Preservation and Enhancement of Folk Culture Heritage in Central Europe (ETNOFOLK)

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Web page: www.etnofolk.eu

The folk culture in its full form as known for centuries is no longer a natural part of everyday or ceremonial life. Many elements of traditional culture have already lost their practical meaning and stopped to fulfill their original functions. Others have gradually been transformed and have adjusted themselves to the needs and concepts of the people of today and the contemporary way of living. The expansion of new cultural elements has taught today’s people that it is necessary to perceive their own culture in a different way. Together with the globalization spread also the idea naturalized concerning the protection of the culture of previous generations’ heritage.

Preservation and enhancement of folk culture heritage presents an important challenge for today’s societies, as far as it contributes to the continuity of their historical awareness. The ethnological departments of the four countries in Central Europe - Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia and Slovenia - have joined the preparations for the internet portal (www.etnofolk.eu) providing the access to archive graphical, audio as well as audiovisual documents concerning the historical forms of folk culture as well as further information about the capitalizing on this cultural heritage.