



COMPENDIUM NEWSLETTER No. 36 / October 2017

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

This Newsletter could be the last one that is edited by the Council of Europe Secretariat and the European Institute for Comparative Cultural Research (ERICarts). As before, it presents recent developments of the "Compendium" information and monitoring system www.culturalpolicies.net, this time with a focus on the brand-new multi-stakeholder Compendium Association, soon to be presented at our Prague Assembly.

The Editors would like to thank especially our long term supporters who inspired us with their feedback and used the Compendium as their preferred information and research tool. We trust that you will continue to do that after the new association and editorial team is in place, latest in January 2018!

Your / votre / Ihr Compendium Team

New Compendium Association ready to start in 2018

Since November 2015, work has been under way to **rethink the role and governance of the "Compendium"**. The Compendium has been run and edited in the form of a joint venture project between the Council of Europe and the ERICarts Institute during the last two decades, and developed into the leading information and monitoring platform on cultural policies and related issues.

However, the task of sustaining this tool both in terms of content and finances required a fresh approach. As indicated already in our last Newsletter, the broadly recommended solution that resulted from the consultation process was the transfer of responsibilities to a **multi-stakeholder association**. This solution was endorsed by the Assembly of Stakeholders and Experts in Cyprus, March 2017, and by the Steering Committee on Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) of the Council of Europe at its last session in May 2017.

The current Editors would like to express their gratitude to all governments, NGOs, individual experts and dedicated users who participated in the search for a new "business model". In particular, a special thanks goes to Jörg Nobbe from the CoE Secretariat for drafting the Association's statutes and for his tireless and excellent legal support throughout the project. We would also like to thank Marielle Hendriks from the Boekman Foundation, Robert Oosterhuis of the Dutch Government, and the lawyers and paralegals at the Bremer & De Zwaan and Zuidbroek B.V., all of whom helped make the Association possible.

Siobhan Montgomery (CoE Secretariat) and Andreas Wiesand (ERICarts) both raced across Europe to Amsterdam to ensure the Association could be **incorporated on the 20 October 2017**, with the Council of



Europe and the ERICarts Institute acting as Founding Members (our picture shows Andreas Wiesand, ERICarts Executive Director, in a happy mood during the signing act with the notary, René Clumpkens, in Amsterdam).

The [Statute of the "Compendium Association"](#) recognises the unique character of the Compendium system and the independence of its community of about 100 experts from all over Europe. It also opens the door to the Compendium for new actors (governments of Council of Europe member states, research bodies and universities, NGOs, foundations,

etc.), either as Stakeholders or Standing Members. Legal entities interested in joining and/or contributing to the Compendium Association should contact us soon!

16th Assembly of Compendium Experts in Prague

The 16th Assembly of Compendium authors' will take place from Wednesday **8 November to Friday 10 November in Prague, Czech Republic**, in the framework of the Czech Republic's chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, and will provide the opportunity to celebrate the 19th anniversary of this unique European cultural co-operation project in the area of policy information, trend analysis and monitoring of standards.



Chairmanship of the Czech Republic
Council of Europe
May – November 2017

Présidence de la République tchèque
Conseil de l'Europe
Mai – Novembre 2017

This Assembly will, for the first time, **publicly present and discuss the new governance structure of the Compendium**, namely the not-for profit Compendium Association, thus concluding the successful efforts of the Cyprus Assembly of Compendium Stakeholders and Experts (March 2017, Nicosia), of a group of experts presenting a new "[Road Map](#)" and of the CDCPP (Council of Europe) during its last sessions in 2016 and 2017. The **new structure should be fully operational by 1 January 2018**. For more information see the [draft Agenda](#).

The Assembly will also provide the chance to discuss the 2017 Secretary General's Report on Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law on "Populism – how strong are Europe's checks and balances", inter alia on 10 November in a **Public Forum on the role and future of National Cultural Institutions**. Participants will also deal with issues of **gender equality** in arts, culture and media and ways for improving the Compendium's information in this area.

Compendium at the 25th ENCATC Congress

From 27-30 September, the [25th ENCATC Congress on Cultural Management and Policy](#) held in Brussels assembled academics, researchers, professionals and representatives from various EU institutions, governments and European and international networks to discuss the key role of networks and develop ideas and proposals to guarantee their sustainability in a challenging environment.

A special plenary session was devoted to the Compendium as a test-case for "strategies for a new multi-stakeholder network". Following a keynote by Andrew Ormston, Lluís Bonet, Marielle Hendriks, Joris Janssens, Marjo Mäenpää, Anupama Sekhar and Andreas Wiesand discussed current challenges with the audience and explored future-proof scenarios for the Compendium community and its database.

Is "Populism" a Problem?

World Forum for Democracy 2017 / Strasbourg, 8-10 November 2017

The 2017 [World Forum for Democracy of the Council of Europe](#) will focus on the **role of political parties and media in the context of rising populism**. A growing disconnect between citizens and political elites and dramatic changes in the media ecosystem are a challenge for democracy as we know it. New political and media actors and practices are emerging, offering opportunities for direct, unmediated engagement of the public, unbound by ethical or institutional safeguards. How can pluralism, freedom of expression, and fair and evidence-based public debate be safeguarded under these new conditions? How can a political culture be nourished that embraces a long-term perspective and resists the excesses of populism?

Contacts

Contact the Compendium Editors for general editorial questions and comments:

[Kathrin Merkle](#), Council of Europe

[Andreas Wiesand](#), ERICarts Institute

NOTE: The ERICarts Institute has a **new postal address**: Ulmenallee 24a, D-50999 Köln (Cologne), Germany

Contact the Coordinators for specific content questions and comments:

[Siobhan Montgomery](#), Council of Europe

[Olivier Göbel](#), ERICarts Institute

Contact the Web Master with your technical questions:

[Jörg Torkler](#), Medianale Group

To unsubscribe, please send an email to *unsubscribe[insert @ sign]culturalpolicies.net*