



Strasbourg, 11 June 2021

CDCPP(2021)7
Item 4.1 of the agenda

**STEERING COMMITTEE
FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE
(CDCPP)**

CULTURE

Digital #Exhibition "Free to Create – Create to be Free"

**Progress Report on the Association of the
Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends**

Cultural Policy Reviews

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

Following the launch of the Manifesto on the Freedom of Expression of the Arts and Culture in the Digital Era ([Manifesto on Arts, Culture and Freedom of Expression in the Digital Era](#)) by the CDCPP in November 2020, work has concentrated on its promotion, particularly to encourage translations of this significant text into the languages of Council of Europe member States.

At the same time, the concept for the Council of Europe Digital Exhibition "Free to Create – Create to be Free" has been further developed and included the preparation of [guidelines](#) for member States to orient their participation in the exhibition. An innovative and sustainable online platform to host the exhibition has been set up (<https://freetocreate.art/videos/teaser-sound.1080p.h264.mp4>), with the help of an artistically specialised professional design and programming collective as a provider and following an open call procedure.

The website – in its beta version – was first presented on 6 May 2021 in the framework of a cultural event organised by the Council of Europe and the Cultiva Foundation as part of the 2nd European Conference on Democracy and Human Rights in Kristiansand, Norway. Ms Emma Lind, State Secretary, Ministry of Culture of Norway, Mr Michael Roth, Minister of State for Europe, Federal Foreign Office, Germany, Ms Snezana Markovic, Director General for Democracy, Council of Europe, Ms Flora van Regteren Altena (Chair of the Council of Europe Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape), Ms Cecilie Nissen, Cultiva Board member and CEO of the Kristiansand Arts Hall and a number of renowned artists and curators took part in a roundtable discussion on the Freedom of Expression of the Arts and Culture in the Digital Era ([Supporting events European Conference 6 May on Livestream](#)).

First artworks were received from Germany, holding the Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe at the time. These include an artwork by the German artist with a Turkish background, Nasan Tur, as well as a statement video on artistic freedom in wartimes by the Tripoli-born, Berlin-based artist Tewa Barnosa. Both artists highlight the eminent role of the arts in promoting human rights and democratic values, including in times of war, and also link to the importance of the work of journalists in defending democracy, human rights and the rule of law. In the next phase, further art works from Serbia, Hungary, Poland and Lithuania are expected to be added to the exhibition.

The digital exhibition is conceived as a sustainably growing one, its feeding ground being the artworks submitted by the member States. Planned as a long-term initiative, it will grow and change constantly, offering a wide range of topics and issues centred around the topic of artistic freedom as a human right. This process of a sustainably growing online digital platform will be channelled into a living archive, showcasing the status of artistic freedom in Europe in the 21st century.

The Council of Europe aims at making the exhibition available to all, online and through museums, arts, cultural and educational institutions, by providing "kiosk versions" to any institution interested in presenting it.

A communication plan on the exhibition project is currently being developed. A social media campaign – that is also tailored to the release of the individual artworks – will further enhance the exhibition's outreach.

In parallel, a collection of good practices – also beyond artistic production – from member States on arts and culture boosting democracy and human rights, including the Freedom of Expression, will be promoted by the CDCPP Secretariat, highlighting further the Committee's contribution to the core values of the Council of Europe.

Action required

The CDCPP is invited to:

- disseminate and promote the **Manifesto on the Freedom of Expression of Arts and Culture in the Digital Era** and provide translations into national languages;
- encourage member States and signatories to the European Cultural Convention to participate in the digital #exhibition "**Free to Create – Create to be Free**" by providing, in digital format, works of art that promote the freedom of expression;
- mobilise member States and other interested stakeholders to provide support, including voluntary contributions, for the further successful development of the exhibition.

II. Progress Report on the Association of the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends

Annual Compendium Assembly

Due to the current pandemic circumstances, this year's meeting was digital and focused on the past, present and future plans for the Compendium. In addition to discussing these plans with the Compendium community, new members for both the Compendium Association's board and the Assembly of Compendium Experts' board were elected.

The board of the Compendium Association welcomes new members:

- Baiba Tjarve (Senior Researcher, Latvian Academy for Culture – Chair);
- Adrian Debattista (Head of Strategy and Senior Researcher, Arts Council Malta – Vice Chair);
- Anna Kanerva (Senior Researcher and Vice-Director, Cupore – Secretary).

Flora van Regteren Altena, Chair of the CDCPP as of April 2021, will act as the CDCPP representative in the Compendium Board.

Andrej Srakar (Senior Researcher, University of Ljubljana) as new elected Chair of the Association of Compendium Experts (ACE) also takes a seat on the board. The new board members are looking forward to continuing to improve the Compendium Association, together with the new Coordinator (Kulturpolitische Gesellschaft e.V.) from 2021 onwards.

The Compendium thanks the outgoing board members Marjo Mäenpää (Chair), Jean-Cédric Delvainquière (Vice-Chair), Anna Villarroya and Carmen Croitoru for their commitment and hard work in shaping the Compendium in its crucial transformative years into a multi-stakeholder association.

New Coordinator

Since 1 January 2021, the Kulturpolitische Gesellschaft (Association of Cultural Policy) located in Bonn in Germany is the new Coordinator of the *Compendium* of Cultural Policies & Trends and therefore responsible for the daily management of the project. The Compendium thanks the former Service Provider – Janina Pigath and Sabine Zwart from the Boekman Foundation in Amsterdam for their commitment during the last three years. The Kulturpolitische Gesellschaft is eager to continue the successful work.

The new Coordinator and team – Ulrike Blumenreich (head) and Oliver Göbel (project manager) are focusing on:

- further developing the cultural policy content of the Compendium, in particular, through scientific research, enhancing the quality and quantity of cultural policy content and the creation of new overviews for the website;
- offering new informative features such as WebTalk series as cultural policy trainings;
- the topicality of the Compendium;
- strengthening the role and recognition of the Compendium experts;
- initiating more international networking, by raising the pool of members, experts and partners;
- contributing to a dialogue between cultural policy and cultural policy research.

New Stakeholder Members

During the last few months, the Compendium Association has welcomed new members, namely the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Ministry of Culture of Luxembourg. The Swedish Agency for Cultural Policy Analysis has also submitted a formal request for membership.

Updates

Several updates of country profiles have been included into the Compendium website: since November 2020 the following updates of long profiles (each around 75 pages) have been published: Ireland, Flanders, Estonia, Austria, Poland, Croatia and Czech Republic and of short profiles (each around 10 pages): Germany. For 2021, in total 20 updates are planned.

Covid 19-section

Since March 2020, the Compendium has been actively monitoring developments regarding COVID-19 and the cultural field (<https://www.culturalpolicies.net/covid-19/>). It consists of country specific information on the implications for the sector and the current measures being taken, which resulted in 28 country reports. These reports were translated into a comparative overview of financial measures. Additionally, information on online-initiatives has been collected. An interview series has been launched that examines the effects of COVID 19 on arts and culture in Europe. A list of resources, which features relevant publications and researches completes the section.

Action required

The CDCPP is invited to:

- welcome the developments regarding the Association of the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends and the cultural policy information system;
- encourage member States and interested cultural policy research institutions to become Stakeholder members of the Compendium Association.
- encourage all member States to disseminate the recent monitoring developments regarding COVID-19 and the cultural field (<https://www.culturalpolicies.net/covid-19/>).

III. Cultural Policy Reviews

Targeted Review - Ukraine

Given the working parameters much defined by the pandemic, the targeted Peer Review to assist Ukraine with new legislation on the safeguarding of the traditional built environment and prevention of chaotic urban development, had to be postponed and will recommence in June. The review team includes experts from Austria, France, Italy, Germany and the United Kingdom and the exercise is planned to be concluded with a review report and detailed recommendations on the new law in late 2021.

Action required

The CDCPP is invited to:

- note the ongoing co-operation with Ukraine in the framework of the Council of Europe's programme of policy reviews and legal assistance to member States in the fields of culture and cultural heritage;
- notify the Committee and Secretariat of any interest in benefitting from targeted assistance activities, including in the form of a cultural/heritage policy peer review in individual countries.