

Dear Colleagues,

We would like to invite you to participate in the Inter-  
tergroup:

Why?



**“The impact of the EU legislation and policies on culture”**

The Europe 2020 strategy targets social inclusion, employment, education, health and wellbeing, which directly relate to culture. Today in the aftermath of the crisis these priorities are even more crucial. Their impact on culture as well as culture’s contribution to these targets needs to be re-assessed, especially since culture is not mentioned in the Europe 2020 strategy. Only with the adequate recognition of culture's contribution to the EU2020 strategy its objectives and aims can be fully achieved.

EP Committee on Culture, Education and Youth has a broad remit as it covers three thematic domains, each tackled by specific policies and programmes. However, a number of EU public policies which impact the development of cultural skills and competences do not enter into the scope of the EP Culture Committee’s work: from those related to regional development, social cohesion, to those concerning the environment and tourism, from those dealing with the digital agenda, research and innovation to those impacting on the regulation of state aid or the internal market.

Therefore, the creation of a space for a cross-party and cross-committee reflection and commitment on these issues is urgently needed to ensure that the potential of culture as a strategic resource and key asset in the EU is explored when building smart, sustainable and inclusive Europe. This gains particular importance if the EU fully acknowledges that its cultural capital is Europe’s main advantage on the international arena.

What?

The overall objective of the group is to ensure the contribution of culture to social wellbeing is taken in account in the making of the EP legislative and political works. The group would contribute to mainstreaming culture in the work of all EP committees, also in connection to the work of other EU and international bodies.

More particularly, the intergroup should focus on:

- assessing the impact that the selected EU policies, legislation and directives - targeted to policy domains other than culture (eg. state aid, internal market, telecommunication)- have on culture and cultural heritage; assessing the potential contribution of culture and cultural heritage to the definition and implementation of such acts.

- developing knowledge and political basis for securing a better understanding of culture and heritage's contribution to sustainable development and wellbeing in the next generation of European strategies and policies, but also including the EU2020's review.

Who?

The intergroup is open to all MEPs committed to the vision outlined in the concept note and to promotion of the role of culture in this process through their everyday work.

We look forward to hearing from you;

Best wishes,

MEP Mercedes Bresso (S&D), former President of the Committee of the Regions

MEP Bogdan Zdrojewski (EPP), former Polish Minister of Culture