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BUREAU OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE
FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE
(CDCPP)

INDICATOR FRAMEWORK ON CULTURE AND DEMOCRACY (IFCD)

5TH COUNCIL OF EUROPE PLATFORM EXCHANGE
ON CULTURE AND DIGITISATION

THE COMPENDIUM OF CULTURAL POLICIES
AND TRENDS ASSOCIATION (CCPT)

CULTURAL POLICY REVIEWS

For information and action

Secretariat Memorandum
prepared by the
Directorate of Democratic Citizenship and Participation
Culture, Nature and Heritage Department

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I. Indicator Framework on Culture and Democracy (IFCD)

Background

In 2013, the Council of Europe Conference of Ministers of Culture requested the development of an indicator framework on culture's contribution to democracy and the economic efficiency of financing culture.

The Hertie School of Governance, as consultant, and in co-operation with a research consortium, generated a complete IFCD with 37 indicators representing the culture and democracy domain based on 144 variables for 37 member States, a guidebook for policy makers and other interested parties, and a publicly available, interactive data explorer (online tool) for users to visit and analyse the IFCD data.

(<http://www.governancereport.org/fileadmin/governancereport/ifcd/#>)

The IFCD¹ revealed strong relationships between a number of culture and democracy dimensions such as active cultural engagement and democratic openness; political engagement, trust in society and well-being. IFCD findings on the vibrancy of cultural participation in member States featured in the third and fourth Reports of the Secretary General on the State of Democracy, Human Rights and the Rule of Law in Europe (2016, 2017).

Recent developments

The first thematic report on Culture and Democracy focusing on Cultural Participation and Inclusive Societies (April 2017) was made available to CDCPP members for wide distribution at national level. The second thematic report on Digitisation, Culture and Democracy is being presented to the CDCPP Bureau as a draft in April 2018, and will be launched at the CDCPP plenary session in June. It explores some of the ways Europeans are engaging in and with culture and politics online, and related opportunities and challenges. It appears from the findings that support for online participation in culture and politics could make a positive contribution to building and maintaining inclusive, democratic societies.

A survey with CDCPP members on IFCD use and a peer review meeting with experts involved in international index exercises led to enhancing the IFCD interactive data explorer i.e. adding background information on indicator construction and methodology and enhancing the database with missing information on sectors or countries.

The IFCD was promoted at various cultural policy events in 2017, including the Compendium Authors' meeting in Prague in October, the 2017 World Forum for Democracy in November and through the European Cultural Foundation's information instruments, thereby reaching out to a wide interested public.

¹ Endorsed by the CDCPP in June 2016 and launched in co-operation with the European Union in October 2016 in Brussels at a public event for interested cultural policy stakeholders from policy-making, research and practice.

The 5th Report of the Secretary General on the State of Democracy, Human Rights and the Rule of Law in Europe (spring 2018) will quote IFCD findings, showing that where people are more involved in cultural life, especially by creating or performing art (both online and offline) and participating in cultural activities, confidence in political entities such as parliaments, governments and the judiciary tends to be higher.

Next steps

The IFCD tool will be maintained in 2018 according to available resources. Already available data on economic vitality and well-being will be examined alongside the existing information base on culture and democracy. The aim is to augment the IFCD and prepare a proposal for a grant under the EU's Horizon 2020 programme, to allow for the project's best possible development. This work will be carried out in co-operation with the University of Administrative Sciences in Speyer, the Hertie School of Governance in Berlin, and in exchange with other relevant indicator initiatives to ensure mutual benefit from synergies.

Co-operation with the European Union will be pursued, in line with the reference made to the IFCD with regard to supporting the development of evidence-based policies in the Draft Council Conclusions of 5 March 2018 on the need to bring cultural heritage to the fore across policies in the EU.

Action required

The Bureau of the CDCPP is invited to:

- welcome the progress made on the IFCD, including the 2018 thematic report on Digitisation, Culture and Democracy;
- advise on partnerships and sponsorship opportunities for the IFCD and invite member States to make voluntary contributions to this innovative project;
- stress the importance of the IFCD for evidence-based policies and for fully using culture's potential in times of manifold challenges to democracy.

II. 5th Council of Europe Platform Exchange on Culture and Digitisation

Background

The 4th Council of Europe Platform Exchange on Culture and Digitisation took place on 19-20 October 2017 at the Center for Arts and Media in Karlsruhe. It highlighted the role of cultural digital tools in facing the challenges of populism, fake news, xenophobia and undemocratic political developments. The debates inspired drafting of a set of policy guidelines in the form of a Recommendation by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. The draft text is available for first consultations with the Bureau in April 2018 (see document CDCPP-Bu(2018)3).

Recent developments

The 5th Council of Europe Platform Exchange on Culture and Digitisation is planned to take place on 12-13 October 2018 in Rijeka, in the framework of the Croatian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. Pending resources, the event may be held in the format of a small expert seminar, bringing together policy makers with select researchers and practitioners and a final session opening up to the interested public.

Building on previous events and specifically, the recent Recommendation on “Big Data for Culture, Literacy and Democracy” ([Recommendation CM/Rec\(2017\)8](#)), the 2018 Exchange could logically focus on challenges of Artificial Intelligence (AI) seen from a culture and creativity perspective and studying how these relate to democracy and economic and legal issues.

A working meeting was held on 27 February 2018 with representatives of the Croatian Ministry of Culture, the IRMO Institute for International Relations and Representatives of Rijeka 2020 to start planning and form a programme board for the preparation of the intellectual content of the event. All practical issues will be overseen by the partners from Rijeka.

Next steps

The CDCPP might hold a short exchange/ side-event on AI and culture issues at its plenary session in June. An expert specialised in AI questions could be invited to introduce this subject that may be one of the key themes of future cultural life, and hence a challenging theme for policy makers.

Consultations with the Croatian Ministry of Culture, IRMO and the conference partners in Rijeka will be pursued and a draft event agenda prepared for more detailed information at the CDCPP's plenary session.

Coordination of the Platform Exchange will be ensured with the 2018 Compendium Authors' meeting that will take place in Rijeka on 9-11 October and allow for promising synergy with the Platform Exchange.

Action required

The Bureau of the CDCPP is invited to:

- welcome plans for the 5th Platform Exchange on Culture and Digitisation and thank the Croatian Authorities for their offer to host it on 12-13 October in Rijeka;
- underline the pertinence of Platform Exchanges for policy makers to explore developments in the fast evolving field of culture and digitisation.

III. The Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends Association (CCPT)

Background

On 21 October 2017, the Association of the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends was set up in the Netherlands to manage the Compendium project, following a 1½ year negotiation process between the Compendium stakeholders comprising member States, the Council of Europe, ERICarts, Compendium authors, academics and cultural institutions. The Association is a self-sustaining structure, comprising a Board, a General Assembly and an Assembly of Compendium Experts. This new structure reproduces in many ways the decision making processes of the former structure (in operation until 31 December 2017), and in addition enables its members a greater say in the running of the Compendium. Members, comprising member States and cultural research institutions, as well as potentially universities, pay an annual membership fee (Stakeholder members €10 000 and standing members €2 000) which puts an end to the need for ad hoc project fundraising.

The Association's members to date comprise Albania, Belgium, Croatia, Council of Europe, CUPORE, European Association of Cultural Researchers (ECURES), ERICarts, France, Iceland, Latvia, Romania, Sweden and Switzerland. Since then, requests regarding future membership have been made by Austria, Cyprus, Germany, the European Cultural Foundation and Lithuania. In addition, the CCPT is sponsored by the Netherlands government, who in 2018 is donating a contribution of €50 000.

Recent developments

Since the launch in November, the Association's Board has had a further 4 meetings, either face-to-face (thanks to the French Ministry of Culture, Paris) or via Skype. The Board has identified a Service Provider to carry out the daily business of the Compendium, namely the Boekman Foundation/ Amsterdam. A contract to employ the Service Provider, work programme and budget have all been agreed for 2018. Moreover, Eurostat has invited the Compendium Association to a meeting on 9-10 April to discuss a possible cooperation on the new Compendium grid.

The Board has further completed the administrative and official tasks it had to undertake as a newly incorporated Association set up under Dutch law, including: drafting of the Rules of Procedure of the Board, the General Assembly and the Assembly of Experts and the Association's membership Charter. These will be discussed by the Board with a view to their adoption at its next meeting on 6 April. The Board's first newsletter (available at the Bureau meeting) updating the Compendium Community on recent developments was sent to the Compendium mailing list of some 6 000 subscribers.

Next steps

- Collection of Membership fees by 1 April (thanks to the Council of Europe treasurer, Mesut Ozyavuz, these will be paid into the Council of Europe General account pending the Association having its own bank account).
- Setting up of a bank account for the Association.
- The Boekman Foundation will sign the contract on 26 March at its own Board meeting and take up its functions as Service Provider as from 1 April.

- The Service provider, under the guidance of the Board and General Assembly, will work on the main projects identified for the year:
 - A new methodological grid for the country profiles and comparative statistical tables and the tables for the monitoring and comparisons sections of the website;
 - Visual and navigation improvements to ensure that the Compendium remains user-friendly on computers and mobile devices such as smartphones and tablets, as well as in step with mainstream ICT trends;
 - Review of the Compendium communication policy particularly with a view to attracting new members;
 - Evaluation and quality control of the Compendium, taking into account the transitional nature of 2018 owing to the change in business and governance model and the change in Service Provider;

Given the transitional year, maintenance of the previous system will be carried as much as possible, finance and time permitting.

- The Board will continue to meet as often as is necessary to ensure the smooth functioning of the Association and the Compendium Database.
- The 1st Assembly of the new Association will be organised and held in Rijeka, Croatia, 9-11 October, under Croatia's Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

Action required

The Bureau of the CDCPP is invited to:

- take note of the positive progress of the Association of the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends;
- take note of the opportunity to organise the next Assembly of the new Association in Rijeka, Croatia, 9-11 October 2018.
- actively consider joining and supporting the Association, if this is not already the case.

IV. Cultural Policy Reviews

Background

In 2017, the Ministry of Culture of Albania requested support with the drawing-up of a national cultural strategy. The new strategy should allow for the update of cultural policies in line with Council of Europe standards and best practice. It should comprise next to governance and institutional aspects also sector analyses, including tourism and cultural and creative industries.

Recent developments

An expert visit took place in November 2017 followed by a strategic multi-stakeholder policy workshop in Tirana in February 2018. The review report, including targeted recommendations for action, was submitted to the Albanian Authorities in March 2018.

The Georgian Ministry of Culture has asked for a Cultural Policy Peer Review to be carried out in 2018. The focus would be on culture, arts education and awareness-raising through collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Science.

Next steps

Pending resources, work on the Cultural Policy Peer Review of Georgia will start in spring and a team of experts from peer review countries (still to be identified) will visit the country for a first round of consultations.

Action required

The Bureau of the CDCPP is invited to:

- welcome the development of a national cultural strategy for Albania and the forthcoming cultural policy peer review of Georgia;
- underline the pertinence of the Council of Europe's technical assistance programme in the cultural and heritage sector, offered in form of Policy Peer Reviews and legal advice to member States and the need to adequately fund these activities through the Ordinary Budget of the Organisation.