

## Structured Dialogue with the cultural sector

*An Instrument of the European Agenda for Culture*

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## Three Thematic Platforms

- 1. Platform for Intercultural Europe:** initiative of Culture Action Europe and European Cultural Foundation (2006)
- 2. Access to Culture** and
- 3. Cultural and Creative industries:** established through an EC call for expressions of interest (2008):

- EC selected 39 and 33 organisations respectively
- Only non-governmental cultural organisations with a trans-national or European dimension qualified

## Structured Dialogue Platforms

### Work process

- Plenary meetings in series in June 2008 and June 2009
- Working group processes for the drafting of recommendations
- Coordination meetings amongst the Platforms and with the OMC WGs
- Only bilateral meetings between Access Platform and OMC WG on Education & Culture

## Cultural and Creative Industries

Importance of cultural  
and creative industries

Nearly 6 million employed  
Turnover of €654 billion  
2.6% of EU GDP

A changing Industry

Digital evolution  
Market Access  
Access to finance

A Clear Framework

Tackling issues like piracy  
Subsidies  
Long-term Strategy

The Recommendations:  
a united approach

## Cultural and Creative Industries

### Working groups

- Regulatory environment
- Support for SMEs' development
- Exchange/export - Circulation of works and artists
- The interface between artistic creation and the cultural industries

## The Platform for Intercultural Europe

### Key historical and organisational facts

- A civil society initiative taken in Oct 2006
- A response to the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008
- Recognised as a Structured Dialogue partner in early 2008
- The model for the creation of the two other civil society platforms in the field of Culture
- Established as an international not-for-profit organisation under Belgian law in Nov 2008
- Transition from the principle of informal participation (around 400 in first 2 years) to formal membership in May 2009 (36 organisations)
- First General Members Assembly creating a democratic basis in June 2009

## Platform for Intercultural Europe

### Work record and activity formats

- Manifesto based on consultation: “Rainbow Paper. Intercultural Dialogue – From Practice to Policy and Back”
- Resource collection: “Panorama on Intercultural Dialogue”
- Annual Meeting: 2009 European Forum “The Distinctive Contribution of the Arts to Intercultural Dialogue”
- Regional Practice Exchanges: “Capacity-building for Intercultural Dialogue in Organisations”, June '09 Malmö, Nov '09 Vienna
- EU advocacy based on grass-roots work

## Platform for Intercultural Europe

### Advocacy demands and dilemmas

- Follow-up to the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008
- An OMC working group on Intercultural Dialogue
- Transversal work on ICD, strong input from culture

- Relief that the EYID is over?
- No appetite for an OMC WG?
- ICD a hopeless concept?
- Only nice rhetoric about migration, minorities, the beauty & benefits of diversity?

## Access to Culture Platform

### The Policy Guidelines document: approach

- Positions access to culture in a human/cultural rights perspective
- Places access to culture upstream in cultural policy-making (with a strong call to also mainstream culture in other policy fields)
- Formulates clear priority areas for action to develop the conditions of creation, education and participation across Europe.

### Three working groups

- Audience Participation
- Creativity & Creation
- Education & Learning

## Access to Culture Platform

### Working Group Audience Participation

advocates the importance of taking audience participation into account at all levels of policy-making based on the broad spectrum of added value that a participative audience brings not only to the cultural sector but to society as a whole, especially in terms of civic participation and citizenship.

### Working Group Creativity & Creation

advocates for the best conditions for artistic creation, to ensure access to the creative process for all, and to explore the creativity of the arts sector within the wider field of *'creativity and innovation'*.

### Working Group Education & Learning

explores the benefits of the interaction and synergy between education, learning and culture and the role that access/cultural participation plays at different educational levels.

## Issues

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## Headings of the recommendations of the Structured Dialogue Platforms

### Platform for Intercultural Europe

1. Educating
2. Capacity Building by Organisations
3. Monitoring for Sustained Policies
4. Mobilising across boundaries
5. Resourcing Intercultural Dialogue

### Platform on Access to Culture

1. Understanding the needs of all publics
2. Overcoming linguistic barriers
3. Supporting highly qualified professionalism
4. Improving funding and procedures
5. Advancing mobility and exchange
6. Promoting the cultural use of new technologies
7. Stimulating learning through culture
8. Positioning access to culture in all cultural policy-making

### Platform on the Potential of Cultural and Creative Industries

1. Recognise the specificities of cult industries and in particular SMEs
2. Protect intellectual property rights
3. Improve market access
4. Facilitate access to finance
5. Enhance working conditions
6. Promote the circulation of artists and works
7. Develop international promotion and exchange
8. Stimulate education and training

## Next steps

Cultural Forum priorities

New Council Workplan

CAC/OMC developments – more dialogue with the platforms