

*June 2010*

FINAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CULTURAL AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE  
on improving the conditions to support  
the MOBILITY OF ARTISTS AND CULTURE PROFESSIONALS

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

**Improve information service on mobility in the cultural field**

- *Recommendation 1- to the Member States and the European Commission:*

Member States, in cooperation with the European Commission, should establish and finance national mobility information services for artists and culture professionals and build a network of these services. In this network activity is critical on the Member State and the European level.

Member States should make a strong political and financial commitment to the implementation of the Mobility Information Services, as the main focus of follow-up will be placed on the national, or in some cases regional level. The main financial responsibility lies at national and regional levels.

Member States should join the network of Mobility Information Services by using the organisational structure/s considered most appropriate in their own context.

Member States should ensure that their Mobility Information Service cooperates with similar information services in (all) the other Member States.

- *Recommendation 2 - to the Member States:*

Member States should provide the necessary conditions to ensure that their Mobility Information Service for artists & culture professionals cooperates

- in strategic partnerships with existing services at national level to gather and build up information provision on national regulations and procedures,
- with authorities and culture operators at EU-level and at national level.

Mobility Information Services for artists & culture professionals also should collect data on mobility in the culture field.

- *Recommendation 3 - to the Member States and to the European Commission:*

Member States should agree upon guidelines for Mobility Information Services for artists & culture professionals, including common minimum standard of quality information service at national level (cf. annexed guidelines).

The Commission is requested to establish a working group of experts to concretise further the guidelines on information topics, quality standards, strategic partnerships and communication. This elaborated draft protocol/agreement should then be presented to the Cultural Affairs Committee.

- *Recommendation 4 - to the European Commission:*

The Commission should explore the possibilities to co-finance the start-up and maintenance of the network of Mobility Information Services for artists and culture professionals in the current Culture Programme and incorporate the support into its proposal for the future Culture Programme.

- *Recommendation 5 on evaluation and monitoring – to The Member States, the European Commission and the culture sector*

Member States and the Commission should monitor and evaluate regularly the Mobility Information Services and their network.

The culture sector and its various actors are invited to cooperate in setting up and supporting the activities of the network of Mobility Information Services for example to clarify the needs, to build up capacity and to provide feedback.

## **Develop programmes and schemes to support mobility**

- *Recommendation 1 – to the Member States and the European Commission*

The European Commission and Member States should screen and assess their mobility support programmes and schemes in order to identify barriers and problems to small-scale culture operators and their projects or networks regarding possibilities to benefit from these programmes and schemes.

The European Commission will be requested to create a group of field experts to analyse and assess the results of the screening of the support schemes and to translate these findings into concrete adjustments to the criteria and procedures of the support schemes and programmes.

The European Commission and Member States should earmark a budget for small-scale or less institutionalised cultural operators and their projects, including projects in which artists and cultural practitioners from third countries actively participate.

In preparing the support programmes on EU and Member States level the Nordic-Baltic model should be closely looked at as it includes small-scale projects and individual artists.

The European Commission support schemes on Lifelong Learning, like the Grundtvig Programme in the field of adult education, should be promoted in the culture sector and adjusted to better serve its needs.

- *Recommendation 2 – to the European Commission*

Small-scale grants should be available in short-term application procedures and administered

in a non-bureaucratic and decentralized way, preferably (partly) beforehand.

- *Recommendation 3 – to the Member States and the European Commission*

The European Commission and the Member States should initiate funding for the development of professional infrastructures and schemes in Eastern and Southern Europe in order to create networks involving start-up initiatives and to provide support for future professionals.

- *Recommendation 4 - to the culture sector*

The culture sector and its various actors are invited to combat and lessen mobility imbalances at grassroots level and to raise awareness of the ecological footprint caused by mobility.

- *Recommendation 5 on evaluation and monitoring – to The Member States, the European Commission and the culture sector*

The European Commission, Member States and the culture sector should support the measurement (quantitative and qualitative) of the approach that gives more opportunities to small-scale initiatives.

## **Install and improve intermediary functions**

- *Recommendation 1 – to the Member States and the European Commission*

Member States and the European Commission should recognize the role and the importance of intermediary functions in their culture policy and in the promotion of culture mobility.

Financial strands related to mobility of artists and culture professionals should be accessible to intermediaries of all artistic sectors (cf. recommendation 1, Programmes and Schemes supporting mobility).

- *Recommendation 2 – to the culture sector*

The culture sector (e.g. networks of intermediary organizations, interest organizations) with the support of the European Commission and interested Member States should organise a seminar for intermediaries in order to allow them to meet and present their needs.

- *Recommendation 3 – to the European Commission*

The European Commission should launch an exploratory study mapping the jobs, functions and services of intermediaries and proposing options for their organisation and different forms of facilitating their activities.

## **Address visa issues**

- *Recommendation 1 - to the Member States and the European Commission*

The Member States and the European Commission should take all issues related to long and short stay visas duly into account in integrating and strengthening the cultural dimension in external relations of the European Union.

Member States and the European Commission should effectively monitor visa policies and practices in the cultural field.

The European Commission and Member States should strive to enhance cooperation on visa issues with European non-Schengen countries as regards artists and other culture professionals.

- *Recommendation 2 - to the Member States*

The Member States should closely follow and adjust the implementation of the Blue Card Directive from the perspective of the specific needs and concerns of the cultural sector.

- *Recommendation 3 - to the Member States*

The Member States should promote close cooperation between culture and visa authorities at all levels and especially within embassies on implementing the Visa Code.

The Member States should organise training for the consular staff regarding the specific concerns of artists and other culture professionals.

The Member States should see to it that the national Mobility Information Services will from the outset serve artists and other cultural professionals as regards visa issues (see Recommendation 1 on improving information service and the guidelines).

- *Recommendation 4 - to the culture sector*

The culture sector should closely follow the application of the Visa Code and the use of the Handbook in the cultural field and actively contribute to the monitoring process

## **Take initiatives on measuring mobility**

- *Recommendation 1 - to the Member States and the European Commission*

Eurostat and the national statistical institutes should be aware of the relevance of common criteria for definition and a more accurate identification of culture and artistic professions among the data on employment and economic migration.

The Member States and the Commission should invite the ESSnet culture working group (the European Statistical Systems Network Project on Culture Statistics Development), to take the need for improving culture mobility statistics duly into account in its work.

- *Recommendation 2 - to the Member States*

Member States should set up or improve the collection of existing data at national level. There are many ways to do so. For example:

Member States should solicit public or/and semi public bodies directly responsible for mobility to collect and share data at Community and international level.

Member States should set up in each country a way to extract each year the number of non-national cultural productions hosted/ welcomed by using data from a sufficiently broad and representative group of cultural institutions.

Member States should track down as a source of statistical data, the national origin of collected rights in relation to interpretations/performances, creations, revivals, translations related to artists' tours and co-productions. The sales of art works on the art market could be included.

- *Recommendation 3 – to the culture sector*

The culture sector should actively take part in and contribute to the collecting of data especially in the frame of the proposed "light" methods or the practical approach, e.g. by reporting to existing structures/ structures put in place (inter alia) to collect data on mobility of artists & culture professionals.

- *Recommendation 4 – to the Member States, the European Commission and the culture sector*

All stakeholders are invited to start collecting data at EU level and analysing mobility flows. To complement this quantitative data a qualitative approach in measuring mobility should be developed.

This final report reflects the work of the group between March 2008 and June 2010 and has been edited by a small group of members, Daniel Barroy, Ines Da Silva, Sarah de Heusch Ribassin, Bert Holvast, Julek Jurowicz, Risto Kivela, Maria Tuerlings, Yvette Vaughan and Werner Weber, with the support of the European Commission Unit Culture Policy, Diversity and Intercultural Dialogue.

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