

Hemslöjden obtains expert role by UNESCO

UNESCO appointed The National Association of Swedish Handicraft Societies (SHR) as an accredited NGO (non-governmental organization). SHR is by this a consulting expert organization to UNESCO regarding the work for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage.

UNESCO's Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage was adopted in 2003, Sweden ratified the convention in 2011. Examples of cultural heritage addressed within the convention are different forms of handicraft, traditions, music, and tales. Intangible cultural heritage expands beyond national borders, constantly living and in change.

The National Association of Swedish Handicraft Societies is now one of three Swedish organizations accredited by UNESCO.

With its 90 societies across Sweden, SHR constitutes Hemslöjden. A movement that continuously have worked with intangible cultural heritage for over 110 years. Through courses, handicraft gatherings, exhibitions, seminars, and different projects we pass on knowledge and invoke interest, in the younger generations as well. The handicraft movement is therefore an important part of the Swedish civil society.

With even greater authority and power, SHR works consultative for The Swedish National Commission for UNESCO and The Institute for Language and Folklore (Isof). With the expert role that UNESCO now has assigned to SHR, the work will be intensified, on a national level as well as international.

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