



**Brussels, 12.03.2021**

**Urgent Call to  
The Heads of State and Government of the EU Member States  
The Ministers of Finance  
The Ministers of Culture**

**Subject: Urgent Call to the Governments of the EU Member States to dedicate at least 2% of the RRF for the Cultural and Creative Sectors**

*In continuation to the letter that we have sent to you at the end of December 2020, signed by 104 MEPs, regarding the European Cultural Recovery,*

*Given that the pandemic has disproportionately and heavily impacted the Cultural and Creative Sectors (CCS) with up to 98% decrease of the turnover for the performing arts and 95% for the book-sales; whereas less than 2% of the European cinemas remained open in between the lockdowns, most European museums remained closed and there was a 76% decline in music audiences<sup>1</sup>,*

*Whereas even before the COVID-19 outbreak the CCS were a fragile and fragmented ecosystem characterized by irregular employment and precarious working conditions, difficult access to finance and imbalanced translation of market value into fair remuneration,*

*While the CCS are among the last sectors to recover due to both direct and indirect impact of the pandemic,*

*Given the new extra corona-costs that the CCS will have to bear in the post-COVID-19 era, due to the costs-related with corona-proof processes, uncertainty and insecurity of the audience for indoor public cultural activities,*

*Whereas the CCS have the highest numbers in youth employment, are highly gender balanced and represent a high percentage of our SMEs,*

*Whereas the CCS support social cohesion and resilience especially in times of crisis, as proven by the experience of millions of European citizens during the pandemic, who*

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<sup>1</sup> European Parliament, Policy Department for Structural and Cohesion Policies, Directorate-General for Internal Policies, PE 652.242 – February 2021,  
[https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2021/652242/IPOL\\_STU\(2021\)652242\\_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2021/652242/IPOL_STU(2021)652242_EN.pdf)



*turned to culture to find the strength to bear the psychological burden of the confinement,*

*Whereas 598 MEPs have voted our Resolution on the Cultural Recovery of Europe, standing as the voice of the European people and asking among others, to:*

- *Dedicate at least 2% of the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) to the Cultural and Creative Sectors and industries.*
- *Reduce VAT rates for all cultural goods and services.*
- *Improve valuation of intangible assets.*
- *Introduce tax credits and tax motivation tools for cultural production.*
- *Improve the social protection systems and the working conditions for the workers in the CCS.*
- *Secure equal accessibility and inclusiveness for the distribution of cultural funding.*
- *Protect the future of the cultural ecosystem under the pressures brought by the green and the digital transition.*
- *Include the CCS in all financial supporting tools, such as the InvestEU and the NextGenerationEU.*

**We urge you to:**

- a) **Dedicate in your national recovery and resilience plans at least 2% to the CCS** which account for **3,7% of the EU employment and 4% of the GDP** and therefore, should be proportionally funded through the RRF,
- b) Provide us with information about the **specific percentage** dedicated to the CCS in your national recovery and resilience plans. Thus far, we have received only a limited number of responses to our previous letter, which was signed by 104 MEPs. We need to have accurate information on the percentage that the Member States dedicate to the CCS, especially during the current situation, which is especially challenging to our culture, our identity of today and the heritage of tomorrow.

Yours sincerely,

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