











Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	2020/2261(INI)	Procedure completed
The situation of artists and the cultural recovery in the EU		
Subject		
4.45 Common cultural area, cultural diversity		
4.45.02 Cultural programmes and actions, assistance		
4.45.08 Cultural and artistic activities, books and reading, arts		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	 Culture and Education	 SEMEDO Monica	02/12/2020
		Shadow rapporteur	
		 EHLER Christian	
		 MATIĆ Predrag Fred	
		 NIENASS Niklas	
		 DA RE Gianantonio	
		 SLABAKOV Andrey	
		 GEORGIOULIS Alexis	
European Commission	Commission DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture	Commissioner GABRIEL Mariya	

Key events			
17/12/2020	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
27/09/2021	Vote in committee		
13/10/2021	Committee report tabled for plenary	A9-0283/2021	
18/10/2021	Debate in Parliament		
19/10/2021	Results of vote in Parliament		

20/10/2021	Decision by Parliament	T9-0430/2021	Summary
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Technical information	
Procedure reference	2020/2261(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 54
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 159
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CULT/9/04856

Documentation gateway					
Committee draft report		PE692.616	30/04/2021	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE693.813	10/06/2021	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE697.646	30/09/2021	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A9-0283/2021	13/10/2021	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0430/2021	20/10/2021	EP	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2022)8	16/03/2022	EC	

The situation of artists and the cultural recovery in the EU

The European Parliament adopted by 543 votes to 50, with 107 abstentions, a resolution on the situation of artists and the cultural recovery in the EU.

Members recalled that culture, art, cultural heritage and cultural diversity are of great value to European society and should be encouraged and supported. The cultural and creative sectors and industries (CCSI) contribute substantially to the common European identity.

The containment measures taken in response to the COVID-19 pandemic have severely undermined the fragile cultural and creative ecosystem. The CCSI experienced losses in turnover of over 30 % for 2020 a cumulative loss of EUR 199 billion with the music and performing arts sectors experiencing losses of 75 % and 90 % respectively.

Recognition of culture and support for the cultural sector

Parliament called on the Commission and the Member States to recognise the intrinsic value of culture and to translate this recognition into adequate and continuous financial and structural support.

Regretting that cultural activity has often been considered non-essential, Members called for immediate assistance and all necessary emergency measures, but also to reflect on an orderly relaunch of this vital sector, providing structural support not only through innovation programmes and budgetary resources, but also through learning opportunities in this field for the younger generation.

The Commission is invited to develop an industrial policy framework for the SICC ecosystem into a coherent, competitive and long-term strategy to enhance its competitiveness and strategic value for the European economy and the European way of life.

Parliament called on the Commission and Member States to include culture in national recovery and resilience plans and to earmark at least 2% of the budget envelope of the Recovery and Resilience Facility to culture.

Encouraging cross-border mobility

Parliament called for the recognition of the European added value of cross-border cooperation and the elimination of obstacles to cross-border mobility within the EU and with non-EU countries for artists and cultural professionals.

Members called on the Commission and Member States to provide authors, performers and creative professionals with clear information on mobility opportunities and, where necessary, to review administrative requirements in all Member States, including visas, taxation, social security and access to training and recognition of artistic education qualifications.

The resolution suggested the creation of mobility information points in each Member State and the establishment of programmes specifically dedicated to the mobility of young creators and innovators. It recommended greater synergy between the culture and education sectors and the promotion of greater participation of artistic and cultural schools and institutions in activities under Erasmus+.

Copyright revenues and streaming platforms

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted artists dependence on dominant digital platforms, jeopardising the stability of income for some artists and creators who were mainly dependent on public events.

Concerned that in this new business model many artists and creators cannot secure the same amount of income, Members called on the Commission to assess the situation and take concrete measures to ensure that revenues are duly and fairly distributed to all creators, artists and right holders.

European statute for artists

As atypical employment is common place in the media and cultural sector, Parliament called on the Commission to propose a European Status of the Artist, setting out a common framework for working conditions and minimum standards common to all EU countries through the adoption or application of a number of coherent and comprehensive guidelines with respect to, inter alia, contracts, means of collective representation and management, social security, sickness and unemployment insurance, pension schemes, direct and indirect taxation.

Members encouraged Member States to aim for upward convergence to establish minimum standards for artists and cultural professionals. They called for full access to social protection for artists and cultural professionals, regardless of their professional status, including access to unemployment benefits, health care and pensions.

The Commission is encouraged to take the broadest possible approach to ensuring access to collective bargaining for the self-employed, including artists and cultural workers, and to continue to assess the existing state aid rules and their application to the cultural and creative sectors and industries.

Artistic freedom

Parliament called on Member States to fulfil their duty and obligation to promote and defend artistic freedom in order to enforce the fundamental right to freedom of expression and to ensure that European citizens can freely enjoy artistic creations and participate in culture. The Commission should sanction Member States that do not comply with their obligations.