

Taking EU cultural relations to the next level

10:00 **Opening**
by moderator Shada Islam

10:05 **Welcome**
by EUNIC Vice-President Guzmán Palacios (AECID)

10:10 **Introduction speeches**
by Ms Themis Christophidou, Director-General DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture and MEP Sabine Verheyen, Member of the European Parliament & Chair of the Committee on Culture and Education

What is the value of cultural relations to the EU? How can we materialise together more partnerships between Europe and the world, based on the values and priorities of the EU strategy for international cultural relations? How can the project European Spaces of Culture impact the EU's external action in a productive way?

**10:20–
11:30** **Opening panel**
European Spaces of Culture: Taking cultural relations to the next level

Summing up the results: What has been achieved with European Spaces of Culture?

The panel will demonstrate how the European Spaces of Culture project implements the EU strategy for international cultural relations of 2016. Partners from the pilot projects, EU Delegations and EUNIC colleagues will present the innovative collaboration models that were identified. Further questions include: How can the models found be upscaled in a global dimension? How was true co-creation between all involved partners achieved? How did the pilot projects make a difference in their local context?

The panel also introduces policy recommendations for the continued implementation of the EU strategic approach to cultural relations, including a process for the further

global implementation of the European Spaces of Culture initiative.

Speakers:

Natasha Ginwala (Colomboscope | Independent curator)

Martin Rauchbauer (The Grid | Open Austria USA)

Edina Bartalová (Nogoonbaatar Eco Art Festival | EU Delegation to Mongolia)

Aleksandra Tor (Tibeb Be Adebabay | EU Delegation to Ethiopia)

Reflection by Yemisi Mokuolu

(Hatch Africa and Jury member European Spaces of Culture)

Presentation of recommendations by Julia Sattler

(independent expert author of policy recommendations)

**11:30–
11:45**

Intermission

———— **Virtual pop-up gallery**

Throughout the day, a virtual pop-up gallery will be opened for participants to take stock of the pilot projects' activities from video and image.

**11:45–
13:00**

Synch sessions **Cultural relations in practice**

Parallel panels zooming in on relevant topics that define the future of cultural relations and showcase different policy objectives that cultural relations can accommodate.

1. Cultural relations, sustainability, and the European Green Deal

Cultural relations as vector for change can substantially contribute to defining new global sustainable policies and practices. What can cultural relations do to increase the awareness of the need to act against climate change? How can we steer towards a more prominent role of cultural relations in the EU's Green Deal, both internal and external, supporting policy makers to include culture in green policies and programmes? How do the projects of European Spaces of Culture contribute to the New European Bauhaus initiative and to the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals?

Speakers:

Gijs de Vries (London School of Economics)

Ayeta Wangusa (Culture and Development East Africa)

Henry McGhie (Curating Tomorrow)

Christian Escher (Rehab Republic)

Moderator:

Rosanna Lewis (British Council)

2. Cultural relations and digital innovation

Accelerated digital transformation has changed the game considerably, creating new ecosystems but also leading to new perspectives on digital production and consumption. How can the EU unfold its human-centred approach to digital transformation also in cultural relations and external action? What best practices of fair, safe and equitable digital cultural relations projects are there? How do they help implement the EU strategy on international cultural relations?

Speakers:

Elisa Lindinger (Superr Lab)

Bemnet Demissie (Tibeb Be Adebabay)

Anupama Sekhar (Asia-Europe Foundation)

Harry Verwayen (Europeana)

Moderator:

Caroline Busta (New Models)

3. Cultural relations and peace and stability

A joined-up EU approach to cultural relations can unfold an unrivalled impact also in community building for peaceful co-existence. What is the geopolitical potential of strong cultural relations, bringing people together in challenging circumstances? How can a cultural relations approach be relevant especially in fragile contexts? How can this be implemented?

Speakers:

Louise Haxthausen (UNESCO)

Jordi Baltà Portolés (Consultant and trainer in the areas of cultural policy)

Pedro Affonso Ivo Franco (Consultant for culture, arts and creative economy)

Anne Vaugier Chatterjee (EU Delegation to Sri Lanka)

Moderator:

Lina Kirjazovaite (EUNIC)

4. Cultural relations to strengthen cultural rights and freedom of expression

Cultural relations create safe spaces for intercultural dialogue and creativity, instrumental in enhancing cultural rights and freedom of expression as fundamental rights. How can cultural relations contribute to fostering equality and promoting freedom of expression? How can the strategic approach to cultural relations support the flourishing of cultural sectors worldwide, unlocking the potential of local communities?

Speakers:

Annica Floren (DG International Partnership, European Commission)

Ayoko Mensah (BOZAR)

Venuri Perera (Colombo-based choreographer and performance artist)

Srirak Plipat (Freemuse)

Moderator:

Matina Magkou (Cultural relations expert)

13:00–
13.15 **Intermission**

13:15–
14:15 **Closing panel
The role of culture in the future
of EU external action**

Looking ahead: What will the future approach of the EU for culture in external action look like as part of the EU's role as a global actor? How can the models identified in the European Spaces of Culture initiative be upscaled, achieving what kind of impact on the geopolitical stage? What can the EU learn from other regions of the world, and how can culture bring the EU forward in building its partnerships with the world? How can the project feed into the New European Bauhaus initiative and its external dimension?

Keynote:

Stefano Sannino (Secretary-General, EEAS)

Speakers:

Salima Yenbou (Member of the European Parliament)

Kimani Njogu (Cultural policy expert)

Kateryna Botanova (Cultural critic, journalist, curator, Jury member European Spaces of Culture)

Gitte Zschoch (EUNIC Director)

14:15–
14:30 **Closing remarks**