Transboundary European Heritage - a Topic for UNESCO Associated Schools

Teaching Manual:

UNESCO and its mission to protect people's heritage and identity

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Introduction

Goals and target group
It is essential for the preservation of cultural heritage to convey to young people the importance of heritage, to present the threat to it and to enable them constructively to protect it through sustainable use. One of the aims of the project "Transboundary European World Heritage - a Topic for UNESCO Associated Schools" is therefore to anchor the topic of (world) heritage permanently in school lessons and thus to create awareness among pupils about the importance of their regional heritage, the World Heritage and its need for protection. This teaching manual is intended to make an important contribution to this aim. It is directed to both teachers and to pupils aged 15-18.

Concept and content of the teaching manual
The handbook is divided into thematic teaching modules that highlight UNESCO's cultural, educational and peace mission in general and the protection of cultural and natural heritage in particular. Five teaching modules have been developed, which are intended to provide the impulse for teaching such topics in school lessons, starting with UNESCO's institutional structure and its mandate for culture, education and peace. The modules are designed for interdisciplinary teaching, but are also suitable for teaching in subject areas such as history, ethics or natural sciences. The handbook is conceived as a work to be viewed holistically, but can also be taught in modules.

The teaching manual is divided into thematically structured teaching modules which are intended to provide teachers with motivation for teaching those overarching themes within the framework of interdisciplinary school teaching.

Structure of the teaching modules
The teaching modules are divided into two teaching units. The first part provides an introduction to the content of each module and is formulated in such a way that they can be used in school lessons as information and background texts also for pupils. In the second part, teaching proposals are presented which support the teachers conveying the contents of the modules in school lessons. Furthermore in this part learning goals and core competences are conveyed, references for the timing proposed and if needed additional material provided.

The teaching modules in detail
1) Introduction to the Manual
2) UNESCO - Who and what is UNESCO? What is its mission? How does UNESCO implement its mission?
3) UNESCO's Mission for Peace and Education in a Changing World
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4) Culture, Heritage and Identity – the Conservation and Destruction of Cultural Heritage worldwide

5) The UNESCO World Heritage Convention - What is the World Heritage Convention and what should it achieve?

6) The Transboundary World Heritage Sites: Cultural Landscape Erzgebirge/Krušnohoří, Muskauer Park/Park Mužakowski, and the German World Heritage Site Hedeby and the Danevirke