



Porto.



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
concerning the  
**JOINT SERIAL TRANSNATIONAL NOMINATION OF SIX GRAND-SCALE**  
**ARCH BRIDGES FROM THE 19TH CENTURY**  
for the  
**UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE LIST**

On the initiative of the Lord Mayors of the Bergisch tri-city area of Remscheid- Solingen-Wuppertal, it is intended to present six grand-scale arch bridges from the second half of the 19th century, namely the Ponte Maria Pia and Ponte Dom Luis I (Portugal), the Garabit Viaduct and Viaur Viaduct (France), the Ponte San Michele (Italy), and the Müngsten Bridge (Germany), as a Serial Transnational Site for inclusion in the UNESCO World Heritage List.

The six bridges were built in a relatively short period between the years of 1877 and 1902, and are closely related to each other as regards to their civil engineering. They embody the state-of-the-art of engineering knowledge of their time and even today represent masterpieces of civil engineering.

In a Europe-wide context they provide an uninterrupted illustration of the course of engineering development for this type of bridge in the 19th century.

This is the potential outstanding universal value of the joint serial transnational nomination proposal. It shall also help to preserve the last grand-scale arch bridges from this time for future generations.

The bridges have been connecting cities and the regions in their countries for more than a century. With this intention, the joint nomination proposal should now serve to promote and consolidate international cooperation between the various participating owners of the bridges, in close relationship with the involved countries and municipalities.

The pre-condition for a potential inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List should be a recognition of the outstanding universal value of these six bridges. All of this must be confirmed in an international comparative analysis. In addition, the integrity and the authenticity of the six bridges must be justified, as demanded by the international Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention. A management plan should be developed that shows how the bridges can be maintained for future generations.

## I.

To this end the Parties share the following intentions :

1. to **support the proposal to** jointly nominate the above mentioned six bridges for inscription in the UNESCO World Heritage List,
2. to intensify **the joint international cooperation** for the purpose of promoting the proposal of the intended international serial nomination project,
3. to **recognize the importance** of protecting and conserving the bridges for future generations,
4. to support **the exchange of experts and expertise** in order to create a suitable scientific and substantive basis for the nomination, and to support each other mutually as part of the preservation plan,
5. to **support the drafting a joint nomination dossier** to justify the potential outstanding universal value of the six bridges,
6. to **support and to contribute in the development of management plans and a common management system** to maintain the potential outstanding universal value of the six grand-scale arch bridges according to the operational guidelines of UNESCO.

## II.

Notwithstanding the above it is the Parties' understanding that :

1. the above terms set out the Parties' intent with respect to the described proposal only and as such do not contain any binding commitment of either Party in this regard; namely
2. the decision to jointly apply for inscription in the UNESCO World Heritage List is subject to required corporate or other approvals to be obtained each Party; and
3. no financial commitments related to the nomination process or otherwise arise from this memorandum of understanding for the Parties.

A Memorandum of Understanding was the subject of initial intentions between the Parties at the 1st Congress held in Solingen (Germany) in 2017 and the 2nd Congress held in Porto (Portugal) in 2018.

On 29 November 2019 in Saint-Flour (France) during the 3rd Congress of the nomination which brought them together, the Parties agreed on a first formal Memorandum of Understanding recording their intentions and agreements to support the joint serial transnational nomination of the six viaducts for inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List.




In view of both the global health crisis which has significantly impacted the progress of this joint nomination since that date and the changes in the election or appointment of the Parties' representatives, and in order to confirm, in particular on the occasion of the 4th Congress of the nomination meeting to be held on 22 and 23 April 2022 in Calusco d'Adda and Paderno d'Adda in Italy, their common desire to move this project forward, the Parties have wished by this Memorandum to reiterate in strictly identical terms their intentions in favour of the joint serial transnational nomination for the listing of the six viaducts mentioned above.

Calusco d'Adda, 23 April 2022.

Members of cities and communities of communes:

<p>Céline Charriaud President of Saint-Flour community France</p> 	<p>Karine Clément President of Pays Ségali community France</p> 	<p>Didier Somen President of Carmausin Ségala Community of communes France</p> 
<p>François Odoul Mayor of Ruynes-en-Margeride France</p> 	<p>Romuald Rivière Mayor of Val d'Arcomie France</p> 	<p>Roland Brunel Mayor of Anglards de Saint-Flour France</p> 
<p>Jean Luc Tarroux Mayor of Tauriac-de-Naucelle France</p> 	<p>Benoît Ravailhe Mayor of Tanus France</p> 	
<p>Rui Moreira President of Câmara Municipal Porto - Portugal</p> 	<p>Eduardo Vitor Rodrigues President of Câmara Municipal Vila Nova de Gaia - Portugal</p> 	
<p>Gianpaolo Torchio Mayor of Paderno d'Adda Italy</p> 	<p>Michele Pellegrini Mayor of Calusco d'Adda Italy</p> 	
<p>Tim-Oliver Kurzbach Mayor of the City of Solingen Germany</p> 	<p>Uwe Schneidewind Mayor of the City of Wuppertal Germany</p> 	<p>Burkhard Mast Weisz Mayor of the City of Remscheid Germany</p> 

Members of railways companies and owners:

<p>Luc Lallemand Chairman of SNCF Réseau France</p> 	<p>Werner Lübberink Management Representative of Deutsche Bahn AG for the Federal State of Northrhine- Westphalia - Germany</p> 	<p>Luca Cavacchioli Rete Ferroviaria Italiana S.p.A. Milan Territorial Infrastructure Operational Department – Italy</p> 
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