



Short Profile
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Liechtenstein

Short Cultural Policy Profile

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1. Facts and figures

Political system: Constitutional hereditary monarchy based on democratic parliamentary principles

Official language(s): According to Article 6 of the Constitution, German is the national language of Liechtenstein and is spoken as the mother tongue by around 92 per cent (2020) of the population and taught in all schools.

	<i>Latest available data</i>	<i>Minus 5 years</i>
<i>Population 1 January¹</i>	<i>40,900 (2025)</i>	<i>39,055 (2020)</i>
<i>GDP in million EUR²</i>	<i>7,484 (2024)</i>	<i>6,866 (2019)</i>
<i>GDP per capita in PPS Index (EU27_2020 =100)³</i>	<i>178</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Government expenditure (as % of GDP)⁴</i>	<i>21.4</i>	<i>20.3</i>
<i>Public cultural expenditure in EUR million^{5 6}</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/</i>
<i>Public spending on culture as a percentage of GDP⁷</i>	<i>Culture 3% (2023) Education 20% (2023)</i>	<i>Culture 5.3% (2018) Education 16.4 (2018)</i>
<i>Public cultural expenditure per capita</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Percentage of employees in the cultural sector as a proportion of total employment</i>	<i>6.36</i>	<i>N/A</i>

¹ data <https://www.statistikportal.li/de/themen/bevoelkerung>

² / <https://www.regierung.li/files/attachments/wirtschafts-und-finanzen-2024.pdf>

³ / <https://www.regierung.li/files/attachments/wirtschafts-und-finanzen-2024.pdf>,
https://www.statistikportal.li/statistikportal/publications/768-finanzzustand/2017/01/1/768.2017.01_01_finanzzustand-2017.pdf

⁴ / <https://www.statistikportal.li/de/themen/staat-und-politik/oeffentliche-finanzen#:~:text=Consolidated%20government%20expenditure%20in%202023%20rose,unchanged%20from%20the%20previous%20year%20at%202021.4%25>

⁵ / <https://www.statistikportal.li/de/themen/bildung>

⁶ <https://www.statistikportal.li/de/themen/staat-und-politik/oeffentliche-finanzen#:~:text=Consolidated%20government%20expenditure%20in%202023%20rose,remaining%20unchanged%20at%202021.4%25%20compared%20to%20the%20previous%20year>

⁷ <https://www.regierung.li/files/attachments/wirtschafts-und-finanzen-2024.pdf>

2. Cultural policy system

2.1 Objectives

In Liechtenstein, most cultural responsibilities lie with the state. At the beginning of the 21st century, the country set itself the goal of becoming an internationally recognised center for art and culture. In recent years, a broad and innovative spectrum of cultural and artistic creation has developed, accompanied by a diverse range of cultural activities. Cultural values have been sustainably strengthened, and public awareness has been heightened.

This also applies to the eleven municipalities of the small state, which organise their cultural life independently. They develop their own strategies for art, culture and related policy areas. Their focus is primarily on cultural associations, the further development of their local character and the preservation of historical monuments.

On behalf of the Ministry of Culture and Society (since 2025: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Environment and Culture), a new cultural strategy for the country of Liechtenstein has been in development since spring 2024. Important objectives include strengthening cultural potential and promoting innovation and artistic development; raising the profile of Liechtenstein's art and culture beyond the country's borders; protecting and enhancing cultural heritage; and promoting fairness in the arts and culture sector.

Under the leadership of the Office of Culture, a commission of experts is developing the strategic direction of a forward-looking national cultural policy. Liechtenstein is thus addressing current socio-political challenges, shifts in audience behaviour, profound developments such as digitalisation and sustainability, and an increasingly diverse population.

2.2 Key features

With 40,900 inhabitants (2025), Liechtenstein is the fourth smallest country in Europe. A third of the population comes from other countries, mainly Switzerland, Austria, Germany and Italy. Cultural policy in Liechtenstein refers both to national identity and to cultural diversity as an expression of cosmopolitanism. Culture is also seen as a means of integration and European dialogue.

The country's cultural policy tasks focus on the following areas: representing the country as a whole, creating a regulatory framework for the development of art and culture, promoting cultural institutions and projects of national importance, preserving and protecting cultural heritage, foreign cultural policy, and promoting historical awareness.

Key players and financing model

The Liechtenstein government consists of five members. They divide 15 ministries among themselves. With the Landtag elections (parliamentary elections) in spring 2025, the allocation of various departments changed.

The **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** is now also responsible for the **Environment and Culture**. These are three areas in which Liechtenstein defines itself as an active and independent country, both internally and externally. The focus of cultural policy is on researching, preserving, developing and communicating Liechtenstein's cultural heritage. Important aspects of cultural

policy include the preservation of cultural assets, the protection of archaeological cultural assets, the archiving of historically relevant documents and the promotion of cultural activities. The **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** is also responsible for cultural events at the embassies in Bern, Vienna, Berlin, Strasbourg, Brussels, Washington and New York, as well as for cooperation with the UN.

The **Education** Department is now part of the Ministry of **Infrastructure and Education**. It is responsible for the Liechtenstein education system, from early childhood education to adult education. The **Society Department** is now part of the Ministry of **Society and Justice**. The **Society Department** covers social affairs, health, family and equal opportunities. The **Justice Department** is responsible for adapting the legal framework to international developments, among other things.

The Government Departments of Education and Culture are **responsible for public cultural institutions**: music schools and art schools (education), the National Library, the Art Museum and the National Museum (culture). On the basis of **the Corporate Governance Act** (2010), the Government manages and supervises these institutions responsibly and competently under the control of Parliament.

Since 2012, the Ministry of Culture has been supported by an **Office for Culture** (AKU). It implements projects and acts as a hub for the country's regional and international engagement in the cultural commissions of the Council of Europe, the EEA/EFTA and the International Lake Constance Conference (IBK).

Since 2008, state cultural funding has been in the hands of the independent Liechtenstein Cultural Foundation. It ensures artistic freedom and is committed to pluralism, diversity, quality, creativity and innovation, identity and internationalisation. Funding is regulated by **the Cultural Promotion Act** (*KFG*) of 20 September 2007⁸. This includes the promotion of cultural activities by individuals and private organisations in the fields of literature, music, performing and visual arts, film and video, folk culture and regional studies. This support contributes significantly to a diverse cultural scene.

One element of Liechtenstein's cultural policy is the principle of subsidiarity, which encourages and promotes private initiative. The state provides support where culture can only be realised with additional financial and human resources, particularly to enable exhibitions or buildings to be created. The national model involves many players and various forms of cooperation. The private sector and charitable foundations play an increasingly important role in Liechtenstein's cultural life. Traditionally, this also applies to cultural associations, federations and institutions.

Liechtenstein's eleven municipalities contribute to the promotion of culture in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity. This is done separately from the state. The localities organise their cultural life independently, on the basis of the Municipalities Act of 20 March 1996. The decision-making body is the municipal council, elected by the population, which is advised by a cultural commission appointed for each municipality. The main tasks of the cultural commissions are to promote cultural life, preserve historical monuments and support cultural as-

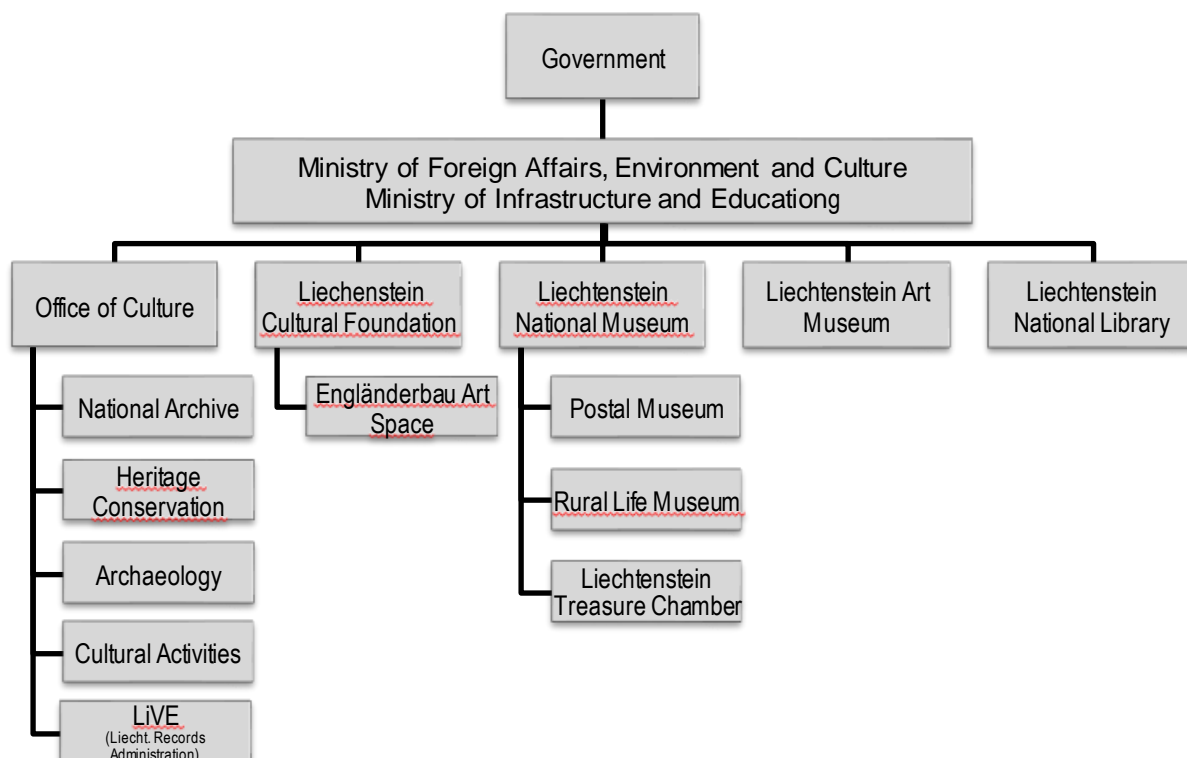
⁸ www.gesetze.li/konso/2007290000

sociations. The decision-making body is the municipal council, which is elected by the population and advised by a cultural commission appointed for each municipality. The main tasks of the cultural commissions are to promote cultural life, protect historical monuments, support cultural associations and purchase works of art.

The State of Liechtenstein, together with the municipalities, is the main sponsor and promoter of culture. The share of public cultural expenditure in the total budget (cultural institutions, cultural buildings, historical projects, churches, radio, television) was around CHF 23 million in 2000, rising to around CHF 32 million in 2018 and around CHF 34.7 million in 2022.

2.3 Governance system: organisational chart

The Government of the Principality of Liechtenstein is the highest executive body in the country. It consists of the Prime Minister and four ministers and is accountable to both the Landtag (parliament), the highest legislative body, and the Prince, the head of state. It is appointed for a term of four years by the Prince on the recommendation of the "Landtag", which is elected by the people. The government is based in Vaduz, the capital of Liechtenstein.



2.4 Background

1960

In Liechtenstein, state cultural policy began in the 1960s and 1970s – late and gradually, in response to private initiatives. Liechtenstein National Library and the National Archives were founded in 1961, the Liechtenstein Music School in 1963, and the Liechtenstein State Art Collection, the basis for today's Liechtenstein Museum of Fine Arts, in 1968. In 1970, the Theater am Kirchplatz (TAK) opened its doors and now serves as the state theatre.

In 1979, Liechtenstein joined the **European Cultural Convention** (1954). The new cultural policy reflected the priorities set by the Council of Europe in matters of cultural identity, cultural heritage, cultural diversity and participation in cultural life.

1980-2000

In the 1990s, the arts and culture scene picked up pace and became more dynamic. The Symphonic Orchestra was founded, as were the Musical Company, the International Guitar Days and the Liechtenstein School of Art. Liechtenstein took part in the book fairs in Frankfurt am Main and Leipzig and, since 1993, in European Heritage Days. The Liechtenstein Museum of Fine Arts (2000) became a central institution in the country.

Liechtenstein has been a member of **the European Economic Area (EEA)** since 1995. The EEA Agreement enables it to participate in framework programmes, special programmes and projects of the European Union (EU).

2000-ongoing

Since the beginning of the 21st century, Liechtenstein has increasingly showcased its diversity internationally. The first cultural mission statement (2011–2021) outlines the main objectives of cultural policy, such as strengthening Liechtenstein's culture at home and abroad and supporting creative artists through a new form of cultural promotion, which has been in the hands of the independent Liechtenstein Cultural Foundation since 2008. And with a modern law on cultural preservation (**Cultural Property Act (KGG) of 2016**), the country has enshrined the protection of cultural property in national law for the first time.

With a Digital Agenda (2019), the government also set itself the goal of supporting digital art and the widest possible online access to culture.

As in all European countries, the measures taken to combat the coronavirus (2020) brought cultural life in Liechtenstein to a standstill. A package of measures to provide rapid support for micro-enterprises and sole traders also applied to self-employed cultural workers and cultural associations.

A new cultural strategy will be developed in 2024/2025 on behalf of the Ministry of Culture. This will be based on intensive discussions with interest groups, cultural institutions, artists, event organizers and experts from the fields of art and culture, politics and business.

3. Current Cultural events

3.1 Important developments

Twenty-five years ago (in 2000), the Liechtenstein government published a comprehensive "Culture Report 2000", which was supplemented by a cultural mission statement in 2011.

In the first twenty years of the 21st century, Liechtenstein, a member of the EEA, has made considerable efforts to establish a systematic basis for the qualitative development of artistic and cultural activities at national and international level. Laws have been enacted, for example on the promotion of culture and the management of cultural institutions. Structures for national and international integration have been developed, for example to enable the entire population to participate in cultural activities, to promote the free exercise of artistic and cultural expression, to encourage new and innovative forms of culture and organisations, to divide responsibilities between the state and municipalities, to promote cultural exchange projects, to foster international cooperation in the cultural sector and to protect cultural assets.

In 2025/2026, a commission of experts commissioned by the Ministry of Culture and Society and led by the Office of Culture will develop a new strategic direction for a future-oriented national cultural policy. This is Liechtenstein's response to current socio-political challenges, changing audience behaviour, profound changes such as digitalisation and sustainability, and an increasingly diverse population. The strategy will serve as a guideline for planning, implementing and evaluating the diverse cultural activities and initiatives in the country.

Important objectives of the cultural strategy are: to promote the protection of cultural heritage, to strengthen a common identity in a multicultural society and the cultural and creative economy, to support educational initiatives in the field of art and culture, to consolidate international relations, and to contribute to people's quality of life through unrestricted access to art and culture.

The Culture Strategy 2025 is being developed in a broad-based, structured process involving all areas of the arts and culture scene. In addition, surveys on the cultural behaviour of the Liechtenstein population and on cultural events in the eleven municipalities will provide further insights for the first time. In spring 2025, a "Culture Forum" was held under the auspices of the Office of Culture, in which all cultural actors in the country were able to participate in order to define areas for action.

3.2 Important topics

The latest discussions and initiatives in Liechtenstein focus on topics such as education and integration, digitalisation, sustainability and the media.

Peaceful coexistence and mutual understanding between different cultural communities is a constant goal of Liechtenstein's politics. Many small minorities from around 100 nations live in Liechtenstein. The country is open to foreign workers and attaches great importance to the integration of people. As a result, dialogue within the country has increased in recent years.

This is reflected in the integration strategy adopted in 2021, which explicitly formulates a non-discriminatory society as a goal.

Under the action area "Living together", Liechtenstein recognises, among other things, the value of diversity and uses diversity as a strength. One of the goals is continuous intercultural and interreligious dialogue.

Education

Cultural institutions and representatives of the cultural scene are working increasingly to integrate culture as a foundation of education in schools and adult education. To date, "inter-cultural education" is not an official part of general school education in Liechtenstein. According to **the Education Strategy 2025plus**, Liechtenstein's public schools are "integrative schools" where learners of all abilities, nationalities and genders are taught and supported.

Education is also a priority area of **the Liechtenstein Digital Agenda** (2019). The aim is to promote digital skills and raise awareness of responsibility and risks. In the field of art and culture, there are plans to promote the creation of digital art and make analogue works available in digital form.

Sustainability

In line with climate policy at international and European level, Liechtenstein is setting clear benchmarks for climate protection. Culture, however, plays hardly any role in concepts and declarations on sustainability. Sustainable standards in cultural institutions are not yet a major issue – with the exception of the **Theater am Kirchplatz** (TAK), as can be read in the National Theatre's third sustainability report.

During the COVID-19 pandemic (from March 2020), the state supported cultural workers with a total of CHF 1.25 million. However, economic and social independence in cultural professions remained a blind spot. The demand for fair pay and social security for professional artists is now growing louder. A first step is a model with the LLB pension fund for Liechtenstein, which enables artists to join a pension fund on fair terms.

Media

Alongside Switzerland, Liechtenstein is considered the European country with the most extensive civil rights. The media fulfil their role of articulating the current debate in Liechtenstein society. However, the former media density in this small country is declining.

Until 2023, there were two daily newspapers, each aligned with one of the two major political parties. There was a balance of political information. In 2023, the Liechtensteiner Volksblatt, the country's oldest newspaper, was discontinued for financial reasons. The public broadcaster Radio Liechtenstein was also discontinued in April 2025. In a referendum in October 2024, the people of Liechtenstein rejected further state funding for the Liechtenstein Broadcasting Corporation (LRF), which had been running at a loss for years.

3.3 International cultural cooperation

Cooperation – national, regional and international – is essential for the small state of Liechtenstein in the heart of Europe. The **Ministry of Culture** and the **Ministry of Education** are responsible for cultural cooperation with the Council of Europe, EEA and EU countries and the Lake Constance/Rhine Valley region. The **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** is responsible for cultural events at the embassies in Bern, Vienna, Berlin, Strasbourg, Brussels, Washington

and New York, as well as for cooperation with the United Nations (UN). As formulated by the Government in 2007, foreign cultural policy is an important instrument of Liechtenstein's foreign policy.

Exchanges with neighbouring countries in the Lake Constance region – with the cantons of Eastern Switzerland, the Austrian province of Vorarlberg and Southern Germany – are particularly lively. This is mainly through the International Lake Constance Conference (IBK).

The Czech Republic is also a priority country. After the Second World War, Czechoslovakia confiscated the assets of Liechtenstein citizens and thus of the Princely House of Liechtenstein. The government and the Princely House believe that the Beneš decrees should not apply to Liechtenstein citizens. A joint commission of historians worked on this sensitive issue of contemporary Czech history until 2024.

As an EEA country, Liechtenstein participates in the EU programme Creative Europe (2021–2027), among other things. The sub-programme "Culture" enables cultural and creative professionals from the small state to work across borders and distribute their works throughout Europe. In addition, there is knowledge transfer, support for the translation of literary works, access to European prizes for literature, architecture, music and cultural heritage, as well as Liechtenstein productions at film festivals and the participation of the film industry in co-productions.

4. Cultural institutions

4.1 Overview

Liechtenstein has a diverse public and private arts and culture scene (music, literature, performing and visual arts, audiovisual media, folk culture). Much of this is supported by the state through the **Liechtenstein Cultural Foundation**, which respects the independence, freedom and diversity of cultural activities.

Each of Liechtenstein's eleven municipalities also has a colourful, independent local cultural life (village museums, amateur theatre stages, cultural associations, operetta stages, music festivals, exhibitions). Cultural commissions support cultural associations and initiatives, with a special focus on cultural heritage and the preservation of customs.

The country of Liechtenstein is the owner of the following national institutions: the Liechtenstein National Museum, the Art Museum, the Art School, the Music School, the National Library and the Liechtenstein Cultural Foundation. The government respects their independence, but sets guidelines for cultural policy, entrepreneurial, ethical, social and environmental goals, as well as for finances and risk management through owner strategies. It bases these on the Law on the Management and Supervision of Public Enterprises (2009).

Export and finance companies, private actors and charitable foundations are playing an increasingly important role in Liechtenstein's cultural sector.

For example, the Liechtenstein Chamber of Industry and Commerce (LIHK) supports the Liechtenstein National Museum. Since November 2019, a new industry hall in the National Museum has provided an insight into today's "Industrial World of Liechtenstein".

The **Liechtenstein Museum of Fine Arts** (2000) was donated to the country of Liechtenstein by the business community. As an extension and complement to the museum, the **Hilti Art Foundation** has been presenting its internationally renowned art collection in a building adjacent to the museum since 2015.

The **Liechtenstein National Library** was scheduled to move to a modern, more suitable location in Vaduz in autumn 2026. However, the Landtag (parliament) rejected a higher financing plan and halted the project. Reinforced by a referendum, the National Library received support from the municipality of Vaduz, charitable foundations and private institutions.

The **Liechtenstein Academy of Music** promotes highly talented musicians from all over the world. Since 2024, it has been based at the Hofstätte Hagenhaus campus in Nendeln, a historic complex that was renovated in collaboration with the Office of Culture and financed by a charitable foundation.

One of the main players in Liechtenstein's cultural scene is the state-funded **Theater am Kirchplatz** (TAK) in Schaan. It also sets standards in climate protection. Since 2022, the TAK has published an annual sustainability report. It aims to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by at least 90 per cent by 2050, in line with Liechtenstein's climate vision.

4.2 Data on selected public and private cultural institutions

Table 1: Cultural institutions by sector and area

Field	Cultural institution	Public sector		Private sector	
		Number (year)	Number (year)	Number (year)	Number (year)
Cultural heritage	<i>Cultural heritage sites (recognised)</i>	186 (2019)	N/A	N/A	N/A
	<i>Archaeological sites</i>	5 (2022)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Museums	<i>Museum institutions</i>	11 (2022)	N/A	6 (2022)	N/A
Archive	<i>Archive Institutions</i>	14 (2022)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Visual arts	<i>Public galleries / exhibition halls</i>	4 (2022)	N/A	9	N
Performing arts	<i>Scenic and stable spaces for theatre</i>	1 (2025)	1 (2020)	4 (2022)	N/A
	<i>Concert halls</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	<i>Theatre groups</i>	1 (2022)	N/A	4 (2022)	N/A
	<i>Dance and Ballet groups</i>			8 (2022)	N/A
	<i>Symphony orchestra</i>	2 (2025)	2 (2020)	N/A	N/A
Libraries	<i>Libraries</i>	13 (2022)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Audiovisual	<i>Cinemas</i>	2 (2025)	2 (2020)	N/A	N/A
	<i>Broadcasting and television stations</i>	1 (2025)	2 (2020)		
Interdisciplinary	<i>Socio-cultural centres / cultural centres</i>	21	N/A		
Other	<i>Music school</i>	1 (2025)	1 (2020)		
	<i>Art school</i>	1 (2025)	1		

Sources: Office for Culture

Notes: N/A: no information available

5. Cultural promotion

5.1 Overview

The State of Liechtenstein and the eleven Liechtenstein municipalities are the main sponsors and promoters of art and culture. There are no cultural statistics available for Liechtenstein to date. There is no clear method of calculation and no reliable figures on per capita expenditure in the cultural sector, the percentage of gross domestic product spent on culture, etc. The same applies to municipal expenditure on culture. As part of the broad-based process of developing the 2025 cultural strategy, surveys on the cultural behaviour of the population and on specific cultural expenditure in the eleven municipalities are planned for the first time.

The **Culture Promotion Act** (KFG, 2008) regulates state support for cultural activities by private individuals in the fields of literature, music, performing and visual arts, audiovisual media, and the preservation of local heritage and customs in Liechtenstein. The Liechtenstein Cultural Foundation is responsible for promoting culture. There is no entitlement to individual support.

The objectives of the ongoing state contributions are to secure the framework conditions for contemporary artistic creation and to preserve the cultural heritage. In 2018, the state contribution to the Cultural Foundation amounted to CHF 1.2 million, and in 2022 it will be just under CHF 1.6 million. In addition, there are contributions from the Swisslos Swiss lottery (plus special contributions for 2021 and 2022 due to the coronavirus pandemic). In 2022, CHF 2.7 million (plus CHF 250,000) was allocated to cultural activities. In 2023, around CHF 3.4 million was available.

The expenditure for Liechtenstein's cultural institutions (music school, art school, adult education, national library, national museum, theatre on the church square, art museum, cultural assets, youth and music, cultural projects, cultural foundation) published in **the Finance Act** amounted to CHF 21.3 million in 2018 and rose to CHF 23.9 million in 2022. CHF 22.2 million has been earmarked for 2025.

Liechtenstein culture receives a high level of support from the state and municipalities compared to other countries. However, experts assume that considerable private funds supplement public funding. Sponsors, charitable foundations, banks, industrial companies, commercial enterprises and private individuals provide financial support for events and projects or purchase works of art. Private collections, some of which are of international standing, are presented to the interested public in exhibitions and publications. However, there are no specific figures or data on the amount of private contributions to art and culture in Liechtenstein. The **Association of Liechtenstein Charitable Foundations and Trusts** (VLGST) has 107 member foundations (2023), and in 2017 there were a total of 1,323 charitable foundations in Liechtenstein. The VLGST estimates that 23 per cent of funds go to art and culture. Despite various initiatives, there is no legal basis for collecting data, so that only a few foundations' cultural commitment in the country itself is clearly recognisable.

5.2 Public cultural expenditure by level of government

Table 2: Public expenditure on culture by level of government, in EUR, 2024 and 2019

There are no cultural statistics available for Liechtenstein. The existing data is incomplete. The state covers the majority of public cultural expenditure. No figures on expenditure on arts and culture are published for the eleven municipalities of this small country.

Level of government	2024			2019		
	Total expenditure in EUR			Total expenditure in EUR*		
Government (central)	32.5			30.5 million		
Local (municipal)	N/A			N/A		
TOTAL						100

Source: (Government accountability reports 2024 and 2029)

Note: * At the time of publication

5.3. Public cultural expenditure by sector

Table 3: Public cultural expenditure*: by sector, in CHF and EUR, 2024 and 2019

Only the expenditure of the Liechtenstein state is listed here. The Swiss franc/euro exchange rate between 2019 and 2024 is no longer comparable.

Area / domain	2024			20		
	Total in CHF	Total expenditure in EUR		Total in CHF	Total expenditure in EUR*	
Cultural heritage		294,487				



<i>Folk culture</i>	275,817	2.0		229,675		
<i>Libraries</i>	1.9			1.8 million		
<i>Archiving, archaeology, cultural assets</i>	684,945	731,310		631,781		
Museums	7.6	8.1		6.5	6.9 million	
Archives	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	
Visual arts	947,764	1.0 million		848,000		
Performing arts						
<i>Music</i>	7.5 million	7.9 million		6.7 million		
<i>Theatre, musical theatre, dance</i>	2.5 million	2.6 million		2.4 million		
Audiovisual media and multimedia	436,350	465,887		567,700		
Adult education	1.5 million	1.6 million		1.3		
Cultural relations				125		
Cultural education				662		
Literature	289,768	309,382		253,187		
Media	4.4	4.6 million		4.0 million		
TOTAL						100

Sources: Government accountability reports for 2024 and 2019

6. Legislation in the field of culture

6.1 Overview of national cultural law

Constitution of the Principality of Liechtenstein of 5 October 1921⁹

The current version of the Constitution of the Principality of Liechtenstein (2003) does not explicitly mention cultural responsibilities, but Article 14 states that the state shall promote the welfare of the people as a whole, while Articles 15 and 16 refer to the state's responsibility for education and training. The cultural mandate can also be inferred from the fundamental rights of the individual enshrined in the constitution.

Municipal Act (*GemG*) of 20 March 1996¹⁰

Commissions are formed to divide municipal tasks. This is based, among other things, on the Municipal Act of 1996, Articles 51 and 60. The cultural commissions of the eleven municipalities have an advisory function.

Culture Promotion Act (*KFG*) of 20 September 2007¹¹

The Act regulates state support for cultural activities by private individuals in the fields of literature, music, performing and visual arts, audiovisual media and the preservation of local heritage and customs.

Law on the Liechtenstein Cultural Foundation (*LKStG*) of 20 September 2007¹²

This law regulates the tasks of the foundation in accordance with the Cultural Promotion Act.

Finance laws

State cultural expenditure is borne by the departments (ministries) of culture and education. The composition of the state budget for culture and education is regulated by the annual Finance Act.

Corporate Governance Act

According to Article 78(4) of the State Constitution, the government has overall supervision of public enterprises. Under the **Corporate Governance Act** (*Act on the Management and Supervision of Public Enterprises, ÖUSG*) of 2010, the government, under the control of parliament, manages and supervises state-owned enterprises, including state cultural institutions.

6.2 Overview of international cultural law

The **European Cultural Convention** has been in force in Liechtenstein since 13 June 1979. The cultural policy of the small state is in line with that of the Council of Europe, which aims to promote identity, creativity, diversity and access to cultural life.

At the same time, numerous agreements of the UN, the Council of Europe and the EU are valid in Liechtenstein. These include the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the United

⁹ www.gesetze.li/konso/pdf/1921.015

¹⁰ www.gesetze.li/konso/pdf/1996076000

¹¹ www.gesetze.li/konso/2007290000

¹² www.gesetze.li/konso/2007291000

Nations, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of the UN (UN Covenant I), the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the Framework Convention of the Council of Europe for the Protection of National Minorities.

Liechtenstein also signed the Council of Europe's *European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages* in 1998.

The *Law on the Protection, Preservation and Maintenance of Cultural Property (Cultural Property Protection Act, KGG)* of 9 June 2016¹³ serves to implement the European Cultural Convention (1954), the European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (1992), the Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (1985) and the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (1954).

With the 2018 *Davos Declaration* on Building Culture¹⁴, Liechtenstein commits itself to anchoring a high standard of building culture in its political and strategic agenda.

With the *Convention on the Protection of the Alps* (Alpine Convention), Liechtenstein commits itself, among other things, to preserving and promoting the cultural and social identity of the people living in the Alpine region.

Liechtenstein has been a member of the EEA since 1 May 1995. This is laid down in the *Agreement* of 2 May 1992 on the *European Economic Area*.¹⁵

Protocol 31 of the EEA Agreement of April 1995 on cooperation in specific fields outside the four freedoms.¹⁶

Article 13 sets out the cooperation in the field of culture.

As an EEA country, Liechtenstein also adopts EU directives on copyright and intellectual property. The provisions were incorporated into the *Law on Copyright and Related Rights* (URG) LGBl. 1999 No. 160 plus a 1999 ordinance.

Liechtenstein has ratified numerous important cultural conventions and treaties and is a member of the UN, but not a member of UNESCO.

¹³ www.gesetze.li/konso/pdf/2016270000

¹⁴ davosdeclaration2018.ch/

¹⁵ www.gesetze.li/konso/pdf/1995.068.001

¹⁶ www.gesetze.li/chrono/1995068131