



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

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*Committee on Regional Development*

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**2010/2156(INI)**

10.1.2011

# **DRAFT OPINION**

of the Committee on Regional Development

for the Committee on Culture and Education

on unlocking the potential of cultural and creative industries  
(2010/2156(INI))

Rapporteur: Oldřich Vlasák

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## SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Regional Development calls on the Committee on Culture and Education, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Welcomes the fact that culture and creative industries (CCIs) are recognised throughout the Green Paper as a tool for local and regional development, and points out that local and regional authorities in most Member States are responsible for sectors mentioned in the context of CCIs, especially culture, research, education, tourism and employment;
2. Points out that cultural and creative infrastructures and facilities play an important role in the development of the physical environment of towns and cities and, in particular, the rehabilitation of old industrial districts, and that cultural heritage is at the same time considered significant in the development of rural areas, especially through its contribution to rural tourism; believes therefore that cultural and creative strategies should be included in regional and local development strategies, in a partnership between public authorities representing different policy areas and relevant civil society representatives;
3. Considers culture and creative-based projects capable not only of improving the structural conditions of lagging regions, but also of contributing directly to competitiveness and employment creation in all regions; hence calls on the Commission, Member States, regions and local authorities to use, and make the most of, existing EU support programmes such as the Cohesion and Structural Policy, rural development within the Common Agricultural Policy, the Research Framework Programme, CIP, etc. to foster culture and creativity;
4. Recommends that the Commission evaluate the relevance of the Structural Funds and existing and future programmes in the field of culture, research, tourism, audiovisual media, youth and education, drawing lessons from existing projects and studies in order to design a post-2013 cohesion policy that would help release the full potential of the cultural sphere, and particularly that of the creative industries;
5. Calls for a more important future role for SMEs and private capital in the implementation of projects and measures in the cultural and creative sector, particularly through PPPs and through maximisation of the use of EIB and EIF financial instruments;
6. Calls on the Commission to continue its efforts to support the culture and creativity framework by fostering a more elaborate system of cooperation among Member States and EU institutions, based not on a regulatory framework but on the Open Method of Coordination for sharing experience, and recommends that the Commission include local and regional authorities in the follow-up process to the Green Paper, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity.