



EUROPEAN EDUCATION AND CULTURE
EXECUTIVE AGENCY (EACEA)

The Director

Brussels

Mr Lars EBERT
Secretary-General
Culture Action Europe

**Subject: Reply to your letter of 8 December 2025, our reference:
Ares(2025)10825554 – 08/12/2025**

Dear Secretary-General,

I acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 8 December 2025, by which you replied to my letter Ares(2025)10284255 – 25/11/2025, on the topic of the evaluation results of the Creative Europe Culture – European Cooperation Projects 2025 Call for proposals [CREA-CULT-2025-COOP](#).

I take note of the fact that Culture Action Europe has consistently supported the introduction of the new maximum cap of three applications per organisation, and of the fact that your organization takes no issue with the intent and with the communication of the new eligibility criterion.

Nevertheless, in your last letter you reiterate your concerns on the way the rule in question was concretely implemented by EACEA.

While I understand your deception, I would like to reassure you that EACEA is examining the potential shortcomings of the current notification system on the associated partners and will duly assess every formal complaint received.

Regarding the fact that a different configuration of the IT systems might have helped detecting the unauthorised use of PICs and the unauthorized inclusion in proposals, I reiterate that discussions on this matter with the persons responsible of the management of the corporate grant management IT system are already ongoing.

I however also reiterate that the responsibility of ensuring that proposals are compliant, according to the terms of the call, rests with the coordinators.

In this respect, I have already clarified that, first of all, when submitting a proposal, the coordinating organisations declared to have the explicit consent of all applicants on their participation and on the content of the proposal. They also declared to be fully compliant with the eligibility criteria set out in the call. Moreover, coordinators were duly informed that false statements or incorrect information may lead to administrative sanctions under the Financial Regulation.

I therefore emphasize that legal representatives of the coordinating and partner organizations are responsible for ensuring compliance with the Call's provisions and for the correctness of the declarations they submit to the EACEA. They are also responsible of the possible unauthorised use of other entities' PICs and of their unauthorised inclusion in proposals without knowledge and/or consent.

On this particular aspect, let me reassure you that the complaints related to the alleged 'inclusions without consent' in proposals are being taken very seriously by my services; EACEA is currently investigating into these complaints, and is preparing to take the appropriate follow-up measures.

At the same time, several coordinating organizations also have submitted evaluation review requests (or 'redress requests') and, should the outcome of such requests be positive, the related proposals will be re-evaluated. Please note that, in certain instances, investigations on alleged unauthorised use of PICs and on alleged unauthorized inclusion in proposals have been triggered by the submission of redress requests.

Once the situation analysed as a whole, EACEA will be able to adopt appropriate decisions on a case-by-case basis.

To conclude, we firmly believe that the CREA-CULT-2025-COOP selection has been implemented fully in line with the provisions of the Call. Nevertheless, let me reassure you that we will proceed with re-evaluations if, after assessing a redress request, evidence of errors in the selection procedure will be detected.

We believe that in these last exchanges we have clarified all the issues you raised, and we trust on your understanding that EACEA is genuinely committed to solving the situation in the best way possible.

Best regards,

Sophie BEERNAERTS
Director, EACEA

*

* * *

C.c.: Georg HAEUSLER, Director for Culture, Creativity & Sport, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport & Culture, European Commission
Nela RIEHL, Chair, Committee on Culture & Education, European Parliament
Emma RAFOWICZ, Vice-Chair, Committee on Culture & Education, European Parliament, AgoraEU Rapporteur