The European Archaeological Council (EAC) is a democratic network of organisations that are legally responsible for heritage management. Membership of the Council is open to all national bodies charged with the management of the archaeological heritage throughout Europe.

The primary mission of the EAC is:

- to support the management of the archaeological heritage
- to serve the needs of national archaeological heritage management agencies
- to provide a forum for organisations
- to establish closer and more structured cooperation
- the exchange of information ... throughout Europe.

The aims and objectives of the council are to promote the ...

- management
- protection
- scientific interpretation
- publication
- presentation
- public enjoyment
- understanding ...

... of the archaeological heritage in Europe.

Annual General Assembly of the Consilium
- executes the legal responsibilities of the EAC

Annual heritage management symposium
- held to discuss information on subjects of general interest

Information dissemination
- a mechanism for the exchange of information on the very wide range of relevant topics

Special working groups
- Aerial Archaeology
- Underwater Heritage
- Cold War Monuments
- Agri-Environment
- Big Scale Excavations
- Archives
European politics signed the European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage

Article 1.1: „The aim of this (revised) Convention is to protect the archaeological heritage as a source of the European collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study."

Article 5: „Each party undertakes:
1. to seek to reconcile and combine the respective requirements of archaeology and development plans by ensuring that archaeologists participate:
   a. in planning policies designed to ensure wellbalanced strategies for the protection, conservation and enhancement of sites of archaeological interest