



CRITERI 2025

<p>1° / FOUNDING STAGES OF THE SUBJECT “EUROPE” AND EUROPEAN CULTURE</p>	<p><i>THE “LONGOBARD WAYS ACROSS EUROPE” CULTURAL ROUTE FITS PERFECTLY INTO THE CONTEXT OF EARLY MEDIEVAL EUROPEAN HISTORY FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>DURATION OVER TIME: THE LONG LONGOBARD “EPIC” IS EXPRESSED AND CHARACTERIZED IN VARIOUS WAYS BY VARIOUS EVOLUTIONARY PHASES: FROM THE GREAT MIGRATIONS, TO THE RISE AND DECLINE OF THE ROMAN-BARBARIAN KINGDOMS; FROM THE PROGRESSIVE INDEPENDENCE OF THE PAPACY OF ROME FROM THE BYZANTINE EMPIRE, TO THE BIRTH OF THE HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE (CAROLINGIAN AND THEN GERMANIC), UP TO THE APPEARANCE OF THE SARACEN PRESENCE IN ITALY AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NORMAN POWER. OVERALL, IT IS THE FOUNDING PATH OF A NEW HISTORICAL SUBJECT: EUROPE, WHOSE FIRST IDENTIFICATION AS A “SINGLE BODY” WAS THE SUBJECT OF TWO LETTERS SENT BY ST. COLUMBANUS TO TWO POPES (EP. I TO GREGORY THE GREAT, IN THE YEAR 600; EP. V TO BONIFACE IV, IN THE YEAR 613).</i> ○ <i>CULTURAL CONTAMINATIONS: CORRESPONDING TO THE FOUR HISTORICAL PHASES OF MELTING POT THAT DETERMINED THE PROGRESSIVE MATURATION OF LONGOBARD CULTURE AS THE <PRIMARY ROOT OF EUROPEAN CULTURE>, CULMINATING WITH THE LONGOBARDS’ ADHERENCE TO CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES: A) PERIOD OF ORIGINS (GERMANIC TRADITIONS); B) PANNONIAN PERIOD (HERULIAN, GEPID, ROMANO-BYZANTINE, AVAR TRADITIONS); C) PERIOD OF THE ITALIC KINGDOM (LATE ANTIQUE, BULGARIAN, SLAVIC, OSTROGOTHIC TRADITIONS); D) PERIOD OF THE SOUTHERN PRINCIPALITIES (LATE ANTIQUE AND BYZANTINE, SLAVIC, NORMAN, SARACEN TRADITIONS).</i> ○ <i>DURATION OF DIRECT LONGOBARD POWER: 500 YEARS BETWEEN THE KINGDOM AND PRINCIPALITIES IN ITALY.</i> ○ <i>EFFECTIVENESS OF THE LONGOBARD LEGISLATIVE APPARATUS: IT CONTINUED INTO THE CAROLINGIAN ERA, FOR THE DURATION OF THE KINGDOM <OF THE FRANKS AND THE LONGOBARDS> AND OF THE SUBSEQUENT <HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE> AND, THEN, OF THE SAXON DYNASTY.</i>
<p>2° / <WAY> AS “PATH”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>IN THIS SENSE OF THE TERM, <WAY> ENHANCES AND PROMOTES, FOR TOURISM AND CULTURAL PURPOSES, TERRITORIES AND PLACES COINCIDING WITH THE JOURNEY UNDERTAKEN BY THE LOMBARDS - OVER THE COURSE OF 1200 YEARS - ALONG THE “EUROPEAN GEOCULTURAL CORRIDOR”, EXTENDING FROM THE NORTH SEA TO CENTRAL-EASTERN EUROPE AND THE MEDITERRANEAN.</i>
<p>3° / <WAY> AS A “WAY OF BEING”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>IN THIS SENSE OF THE TERM, <WAY> ENHANCES AND PROMOTES KNOWLEDGE OF THE EVOLUTIONARY PHASES OF LOMBARD CULTURE FROM THE DAWN OF ITS DOCUMENTED HISTORY TO - ITS PEAK, REPRESENTED BY THE FORMATION OF THE “PRIMARY ROOT OF EUROPEAN CULTURE, LATER DEVELOPED BY CAROLINGIANS” (UNESCO, 2011); - THE OPENING TO A NEW MEDITERRANEAN CULTURE; - ITS NATURE AS A RECOGNIZED “EARLY MEDIEVAL EXAMPLE OF SUCCESSFUL MIGRATION-INTEGRATION PHENOMENON”.</i>
<p>4° / TERRITORY, NATURE, HISTORICAL LANDSCAPES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>TRAVERSING ANCESTRAL PATHS AND ROMAN ROADS, AS WELL AS MODERN HIGHWAYS CONNECTING AREAS OF MORE GENERAL TOURIST INTEREST, THE ROUTE—ALSO THANKS TO TOPONYMY—ALLOWS US TO UNDERSTAND THE FUNCTIONS ASSIGNED TO THE TERRITORIES IN THE LOMBARD ERA AND THE CHANGES THAT OCCURRED IN THE LANDSCAPE. IT ALSO STIMULATES A POTENTIAL FOR DEVELOPMENT BASED ON A REINTERPRETATION OF THE NATURAL BALANCE AND THE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN URBAN AND RURAL CENTERS.</i>
<p>5° / SETTLEMENT AREAS, NECROPOLIS, CENTERS OF POWER</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>IN ITS TERRITORIAL ARTICULATIONS AND DIVERSIFICATIONS, THE ITINERARY UNITES PLACES WHERE THE LOMBARD PRESENCE IS ARCHAEOLOGICALLY OR DOCUMENTARILY CONFIRMED BY SETTLEMENT EVIDENCE, SUCH AS NECROPOLISES, CITIES AND VILLAGES, CENTERS OF POWER (CAPITAL CITIES OF THE KINGDOM, SEATS OF DUCHIES, PRINCIPALITIES OR GASTALDATES), STRUCTURES WITH DEFENSE AND CONTROL FUNCTIONS.</i>
<p>6° / PLACES OF WORSHIP, MONASTERIES, ABBEYS AND SANCTUARIES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>THE ROUTE, ESPECIALLY IN ITALY, BRINGS TOGETHER PLACES OF WORSHIP, MONASTERIES, ABBEYS, AND SANCTUARIES BUILT AND SUPPORTED BY THE LOMBARD ARISTOCRACY. THESE INSTITUTIONS—BEYOND THEIR WELL-KNOWN FUNCTION OF TERRITORIAL CONTROL—WERE CRUCIAL FOR THE SPREAD OF THE FAITH, THE PRESERVATION OF CLASSICAL TEXTS, AND AS REFERENCE POINTS FOR THE SUBSEQUENT PHENOMENON OF PILGRIMAGES, WHICH ENABLED INTENSE CULTURAL EXCHANGES AND THE EMERGENCE OF A SENSE OF UNITY AMONG DIVERSE PEOPLES.</i>

7° / MATERIAL CULTURE AND ARTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>THE ITINERARY IDENTIFIES GUIDELINES FOR ENJOYING ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL ITINERARIES, WHETHER PHYSICAL OR PURELY CULTURAL. THESE INCLUDE: ELEMENTS OF MATERIAL CULTURE (ITINERARIES TO EXPLORE MUSEUM OBJECTS, IN RELATION TO PERIODS, STYLES, AND AREAS OF INFLUENCE); ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENTS AND TESTIMONIES OF THE FIGURATIVE ARTS, STARTING WITH THE LOCATIONS INCLUDED IN THE UNESCO SERIAL SITE "THE LONGOBARDS IN ITALY. THE CENTERS OF POWER (568-774 AD)".</i>
8° /MACRO-AREAS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>THE EUROPEAN ROUTE IS DIVIDED INTO FOUR MACRO-AREAS, EACH CORRESPONDING TO SPECIFIC PHASES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF LOMBARD CIVILIZATION: THE NORTHERN EUROPEAN PHASE, KNOWN AS THE "LANDS OF ELBA"; THE CENTRAL EUROPEAN PHASE, KNOWN AS THE "LANDS OF THE KINGS"; THE ITALIAN PHASE, KNOWN AS THE "LANDS OF THE KINGDOM"; AND THE MEDITERRANEAN PHASE, KNOWN AS THE "LANDS OF THE PRINCES"</i>
9° / IDENTITY CLUSTERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>EACH MACRO-AREA OF THE ROUTE IS DIVIDED INTO "IDENTITY CLUSTERS", THAT IS, TERRITORIES CHARACTERISED BY PARTICULAR HISTORICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE PRESENCE OF THE LOMBARDS AND IN WHICH, ALONGSIDE THE BASIC CULTURAL ROUTE, THERE ARE SMALLER TERRITORIAL AREAS (MUNICIPAL AREAS) WITH THEIR OWN UNIQUE RESOURCES OF TOURIST INTEREST (OTHER CULTURAL STRANDS, EXCELLENCE IN THE FOOD AND WINE SECTORS, CRAFTS, ETC.).</i>