

## Ideas room – Express

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### Preamble

Massive intrusions into people's private spheres, censorship, self-censorship in fear of retaliation, threats to people's physical integrity and to security, demolition of cultural symbols, imposition of cultural models, asymmetric implementation of the rights depending on political considerations, ...

Despite the efforts of many, the right to freely express oneself – also through artistic expression - is under growing pressure. Everywhere around the world. In Europe, the supposed cradle of human rights, as well.

### Issues

**>> Please consider sharing your views with regard to one or more of the following questions in the first 10' of your intervention.**

Freedom of expression is a pillar for democratic development. How to reconcile its fulfillment with the right to security or the right to freedom of thought and religion? Is the challenge different in Europe then elsewhere?

What are the **invisible** enemies of a fair balance? And what are the supporters?

Is the freedom of artistic expression understood and protected as part of a broader system of fundamental rights- or not? Why?

Is the restriction imposed on Dieudonne' in France rightful while those imposed in Hungary on many cultural players are unacceptable? What are the implications? How can informed and less informed people appreciate the differences if and when they exist?

What can those living in Europe (and not only) do to enhance freedom of expression in Europe? Is this relevant for those living outside Europe? In what terms?

Is there anything in particular of which artists and cultural operators should be in charge of in the struggle for the freedom of expression?

What should Europe's role be in the world in this regard? How? Why?