

**REPORT BY A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION ACCREDITED  
TO ACT IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY TO THE COMMITTEE ON ITS  
CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION**

**Deadline: 15 February 2023  
for examination in 2023**

*File may be downloaded at:  
<https://ich.unesco.org/en/forms>*

*Please provide only the information requested below.  
Annexes or other additional materials cannot be accepted.*

### **A. Identification of the organization**

#### **A.1. Name of the organization submitting this report**

A.1.a. *Provide the full official name of the organization in its original language, as it appears on the official documents.*

Zentralverband des Deutschen Handwerks (ZDH)

A.1.b. *Name of the organization in English and/or French.*

German Confederation of Skilled Crafts and Small Businesses

A.1.c. *Accreditation number of the organization (as indicated in all previous correspondence: NGO-90XXX)*

NGO 90413

#### **A.2. Address of the organization**

*Provide the complete postal address of the organization, as well as additional contact information such as its telephone number, email address, website, etc. This should be the postal address where the organization carries out its business, regardless of where it may be legally domiciled. In the case of internationally active organizations, please provide the address of the headquarters.*

Organization: Zentralverband des Deutschen Handwerks

Address: Mohrenstraße 20/21, 10117 Berlin

Telephone number: +49 (0) 30 20619-0

Email address: info@zdh.de

Website: www.zdh.de

Other relevant information:

### A.3. Contact person for correspondence

Provide the complete name, address and other contact information of the person responsible for correspondence concerning this report.

Title (Ms/Mr, etc.): Dr. Titus

Family name: Kockel

Given name:

Institution/position: Culture Unit, Business Promotion Skilled Crafts Department

Address: Mohrenstraße 20/21, 10117 Berlin

Telephone number: +49 (0) 30 20619-335

Email address: [kockel@zdh.de](mailto:kockel@zdh.de)

Other relevant information:

## B. Contribution of the organization to the implementation of the Convention at the national and international levels (Chapter III and Article 19 of the Convention, paragraph 156 of the Operational Directives)<sup>1</sup>

*Distinguish between completed activities and ongoing activities contributing to the eight thematic areas of the Convention's Overall Results Framework<sup>2</sup>, as well as to the preparation of periodic reports, nominations, proposals and requests under the Convention's international cooperation mechanisms. If you have not contributed, this should be indicated. Also describe any obstacles or difficulties that your organization may have encountered in such participation.*

**B.1.** Describe your organization's contribution to strengthening **institutional and human capacities** for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

The German skilled crafts sector recruits most of its skilled workforce from the large group of apprentices that the sector traditionally trains itself. The range of professions available for training cover a total of over 130 trades. In Germany, such initial vocational education and training (IVET) is called "dual" apprenticeship, with apprentices being trained both in the company at which they are employed and at a vocational school. Depending on the specific trade, apprenticeships last between two and three and a half years, ending with a journeyman's

1. In case your organization operates in several States, please indicate clearly which State or States are concerned by your answers where appropriate.
2. For further information on the Overall Results Framework, please refer to the Chapter 8 of the Basic Texts of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/basic-texts-00503>

examination. Throughout the apprenticeship, companies employ and pay the apprentices they train. – The core of further training in the skilled crafts is the master craftsman qualification. Chambers of skilled crafts and professional associations cooperate in regulatory and educational work, thus ensuring high quality and consistent labour market relevance. The ZDH coordinates all educational activities and initiatives of the German skilled crafts sector at national level. ZDH participates in education policy opinion-forming processes in the national institutions of VET (e.g. Board of Trustees of German Industry and Commerce for VET, Main Committee of the Federal Institute for VET, Alliance for Initial and Continuing Training, German Qualifications Framework Working Group) and at European level (e.g. SMEUnited Vocational Education and Training Committee). It provides a nationwide framework for shaping education policy initiatives and projects within the crafts organisation. Moreover, ZDH coordinates at the national level cross-cutting VET (ÜLU), VET- and competence centres as well as federal government programmes securing the demand for skilled workers.

**B.2.** Describe your organization's participation in activities related to the **transmission of and education** for intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

Coordination of the development of curricula and the examination system for the entire craft vocational education and training in Germany at the national level. One milestone was the development of the nationally standardised advanced training qualification of [Master Professional in Restoration in the Craft Trades Sector \(Restaurator im Handwerk\)](#) in 2020. This CVET degree above master craftsman level at the Third Vocational Training Level (comparable to EQF level 7) empowers masters of skilled crafts not only to strategically and successfully employ craft conservation as craft entrepreneurs but also to act as private enterprise ICH experts on traditional craftsmanship in their own trades. As private actors, they carry out and support safeguarding of traditional craftsmanship in an economically sustainable way.

**B.3.** Describe your organization's participation in the **inventorying and research** of intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

Various projects of ZDH's culture unit, i.e. participation in the transdisciplinary research and project Objects of Skills. Materializations of Experiential Knowledge in Handcrafting Between Tradition and Innovation ([OMAHETI](#)), Database Craft Conservation Enterprises ([www.restaurierung-handwerk.de](http://www.restaurierung-handwerk.de)); coordination of dialogue between academics, museums, archives and craft organisations at the interdisciplinary working group craft history ([InAH](#)); ...

**B.4.** Describe your organization's participation in developing **policies, as well as legal and administrative measures**, for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

The bearers of the intangible cultural heritage of craftsmanship are the craftspeople working in their respective skilled craft in Germany. Through the German Association of Skilled Crafts Confederations (UDH), ZDH represents the professional and entrepreneurial interests of the whole range of craft trades in Germany. On the ground, however, many cultural issues are dealt with and promoted through the regional, public body Chambers of Skilled Crafts, the membership with which is mandatory for skilled craft enterprises in German by federal law, the German Crafts Code. At national level, Chambers of Skilled Crafts are represented by the German Confederation of Chambers of Skilled Crafts (DHKT) inside ZDH. Through its culture unit inside DHKT, ZDH ensures the coordination of all ICH-related questions between the craft trades (UDH), chambers (DHKT), craftspeople on the ground and outside actors like the German Commission for UNESCO.

The mandatory licensing under the German Crafts Code ensures VET quality in the skilled crafts sector. Therefore, many traditional crafts demanded to restore mandatory licensing to achieve regulated and high-quality VET. Following a broad political initiative by the ZDH, in 2020 the

German Bundestag reinstated 12 trades, some of them small and rare, from Annex B1 to Annex A1 of the trades requiring authorisation. An important argument for the re-licensing was, beyond the questions of the safety relevance of the crafts, also their significance as intangible cultural heritage.

**B.5.** Describe your organization's participation in promoting the **role of intangible cultural heritage and its safeguarding in society**. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

From 2014 until 2021, ZDH was member of the national expert committee for the ICH in Germany, which is affiliated to UNESCO commission for Germany. In this function, ZDH was engaged in promoting craft ICH through a range of activities: 2018, in course of the European Year of Cultural Heritage, ZDH organised – together with the Fédération européenne pour les Métiers du Patrimoine bâti (FEMP), the German Commission for UNESCO and other partners – a European Craft Congress to promote the notion of tangible heritage being an emanation of intangible cultural heritage and to advocate for a better inclusion of craftspeople and their methods of craft conservation to preserve cultural heritage ([Berlin Manifesto 2018](#)).

As part of the congress, the ZDH organised the ceremony for the international recognition of [organ building and organ music in Germany as Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity](#). The festivities provided the impetus for the organisational concentration of interests in the musical instrument craft trades in Germany with important impulses for VET and CVET.

In course of the Bauhaus centennial 2019, ZDH organised, together with the Federal Foundation for Building Culture (Bundesstiftung Baukultur) the "[Handwerk und Baukultur – Ein Beitrag zum Bauhausjubiläum 2019](#)" to sensitise the public for the significance of craftsmanship and quality VET and CVET for Baukultur and the whole sphere of architecture, construction, heritage conservation and sustainability.

**B.6.** Describe your organization's participation in **raising awareness** about intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organization cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

A range of German craft chambers have been promoting craft ICH – through gallery exhibitions, workshops, talks, trade fairs – since their coming into being, i.e. since the year 1900. Through its Culture Planning Committee, ZDH enables the exchange of experience of craft organisations at national level, developing strategies to further address the public and sensitise it for craft culture.

Developed in France in 2002, the German craft chambers adopted the European Artistic Crafts Days as Europäische Tage des Kunsthandwerks (ETAK) in 2013 as a sensitising large scale public event for all aspects of cultural and creative craftsmanship on the ground ([www.kunsthandwerkstage.de](http://www.kunsthandwerkstage.de)). ZDH plays a crucial role as national contact for the European coordinator helping and as a national coordinator for the organising craft chambers. In 2022, the event comprised live demonstrations, exhibitions, digital offers, guided tours, fashion shows, children's programmes, tips, tricks & trends, lectures / seminars, and workshops. ETAK 22 attracted about 40.000 visitors nationwide of all age ranges, genders, and interests and more than 1 million digital visits during the long weekend.

**B.7.** Describe your organization's participation in facilitating the engagement of communities, groups and individuals, as well as other stakeholders, for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.

*Not to exceed 250 words*

From 2014 until now, ZDH promotes towards craftspeople the national application process for the Federal Register of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

**B.8.** Describe your organization's **engagement in cooperation at the bilateral, subregional, regional or international levels** for the implementation of the Convention, including initiatives such as the exchange of information and experience, and other joint initiatives.

Not to exceed 250 words

As a board member of Fédération européenne pour les Métiers du Patrimoine bâti (FEMP), which is registered as an observing NGO with the CDCPP of the Council of Europe, ZDH, early in 2022, presented the European Arts and Crafts Days as an exemplary measure to promote traditional craft culture and intangible cultural heritage.

**B.9.** Describe your organization's involvement in or contribution to the drafting of the national Periodic Report on the implementation of the Convention.

Not to exceed 250 words

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**B.10.** Describe your organization's participation in the preparation of nominations to the Urgent Safeguarding List or Representative List, requests for International Assistance or proposals of Good Safeguarding Practices.

Not to exceed 250 words

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## C. Cooperation with UNESCO

Has your organization carried out activities in cooperation with UNESCO? If yes, please tick the relevant boxes and provide information in the box below.

Direct cooperation with UNESCO (~~Headquarters~~ and Field Offices)

Activities for which you have received the authorization to use the emblem of UNESCO/of the 2003 Convention

Cooperation through the 2003 Convention's Global Network of Facilitators

Cooperation with Category 2 Centres

Cooperation with National Commissions for UNESCO

Cooperation with UNESCO Chairs

Financial support from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund

Financial support from the Participation Programme

Other types of cooperation

Not to exceed 250 words

Regular exchange through the ZDH Culture Planning Group: The ICH expert of UNESCO commission for Germany reports regularly on the application process and on relevant news.

## D. Participation in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

**D.1** Has your organization participated in the sessions of the Committee? If so, please indicate which sessions you attended and whether you had any specific role during these meetings.

Not to exceed 250 words

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**D.2** *Has your organization served as a member of the Evaluation Body (paragraphs 26 to 31 of the Operational Directives), or as a member of the Consultative Body (between 2012 and 2014)? If so, please indicate the period.*

*Not to exceed 100 words*

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**D.3** *In what way(s) has your organization provided advisory services to the Committee (paragraph 96 of the Operational Directives) or in what way(s) do you foresee that it might provide such services in the future?*

*Not to exceed 500 words*

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## **E. Capacities of your organization to evaluate nominations, proposals and requests (paragraphs 27 and 96 of the Operational Directives):**

**E.1.** *Nominations, proposals and requests are available for evaluation only in English or French. Do members of your organization or your staff have a very good command of English or French? If so, please indicate which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

2 (EN), 1 (FR)

**E.2.** *Does your organization have experience in working across several intangible cultural heritage domains? Please describe your experiences.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

As member of the national ICH jury from 2014 to 2021 I do have some experience outside the field of craft ICH.

**E.3.** *Describe the experience of your organization in evaluating and analysing documents such as proposals or applications.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

In my above function as jury member, I examined 64 applications p.a. for the biannual federal jury meeting. Additionally, I was asked to complete more extensive written statements on 6 to 8 ICH applications. Conclusions and suggestions were discussed in the jury meetings, and it was decided whether the jury's counsel to the state bodies in charge was to include a respective application to the federal register, or to return for revision or to reject it altogether.

**E.4.** *Does your organization have experience in drafting synthetic texts in English or French? Please describe your experience and indicate in which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

1 (EN). As vice chair of the FEMP since 2017 basically both strategy papers and political communication and all internal communication need to be written in English.

**E.5.** *Does your organization have experience in working at the international level or the capacity to apply local experience to an international context? Please describe such experience.*

*Not to exceed 250 words*

Again, I gained organisational experience at international level as vice chair of FEMP,

furthermore in ZDH's close collaboration with our French sister organisation, CMA France.

## F. Membership in the ICH NGO Forum

Indicate below whether your organization wishes to (continue to) be part of the ICH NGO Forum. Please note that membership is contingent upon the decision of the Committee to maintain the accreditation of your organization.

For more information on the ICH NGO Forum and its activities, please see: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/ngo-forums-00422>.

Yes

No

## G. Signature

The report must include the name and signature of the person empowered to sign it on behalf of your organization.

Name: Holger Schwannecke

Title: Generalsekretär des ZDH

Date: 3.3.2023

Signature:

