



NEWSLETTER No. 27 / August 2014

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 operable in three languages ([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!

Save the Date: Compendium Assembly with Public Forum, December 2014

Thanks to the support of the Belgian Government we can announce that the next **Annual Assembly of Compendium Experts will take place on the 4-5 December 2014 in Brussels.**

The **draft Agenda** of the event provides for, inter alia, a review by researchers and interested governmental representatives of the initial results of the work on indicators for **culture's contribution to democracy**.

New Cultural Policy Actor

This summer, [Cas Smithuijsen](#) retired from his post as Director of the influential Boekman Foundation in Amsterdam and has been nominated as the new "[Cultural Policy Actor in Focus](#)" on the Compendium homepage.

In addition to some biographical notes, Cas sets out his interpretation about his interpretation of "Culture and Democracy" (as will his future CPA colleagues).



Compendium "Themes!" space to focus on "Culture and Democracy"

The Compendium "[Themes!](#)" section will soon be re-organised and reflect a new space named "**Culture & Democracy**".

Complementing the already available themes: "Intercultural Dialogue", "Cultural Diversity", "Status of Artists", "International Cultural Cooperation and Mobility Issues", "Cultural Rights and Ethics" and "Cultural Access and Participation", this new structured space will also cover thematic fields such as

"Socio-economic Impacts of Culture", "Multi-stakeholder Governance", "Regional Cultural Policies" and "Digitisation Impact on Culture".

We are also planning a sub-space that is to follow up the preparation of an indicator framework on Culture and Democracy and to discuss its future monitoring in the Compendium and beyond.

We warmly invite all our Compendium friends and users to **share their ideas on "culture's contribution to democracy"**. [Please send us your comments and ideas!](#)

Comparative table on private cultural sponsoring in Europe

Compendium editors have redefined and provisionally updated the **comparative table on [Private Cultural Sponsoring](#)**.

Covering 42 countries, the table addresses:

- The main law which outlines tax deductions to private sponsors of arts and culture;
- Government schemes to promote business sponsorship in the arts and culture;
- Main sectors attracting private sponsorship;
- The estimated value of private sponsorship generated per year (NOTE: This column still needs a lot of input!).

[Comments and further updates](#) are greatly appreciated!

The National Profiles of Azerbaijan, Ireland, the Netherlands, San Marino, Spain and the Ukraine were recently updated. Below are some selected highlights:

Azerbaijan

- The Ministry of Culture and Tourism has declared its cultural objectives as: heritage, library and museum systems, supporting creativity in the theatre, music and fine arts fields, national cinematography and book publishing.
- In December 2013, the Eighth session of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage was held in Baku.
- In 2013, the Second Baku World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue concentrated on the subject of "Living Together Peacefully in a Diverse World".
- The first Council of Europe Exchange Platform on Culture and Digitisation took place on 4-5 July 2014 in Baku.
- Public expenditure on culture is growing steadily, both at state and local level.

Ireland

- Priorities of the National Campaign for the Arts include: evidence base for better policy on the arts; a more meaningful public conversation about the arts; building shared intention across the arts sector; and supporting the mutuality of the arts and education.
- An Intercultural Education Strategy is in preparation at national level.
- The abolition of a number of local authorities under local government reform will impact on arts funding and provision.
- A new Arts in Education Charter from 2013 includes reduced ticket prices, the development of Arts Rich Schools, and encouragement of visits to cultural institutions, but has been criticised for lacking real investment.
- The Heritage Council has suffered cuts of 65% in the past three years, with its status now "under review".
- Culture Ireland, the national agency to promote Irish arts and artists overseas, will have its budget reduced by 29% for 2014.

Netherlands

- The Dutch cultural policy memorandum for 2013-2016 is aiming for a 25% cut in spending and to reduce the dependency of the cultural sector on state funding, increasing the role of private funding and entrepreneurship.
- Special conditions favouring artists in the Dutch Unemployment Insurance Act came to an end on January 2014.
- The Gift and Inheritance Tax Act 2012 has been extended until 2018, making 'giving to culture' fiscally attractive.
- In January 2015, a new Libraries Act will be implemented.
- The structural budget for culture was 34% lower in 2013 than in 2010.
- Libraries, cultural education, amateur arts, performing arts and museums will be especially affected in expected cuts to municipality budgets.

San Marino

- Cultural institutes are being reorganised in 2014, uniting in a single body all administrative, organisational and structural functions.
- In March 2014, a draft law on publishing and media operators was submitted to Parliament, but has been met with some objections and doubts.
- The Montefeltro region has been established as a cultural district which provides incentives, financing and tax reliefs for cultural associations and artists.
- New legislation is being prepared to replace the 1919 Law on the protection of monuments, museums, archaeological sites, antiques and works of art.

Spain

- The One Per Cent for Culture programme was increased to 1.5% in October 2013 and prioritises projects that create jobs and revitalise the economy.
- The Master Plan for Spanish Cooperation 2013-2016 involves cultural diversity, intercultural dialogue and freedom of expression and creation, as well as participation for all.
- At the end of 2013, the Valencian Community closed the regional provision of radio and television broadcasting services.

- In January 2014, the government decreased VAT rates on the acquisition of works of art from 21% to 10%.
- The government approved the draft Act on Protection of Intangible Cultural Heritage at the end of 2013.
Between 2008-2011 overall public spending on culture decreased by 17.7% in nominal terms and by 21.4% in real terms.

Ukraine

- In February 2014, the new Minister of Culture announced that the ministry will be restructured in the context of a new national cultural strategy.
- The recent political and social conflict poses sharp questions for 'culture' relating to its values, role, influence and place in the development of democracy and modern society.
- In 2014 funds directed at cultures of national minorities, collaboration with Ukrainian diaspora and international relations will be reduced by 50%.
- The Law on the Principles of the State Language Policy in Ukraine was annulled following political conflict and a revised law was ordered.
- At the beginning of March 2014, consultations with all stakeholders and players in the field of cultural policy started in the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine.

Answering Your Questions

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

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