

Procedure file

Basic information		
INL - Legislative initiative procedure	2023/2051(INL)	Procedure completed
EU framework for the social and professional situation of artists and workers in the cultural and creative sectors		
Subject		
3.30.01 Audiovisual industry and services		
3.40.10 Textile and clothing industry, leathers		
4.45 Common cultural area, cultural diversity		

Key players			
European Parliament	Joint Committee Responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	 EMPL Employment and Social Affairs		14/04/2023
	Culture and Education	 MANDERS Antonius	14/04/2023
		 RUIZ DEVESA Domènec	
		Shadow rapporteur	
		 FOURLAS Loucas	
		 RONDINELLI Daniela	
		 JOVEVA Irena	
		 YENBOU Salima	
		 FRANZ Romeo	
		 NIENASS Niklas	
		 SLABAKOV Andrey	
		 SZYDŁO Beata	
		 MICHELS Martina	
		 RODRÍGUEZ PALOP Eugenia	
	 CULT Employment and Social Affairs		
	Culture and Education		

Key events

20/04/2023	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
20/04/2023	Referral to joint committee announced in Parliament		
24/10/2023	Vote in committee		
26/10/2023	Committee report tabled for plenary	A9-0304/2023	Summary
21/11/2023	Results of vote in Parliament		
21/11/2023	Decision by Parliament	T9-0405/2023	Summary

Technical information

Procedure reference	2023/2051(INL)
Procedure type	INL - Legislative initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Request for legislative proposal
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 54; Rules of Procedure EP 47; Rules of Procedure EP 58
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CJ28/9/11748

Documentation gateway

Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A9-0304/2023	26/10/2023	EP	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0405/2023	21/11/2023	EP	Summary

EU framework for the social and professional situation of artists and workers in the cultural and creative sectors

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs and the Committee on Culture and Education jointly adopted the report by Antonius MANDERS (EPP, NL) and Domènec RUIZ DEVESA (ALDE, ES) with recommendations to the Commission on an EU framework for the social and professional situation of artists and workers in the cultural and creative sectors.

7.7 million people were in cultural employment across the Member States in 2022, amounting to 3.8% of total employment. Regardless of their role or status as a worker or self-employed person, the living and working conditions of cultural and creative sector (CCS) professionals can be characterised by precariousness, instability and the intermittent nature of their work, with unpredictable incomes, weaker bargaining power in relations with their contractual counterparts, short-term contracts, weak or no social security coverage, and a lack of access to unemployment support. Moreover, the extent of social security coverage of CCS professionals varies within and between countries.

Details of the proposed recommendations

The recommendations called for by the Members may be summarised as follows:

Recommendation 1: General objective of the Framework

The general objective of the proposals which the Commission is requested to submit is to establish a Union framework on the social and professional situation of artists and other professionals in the cultural and creative sectors (CCS professionals) (the Framework) in order to

improve their social and professional situation.

Recommendation 2: Instruments comprised in the Framework

The Framework should be composed of the following proposals for legislative instruments, notably:

1) a Directive on decent working conditions;

2) one or more Decisions which contribute to the implementation of, or complementing, the Union acquis in relevant areas and which set up a mechanism for structured cooperation and the exchange of best practices between Member States with a view to formulating quality standards and reviewing relevant developments as regards the status and situation of CCS professionals, including through the establishment of a platform. That mechanism should ensure that the social partners can fully participate at national and Union level.

Recommendation 3: Scope of the proposals for legislative instruments

The Framework should cover all CCS professionals in the different functions, roles and capacities needed for the realisation of cultural and creative expressions and works, regardless of their employment status. It should focus on, inter alia:

1) by means of a Directive determining CCS professionals employment status and developing measures to improve CCS workers working conditions, in particular to ensure fair and adequate remuneration, decent working conditions and fair working practices;

2) by means of one or more Decisions, including a Decision establishing a European platform on the social and professional situation of CCS professionals, on the following points:

- the improvement of the status of CCS professionals;
- the establishment of criteria for a common understanding and recognition of CCS professionals and their specific situation at Union level;
- the facilitation of CCS professionals effective access to social security and social protection;
- the introduction of terms and conditions on the use of public funding to ensure the fair remuneration of, and fair working conditions for, CCS professionals;
- the removal of systematic barriers to fight against all forms of discrimination and of gender-based violence and the promotion of gender equality in the cultural and creative sectors;
- the effective guarantee of artistic freedom as part of working conditions for CCS professionals.

Recommendation 4: Establishing a European platform

Members suggested that a European platform should be established which should pursue, inter alia, the following specific objectives:

- improve knowledge on the living and working conditions of CCS professionals, including with regard to the causes of and regional differences in such conditions, by means of evidence-based tools, comparative analysis and relevant methodological instruments for data collection, building on the work of relevant actors;
- improve mutual understanding of different systems and practices, including through a mapping of existing definitions of CCS professionals across the Member States, to lower fragmentation and to tackle the issues identified, in particular cross-border aspects and Union-level cultural statistics;
- develop tools, such as application guidelines, handbooks of good practices and shared principles, to improve the situation in all the areas covered by its scope and to evaluate experiences with relevant tools;
- facilitate and support different forms of cooperation between Member States;
- develop an education and training strategy that considers the specificities of the cultural and creative sectors;
- raise awareness on the relevant problems and available solutions among CCS professionals, trade unions and other workers representative organisations, and relevant Member State authorities.

EU framework for the social and professional situation of artists and workers in the cultural and creative sectors

The European Parliament adopted, by 433 votes to 100 with 99 abstentions, a resolution with recommendations to the Commission on an EU framework for the social and professional situation of artists and workers in the cultural and creative sectors (CCS).

Members pointed out that the extent of social security coverage of CCS professionals varies within and between countries, due to differences in sectors and types of work within the sectors, and may lead to differences in living and working conditions. Social and working conditions in the CCS need to be improved drastically. They added that the cultural sector, which employs 3.8% of the European workforce and accounts for 4.2% of GDP, is not sufficiently protected.

Indeed, the living and working conditions of professionals in the cultural and creative sectors are characterised by precariousness and instability, due to the intermittent nature of their work, the unpredictability of their income, weak social bargaining power, the short duration of contracts, weak or non-existent social security cover and lack of access to unemployment benefits.

Parliament has called for a European framework combining legislative and non-legislative tools to improve social and professional conditions and create a fair and equal situation for all artists and cultural professionals in the EU.

Members want this framework to include:

- a directive on decent working conditions, which contributes to the correct determination of the employment status of professionals in the cultural and creative sectors;

- one or more decisions for the collection and publication of relevant data and for encouraging cooperation and the exchange of best practice between Member States, including through the creation of a European platform, with a view to defining quality standards and examining developments concerning the status and situation of professionals in the cultural and creative sectors, taking account of the gender perspective, with the full participation of the social partners, and with a view to recognition at EU level of the special situation of these professionals.

Recommendations

The recommendations called for by the Members may be summarised as follows:

Scope of the proposals for legislative instruments

The Framework should cover all CCS professionals in the different functions, roles and capacities needed for the realisation of cultural and creative expressions and works, regardless of their employment status. It should focus on, inter alia:

1) by means of a Directive determining CCS professionals employment status and developing measures to improve CCS workers working conditions, in particular to ensure fair and adequate remuneration, decent working conditions and fair working practices;

2) by means of one or more Decisions, including a Decision establishing a European platform on the social and professional situation of CCS professionals, on the following points:

- the improvement of the status of CCS professionals;
- the establishment of criteria for a common understanding and recognition of CCS professionals and their specific situation at Union level;
- the facilitation of CCS professionals effective access to social security and social protection;
- the introduction of terms and conditions on the use of public funding to ensure the fair remuneration of, and fair working conditions for, CCS professionals;
- the removal of systematic barriers to fight against all forms of discrimination and of gender-based violence and the promotion of gender equality in the cultural and creative sectors;
- the effective guarantee of artistic freedom as part of working conditions for CCS professionals.

Establishing a European platform

Members suggested that a European platform should be established which should pursue, inter alia, the following specific objectives:

- improve knowledge on the living and working conditions of CCS professionals, including with regard to the causes of and regional differences in such conditions, by means of evidence-based tools, comparative analysis and relevant methodological instruments for data collection, building on the work of relevant actors;
- improve mutual understanding of different systems and practices, including through a mapping of existing definitions of CCS professionals across the Member States, to lower fragmentation and to tackle the issues identified, in particular cross-border aspects and Union-level cultural statistics;
- develop tools, such as application guidelines, handbooks of good practices and shared principles, to improve the situation in all the areas covered by its scope and to evaluate experiences with relevant tools;
- facilitate and support different forms of cooperation between Member States;
- develop an education and training strategy that considers the specificities of the cultural and creative sectors;
- raise awareness on the relevant problems and available solutions among CCS professionals, trade unions and other workers representative organisations, and relevant Member State authorities.

Transparency				
JOVEVA Irena	Shadow rapporteur	CULT	17/10/2023	International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers
RONDINELLI Daniela	Shadow rapporteur	EMPL	28/06/2023	UNIEuropa
RONDINELLI Daniela	Shadow rapporteur	EMPL	01/06/2023	ACT
SZYD?O Beata	Shadow rapporteur	EMPL	23/05/2023	Stowarzyszenie Autorów ZAiKS
YENBOU Salima	Shadow rapporteur	CULT	27/04/2023	Prometheus 21
YENBOU Salima	Shadow rapporteur	CULT	26/04/2023	Société des auteurs et compositeurs dramatiques
RUIZ DEVESA Domènec	Rapporteur	CULT	24/04/2023	European Composer and Songwriter Alliance

YENBOU Salima	Shadow rapporteur	CULT	22/03/2023	Groupement Européen des Sociétés d'Auteurs et Compositeurs
HETMAN Krzysztof	Member	23/05/2023	Stowarzyszenie Autorów ZAiKS	