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STEERING COMMITTEE FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE (CDCPP)

INDICATOR FRAMEWORK ON CULTURE AND DEMOCRACY Activities planned in 2017

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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 based on 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, which are publicly available http://www.governancereport.org/fileadmin/governancereport/ifcd/#

The work was endorsed by the CDCPP at its plenary session in June 2016 and publicly launched in October in Brussels. The event, hosted by the European Union, brought together cultural policy makers from member states, parliamentarians, leading European cultural policy researchers and representatives from international bodies and foundations.

The IFCD 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 Report of the Secretary General on the State of Democracy, Human Rights and the Rule of Law in Europe, issued in May 2016 and are quoted in the 2017 report, where data on cultural participation, tolerance and trust in society are alluded to.

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 dataset and 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 (April 2017) is made available to CDCPP members for wide distribution at national level, i.e. with cultural policy-makers and practitioners.

The action plan agreed with the Hertie School of Governance for 2017 includes:

- holding a peer review meeting with experts involved in relevant international index exercises (June 2017);
- running a survey with CDCPP members on IFCD use and possible information needs:
- enhancing the IFCD interactive data explorer with background information on indicator construction and methodology;
- filling the database to the extent possible with missing information on either individual sectors or countries;
- preparing the second thematic report on Culture and Democracy that would deal with the theme of "digitisation and culture";
- presenting IFCD progress at the Compendium meeting in Prague, Czech Republic in October;
- developing an advocacy strategy with the help of the European Cultural Foundation, Amsterdam

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. The technical upgrades of the online tool and the advocacy and sponsoring strategy will be implemented in 2017.

Action required

The Committee 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;
- reply to a survey being run to enhance the IFCD tool so as to enable policy-makers to benefit optimally from this 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 continued at the Assembly of Compendium Stakeholders and Experts in Nicosia, Cyprus, 30-31 March, organised under the Cyprus Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers. The focus of the event was to finalise the legal format for the Consortium.

In preparation of the meeting and following i) the letter¹ requesting CDCPP members to identify any legal possibilities or constraints they would have in being a member of the Consortium (sent out on 9 December) and ii) the Secretariat's request for legal advice on the possible legal form of the Consortium sent in December to the Council of Europe's Directorate of Legal Advice and Public International Law (DLAPIL)²:

- a) a draft set of legal Statutes for a not-for-profit Association were drawn up and discussed at the Assembly with CoE legal expert Jörg Nobbe, from the DLAPIL, with a view in particular to establishing: the Consortium's functions and objectives, membership, financing, headquarters and secretariat.
- b) on the basis of the Assembly discussions, which resulted in the decision to establish the Compendium Consortium in the form of an association, the draft statutes were revised to that effect. All points that were raised were taken into account by including concrete proposals. During the Assembly discussions, it emerged that both the Council of Europe and ERICarts were willing to cede ownership of the Compendium to the Association to make it more attractive for potential members.
- c) An Explanatory Memorandum was additionally drafted to accompany the draft Statutes.
- d) The draft statutes and Explanatory Memorandum were circulated to the Assembly's participants for their comments by 26 April.
- e) A blue print for modernising the Compendium is being drawn up by a working Group comprising Assembly authors and the Council of Europe Secretariat (deadline 28 April).

¹ Replies were received from twelve member States (Austria, Cyprus, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Spain).

² For further information on i) and ii) please see document (CDCPP-Bu(2017)4).

Next steps

- a) The draft Statutes, Explanatory Memorandum and blue print for modernising the Compendium will be circulated on 28 April to the CDCPP, with a view to their being endorsed at the Plenary Session, 10-12 May 2017.
- b) Once endorsed, the draft statutes, which have been drafted on the basis of general principles that apply to not-for-profit associations, will have to be checked against the legal framework of the country of the association's establishment.
- c) To this end a local, specialised law firm will be hired to assist in the process of establishing the association. The law firm will be requested to check the consistency of the draft statutes with national law and, if necessary, make suggestions as to how the draft statutes could be made consistent with national law without changing the overall structure or spirit.
- d) The statutes shall be translated into the local language, with a view to registering the Association with the appropriate authorities.
- e) The fees for the law firm, the registration fees and other related costs, such as the translation costs, should ideally be financed by a voluntary contribution by one or several Council of Europe member states.
- f) The Membership Charter (see the draft Statutes) can be drafted post endorsement of the draft Statutes. The Charter will set out the rights and responsibilities of associate and sponsoring members, and is to be adopted by the Association's Board (see the draft Statutes), subject to the statutes. Since the Membership Charter does not have to be registered with the appropriate authorities, it can be endorsed at a later date in the year by the CDCPP Bureau.
- g) The inaugural meeting of the Association could be organised to take place at the next Assembly meeting being held in Prague later this year in November under the Czech Republic Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers (exact dates to be confirmed).

Assistance pledged to date

- a) The Netherlands government has since offered to pay the necessary legal and translation costs in connection with setting up the Association.
- b) The Boekman foundation, which has the support of the Netherlands Government, has offered to assist in the setting-up of the Association, such as by identifying and hiring lawyers, etc.
- c) In light of this support, together with the Netherlands' flexible legal system in this area, the Netherlands is a strong candidate country for the seat of the Association, and so its establishment is for the time being envisaged in the Netherlands.

Action required

The Committee is invited to:

- take note of the progress made on developing a financing and management model for the Compendium;
- comment on the state of play, where appropriate, with reference to the document containing the draft Statutes of the Compendium Association, the Explanatory Memorandum and the blue print for modernising the Compendium;
- welcome the proposal to establish the seat of the Association in the Netherlands.
- take note of the opportunity to organise the inaugural meeting of the new Association in Prague, November.

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.

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.

Recent developments

An expert visit took place on 13-15 March 2017. It covered Kyiv and the Vinnytsa region and involved exchanges with numerous national stakeholders from policy making, practitioners and academicians. Peer-Review countries included Austria, France, Italy, Spain and Sweden. Representatives from these countries' respective Ministries of Culture/Heritage participated in the mission and shared their national experiences with the Ukrainian counterparts.

The Peer Review Report will be delivered to the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine in early May 2017 and pending a decision by the Minister, will be made available to the public.

Action required

The Committee is invited to:

- welcome the accomplishment of the Cultural Policy Peer Review of Ukraine and invite the Ukrainian Authorities to fully use the report findings in their current decentralisation efforts.