

Annual Report: 2021

1. Administrative Details

1.1 - Name of National Committee: Polish National Committee of the Blue Shield

1.2 - Date Report Completed: February 24, 2022

1.3 - Reporting period covered: 01 January 2021 – 31 December 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:

Krzysztof Sałaciński, Chair

Lidia Klupsz, Secretary

1.5 - Address of the main office:

00-017 Warsaw, Krakowskie Przedmieście 15/17

1.6 - Website and social media (if applicable):

website: blekitnatarcza.org

facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PolandBlueShield>

2. Income:

What is the total income of your committee? What are the primary sources? (Donations, grants, etc?)

The Committee has no income. The committee's activities are based on cooperation and collaboration with government and local government partners and non-governmental organizations, as well as participation in projects related to the security of cultural heritage. The Committee has no bank account.

3. Report of Activities: Achievements & Performance

Explain the activities & projects carried out over the year under the Areas of Activity

The annual report should tell the story of the organisation and put into context what was achieved in the reporting year against the achievement of its longer-term strategy. The annual report under this section should Provide a clear review of the organisation's performance for the relevant year as well showing how the current year's strategic performance links to the achievement of the longer-term strategy of the organisation.

These could include: grants applied for; talks given; conferences held; training courses run; work to support new legislation; working groups attended, etc.

Please provide as much detail as possible – for example, length of event, audience, and so on.

3.1 - Education, training, and capacity building:

Describe: Capacity building activities, education and training

3.1.1] Support the Ministry of National Defence in the development of the Poland's Cultural Properties Protection (CPP) capability.

- Continuing of cooperation in co-organization with the Ministry of National Defense and the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of the International Center for Training and Research on Cultural Heritage in Danger.

3.1.2] Host/co-host at least one conference/workshop/event per annum with identified key partner/s

- Co-organizing workshops and trainings with the Ministry of National Defense and the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage:
 - Training of experts in the protection of cultural heritage as part of the implementation by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage of Objective L 3110 N, on November 02-05, 2021.

3.1.3] Develop training opportunities with the Ministry of National Defence

- Training of soldiers of the Polish Armed Forces in the area of protection of cultural property in the event of an armed conflict and catastrophe, carried out jointly with the Military Center for Civic Education, May 2021
- Training of experts for the protection of cultural heritage carried out by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage under Objective L 3110 N, carried out jointly with the Military Training Centre for Foreign Operations in Kielce, Kielce, November 02-05, 2021.

- Continuation of cooperation with the International Center for Training and Research on Cultural Heritage in Danger
 - Conducting training courses addressed to various components of the armed forces on the protection of cultural property as part of the activities of the International Center for Training and Research on Cultural Heritage in Danger, BS Poland expert, civil expert of military missions in Iraq and Afghanistan, Krzysztof Kociołek, BS Poland expert in the field of fire safety, fire prevention, as well as the protection of cultural property.
 - officer from the International Center for Training and Research on Cultural Heritage in Danger was asked by BS Poland to give information on International Training and Research Centre for Endangered Cultural Heritage – a new initiative from the Ministers of National Defence and Culture and National Heritage during the International Academic Conference “Protecting the cultural heritage against particular hazards – climate, environment, pandemic and fire risks. Best practices”, Krakow, November 25, 2021.

3.1.4] Five lectures were conducted:

- Protection of cultural property in the event of an armed conflict and crisis situations, lecture given for the students of the XXIII School of International Humanitarian Law, organized by the Polish Red Cross, Krzysztof Sałaciński, President of the Polish Committee of the Blue Shield, April 29, 2021.
- The scope of work of a defense and crisis management specialist in the field of protection of cultural property in armed conflicts and crisis situations, based on the example of the National Museum in Warsaw, Mirosław Olbryś, National Museum in Warsaw, Expert of the Blue Shield Poland, during the Training of experts for the protection of cultural heritage carried out by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage under Objective L 3110 N, Kielce, November 02-05, 2021.
- Cultural heritage against wartime and crisis emergencies – challenges with regard to the National Security Strategy 2020, Krzysztof Sałaciński, President of the Polish Committee of the Blue Shield, speech presented at the International Academic Conference “Protecting the cultural heritage against particular hazards – climate, environment, pandemic and fire risks. Best practices”, Kraków, November 25, 2021.
- Challenges in the area of cultural heritage protection resulting from the adoption of the new National Security Strategy in 2020 - Krzysztof Sałaciński, President of the Polish Committee of the Blue Shield, Secretary of the Polish Advisory Committee, speech presented at the meeting of the Polish Advisory Committee, an auxiliary body of the Council of Ministers, December 17, 2021.
- Initiatives undertaken at the international forum in 2021 for the endangered cultural heritage, selected issues - Lidia Klupsz, Board Member of the Blue Shield, speech presented at the meeting of the Polish Advisory Committee, an auxiliary body of the Council of Ministers, December 17, 2021.

3.1.5] Participation in research projects and programs

- Continuation of participation in the project "Cross-sectoral challenges: specialist in the protection of cultural properties in the event of a crisis and war - development of a postgraduate study program, dedicated to employees operating on the borderline

of fields" - financed under the EEA Financial Mechanism for 2014-2021.

3.1.6] Promoting the person of Professor Jan Zachwatowicz, the author of the blue shield sign, the distinctive emblem of the Hague Convention of 1954, the Polish conservator of monuments, a participant in the International Conference in The Hague in 1954, during which the Hague Convention was adopted.

- Reminder of the person of Professor Jan Zachwatowicz as an author of the blue shield sign, the distinctive emblem of the Hague Convention of 1954, and his work for the endangered cultural heritage - Lidia Klupsz, Board Member of the Blue Shield, Moderator of Session III "Pandemic threats – new challenges for the cultural heritage protection: the experiences of museum, library, archive institutions, best practices, courses of protective action" of the International Academic Conference "Protecting the cultural heritage against particular hazards – climate, environment, pandemic and fire risks. Best practices", Krakow, 25–26 November 2021.

3.2 - Proactive protection and risk preparedness:

Describe: Proactive protection and risk preparedness

3.2.1] Supporting the work of the Ministry of National Defense and the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage in the development and delivery of training and educational materials for the heritage sector and the armed forces.

- Continuing consultations on the content of information and training materials for soldiers of the armed forces. Work in progress.
- Cooperation in this field with the Military Center for Civic Education

3.2.2] Participation in projects aimed at providing training and educational materials for specialists and students.

- Continuation of participation in the project "Cross-sectoral challenges: specialist in the protection of cultural properties in the event of a crisis and war - development of a postgraduate study program, dedicated to employees operating on the borderline of fields" - financed under the EEA Financial Mechanism for 2014-2021.
 - Handbook on the protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict and crisis situations.
 - Preparation of a chapter devoted to the tasks carried out in the field of protection of Iraq's cultural property, author - Krzysztof Sałaciński, President of the Polish Committee of the Blue Shield
 - Preparation of a publication containing a set of legal provisions regarding the protection of cultural property in the event of an armed conflict and crisis situations, as well as exemplary model documents, co-author - Krzysztof Sałaciński, President of the Polish Committee of the Blue Shield

3.3 - Law, policy development and implementation:

Describe: Legal compliance, policy, and their implementation

3.3.1] Encourage and support better implementation in Poland of 1954 HC and the two protocols of 1954 and 1999.

- Participation in the works of the Polish Advisory Committee, which is an auxiliary body of the Council of Ministers competent in matters of coordination of activities related to the protection of monuments in the event of an armed conflict, in accordance with the Hague Convention of 1954. Meeting on December 17, 2021,
 - Presentation of information on the involvement of the European Union in the protection of cultural heritage in conflicts and crises - current state and prospects - Mirosław Olbryś, National Museum in Warsaw, Expert of the Blue Shield Poland;
 - Presentation of information on the challenges in the area of cultural heritage protection resulting from the adoption of the new National Security Strategy in 2020 - Krzysztof Sałaciński, President of the Polish Committee of the Blue Shield, Secretary of the Polish Advisory Committee.
 - Presentation of information on initiatives undertaken at the international forum in 2021 for the endangered cultural heritage - Lidia Klupsz, Board Member of the Blue Shield, Expert Member of the Polish Advisory Committee.

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

Describe: Emergency response in disaster, domestic emergencies, and armed conflict

3.4.1] Cooperation with the School of Aspirants of the State Fire Service in Krakow

- Continuation of cooperation in the co-organization of the international conference in Krakow on November 25-26, 2021 entitled "Protecting the cultural heritage against particular hazards – climate, environment, pandemic and fire risks. Best practices", Kraków, 25–26 November 2021.

3.4.2] Cooperation with the Military Training Centre for Foreign Operations in Kielce

- Continuation of cooperation with the Military Training Centre for Foreign Operations in Kielce the field of training experts in the protection of cultural heritage co-organized with the Minister of Culture and National Heritage under Objective L 3110 N, on November 02-05, 2021.

3.4.3] Keeping contact and information points, which could help in the crisis response in case of disasters and domestic emergencies.

- Continuation of the activities of two contact and information points in Warsaw and in Krakow.

3.5 - Co-ordination (of Blue Shield and with other relevant organisations):

Describe: Co-ordination – of Blue Shield members and with partner organisations

3.5.1] Maintain quarterly meetings of Polish Committee of Blue Shield.

- The planned quarterly meetings of the Polish Blue Shield Committee were held remotely due to the coronavirus epidemic.

3.5.2] Attend Blue Shield Assemblies, and other Blue Shield events as the opportunity arises

- Participation on-line in the General Assembly of the Members of the Blue Shield, December 16, 2021.
- Participation on-line in the Blue Shield 25th Anniversary Conference, December 15-15, 2021.
- Participation on-line in Reflection - Panel Discussion “The creation of the Blue Shield, 6 June 1996”, June 7, 2021.

3.5.3] Investigate the potential to partner, or work with more closely, the Polish Red Cross and Polish National Commission for UNESCO.

- Continuing cooperation with the Polish Red Cross
 - Lecture on-line for the students of the XXIII School of International Humanitarian Law, organized by the Polish Red Cross, on the protection of cultural property in the event of an armed conflict and crisis situations, Krzysztof Sałaciński, President of the Polish Committee of the Blue Shield, April 29, 2021,

3.5.4] Continue building relationships and cooperation with heritage institutions in Poland and with other partners depending on the needs and opportunities.

- Continuing cooperation with non-governmental organizations operating in Poland in the field of cultural heritage protection: Polish National Committee of International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), Polish National Committee of the International Council of Museums (ICOM), The Polish Librarians Association a Member of International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), Association of Polish Archivists a Member of International Council on Archives (ICA), Polish Red Cross and with the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, National Headquarters of the State Fire Service of Poland, School of Aspirants of the State Fire Service in Krakow, The International Cultural Center in Krakow.

3.5.5] Review the membership of the Polish Committee of the Blue Shield to cover all aspects of heritage.

- Work in progress.

3.6 - Stabilisation, post-disaster recovery, and long-term/ongoing support:

Describe: Stabilisation, post-disaster recovery, and long-term /ongoing activities

3.6.1] Cooperation with the Military Training Centre for Foreign Operations in Kielce

- Continuation of cooperation with the Military Training Center for Foreign Operations in Kielce in the field of training experts in the protection of cultural heritage co-organized with the Minister of Culture and National Heritage under Objective L 3110 N, on November 02-05, 2021.

4. Main issues faced:

What are the main issues faced by your committee?

The main problem that hindered the Committee's activities in 2021 was the coronavirus pandemic, which made it impossible to organize many planned meetings or forced changes in the form of the organization of meetings.

5. Future goals

Describe future plans to achieve strategic goals

1 - Education, training, and capacity building:

- Continue develop training opportunities with the Ministry of National Defence, Ministry of Culture and National Heritage and other partners as opportunities arise
- Deliver at least 4 public lectures
- Cooperate with the International Center for Training and Research on Cultural Heritage in Danger in Wroclaw.
- Participate of experts of the Polish National Committee of the Blue Shield as lecturers in training courses organized by the International Center for Training and Research on Cultural Heritage in Danger in Wroclaw.

2 - Proactive protection and risk preparedness :

- Continue Project "Cross-sectoral challenges: specialist in the protection of cultural properties in the event of a crisis and war - development of a postgraduate study program, dedicated to employees operating on the borderline of fields" - financed under the EEA Financial Mechanism. Preparation of the summary of the project and the presentation of publications

3 - Law, policy development and implementation:

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- Encourage and support better implementation of 1954 HC and its two Protocols in Poland
 - Actively participation in the works of the Polish Advisory Committee, which is an auxiliary body of the Council of Ministers competent in matters of coordination of activities related to the protection of monuments in the event of an armed conflict, in accordance with the Hague Convention
 - Undertake new initiatives regarding legal instruments for the protection of cultural property to which Poland is currently not a party if the opportunity arises

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

- Continue of the activities of contact and information points in Warsaw and in Krakow
- Continue of cooperation with the Military Training Centre for Foreign Operations
- Co-organize of the next international conference planned for 2023 on the protection of cultural heritage in situations of special threats with the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, Ministry of National Defence, State Archives, School of the State Fire Service in Krakow, International Cultural Centre in Krakow, University of Warsaw, International Training and Research Centre for Endangered Cultural Heritage, Polish National Committee of ICOMOS, National Library, National Institute for Museums and Public Collections, National Museum in Krakow, National Museum in Warsaw, National Headquarters of the State Fire Service, Municipal Headquarters of the State Fire Service in Krakow.

5 - Co-ordination (of Blue Shield and with other relevant organisations): :

- Continue of the quarterly meetings of the Polish Blue Shield Committee.
- Continue of the participation in the projects and meetings organized by BSI and in cyclical meetings of national committees.
- Continue of the cooperation with the Polish Red Cross.
- Investigate the potential to partner, or work with more closely, the Polish National Commission for UNESCO.
- Continue of the review the membership of the Polish Committee of the Blue Shield to cover all aspects of heritage.

6 - Stabilisation, post-disaster recovery, and long-term/ongoing support:

- Continue of cooperation with the Military Training Center for Foreign Operations in Kielce in the trainings of experts for the protection of cultural heritage co-organized with the Minister of Culture and National Heritage under Objective L 3110 N.

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.

The Polish National Committee of the Blue Shield will work to attract partners and research institutions interested in cooperation with BSI and with the University of Newcastle in a wide range in the field of protection of cultural heritage at risk.

The Polish National Committee of the Blue Shield will work to attract partners and research institutions interested in cooperating with BSI and the University of Newcastle in a wide range in the field of protection of cultural heritage under at risk. The basis may be the knowledge and experience of civil experts of the Polish Blue Shield Committee who participated in missions in Iraq and Afghanistan.