

# Culture Action Europe



An international association subject to the provisions of section III of the Belgian act of 27 June 1921, as amended from time to time.

The Association is composed of legal entities constituted under the laws of their country of origin, as well as individuals adhering to the aims of Culture Action Europe (CAE). It is an international non-profit organisation.

The Association is administered by an Executive Committee composed of 11 members elected by the membership during the Annual General Meeting.



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# back ground

Culture Action Europe was established in 1994 under the name of European Forum for Arts and Heritage (EFAH) - Forum Européen pour les Arts et le Patrimoine (FEAP) under the Belgian law. Predominantly known as 'network of networks', EFAH-FEAP aimed to maintain continuous dialogue and knowledge exchange between the cultural sector in Europe and EU policymakers.

The association changed its name to Culture Action Europe (CAE) in 2008 and diversified its membership, opening it up to public and private organisations, both large and small. This change was mirrored in the mission and advocacy policies of CAE. It adopted a new strategy, advocating for access to the arts and participation in culture as a fundamental right of every citizen. It has continued advocating for public investment in culture and the arts as the main force for the development of a sustainable and more cohesive Europe.

Today, Culture Action Europe is the major European network of cultural networks, organisations, artists, activists, academics and policymakers. CAE is the first port of call for informed opinion and debate about arts and cultural policy in the EU. As the only intersectoral network, it brings together all practices in culture, from the performing arts to literature, the visual arts, design and cross-arts initiatives, to community centres and activist groups.

**Culture Action Europe believes in the value and values of culture and its contribution to the development of sustainable and inclusive societies.**

# vision

**We dream of a time  
when culture is central  
to inclusive, plural, open  
and sharing societies.**

# we believe

- **We** believe that culture must be put at the heart of public debate and decision making
- **We** believe in the value and values of culture based on democracy, pluralism, inclusion and cultural rights
- **We** believe that culture contributes to the development of sustainable and inclusive societies.
- **We** believe that culture is a practice rather than a resource
- **We** believe that cultural gain is fundamentally social and collective, and for the common good
- **We** believe in a plural voice that includes the enormous potential of a community that acts collectively
- **We** believe exploratory culture is a space in which to create shared values

# what makes us unique

- **We** operate within a trans-European territory and beyond, both in rural and urban areas. This puts us in a unique position to interact with and mediate geographical, political, economic, societal, technological, legal and environmental frontiers
- **We** draw from the knowledge and experience of our members – networks, institutions, projects, associations and individuals who are active on a national, regional or local level, providing an active network of engagement across cultural forms
- **We** create understanding of different cultural needs, practices and applicable policies within a diversity of contexts
- **We** facilitate effective policy-level communications between the European institutions, Member States, regional and local authorities and cultural actors

- **We** generate debate beyond the usual spheres and create peer-to-peer relations with other sectors by positioning the critical value of contemporary culture in relation to the production of knowledge
- **We** embrace the principles that protect human dignity as enshrined in international law, with special focus on the legal instruments that are specific to EU Law (primary and secondary legislation) as well as the European Convention on Human Rights
- **We** advocate for the intrinsic value and positive role of culture in European societies

# mission

**Our mission is to advocate the arts and culture as a fundamental building block of the common future of Europe and beyond. Our network enables us to research the multiple natures of cultural practices, to interact and mediate in order to ease effective policy-level communications and to share our collective knowledge and expertise.**

# what inspires us:

CAE has adopted the following principles as operational ethics and philosophy:

- **We** are a community with **people at its centre** and active policies of care, and a network that works at the service of culture and cultural practices
- **We** identify **plural, inclusive, accessible, free and sustainable practices** in order to question and transform cultural policies, production models and structures
- **We** create common spaces for the **fair sharing of knowledge** based on the diversity of cultural practices, structural forms and interests of the different members
- **We** **make resources accessible**, share them equally and empower members
- **We** are constantly in search of **diversity to reduce vulnerability** and to learn from the multiple nature of cultural practices
- **We** **think of ourselves as a community of practices** with a decentralised leadership, diverse skills and different levels of expertise and participation

# how are we doing it:

We use different approaches to achieve our mission: advocacy, networking and knowledge supported by a platform which distributes relevant information and connects diverse actors. These approaches are parts of an integrated system; they provide feedback to each other, work as independently as possible and also act jointly when necessary in order to achieve our strategic goals.

## Advocacy

As well-positioned observers of EU policies, we proactively engage in a bottom-up and top-down dialogue between European institutions and the cultural and creative sectors. We influence political decisions affecting the cultural and creative sectors, participate in the agenda setting of cultural issues, elaborate and propose policy papers and policy solutions, and create open spaces for public debate.

## Goals

- To be the first port of call for informed opinion and debate about arts and cultural policy at EU level
- To influence European policies for greater and better support and access to culture across the continent and beyond, and to elaborate shared positions to advocate towards European policymakers

## Network

Culture Action Europe is an important network driven by consideration of its members' dynamics and aspirations. It is a horizontal nodal network which ensures equal relations, diversity, accessibility, transparency and participation.

### Goals

- To reinforce peer-to-peer relations among our members
- To enable them to exchange experiences and knowledge through different communities of practices
- To encourage diversity of cultural practice and trans-sectoral approaches among our members
- To facilitate accessibility to resources (such as information, projects and financial sources) and opportunities
- To engage and activate members at a governance level, and to collaborate through co-hosted events that have or can benefit from a European dimension

## Knowledge

We undertake intensive research into specific topics to provide information, ideas and advice to policy and decision-makers, to our members and to other intra-sectoral and cross-sectoral actors.

### Goals

- To provide informed opinion and open debate about cultural practices and policies
- To set up a space for interaction and exchange as

a condition for supporting culture at both European level and in wider contexts, based on the knowledge and expertise of our members

- To analyse the social, economic and geographical and other conditions that we will face in the immediate future and provide direction and guidance on how we can future-proof the cultural and creative sectors
- To find the balance of strategy and policy areas that are cross-disciplinary or discipline neutral and the key sectoral specific areas that need our attention
- To position ourselves as mediators and translators of the various sectors' communities

**We act as an aggregator of cultural communities, which values the knowledge and abilities of its members, the peer-to-peer relations, the reinforcement of equitable expertise sharing and participation within a wide range of dynamics and on different scales.**

# focus 2022- 2024

## **1** Actions upon the current European policies are at the core of Culture Action Europe's advocacy activity.

CAE proactively works to mainstream culture in all relevant policy areas of EU action. CAE's constant cooperation with the European institutions and familiarity with their procedures and inner-workings on the one side, and its proximity to members on the other, sparks a tradition of close engagement with cultural policies and those wider agendas affecting culture at the European level.

Based on CAE members' concerns and aspirations, a further three main focuses of work will be developed during 2022-2024:

**1** **Culture, environment and sustainability.** CAE specifically addresses the cultural contribution to sustainability at all levels, the reorientation of cultural practices towards more sustainable models and the advocacy to ensure the sustainability of the cultural sector itself, all including the environmental dimension.

**2** **Well-being (and well-living)** with a specific focus on access to and participation in culture and cultural rights. CAE addresses the relationship between culture and social cohesion, community building and participation, democracy,

diversity, equality and health, with a specific focus on access to culture and cultural rights.

**3 Welfare and living conditions in the cultural ecosystem.** CAE develops a political agenda that takes into account the specificity of the material living conditions of artists, cultural workers and organisations, with a particular attention given to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the conditions of those artists and cultural workers subject to marginalisation due to gender, race, ethnicity, age, or disability.

# members

The CAE community comprises a wide range of individuals, projects, organisations, institutions and networks, that go beyond national realities and specific cultural practices, and act at the European level.

The activity of the membership is driven by CAE Working Groups and CAE Geographical Hubs.

CAE Working Groups are made up of groups of experts and members working on a specific focus area at EU level to achieve concrete goals in a fixed period of time.

CAE geographical hubs consist of experts and non-experts from our community. It is a more informal group brought together by common interests and challenges in the diverse geographical zones of Europe and beyond, and tends to form communities that last longer than working groups.

# CAE members

- 1968 **IT**
- a-n The artists information company **GB**
- A25 Cultural Foundation **BG**
- ACCR - European Network of Cultural Centres-Historic Monuments **FR**
- ACUME **IT**
- ADKV. Arbeitsgemeinschaft Deutscher Kunstvereine **DE**
- AEC - European Association of Conservatoires **BE**
- AELC - Associació d'Escriptors en Llengua Catalana (Association of Catalan Language Writers) **ES**
- AFO - Association Française des Orchestres **FR**
- Agence luxembourgeoise d'action culturelle **LU**
- AMATEO - European Network for Active Participation in Cultural Activities **BE**
- Angeliki Petrits **GB**
- ARC Research & Consultancy Ltd. **MT**
- ARCI aps **IT**
- ARTY FARTY **FR**
- Asociace nezávislých divadel R **CZ**
- Asociación de Profesionales de la Gestión Cultural de Canarias **ES**
- Ass. cult. ZERKALO **IT**
- Association des Amis de la Fondation Seguin **FR**
- AVnode **IT**
- Baltic Sea Cultural Centre **PL**
- BJCEM - Biennale des Jeunes Créateurs de l'Europe et de la Méditerranée **IT**
- Blumbers Foundation **LV**

- BOZAR - Palais des Beaux-Arts **BE**
- Câmara Municipal de Coimbra **PT**
- CDN de Tours -Théâtre Olympia **FR**
- CEATL - European Council of Associations of Literary Translators **BE**
- ChildPress **NL**
- Chris Torch **IT**
- Ci.CLO Plataforma de Fotografia **PT**
- Circostrada Network / Artcena **FR**
- Cirkus Syd **SE**
- City Culture Institute (Instytut Kultury Miejskiej) **PL**
- CKI - Center for Kunst og Interkultur **DK**
- Clubture Network **HR**
- Compagnia Materiaviva **IT**
- Coopculture- Società Cooperativa Culture **IT**
- Cosimo Del Vecchio **DE**
- Creativeculture Europe- China **BE**
- Cristina Loglio **IT**
- Cultureandprojects **IT**
- Cultuurconnectie **NL**
- CUMEDIAE - Culture & Media Agency Europe **BE**
- CVAN - Contemporary Visual Arts Network **GB**
- D&M Cultural Consultancy **IE**
- D21 Kunstraum Leipzig e.V. **DE**
- D6:EU **CY**
- D6 Culture in Transit **GB**
- Dainius Babilas **LT**
- Društvo Asociacija **SI**
- ECCOM Progetti s.r.l **IT**
- ECHO - European Concert Hall Organisation **BE**
- EDN - European Dancehouse Network **ES**
- EFNYO - European Federation of National Youth Orchestras **AT**
- ELIA - European League of Institutes of the Arts **NL**
- EMC - European Music Council **DE**
- ENCC - European Network of Cultural Centres **BE**

- ETC - European Theatre Convention **DE**
- EUNIC Global **BE**
- Euradia Italia **IT**
- Europe Jazz Network **FR**
- European Choral Association - Europa Cantat **DE**
- European Creative Hubs Network **GR**
- European Cultural Foundation **NL**
- European Fashion Heritage Association **IT**
- European Folk Network **BE**
- European Region of Culture **DK**
- European Secretariat of German Culture NGOs **DE**
- Eurozine **AT**
- Fairouz Tamimi **SE**
- Fanak Fund **FR**
- FECED - Dance from Spain **ES**
- Federation for European Storytelling **BE**
- Festival Girona en Moviment **CH**
- Fiona Kearney **IE**
- Fondazione Fitzcarraldo **IT**
- Fondazione Toscana Spettacolo onlus **IT**
- Foundation ARTeria **PL**
- FP24 Collaborative Art space **BE**
- GAI - Italian young artists association **IT**
- Gdansk Community Foundation **PL**
- George Sarlis **GR**
- H401 **NL**
- Heikedine Günther **CH**
- IAMIC - International Association of Music Information Centres **BE**
- IED Istituto Europeo di Design Spa **IT**
- IETM - International Network for Contemporary Performing Arts **BE**
- IG Kultur Österreich **AT**
- IN SITU / Lieux publics **FR**
- Inigo Lopez **ES**
- Interarts **ES**

- Intercult **SE**
- International Association of Art (IAA) Europe **FJ**
- International Cultural Centre Krakow **PL**
- Irene Mesturino Torino Spettacoli **IT**
- IRMO - Institute for Development and International Relations **HR**
- JMI - Jeunesses Musicales Internationales **BE**
- Journalism liberal **FR**
- Julie Ward **GB**
- Jumana Al-Yasiri **FR**
- Karin Seisboell **DK**
- KARRASKAN- Innovacion en Cultura.Cultura de la Innovacion **ES**
- KEA European Affairs **BE**
- Kosovo Council for Cultural Heritage **XK**
- KRO - Konstnärernas Riksorganisation **SE**
- Krytyka Polityczna / Stanislaw Brzozowski Association **PL**
- Kultura Nova Foundation **HR**
- Kulturanova **RS**
- Kulturregion Rhein-Neckar **DE**
- Kunsten '92 **NL**
- KupoGe - Kulturpolitische Gesellschaft **DE**
- La Tempesta: City, culture & technology **ES**
- LAF - Literature Across Frontiers **GB**
- LEVEL **GB**
- Liv.in.g. **IT**
- LKCA - Landelijk Kennisinstituut Cultuureducatie en Amateurkunst **NL**
- MAŁOPOLSKI INSTYTUT KULTURY W KRAKOWIE **PL**
- Mapa das Ideias **PT**
- Marina Bistolfi **IT**
- Masahat-Open Spaces for Arab Culture in Exile **NO**
- Melting Pro **IT**
- MERAKI Srl **IT**
- Merve Eryuruk **TR**
- Metamedia Association **HR**
- Micaela Casalboni **IT**

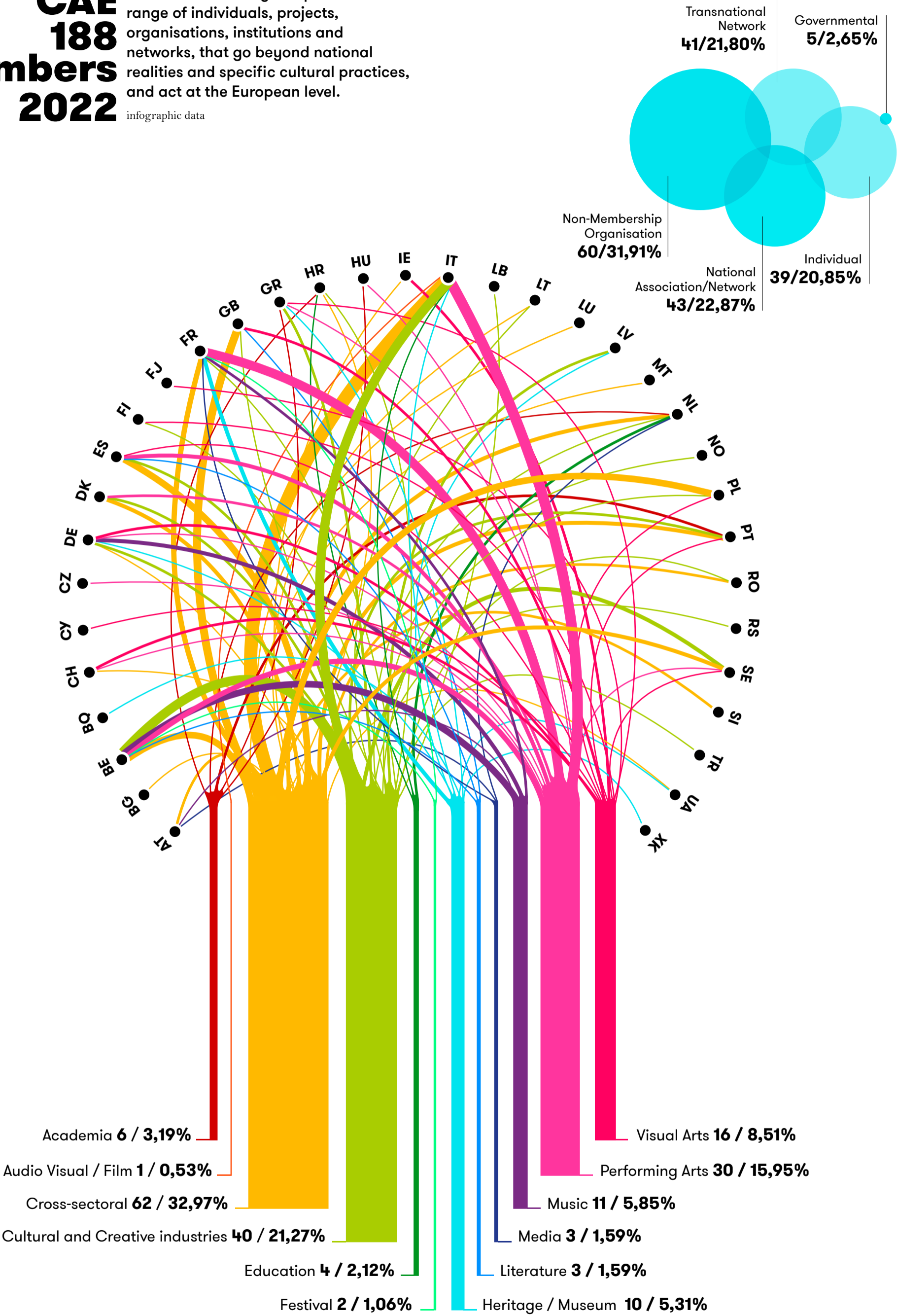
- Michael Culture AISBL **FR**
- MiklagardArts **FI**
- MOTOVILA, Centre for the Promotion of Cooperation in the Cultural and Creative Sectors **SI**
- Município de Oeiras **PT**
- National Association of Creative and Cultural Industries **LT**
- National Institute for Cultural Research and Training **RO**
- Nawar Alhusari **DE**
- NEMO - Network of European Museum Organisations **DE**
- Network of European Royal Residences **FR**
- Nicholas Anastasopoulos **GR**
- Non-Governmental Organization Volyn Foundation **UA**
- Nordisk Teaterlaboratorium - Odin Teatret **DK**
- Northern Dimension Partnership on Culture **LV**
- Objects of Sound **PT**
- Observatorio das industrias criativas **PT**
- On the Move **BE**
- Onda - Office national de diffusion artistique **FR**
- Opera Europa **BE**
- PAAC - La Plataforma Assembleària d'Artistes de Catalunya **ES**
- Paula Cruz Ribeiro **PT**
- PAV **IT**
- PEARLE\* - Live Performance Europe (Performing Arts Employers Association League Europe) **BE**
- Polish Expats Association **GB**
- Pro Progressione **HU**
- RAB - Réseau des arts a Bruxelles / BKO - Brussels Kunstenoverleg **BE**
- Rajae Mechkour **ES**
- Ramon Sangüesa Solé **ES**
- Red de Espacios y Agentes de Cultura Comunitaria, REACC **ES**
- Red Noses International **AT**
- Relais Culture Europe **FR**
- REMA - European Early Music Network **FR**
- Res Artis - International Network of Arts Residencies **NL**

- RESEO - European Network for Opera and Dance Education **BE**
- Riksteatern **SE**
- Robert Manchin **HU**
- Roberto Cimetta Fund **FR**
- SDG17 Greece **GR**
- Silvia Ferrari **IT**
- SNSP - Syndicat national des scènes publiques **FR**
- Space-time Works AB **SE**
- SRSO Callias Foundation gGmbH **DE**
- Suisseculture **CH**
- Swinging Europe **DK**
- SYNDEAC - National Syndicate of Artistic and Cultural Companies **FR**
- TEATRO SCIENTIFICO/TEATRO LABORATORIO **IT**
- TEH - Trans Europe Halles **SE**
- Terramar Museum Foundation **BQ**
- The Cornelius Arts Foundation (TCAF) **GB**
- The Council of Creative Unions of Latvia **LV**
- The European Festival Association **BE**
- The Ukrainian Cultural Foundation **UA**
- The Young Quill **GR**
- Third Space Collective/Gallery **FI**
- TILLT **SE**
- Timis County Youth Foundation **RO**
- Timisoara 2021 – European Capital of Culture Association **RO**
- Tiro Association For Arts **LB**
- Universidade Nova de Lisboa - FCSH **PT**
- Vincent Curie **BE**
- Visarte - Visual Arts Association Switzerland **CH**
- Visual Artists Ireland **IE**
- Wales Arts International **GB**
- Yorgos Taxiarchopoulos **GR**

CAE  
188  
members  
2022

The CAE community comprises a wide range of individuals, projects, organisations, institutions and networks, that go beyond national realities and specific cultural practices, and act at the European level.

infographic data



# join the Culture Action Europe community

As a CAE member you can:

- Shape CAE's advocacy and policy messages
- Participate in CAE hubs and working groups
- Be informed about cultural policy and research at the national, regional and EU level
- Connect with EU-decision makers
- Receive monthly News Digests with relevant information on EU policies related to culture
- Gain free entrance to CAE's annual gathering, *Beyond the Obvious*
- Participate in CAE's events as a speaker/contributor
- Announce your activities on CAE's online platforms
- Find partners and develop joint projects with CAE and/or our members
- Get direct access to the community of over **188 members** from 27 countries through an online platform reserved for our members
- Take part in joint research activities
- Vote at the Annual General Assembly (AGA) or become a candidate for membership of the CAE Executive Committee and shape network's strategic direction and workplan



# Thank u!

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