

EN

AMPLIFY

Il futuro dell'Europa
è il tuo futuro

Italy

Contribution
to the Conference on the
Future of Europe

#Amplify
#CulturalDealEU
#TogetherEU
#TheFutureIsYours

October 2021

AMPLIFY

Make the future of
Europe yours

Amplify is a project working across 12 European countries that brings underrepresented voices in the cultural sector to the Conference on the Future of Europe. During the project, project members work together to write a set of recommendations to EU decision-makers, focusing on ideas, hopes, and demands for the vision of the Future of Europe. Then, after the Conference ends, there will be an opportunity to respond to and publicly advocate for these ideas.

What is the [Conference on the Future of Europe](#)?

The Conference on the Future of Europe is the first initiative coordinated by the European Institutions to offer an open, inclusive, and democratic forum for pan-European, citizen-led series of debates about crucial issues that shape Europe's future. Such issues include Europe's economic and social system, culture, education, climate protection, and the EU core values. The conference will also explore the lessons that Europe can learn from the pandemic. The goal is to receive proposals from people across Europe in order to collectively imagine our shared future.

How are voices being heard?

Through local working sessions, participants will collaborate in a group to write a set of recommendations. These will be submitted on the Conference of Future of Europe platform for the public to see and interact with. Culture Action Europe put forward a recommendation in combination with those of all 12 countries directly to EU decision-makers.

How can cultural communities get involved in Amplify?

Amplify's main goal is to gather ideas, proposals, recommendations, and concerns about the vision of culture in the future of Europe. There are four main parts of the project that rely on collaboration and energy at the community level.

Connect

Identify organisations, projects, and/or individuals in the cultural sector who are working to create access and inclusion within underrepresented and/or marginalised communities across Europe

Plan

Meet in groups to collaboratively write recommendations to be submitted on the Conference on the Future of Europe platform

Mobilise

Start sharing and customising the campaign locally for the Future of Europe and get people interested in sharing their ideas for the Conference

Amplify

In Spring 2022, meet for a live Hackathon event that reacts to the conclusions of the Conference and advocate for key focuses for the future of Europe

Find more information about Amplify [here](#).

Introduction

"Amplify: Make the Future of Europe Yours," is a European project that takes place in 12 Member States to bring voices at risk of exclusion or under-representation of the cultural sector to the Conference on the future of Europe. The project included working sessions at the local level, during which participants collaborated as a group to write a series of recommendations for EU decision-makers with a focus on hopes and visions for the future of Europe. This recommendation is the result of the Amplify sessions that took place in Rome, Italy, between September and October 2021, with 40 participants.

Themes

- a) The right to culture is denied in many contexts
- b) Culture and education must be placed at the center of the political agenda, at European, national and local level

Recommendations

1. Promote the link between the territory and European institutions, through the dissemination of knowledge on EU activities in the various sectors and create opportunities for discussion
2. Promote training opportunities, of social and cultural/creative nature, for young people
3. Support young cultural and creative companies in activating long-term projects
4. Activate creative, cultural and social processes in marginalized contexts, also pushing institutions to work in these territories and in a more widespread way
5. Pay attention not only to the relationship between cities and rural areas, but also between different urban contexts and encourage the presence of more cultural and social services in the territories
6. Support synergies - through alliances / networks - between different sectors to promote systemic change
7. Invest more in the cultural and creative sector, especially in updating professionals and systems for assessing and measuring the social impact of culture and creativity
8. Pay particular attention to the social and cultural sustainability of the processes

Discussion

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The two sessions saw the participation of two very heterogeneous groups. In the first case, they were representatives of socio-cultural associations from a suburb of Rome and some citizens. The issues discussed were the difficult socio-economic situation of the neighbourhood; the educational poverty in which most of the inhabitants live; the problems of legality, of school dropout. The central core of the discussion was the right to culture, which in a context like that must be supported, encouraged, created. It is a context in which institutions, including Europe, are perceived as absent or very distant from the needs of citizens. In the second, the discussion took place with a group of cultural and social operators, artists, mediators, teachers and researchers from various parts of Italy. The discussion focused more on the need to work in more trans-disciplinary and trans-sectoral ways, with a focus on the cultural, social and economic sustainability of projects and initiatives, so that cultural organizations/institutions are put in the conditions for promoting and fostering the right to culture for all communities and not only those that traditionally benefit from it.

