

13 NEW
GROUND-BREAKING
PROJECTS

CULTURAL COOPERATION

IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

PRESS KIT

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New EU-funded cultural projects launched across EU and Western Balkans

13 new EU-funded cultural projects have been launched across Europe, designed to increase cultural cooperation within the Western Balkans and with EU Member States, and strengthen the competitiveness of the cultural and creative industries in the Western Balkans.

The new projects will be introduced at an event on 19 May for cultural stakeholders with an interest in co-operation between the EU and Western Balkans. Speakers will include:

- **Olivér Várhelyi**, European Commissioner for Neighbourhood and Enlargement
- **Mariya Gabriel**, European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth
- **Alessandra Luchetti**, Head of Department for Creativity, Citizenships and Joint Operations at European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA)
- **Walter Zampieri**, Head of Unit, Culture strand of the Creative Europe programme at European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA)
- **Barbara Gessler**, Head of Unit at the Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture
- **Holger Schroeder**, Head of Unit at the Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations.

The *Call for Proposals: Cultural Cooperation Projects in the Western Balkans* was launched by Creative Europe in 2019. The projects selected are interdisciplinary, covering sectors as diverse as photography, literary translation, classical music, comics, dance, visual arts and cultural heritage. They also explore broader themes such as sustainability, history and stereotypes, and aim to build sustainable networks across the Balkans and beyond.

The EU-funded **Cultural Relations Platform** (CRP) is supporting the visibility of the projects and maximising the results internationally.

The 13 projects were chosen from 339 applications and will all be delivered by a group of partner organisations from across Europe. **Helene Skikos, Policy Officer at the European Commission** said: *“The opportunities created by the call generated an incredible amount of interest, demonstrating the level of dynamism and cooperation in the Western Balkans, and the relevance of the call’s approach to the current needs of the cultural and creative sectors in the region.*

“The list of selected projects is balanced in terms of participating countries, covers all the priorities of the call, comprises a diversified and balanced portfolio of sectors and contributes to the crosscutting objectives of the Commission, such as gender equality and women’s empowerment, youth, children, LGBTQI+ and body-diverse artists, the environment and migration.”

Register for the launch event on 19 May here: <https://coopwb.cultureinexternalrelations.eu>

The Cultural Relations Platform (CRP) is an EU-funded project, funded by the Partnership Instrument (Service for Foreign Policy Instruments), launched in April 2020, designed to support the European Union to engage in international cultural relations within the framework of the EU strategy for international cultural relations. It provides a renewed approach based on a set of shared principles, and new activities, aiming to promote and facilitate sustainable cultural exchanges, people-to-people activities, and co-creation processes between Europeans and citizens from countries all over the world. <https://www.cultureinexternalrelations.eu>

Event agenda



19 May, 09:00 to 11:50 CEST

You are warmly invited to join the launch event.
Register here:

<https://coopwb.cultureinexternalrelations.eu>

Moderators:

Alessandra Luchetti, Head of Department for Creativity, Citizenships and Joint Operations at the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) and **Walter Zampieri**, Head of Unit, Culture strand of the Creative Europe programme at the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA).



- **09:00:** Event opens
- **09:30:** Introduction by **Alessandra Luchetti**
- **09:35:** Presentation of the projects
- **10:00:** Intervention by **Commissioner Olivér Várhelyi**, European Commissioner for Neighbourhood and Enlargement
- **10:10:** Presentation of the projects
- **10:30:** Intervention by **Commissioner Mariya Gabriel**, European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth
- **10:40:** Q&A with **Commissioner Gabriel**
- **11:00:** Break (10 minutes)
- **11:10:** Introduction by **Alessandra Luchetti** and **Walter Zampieri**
- **11:10:** **Barbara Gessler**, Head of Unit at the Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, “Linking cultural policy with EU support” and presenting the new Creative Europe programme
- **11:20:** **Holger Schroeder**, Head of Unit at the Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations, presents cultural cooperation programmes between the EU and the Western Balkans
- **11:30:** Q&A with **Barbara Gessler** and **Holger Schroeder**
- **11:50:** END

Introducing the projects

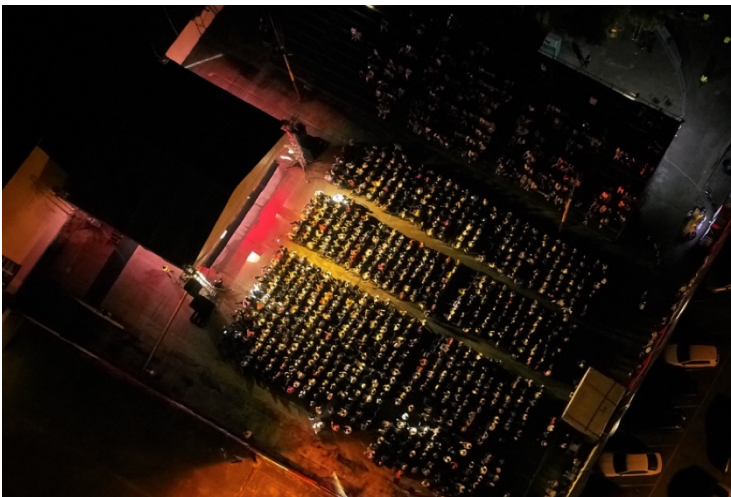
(Non)aligned Movements



(Non)aligned Movements aims to increase solidarity and cross-border collaboration between contemporary dance professionals, and create favourable conditions for the Balkan contemporary dance scene to thrive in a European context. They will achieve this by developing partnerships with universities in the region; co-operating with regional and European networks; and developing a collective curatorial practice where co-working, co-creation and peer-to-peer learning drive new organisational models.

Coordinator	STATION SERVICE FOR CONTEMPORARY DANCE	RS
Partner	LOKOMOTIVA CENTRE FOR NEW INITIATIVES IN ARTS AND CULTURE	MK
Partner	NOMAD DANCE ACADEMY BULGARIA	BG
Partner	TANZFABRIK KREUZBERG GUG HAFTUNGSBEECHRANKT	DE
Partner	UMETNISKO DRUSTVO NOMAD DANCE ACADEMY SLOVENIJA	SI

#synergy



#Synergy aims to increase the capacity of the classical music industry in the Western Balkans to operate internationally. It will provide opportunities to mid-career composers and emerging performers to build their skills, network and promote their work; and build a sustainable platform for professionals, cultural organisations, musicians and composers to connect, collaborate and share knowledge.

Coordinator	DON BRANKO SBUTEGA FOUNDATION	ME
Partner	ASOCIACIONI KOSOVOR CHOPIN	XK
Partner	CENTAR BEOGRADSKIH FESTIVALA	RS
Partner	FESTIVAL LJUBLJANA	SI

Partner JAVNA USTANOVA U KULTURI DUBRAVACKE LJETNE IGRE DUBROVNIK

HR

Partner VOX BAROQUE

AL

Balkan Translations Collider



Balkan Translations Collider aims to increase the flow of literary translations from smaller European languages within the EU and Western Balkans and develop the infrastructure, capacity and skills that support literary translations to reach the market.

They will do this by working principally with organisations such as festivals, agents and other cultural institutions, and developing peer to peer learning opportunities between these organisations.

Coordinator FONDACIA SLEDVASHTA STRANICA

BG

Partner DRUSTVO ZA IZDAVANJE, PROMET I USLUGI GOTEN GRUP DOOEL SKOPJE

MK

Partner GLAVNI GRAD PODGORICA

ME

Partner POETKA

AL

Partner SRSEN IVAN

HR

Partner UDRUZENJE ARGH

RS

CAN for Balkans



The Comics Alliance Network for Balkans is a cross-border cultural network, enabling cooperation between artists and professionals from the world of comics in the Western Balkans and European Union.

The Comics Alliance Network aims to revive historical comic strip culture and give space to young artists to launch their careers internationally, as well as supporting artists and experts in historical comics.

Coordinator MUZEUL JUDETEAN DE ISTORIE BRASOV

RO

Partner	CENTRE BELGE DE LA BANDE DESSINEE ASBL	BE
Partner	MINISTRY OF CULTURE	AL
Partner	STRIP ZENTAR NA MAKEDONIJA-VELES	MK
Partner	UDRUZENJE LJUBITELJA STRIPA I PISANE RECI NIKOLA MITROVIC KOKAN	RS

Immersive Storytelling Driven Cooperation for Cultural Dissemination in the Western Balkans



The Immersive Storytelling project uses digital technology to open up historical artefacts to new audiences, and aims to drive digital transformation in the cultural and creative industries.

This project will produce virtual reality/mixed augmented reality apps or 360 degree videos to enhance tourists' experience when visiting heritage archaeological sites

from the Roman period across the Western Balkans.

By doing so, it will open up significant historical artefacts to new audiences and transform the way visitors experience history.

Coordinator	ASSOCIATION CENTRE FOR SOCIAL INNOVATIONS BLINK 42-21 SKOPJE	MK
Partner	ARHEOLOSKI INSTITUT	RS
Partner	ARISTOTELIO PANEPISTIMIO THESSALONIKIS	EL
Partner	FONDATSIYA BALKANSKO NASLEDSTVO	BG
Partner	MUZEJ IN GALERIJE MESTA LJUBLJANE	SI
Partner	NATIONAL INSTITUTION FOR MANAGEMENT OF THE ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE OF STOBI- GRADSKO	MK
Partner	NAVIPRO D.O.O.	SI

Manifesta 14 Prishtina



Manifesta, the European Biennial of Contemporary Art strives to promote contemporary arts as a force for social and economic change. The 14th edition will take place in Prishtina, Kosovo in 2022.

Since the early 90s, Manifesta has developed into a traveling platform generating dialogue between art and society in Europe. It promotes cultural diversity and freedom of expression as

core values, and aims to leave a lasting legacy.

Coordinator	INTERNATIONALE STICHTING MANIFESTA	NL
Partner	EUROPEAN ROMA INSTITUTE FOR ARTS AND CULTURE	DE
Partner	INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART SOFIA	BG
Partner	KOSOVO S ARCHITECTURE FOUNDATION	XK
Partner	KUVENDI I KOMUNES SE PRISHTINES	XK
Partner	MEYDAN D. O. O.	RS
Partner	NGO AKTIV	XK
Partner	NVO APSS INSTITUT PODGORICA	ME
Partner	QENDRA HARABEL	AL
Partner	REPUBLIKA MAKEDONIJA NACIONALNA USTANOVA MUZEJ NA SOVREMENATA UMETNOST	MK
Partner	RRITU	XK
Partner	UDRUZENJE ZA POSTKONFLIKTNA ISTRAZIVANJA	BA

Re:Culture



ReCulture: Rebranding of Cultural Institutions in the Western Balkans aims to build communications and marketing capacity of cultural institutions, giving them the skills they need to gain better visibility and acquire new audiences.

The project will support cultural institutions to redefine their visual identity and reposition their institutions. Young designers in the Western Balkans will be able to

contribute and cooperate in the rebranding and be part of a mentoring process.

Coordinator	JAVNA USTANOVA KULTURNI CENTAR TREBINJE	BA
Partner	FAKULTET DRAMSKIH UMETNOSTI	RS
Partner	FIELS OG	AT
Partner	INK FEST	RS
Partner	JAVNA USTANOVA MUZEJ SAVREMENE UMJETNOSTI REPUBLIKE SRPSKE	BA
Partner	JAVNA USTANOVA UMJETNICKA KOLONIJADANILOVGRAD	ME
Partner	MUSÉE DES CIVILISATIONS DE L'EUROPE ET DE LA MÉDITERRANÉE	FR

Redesigning Playscapes with Children



Redesigning Playscapes with Children aims to create community driven playscapes, created with children and customised according to the children's needs. The project is driven by the vital need to provide space in urban spaces for free play.

The project will provide expertise and methodology to urban designers, architects and decision makers to plan and implement playscapes for children in urban

environments.

Coordinator	KULTURNO OKOLJSKO DRUSTVO PAZI!PARK	SI
Partner	KREATIVNI KRAJOBRAZI DOO ZA POSLOVEPROSTORNOG UREDENJA	HR
Partner	NGO GRADONICA	ME
Partner	QENDRA MARREDHENIE	AL
Partner	UDRUZENJE SKOGLED	RS

Regional Lab



Regional Lab aims to develop inclusive and innovative models for cultural projects, based on existing knowledge and experience from the civil sector, to provide sustainable and stable cultural co-operation in the Western Balkans.

The project will develop inclusive and innovative models for cultural projects and support artists, cultural operators and independent cultural centres to work transnationally. Their work will include capacity building, exchanges and

residency programmes.

Coordinator	KOOPERATIVA - REGIONALNA PLATFORMAZA KULTURU	HR
Partner	ANIBAR	XK
Partner	ASOCIACIJA DRUSTVO NEVLADNIH ORGANIZACIJ IN POSAMEZNIKOV NA PODROCJU KULTURE	SI
Partner	ASOCIJACIJA NEZAVISNA KULTURNA SCENA SRBIJE	RS
Partner	JADRO - ASSOCIATION OF THE INDEPENDENT CULTURE SCENE SKOPJE	MK
Partner	OMLADINSKI KULTURNI CENTAR ABRASEVIC MOSTAR	BA
Partner	SAVEZ UDRUGA OPERACIJA GRAD	HR

Photo by [Antenna](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Rise of Women in Culture



Rise of Women in Culture aims to improve the environment for female visual artists and creators in the Western Balkans.

There are still numerous obstacles that prevent young female visual artists in the Western Balkans from gaining widespread recognition.

This project aims to improve the environment for these artists to create, produce and disseminate their creative work by developing the knowledge of regional cultural policy and decision

makers, improving the capacity of independent female curators and raising awareness of the importance of female cultural operators and artists for contemporary Balkan culture.

Coordinator	UDRUZENJE FENOMENA	RS
Partner	BEOART CONTEMPORARY	RS
Partner	NVO SPES	ME
Partner	ORGANISATION FOR DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURE AND ECOLOGY SENSUS SKOPJE	MK
Partner	UDRUGA ZA POTICANJE RAZVOJA LJUDSKIH POTENCIJALA I KREATIVNOSTI-PRIZMA	HR
Partner	ZAVOD LOKARJEVA GALERIJA	SI

Some Call Us Balkans (SCUB)



Some Call Us Balkans aims to enhance intercultural dialogue between artists, cultural operators and the general public, within the Western Balkans and the EU, to create positive messages that debunk myths and misconceptions about the Balkans. It will achieve this through innovative artistic research, developing opportunities for artists and cultural operators to work transnationally, building their capacity and knowledge by cooperating across borders.

Coordinator	ICSE & CO	IT
Partner	BIENALE DYTIKON VALKANION ASTIKI MI KERDOSKOPIKI ETAIREIA	EL
Partner	KUNSTREPUBLIK E.V.	DE
Partner	PLATFORM FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT THROUGH ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL PRACTICES SOCIOPATCH SKOPJE	MK
Partner	QENDRA TULLA	AL
Partner	RRITU	XK
Partner	UDRUZENJE GRADANA TACKA KOMUNIKACIJE - DOTKOM	RS
Partner	UDRUZENJE NEZAVISNIH STVARALACA I AKTIVISTA GETO	BA

The Ways of the Heroes



The Ways of the Heroes project aims to put the spotlight on positive role models for environmental change, and create contemporary art that addresses important issues in our societies, through theatre, public performances, an illustrated book for children and online campaigns. By doing so, it aims to raise awareness about ecological issues and climate change, and how culture can illuminate and inform on these issues.

Coordinator	REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA, NATIONAL INSTITUTION MACEDONIAN NATIONALTHEATRE SKOPJE	MK
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Partner	ASSOCIATION FOR PROMOTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURAL ACTIVITIES STUDIO TEATAR	BA
Partner	EHO ANIMATO	RS
Partner	LA DRAMATURGIE	IT
Partner	LOOP ASTIKI MI KERDOSKOPIKI ETAIREIA	EL
Partner	PUBLISHING HOUSE GAVROCHE DOOEL SKOPJE	MK
Partner	STUDIO ZA RAZISKAVO UMETNOSTI IGRE, ZAVOD ZA KULTURNO DEJAVNOST	SI

Translation in Motion



Translation in Motion aims to increase the flow of literary translations from smaller European languages within the EU and the Western Balkans and develop the infrastructure, capacity and skills that support literary translations to reach the market.

They will do this by working with individual literary translators to build their capacity and provide opportunities for them to immerse themselves in the languages from which they translate.

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Coordinator	RESEAU EUROPEEN DES CENTRES INTERNATIONAUX DE TRADUCTEURS LITTERAIRES	FR
Partner	ASSOCIATION POUR LA PROMOTION DE LA TRADUCTION LITTERAIRE	FR
Partner	DRUSTVO SA OGRANICENOM ODGOVORNOSCUOKF CETINJE	ME
Partner	DRUSTVO ZA IZDAVANJE, PROMET I USLUGI GOTEN GRUP DOOEL SKOPJE	MK
Partner	FONDACIA SLEDVASHTA STRANICA	BG
Partner	OSTERSJONS FORFATTAR-OCH OVERSATTARCENTRUM	SE
Partner	POETEKKA	AL
Partner	SABIEDRIBA AR IEROBEZOTU ATBILDIBU STARPTAUTISKA RAKSTNIEKU UN TULKOTAJU MAJA	LV
Partner	UDRUZENJE KROKODIL	RS

Social media posts

If you would like to share the event on social media, here are some sample posts.

Twitter:

If you work in culture and have an interest in collaboration between the EU and Western Balkans, join @CultExtRel, @europe_creative and @EU_Commission to launch 13 new cultural co-operation projects on 19 May: <http://ow.ly/WMFL50EGfn7> #CoopWesternBalkans

Facebook:

If you work in culture and have an interest in collaboration between the EU and Western Balkans, join @CreativeEuropeEU and @EuropeanCommission and @CultureinExternalRelations to launch 13 new cultural co-operation projects on 19 May #CoopWesternBalkans

Time: 09:00 – 11:50 CEST

Speakers include:

- **Olivér Várhelyi**, European Commissioner for Neighbourhood and Enlargement
- **Mariya Gabriel**, European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth
- **Alessandra Luchetti**, Head of Department for Creativity, Citizenships and Joint Operations at European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA)
- **Walter Zampieri**, Head of Unit, Culture strand of the Creative Europe programme at European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA)
- **Barbara Gessler, Head of Unit** at the Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture
- **Holger Schroeder, Head of Unit** at the Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations.

Find out more about the event and register here: <http://ow.ly/WMFL50EGfn7>