstein, New Zealand, Niue, Russian Federation, San Marino, Sierra Leone, South Africa, UK, USA

# Steps for Nomination UNESCO ICH

## What do we need at International Level

- **Selection of countries** who will participate (Commitment, Motivation, National Nomination), with **a team leading country**
- Select **2 National focal points** per country for the International Steering Committee
  - 1 Focal Point representing the Ministry of Culture
  - 1 Focal Point representing the Bearers Community
- **Regular meetings** of the International Steering Committee to work together on the Nomination File
- Preparation of a **common film**, required as part of the nomination dossier
- Required time **mínimum 2-3 years**, (depending on the number of participating countries, and the capability of the International Steering Committee to collaborate)



## Intangible Cultural Heritage of Transhumance

- Handycrafts linked to transhumance (skills leather, wood, metal.... knives, bells, chairs, necklaces, instruments for cheese making, sticks...).
- Traditional festivals
- Markets and bartering
- Local terminology
- Toponymy
- Gastronomy



Shepherd's stick -Greece



Shepherd market in Spain



Cow of Vosges-France

## Organization of Transhumance

- Shepherds hierarchy: (Mayoral, rabadán, zagal)
- Dates of departure and return
- Identification and marking of the animals
- Ritual of setting the animal bells
- Dogs (protection and guarding)
- The leading animals “mansos” and “cabestros” used to lead the flock
- Horses/donkeys for transport



# Tangible Cultural Heritage of Transhumance



Menhir da Meada - Portugal  
7,5 m  
Highest of Iberian Peninsula

All the architecture related to the Transhumance

- Drovers
- Water points
- Old and modern signposting
- Chapels
- Monasteries
- Huts along the way
- Mountain shelters
- Megalithic constructions



Stopover chapel for  
Transhumants, San  
Marco in Lamis - Gargano  
- Italy



Shepherds' Hut  
Abruzzo-Italy



Signposting Cañada Real in  
Madrid - Spain



Attilia Saepinum - Roman city, where the  
transhumance still occurs – Molise - Italia



Porta Boviarum – Attilia Saepinum- Molise - Italia



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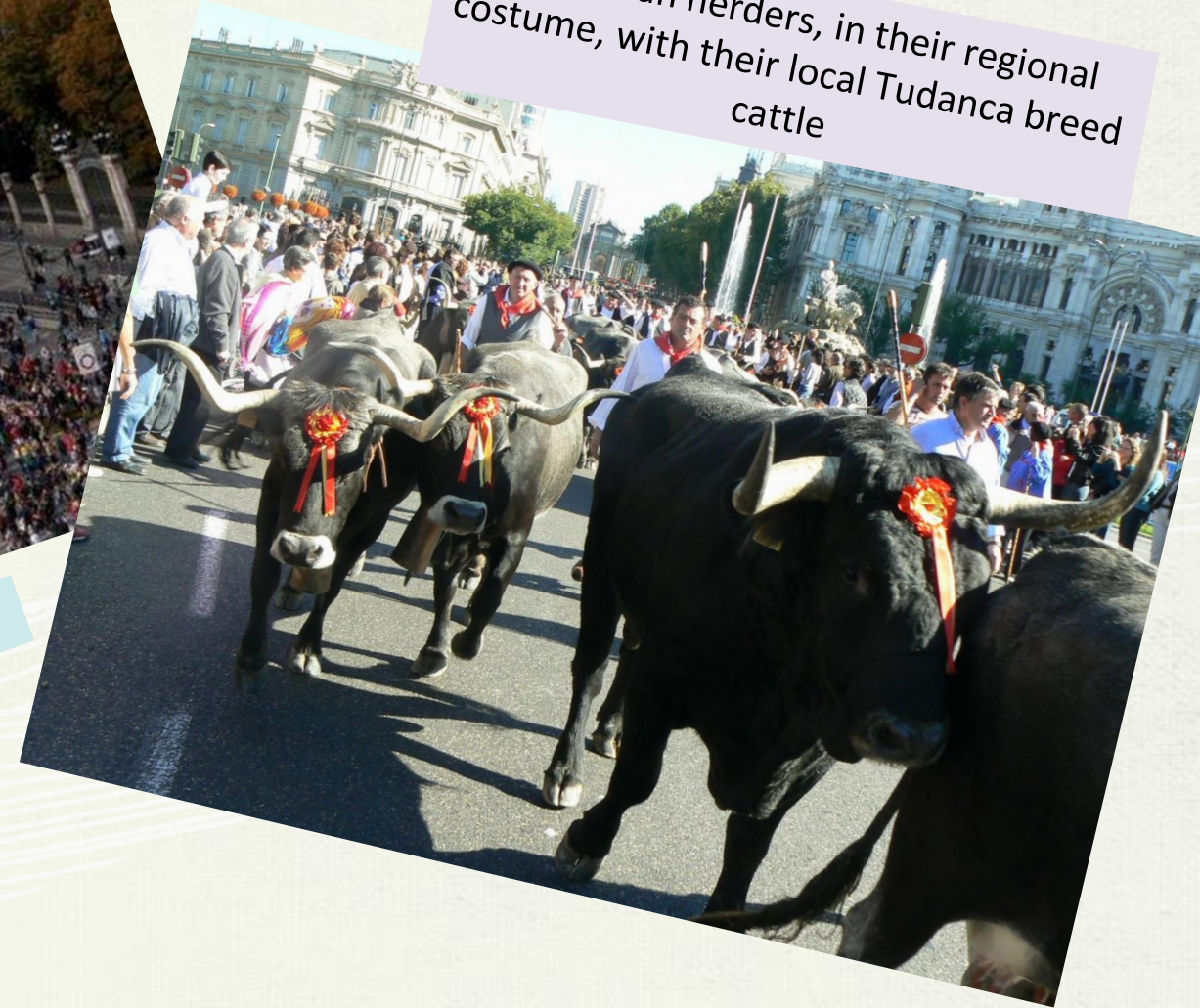
# Spain: Since 1994 a sheep and goats flocks walk again on the “Cañada Real” of Madrid

Trashumance passing through the very centre of Madrid 2019

Raising awareness of the importance of Transhumance

Cantabrian herders, in their regional costume, with their local Tudanca breed cattle

1800 sheep and 200 goats, more than 500.000 people  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-50115974>





## September 2007 the 1st World Meeting of Nomadic and Transhumant Shepherds (Segovia-Spain)

Representatives of WAMIP (World Alliance of Mobile Indigenous Peoples) from all over the world came to Madrid- SPAIN, in occasion of the COP 8 "Convention Against Desertification"





**Paris March 2022, on the occasion of the International Agriculture Fair**

In the fair Meeting of the  
International Steering Committee  
for Nomination of Transhumance  
UNESCO ICH



For the first time a sheep flock  
transhuming on the Champs  
Élysées



**Great mediatic impact**



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## The nomination is not a goal, it's a beginning

All the work carried out, including

- research,
- strengthening of networks,
- creation of synergies,
- involvement of communities and institutions

Represents a valuable capital for future that transcends nomination and inscription:

### **The Safeguard Plan,**

to promote concrete, effective and lasting commitments and actions.





# National and International Safeguard Plan for Transhumance

- **Documentation:**
  - Scientific research on social and cultural functions of Transhumance
  - Documenting and mapping the routes of transhumant pastoralists
- **Transmission:**
  - *Educational projects*, school children participating in transhumance, women saveguard skills about wool,.....
  - *Festivities*
  - Implementation of awareness-raising and information activities
- **Promotion:**
  - Supporting the continuity of local events and processes
  - Creating a network of Transhumance museums
  - Temporary and/or itinerant exhibitions
  - International day of Transhumance
- **International Partnership:**
  - International collaborations for exchanging good practices
  - Coordination meeting of the communities (FAO PKH and IYRP)



Danke

Hvala

Grazie

Gracias

Merci

Ευχαριστώ

Thank you

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