



### **ENG: The European Night of Museums announces International Museum Day**

The Saturday closest to May 18, the date on which **International Museum Day - ICOM** (International Council of Museums) has been held for over 30 years, has been chosen to celebrate the **Night of Museums** across Europe. The two events mark the month of May as Museum Month in Europe.

This year, the **European Night of Museums** will be held on **Saturday, May 15**, and will be placed under the patronage of the **Council of Europe and UNESCO**.

The **European Night of Museums** was launched in 2005 by the French Department of Culture, with the objective of attracting a younger audience and families to the museums and to mobilize visitors in Europe in a common event that contributes to building a Europe of Culture.

From Riga, Nicosia, Smolensk, Warsaw and Bucharest to Faro in Portugal, all museums located in the members countries of the **Council of Europe** - which grants its patronage to the event since 2006 - are invited to attend this annual meeting of European museums with their public.

The enthusiastic participation of museums - more than 2500 in 40 European countries in 2009 - the high level of visitors and the media coverage reflect the interest of museums professionals and the general public alike for this initiative, which helps to create links between museums in Europe through the website [www.nuitdesmusees.culture.fr](http://www.nuitdesmusees.culture.fr), which includes the calendar of activities for all European participants.

If you wish to join the event, please register online at [www.nuitdesmusees.culture.fr/inscription2010](http://www.nuitdesmusees.culture.fr/inscription2010)

or return the form below:

- By email [nuitdesmusees.dmf@culture.gouv.fr](mailto:nuitdesmusees.dmf@culture.gouv.fr) **AND** [communication@icom.museum](mailto:communication@icom.museum)
- Or by fax at +33 (0) 1 40 15 36 25
- Or by post: Direction des Musées de France - Coordination of the European Night of museums - 6, rue des Pyramides - 75041 Paris Cedex 01 - France before **March 15, 2010**, to benefit the media campaign.