

Recommendations on the Creative Europe programme (2014-2016)

March 2017

The below mentioned organisations, all working in the field of independent performing arts, evaluated the current Creative Europe Programme and highlighted the following important aspects in need of change within the programme.

Art and Culture are powerful drivers of innovation, creativity and positive change and generate a high creative energy. Thus the European Union must urgently include culture and art in all its strategic, political and logistic considerations – as well as in the EU current and future strategies.

In times of rapid changes - demographic, technological, economic, environmental, among others - culture and arts are key-fields in helping the European societies to cope with these changes. Hence we recommend a drastic increase of the EU budget allocated for arts and culture, with a clear focus on creative, innovative and diverse projects and with the emphasis on micro organisations (less than ten employees) that address the current challenges faced by our societies. In our experience, micro organisations answer most efficiently to the many different needs of our fragmented society.

Most micro organisations in the field lack the necessary financial, organisational and time resources to meet the extremely wide-ranging demands of the Creative Europe Programme. The high risk of not succeeding in securing a grant stands squarely against the level of invested time and know-how to fill in the request forms. In order to ensure a broader and more efficient access to EU funding programmes, the minimisation of the cost of submissions and of the formal handling for micro organisations is urgently need. We advocate setting up special programmes or programme strands for micro organisations, up to € 250.000 - for projects or bilateral partnerships, e.g. based on Europe for Citizens funding criteria.

The above mentioned are the main demands of the independent performing art sector. Other important positions we support can be found in statements of the below signed individual organisations, as well as the position paper on Creative Europe of IETM, International network for contemporary performing arts. You can download it from [here](#). The independent performing arts sector, as well as a broader cultural sector, must be invited to contribute to the development of the next arts and culture EU programme(s).

Signed by the following umbrella organisations of Independent Performing Arts

Austrian Association of Independent Performing Arts (IGFT)
Teatercentrum, member organisation of independent theatres in Sweden
Hungarian Association of Independent Performing Arts Professionals
German Association of Independent Performing Arts (BFDK)
Performing Arts Platform (Aarhus, Denmark)
Red de Teatros Alternativos, Spain
Independent Performing Artist/Uafhængige Scenekunstnere, Denmark
Associazione Etre, Italy