

Annual Report: 2021

1. Administrative Details

1.1 - Name of National Committee: Blue Shield Denmark

1.2 - Date Report Completed: March 1st 2022

1.3 - Reporting period covered: January 1st – December 31st 2021

1.4 - Names, positions and emails of all those who were the governing body/ trustees / principal officers on the date the report was approved or who served during in the reporting period:

- Søren la Cour Jensen, Chairman, Representative of ICOM
- Marlene Kloster Hedegaard, Secretary
- Asger Svane-Knudsen, Treasurer, Representative of ICA
- Peter Pentz, Board member
- Marie Vest, Board member, Representative of IFLA
- Pil Rasmussen, Board member
- Margrethe Floryan, Board member, Representative of ICOMOS
- Marie Brøndgaard, Substitute
- Ulla Bøgvad Kejser, Substitute

1.5 - Address of the main office:

Blue Shield Danmark
c/o Industrimuseet Frederiks Værk
Att. Søren la Cour Jensen
Torvet 1
DK - 3300 Frederiksværk
Denmark

1.6 - Website and social media (if applicable):

Website: <https://blueshield.dk/>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/blueshielddanmark/>
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/blueshielddanmark/>

2. Income:

The total amount for supporting the operations of Blue Shield Denmark is DKK 4000 a year – equals € 540. Blue Shield Denmark receives support from four major national institutions: The National Gallery, The National Museum, The Royal Library and The National Archive.

Furthermore, we apply for co-funding from UNESCO Denmark to support the annual Heritage Friday conferences (none received as events cancelled in 2020).

Blue Shield Denmark's account for the financial year July 1st 2020 – June 31th 2020 show a result of DKK 17958 - equals € 2414 (surplus from previous years).

3. Report of Activities: Achievements & Performance

Blue Shield Denmark was established in 2011 and has grown in size, number of activities and spending budget ever since. Blue Shield Denmark is currently preparing an official partnership agreement with UNESCO Denmark.

The main activities as of 2021 were:

- 1) In 2021, Heritage Friday was held at The Danish National Museum, and the topic was "Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Property and the 1970 UNESCO Convention". Invited speakers from Norway, Sweden,
The main activity of Blue Shield Denmark has since 2016 been planning and carrying out an annual conference day, named *Heritage Friday*. Every year the overall theme is a relevant and important topic relating to cultural heritage protection. We invite national and international experts, theorists, researchers, and practitioners who work with conservation, protection, safekeeping and maintenance of heritage locations, artefacts as well as intangible cultural heritage.
- 2) We have been maintaining public awareness about Blue Shield Denmark through social media. Covid-19 has prevented us from participating in conferences and network sessions.
- 3) We had no travel activities in 2021 due to covid-19.

3.1 - Law, policy development and implementation:

- Blue Shield Denmark is actively disseminating knowledge and raising awareness about the importance of the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. We focus on using social media for these purposes.
- Since Blue Shield Denmark was establishment, we have been available as an advisory body for the Danish government and Danish national institutions.
- Blue Shield Denmark also focuses on policymaking and implementation in regards to heritage protection and crisis management development in peacetime and works to put this topic on the agenda whenever possible.

3.2 - Education, training, and capacity building:

- *The annual Heritage Friday seminar day for November 2021.*
Topic: Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Property and the 1970 UNESCO Convention.
Participants: 70.
Venue: The Danish National museum
See link for programme: <https://blueshield.dk/heritage-fridays/>

3.3 - Proactive protection and risk preparedness:

- In 2021 too, we have been working on establishing a collaboration between Blue Shield Denmark and the Danish Military Academy. Networking in view of this is ongoing.

3.4 - Emergency response in disaster, domestic emergencies, and armed conflict:

- Since 2017, we are in contact with the Danish Military Academy. One of our ambitions is to gain influence on the training of soldiers with respect to their awareness and handling of cultural heritage. This work has continued in 2021.

3.5 - Stabilization, post-disaster recovery, and long-term/ongoing support:

Blue Shield Denmark has not been involved in activities of the above mentioned character in 2021.

3.6 - Co-ordination (of Blue Shield and with other relevant organizations):

- Establishing a partnership agreement with the Danish UNESCO committee in 2021.
- We are currently working on establishing a still closer contact with other Nordic Blue Shield national committees in order to work towards collaborations and knowledge sharing.

- We draw actively upon the cross-disciplinary backgrounds of Blue Shield Denmark's board members and the substitutes to strengthen our business plan and our communication strategy.

The Blue Shield Denmark board consists of members from a variety of Danish museums, archives, and libraries. The board members represent ICOM, ICOMOS, IFLA and ICA. We consider Blue Shield Denmark as mirroring the interest organizations of Blue Shield International. We work closely with ICOM Denmark and The Danish National Commission for UNESCO.

Institutions represented by the board members and substitutes:

- The National Museum of Denmark
- The National Gallery of Denmark
- The Danish National Library
- The Danish National Archives
- The Frederiks Vaerk Museum of industry
- The Thorvaldsen Museum
- The Workers' Museum

4. Main issues faced:

The core issue for Blue Shield Denmark is time resources. Although the board member's institutions support our work with Blue Shield, time is still restraint in the sense that we need to fit it in with our main tasks and other duties. The level of aspiration and our high ambitions on behalf of Blue Shield do occasionally suffer because of lack of time amongst the members of the board and the substitutes.

5. Future goals

See: *Blue Shield Denmark Strategic Plan 2022-2026.*

6. Other

Through its connection to Newcastle University, BSI is sometimes able to access funding that can be shared with research institutions to further the work of Blue Shield. Does your national committee have any connections with research institutions interested in its work (e.g. in risk management, heritage protection, etc.). If yes, please supply the names and contact details here.

Not a formalized connection at this moment, but a broad network of both universities and museums engaged in these topics. We are willing to enter into dialogue, if projects or ideas for projects will occur.