This book is an output of InHeriT, an ERASMUS+ project in line with the policy priorities for education, training, and youth of Europe 2020. The project’s objectives are to bring together transnational expertise that will: (a) increase public awareness for the sustainable development potential of cultural heritage; and (b) initiate social initiatives that would build entrepreneurial partnerships for investing on local and regional cultural heritage for sustainable development. It aspires to explore several of the dimensions of the strong economic potential for sustainable development that cultural heritage represents for society. Economic benefits, social opportunities, and policy challenges are dimensions of the public debate on cultural heritage along with other historical, artistic and aesthetic issues. In addressing these issues, it brings together contributions of experts from various fields and provides an opportunity to open up a dialogue on balancing preservation and change of cultural heritage assets. Hence, its aim is to raise awareness on the economic dimensions of cultural heritage, exploring its role in generating sustainable development at local and regional levels, focusing mainly on built, architectural heritage. The volume is by necessity eclectic and collects contributions from researchers and policy makers from a wide range of disciplines, from architects and city planners to economists, archaeologists, and policy experts, providing different perspectives on the issues. The various contributions illuminate this approach on the economic value of cultural heritage resources, review cases where cultural heritage has been successfully used to regenerate the economy and foster local and urban development, and illustrate the various economic benefits, social opportunities and challenges of cultural heritage for sustainable development.

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“The capacity to build a new future depends on our ability to see a fundamental continuity with the strengths of the past”
— Friedrich Nietzsche, On the Advantage and Disadvantage of History for Life

“Nowadays, people know the price of everything and the value of nothing.”
— Oscar Wilde, The Picture of Dorian Gray
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