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|  | **European Route of Industrial Heritage Europäische Route der Industriekultur** |

This declaration was signed at the Final Presentation of results of partnership working   
at conference from 30th November to the 4th of December 2001 at presentation of ERIH Master Plan.

Page 89 of the Master Plan

**The Declaration of Duisburg**

*In this era of great changes to our European nations and cities, Industrial heritage is an important witness to our common history and identity.*

*The common history of European industry has played and will continue to play an important part in the culture and identity of our European nations and it offers possibilities to create both shared and individual identities.*

*The accessibility of our cultural heritage is a key element in experiencing this identity and it helps us to understand better our common roots.*

*The sustainable development of our industrial heritage helps to secure the economic and social regeneration of municipalities.*

*Historical continuity creates a sense of belonging and respect for the historical environment.*

*“The European Route of Industrial Heritage” is a project that underlines the importance of our shared industrial past. It will create accessibility to Europe’s industrial heritage for the inhabitants of our nations* ***and*** *will help identify the locations where sustainable redevelopment has to take place.*

*In our professional involvement with industrial heritage, we are aware of its major importance for the future of spatial planning, cultural heritage tourism and recreation and for the individual identities of nations.*

*We embrace the ERIH concept with its network of Anchor Points, Transnational Theme Routes, and Regional Routes as a convincing programme for transnational cooperation and regional tourism development.*

*Therefore ERIH - The European Route of Industrial Heritage – is our common concern.*

*Duisburg, 1 December 2001*