



CULTURE, CITIES AND IDENTITY IN EUROPE

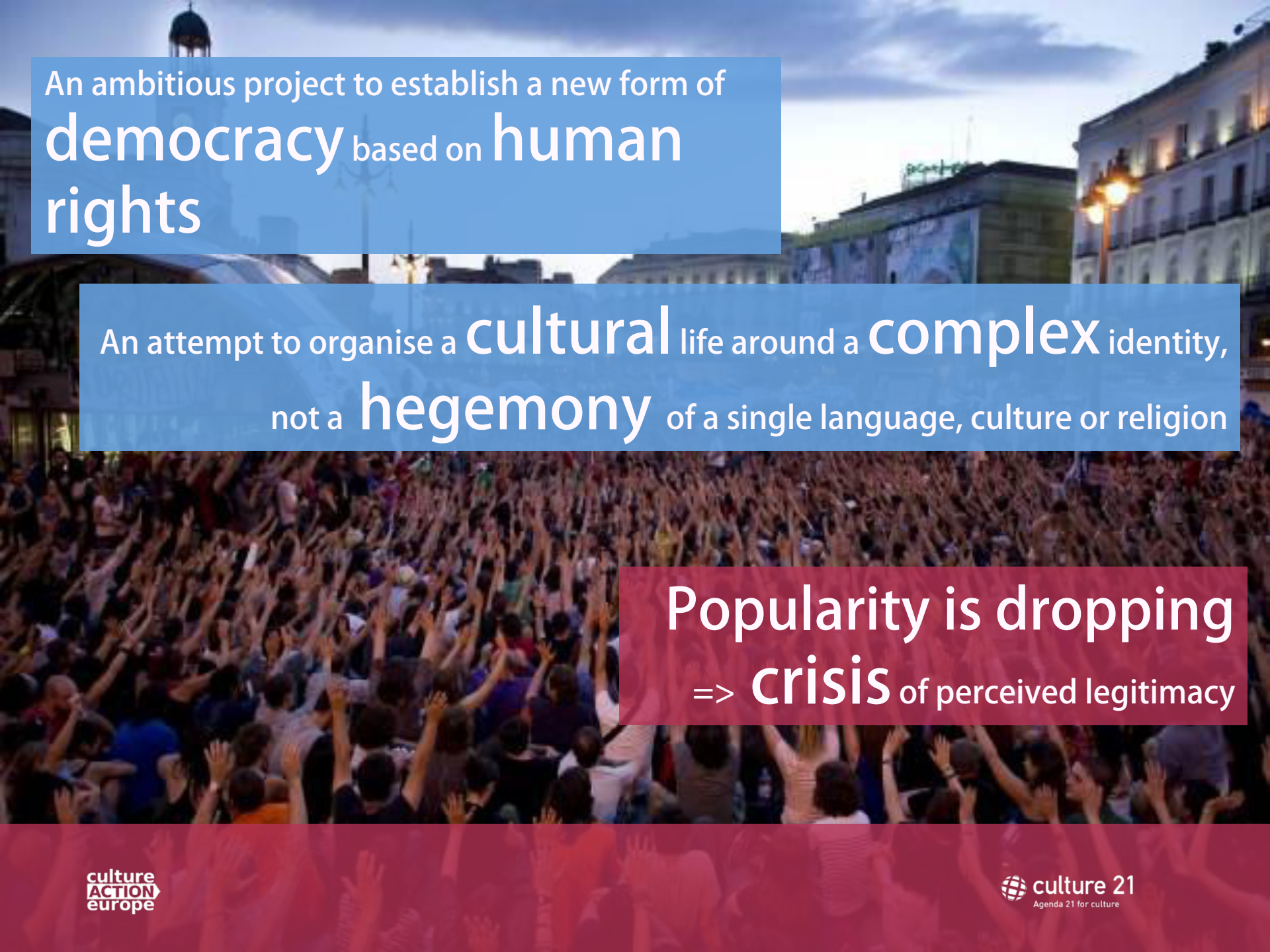
The study commissioned by the EESC and jointly carried out by Culture Action Europe and Agenda 21 for culture - UCLG



European Economic and Social Committee

**culture
ACTION
europe**

 **culture 21**
Agenda 21 for culture



An ambitious project to establish a new form of
democracy based on **human**
rights

An attempt to organise a **cultural** life around a **complex** identity,
not a **hegemony** of a single language, culture or religion

Popularity is dropping
=> **crisis** of perceived legitimacy

EVERYWHERE CITIZENS ARE LESS SATISFIED WITH THEIR LIVES



Gallup World Poll

(since 2006, 140+ countries, annual data collection)

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October 15, 2012

For Most in EU, Life Is Not Improving

Life ratings in Greece and Spain have declined the most since 2008

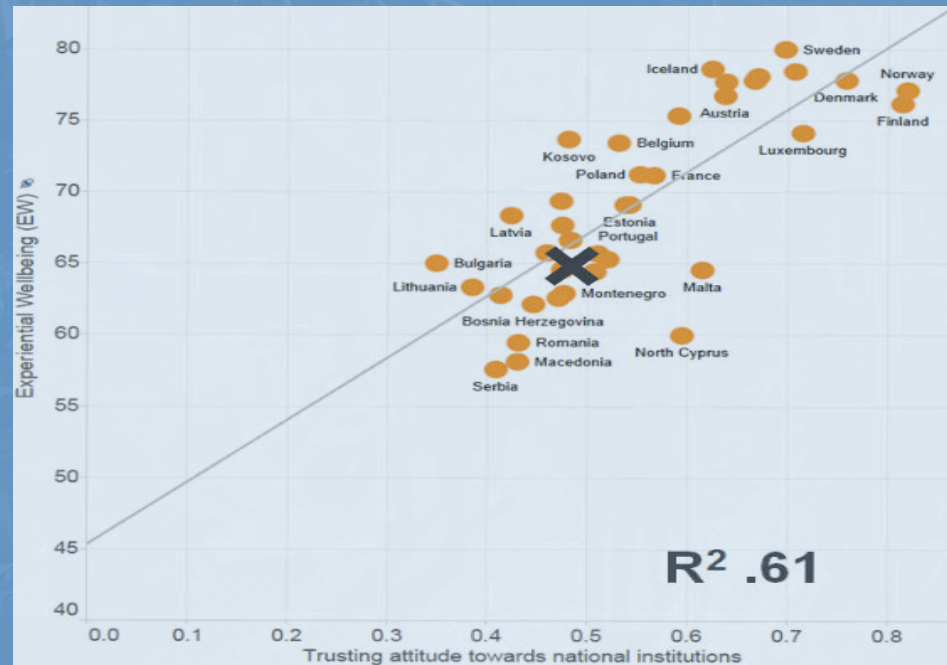
Brussels — As the European Union struggles with a continuing economic crisis, residents' life evaluation ratings show little or no improvement, and in some countries, they have worsened further. Life ratings have declined the most in Cyprus, Spain, and France in 2012 compared with last year. In the handful of countries where life ratings have increased — Bulgaria, Romania, Lithuania, and Portugal — the percentage who are "thriving" is still among the lowest in Europe.

% Thriving	2011	2012	Change (pct. pts.)
Cyprus	44	33	-11
Spain	39	31	-8
France	46	39	-7
Slovenia	32	28	-4
Netherlands	66	62	-4
Hungary	15	12	-3
Czech Republic	34	31	-3
Denmark	74	71	-3
Finland	64	61	-3
Ireland	54	51	-3

EVERYWHERE WELLBEING EQUALS TRUST & NOT BEING LONELY

DIRECT EFFECTS:

TRUST IN GOVERNMENTS
IMPACTS THE
"QUALITY OF LIFE"



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EVERYWHERE WELLBEING EQUALS TRUST & NOT BEING LONELY

DIRECT EFFECTS:

UNEMPLOYMENT

BEING WITHOUT SUPPORT NETWORKS
THE WORST OF ALL

$-.73^{***}$

POOR HEALTH

$-.50^{***}$

EVALUATIVE
WELLBEING

NO ONE TO COUNT ON

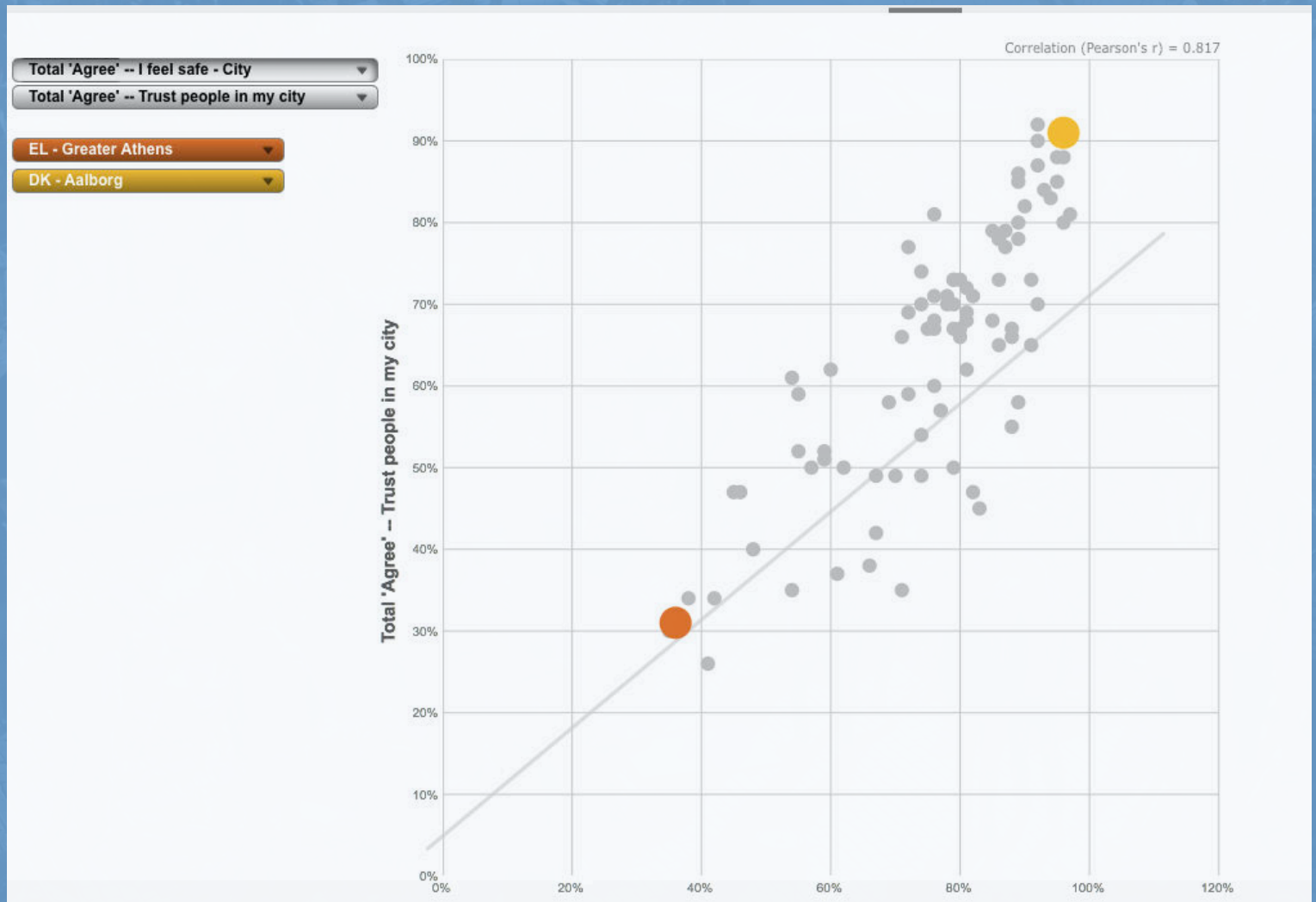
$-.82^{***}$

CANTRIL LADDER
SCORES FROM 0 TO 10

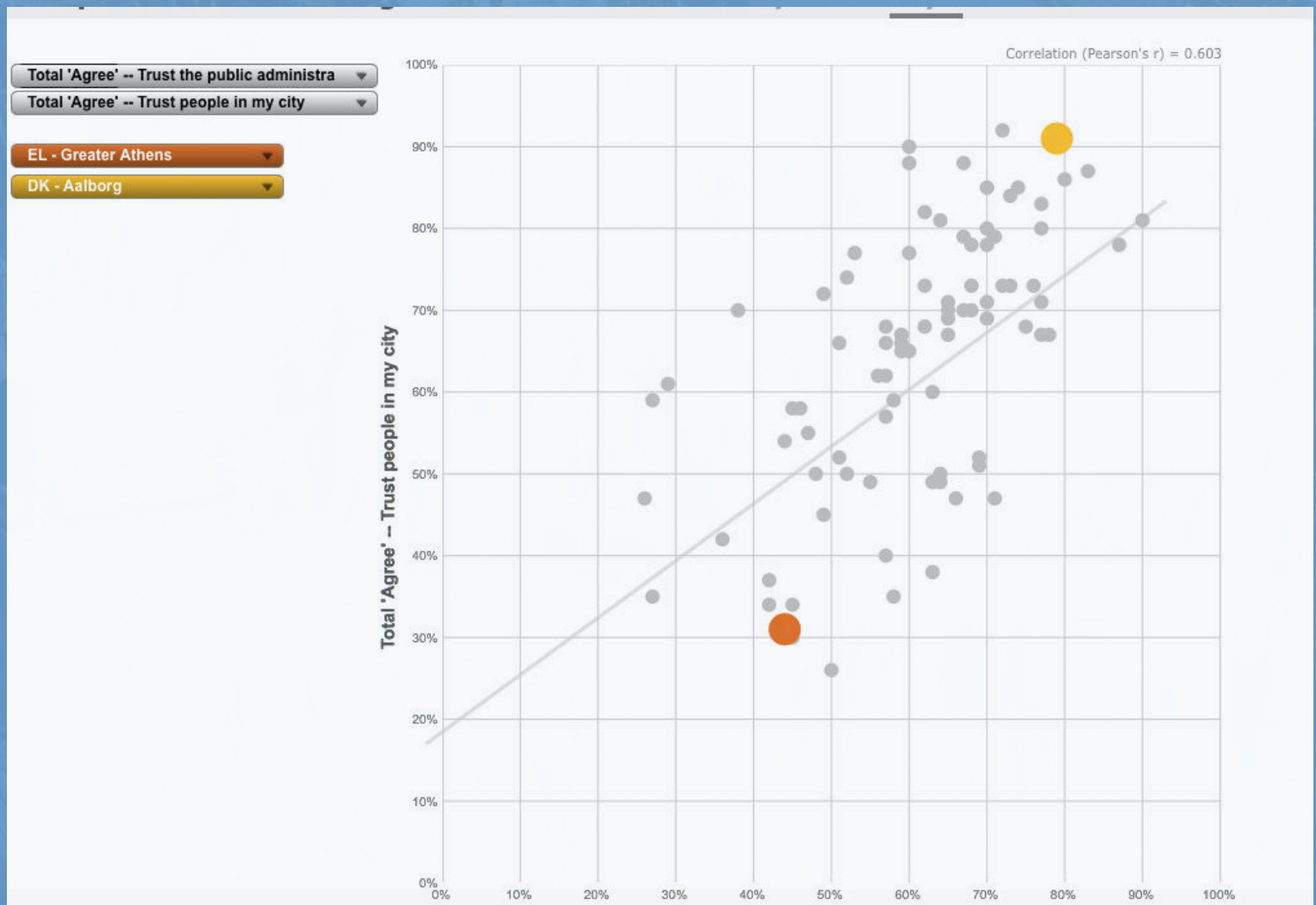
Data: EU27 – 2008-2012 (Gallup World Poll)

Multilevel linear regression, with individuals (residual) nested within year-NUTS2 (level-1), nested within NUTS2 (level-2), nested within countries (level-3)

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**EVERYWHERE TRUSTING PEOPLE
AROUND MATTERS**



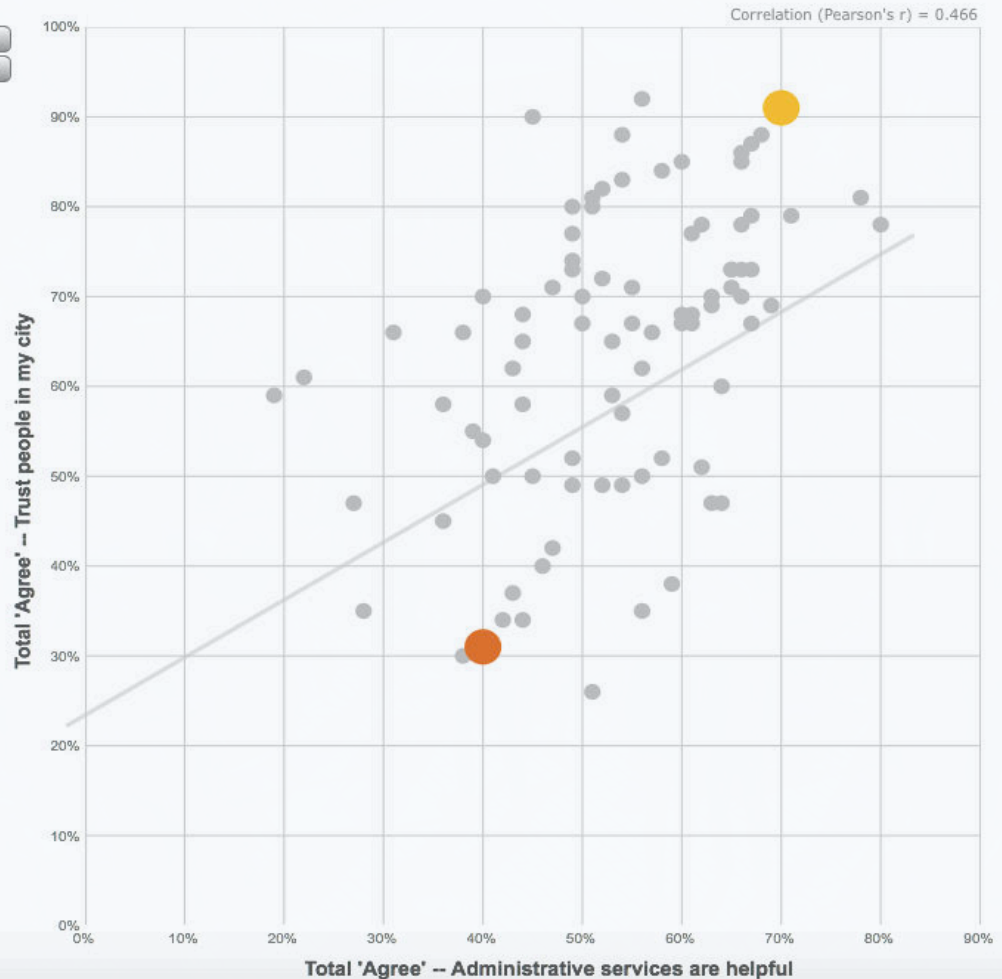
**EVERYWHERE TRUSTING PEOPLE
AROUND MATTERS**

Total 'Agree' -- Administrative services are helpful

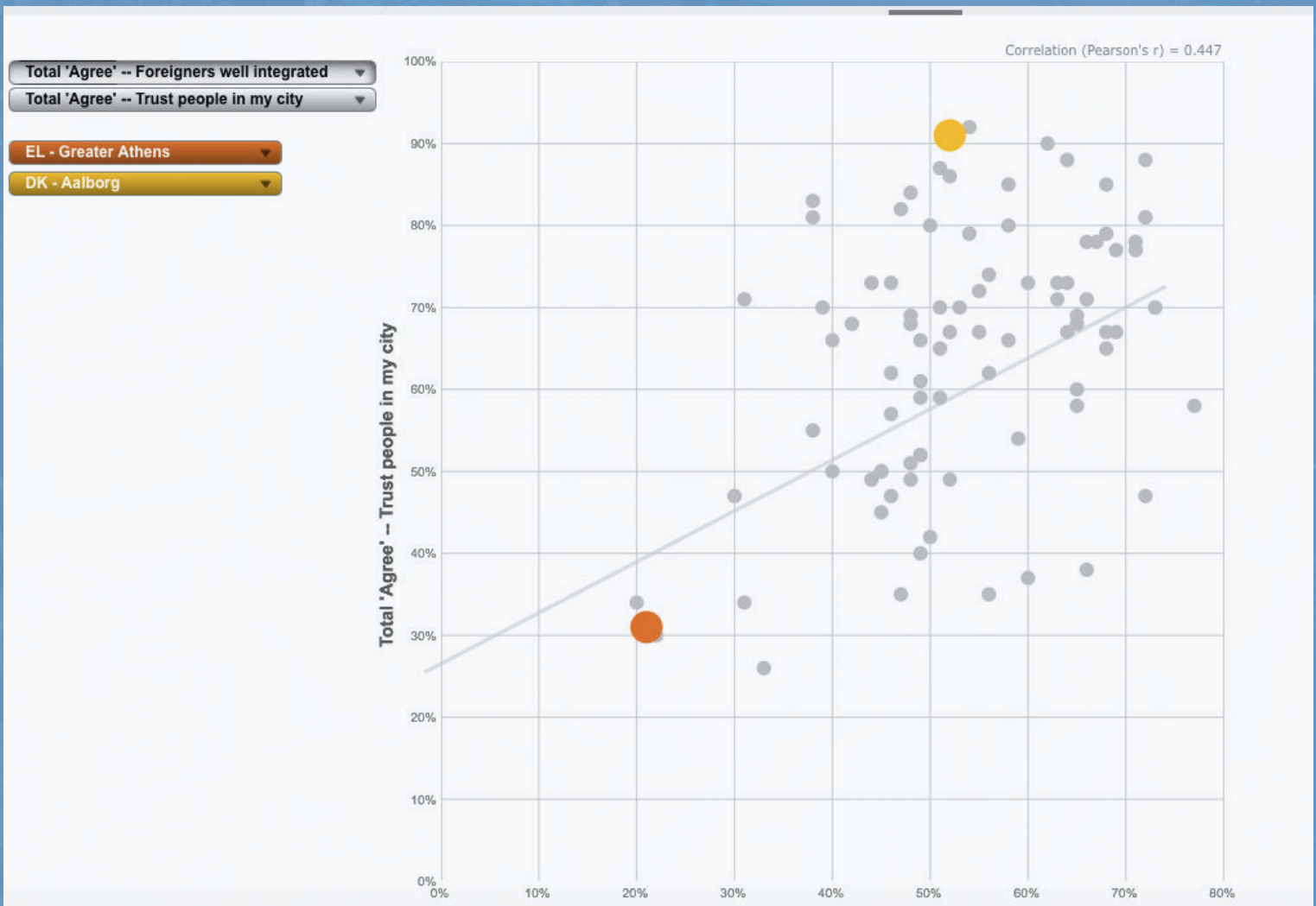
Total 'Agree' -- Trust people in my city

EL - Greater Athens

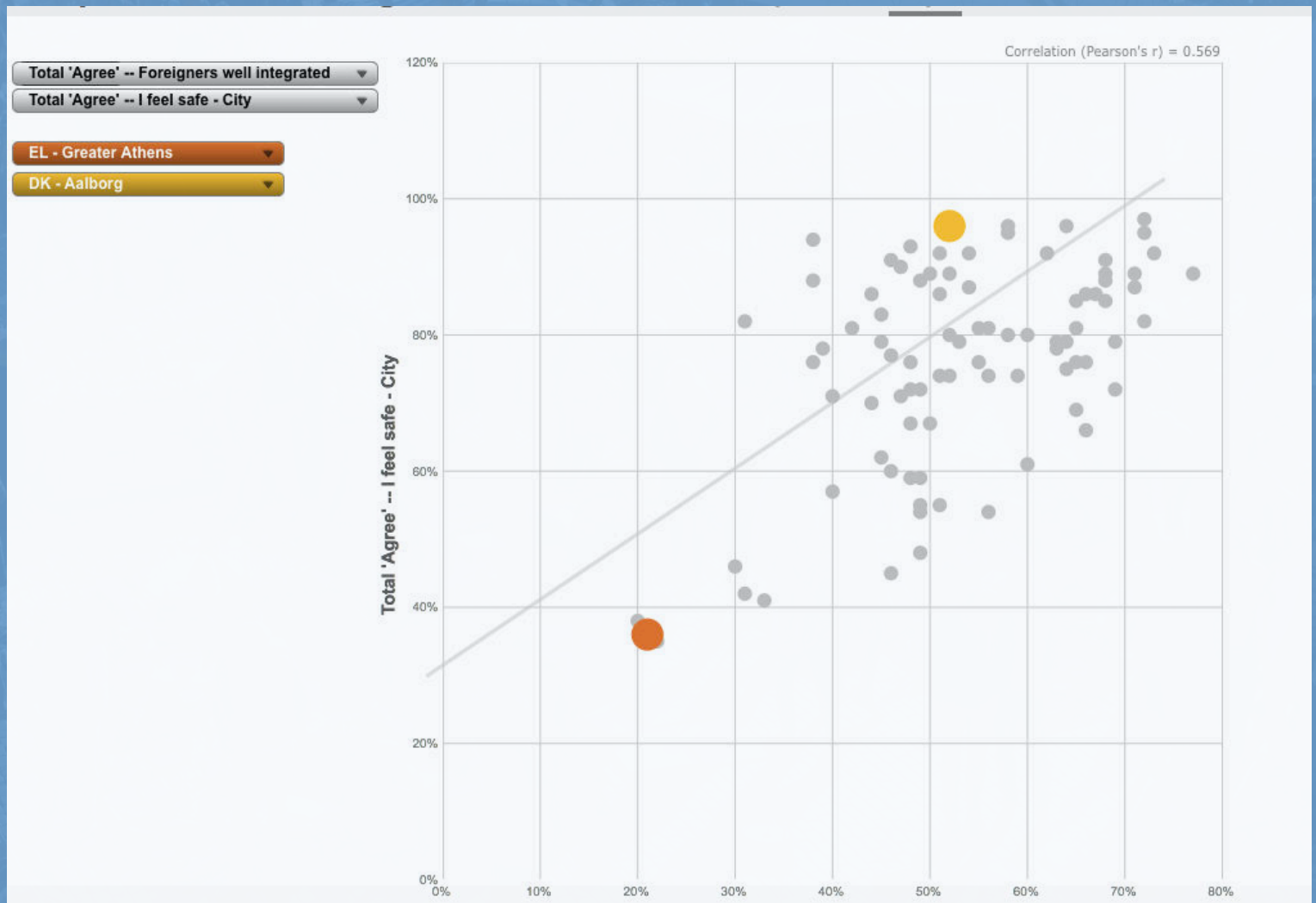
DK - Aalborg



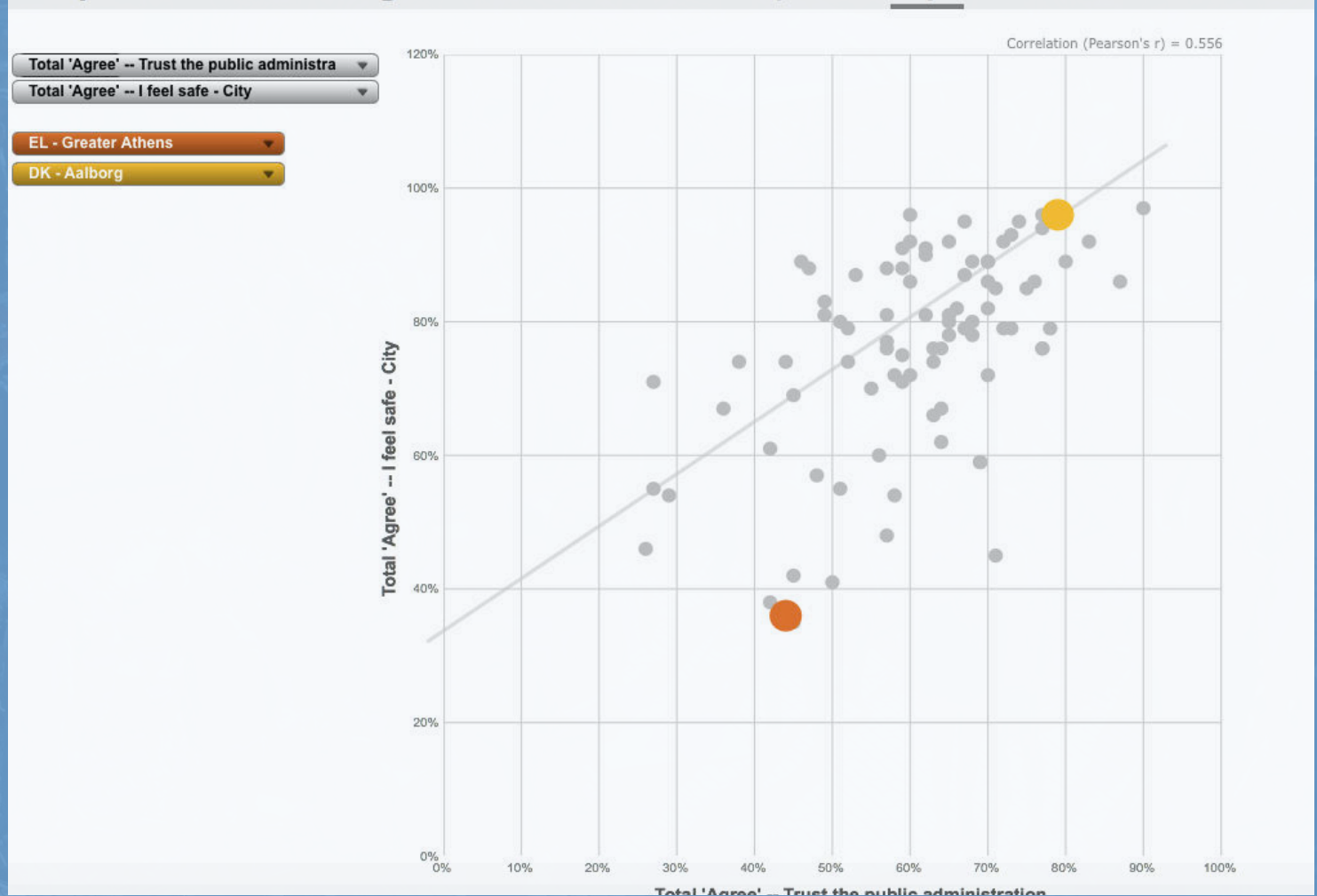
**EVERYWHERE TRUSTING PEOPLE
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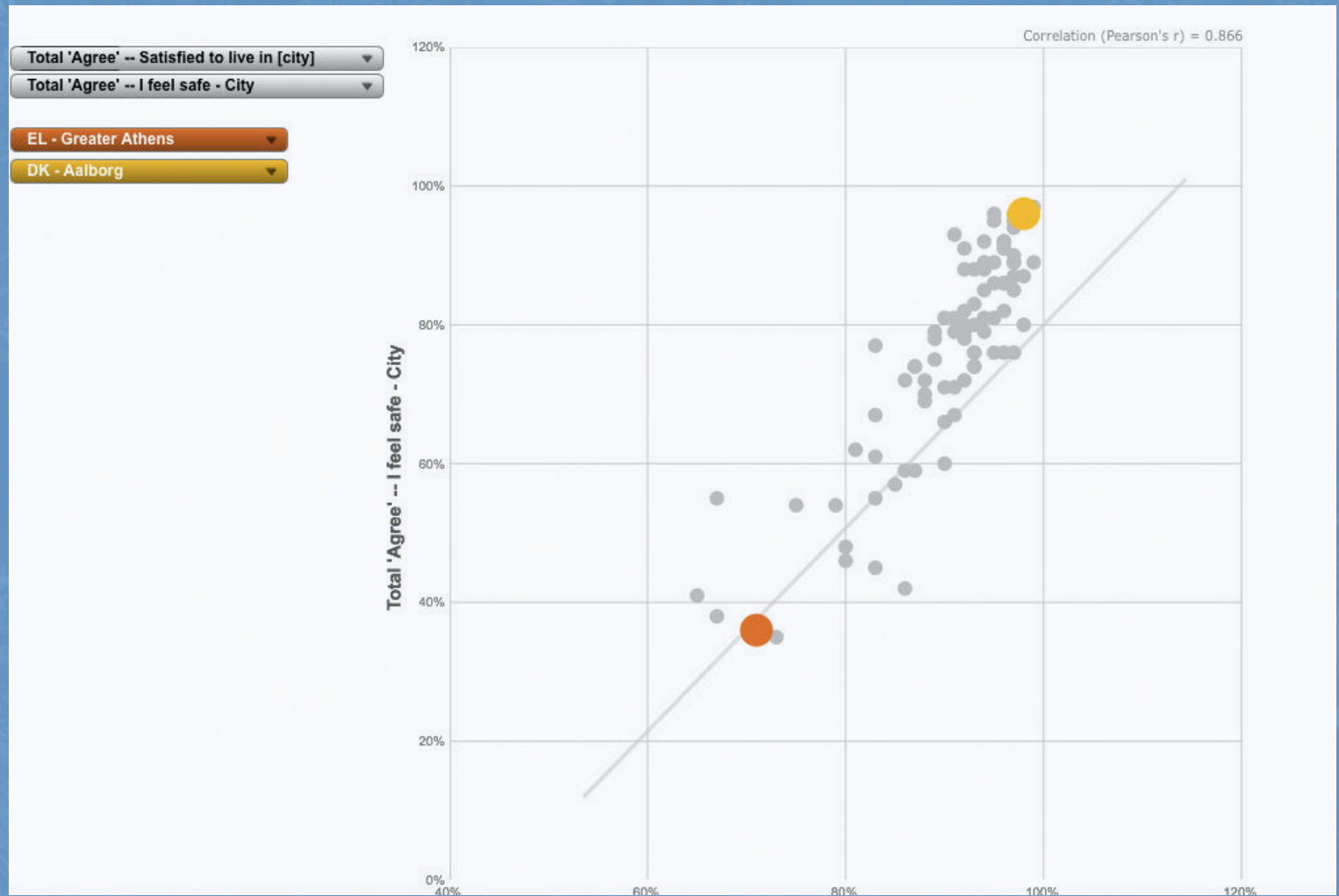
EVERYWHERE TRUSTING PEOPLE AROUND MATTERS



**EVERYWHERE THE SENSE OF
SAFETY RELATES TO TRUST**



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SAFETY RELATES TO TRUST**



THE SENSE OF SAFETY RELATES TO THE SATISFACTION WITH THE PLACE ONE LIVES

A background photograph of a tightrope walker balancing on a thin wire stretched across a city street. The walker is a man in a light-colored tank top and dark pants, leaning forward. A crowd of people is gathered on the street, watching the performance. In the background, there are historic buildings, including a large cathedral with a tall spire. The image is slightly faded to make the text stand out.

A NEW ROLE FOR GOVERNMENTS: TO SECURE CITIZENS' WELLBEING

**WHERE?
WHERE THEY LIVE THEIR LIVES.
IN CITIES.**



Economic growth



Reconverting cities



Integration



European identity

CULTURE IN CITIES

Economic value of culture

Cultural
industries



Creative
industries

Creative
economy

Culture **reconverts** cities



Cultural use of
**public
space**

Citizen
participation

Foundation Zollverein, Germany

Decentralising
cultural activities

Culture for integration and inclusiveness

Intercultural
dialogue

Gender
equality



Teatro dell'Argine, Italy

Special
needs

Culture and European identity

Bilateral &
multilateral
activities



New models
of democracy

Global **cultural**
citizenship

Recommendations

Recognise **cultural rights**
as fundamental to human
development

- Envision culture as an enabler, not only as an output
- Promote cultural diversity in the framework of human rights
- Deepen joint efforts between culture & human rights

Recommendations

Acknowledge **culture** as
necessary for **sustainable**
development

- Make culture a stand-alone pillar supporting sustainable development

- Recognize and assess better the impact of culture on transversal public and private initiatives

- Incorporate culture in cohesion strategies and recognise its potential beyond its contribution to economic growth

Recommendations

Include **new players** in the
democratic **governance**
of culture

- Place dialogue between institutions and civil society at the heart of cultural governance and decision-making

- Acknowledge the importance of grass-roots cultural initiatives and the emergent processes they lead

Recommendations

Support **exchange** between cultures to foster social and economic **development**

- Put cross-border co-operation and mobility at the centre of the development of a European cultural identity

- Encourage and facilitate collaboration and networking among cities in and outside Europe

- Allow migration to be part of the solution, not the problem

- Support the role of cities in sustainable development on international level

Recommendations

Empower **cities'** decisions on
culture to shape our **future**

- Use cultural spaces to enhance participation
- Use exchange and participation to put the periphery back at the core of society
- Increase security through cultural participation, inclusion and "social control" of the public space
- Fund cultural processes, not only cultural infrastructure
- Reinvest cultural benefits in cultural ecosystems



Thank you!

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