



## Curriculum Vitae Dr. Uwe Koch

Dr. Uwe Koch was born in 1958. He studied sociology.

From 1991 to 2015 he was head of department responsible for subjects of cultural heritage in the state government of Brandenburg; at the same time he was also state representative for preparation of the Luther anniversary and member in diverse committees referring "Luther 2017".

Since 2015 Dr. Koch is head of the secretariat of the German National Committee for Monument Preservation and national coordinator for the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018 in Germany.

He has published several publications aot. In the catalogue for the exhibition "Quite different – The reformation in Upper Lusatia".0

### **The European Cultural Heritage Year (ECHY) 2018 and the legacy of Reformation – Projects, thoughts, and suggestions (impulses)**

The aim of ECHY, which runs under the motto "Sharing Heritage" in Germany, is to share the common cultural heritage across Europe and to share its potential to increase identification, participation, and development with each other.

This should be done in the light of a heterogeneous social structure of society and against the backdrop of political, economic and social challenges.

Our cultural heritage is truly the best testimonial for Europe's rich history, which has been strongly marked by pluralism, tolerance and intercultural dialogue.

The European Year of Cultural Heritage is based on two characteristic features, namely that our cultural heritage is always both local and European.

ECHY stresses this dimension and also uses it as an answer to current challenges.

Moreover, ECHY gives way for new chances for preservation and development of cultural heritage and also underlines its necessity: our cultural heritage is an element of essential, singular and irretrievable meaning and with this, it is strongly linked to Europe's social and economic capacity and therefore constitutive for our common development in Europe.

What will happen in 2018? Who can take part in it? Which highlights have been planned?

I will provide an overview and present more details on where to receive more information.

Furthermore, I will present thoughts and impulses regarding the role of clerical heritage, its sites and monuments in Europe especially the heritage of the Reformation, which is predestinated -

especially after the year of Luther 2017 - to promote a sustainable establishment as a European Cultural Route with enormous potential in tourism.