

## **Some guidelines & informations how to obtain a recognition of an UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage, ICH**

**In 2003 the General Conference of UNESCO adopted the „Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage“. According to this new international Convention, only those states are entitled to apply for the official recognition of an „Intangible Cultural Heritage“, which have ratified this Convention. Such recognized items then are published in lists (Articles 16 and 17 of the Convention). The present entries can be seen with all the details on the homepage of UNESCO under [HTTP://WWW.UNESCO.ORG/CULTURE/ICH](http://www.unesco.org/culture/ich). At present these lists contain about 300 entries. On the same homepage information is given which states have ratified the Convention.**

**UNESCO issued a special form on which applications must be filed by the state parties. This form is very strict (number of words, kind of font etc) and is accepted at UNESCO only by the appropriate state party member. Any other applications made to UNESCO direct will be ignored at all!**

**In case of Morse code telegraphy, unfortunately certain countries of it's early developments (United States, Britain, Germany) have not signed the ICH-Convention. In general cultural heritages are mainly affiliated to a single countries. The above mentioned countries could not file an application to UNESCO!**

**On last conference of the „International Amateur Radio Union IARU Region 1“ in Sun City South Africa (2011), there was a proposal to undertake efforts towards an UNESCO ICH for Morse Code telegraphy. „Deutscher Amateur-Radio-Club e. V.“ (DARC) volunteered to elaborate on a common proposal and to report this to IARU Region 1. This is the present state of the affair. The President of Region 1 will be asked to distribute the detailed proposal to the many IARU Region 1 member societies. Furthermore he intends to inform IARU Regions 2 and 3 accordingly.**

**Until 2016 Morsecode was registered in Belgium, Germany, Netherlands. Activities are logged on <http://www.doese-apprt.de/unesco/index.php>**

**What to do ?**

**Applications towards a recognition of an intangible cultural heritage by UNESCO is only possible via the appropriate national UNESCO commission in your country.**