



Co-funded by the
Creative Europe Programme
of the European Union



Culture Action Europe: a Vision for Culture in Europe

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History and mission

- Culture Action Europe (CAE) has been founded 1994 as European Forum for Arts and Heritage (EFAH). It is based in Brussels
- In 2008 it changed its name in CAE and started being not only a “network of newtworks” but a trans-sectoral network gathering public and private cultural organizations as well as individuals
- It has more than 150 members
- Its mission is to put culture at the heart of public debate in Europe through:
 - **Advocacy** for access and participation in culture and cultural activities as fundamental rights of each individual (Art. 27 Declaration of Human Rights)
 - **Lobbying** for public investments in culture as an acknowledgement of its role to create a more cohesive and sustainable Europe

Vision

CAE position is grounded on a perception of culture based on three characteristics:

1. A vision of **culture as a practice rather than a resource to be exploited**, focusing on cultural practices in the communities
2. An **inclusive, open, complementary** approach to culture
3. A **de-colonized cultural perspective**, based on a plurality of practices and participatory / sustainable cultural models, in order to promote cultural transversality and trans-disciplinarity

Strategies

- CAE is moving from being a sector-oriented organization to a **theme-oriented** one
- The new strategic plan 2019-2021 defines the approaches used to fulfill the mission:
 - **Advocacy/Lobbying**
 - **Networking**
 - **Research, analysis, capacity building** (addressed to members, policy makers, other stakeholders)

Activities

- To influence negotiations (such as the one related to Creative Europe)
- To negotiate on the MFF (2021-2027)
- To campaign (#Culture 2030Campaign)
- To make research on different topics:
 - Culture and SDGs (report *Implementing Culture within the Sustainable Development Goals: The role of culture in Agenda 2030*)
 - Culture and well-being
 - Freedom of artistic expression in Europe

Thanks for your attention

www.cultureactioneurope.org

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