



Network of European
Museum Organisations

Report by NEMO supports European museums in taking political action in the climate crisis

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The most recent climate related resource by the Network of European Museums Organisations (NEMO) helps museums fulfil their potential as partners with policy makers and community leaders in the sustainable transition of Europe. The report contributes to awareness within the sector and includes a 7-step guide that offers advice for museums to advocate for necessary support and funding.

The new report [Museums, Climate and Politics - Taking political action in the sustainable transition](#) presents summaries of national sustainability and climate policies relevant for museums in the European Union. It follows up on [NEMO's 2022 research on museums in the climate crisis](#), which showed that only a fraction of museums is aware of climate policies that address them, and that even fewer are consulted when policy makers develop climate policies.

NEMO's Secretary General Julia Pagel explains *"If we, as museum community, want to make a change on a structural level, influencing the legal framework in which we operate in order to be able to address climate change and sustainability, we have to know the political preconditions that we are working in. Do museums, cultural heritage, culture at large, even exist in climate policies in Europe? And if yes, how can museums work with and use them?"*

NEMO encourages museums and museum professionals to use this report to develop a strategic plan and campaign in their institution and to take inspiration from the good-practice examples.

The report was first announced at the recent [NEMO European Museum Conference 2023: and... ACTION! Museums in the climate crisis](#) that united 300+ museum professionals in commitment to climate action. At the conference, NEMO presented [a statement and call to action](#) where the European museum sector pledges to move forward and to become more sustainable:

"Our ethical and professional priority is to work with our communities for the future sustainability of the planet. Museums have a critical role to play in environmental sustainability and imagining our possible futures. Our commitment is that we will use our diverse collections and the stories that they hold to inspire people and facilitate change. We realise that it is no longer possible to preserve all heritage and collections in their current conditions. We are committed to re-evaluating our collections in terms of their social, historical, environmental, and educational impact."

This call to action is well-suited to the latest formal objective of NEMO, phrased as a transversal theme in NEMO's updated [policy statement](#).

To further aid museums in the sustainable transition and put the pledge into concrete action, NEMO has also launched a map of [Climate Action in Museums](#), which museums are contributing to in real time. The map demonstrates museums' strength in creating awareness, adapting, and fighting climate change. Museums in Europe are encouraged to participate by submitting their big and small projects via bit.ly/NEMO-Climate-Map-Submission.



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About NEMO - Network of European Museum Organisations

Since 1992, NEMO has been dedicated to connecting museums and national museum organisations to ensure their place in the cultural development of Europe, promoting European policies that help museums fulfil their role as keepers of cultural heritage, and supporting European museums through networking and cooperation opportunities. Together, NEMO's members speak for over thousands of museums across Europe.

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