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A possible future for the Physics Museums in Italy: the National Museum System

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I propose to present the significant opportunity for Physics Museums in Italy to become part of the National Museum System. The System, established by Decree 113/2018 of the then Ministry of Cultural Heritage (MIBACT), now MIC, envisages the creation of an inclusive network of cultural sites that includes state-owned museums and cultural places, as well as museums and places not belonging to the state, both public and private, that apply to be accredited to promote a unified vision of the development of Italian museums, regardless of their ownership, size, type and form of management. The aim is a heritage governance based on sustainability, innovation, participation and accessibility.

The tool for accreditation in the System is a questionnaire to be filled in on a voluntary basis, based on quality levels defined as minimum because they are considered indispensable but in reality very advanced, the LUQ (Uniform Quality Levels). It allows each museum to verify its organisation, the management of both legal and economic profiles and of its collections, and its relations with the local area.

This opportunity is relevant for University Physics Museums, which according to the recent census conducted by CRUI between 2017 and 2018 number 22. Physics Museums by linking up with other Italian museums will be able to take advantage of economies of scale, for the sharing of professional skills and services like the staff training, and could contribute to the consolidation of the significance and value of cultural heritage and to the promotion of cultural tourism development.

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