

# Compendium of Cultural Policies & Trends

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# ANNUAL REPORT

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2024-2025

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# 1. A Message from the Chair

Dear Compendium community, dear Compendium friends,

A year has passed since our last General Assembly in Podgorica, where we had the chance to once again experience the profound strength and value of our community.

We still find ourselves navigating a period of profound global turbulence — shaped by armed conflicts, the climate emergency, widening inequalities, public health challenges, and persistent poverty. In the face of these complex and interconnected crises, cultural policies have a vital role to play. They can help mitigate the destructive impacts of these challenges while fostering inclusive, resilient societies grounded in dialogue, diversity, and democratic values.

Our cultural policy monitoring platform — and the Association of the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends that makes it possible — serves as a key instrument for international knowledge exchange and a lever for cultural policy development and democratic governance.

Over the past year, thanks to the dedication and commitment of Kulturpolitische Gesellschaft e.V. (KuPoGe), the Compendium Board of the Association has continued to advance the field of cultural policy by generating more and better evidence for governments and cultural sector stakeholders.

None of this would have been possible without the support and collaboration of our 26 valued members and the outstanding work of our over 80 experts. We extend our deepest thanks to all of you!

This year, our international conference places freedom of artistic expression and its relationship to cultural policies for democracy at the center of the debate. Artistic freedom is not only a cultural right but also a fundamental pillar of democratic societies. It enables artists to challenge dominant narratives, foster critical thinking, and contribute to public discourse.

By focusing on this theme, we aim to explore how cultural policy frameworks can actively support artistic freedom and, in doing so, strengthen democratic governance and civic participation.

On behalf of the Board of the Association of the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends



**Anna Villarroya**  
Chair of the Board

## Quick Overview

- **26** members
- **82** experts
- Long profiles from **44** European countries
- Short profiles from **33** European countries
- **62** updated profiles published since 2021
- Short profiles in their native language from **13** countries
- Short profiles in Spanish language from **14** countries
- More than **30** news items and **120** social media posts

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## 2. Organisation

The **Compendium of Cultural Policies & Trends** has **27 years of experience** in developing knowledge, research, interaction and exchange in the globalising cultural policy community.

Initiated by the Council of Europe and the ERICarts Institute in 1998 as a transnational project, we transitioned on April 1, 2018 into a multi-stakeholder association “The Association of the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends”, with the **goal to secure its services for future user generations**.

The Compendium is an independent, transparent and community-based platform, freely accessible to all. The Compendium Association and its online information system [www.culturalpolicies.net](http://www.culturalpolicies.net) sees its **objectives and mission** as:

- **Empowering cultural policy and cultural research** through qualified information and data in these fields
- Providing substantial **support to the development of cultural policies** by creating better evidence for governments and other actors in the cultural sector
- Enhancing the **international knowledge exchange and networking** in the field of cultural policy and cultural research
- **Highlighting trends and disseminating best practice cases**.

The Compendium Association and its platform benefits from an active community of researchers, cultural policy institutes and policymakers.

The Compendium platform offers systematised, qualified and regularly updated cultural policy-related information from, currently, 45 European countries for policymakers, researchers, students and journalists.

With the help of renowned national cultural policy experts, the **Compendium Platform offers:**

- Long and short national cultural policy profiles
- Statistics, comparisons and trends
- Country reports on current thematic priorities
- Cultural policy news
- Key documents and relevant information resources

**We are guided by our values:**

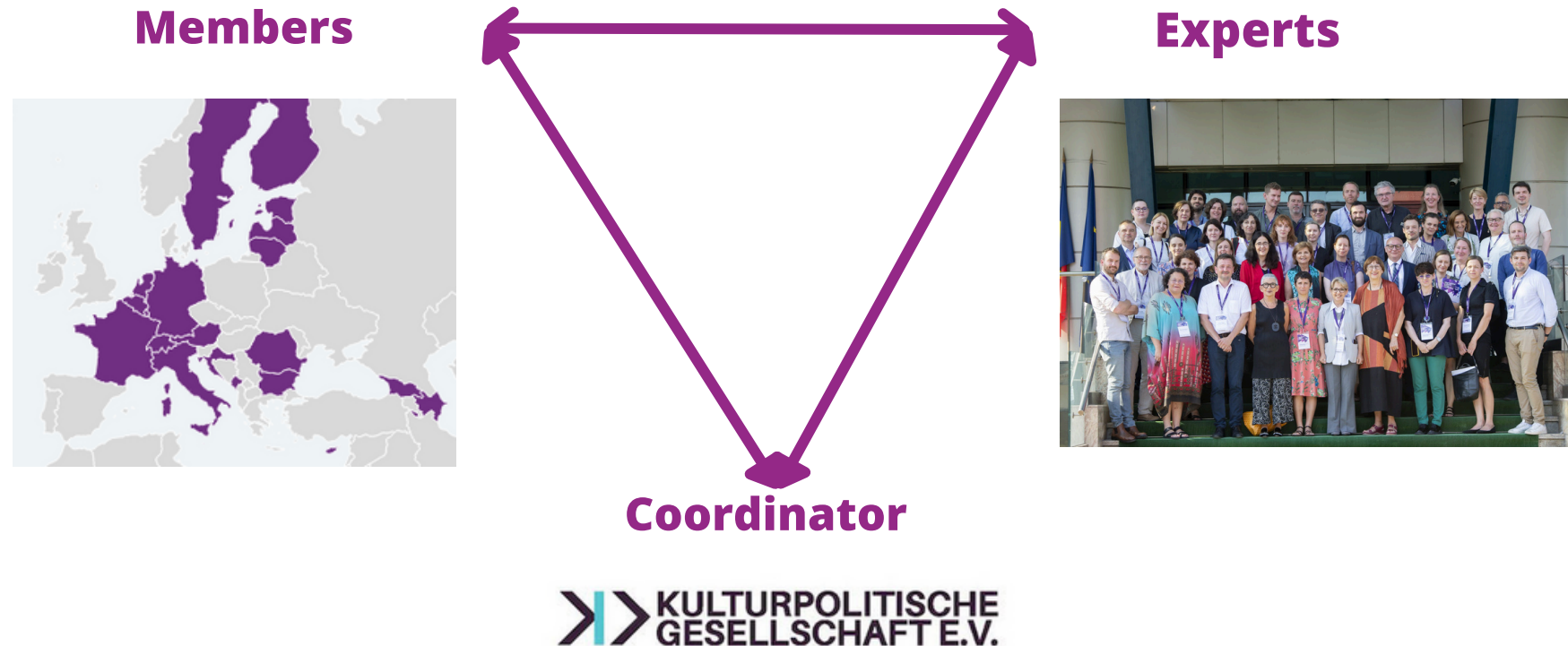
- Explore, understand and present diverse cultural policies
- Share knowledge and experiences in mutual understanding
- Learn from good practice and continuously develop cultural policies forming the CCE of countries

The **Board of the Compendium Association** supervises the general aims and plans for the Compendium Association.

In addition, the **Assembly of Compendium Experts (ACE)** is also represented in the Board and are key advisors to the (content) development of the Compendium.

The daily management and coordination of all activities and developments is entrusted to the **Compendium Coordinator**, which is currently the Kulturpolitische Gesellschaft e.V. (Germany).

# Organisational Chart of the Compendium Association



## Members

The **Compendium Association** has **26 members** and offers two main types of membership:

- **17 Stakeholder members** are represented by national Ministries of Culture or national research institutes that act as a liaising party.
- **7 Standing members** are public or private (non-profit) organisations, such as universities, cultural observatories, research institutes and associations.
- **2 permanent members** - the Council of Europe and ERICarts Institute (the founders of the Compendium).

## Stakeholder Members

<b>Austria</b>	Federal Ministry for Arts, Culture, the Civil Service and Sport
<b>Azerbaijan</b>	Ministry for Culture
<b>Belgium</b>	Flemish Department for Culture, Youth and Media
<b>Belgium</b>	Federation Wallonia-Brussels Department of Culture
<b>Croatia</b>	Ministry of Culture
<b>Cyprus</b>	Ministry of Education and Culture
<b>Finland</b>	Center for Cultural Policy Research (CUPORE)
<b>France</b>	Ministry of Culture
<b>Georgia</b>	Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport
<b>Latvia</b>	Ministry of Culture / Latvian Academy of Culture
<b>Lithuania</b>	Council for Culture
<b>Luxembourg</b>	Ministry of Culture
<b>Malta</b>	Arts Council Malta
<b>Netherlands</b>	Ministry of Education, Culture and Science
<b>Romania</b>	National Institute for Cultural Research and Training (INCFRC)
<b>Sweden</b>	Agency for Cultural Policy Analysis (Kulturanalys)
<b>Switzerland</b>	Federal Office of Culture

## Standing Members

<b>Bulgaria</b>	Observatory of Cultural Economics
<b>Estonia</b>	Academy of Music and Theatre
<b>Germany</b>	Association of Cultural Policy (Kulturpolitische Gesellschaft e.V.)
<b>Italy</b>	Associazione per l'Economia della Cultura + Fondazione Scuola dei beni e delle attività culturali
<b>Montenegro</b>	University Meditanean Podgorica
<b>International</b>	Culture Action Europe (CAE)
<b>International</b>	European Association of Cultural Researches (ECURES e.V.)

## Permanent Members



**Council of Europe**



**ERICarts Network**



## Experts

<b>Albania</b>	Blerina Berberi	<b>Lithuania</b>	Audronė Rimkutė
<b>Armenia</b>	Yulia Antonyan / Haykuhi Muradyan	<b>Luxembourg</b>	Monique Borsenberger / Jean Reitz
<b>Austria</b>	Klara Košťal	<b>Malta</b>	Adrian Debattista / Karsten Xuerub
<b>Azerbaijan</b>	Yashar Huseynli / Nigar Akhundova	<b>Moldova</b>	Veaceslav Reabcinschii
<b>Belgium</b>	Simon Leenknecht (Flanders)	<b>Monaco</b>	Françoise Gamerdingier / Mélissa Marcel-Jouin
<b>Belgium</b>	Jean-Gilles Lowies (Wallonia-Brussels)	<b>Montenegro</b>	Nataša Kraljevic
<b>Bulgaria</b>	Diana Andreeva-Popyordanova / Yana Genova / Bilyana Tomova (until 05.2024)	<b>The Netherlands</b>	Heidi Heinonen
<b>Croatia</b>	Jaka Primorac	<b>North-Macedonia</b>	Zlatko Teodosievski
<b>Cyprus</b>	Elena Theodoulou-Charalambous	<b>Norway</b>	Bård Kleppe / Ola K. Berge
<b>Czech Republic</b>	Pavla Petrova	<b>Poland</b>	Dorota Ilczuk / Anna Karpsinka / Maciej Kozieł
<b>Estonia</b>	Marko Lõhmus	<b>Portugal</b>	Cristina Farinha
<b>Finland</b>	Anna Kanerva / Nathalie Lefever	<b>Romania</b>	Carmen Croitoru / Andreea Codreanu (until 08.24)
<b>France</b>	Jean-Cédric Delvainquière / Thomas Perrin	<b>Russia</b>	Tatiana Romashko / Olga Zabalueva
<b>Georgia</b>	Nino Gunia-Kuznetcova	<b>San Marino</b>	Gloria Valentini
<b>Germany</b>	Ulrike Blumenreich	<b>Serbia</b>	Milena Dragičević Šešić / Goran Tomka / Hristina Mikić / Milan Đorđević
<b>Greece</b>	Matina Magkou / Olga Kolokytha	<b>Slovenia</b>	Andrej Srakar / Nika Gricar / Vesna Čopič
<b>Hungary</b>	Péter Inkei / Luca Kristóf	<b>Spain</b>	Anna Villarroja / Pedro Andrés Pérez Rothstein
<b>Ireland</b>	Paraic Mc Quaid	<b>Sweden</b>	Tobias Harding / Andreas Petersson
<b>Italy</b>	Alfredo Valeri (+ 11 contributing experts)	<b>Switzerland</b>	Christoph Weckerle / Claudio Bucher / Yris Apsi
<b>Latvia</b>	Baiba Tjarve / Lote Katrīna Cērpa	<b>Türkiye</b>	Asu Aksoy
<b>Liechtenstein</b>	Kornelia Pfeiffer		

<b>Ukraine</b>	Oleksandr Butsenko
<b>United Kingdom</b>	Rod Fisher / Carla Figueira (England and Wales) / Andrew Ormston (Scotland) / Steven Hadley (Northern Ireland)

The Compendium will continuously expand the expert's network where appropriate through Open Calls for Experts. During the last year, we could welcome new experts from Greece, Luxembourg and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Furthermore, we could welcome new contributing experts from Latvia, Russia, Bulgaria and Norway.

## Board



### **Anna Villarroya (Chair, Spain)**

Since 9/2023

Associate Professor in the Department of Economics and Director of the Centre for Information, Communication and Culture at the University of Barcelona (UB). She regularly teaches courses on the economics of culture and cultural policies.

Her main research interests include cultural policies, women and culture, artists' labour markets, and cultural participation. She currently serves as President of the European Association of Cultural Researchers (ERICarts Network). Anna is also the co-Principal Investigator of the UB project Gender Perspective in Information and Media Studies (GENDIMS), and co-author of the profile for Spain in the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends.

She has published extensively in international journals such as the Journal of Cultural Economics, Creative Industries Journal, The Journal of Arts Management, Law, and Society, European Journal of Women's Studies, Cultural Trends, and the International Journal of Cultural Policy. She is currently Editor-in-Chief of the European Journal of Cultural Management and Policy.

Anna has also contributed her research to numerous international organizations (UNESCO, UCGL, World Bank, Council of Europe, ERICarts, etc.) and national institutions (Spanish Ministry of Culture, Catalan Department of Culture, "la Caixa" Social Observatory, Fundació Carulla, among others).

### **Adrian Debattista (Vice-Chair, Malta)**

Since 9/2020

Cultural policy researcher, particularly interested in the interdisciplinarity emerging from the convergence of policy analysis, political discourse theory, popular music studies and the sociology of music.



He is currently Director for Policy Development and Programme Implementation at Malta's Ministry for Culture, Lands and Local Government, where he leads the development and coordination of policy initiatives in alignment with EU and international frameworks. Adrian is reading for a PhD in cultural policy at Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh, where he also earned an MA in Arts and Cultural Management. Previously, he served as Head of Strategy at Arts Council Malta and, earlier, as Research Associate, managing the design and implementation of the Council's strategic framework, whereby he recently led the development and launch of Malta's National Charter for the Status of the Artist. Between 2018 and 2020 he formed part of the think tank that developed Malta's national cultural policy launched in 2021 through public consultation.



As an early-career researcher, he has presented at a number of international cultural policy conferences over the past five years and co-authored publications that address public funding in culture, volunteering in the arts and audience development. His current research revolves around the discursive analysis of cultural policy (or its lack thereof) in relation to the social dynamics of music scenes in Malta.



**Anna Kanerva (Secretary General, Finland)**

Since 09/2020

Senior Researcher at the Center for Cultural Policy Research CUPORE in Helsinki, Finland. Since the end of 2020, Anna is a member of the Compendium Board and currently the Secretary General.

She has been the Finnish Compendium expert for some years now and was originally brought into the network as co-author by Ritva Mitchell, the former Research Director of CUPORE and one of the founders of the Compendium. Her own research interests include comparative international cultural policies, intergovernmental organizations, education in arts and culture, children and youth culture, media education, cultural heritage policies, and the knowledge base of cultural policies.

**Blerina Berberi (Treasurer, ACE CHair, Albania)**

Since 11/2022

Blerina Berberi holds a Master's in Arts & Heritage: Management, Policy and Education from the Netherlands and is a senior expert in arts and culture with 20 years of work experience in the not for profit, for profit and public institutions in the Balkans, Europe and Canada.



Blerina's collaboration in management, production and assistance with projects, programmes and events involves bottom-up, top-down and creative methodologies engaging international and local organisations, public institutions, creatives and rural communities. Keen on research, she has written several articles and reports on arts management, heritage, culture and creative industries and cultural policies. She also has very diverse experience, including organising and curating many multi-disciplinary projects with an international scope that are also accessible to marginalised communities. Blerina is known to be a trouble-shooter with great communication, digital and language skills, and is also a member of the Cultural Policy Designers Network.

**Terje Birkrem Hovland (CDCPP, Norway)**

11/2022-12/2024

Educated at the University of Bergen, Terje holds a degree in archaeology. Since 1997 he has been working in public cultural heritage management in Norway, both at regional and at national level, and since 2012 at the Norwegian Ministry of Climate and Environment, Department for Cultural Environment and Polar Affairs.



Terje has been a member of the Council of Europe Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) since 2016, and served as Chair in 2023 and 2024. As Chair of the CDCPP he has also been a Board member of the Compendium Association. He is a member of the Steering Committee and Governing Board of the JPI Cultural Heritage and Global change, and is also representing Norway in Horizon Europe, Cluster 2: Culture, Creativity and Inclusive society.



**Carmen Croitoru (CDCPP, Romania)**

Since 01/2025

Carmen Croitoru has been an associate professor at the National University of Theatre and since 2011. She has twenty years of experience in teaching cultural management

and for the past twenty five years she has been involved in the administration and development of cultural management in Romania. She participated in promoting legal regulations in this field (such as laws and provisions for implementing management in cultural public organisations and the legal status for the Cultural Manager as a profession).

Since 2014, Croitoru has been the general manager of the National Institute for Cultural Research and Training (NIRCT). She is also involved in several national and international professional networks: she's the national representative member for the EU Commission for Creative Sectors, the national representative in the Steering Committee for Culture and Heritage at the Council of Europe (CDCPP), she's the founder of the Professional Association for Romanian Cultural Managers, a co-founder of the ECUMEST Association and a member of ENCATC and Europeana.

**Francesc Pla Castelltort (Council of Europe)**

11/2022-12/2024

Francesc Pla Castelltort is an economist by training and an Andorran citizen who, after working as a civil servant in his homeland, joined the Council of Europe in 2002.



From 2005 to 2016, Francesc served as Deputy Executive Secretary of the European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Open Partial Agreement (EUR-OPA) of the Council of Europe, and later joined the Culture and Cultural Heritage Division in 2017. In this role, he deals more specifically with cultural heritage issues, in particular the promotion and implementation of activities relating to the Faro Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society.



**Daniil Kochabo (Council of Europe)**

Since 01/2025

In 1997, Daniil Khochabo began his tenure at the Council of Europe, joining the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities. There he oversaw the monitoring of local and regional democracy within member states, in line with

the European Charter of Local Self-Government, and led several election observation missions. In 2006, he transitioned to the Directorate General of Democracy and Political Affairs, where he provided political advice, monitored member states' compliance with Council of Europe commitments, and contributed to the design of cooperation programmes aligned with key political priorities. From 2012 to 2023, he served as Deputy to the Director of Political Affairs. Since May 2023, he has worked within the Directorate for Democracy, focusing on cultural matters. He currently serves as Secretary to the Intergovernmental Steering Committee on Culture, Heritage and Landscape, supporting intergovernmental cooperation in these domains.

Daniil Khochabo holds advanced degrees (Diplôme d'Études Approfondies) in Political Science from Paris II Panthéon-Assas University, and in International Relations, Diplomacy, and International Law from Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne University.

**Prof. Dr. Andreas Joh. Wiesand (ERICarts)**

Since 10/2017

Head of ARcult Media (research & consulting) and former Head of the European Institute for Comparative Cultural Research (ERICarts); Professor emeritus for cultural policy in Hamburg.



Andreas worked first as a journalist in broadcasting, in book publishing, at DER SPIEGEL news magazine and 1972-2008 as Co-Director of the Centre for Cultural Research in Hamburg, Bonn and Vienna (ZfKf), with a focus on cultural professions and arts, heritage and media policies.

In collaboration with colleagues, he developed the concept of the "Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends in Europe" in 1998/98 and acted as its co-editor until the end of 2017, together with Kathrin Merkle (Council of Europe).

Expert for the EU (e.g. Team Leader "Culture-Biz", "Sharing Diversity", "Mobility Matters"); UNESCO; ECF; etc. Missions around the world for development agencies; the Goethe Institute; etc. (Co-)Author or editor of over 50 publications, including "Culture and Human Rights: The Wroclaw Commentaries" (2016).

**Our special thanks go to the former Board members:**

Name	Institution	Date
Marjo Mäenpää	CUPORE (Finland)	2018-2020
Jean Cédric Delvainquière	Ministry of Culture (France)	2018-2020
Carmen Croitoru	INCFC (Romania)	2018-2020
Anna Villaroya-Planas	ECURES (Spain)	2018-2020
Kimmo Aulake	Ministry of Education and Culture (Finland)	2018-2020
Veronika Ratzenböck	Österreichische Kulturdokumentation (Austria)	2018-2020
Andrej Srakar	IER (Slovenia)	2020-2022
Flora van Regteren Altena	CDCPP (Netherlands)	2020-2022
Kathrin Merkle	Council of Europe	2020-2022
Baiba Tjarve	Latvian Academy of Culture (Latvia)	2020-2023

## Assembly of Compendium Experts (ACE)

ACE Board elected at the General Assembly in November 2022

<b>Chair</b>	Blerina Berberi (Albania)
<b>Vice Chair</b>	Milena Dragičević Šešić (Serbia)
<b>Secretary</b>	Péter Inkei (Hungary)



### Thanks to the former ACE Board:

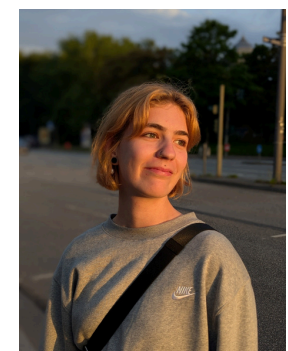
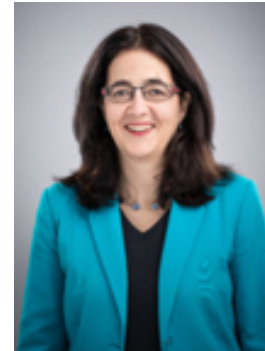
*Veronika Ratzenböck (Austria)*

*Dorota Ilczuk (Poland)*

*Andrej Srakar (Slovenia)*

## Compendium Coordinator Team

<b>Project Head</b>	Ulrike Blumenreich
<b>Project Manager</b>	Olivier Göbel
<b>Project Assistant</b>	Nina Wigger



### Thanks also to our former project assistants:

*Inga Hörter (2023) and Leonard Mertens (2024)*

### Kulturpolitische Gesellschaft e.V.

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### 3. Activities in 2024 and 2025

The Kulturpolitische Gesellschaft e.V., as Compendium Coordinator, focused its activities on six main strategic priorities for the Compendium Association and its Platform for the time frame 2021-2025:

1. Sustainable financing of the Compendium
2. Present more updated information and data on the Compendium website
3. Increase public awareness of the Compendium as an information and monitoring platform
4. Increase the pool of experts within the Compendium, their role and commitment to the Compendium
5. Develop more cooperation with other cultural and research infrastructures
6. Strengthen the community building of the Compendium family

### What was achieved?

Since the last General Assembly in October 2024 in close cooperation with the Board of the Compendium Association, its members and experts several different activities were realised to fulfil these six strategic priorities:

#### 1. Sustainable financing of the Compendium

- **Growing the number of members:** From 2021 to 2025, the Compendium Association gained five new members: the Ministry of Culture of Luxembourg (Stakeholder), the Ministry of Culture of Azerbaijan (Stakeholder), the Swedish Institute for Cultural Policy Analysis (Stakeholder), the University of Podgorica Mediterranea (Montenegro) (Standing) and the European network Culture Action Europe (Standing)
- **Activities to acquire new members:** we are in communication with institutions and governments from Spain with the intention to obtain additional stakeholder members and with several other countries regarding a standing membership
- **Application for a Horizon 2020 project:** Compendium as a partner in a consortium led by the University of Warsaw “Rethinking the Future of Work in Culture and Creative Sectors with AI technologies” – together with other experts and members from the Compendium



## 2. Present more updated information and data on the Compendium Website

- **Editing and publishing of 11 updated country profiles** since the last General Assembly (see below)
- **Publishing of 13 cultural policy profiles in the original language** on the website (using AI and the help of the Compendium experts)
- **Presenting 11 cultural policy profiles in Spanish** on our website (using AI)
- Establishing a **new format of “A closer look at cultural policies”** – to offer information about countries outside Europe – starting with Peru

## 3. Increase public awareness of the Compendium as an information and monitoring platform, and as a European Research Network on a national, European and international level

- Prepared and organised an **International Cultural Policy Conference and 8th General Assembly in Luxembourg** from the 16th to the 17th of October 2025 in cooperation with the Luxembourg member: Ministry of Culture of Luxembourg
- Established a Compendium Associate section on the website for acknowledging all those who contributed to the Compendium, as e.g. founders and former experts
- Diverse activities to become a part / be included in MONDIACULT (panel, side event, Agora) – without success
- Released 14 Newsletters since 2022
- Published around 120 Social Media posts in 2024/2025
- Presentation at the ministry conference »No Culture – No Democracy« in Strasbourg (12th of December 2024)

- Presentation of the survey results on Barriers of Freedom of Artistic Expression at the **CDCPP plenary sessions in Strasbourg** (19th November 2024) – with very positive feedback from numerous members of the CDCPP
- Contributed a small report on the development of cultural policies and trends in Europe to the Report of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
- Member of the Advisory Board of Free to Create - Create to be Free
- Compendium Association is since May 2024 **member of Crossref that allows the registration of DOIs (Digital Object Identifier)** and makes research objects easy to find, cite, link, assess, and reuse

## 4. Increase the expert's pool within the Compendium, their role and commitment to the Compendium

- **Published open calls** for Greece, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Luxembourg
- Welcomed **new experts for Greece, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Luxembourg**
- Welcomed **new contributing experts from Bulgaria and Russia**
- **Several individual zoom meetings** and other communications with Compendium experts

## 5. Develop more cooperation with other cultural and research infrastructures

- Application for the **accreditation of the Compendium as official NGO partner of UNESCO**
- **Communication with several researchers from Universities** to explore options of exchange and presentation of cultural (policy) research papers on the Compendium



## Status of Country Profiles

### 24 long profiles released since 2021

Month	Country
March 21	Croatia
March 21	Czech Republic
August 21	Switzerland
September 21	North-Macedonia
November 21	Azerbaijan
November 21	Hungary
November 21	Monaco
December 21	Sweden
January 22	Albania
February 22	Georgia
February 22	Germany
May 22	Lithuania
May 22	Italy
November 22	Liechtenstein
March 23	Luxembourg
March 23	Armenia
April 23	Czech Republic
June 23	Croatia
February 24	Norway
February 24	Sweden
March 25	Georgia
March 25	Hungary
April 25	Azerbaijan
October 25	Lithuania

### 6. Strengthen the Community building of the Compendium family

- Realisation of a **Compendium Jour Fixe for Members and for Experts** on the 19.05.25 to improve communication with members, obtain their feedback and ideas for the Compendium
- **Developed a “Compendium Associates” section** on the Compendium website showing the wider network of former or “associated” experts and partners to the Compendium
- The **Compendium Working Groups on “Cultural Statistics”, on “New Technologies and AI”** held several online meetings to discuss and develop ideas and information features/products or programmes for the Compendium
- Realised **several individual Zoom meetings with experts and members** of the Compendium Association to identify their ideas, wishes and improve their visibility within the Compendium,
- Continuation of a **“Support Fund for Compendium Experts”**, which is supported by the unused fees of experts

Besides these activities for the six strategic priorities, the Compendium coordinator co-operated constructively with the Board (i.e. prepared and organised the Compendium Board meeting, including agendas, activity reports and minutes).

# Status of Country Profiles

## 38 short profiles released since 2021

Month	Country
September 21	Armenia
October 21	Belgium (Flanders)
December 21	Czech Republic
December 21	Croatia
December 21	Scotland (UK)
May 22	Romania
August 22	San Marino
September 22	Ireland
September 22	Azerbaijan
October 22	Hungary
November 22	North-Macedonia
November 22	Montenegro
November 22	Sweden
December 22	Switzerland
December 22	Georgia
December 22	Finland
January 23	Poland
February 23	Norway
March 23	Russia
April 23	Austria
April 23	Estonia
April 23	Belgium (Flanders)
May 23	Slovenia
August 23	Moldova

September 23	Türkiye
September 23	Malta
September 23	Germany
October 23	France
November 23	Netherlands
February 24	Lithuania
February 24	Ukraine (Interim)
May 24	Spain
May 24	Portugal
April 25	Sweden
August 25	Albania
August 25	Liechtenstein
October 25	Luxembourg
October 25	Armenia

## 11 short profiles in native language

Month	Country	Language
March 2024	Austria	German
March 2024	Germany	German
March 2024	Poland	Polish
March 2024	France	French
March 2024	Hungary	Hungarian
March 2024	Moldova	Romanian
March 2024	Norway	Norwegian
April 2024	Sweden	Swedish
April 2024	Romania	Romanian
June 2024	Spain	Spanish
June 2024	Malta	Maltese

## 14 short profiles in Spanish language

Month	Country
June 24	Spain
February 25	France
February 25	Germany
February 25	Lithuania
February 25	Netherlands
February 25	Poland
March 25	Austria
March 25	Belgium (Flanders)
March 25	Moldova
March 25	Portugal
May 25	Türkiye
May 25	Slovenia
May 25	Malta
May 25	Sweden

## THEMATIC FOCUS:

### From COVID-19 to Freedom of Artistic Expression to New Technologies & AI

When the COVID-19 crisis erupted, the Compendium initiated the first campaign to identify the impact on the European cultural sector and its policies and to learn from each other's measurements of support. This initiative led to more than 30 country members publishing a "COVID-19 Update Report" monitoring the crisis management of their respective countries. The aim was to quickly share and compare experiences in order to speed up adaptation processes in case of further pandemic waves.

After the WHO announced the end of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2022, the Board of the Compendium Association defined Freedom of Artistic Expression as an annual topic. It is a matter of major interest for the Compendium and its community observing that Freedom of Artistic Expression is challenged / in danger in times of war, pandemic, or an increase in populist and anti-democratic tendencies. From 2023 to mid 2024, the Compendium focussed its attention to the cultural policy research campaign "Silencing Dissent? – On Barriers to Freedom of Artistic Expression". As a basis for the campaign, Andreas Joh. Wiesand wrote a series of four articles for contextualising, highlighting the main instruments and stakeholders and exploring various barriers related to freedom of artistic expression (e.g. political climate, censorship, social and community pressures).

In addition, a collection of material on stakeholders, studies e.g. was published. Finally, an expert's survey was realised in summer 2023, the results of which will also feed into the debates at the Compendium conference in Malta.

The survey results on Freedom of Artistic Expression were presented at different occasions to cultural policy researchers and cultural policy makers who very positively recognised the Compendium campaign and the results of the experts' survey.

During the 6<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Compendium Association in Malta, the members and experts agreed to place "New Technologies and AI" as the next thematic focus of the Compendium, seen the tremendous developments that AI and new technologies have or will have for the cultural and creative sector and with it the cultural policies. As the first step, a Compendium Working Group dedicated to this area has conducted a desktop research on existing national and international studies and papers that will be soon presented on the Compendium.

Additionally, the WG decided to develop a national documentation and reporting system similar to the COVID-19 reports regarding the field of "New Technologies and AI".

In alignment with the new thematic focus, several Compendium stakeholders and experts applied under the lead of the Polish Compendium experts and the University of Warsaw a Horizon research project application on the 16.09.2025. In case of a successful application, the annual topic will be intensively researched and studied over the period of four years and benefit the Compendium information system.

## 4. What is next?

As demonstrated in previous chapters, the Compendium has successfully undertaken a range of activities and initiatives in 2024/2025, continuing its positive trajectory thanks to the invaluable support of its members and experts. The development is guided by the six strategic priorities for the three years, as outlined in the new Compendium Coordinator's plan, who assumed the role in January 2021.

The Compendium Board and the Compendium Coordinator are pleased to report that the development of the Compendium Association and its platform/website has been positive and successful. However, in line with the Compendium Association's mission statement and values, and out of a commitment to Compendium and its community of practice, we are certain that there are even more opportunities to further develop the cultural policy monitoring tool.

In this context, we encourage our valuable Compendium members and experts to propose new ideas and initiatives for discussion and elaboration in the coming years. Below you can find a range of promising potential activities and initiatives:

### Visibility

- Continue the Compendium Ambassadors' Programme with the intention of facilitating connection to individuals dedicated to the Compendium and its promotion
- Promote the Compendium portal, its community, quality and mission on international conferences, webinars and meetings
- Integrate interactive data visualization with the objective to make cultural policy data more engaging and easier to interpret by developing i.e. dynamic dashboards, maps, and timelines

- Enhance multilingual access to reach a broader, more diverse user base by translating key content (i.e. country profiles) in additional European and global languages by using Large Language Models

### Statistics

- Integrate real-time data feeds: Link the portal to external data sources from statistical offices (like EUROSTAT) or other cultural organisations. This automates data updates and ensures that the information on the portal is as current as possible, reflecting the latest trends and cultural statistics
- Create visual and multimedia content: Augment the text-heavy policy profiles as well as the statistical information with engaging multimedia elements like interactive graphs, visuals, videos, podcasts, and interactive maps. These can make complex policy concepts more accessible and appealing to a wider audience
- Align with UNESCO's quadrennial period report (QPR) process to support national reporting and policy benchmarking and implement the UNESCO

### Research Activities

- Built up networks with other European Associations to develop research projects or present more research works and statistical data relevant in the cultural policy context
- In case the current Horizon application is not successful, apply for cultural research funding in accordance with the Compendium topics and transnational cooperation project of the EU Creative Europe Programme as well as for the Horizon programme

### Enlargement of the Compendium

- Enlargement of the Compendium community – among both members and experts
- Create verified profiles for policy experts, researchers, and practitioners with areas of specialization

## 5. Audience Development

The **user figures for the Compendium website are satisfactory, with a modest increase in page views** from 164 231 to 166 044 (see table on subsequent page).

Other **key user figures showed minor growth**, including sessions per user (from 2.13 to 2.15), average session duration (from 03:33 to 03:34 minutes) and pages per session (from 3.22 to 3.40). The bounce rate has decreased from 65% to 45%, indicating that we have effectively encouraged visitors to spend more time on the site, interact with the content, and explore beyond the first page.

The number of **subscribers to the Compendium Newsletter increased slightly** from 4 021 in 2024 to 4 113 in 2025.

The Compendium has **successfully increased its number of social media followers**. In August 2025, the Compendium's Facebook following had grown to 4 381 (representing a 1% increase compared to 2024 figures). Concurrently, the Compendium's following on X decreased to 709, marking a 9% decrease from 2024, primarily attributable to the diminished significance and utilisation of X. As of August 2024, the Compendium LinkedIn channel had 1 267 followers. This figure has now increased by 41% to 1 786.

The following is a list of the **most-used content on the Compendium website**: 37% of the content consists of country profiles, 21% of which relate to cultural policy news, and 9% to the Campaign on Freedom of Artistic Expression.

The following is a list of the **major sources of entries for the Compendium website**: 46% of organic search entries were made via search engines such as Google, 41% of direct entries were made by users who know the Compendium, 11% of referral entries were made by users coming from external web links and 2% of referral entries were made via social media.

The Compendium **website has achieved a satisfactory audience figure, given that it is built for a specialised target group**.

There is **potential for improvement**, which would require the following investments:

- The website is being restructured to make it more user-friendly and visually appealing
- Improving search engine optimisation (SEO) and enhancing the user experience are both key priorities
- It is recommended that efforts be made to increase social media activity and the number of referral links

Improving awareness of the Compendium Association, its knowledge and information platform, and enhancing the visibility of its members and experts is a basic objective. Therefore, the Compendium Coordinator will be responsible for continuously enhancing cooperation and promotional activities.

## Compendium website user figures

Period	Page views	Sessions per user	Average duration session	Pages per session	Bounce rate
01-01-2018 - 30-06-2018	119 748	1.34	02:10	2.28	74.70%
01-07-2018 - 31-12-2018	113 353	1.28	01:59	2.11	76.28%
01-01-2019 - 30-06-2019	121 670	1.28	01:59	2.15	76.02%
01-07-2019 - 05-12-2019	87 606	1.26	01:49	1.96	77.17%
06-12-2019 - 30-06-2020	128 572	1.62	03:36	3.30	49.32%
01-07-2020 - 05-12-2020	80 927	1.65	03:46	3.24	50.65%
06-12-2020 - 30.06.2021	101 084	1.74	03:40	3.24	52.03%
01-07-2021 - 12-06-2022	165 896	1.25	03:19	3.03	55.65%
13-06-2022 - 30-06-2023	172 788	1.56	03:03	2.64	63.56%
01-07-2023 - 30-06-2024	164 231	2.13	03:33	3.22	64.98%
01-07-2024 - 30-06-2025	166 044	2.15	03:40	3.40	45.23%



## Compendium Newsletter

DATE	SUBSCRIBERS
05-06-2018	3 350
01-07-2019	3 594
27-07-2020	3 904
15-07-2021	3 989
15-06-2022	4 113
16-07-2023	4 895
15-07-2024	4 021
15-07-2025	4 103
Total change last three years	-0.25%

## Compendium Social Media

DATE	FOLLOWERS FACEBOOK	FOLLOWERS X	FOLLOWERS LinkedIn
01-01-2018	2 470	-	-
01-01-2019	2 697	49	-
06-01-2020	3 239	177	185
27-07-2020	3 500	316	200
15-07-2021	3 883	449	300
15-06-2022	4 117	547	350
16-07-2023	4 265	714	450
15-07-2024	4 353	781	1 267
15-07-2025	4 381	709	1 786
Total change last 3 years	+6.41%	+29.6%	+410%

## Demographic details of users by country (2024-2025)

==> Compendium is an international tool



### COUNTRY

United States

China

United Kingdom

Germany

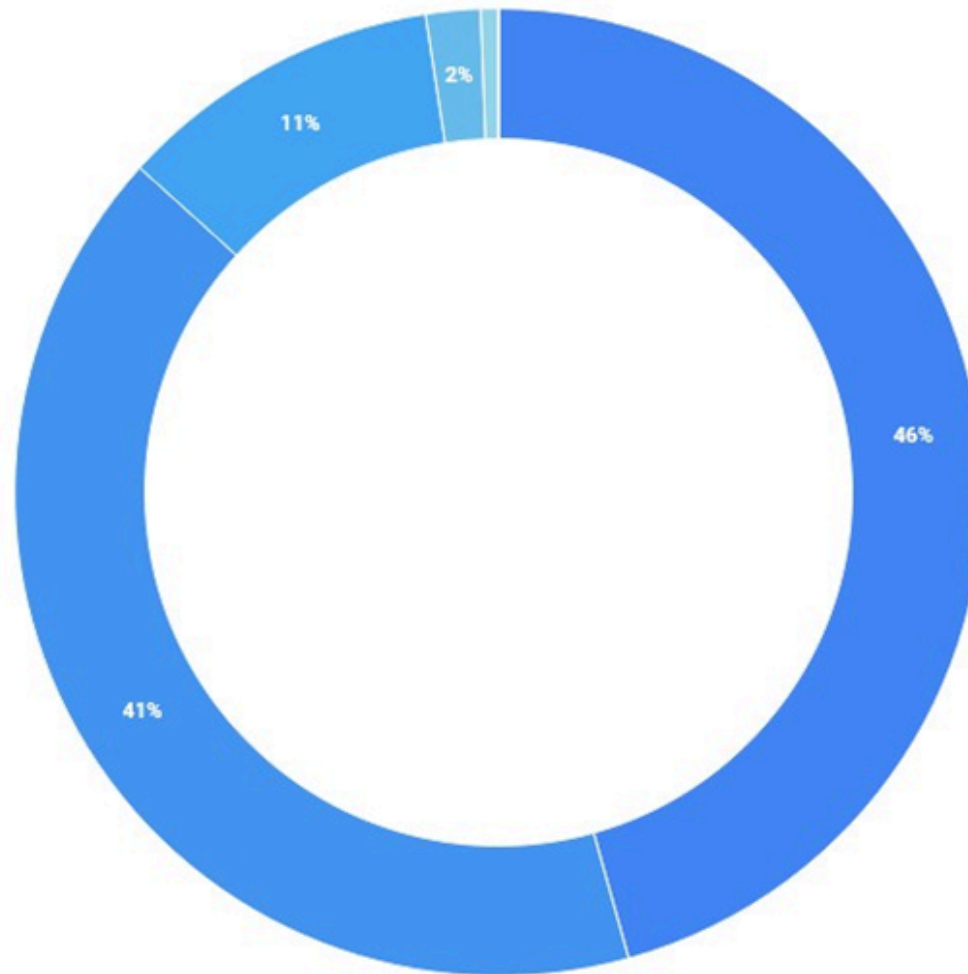
Spain

Netherlands

Italy

## First user acquisition via channel groups in % (2024-2025)

==> Compendium has a strong share of users who knows us



● Organic Search ● Direct ● Referral ● Organic Social ● Unassigned ● Other