



## Minutes

### PA Culture Steering Group meeting

08.03.2018, Gdansk (Poland)

13:00 – 15.00

### Attendees:

**Anna Enemark**, Council of the Baltic Sea States

**Ida Fuglsang-Damgaard**, Danish Agency for Culture and Palaces

**Ilze Gailite-Holmberg**, Northern Dimension Partnership on Culture

**Maciej Hofman**, European Commission, DG Education & Culture

**Marianne Lehtimäki**, Baltic Region Heritage Committee

**Baiba Murniece**, Baltic Region Heritage Committee

**Rugilė Puodžiūnienė**, Ministry of Culture of Republic of Lithuania

**Stefan Musiolik**, PA Culture coordinator, Ministry of Justice, European Affairs, Consumer Protection and Equality [SH]

**Anja Uhlenbrok**, PA Culture coordinator, Ministry of Justice, European Affairs, Consumer Protection and Equality [SH]

**Agnieszka Grunwald**, PA Culture coordinator, Ministry of Culture and National Heritage [PL]

**Justyna Zielkowska**, PA Culture coordinator, Ministry of Culture and National Heritage [PL]

### Agenda for the Steering Group Meeting:

1. BSR cultural dialogue: information about current activities in the BSR.
2. Discussion about aims and activities of PA culture 2018-2020
3. Short report and discussion about the policy paper originating from SG meeting June 2017 (sent on Feb 16<sup>th</sup>)
4. Information about CBSS call for PSF, short report about applications in current INTERREG BSR call
5. Discussion on additional 'Food –for-thought-paper': Ideas for better funding of CCI after 2020
6. Short report: HA Capacity WS about cross-sectorial collaboration and new funding sources on March 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>
7. Outlook to next Steering Group meeting
8. Any other business

### BSR cultural dialogue

#### [Stefan Musiolik]

BSR cultural dialogue: due to limited time that item was skipped and postponed to next Steering Group meeting in June in Tallinn.

## **Aims and activities of PA Culture 2018-2020:**

### **[Stefan Musiolik]**

Policy Area Coordinators are currently working on the application (Technical Assistance for Policy Area and Horizontal Actions Coordinators for coordination of EUSBSR) for Interreg Baltic Sea Region Programme. There is an external consultant hired to help develop the application. The deadline is 21st of March.

### **[Anja Uhlenbrok]**

Strategy aims included into application are: cohesion of Baltic Sea Region, social inclusion, better engagement of young people into the process of democratic participation. Horizontal approach will help in realization of UN Sustainable Development Goals and better integration of non-EU-countries.

Within the next 2 years PA Culture intends to organise 4 Strategic Project Development Workshops with a focus on: Baltic Sea Culture City (late 2018), youth, democratic participation (Early 2019), social inclusion, digitalization and trends affecting societies (late 2019), preserving cultural heritage and sustainable cultural tourism (early 2020). Additional events are two seminars on Annual Forum of EUSBSR with topics relevant to Forums and two PA Culture Steering Group Meetings (1 per year, back to back to Annual Fora).

### **[Stefan Musiolik]**

Organizers of Annual Forum in Tallinn approved the proposal of PA Culture Seminar. The topic, "Sharing Heritage through digitalization - The added value of VR to BSR Cultural Heritage", is related to digitalization issues – one of the main themes of the Forum. Seminar will last about 90 minutes.

## **Comments and additional remarks:**

### **[Ilze Gailite-Holmberg]**

The Ninth Northern Dimension Forum will take place on April 5<sup>th</sup> 2018 in Saint Petersburg. Within the Forum NDPC will co-organize a Round Table discussion 'Creative Industries - Innovative Solutions in the Public Sector'.

### **[Anna Enemark]**

CBSS organises also a panel seminar on Annual Forum in Tallinn 'Nothing about us without us - digital tools for better youth involvement and dialogue'. Seminar intends to explore good practices and shows ways of better involvement of BSR youth in the work of the BSR organizations which use digital channels. With regards to EUSBSR panel seminars CBSS offers contacts for entering youth perspective.

### **[Maciej Hofman]**

The process of the revision and consultation of new 'European Agenda for Culture' has started. The new 'European Agenda for Culture' is one of the deliverables of the Communication on 'Strengthening European Identity through Education and Culture', which is the European Commission's input to the Leaders' Summit in Gothenburg in November 2017. Building on this discussions on education and culture in Gothenburg and the December 2017 European Council

meeting, the Commission will develop a new Cultural Agenda with an emphasis on promoting a European identity through culture and values.

### **Policy paper on culture (sent to members of Steering Group on Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> 2018)**

#### **[Stefan Musiolik]**

The idea for such a paper emerged against the background of poor funding opportunities for cultural projects and the increasing importance of culture in times of growing Euroscepticism – culture as a suitable means to promote the values of European integration and to point at our common cultural roots. The paper focusses on two main objectives: culture as a tool to help defeating the crisis of European integration and culture and its contribution to achieve European priorities (growth & jobs, innovation, identity, integration & social cohesion, external relations and neighbourhood policy). In addition, in parallel, it is planned to launch a discussion on political demands for better funding possibilities for cultural projects in the next EU funding period.

Members of Steering Group consider that political mandate is missing for organizations and governments being member of Steering Group. BSSSC Board will meet in May and hopefully approve the paper. Afterwards it shall be widely spread, inviting to join it. The BSSSC decision shall be sent to European Commission's DG Regio and DG Culture and Education and European Parliament's Committee on Culture and Education and Committee of the Regions.

### **Information about CBSS call for Project Support Facility:**

#### **[Anna Enemark]**

The 'Project Support Facility' call is the small scale program in the size of seed money. Distribution is made by Nordic Council of Ministers and Swedish Government. PSF application deadline ends 31<sup>st</sup> March and decision about funding will be made in May.

Information on current status of CBSS Senior Official Group for Culture (SOGC) works: encouraged by Senior Officials of CBSS to revive the SOGC in different format; next meeting will be *back-to-back* to 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Forum. Within the CBSS Presidency Sweden is chairing SOGC until June and then Latvian chair is following. Working Groups are 'Baltic Region Heritage Committee' (BRHC) and ARS BALTICA (AB). Roles and mandates of both have to be and will be clarified.

CBSS celebrated 25 years anniversary 2017. A Vision Group was established. It will give a report in June 2018 in order to give recommendations for future work of CBSS .

### **3<sup>rd</sup> INTERREG call:**

#### **[Stefan Musiolik]**

269 project idea forms were submitted, some of them with culture links. Among them there are two PA Culture flagships: 1.) 'Creative Ports' in the field of creative sectors and young startups in order to foster develop internationalization and online learning. 2.) 'BSR Culture Planning' on regional development via the instrument of cultural planning.

**[Ilze Gailite Holmberg]**

NDPC also prepared concept note for developing 'CreaDigiTourism' for INTERREG BSR. Unfortunately the Project Idea Form was not pre-supported by INTERREG. The feedback was that the NDPC project includes 'too many culture'. NDPC will try to apply to INTERREG Central Baltic.

**Short report about the workshop together with Horizontal Action 'Capacity' 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> March in Gdansk:**

**[Stefan Musiolik]**

Workshop was organized by HA Capacity and PA Culture back to back to Steering Group meeting and Strategic Project Development Workshop. Conclusions are 1.) support of Baltic Sea Youth Festival June 2019 enriched with cultural activities (PA Culture sends 'Letter of Support' to Baltic Sea States Subregional Cooperation-BSSSC- which applies for funding from the CBSS Project Support Facility) and 2.) support of the initiative establishing a label 'Baltic City of Culture'.

**Outlook to next Steering Group meeting**

**[Stefan Musiolik]**

Next PA Culture Steering Group Meeting will be held back to back to Annual Forum in Tallinn in format of Joint Meeting together with NDPC, SOGC and Ars Baltica, most likely on 4<sup>th</sup> of June.

**Other business**

**[Anna Enemark]**

asks Maciej Hofman to reflect about the standing of PA Culture in the current situation.

**[Maciej Hofman]**

Regarding the consultations of 'European Agenda for Culture' this is a good moment of thinking on social cohesion (e.g. focus on including more cultural routes into MRS) and more on human factor not only on economy. High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy is lobbying for cultural diplomacy. Situation is convenient for bringing up culture to the policy discussion. Contact to the chair of EP Committee Culture and Education is very useful for alliances.

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