Cultural and Creative Sectors in the EU

Inter-parliamentary Committee Meeting
Brussels, 11 October 2016

Purpose

The Committee on Culture and Education is organising an inter-parliamentary committee meeting dealing with the cultural and creative sectors in the EU. This meeting brings together Members of the European Parliament and representatives of national parliaments, the European Commission, the Slovak Presidency of the Council of the EU, and key stakeholders and academic experts, amongst others. The debates will focus mainly on existing legislation, experiences at national level, strategic action and ideas for the way forward at European level. The panel discussions will look into the challenges faced by the cultural and creative sectors in the EU, strategies for promoting the cultural and creative sectors, and fostering citizens’ engagement in culture.

Inside

This leaflet contains extracts from relevant supporting analyses provided by Parliament’s policy departments for the committees on Culture and Education, Internal Market and Consumer Protection, Legal Affairs, Constitutional Affairs, and Foreign Affairs. Scan the QR code or click on the title of the publication for access.

Publications

Europe for citizens: new programme implementation – first experiences - July 2016

The Europe for Citizens Programme (EfC) was initially established for 2007-2013 with the purpose of enhancing citizen support to European integration. After the success of the first programming period, a revamped version of the EfC was adopted in April 2014. While the essence of the EfC remained the same, its revision sought to simplify its structure and make it more accessible for applicants. The programme objectives were redrafted with a simpler vocabulary and the number of programme strands was reduced. This study looks into first experiences with the implementation of the new programme and aims to contribute to an understanding of what works well and what are the main areas of concern for applicants and beneficiaries. The analysis is based on 24 interviews with the National Contact Points of the programme.
The new role of public libraries in local communities - July 2016

Public libraries and local authorities have had to, especially in the last few years, meet new challenges caused by ongoing social, technical and economic changes. This briefing paper provides a short analysis of the impact that public libraries can have on the intellectual and cultural development of citizens in the 21st century. Particular attention is given to the vital role of libraries in providing an open public space for learning, culture and social communication. Following from the analysis, respective recommendations for policy action at EU level are outlined.

Creative Europe - Culture sub-programme: first experiences of implementing the new programme - June 2016

The Creative Europe programme (2014-2020) is separated in two sub-programmes, with the Culture sub-programme financing activities linked to the cultural and creative sectors. This study looks at the implementation of this sub-programme based on the Creative Europe National Desks' first impressions. The sub-programme is considered to be successfully implemented and cultural operators have a positive opinion of it. Nevertheless, a diversified picture emerges in terms of successfully implemented priorities, schemes, participation and implementation conditions, and management.

Creative Europe - Media: implementation, first experiences - June 2016

The Media sub-programme of the Creative Europe programme (2014-2020) supports the EU film and audio-visual industry by financing the development, distribution and promotion of films, TV series, animation, documentaries and video games, festivals, cinema networks, training and cross-cultural projects. This study looks at the responses to an anonymous questionnaire sent to the Creative Europe Desks, revealing the main challenges in the implementation of the programme and the main difficulties experienced by applicants. It also offers conclusions and recommendations.

European cultural institutes abroad - March 2016

The objective of this study is to have a better understanding of the role that the national cultural institutes of EU Member States could play in a European strategy for culture in the EU's external relations. It analyses the strengths and weaknesses of their missions, structures and resources. It also aims at determining whether their activities have a European dimension and whether they would be able to assist the EU in further promoting its priorities and fundamental values in third countries. The study also sets out a number of policy recommendations.

European historical memory: policies, challenges and perspectives - September 2013

This note provides some reflections on the challenges, current policies and possible future prospects of historical memory in a European context. Based on acknowledging the complex nature of collective memories and shared European historical remembrance, including their susceptibility to political instrumentalisation, it is argued that a critical culture of remembering needs to be developed. The vital role of education as a tool to create an informed historical consciousness is emphasised, which provides the basis for dealing with Europe's past, its present and future.

Social economy - May 2016

The social economy is a sector of the market which operates between the public and the private sphere. Although a universally accepted definition of the social economy still does not exist, this study adopts the following definition: the social economy consists of private, formally-organised enterprises and networks that operate on the basis of democratic and participatory decision-making processes, producing market and nonmarket goods and services. It then goes on to assessing its important role in the EU and identifies priority policies to reach its full potential.
Streaming and online access to content and services - March 2014

An improved access to information and content through internet is leading to efficiency, innovation and a significant reduction of the environmental footprint through dematerialisation of consumption. However, the current legal and economic setting in Europe is leading to a partitioning of mobile internet access and internet content along national borders, affecting benefits that could be derived from the Digital Single Market and preventing Europe from consolidating its comparative advantage on the global ICT market. This study looks at these issues and offers recommendations.

EU portability regulation - August 2016

This paper analyses the recent proposal for a regulation on ensuring the cross-border portability of online content. The proposal is a dynamic shift towards a new legislative tactic which aims to have a stronger, full and direct effect and, if voted through, it would be the first regulation in the field of copyright law and related rights. On the other hand, its scope of application does not reform EU copyright law as a whole, as proposed by the proponents of an EU copyright title or Code, but addresses a very specific side-effect of copyright territoriality.

The potential and challenges of e-participation in the European Union - May 2016

European countries have started exploring e-participation as a way of regaining citizens' trust and revitalising European democracy by developing a more responsive, transparent and participatory decision-making process. The main objectives of this study are to identify best practices in EU Member States, describe e-participation tools and initiatives at the EU level, and explain the benefits and challenges of e-participation. It concludes with policy recommendations on how to ensure the effective implementation of e-participation mechanisms at the EU level.

The potential and challenges of e-voting in the European Union - May 2016

The implementation of internet voting carries the promise of elections with more participants and of strengthened efficiency in the electoral process, bringing voters and representatives closer. This study addresses the potentials and challenges of the implementation of internet voting in European Parliament elections. It considers the social, political, legal, and technological implications of its introduction as an alternative to on-paper ballot and builds on recent experience and successful e-enabled elections to issue technical recommendations on internet voting in the EU.

The balance of EU copyright: impact of exceptions and limitations on industries and economic growth - June 2015

This note gives some bibliographical references and documentation relevant to the work of the Working Group on Intellectual Property Rights and Copyright Reform, established by the European Parliament Committee on Legal Affairs. The aim of the Working group is to pave the way to the reform of the EU legal framework on copyright. Its mission is to stimulate reflection by providing a platform for debate with stakeholders and enable MEPs to drive in-depth examination of the challenges and prospects at stake. Input will be put forward as a basis for copyright reform activities.

The increasing role of the EU's culture, education and science diplomacy in Asia - June 2015

Technological changes and globalisation have altered international relations. Just as the growth of telecommunications and transport technologies has facilitated the rapid dissemination of information and the global movement of people, traditional diplomacy has gradually grown to incorporate new methods, in which people-to-people contacts, networks and non-state actors play an influential role. The EU engages in cultural, education and scientific cooperation activities with most Asian countries. Yet despite the diverse outreach efforts, knowledge of the EU remains scant in Asia.
Policy Departments

There are five policy departments within the European Parliament's DGs for Internal Policies and for External Policies. They are responsible for providing both in-house and external high-level independent expertise, analysis and policy advice at the request of committees and other parliamentary bodies (delegations, President, Bureau, Secretary-General). Their expertise covers all areas of activity of the European Parliament. They are closely involved in the work of committees, which they support in shaping legislation on and exercising democratic scrutiny over EU policies.

Outputs

Most frequently prepared at the request of a European Parliament committee or delegation, the written output of the policy departments comprises a wide range of products, including studies, in-depth country- or issue-specific analyses, briefings examining issues of strategic importance, as well as notes containing short EU-oriented analyses of recent events or developments. They serve a variety of purposes: they can feed directly into the legislative work of a specific committee or serve as a briefing for delegations of members. The policy departments also draft the Fact Sheets on the EU, which provide an overview of European integration and of the European Parliament's contribution to that process. Furthermore, they provide background notes and speaking points.

Events

The policy departments organise events that enhance Parliament's analytical capacity and develop common approaches to current political issues. Public workshops, bringing together groups of experts, are organised to provide independent expertise via written and oral presentations. Expert panels are set up to provide members with regular written contributions or to feed into the parliamentary debate during meetings. Publications are generally presented during committee meetings.

Scrutiny

Policy departments provide research support to enhance the European Parliament's capacity to monitor EU negotiations and the implementation of international agreements. They have also developed an in-house methodology to scrutinise EU-funded projects.

Fact Sheets on the EU

The Fact Sheets provide an overview of European integration and of the European Parliament's contribution to that process. They cover six main themes:

- how the European Union works;
- a citizens’ Europe;
- the internal market;
- the economic and monetary union;
- sectoral policies (incl. culture);
- the EU's external relations.

The online version is reviewed and updated regularly.

Supporting Analyses

Access policy departments' Studies, In-depth Analyses, Briefings and At-a-Glance notes.

Thematic Digests

These leaflets group policy departments’ publications relevant to events such as seminars and inter-parliamentary meetings.

Contacts

Policy Department for Economic, Scientific and Quality of Life Policies
ECON - ENVI - EMPL - IMCO - ITRE
poldep-economy-science@ep.europa.eu

Policy Department for Structural and Cohesion Policies
AGRI - CULT - PECH - REGI - TRAN
poldep-cohesion@ep.europa.eu

Policy Department for Citizens’ Rights and Constitutional Affairs
AFCO - FEMM - JURI - LIBE - PETI
poldep-citizens@ep.europa.eu

Committee on Culture and Education
www.europarl.europa.eu/cult
cult-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu

Policy Department for Budgetary Affairs
BUDG - CONT
poldep-budg@ep.europa.eu

Policy Department for External Policies
AFET - DROI - SEDE - DEVE - INTA
poldep-expo@ep.europa.eu

Monthly Highlights

The Monthly Highlights provide an overview, at a glance, of the on-going work of the policy departments, including a selection of the latest and forthcoming publications, and future events.

To receive them, send an email to: ep-policydepartments@ep.europa.eu

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