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

CULTURE AND DEMOCRACY FRAMEWORK INDICATORS – FOLLOW UP TO THE LAUNCH EVENT

Secretariat Memorandum
prepared by the
Directorate of Democratic Governance
Democratic Institutions and Governance Department

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Introduction

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 in 2014/15 on the indicator framework by the chosen consultant, Hertie School of Governance, in co-operation with a research consortium led to an innovative analytical concept with the parallel construction of the culture-and-democracy dimension and a framework of 41 indicators grouping over 170 variables for a variety of policy fields (e.g. cultural finance, production, consumption, participation, education, heritage) and dimensions (political, legal, economic, civic aspects). A process perspective - distinguishing inputs, throughputs and outputs - was also built into the concept. First tests were carried out on possible culture-democracy correlations. In 2015 the statistical tests were widened and the initial concept refined. 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 well-being.

An IFCD "testing round" started in March 2016. Experts from the Hertie School visited the Ministries of Culture in Belgium, Croatia, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Serbia, Sweden and Switzerland and discussed user interests of the IFCD with regard to the national context. Concrete suggestions were gathered towards the improvement and fine-tuning of the IFCD, i.e. the addition of a number of indicators on access and participation and the future use and update of the framework in co-operation with relevant statistical initiatives of other international bodies.

The Hertie School of Governance eventually delivered the following products:

- complete IFCD including a final list of indicators with full operationalisation and complete data sources;
- results of correlations run and of eight specific hypotheses tested regarding culture's contribution towards democracy;
- the framework populated with data of 37 countries and resulting in a database of indicators for download (e.g. in CSV, Excel, STATA); and
- 37 country summaries providing a brief description of country-specific results;
- a guidebook on the IFCD for policy makers and others interested in the tool;
- a proposal for an Interactive Data Explorer online tool for users to explore examine and analyse IFCD data.

The works were endorsed by the CDCPP Plenary session in June 2016.

IFCD-based findings on the vibrancy of cultural participation in member states have further been quoted in the 3rd Report of the Secretary General on the State of Democracy, Human Rights and the Rule of Law in Europe issued in May 2016[1]. In addition, a report by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on Culture and Democracy[2] cites some of the IFCD's insights and highlights its importance as a tool to

[1] See Chapter V on Inclusive Societies and Democratic Citizenship.
[2] Rapporteur: Vesna Marjanovic, MP, Serbia.

measure cultural vitality and promote political commitment and investments in the cultural sphere.

From summer 2016 on work concentrated on the preparation of the IFCD launch event in Brussels held on 14 October 2016 and hosted by the European Commission (DG-EAC). The event was to stage an exchange on the Indicator Framework and its applications with a wide range of cultural policy experts and secondly, to prepare for further planning of a Joint Project with the EU on the IFCD application from 2017 onwards.

Recent developments

The IFCD Launch Event was attended by a hundred participants and allowed for fruitful exchanges with the cultural sector.

The European Commission was represented – inter alia – by Mr Jens Nymand Christensen, Deputy Director-General and Mr Walter Zampieri, Head of Unit, Cultural Diversity and Innovation. Participants from the Council of Europe included the Director-General for Democracy, Mrs Snezana Samardzic-Markovic and the Director of Democratic Governance Mrs Claudia Luciani.

Experts from the Hertie School - including the Dean and President, professor Anheier – introduced the Framework, the Guidebook and the Interactive Data Explorer. A multi-stakeholder debate including a governmental representative (Kimmo Aulake, Chair of the CDCPP), a Foundation Director (Katherine Watson, European Cultural Foundation) and a Parliamentarian (Vesna Marjanovic, Serbia) underlined the timeliness and relevance of the IFCD for a multitude of users.

Questions mainly referred to the use of data sources (e.g. EUROSTAT); the possible addition of yet missing data and countries; updates of the system and the use of the tool at the intergovernmental level (including, e.g. reports and monitoring by the CDCPP, PACE, SG's reports). Participants welcomed the multiple uses of the tool: within geographical groups, within and beyond domains (culture, democracy) and using selected components for analysis.

Participants agreed on the role of culture as a highly relevant policy area ("Culture is a security issue in insecure times") and the need to optimally develop the IFCD including by building synergies with relevant players such as EUROSTAT and UNESCO, and further benefitting from Compendium data. Active promotion and use of the IFCD were also advocated.

Further work on the IFCD

Initial discussions had so far with the European Commission covered such areas as the setting-up and maintenance of the IFCD Interactive Data Explorer, the production of annual thematic reports and annual events for launching these. The possibility of concluding a Joint Programme for the co-funding of these activities was also discussed.

It is envisaged to resume the contacts with the European Commission in the light of the successful presentation of the IFCD tool whose existence was welcomed by all participants and continuation also recommended.

Next steps

Following the detailed de-briefing with the Bureau further action should include:

- the finalisation of the first thematic report on culture and democracy by the end of 2016 with special reference to the findings on participation in culture and trusting society[3].
- The promotion of the IFCD for (1) country-specific use by member states for policy optimisation and self-assessment and (2) further annual thematic reports on Culture and Democracy in line with Council of Europe priorities.

Raising member States' interest in and eventual use of the IFCD for domestic policy purposes seems to be of the utmost importance. The option of eliciting voluntary contributions to this end should be considered.

It will also be appropriate to engage further discussions with the Hertie School of Governance on the possible preparation of a Joint Project on the IFCD from 2017. The Secretariat will use the IFCD – including the use of Compendium information – in order to contribute to the SG's 2017 Report on the State of Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law.

Action required

The Bureau is invited to:

- note the successful launch of the first Indicator Framework on Culture and Democracy in follow-up to the decisions by the 2013 Ministerial Conference on Culture and endorse the work accomplishments;
- give guidance to the Secretariat as to the actions to be pursued in order to engage member States in the application of the IFCD and to keep the IFCD alive and growing through the appropriate partnerships and agreements.

[3] These show that countries with high cultural participation rates also show high levels of interpersonal trust among their people.

Appendix

Programme of the IFCD Launch Event on 14 October 2016 at Hotel Bloom in Brussels

Launch of the Indicator Framework on Culture and Democracy
14 October 2016
Hotel Bloom, Rue Royale 250, 1210 Brussels, Belgium
Programme

10.30 Arrival with Coffee

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11.00 *Welcome Session*

- Mr Jens Nymand Christensen, Deputy Director General, Education and Culture, DG EAC, European Commission
- Ms Snežana Samardžić-Marković, Director General of Democracy, Council of Europe

11.20 Session Chairs: Ms Claudia Luciani, Director, Democratic Governance Directorate, Council of Europe and Mr Walter Zampieri, Head of Unit, Directorate General for Education and Culture, European Commission

Presentation of the Indicator Framework on Culture and Democracy (IFCD) and its tools

Prof. Dr. Helmut K. Anheier, President and Dean of the Hertie School of Governance, Berlin

- The Indicator Framework on Culture and Democracy

Dr Matthias Haber, Hertie School of Governance, Berlin

- The IFCD Guidebook and Interactive Data Explorer

Interventions and Panel Discussion by Cultural Policy Makers and Civil Society Representatives on why culture matters for democracy and the IFCD's usefulness

- Ms Katherine Watson, Director European Cultural Foundation (ECF)
- Mr Kimmo Aulake, Ministerial Adviser, Ministry of Education and Culture of Finland and Chair of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP)
- Ms Vesna Marjanović, MP/Serbia, former PACE member and rapporteur on "Culture and democracy" (PACE Resolution 2123 (2016) and Recommendation

2093 (2016)

12.30 *Exchange with the Audience*

13.30 Buffet lunch

14.30 *Wrap-up session* chaired by Ms Claudia Luciani and Mr Walter Zampieri

15.00 *Practical demonstrations of the IFCD Interactive Data Explorer and Guidebook are provided by the Hertie School of Governance*

17.00 End of Event