



NEWSLETTER No. 21 / February 2012

Dear Compendium friends and users,

As customary, our Newsletter presents new content, elements and features of the "Compendium" www.culturalpolicies.net. Edited by the Council of Europe Secretariat and the European Institute for Comparative Cultural Research (ERICarts), this information and monitoring system provides key facts about Cultural Policies and Trends in Europe.

Many thanks especially to our long term supporters who continue to encourage us with feedback and through using the Compendium as their preferred information and research tool!

With best wishes from the Compendium Team!

2012 Assembly of Compendium Experts:

The **2012 Assembly of Compendium Experts** will take place on the 28-29 of June 2012 in the beautiful city of Helsinki ([Finland](#)).



The Assembly is envisaged as part of a trilogy of cultural policy events by invitation of the Finnish Government (Ministry of Education and Culture).

The aim is to encourage further exchange between IFACCA, the Compendium, the CultureWatchEurope (CWE) Initiative and the Council of Europe's Parliamentary Assembly's (PACE) Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media and create added value by co-operating on jointly shared cultural policy interests. This is expected to help improve the content of the Compendium information system and at the same time facilitate future pan-European research efforts.

The suggested topic of participation in culture stems from PACE's recent draft Report on the right of everyone to take part in cultural life and resonates perfectly with the Compendium work at respective authors' meetings 2010 and 2011, as well as CWE work and conferences 2009-2011.

A draft agenda is being prepared and will be soon presented on the [Compendium](#) as well as on our [Facebook page](#)!

A new website to be launched in cooperation with the Compendium community

In connection with the Directorate's CultureWatchEurope (CWE), the Council of Europe is currently developing a new website which interactive inclusion of data, knowledge, expert analyses, debates and anticipations on current or forthcoming key cultural policy issues and concerns from a European perspective or related to individual European states

The new space would allow: (a) an exchange between cultural, professional and civil society representatives and governmental representatives on a highly expert level and enhance a multi-stakeholder

Compendium soon in French and German

As foreseen in the editorial programme for this year, the staff of the ERICarts Institute has started to turn the Compendium into a multilingual information system. In a first step, *introductory texts, headers* and the *user interface* of the Compendium have been translated into French and German. This will allow users from French and German speaking countries to better understand and handle the Compendium system. Other languages (e.g. Spanish) are to follow, if resources permit.

Key resources, e.g. in the *Themes!* section, continue to be presented in their original languages, in order to safeguard the integrity of these texts. As well, the standard language English needs to be retained in the case of the *country profiles*, in order to allow direct comparisons of the content. However, if country profiles have also been submitted in national languages, users will be able to choose which language to take.

In addition, all Compendium experts are encouraged to submit their profiles in the national language(s) – in a number of cases these texts can already now be downloaded separately.

SUCCESSFUL OPEN CALL OF INTEREST

In order to maintain or further enhance the quality and the scope of the *Compendium* and to comply with European practices addressing good governance, transparency and equal opportunities, an **Open Call of Interest for "Lead" and "Contributing Experts"** had been launched last year (deadline 31. December 2011). New experts may participate in the updating of country profiles, contribute to the overall system with their particular expertise (e.g. in present or additional Working Groups), advise on comparative methods, take over specific editorial tasks, or help to conduct monitoring exercises.

With 33 qualified applications arriving within a few weeks, this call should indeed be considered a success. The results are currently evaluated and decisions are expected by early March. Already now, the Compendium would like to welcome

approach to current cultural policy making; (b) posting of alerts by Compendium authors or civil society organisations; (c) presentation of hot topics papers and background analyses.

The Compendium will keep you informed on these developments!

2011 CUPIX DATA available

Something special for our statistics friends!

The [new 2011 CUPIX data](#) (data collected during November 2011) were recently presented.

While the CUPIX exercise was not originally intended to be a price index in the traditional sense, its results do help illustrate the effects (or not) of policy measures such as the fixed book price or differences between the prices of publicly funded arts services vs. private sector culture industry goods over the past years.

newcomers in its community of experts!

COMPENDIUM COMMUNITY WILL GROW!

New experts may participate in the updating of country profiles, contribute to the overall system with their particular expertise (e.g. in present or additional Working Groups), advise on comparative methods, take over specific editorial tasks, or help to conduct monitoring exercises (decisions are to be expected until early March).

In this context the Compendium will welcome new members to its community!

RESULTS OF LAST COMPENDIUM POLL

The Compendium thanks the users for giving their opinion regarding the importance of religious issues and sports in a cultural policy context. The online poll came to the following results:

14% reflect relevant religious issues and policy debates;

15% reflect relevant sports policies;

48% reflect both;

23% The Compendium should rather exclude these issues.

Consequently the editors will now try to include the results in the future Compendium structure

The Cultural Policy Profiles of Austria, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Monaco, Poland, Serbia, Romania, Russia and the Ukraine were recently updated! Selected highlights:

[Austria](#)

A pilot project provided funds for 17 innovative cultural projects in 13 locations in Austrian cultural forums abroad.

Austrian Film Institute funding has risen from 9.6 million euro in 2006 to 16.5 million in 2011.

Investment in federal museums up until 2013 will see investment of EUR 51.5 million.

[Georgia](#)

Priorities (2011-14) are arts education, promoting Georgia abroad, heritage and museums and artforms.

Culture is one of the priorities for the revitalisation of the conflict region Shida Kartli.

The Cartu private Foundation has funded a considerable percentage of culture activity in Georgia.

[Germany](#)

German cultural actors received 8% of the CULTURE (2007-2013) budget for 2011.

A 5.1 % rise in the national cultural budget is envisaged in 2012.

Protests were held against the cutbacks in local budgets and the consequences for funding cultural institutions.

Increasing debate on concepts of maintaining the current cultural infrastructure can be noted.

[Hungary](#)

New constitution will take effect from 1 Jan 2012 and includes references to culture.

Prospects for the 2011 cultural budget are dismal, both at national and local (municipal) levels.

The entire media regulation is being reconsidered in early 2011.

VAT will be raised to 27% in 2012.

[Monaco](#)

Monegasque Institute for Statistics and Economic Studies was created in January 2011.

[Poland](#)

A programme of cultural activities took place during the Polish presidency of the EU in 2011.

'The Pact for Culture' was signed in 2011 and includes a proposed 1% of state funds for culture by 2015.

Wroclaw was chosen as European Capital of Culture for 2016.

Books and periodicals lost their VAT exemption when a new 5% rate was introduced in 2011.

[Romania](#)

In accordance to the *Austerity Law*, salaries of employees in the cultural sector have decreased by 25%.

15% of tax donors chose a "cultural, artistic, sportive and recreational" NGO.

A new policy proposal has been developed to stimulate the economic dimension of culture.

[Russia](#)

The *Culture of Russia (2012-2016)* Federal Target Programme has set target areas for funding in the coming years.

There are plans to have 100 Russian Centres of Science and Culture open around the world by 2020.

A new Review of National Cultural Policy was launched in 2011 in conjunction with the Council of Europe.

The budget of the Culture Ministry will be 30% less in 2012 than in 2009 although a higher percentage will be allocated to culture.

A new law from Jan 2011 will offer more independence to public institutions in management and sourcing funding.

[Serbia](#)

Cultural institutions lose out in the economic crisis to funding of popular local festivals.

Increased tax benefits for donations made to culture.

In 2011 the cultural share of state funding is the lowest in 10 years at 0.65%.

In 2012 and 2013, 12 cities in Serbia along the Danube will collaborate with international partners on specific cultural issues.

[Ukraine](#)

A new *Law on Culture* was signed on 6 January 2011.

An increase in authoritarian control in Ukraine may impact on cultural development.

2011 saw increased government support and new tax benefits for the national film industry.

Law on Ratification of the Agreement on Collaboration in the Legal Protection of Intellectual Property signed in Jan 2012.

Answering Your Questions

Contact the Compendium Editors for **general editorial questions and comments:**

[Kathrin Merkle](#), Council of Europe

[Andreas Wiesand](#), ERICarts Institute

Contact the Coordinators for **specific content questions and comments:**

[Mechthilde Fuhrer](#), Council of Europe

[Olivier Göbel](#), ERICarts Institute

Contact the Web Master with your technical questions:

[Joerg Torkler](#), Medianale Group

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