



Strasbourg, 24 February 2017

CDCPP-Bu(2017)4
Item 4.1 of the agenda

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

INDICATOR FRAMEWORK ON CULTURE AND DEMOCRACY
Activities planned in 2017

* * *

COMPENDIUM OF CULTURAL POLICIES
Towards a Consortium for the Project

* * *

CULTURAL POLICY REVIEW OF UKRAINE
State of implementation

For information and action

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

I. Indicator Framework on Culture and Democracy (IFCD) – activities planned in 2017

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.

Work carried out by the chosen consultant, the Hertie School of Governance, in co-operation with a research consortium led to:

- a complete IFCD with 41 indicators representing the culture and democracy domain and 177 variables;
- a complete data set for 37 member states and 37 country summaries;
- a guidebook on the IFCD for policy makers and others interested in the tool;
- a beta version of an Interactive Data Explorer (online tool) for users to explore and analyse the IFCD data.

The work was endorsed by the CDCPP at its Plenary session in June 2016, and presented at a launch event on 14 October hosted by the European Union in Brussels to senior cultural policy makers from member states, parliamentarians, leading European cultural policy researchers and representatives from international bodies and foundations.

Strong relationships were identified between a number of culture and democracy dimensions such as active cultural engagement and democratic openness; political engagement, trust in society and wellbeing. IFCD-based findings on the vibrancy of cultural participation in member states have been quoted in the third Report of the Secretary General on the State of Democracy, Human Rights and the Rule of Law in Europe, issued in May 2016 and will be quoted in the 2017 report, where data on cultural participation, tolerance and trust in society will be shown.

Recent developments

Participants at the IFCD launch event agreed on the role of culture as a highly relevant policy area ("Culture is a security issue in insecure times") and the need to further develop the IFCD including by building synergies with relevant players such as EUROSTAT and UNESCO, and benefitting from Compendium data. Active use of the IFCD was advocated and analyses are actually possible within geographical groups, within and beyond domains (culture, democracy) and using selected components for analysis. Regular IFCD activities will thus include the setting-up and maintenance of the IFCD Interactive Data Explorer and the production of annual thematic reports on culture and democracy.

The first thematic report on Culture and Democracy focusing on Cultural Participation and Inclusive Societies was launched in February 2017 and is made available to CDCPP members for wide distribution at national level, i.e. with cultural policy-makers and practitioners.

An exchange on 2017 IFCD work priorities took place on 26 January in Berlin, and an action plan was agreed with the Hertie School of Governance that will be reflected in the 2017 work contract.

Main activities will include:

- holding a peer review meeting with experts involved in other relevant index exercises;
- running a survey with CDCPP members on IFCD use and possible information needs;
- setting-up a network of IFCD correspondents (leading cultural policy specialists) in member states;
- enhancing the IFCD interactive data explorer with background information on indicator construction and methodology;
- filling the database with missing information on either individual sectors or countries;
- preparing the 2017 thematic report on Culture and Democracy that could deal with the theme of "digitisation and culture";
- peer-reviewing the IFCD first thematic report at the meeting of Compendium stakeholders in Nicosia, Cyprus on 30-31 March 2017 and the IFCD progress at the Compendium meeting in Prague, Czech Republic in October;
- developing a sponsor and advocacy strategy with the help of the European Cultural Foundation, Amsterdam and studying sponsorship opportunities specifically with political Foundations.

Next steps

Raising member states' interest in using the IFCD for domestic information and policy purposes is of main importance. In addition, networking and peer review with relevant indicator/index exercises will be a priority for ensuring the best possible quality of the IFCD and thus, regular topical contributions, including to the Reports by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on the State of Democracy, Human Rights and the Rule of Law. Links with national cultural policy researchers will be built and an IFCD network set up, both with a view to identifying the most recent data available and for providing additional contextual information "to make the figures speak". The technical upgrades of the online tool and the advocacy and sponsoring strategy will be implemented in 2017.

Action required

The Bureau is invited to:

- take note of the progress report on the IFCD and welcome the launch of the first thematic report on Culture and Democracy;
- advise the Secretariat on setting-up the network of IFCD correspondents, the topic for the 2017 thematic report on Culture and Democracy and a future survey with CDCPP members to enable policy-makers to benefit optimally from the IFCD tool;
- advise on partnerships and sponsorship opportunities for the IFCD and invite member states to make voluntary contributions to this innovative project.

II. Compendium of Cultural Policies – towards a consortium for the project

Background

Since February 2016, work has been underway to rethink the role and governance/business model of the Compendium of cultural policies which has now been in existence for twenty years. The agreed recommended solution, endorsed by the Bureau of the CDCPP (22-23 November 2016), is to set up a Consortium comprising the Council of Europe, the member states, ERICarts, Research Institutes, Universities and Foundations. The Consortium would be a self-sustaining structure, putting an end to the need for project fundraising, and its members would pay a membership fee by way of contractual obligation.

Recent developments

The work towards establishing the Consortium is currently concentrating on identifying the possible legal form of the Consortium with a view to ensuring that member states will have no difficulty with financing it. In this connection:

i) a letter requesting CDCPP members to identify any legal possibilities or constraints they would have in being a member of the Consortium, as approved by the Bureau in November, was sent out on 9 December, with a deadline of 20 January. To date, replies have been received from five member States (Austria, Finland, Greece, Hungary and Norway). A reminder was sent to CDCPP members on 6 February, with a deadline of 17 February.

ii) a request for legal advice on the legal form of the Consortium was sent in December to the Council of Europe's Directorate of Legal Advice and Public International Law (DLAPIL). According to the advice, the legal entity which would most closely fit expectations for the Consortium is a not-for-profit association at national level. This solution is now being further discussed by the DLAPIL and the Secretariat to finalise some of the legal minutiae, such as status of the Council of Europe in the Consortium, possible country of Headquarters, establishment procedure and length of procedure, among others.

Next steps

The Bureau will be briefed during its session on the replies to the letter mentioned under point i) above sent to CDCPP delegates, as well as on the ongoing discussions between the DLAPIL and the Secretariat on the legal format of the Consortium.

From 30-31 March, an Assembly of Compendium stakeholders will be organised in Cyprus in the framework of the Cyprus Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers to discuss further the transition of the Compendium into a not-for-profit association. The Assembly agenda will focus on finalising the identification of the legal format, the Consortium's 2017/18 implementation schedule, its 2018 budget plan and other finance matters and technical developments envisaged in 2018.

Action required

The Bureau is invited to:

- take note of the progress made on developing a financing and management model for the Compendium and comment as appropriate;
- take note of the legal advice and briefing and give guidance to the Secretariat on the next steps including the preparation of the March Assembly, if appropriate.

III. Cultural Policy Review of Ukraine – state of implementation

Background

In 2016, the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine requested a peer review of the country's cultural/cultural heritage policy with a view to decentralising the functions of the central administration at regional and/or local level. The peer Review should enable the reform of cultural policies in line with Council of Europe standards and best practice.

Recent developments

The aim and topics for the Peer Review were refined by the Ministry of Culture and include:

- Recommendations on the efficient allocation of responsibilities in the cultural sphere between different levels of authorities (national, regional and local - vertical links) and cross-sectoral interaction (horizontal links);
- European experience and recommendations on the development of state-private partnerships in managing the cultural heritage;
- Recommendations on the optimisation of the local cultural infrastructure in the context of decentralisation.

Next steps

An expert visit is planned on 13-15 March 2017. It will cover Kyiv and the Vinnytsa region. Peer-Review countries include Austria, France, Italy, Spain and Sweden. Representatives from these countries' respective Ministries of Culture/Heritage will participate in the mission and share their national experiences with their Ukrainian counterparts.

Action required

The Bureau is invited to:

- take note of the forthcoming expert mission to Ukraine and express its support to the cultural policy peer review.