

Dear Compendium friends / chers amis du Compendium / Liebe Compendium-Freunde,

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 governance issues and trends in Europe – now in a tri-lingual format ([English](#), [français](#), [deutsch](#)).

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!

Your / votre / Ihr Compendium Team!

New Table: Trends in Financing Culture:

In order to better reflect the effects (or not!) of the financial crisis for the cultural sector, the ERICarts Institute has developed a [new comparative table on public funding of culture](#). The table will be constantly updated, based on more recent figures in national profiles.

Extracted mainly from the latest official statistics provided in many of the Compendium country profiles, data on public cultural expenditure per capita for 2000, 2005 and 2009-2011 as well as the latest ratios for culture budgets in GDP and in total public expenditure could be compiled.

Per capita figures serve mainly as a **"horizontal" indicator for national trends in times of crisis**, while the overall budget and GDP-shares can provide **"vertical" - and relatively neutral - yardsticks for comparative assessments of the strength of public involvement in culture**.

See more in the [Compendium Statistics Section!](#)

New Themes! Section on Cultural Participation

At the "Helsinki Trilogy" events last summer, the importance of cultural participation - and of related barriers - in the context of democratic governance has been highlighted.

As a next step, the ERICarts Institute developed a new Themes! section on [cultural participation](#) in the Compendium. We would like to invite experts, governments and other users of the platform to contribute to the new space.

More information: [Compendium](#) / [Facebook](#)

New CUIPX

Something special for our statistics freaks:

The [new 2012 CUIPX data](#) (data collected during November 2012) are now online!

While the CUIPX exercise was not intended to be a price index in the traditional sense when it started

All Users can Improve the Compendium!

The Compendium editors recently implemented a new **"Wiki-type" user-feedback functionality** to the Compendium website which gives every user the chance to further improve the Compendium and, particularly, its national profiles.

The goal of the new tool is to enhance Compendium quality by inviting users to directly comment, in a modified Wiki-type and context-sensitive procedure, the content of specific parts / sub-chapters of the Compendium, including the option to provide supporting documents or alternative text passages. At the same time, editorial control over all modifications of Compendium content will be maintained in order to secure its character of a field-tested resource in this policy domain, which has proven to be a main factor for its success among European policymakers and other professionals.

This new Wiki-type feature can be found under every chapter of the different country profiles.

New Cultural Policy Actor

The Head of Film, Video and Sound Department at the Croatian Cinematheque, Croatian State Archives in Zagreb, Mladen Burić, has been nominated as the current **"Cultural Policy Actor in Focus"** on the Compendium homepage.



Results of the last Compendium Poll

Many thanks to to ca. 100 users who reacted to the last [Research & Development article of J. M. Schindler](#):

"Do you basically agree with Schindler's call for regular, European and national, culture-related impact assessments?"

69%: Yes, it seems realistic, enhances transparency and could give culture a stronger position in administration and policy circles

almost a decade ago, its results are now widely used in the media and in scientific comparisons.

CUPIX figures help illustrating 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.

11%: No, if this proposal would be realistic, it could have been introduced since a long time on the European level

20%: I'm undecided: Even if such assessment processes may work in the EU, they will be very difficult to implement in my country!

The national Profiles of Armenia, Croatia, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Liechtenstein, "The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", Monaco, Poland, Serbia and Sweden were recently updated. Selected highlights:

Armenia

Current, state financial support and volumes of film-making are increasing, although the sector still faces many challenges.

In 2012, the Law on Libraries and Library Science was adopted.

The state cultural budget rose slightly in 2011, following a significant fall in 2010.

Croatia

New government priorities (Dec 2012): cultural creativity, cultural industries, protection of heritage and improvement of the cultural system.

An amended version of the *Law on Croatian Radio and Television* is to improve the management structure but is criticised for lack of independence.

In 2012, the regular VAT rate, which applies to 'other' cultural goods and services, was changed from 23% to 25%.

Independent sector protests major cuts in cultural funding in Zagreb, more than other cities.

Personal expenditure on recreation and culture declined in each of the last three years.

Greece

New cultural policy White Paper proposes policy changes and administrative and funding restructuring in Greece.

Restructuring of Greek Radio and Television Corporation will lead to a reduction in state TV and radio channels.

New Law for the Support and Development of Cinema Art

Hungary

Responsibility for built heritage and archaeology was reorganized and transferred to the Ministry for the Interior in 2012.

Fundamental changes took place in the administration of non-profit organisations by the so-called Act on Civil Society 2011.

The new government has rationalised by strengthening the position of the state in cultural matters.

Re-drawing the canon of national culture is taking place.

Ireland

The Heritage Council has suffered cuts of 65% in the past three years, with its status now "under review".

A Gaeltacht Bill was introduced in July 2012, redefining Gaeltacht or Irish language-speaking areas.

A new bill proposes the establishment of a Human Rights and Equality Commission.

Autonomy of national cultural institutions under serious threat in recentralisation drive and suggestions of amalgamations.

Liechtenstein

In 2012, a new Office of Cultural Affairs was created within the National Public Administration.

A new *Law on the Protection of Cultural Assets* has been prepared.

"The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"

4 broadcasters were forced to change ownership under legal action taken by the Broadcasting Council.

A new cultural platform has been set up in response to what is considered as lethargic cultural policy and standardised or uncritical cultural practices.

Second National Action Plan for advancement of the social status of Roma women for the period 2011 - 2013.

In spite of growing criticism, members of the commissions who decide on the allocation of cultural funds are kept secret.

Monaco

In 2011, per capita spending on culture increased to 1 847 EUR compared to 1770 EUR in 2010.

A specific law on heritage preservation is currently being examined.

In order to preserve and highlight its heritage, the Principality works to diversify and increase the quality of its museums.

Poland

Protests in 2012 over reduction in subsidies for Warsaw public theatres by another 12%.

Wroclaw prepares for becoming European Capital of Culture in 2016.

Cultural workers held a strike in May, seeking a specific pension scheme for the sector and overturning of cuts.

New Pension Law to be gradually introduced from 2013 raises the age for pensions and caused some concern among artists e.g. dancers.

State expenditure on culture and heritage rose by 3.1% in 2011 due to the "Pact for culture", but local authority spending decreased by 3.6%.

Serbia

The new government (2012) will focus on re-nationalisation of Serbian institutions and on heritage.

The new National Council for Culture has drawn up a list of policy priorities.

New strict external financial control and procedures for cultural projects financed by the Ministry of Culture.

Sweden

New agency took over responsibility for cultural statistics from the Arts Council in 2012.

A national project (2013-2015) will study how museums influence the perception of national identity.

Civil society volunteering in arts and culture is estimated to contribute 16 million hours, an average of 100 hours per volunteer per year.

In 2011 and 2012 state support to cultural organisations was delegated to regional governments under advice from the Arts Council.

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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:**

[Giuliana de Francesco](#), Council of Europe

[Olivier Göbel](#), ERICarts Institute

Contact the Web Master with your technical questions:

[Joerg Torkler](#), Medianale Group

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