



European Network of Cultural Centres

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ENCC NEWSLETTER 4/06

Dear network members and network interested,

In this newsletter you will read:

- I. General news
 1. Culture Programme 2007-2013 – First call for proposals is out now!
- II. Current ENCC activities
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I. General news:

1. Culture Programme 2007-2013 – First call for proposals is out now!

Broad Aim:

The Culture 2007 programme as third generation programme „is intended as a coherent, global and complete tool for multicultural cooperation in Europe and should contribute actively to the development of a European identity from the grassroots.“¹

Objectives:

„The programme is intended to help enhance the cultural area shared by Europeans, the foundations for which lie in their common cultural heritage, through the development of cultural cooperation between artists, cultural stakeholders and cultural institutions in the countries participating in the programme with a view to encouraging the emergence of European citizenship [...]“² The three specific objectives of the new programme are to promote and encourage „transnational mobility of people working in the cultural sector, transnational circulation of artistic and cultural works and products and an intercultural dialogue.“³

Project criteria (summary):

- They can be focused on any cultural area or can link together different cultural areas to generate unique and innovative projects.

¹ Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Culture 2007 Programme (2007-2013), in: Council of the European Union, Institutional File: 2004/0150 (COD), Brussels, 11 May 2006, p. 1.

² Call for proposals EACEA 09/2006, in: Official Journal C 270 of the 07/11/2006, p. 12.

³ Ibid.

- They must have something uniquely **European** about them (i.e. not just a tour of a national performance or exhibition).
- They must be developed and implemented by **at least 3 partner organisations from 3 different eligible countries (6 for multi-annual co-operation projects)** – currently the 25 Member States, plus Bulgaria, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Romania, the new candidate countries (Croatia, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey) and the countries of the western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia including Kosovo).
- They can last either for **1-2 years** or in exceptional cases for **3-5 years**.
- They are likely to have a total budget of 100.000-400.000 EURO (one year projects) or up to 1m EURO per year (3-5 year projects).
- They can receive, from Culture 2007, a maximum of **50%** of the total budget for the project.
- They cannot spend project funds on buildings or buying new equipment - Culture 2007 can only fund projects.

Timetable:

- **28 Feb 2007 deadline** for all project applications
- **Results** will be announced between May and July 2007
- 1-2 year co-operation projects to start in **summer 2007**
- Multi-annual co-operation projects to start in **autumn 2007**

Full details and application form can be downloaded from the official website of the European Commission: <http://eacea.cec.eu.int/static/en/culture/call092006/index.htm>

II. Current ENCC activities

1. ENCC's European Project Fair 2006 in Vienna, 3rd until 5th of November 2006

“European Project Fair brings together cultural centres from Eastern and Western Europe”

Berlin, November 9, 2006. Last weekend in Vienna, the European Project Fair of the European Network of Cultural Centres (ENCC) brought together almost 80 participants from 16 countries under the topic “The role of cultural centres between European integration and cultural diversity”. Around 30 already realised, current or planned projects from cultural centres of Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Netherlands, have been presented and discussed.

The event was organized by the European umbrella organisation ENCC in collaboration with the German and the Austrian national networks, respectively the „Bundesvereinigung Soziokultureller Zentren e.V.“ and „IG Kultur Österreich“. Financial support was given by the European Union, budget line “Support to organisations which promote European culture”, and the commissioner of the German Government for Culture and Media (BKM).

The participants underlined the importance of personal contact and exchange and the ongoing process of networking between cultural workers beyond European borders. Only by doing this, ideas of joint projects can be developed and realised, and the intercultural dialogue could gain sustainability.

Especially middle and eastern European cultural centres, which were the main target group of the ENCC's European Project Fair 2006, would like to expand and to strength the potential of ambitious networking for their future activities. They expressed their interest to establish an annual project fair and therefore ENCC has already planned the next one for the beginning of October 2007 in Riga/ Latvia.

Christa Prets, Member of the European Parliament, and Sabine Frank from the European Forum for the Arts and Heritage (EFAH) emphasized during the panel discussion the importance of intercultural work, which is promoted and recognized by the European Union through the declaration of the year 2008 as the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue. They mentioned that especially the cultural centres are qualified locations for the dialogue between people from different backgrounds and nationalities Europe wide.

2. News from the ENCC Website

The new ENCC webpage is presently being developed. It will include the documentations from ENCC activities in 2006 such as the Short Cut in Berlin and the European Project Fair in Vienna. The programming has already started and the final version should be ready by the 15th of December.

III. Upcoming dates

23./24.11.06 “CULTURAL MANAGEMENT IN CHANGING ENVIROMENT” Congress, Tartu, Estonia: www.tartu.ee/kultuurikonverentsid

22./23.11.06 Intercultural Dialogue Conference and Exhibition. Best practices at Community level. Organized by the DG Education and Culture, Brussels: http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/education_culture/dialogue/index_en.html