

## Europe Day 2018 Celebrations

As part of the 2018 European Year of Cultural Heritage, the European Commission will celebrate the importance of cultural heritage, music, arts as well as unity, at Europe Day celebrations throughout May. The Europe Day celebrations will start with two Cyprus Chamber Orchestra Concerts at Othello Castle, Famagusta on 9 May 2018 and at Lefka Square, Lefka on 15 May 2018 from 20:30 to 21:45 and will culminate with a Europe Day Fair at Selimiye Square, Nicosia on 26 May 2018 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. All members of the public are invited to take part.

At the Europe Day concerts, the audience will enjoy a classical music concert by the Cyprus Chamber Orchestra with a repertoire involving world renowned composers.

At the Europe Day Fair, information about EU countries, and various EU supported projects will be provided. The event will include live music performances, and various activities. Participants will obtain information about EU countries such as Ireland, Germany, Poland, Sweden, Finland, Netherlands and Spain. Additionally, several local NGOs, organizations and technical assistance projects will showcase their own EU funded projects and share information.

A diverse performance programme is planned for the Europe Day Fair in Nicosia. A variety of groups will give European jazz, funk and classical/pop music concerts and the Karpaz Community Folkdance and Choir Group will provide dance and song performances. Children can enjoy a puppet show, face painting, and rock climbing.

### 2018 European Year of Cultural Heritage & Europe Day Background:

Europe Day held on 9 May every year celebrates peace and unity in Europe. The date marks the anniversary of the historical 'Schuman declaration'. The Schuman Declaration states that "Europe will not be made in one go, nor through a comprehensive construction, it will be built by concrete realisations that will first create real solidarity." What began on 9th May 1950, the pooling of steel and coal between France and Germany has evolved into what we today know as the European Union. The European Union is built on the fundamental values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law, and respect for human rights.

The European Year of Cultural Heritage will showcase the wealth and diversity of our cultural heritage, highlighting its role in creating a shared sense of identity and building Europe's future. This year will see a series of initiatives and events across Europe to enable people to become closer to and more involved with their cultural heritage. Cultural heritage shapes our identities and everyday lives. It surrounds us in Europe's towns and cities, natural landscapes and archaeological sites. It is not only found in literature, art and objects, but also in the crafts we learn from our ancestors, the music we listen to, the stories we tell to our children, the food we enjoy in company and the films we watch and recognise ourselves in.

Interested individuals can get more information on this event on the EU Infopoint Facebook page [f/abbilgi](https://www.facebook.com/abbilgi) or by contacting the EU Infopoint: [info@abbilgi.eu](mailto:info@abbilgi.eu), 228 2577 and 11A Hasene Ilgaz Street, Köşklüçiftlik Nicosia.

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