



ASSEMBLEIA DA REPÚBLICA
Comissão de Cultura, Comunicação, Juventude e Desporto

**Relatório da Comissão de
Cultura, Comunicação,
Juventude e Desporto.**

Relatora: Deputada
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(PS)

Relatório “Portugal na União Europeia – 2015”



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PARTE I – NOTA INTRODUTÓRIA

Nos termos do disposto no n.º 3 do artigo 5.º da Lei n.º 43/2006, de 25 de Agosto, que regula o acompanhamento, apreciação e pronúncia pela Assembleia da República, o Governo apresenta à Assembleia da República, no primeiro trimestre de cada ano, um Relatório que permita o acompanhamento da participação de Portugal no processo de construção da União Europeia.

No cumprimento desta disposição legal, no dia 31 de março de 2016, a Comissão de Assuntos Europeus recebeu o relatório intitulado “Portugal na União Europeia – 2015” e, posteriormente, solicitou à Comissão de Cultura, Comunicação, Juventude e Desporto a elaboração de um relatório sobre o referido documento, na matéria da competência desta Comissão, designadamente sobre o Título IV – Políticas Internas na U.E., sem prejuízo da apreciação de outras matérias que possam ser consideradas pertinentes.



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PARTE II – CONSIDERANDOS

A presente exposição versa sobre os capítulos VI e XI do Título IV (Políticas Internas na U.E.) do Relatório “Portugal na União Europeia – 2015” e está organizada nos seguintes termos:

TÍTULO IV – POLÍTICAS INTERNAS NA UNIÃO EUROPEIA

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1. TELECOMUNICAÇÕES

- 1.1 Mercado Único das Telecomunicações
- 1.2 Mercado Único Digital
- 1.3 Segurança das redes e da informação
- 1.4 Redes Transeuropeias de Telecomunicações

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1 – CULTURA E AUDIOVISUAL

- 1.1 Conselho EJCD
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2 – JUVENTUDE

- 2.1 Conselho EJCD
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- 2.3 Livro Branco da Juventude

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- 3.1 Conselho EJCD
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Vejamos:

TÍTULO IV – POLÍTICAS INTERNAS NA UNIÃO EUROPEIA

CAPÍTULO VI – TRANSPORTES, TELECOMUNICAÇÕES E ENERGIA

1. TELECOMUNICAÇÕES

1.1 Mercado Único das Telecomunicações

Neste contexto releva a adoção do Regulamento (UE) n.º 2015/2120, do Parlamento Europeu e do Conselho, de 25 de novembro de 2015 – Regulamento sobre o mercado Único das comunicações eletrónicas – que permite aos cidadãos e empresas aceder a serviços de comunicações eletrónicas onde quer que estes sejam prestados na U.E., sem restrições transfronteiras ou custos adicionais injustificados.

Contudo, notar que Portugal apresentou uma declaração final ao texto aprovado “com o intuito de salvaguardar a possibilidade de recuperação para os operadores de todos os custos associados à prestação do serviço de “roaming”, bem como acautelar uma taxa razoável de retorno do capital investido.”.

1.2 Mercado Único Digital

É de salientar a apresentação da Estratégia para o Mercado Único Digital e de louvar a inclusão de uma referência à literacia digital, tema que havia sido identificado como uma das principais preocupações de Portugal.

No âmbito da referida estratégia foram também apresentadas duas propostas de diretivas sobre contratos transfronteiriços em linha e uma proposta de regulamento sobre portabilidade transfronteira dos serviços de conteúdos em linha.

Por outro lado, foi ainda apresentada a Comunicação “Rumo a um quadro de direitos de autor moderno e mais europeu”.

Acresce que, foram lançadas diversas consultas públicas, das quais se destaca a consulta sobre a revisão do quadro regulamentar das comunicações eletrónicas.



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Por último, é explicitar que Portugal coorganizou com a comissão Europeia o evento “Going Local” sobre o Mercado Único Digital, que se realizou em Lisboa, no mês de setembro.

1.3 Segurança das redes e da informação

Evidencia-se que no mês de dezembro foi alcançado um importante compromisso sobre a proposta de diretiva relativa a medidas destinadas a garantir um elevado nível comum de segurança das redes e da informação.

1.4 Redes Transeuropeias de Telecomunicações

Realça-se a decisão da Comissão que atribuiu financiamento para ações na área da segurança e da Internet, incluindo o projeto português “Centro Internet Segura”.

TÍTULO IV – POLÍTICAS INTERNAS NA UNIÃO EUROPEIA

CAPÍTULO XI – EDUCAÇÃO, CULTURA, AUDIOVISUAL, JUVENTUDE E DESPORTO

1 – CULTURA E AUDIOVISUAL

1.1 Conselho EJC

1.1.1 Síntese dos principais resultados do Conselho EJC de 18 e 19 de maio de 2015:

- a) Debate de orientação sobre o futuro da política audiovisual europeia, centrado em duas questões:
 - i. Os aspetos da política audiovisual da estratégia para o mercado único digital;
 - ii. O funcionamento da Diretiva Serviços de Comunicação Social Audiovisual na atual situação geopolítica;
- b) Debate sobre os desafios que se colocam para assegurar a diversidade e a elevada qualidade da oferta digital;



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- c) Decisão: designação como Capitais Europeias da Cultura em 2019 Plovdiv (Bulgária) e Matera (Itália).

1.1.2 Síntese dos principais resultados do Conselho EJCD de 23 e 24 de novembro de 2015:

- a) Debate sobre a atual crise migratória dos refugiados, com especial ênfase na ação coletiva de combate à destruição e ao tráfico de bens do património cultural em zonas de conflito. Nesta matéria é de evidenciar que no Relatório consta que Portugal manifestou-se “pela criação de um guia de procedimentos comuns na U.E. e pelo desenvolvimento de campanhas de sensibilização e de reforço da cooperação com as polícias especializadas nas ações de combate a este tipo de tráfico.”;
- b) Conclusões sobre a forma como a cooperação para o desenvolvimento e o diálogo intercultural podem melhorar a integração dos migrantes e dos refugiados, tais como:
- i. A importância de uma abordagem mais abrangente da cultura, com base na solidariedade mundial;
 - ii. Necessidade de uma abordagem estratégica para a cultura e de princípios orientadores no contexto das relações externas da U.E.;
 - iii. Efeitos positivos na economia e na sociedade dos cruzamentos culturais com a tecnologia, a ciência e as empresas.

1.2 Bens culturais

O Relatório em análise referir que “Portugal participou no desenvolvimento de um módulo informático do Sistema de Informação do Mercado Interno (IMI) especificamente concebido para bens culturais”.

1.3 Programa Europa Criativa

O Relatório explicita que foram concedidos os seguintes apoios a entidades nacionais:

- a) 15 entidades no âmbito do Subprograma Cultura;
- b) 73 entidades no âmbito do Subprograma Media.

1.4 Património cultural

1.4.1 O Relatório salienta que Portugal participou no projeto Europeia 280, no âmbito da Plataforma Europeia do Património Cultural Digital – Europeia.



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O projeto Europeana traduz-se numa biblioteca virtual, desenvolvida pelos países da U.E., e tem como objetivo “contribuir para a divulgação da memória artística dos EM, através da disponibilização de imagens de obras nacionais de referência”, no portal <http://www.europeana.eu/portal/>.

1.4.2 No dia 2 de Dezembro de 2015, o Promontório de Sagres foi selecionado para Marca do Património Europeu.

Este prémio pretende dar visibilidade a sítios que celebrem e simbolizem a integração, os ideais e a história da U.E. e o Promontório de Sagres foi escolhido pela sua importância nos Descobrimientos “que marcaram a expansão, lançando a civilização europeia no seu caminho para o projeto global que veio a definir o mundo moderno”.

2 – JUVENTUDE

2.1 Conselho EJCD

2.1.1 Síntese dos principais resultados do Conselho EJCD de 18 e 19 de maio de 2015:

- a) Conclusões sobre o reforço da animação dos jovens;
- b) Debate sobre as formas de melhorar a participação política dos jovens na vida democrática da Europa;
- c) Comentários sobre o papel crucial dos setores da educação e da juventude na prevenção da radicalização e na promoção dos valores europeus comuns.

2.1.2 Síntese dos principais resultados do Conselho EJCD de 23 e 24 de novembro de 2015:

- c) Debate sobre a atual crise migratória dos refugiados, com especial ênfase para o papel da política da juventude e do trabalho com os jovens no que respeita à migração;
- d) Adoção do Relatório de 2015 da U.E. sobre a Juventude;
- e) Adoção de duas resoluções:
 - i. Plano de Trabalho da U.E. para a Juventude (2016-2018);
 - ii. Incentivo à participação política dos jovens na vida democrática na Europa.

2.2 Perfil Nacional do Técnico de Juventude



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Foi publicado e integrado no catálogo nacional de qualificações o Perfil Nacional do Técnico de Juventude – cfr. Boletim do Trabalho e Emprego n.º 45, de 8/12/2015, disponível em http://bte.gep.msess.gov.pt/completos/2015/bte45_2015.pdf.

Não obstante, o Relatório nota que este perfil será consolidado durante o ano de 2016.

2.3 Livro Branco da Juventude

Em Março de 2015, Portugal concluiu o processo relativo ao Livro Branco da Juventude, através da sua publicação pelo Instituto Português do Desporto e da Juventude, e que poderá ser consultado no seguinte portal:

<https://www.juventude.gov.pt/Eventos/EducacaoFormacao/Paginas/Livro-Branco-Juventude-3anos-acao-apresentacao-publica.aspx>

3 – DESPORTO

3.1 Conselho EJCD

3.1.1 Síntese dos principais resultados do Conselho EJCD de 18 e 19 de maio de 2015:

- a) Conclusões sobre o papel do desporto de base no desenvolvimento de competências transversais.

3.1.2 Síntese dos principais resultados do Conselho EJCD de 23 e 24 de novembro de 2015:

- a) Debate sobre a atual crise migratória dos refugiados, com especial ênfase para o potencial educativo do desporto para ajudar os jovens desfavorecidos, nomeadamente os migrantes, a encontrar o seu lugar na sociedade;
- b) Conclusões sobre a promoção das atividades físicas e desportivas para crianças;
- c) Coordenação das posições da U.E. e EM para as reuniões da Agência Mundial Antidopagem;
- d) Debate sobre as formas de desenvolver o potencial educativo do desporto.

3.2 Semana Europeia do Desporto



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No âmbito do projeto Semana Europeia do Desporto, que decorreu de 7 a 13 de Setembro de 2015, o Relatório regista a participação de Portugal com 106 eventos, mobilizando milhares de participações de todas as Regiões de Portugal Continental.

PARTE III – OPINIÃO DA DEPUTADA RELATORA

A Deputada Relatora considera que o Relatório ora em apreciação trata de forma objetiva e sintética os factos mais relevantes que ocorreram no decurso do ano anterior, resultantes da interação entre Portugal e as instituições europeias, no que diz respeito à matéria da competência da 12.ª Comissão.

PARTE IV – CONCLUSÕES

1. Em 31 de Março de 2016, o Governo apresentou à Assembleia da República o Relatório “Portugal na União Europeia – 2015”, que permite o acompanhamento da participação de Portugal no processo de construção da União Europeia.
2. No dia 15 de Abril de 2016, a Comissão de Assuntos Europeus solicitou à Comissão de Cultura, Comunicação, Juventude e Desporto a elaboração de um Relatório sobre as matérias da sua competência que estejam vertidas no documento supra mencionado.
3. O presente Relatório analisa em concreto os seguintes capítulos: capítulos VI e XI do Título IV (Políticas Internas na U.E.) do Relatório “Portugal na União Europeia – 2015”.
4. Pretende-se que este Relatório contribua para o Parecer que será elaborado pela Comissão de Assuntos Europeus.
5. Em face do exposto, a Comissão de Cultura, Comunicação, Juventude e Desporto delibera remeter o presente relatório à Comissão de Assuntos Europeus para os devidos efeitos legais.



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Palácio de S. Bento, 11 de Maio de 2016

A Deputada Relatora


(*Gabriela Canavilhas*)

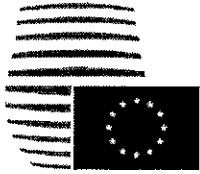
A Presidente da Comissão


(*Edite Estrela*)

Anexos:

1. Resultados da Reunião do Conselho EJCD de 18 e 19 de maio de 2015;
2. Resultados da Reunião do Conselho EJCD de 23 e 24 de novembro de 2015;
3. Esboço das conclusões do Conselho EJCD no contexto das relações externas da U.E.





Council of the
European Union

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(OR. en)

PRESSE 33
PR CO 25

OUTCOME OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

3388th Council meeting

Education, Youth, Culture and Sport

Brussels, 18 and 19 May 2015

Présidents **Märte Seile**
Minister for Education and Science
Dace Melbārde
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¹

- Where declarations, conclusions or resolutions have been formally adopted by the Council, this is indicated in the heading for the item concerned and the text is placed between quotation marks.
- Documents for which references are given in the text are available on the Council's Internet site (<http://www.consilium.europa.eu>).
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ITEMS DEBATED

EDUCATION

ET 2020 mid-term stocktaking

Ministers expressed their views on the achievements of **European cooperation in education and training** to date and how it should develop, and in which direction. The debate took place in the context of the mid-term stocktaking and the 2015 Joint Report, which is due for publication this summer.

ET 2020 is the key European-level framework that helps member states to modernise their education and training systems, thus contributing to the overall political priorities set under the Europe 2020 strategy. The ET 2020 strategic framework was adopted in May 2009 (OJC 119, 28.5.2009) and established four broad long-term objectives which European cooperation in education and training should seek to achieve by the end of this decade.

The Commission thinks that the ET 2020 framework needs to become more operational and focused. One of its main priorities should be to improve basic skills and competences, as well as digital literacy, in a lifelong learning perspective.

The main outcomes of the ministerial debate were the following:

- ET 2020 strategic objectives remain relevant but the current priority areas should be streamlined, focusing on a few headline priorities with clear European added value, while also increasing the efficiency of working methods;
- The ET 2020 work cycle should be extended from three to five years, thus enabling better synchronisation between the objectives of ET 2020 and the broader EU 2020 strategy for jobs and growth and reducing the reporting burden on member states;
- in the follow-up to the back-to-back meeting of EPSCO and Education ministers in December 2014, cooperation and closer synergy between the education and training sector and the employment policy sector should be pursued and strengthened, thereby acknowledging the role of quality education in promoting employability and competitiveness;

- more efficient use should be made of available EU financial instruments, such as Erasmus+ and the Youth Guarantee, as well as the recently proposed Investment Plan for Europe, which emphasises the need to swiftly increase the volume of investments in certain key policy areas, including education and training, by attracting private capital to strategic projects;
- vocational education and training must be developed in parallel with formal education, as is already the case in some member states, and the exchange of best practices should be conducted on a regular basis;
- though important, education cannot only be limited to finding a job. It should also promote personal development, critical thinking and active citizenship, focusing on European common values. In this context, ministers stressed the importance of ensuring a concrete follow-up to the declaration they adopted at their informal meeting in Paris in March on education for citizenship and ways of countering radicalisation.

The Commission concluded that main priorities to be developed in the post-2015 ET 2020 should be promoting inclusive education and active citizenship, increasing youth employability, and encouraging the exchange of best practices,

The role of early childhood education and primary education

The Council adopted conclusions on the **role of early childhood education and primary education in fostering creativity, innovation and digital competence** ([*8397/15*](#)).

The conclusions examine ways and means of ensuring that today's young people are equipped with the skills needed to meet the challenges of an increasingly digital economy and society.

They also emphasise the part which creativity, innovation and digital resources can play in the learning process itself, as well as the importance of ensuring that teachers are suitably trained and schools adequately prepared for this task.

Other business

- *Paris declaration: Promoting citizenship and the common values of freedom, tolerance and non-discrimination through education*

The Council took note of information from the Presidency, the French delegation and the Commission on the follow-up to the informal meeting of EU education ministers on 17 March 2015 in Paris (8496/15).

The meeting was organised by the French delegation - supported by the Latvian Presidency and the Commission - in the wake of the terrorist attacks in Paris in January this year. It brought together all the member states - 26 at ministerial level - and adopted a declaration calling for the education sector to play its part in preventing radicalisation by promoting citizenship and fostering social inclusion, and common European values such as tolerance and mutual respect.

The French minister stressed again that employability must be promoted in parallel with citizenship education. She also suggested that the Horizon 2020 programme could support research into the reasons that lead to radicalisation among young people and called for the regular exchange of best practices on this topic.

The Commission stated that preventing radicalisation was a strong priority, which is why the recently published European Agenda on Security (8293/15) gives such a large place to the role of education. Furthermore, EU instruments such as ET 2020 and Erasmus + can also be used in this field.

The Commission considered that any measures taken should reach down to grassroots level and signalled that a number of projects were already being implemented. It announced that the Commission would present a specific initiative in this area in the context of the 2016 Erasmus + work programme.

Member states briefly indicated some of the programmes and measures under way at national level to promote inclusion and fight radicalisation. Ministers also underlined that concrete actions at both national and European level should seek to involve sports clubs, NGOs, youth associations, parents and families, as well as develop specific teacher training programmes aimed at preventing radicalisation.

– ***Work programme of the incoming presidency***

The Council took note of information from the Luxembourg delegation concerning its main priorities in the education field for the coming six months:

- develop linguistic diversity at both formal and non-formal level
- improve early childhood facilities
- increase access to tertiary education
- promote inclusive education

YOUTH

Structured dialogue

Before starting with the formal items on the agenda, the Presidency briefly outlined the main outcome of the informal meeting between government representatives and the representatives from youth organisations which had taken place in the morning before the Council meeting.

The youth representatives stressed the need to develop a positive youth policy where young people could be seen as assets rather than problems, and highlighted the importance of enhancing participation and social inclusion.

They acknowledged in particular the value of the “structured dialogue” and of a cross-sectoral approach, called for an effective implementation of the rights of young people, the recognition of the value of youth work, further measures to combat youth unemployment, in particular through increased implementation of the Youth Guarantee.

Cross-sectorial policy cooperation

The Council adopted conclusions on enhancing **cross-sectorial policy cooperation to effectively address the socio-economic challenges facing young people** (7863/15). Cross-sectorial policy cooperation is also one of the three main priorities set out in the recently adopted EU Work Plan for Youth 2014-2015 (*OJ C 183/02, 14.6.2014*).

Although significant steps have been taken to improve the situation of young people in Europe, youth unemployment rates remain high with increasing numbers of long term unemployed and demotivated young workers who have a higher risk of social exclusion. There is still a skills gap between education and the world of work and the transition from school to work is often difficult.

The conclusions consider strategies to strengthen the cross-sectorial approach to youth issues so that policy-makers can react more effectively and promptly to problems, making the best use of all available EU funding and programmes in this field, such as the Youth Guarantee and Erasmus+.

They also underline that certain core elements of the youth sector (youth work, non-formal learning) could be integrated into other sectors (education, employment, social policy and health) and could play a crucial role in addressing the main socio-economic problems of young people in the EU.

The Commission said that the forthcoming Youth Report (scheduled for early Autumn) will be an important tool to assess youth policy to date and will also show that the cross-sectorial approach is already bringing results. The report will also include a list of member states' best practices in this regard.

Youth work

The Council adopted conclusions on **reinforcing youth work to ensure cohesive societies (8407/15)**, which highlight the contribution of youth work to personal development, social inclusion, cultural diversity and active citizenship.

The conclusions also underline that these values are at the core of European democracies and should also be promoted and supported outside the formal education structures.

There are estimated to be around 3 million youth workers (both voluntary and paid) in the EU, often neither recognised nor regulated by any kind of framework.

A number of member states were in favour of the Commission presenting a proposal for a Council recommendation, which would strengthen the recognition of youth work, addressing the persistently high level of youth unemployment and its negative consequences in terms of social exclusion, marginalisation, extremism and, potentially, radicalisation.

Many ministers underlined that youth work plays an important role in reaching out to all young people of different backgrounds, including marginalised young people and those not in employment, education or training (NEETs).

The Commission is examining this issue at several levels and is preparing a study on quality youth work. This study could form the basis for a possible Council recommendation

Political participation of young people

Ministers discussed how to improve **young people's political participation in the democratic life of Europe**. This is one of the overall thematic priorities of the trio presidencies in the framework of the "structured dialogue" and was also the subject of the last EU Youth Conference that took place in Riga on 23 to 26 March,¹.

Member states stressed that young people are interested in political participation, but are participating in new and less conventional ways, such as through social media and internet campaigns. Consequently, member states are already implementing a large number of measures to enhance political participation of young people, focusing in particular on election turn-outs.

In general ministers agreed that the focus should be on the following measures:

- strengthen civic and political education and increasing support from families and schools in order to combat extremism and radicalisation
- make the best use of social media, the European Youth Portal and user-friendly tools for political participation
- develop tailored projects mainly at local level aiming to intensify the dialogue with and between young people
- continue to exchange best practices

The Commission announced that it was preparing a set of measures in this field to be presented at the end of the year.

¹ Joint recommendations (8095/15, p.8).

Other business

- *European declaration on youth work in the context of the Second European Youth Work Convention*

The Council was briefed by the Belgian delegation on the outcome Second European Youth Work Convention which took place from 27 to 30 April 2015 in Brussels, in the framework of the Belgian Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe (8491/1/15 REV 1).

- *Work programme of the incoming presidency*

The Council took note of information from the Luxembourg delegation concerning its main priorities in the youth sector for the coming six months.

- adoption of a recommendation on the political participation of young people
- adoption of the 2015 Joint Report
- adoption of new Youth Work Plan

CULTURE and AUDIOVISUAL

European audiovisual policy

Ministers had a first exchange of views on the audiovisual policy aspects of the recent Commission communication on the Digital Single Market Strategy presented by Commissioner Oettinger.

The Commission underlined that the aim of the strategy is to allow Europe to re-establish its digital supremacy, catching up on digital innovation in order to compete in equal terms with other global players, such as the United States, China and South Korea who have already a digital strategy for quite some time now.

The European Union market is fragmented with different rules and regulations in many sectors, which do not allow the EU to compete as successfully as others. To be able to do so, the EU must further harmonise its copyright legislation and address issues such as e-commerce, the role of digital platforms, taxation, net neutrality and geo-blocking.

Commissioner emphasised that if third countries want to do business in Europe, they will have to respect EU law.

The Commission and ministers also stressed that the digital single market strategy is not solely about technological issues: it also focuses on boosting creativity, ensuring cultural diversity and promoting cultural heritage. Together all this is what makes European culture attractive for export.

The main outcomes of the ministerial debate were the following:

- regarding the **digital single market strategy**, ministers supported the cross-border portability of content, the fight against illegal content and the need to find the right balance on copyright;
- they also stressed that the territoriality principle is important for content creation and geo-blocking might sometimes be justified in particular as far as small markets are concerned.
- concerning the **audiovisual media services (AVMS) directive (OJ L 95, 15.4.2010)** remains valid in many domains but should be adapted to technological changes brought about by the digital shift, regarding in particular the current regulatory distinction between on-demand and linear audiovisual media services
- the review of the directive should aim to guarantee media freedom and pluralism, promotion of cultural diversity, as well as ensuring a high level protection of minors
- the country of origin principle (each provider of audiovisual media services comes under the jurisdiction of one and only one EU member state) is still a cornerstone of European audiovisual policy but some exceptions could be foreseen, for instance when fundamental values, freedoms and democracy are seriously threatened
- however, the procedure to be followed by member states when they are the target of unacceptable content coming from another member state should be streamlined and accelerated, in particular in certain cases of services of non-EU origin licensed in one member state yet targeting the audience of another member state. Effective cooperation among audiovisual regulatory authorities is crucial in this respect.
- the freedoms guaranteed by the AVMS directive must not be misused to disseminate hate speech, propaganda or disinformation in order to ensure public interest objectives of security and stability

The Commission indicated that its REFIT exercise on the AVMS directive should be completed by the end of 2015 with a view to adopting a legislative proposal in the course of 2016.

The Presidency said that it would prepare a summary of the outcome of today's Council debate and of the forthcoming Competitiveness and Telecommunications Councils' debates on the subject. The text will be forwarded to the June European Council.

Cultural and creative cross-overs

The Council adopted conclusions on **cultural and creative cross-overs to stimulate innovation, economic sustainability and social inclusion (8346/15)**, which highlight how culture and artistic creativity can trigger innovation and enhance competitiveness in industry and business, as well as in education, health care and the environment.

The cultural and creative sectors (CCS) cover a broad range of sectors from the arts, crafts, architecture, heritage, libraries and publishing to film, television, games, music, advertising and design.

Despite numerous studies undertaken in recent years at both national and EU levels that have demonstrated the significant contribution of these sectors to GDP, job creation and exports, the synergies with other sectors have not yet been fully explored.

The conclusions call on member states to create favourable conditions to promote cultural and creative entrepreneurship, including by using innovative financial instruments.

They also recommend that education should encourage the development of transversal skills such as critical thinking, creativity, entrepreneurship and initiative taking, which are vital in today's labour market.

The Commission is invited to develop a comprehensive industrial strategy that would strengthen competitiveness and further growth of the cultural and creative industries.

European Capitals of Culture in 2019

The Council adopted a decision designating **Plovdiv (Bulgaria)** and **Matera (Italy)** as European Capitals of Culture in 2019 (**8103/15**), following a recommendation from the Commission which is based on the reports of the selection panel and the positive opinion of the European Parliament.

The European Capitals of Culture initiative was launched in 1985 and over 40 cities have been designated since then. It has become one of the better-known European initiatives. Its aim is to promote greater mutual understanding between European citizens and strengthen a feeling of European citizenship, simultaneously highlighting the richness of European cultures and both their diversity and their shared features.

The initiative had proved to have a positive impact in terms of media response, local development, tourism and the recognition by inhabitants of the importance of their selected city.

The Bulgarian and Italian ministers welcomed the designation and outlined briefly some of the features of their respective cities.

Other business

– *Destruction of cultural sites perpetrated by ISIL/Da'esh*

The Council was updated by the Commission on culture and cultural heritage related aspects of the Joint communication on elements for an EU regional strategy for Syria and Iraq as well as the Da'esh threat.

Da'esh is destroying cultural sites in occupied territories for ideological reasons and at the same time it trades cultural and archaeological objects in order to finance its terrorist activities.

The Commission included in its European Agenda on Security (8293/15) a reference to illicit trafficking of cultural objects as an area where additional measures might be needed to prevent terrorist financing. Europol has also set-up a specific task force to deal with the trafficking of cultural objects.

Member states and the Commission unanimously condemned these barbaric acts against a cultural heritage that belongs to all humanity and signalled that they are committed to doing all they can to stop these acts of criminal violence, also in cooperation with other international organisations such as the UNESCO.

– *Financing of small-scale cultural infrastructure projects*

The Council took note of concerns of the Polish delegation - supported by a large number of member states - regarding the maximum threshold that the Commission has decided to apply to small-scale cultural infrastructure financed from the European Regional Development Fund 2014-2020, and its calculation method (8561/15).

The Commission recalled that only small-scale cultural and tourism infrastructure can be supported under the ERDF since these projects proved having a greater impact in local economy than isolated larger projects.

The Commission defended the threshold as being reasonable to meet the criterion of "small scale". However, it also pointed out the flexibility that member states have in financing projects under the ERDF regulation

– *Council conclusions on cultural governance*

The Council took note of information from the Presidency (8489/15) on the main outcomes of the stocktaking exercise relating to the Council conclusions on cultural governance, adopted in November 2012 (15849/12+ COR 1)

– *Work programme of the incoming presidency*

The Council took note of information from the Luxembourg delegation concerning its main priorities in the field of culture for the coming six months:

- cross-sectoral cooperation on cultural issues
- culture in European Union external relations, in particular concerning development cooperation

SPORT

Role of grassroots sport

The Council adopted conclusions on **maximising the role of grassroots sport in developing transversal skills, especially among young people** (7875/15), highlighting how voluntary activities in sport as a method of non-formal and informal learning can help young people acquire skills and transversal competences that complement formal education and enhance their employability.

Non-formal and informal learning are important elements in the learning process and are effective instruments for making learning attractive, developing readiness for lifelong learning and promoting the social integration of young people.

Sport is the largest non-governmental movement in Europe. Voluntary activities in the sports sector mainly take place at grassroots level, with people taking part either as participants, facilitators or organisers.

Physical activity as part of quality education

Ministers held a debate on **physical activity as an essential element of quality education at all levels**.

The promotion of physical activity is a priority of EU policy-making in the field of sport, and has been regularly addressed, in particular through the Council recommendation on health-enhancing physical activity across sectors (*15575/13*), a specific chapter for sport under the Erasmus+ programme and the upcoming first edition of the European Week of Sport in September (http://ec.europa.eu/sport/week/index_en).

Most member states are already developing many programmes and strategies to promote physical activity, since they are all aware of its benefits and of the dangerous consequences of sedentarity and of the rising trend of obesity in particular among young people. Many member states already work in close cooperation with local sport associations.

The main recommendations from the debate were the following:

- propose a greater range of activities in schools and increase their attractiveness
- encourage young people to engage in extracurricular sport and physical activity beyond the school day, organise school competitions
- extend the use of community facilities, ensuring that sport facilities are available, meet the necessary technical and safety standards and are managed efficiently, in partnership with local sports organisations and clubs
- universities and further education institutions should also develop sporting opportunities, since it's generally during their teenage years that children tend to give up sport
- support the progress of young athletes aspiring to a career in elite sports, by adapting school curricula and schedules

- develop programmes ensuring an inclusive approach, adjusting the activities to children with disabilities or special education needs

The ministerial debate also benefited from the very relevant input from the sport movement's representatives who participated in the working lunch, in the framework of the "structured dialogue":

- EOC (European Olympic Committee);
- EUPEA (European Physical Education Association),
- EUSA (European University Sports Association),
- CEV (European Volleyball Confederation),
- FIBA (Europe International Basketball Federation)
- LEN (European Swimming League), and IFF (International Floorball Federation).

The discussion addressed the **cooperation between the sports movement and the education systems in member states:**

Other business

- *Council of Europe Convention on the manipulation of sports competitions*

The Council was briefed by the Presidency on the state of play regarding the signing of the Council of Europe Convention on the manipulation of sports competitions. To date 18 countries (of which 9 EU member states) have signed the Convention but so far only Norway has ratified it.

The Convention will come into force following ratification by at least five signatories (three of which must be members of the Council of Europe), which is expected by 2016.

The Commission presented the proposals for the EU signature of the Convention in March 2015 and they are currently under examination in the competent Council bodies. The Council Legal Service is expected to provide an opinion on some of the pending issues .

– *World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) meetings*

The Council was briefed by the EU representatives on the outcome of the WADA meetings which took place in Montreal on 12 and 13 May 2015. The meeting mainly addressed issues relating to the budget, data protection and the Anti-Doping Code.

The EU is represented on the WADA Foundation Board by Belgium, Luxembourg and Malta. The Foundation Board is WADA's supreme decision-making body and it is composed of 38 members, with an equal proportion of representatives from the Olympic Movement and from governments.

The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), set up in 1999, is a private law body whose mission is to promote, coordinate and monitor the fight against doping in sport in all its forms (<https://www.wada-ama.org/>.) Its key tasks include scientific research, education, the development of anti-doping capacities and monitoring of the World Anti Doping Code.

– *Work programme of the incoming presidency*

The Council took note of information from the Luxembourg delegation concerning its main priorities in the field of sport for the coming six months:

- promotion of physical activity in schools
- double careers in sport
- EU representation and coordination at WADA
- adoption of Council of Europe Convention on the manipulation of sports competitions

OTHER ITEMS APPROVED

GENERAL AFFAIRS

Inland waterway transport in Europe - Report of the European Court of Auditors

The Council adopted conclusions on the European Court of Auditors' special report entitled "Inland Waterway Transport in Europe: No significant improvements in modal share and navigability conditions since 2001", as set out in [8331/15](#).

TRANSPORT

Fishing vessel personnel

The Council decided to authorise member states to become parties to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel Personnel (STCW-F). The European Parliament gave its consent to the decision in April 2015, after agreement by the Council in December 2014.

The STCW-F is an International Maritime Organisation convention aimed at making safety standards for crews of fishing vessels mandatory worldwide.

For more information, see [Transport Council press release from December 2014](#)

[Council decision authorising member states to become parties to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel Personnel](#)

Port state control*

The Council adopted a decision that contains the position to be adopted by the member states in the Port State Control Committee (PSCC) of the Paris Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control (Paris MOU). The decision covers the 48th session of the PSCC, which will be held in the Netherlands from 18 to 22 May 2015. During that session, the PSCC is expected to decide on certain issues which have direct legal effect on the EU directive on port state control.

Port state control means monitoring the compliance of ships with the international standards for safety, pollution prevention and on-board living and working conditions. While the primary responsibility for compliance rests with the flag state, inspections by port states play an important role as a second line of defence against substandard shipping.

Statement on the adoption of the decision concerning Paris MOU PSCC

ENVIRONMENT

List of restricted substances

The Council did not raise objections to a Commission delegated act amending Annex II to Directive 2011/65/EU on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment as regards the list of restricted substances (8108/15+ ADD 1). The Commission and the European Parliament will be informed.

This means that, unless the European Parliament objects, the delegated act will be published and enter into force on the twentieth day following its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.

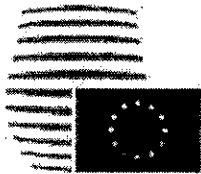
TRANSPARENCY

Public access to documents

On 18 May 2015, the Council approved:

- the reply to confirmatory application No 07/c/01/15 (7861/15).
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Council of the
European Union

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OUTCOME OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

3428th Council meeting

Education, Youth, Culture and Sport

Brussels, 23 and 24 November 2015

Présidents **Claude Meisch**
Minister for Education and Youth of Luxembourg
Maggy Nagel
Minister for Culture of Luxembourg
Roman Schneider
Minister for Sports of Luxembourg

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- Where declarations, conclusions or resolutions have been formally adopted by the Council, this is indicated in the heading for the item concerned and the text is placed between quotation marks.
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ITEMS DEBATED

YOUTH

Before starting with the formal items on the agenda, the Presidency briefly outlined the main outcome of the informal meeting with representatives from youth organizations which took place before the Council meeting in the morning. The subject under discussion was youth work in the digital age. The main concerns expressed by the youth representatives were the following:

- The need to find the right balance between on-line and off-line activities
- The importance of maintaining personal contacts:"
- Inclusion of this topic in the next Work Plan for Youth
- Increase the exchange of information and best practices, in particular with the education sector
- Implementation of on-line training schemes for youth workers and also through social media

EU Youth Report

The Council adopted the 2015 joint report on the implementation of the renewed framework for European cooperation in the youth field (14437/2/15 REV 2)

The report evaluates progress towards the goals and priorities of the cooperation framework in the period 2013-2015, based on an assessment of young people's situation and policy measures taken at EU and member state level. It also assesses the implementation of the "structured dialogue" with young people and puts forward new policy recommendations and priorities for the next three year period (2016-2018),

The report underlines that youth employment and employability remained top priorities for the EU and its member states throughout 2013-2015, with the support of the Youth Guarantee scheme¹ - the European Social Fund, the Youth Employment initiative and the Erasmus+ programme.

¹ OJ C 120, 26.4.2013.

It recommends the following priorities for the future work cycle of the cooperation:

- increased social inclusion of all young people,
- stronger participation of all young people in democratic and civic life in Europe;
- easier transition of young people from youth to adulthood, in particular integration into the labour market.

It also calls on member states and the Commission to give particular attention to young people at risk of marginalisation, NEETs and young people with a migrant background, including newly arrived immigrants and young refugees.

COM reported that although the situation remained worrying, there was a decrease in youth unemployment during the last year. It encouraged therefore member states to continue to make the best use of all the EU programmes and funds available in this field

Work Plan for Youth

The Council and the representatives of the governments of the member states adopted a resolution on a new EU Work Plan for Youth (2016-2018). [\(14434/15\)](#)

This is a flexible, operational plan with a precise timetable to enable the EU and its member states to continue to tackle more promptly and efficiently the continuing high youth unemployment rates and the consequences of the economic crisis for young people. It sets out six priorities:

- Social inclusion of all young people;
- Participation of all young people in democratic and civic life;
- Transition of young people from youth to adulthood;
- Support for young people's health and well-being ;
- Addressing challenges and opportunities of the digital era for youth policy; and
- Responses to the opportunities and challenges presented by the increasing numbers of young migrants and refugees in the EU.

These priorities are closely linked to those set out in the Joint EU Youth Report to ensure coherence and efficiency. The Work Plan is intended as a practical tool to implement these objectives, which require reinforced cross-sectoral cooperation in the youth field. It also calls for the active involvement of youth ministries in national policy-making in the framework of the Europe 2020 Strategy and the European Semester.

The Work Plan may be reviewed by the Council in light of results achieved and policy developments at EU level.

Political participation of young people

The Council adopted a resolution on improving young people political participation in the democratic life of Europe (14435/1/15 REV 1), inviting member states to develop national, regional and/or local strategies and programmes for enhancing the political participation of all young people, especially young people with fewer opportunities.

Those strategies could include, in particular, developing cross-sectoral cooperation between formal education and non-formal learning, promoting alternative forms of political participation, increasing local and regional participation opportunities, supporting youth work and youth organisations.

Ministers underlined that this has now become a vital issue for our democracies. Participation and active citizenship can prevent marginalisation, intolerance and radicalisation.

The Presidency recalled that a key issue for the structured dialogue during the 18 months of the trio Presidency (IT, LV and LU) has been how to encourage young people to participate in democratic life in Europe.

The Presidency stressed that the "structured dialogue" constitutes an important tool to promote the participation of young people in the decision-making process in the EU since it allows for a continuous joint reflection on the priorities, implementation and follow-up of European cooperation involving a diverse range of young people and youth organisations in the consultations at all levels in the member states, at the EU Youth Conferences and during the European Youth Week.

The Presidency also recalled that overall thematic priority of the structured dialogue for the period 1 January 2016 -30 June 2017 will be "Enabling all young people to engage in a diverse, connected and inclusive Europe – Ready for Life, Ready for Society". This theme reflects the EU Youth Report and takes into account the feedback from the pre-consultation phase, which the upcoming trio Presidencies have conducted.

In this context, the Luxembourg Presidency briefly presented to the Council the final recommendations on political participation of young people resulting from the EU Youth Conference that took place in Luxembourg from 21 to 24 September (12651/15)

The role of youth policy and youth work with regard to migration

Ministers were invited to reflect on how youth policy and youth work can best address the challenges raised by increasing migration flows, on the basis of a Presidency background document (13640/15).

According to Eurostat¹, 81% of the 689 000 people who applied for asylum in EU countries this year (through August) were younger than 35; more than half (55%) were aged 18 to 34.

Ministers welcomed the compendium of best practices prepared by the Presidency (13640/15 ADD 1), which shows that most member states have already put in place a large number of initiatives and measures to tackle this problem.

The main outcome of the ministerial debate was the following:

- An integrated approach was needed in this field, involving education, employment, cultural, and sport sectors, as well as parent support, in particular at local and regional level
- Youth work can be an instrument of inclusion by fostering intercultural understanding between the local and immigrant populations (involving also volunteers and young migrants in the process)
- European values must be systematically promoted as early as possible, for instance through education for citizenship in order to avoid intolerance, xenophobia and radicalisation
- Importance of fostering language learning either through formal education or non-formal learning methodologies
- The EU Youth Work Plan has a strategic role to play in coordinating member states' actions and in increasing synergies
- Use of the Erasmus + programme should be optimised.

¹ ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/asylum-and-managed-migration/data/database

Following a minute's silence in tribute to the Paris victims, the French minister made a short declaration on the events in Paris, underlining France's determination to preserve its way of life and its freedoms, and thanked all its colleagues for the solidarity shown following the terrorist attacks of November 13th.

The Commission supported France's declaration and stressed that the time for rhetoric was over and we must now act together. He underlined the need to mobilise all possible European instruments and financial tools in order to combat radicalisation and extremism. The Commission stands ready to help member states in their efforts.

Other business

– *Work programme of the incoming Presidency*

The Council took note of the incoming Netherlands Presidency's main priorities in the field of youth for the coming six months, in particular:

- preventing radicalism through youth work
- encouraging the participation and integration of young people with mental health problems
- developing the new cycle of the structured dialogue " Enabling all young people to engage in a diverse, connected and inclusive Europe – **Ready for Life, Ready for Society**"

EDUCATION

Paris declaration

Following a minute's silence in tribute to the victims of Paris attacks, the French minister for Education made a short statement sharing her deep emotion and shock in the aftermath of the Paris tragedy but wished to underline as well that terrorists did not and could not destroy the core values of the French Republic – “Liberty, equality and fraternity”- which are also those of Europe. She expressed her sincere gratitude to all colleagues for their solidarity.

All ministers expressed their deepest sympathy for and solidarity with France at this painful moment. They agreed that the Paris attacks were targeted not only at France but at the whole Europe, which was why a European response must be given, involving not only words but also deeds .

Although most ministers acknowledged the importance of education in preventing exclusion and radicalisation, several ministers pointed out that it cannot be the only answer. Employment, health and cultural aspects must also be addressed.

Ministers underlined the relevance of the Paris declaration of 17 March 2015 – in the aftermath of the Charlie Hebdo attacks - on promoting citizenship and the common values of freedom, tolerance and non-discrimination through education.

The declaration was adopted at an informal meeting of EU education ministers which was attended by all the member states - 26 at ministerial level - and French President François Hollande also made an appearance.

Following a first assessment of initiatives and measures already taken at EU level, the French delegation underlined the need to maintain the political momentum by making it a long- term commitment under Erasmus+ and in the framework of European cooperation in education and training (ET2020).

The Commission recalled that it had already highlighted the key role which the education and youth sectors have to play in promoting common European values in its communication on a European Agenda for Security (8293/15) and that it will launch in November, in the framework of the Erasmus+ programme, a specific call for proposals in this field with a budget of 3 million euros.

New priorities for European cooperation in education and training (ET2020)

The Council adopted the 2015 joint report of the Council and the Commission on the implementation of the strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training (14440/1/15 REV 1).

ET 2020¹ is the key European-level framework that helps member states to modernise their education and training systems, thus contributing to the overall political priorities set under the Europe 2020 strategy. ET 2020 established four general long-term objectives which European cooperation in education and training should seek to achieve by the end of this decade²

The current report takes stock not only of progress during the most recent work cycle (2012-2014) in the process, it also reviews the ET 2020 framework as a whole at its half-way stage and puts forward proposals for adjustment. These are essentially aimed at providing greater focus, improved governance and better dissemination of the results of European cooperation.

For the remaining five years up to 2020, ET 2020 will have 6 new priority areas (instead of 13), aiming to ensure that education and training systems promote employability, skills and innovation, increase social mobility and equality, help to prevent radicalisation and lay the foundations for democratic values and active citizenship.

Finally, the Commission recommended better use the Union's financial instruments, such as Erasmus +, the Structural Funds and the Investment Plan for Europe.

Reducing early school leaving

The Council adopted conclusions on reducing early school leaving and promoting success in school (14441/15), which take stock of the progress made so far in this field, with a view to consolidating and improving measures aimed at tackling this problem.

The conclusions also invite member states to make the best use of the funding opportunities offered by EU instruments, such as the Erasmus+ Programme, the European Social Fund and the European Fund for Strategic Investments, to support comprehensive policy measures in this area and to promote cooperation in and around schools.

1 OJ C 119, 28.5.2009

2 Making lifelong learning and mobility a reality, improving the quality and efficiency of education and training, promoting equity, social cohesion and active citizenship, enhancing creativity and innovation, including entrepreneurship, at all levels of education and training.

Over the last five years there has been consistent progress towards the 10% benchmark established by the Europe 2020 strategy. The EU average currently stands at 11.1% (down from 14.2% in 2009). However, significant discrepancies remain between and within member states.

Early school leaving is a serious issue throughout Europe, both for individuals and society as a whole since it often leads to marginalisation. Low levels of education not only have severe consequences for the young people concerned, they also bring high economic and social costs for society.¹

Education and migration:

Ministers discussed strategies for integrating recently arrived migrants and people with a migrant background.

The Presidency underlined that the successful integration of migrants into society remains a precondition for Europe's economic competitiveness, as well as for social cohesion.

However, a number of member states also drew attention to the practical and financial problems created by the unprecedented influx of migrants, in particular young migrants.

In general, ministers considered it necessary to focus on the following issues:

- ensuring effective learning of the language(s) of the host country
- speeding up assessment and validation of prior qualifications
- promoting common European values systematically at all levels of education
- avoiding geographical concentration of migrants
- preparing teachers and trainers - but also learners and parents - for more multicultural diversity in the learning environment
- increasing the exchange of best practices among member states

¹ According to 2014 data, 11.1% of 18 to 24 year-olds have left education and training without completing an upper secondary programme, amounting to around 4.4 million young people.

In this context, the Presidency recalled that the working lunch of ministers of education also addressed **promotion of language learning and inclusion** but with the focus on (high- quality) early childhood education and care. Against the background of increasing diversity of migrant children in member states, ministers discussed how to foster general access and simultaneously ensure high- quality early childhood education and care.

Other business

– *Work programme of the incoming presidency*

The Council took note of the incoming Netherlands Presidency's main priorities in the field of education for the coming six months, namely:

- Contribution of education to jobs and growth in the framework of the New Agenda for Skills
- Vocational education and training
- Countering radicalisation

CULTURE

The Council observed a minute's silence in tribute to the Paris victims. The Presidency recalled the recent declaration of Ministers of Culture following the attacks in Paris, underlining the importance of standing up to defend our culture and freedoms, particularly in the current difficult context.

The French Minister of Culture, Fleur Pellerin, thanked her colleagues for their support and sympathy and argued that security concerns should not overwhelm us: the best answer to terrorism is to continue to live a culturally rich diverse life, in accordance with our core European values and principles.

The focus of this Council session was on how culture could best reinforce EU action on the international scene. Ministers addressed in particular development cooperation, the integration of migrants and refugees, the fight against the destruction and illicit trafficking of cultural heritage, as well as the digitisation of cultural heritage.

Culture in external relations

The Council adopted conclusions on culture in the EU's external relations, in particular regarding development cooperation (14443/15), which examine how culture can reinforce development cooperation policies by building deeper partnerships with partner countries based on trust, mutual understanding and intercultural dialogue

They also underline that cultural and creative sectors can contribute to the main goal of development cooperation, i.e. reduction of poverty. Furthermore, respect for cultural diversity is an important element in conflict prevention, as well as in post-conflict situations.

The conclusions reflect a shift towards a more comprehensive approach to culture in foreign policies, aiming to develop joint capacity building and global solidarity.

The Council calls on the Commission and on the High Representative to submit to it a strategic approach to culture in the EU's external relations, outlining for this purpose a set of guiding principles.

The Council also stresses that such an approach should also address the challenges that the EU is currently facing, such as the migratory crisis, radicalisation, the rise of xenophobia, as well as the destruction and illicit trafficking of cultural heritage in conflict zones such as Iraq and Syria.

Integrating migrants and refugees through intercultural dialogue

The Council adopted conclusions reinforcing the priority on intercultural dialogue in the framework of the Work Plan for Culture (2015-2018)¹ (14444/15). The conclusions are part of a broader strategy that the European Council called for in October 2015 (26/15) in order to tackle the migratory and refugee crisis.

The Work Plan sets the priorities for cultural cooperation among member states. It has a priority area dedicated to the promotion of cultural diversity, culture in the EU's external relations and mobility, which includes intercultural dialogue.

The conclusions propose to set up a series of meetings of experts from member states that will examine how culture and the arts can contribute to the successful integration of migrants and refugees coming to Europe, and will gather best practices from member states.

Several ministers underlined the need for integration and intercultural dialogue to be based on European values, while some of them wished to draw attention to the practical and financial problems arising from the arrival in Europe of an unprecedented number of migrants.

Cultural heritage in conflict areas

Ministers were invited to express their views on the role the EU can play in the fight against illicit trafficking and the destruction of cultural heritage in conflict areas, on the basis of a Presidency background paper (13647/2/15 REV 2).

Between 300 and 900 monuments or archaeological sites are reported to have been destroyed, damaged or looted since the beginning of the conflict in Syria in 2011².

The international community has firmly and unanimously condemned the senseless acts that lead to barbaric murders and to the disappearance of invaluable and irreplaceable parts of world heritage.

This has also major security implications since illicit trafficking of cultural property is the second most important financing source for Daesh.

1 OJ C 463, 23.12.2014.

2 Source: UN and the Association for the Protection of Syrian Archaeology).

Ministers acknowledged that UNESCO has a leading coordinating role, guided by its overall mandate and with the support of the European Union and its member states, which have been very active in this field for quite some time already: some of the measures and initiatives taken are described in the Annex to the Presidency's document.

Ministers agreed that that the focus should be put on the following actions to be developed simultaneously:

- Promoting awareness of the value of cultural heritage and cultural diversity
- Increased information exchange between member states on looted and trafficked cultural property
- Strengthening cooperation among member states at all levels, involving customs, police, museums, cultural institutions
- Review of some of the EU legislation in this field, in order to reinforce the legislative framework on controls and sanctions;
- Training customs officers to increase their expertise in identifying illicitly trafficked cultural objects,
- Restoration of destroyed or seriously damaged cultural objects through new technologies, as well as digitisation

Some ministers also emphasised that the multiple actors and the fragmentation of competences could undermine the effectiveness of EU action.

The Commission highlighted three areas in which it sees scope for its action: harmonised import rules, cooperation among law enforcement agencies, and international cooperation , in particular through support to UNESCO.

The Presidency, supported by many delegations, suggested to the Commission to set-out a European Year of Cultural Heritage , which would contribute to raising awareness about cultural heritage, its intrinsic value and the need to protect it.

Digitisation of cultural heritage

In this context, the Presidency outlined briefly the outcome the working lunch of ministers for Culture and Audiovisual Affairs on this subject.

Digitisation of cultural heritage being a cross-cutting issue as regards all the items on the culture agenda, ministers reflected on the best way to explore the possibilities offered by digitisation.

In general, ministers agreed that:

- the digitisation and online accessibility of cultural material, as well as digital preservation, are essential in order to highlight the cultural heritage, to inspire content creation and to encourage new online services to emerge.
- European (www.europeana.eu/portal should be given particular relevance to) which is an invaluable tool to increase the access and the knowledge of the cultural heritage of member states. However, ministers acknowledged the need to address a number of fundamental questions concerning its goals and objectives, governance and funding.

Other business

- *Audiovisual Media Services Directive*

The Council was updated by the Commission on the state of play regarding the REFIT evaluation of the Audiovisual Media Services Directive, which has been the subject of a public consultation, as well as on related issues in the framework of the Digital Single Market Strategy (14103/15), in particular:

- the modernisation of the EU copyright system: the Commission intends to present a legislative proposal in December 2015 dealing with the portability of content. A communication on a second package of measures relating to copyright is planned for 2016.
- a legislative proposal prohibiting unjustified geo-blocking in e-commerce is planned for the first half of 2016,

- public consultations on the regulation of on-line platforms as well as on the "Satellite and Cable directive" are ongoing and should be closed in December 2015.

Several member states expressed concerns regarding in particular the country of origin principle and geo-blocking.

Other members states also called for the swift implementation of the legislation on copyright in order to ensure the protection of creative sectors and legal security for investors.

- *Work programme of the incoming Presidency*

The Council took note of information from the Netherlands delegation concerning its main priorities in the field of culture and audiovisual for the coming six months. It will focus in particular on :

- The role of European in the preservation of cultural heritage.
- Cross-border circulation of audiovisual works.
- Promotion of the European Year of Cultural Heritage.

SPORT

The Presidency expressed to the French minister the Council's deepest sympathy with and support for France at this painful moment in its history.

The minister thanked all his colleagues and underlined how touched France was by all the solidarity shown to it. He made a short and moving statement on France's and Europe's reaction to the terrorist attacks.

EU coordination for the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) meetings (www.wada-ama.org)

The Council and the representatives of the governments of the member states adopted conclusions reviewing the 2011 resolution on the representation of the EU member states on the Foundation Board of WADA and the coordination of their positions prior to WADA meetings (14445/15).

According to the current EU arrangements, the EU and its member states coordinate joint positions for the WADA meetings. These position statements are presented by three representatives of the EU member states (incumbent trio representative, future trio representative and the expert minister).

The experience gained over the past three years revealed some practical problems, and the present conclusions aim therefore at improving the current coordination arrangements so that the EU has a stronger voice and greater influence in the World Anti-Doping Agency.

The Presidency underlined the importance of an organisation such as WADA, recalling in particular the recent developments regarding the widespread doping of Russian athletes.

The Presidency also welcomed the recently elected EU representatives on the Foundation Board of WADA for the next three years:

- Mr Philippe MUYTERS, Flemish Minister for Work, Economy, Innovation and Sport (Belgium)
- Mrs Tracey CROUCH, Parliamentary Under- Secretary of State for Sport (UK).

Other business

– *World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) meetings*

In this context the Council was also briefed by the EU representatives (BE, LUX and Malta) on the outcome of the WADA meetings which took place in Colorado Springs, USA, on 17-18 November 2015. The meetings addressed mainly issues relating to the 2016 draft budget, data protection and the Code compliance.

The World Anti-Doping Agency (www.wada-ama.org), set up in 1999, is a private-law body whose mission is to promote, coordinate and monitor the fight against doping in sport in all its forms. Its key tasks include scientific research, education, the development of anti-doping capacities and monitoring of the World Anti-Doping Code.

A new World Anti-Doping Code was approved by the WADA Foundation Board at the World Conference on Doping in Sport in Johannesburg in November 2013. It came into force on 1 January 2015.

– *Physical and sport activities for young children*

The Council adopted conclusions on the promotion of motor skills, physical and sport activities for young children (14447/15), inviting member states to raise awareness of the benefits of having a regular physical activity from early childhood and to implement cross-sectoral policies, with the education, youth and health sectors among others, to encourage active lifestyles among children.

The levels of physical activity among children and adolescents in the EU are alarmingly low and have become a matter of great concern for policymakers. Early childhood is a crucial period for acquiring and improving motor skills and this should be encouraged by all persons and institutions dealing with very young children before compulsory school age.

In this regard, the key role to be played by the education sector and sport clubs and sport federations was also underlined and therefore cooperation models between local authorities, schools and sport clubs should be encouraged.

The promotion of physical activity is a priority of EU policymaking in the field of sport and has been regularly addressed. The first edition of the European Week of Sport was successfully launched in September ec.europa.eu/sport/week/about-week-of-sport/highlights-2015_en.htm.

The Commission indicated that it is already funding around 30 projects in the field of health-enhancing activities with a budget of almost EUR 10 million.

– *The educational potential of sports*

Ministers exchanged views on how sporting activities could help disadvantaged youth (e.g. NEETs, disabled people, people with a migrant background and newly arrived refugees) find their place in society.

The Presidency introduced the debate by outlining the main conclusions of the informal meeting with representatives of the sports movement¹ at lunchtime:

- Promote the efficient use of available resources
- Work with local structures
- Support amateur sports infrastructures
- Implementation of projects involving football personalities in order to fight intolerance and xenophobia

The Presidency recalled that SV Wandsetal's project "Integration durch Sport", which deals with migrants, was awarded the "Best grassroots project in Europe" prize during the European Week of Sport in September 2015.

In order to give a wider perspective to the ministerial debate, the Presidency invited two sports personalities: Mr Edwin Moses, former Olympic champion and currently President of the United States Anti-Doping Agency and Chair of the Education Committee of the World Anti-Doping Agency and Mathieu Moreuil of the UK Football Premier League.

¹ British Council (1er League) : Mr. James Keegan and Mr. Andy Hansen
SV Wandsetal : Mr. Gerd Seraphin
Swedish Basketball Federation: Secretary- General Ms Lena Wallin-Kantzy
USADA Chairperson : Mr Edwin Moses
International Paralympic Committee : President Sir Philip Craven.

Both gave examples of many projects successfully combining education and sport, often in disadvantaged areas.

They both emphasised that

- sport is not a solution to the migrant problem, but could make a huge difference in the medium term for young disadvantaged children
- the answer is always a good education and a job, but sport can help towards this objective
- the importance of giving children role models
- sports projects alone are not enough: it is necessary to establish partnerships with public and local authorities, schools, sports federations, companies
- high-quality coaches and local involvement are also required
- regular monitoring and evaluation of projects is crucial

In general, ministers agreed that:

- sport can be a central component of social integration policies. It can create a sense of cohesion and solidarity and contribute to skills and self-development outside traditional institutions such as school, work, or family
- sports activities can help young people acquire skills that complement formal education and enhance their employability
- In the case of migrants, acceptance and recognition through sport can help to avoid marginalisation and radicalisation
- sports clubs and associations can thus play an essential role in the integration of young people with a disadvantaged background
- cross- sectoral policies involving education, employment and health sectors are crucial

The Commission recalled that there is a specific chapter in the Erasmus + programme dedicated to financing projects in the area of grassroots sport.

The Presidency informed the Council that it will send a letter to the Presidents of the EU Council, the Commission and the European Parliament presenting a summary report of the four debates which will take place during the Council meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Match-fixing

The Council took note of information from the Presidency concerning two decisions on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, of the Council of Europe Convention on the manipulation of sports competitions with regard to both matters related and not related to substantive criminal law and judicial cooperation in criminal matters.

The decisions raise substantive legal issues regarding, in particular, the legal basis and the procedural handling of mixed agreements and it was not yet possible to find a solution allowing for the signature of the decision by the EU.

The Council of Europe Convention was finalised on 18 September 2014 in Macolin, Switzerland. Nineteen countries (11 EU member states) have signed the Convention and it has been ratified by Norway and Portugal.

The Convention is set to enter into force following its ratification by five signatories, including at least three member states of the Council of Europe.

Informal meeting of ministers for sport

The Council was briefed by the Presidency on the main outcomes of the informal meeting of ministers for sport that took place in Luxembourg on 6 - 7 July 2015 on the integrity of sport.

European Week of Sport

The Council took note of information from the Commission regarding the European Week of Sport that ran quite successfully from 7th to 13th September 2015 and which aimed at raising public awareness at European level of the benefits of sport and physical activity. The Commission also outlined the general guidelines for the 2016 edition 14249/15

Work programme of the incoming Presidency

The Council took note of information from the Netherlands minister concerning its main priorities in the field of sport for the coming six months. The overall theme of the next trio presidencies (NL, SK, MT) is **good governance and education through sport**.

The Netherlands presidency will focus on **the integrity of sport**, in particular:

- Preparation and legacy of major sports events
- Prevention of doping and match-fixing
- Prevention of violence at grassroots level in sport

OTHER ITEMS APPROVED

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Partnership and cooperation agreement with Russia: Croatia

The Council adopted a decision on the conclusion of the protocol to the EU-Russia partnership and cooperation agreement to take into account the accession of Croatia to the EU. (11878/14 COEST 249)

European Union Special Representative for South Caucasus, Georgia: Mandate extended

The Council extended the mandate of the European Union Special Representative (EUSR) for the South Caucasus and the crisis in Georgia until 28 February 2017. See press release

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Bank capital requirements

The Council decided not to object to a Commission regulation supplementing regulation 575/2013 on bank capital requirements (14013/15 + 13443/15 + 13443/15 ADD 1).

The text relates to draft technical standards for prudential valuation, submitted by the European Banking Authority in accordance with article 105 of the capital requirements regulation. It specifies the conditions under which those standards will be applied.

The regulation is a delegated act pursuant to article 290 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU. It can now enter into force, unless the European Parliament objects.

AGRICULTURE

Pesticides - maximum residue levels

The Council decided not to oppose the adoption of a Commission regulation amending annex IV to regulation 396/2005¹ as regards COS-OGA, cerevisane, calcium hydroxide, lecithins, Salix spp cortex, vinegar, fructose, Pepino mosaic virus strain CH2 isolate 1906, Verticillium albo-atrum isolate WCS850 and Bacillus amyloliquefaciens subsp. plantarum strain D747 (13068/15);

Regulation 396/2005 establishes the maximum quantities of pesticide residues permitted in products of animal or vegetable origin intended for human or animal consumption. These maximum residue levels (MRLs) include, on the one hand, MRLs which are specific to particular foodstuffs intended for human or animal consumption and, on the other, a general limit which applies where no specific MRL has been set. MRL applications are communicated to the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) which issues a scientific opinion on each intended new MRL. Based on EFSA's opinion, the Commission proposes a regulation such as those listed above to establish a new MRL or to amend or remove an existing MRL and modifying the annexes to regulation 396/2005 accordingly.

This Commission regulation is subject to the regulatory procedure with scrutiny. This means that now that the Council has given its consent, the Commission may adopt the regulation, unless the European Parliament objects.

International Olive Council - EU position

The Council adopted a decision on the position to be adopted on behalf of the EU within the Council of members of the International Olive Council (IOC) concerning the accession of new members (14123/15).

At the next session of the Council of members of the OIC, the EU should request the postponement of votes on all requests for new accessions until a new international agreement on olive oil and table olives replacing the 2005 Agreement is in force.

¹ OJ L 070, 16.3.2005, p. 1.

The IOC is an international intergovernmental organisation in the field of olive oil and table olives. It was set up in Spain in 1959, under the auspices of the United Nations. The Council contributes to the sustainable and responsible development of olive growing and it serves as a world forum for discussing policymaking issues and tackling present and future challenges. The EU is a member of the IOC.

TRANSPORT

Inland navigation standards

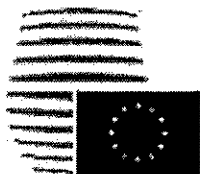
The Council adopted a decision setting out the position of the EU on the adoption of a standard concerning technical requirements for inland waterway vessels. The EU position is established for the meetings of the European Committee for drawing up standards in the field of inland navigation (CESNI) on 26 November 2015 and of the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR) on 3 December 2015, and any relevant subsequent meetings of the CCNR.

Council decision on the position to be adopted in relation to the adoption of a standard concerning technical requirements for inland waterway vessels

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Interoperable digital services

The Council adopted a decision on a programme to promote the interoperability of digital services across Europe (ISA²). The programme aims to help member states' public administrations interact more efficiently with each other and offer more user-friendly digital services for citizens and businesses. See press release. See also: ISA² decision, ISA² - Statement of the Commission



Council of the
European Union

Brussels, 10 November 2015
(OR. en)

13645/1/15
REV 1

CULT 76
RELEX 871
DEVGEN 215

NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. prev. doc.:	13616/15 CULT 70 RELEX 863 DEVGEN 213
Subject:	Draft Council Conclusions on culture in the EU's external relations with a focus on culture in development cooperation

The Cultural Affairs Committee has prepared the above draft Conclusions with a view to their adoption at the Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council on 23-24 November 2015. The text now meets with the agreement of all delegations.

The Permanent Representatives Committee is accordingly invited to confirm the agreement reached and to forward the text to the Council for adoption and subsequent publication in the Official Journal.

Draft

**Council Conclusions on culture in the EU's external relations with a focus on
culture in development cooperation**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

1. RECALLING that Article 167(3) and (4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) calls on the Union and its Member States to foster cooperation with third countries and the competent international organisations in the sphere of culture, and invites the Union to take cultural aspects into account in its action under other provisions of the Treaties, in particular in order to respect and to promote the diversity of its cultures;
2. EMPHASISING that culture in the EU's external relations, including in development cooperation, is one of the priorities of the European Agenda for Culture¹ and the subsequent Council work plans for culture² and that cross-sectorial cooperation is important to increase coherence between different policies as underlined in a number of recently adopted Council conclusions³;
3. BEARING IN MIND that according to Article 208 TFEU, Union policy in the field of development cooperation shall be conducted within the framework of the principles and objectives of the Union's external action and that the Union's development cooperation policy and that of the Member States complement and reinforce each other;

¹ Endorsed by the Council resolution of 16 November 2007 on a European Agenda for Culture (OJ C 287, 29.11.2007, p.1)

² The most recent one being the Work Plan for Culture (2015-2018) (OJ C 463, 23.12.2014, p. 4).

³ The most recent one being the Council conclusions of 26 November 2012 on cultural governance (OJ C 393, 19.12.2012, p. 8).

4. RECALLING the adoption by the United Nations of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development⁴ which contains explicit references to culture in several of its goals as well as the Council conclusions of 16 December 2014 on a transformative post-2015 agenda⁵, which recognise that culture, including world cultural heritage and creative industries, can have an important role in achieving inclusive and sustainable development;
5. EMPHASISING that the EU is guided by the universality, indivisibility, inter-relatedness and interdependence of all human rights, whether civil, political, economic, social or cultural;⁶
6. RECALLING that the EU and its Member States have acceded, and thus committed themselves to the implementation of the 2005 UNESCO Convention on the protection and the promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions that emphasises *inter alia* the need to incorporate culture as a strategic element in development policies and that cultural diversity can be protected and promoted only if human rights and fundamental freedoms are guaranteed;

IS CONVINCED that culture needs to form part of a strategic and cross-cutting approach to the Union's external relations and development cooperation given its substantial capacity to reinforce these policies by contributing to the building of long-term relationships based on people-to-people exchange, mutual understanding, trust and credibility;

WITH DUE REGARD to the respective spheres of competence of the European Union and of the Member States, as well as to the principle of subsidiarity;

⁴ The UN Sustainable Development Summit (New York, 25-27 September 2015) adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development ("Transforming our world"), including a single set of global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that will replace the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs),
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld>

⁵ 16716/14.

⁶ EU Human Rights Guidelines on Freedom of Expression Online and Offline (doc. 9647/14).

UNDERLINES THE FOLLOWING:

Regarding culture in the EU's external relations

7. To realise culture's potential to be an important part of external relations, it is necessary to go beyond projecting the diversity of European cultures, and aim at generating a new spirit of dialogue, mutual listening and learning, joint capacity building and global solidarity⁷, as recommended by the Preparatory Action on culture in EU external relations⁸ and the report on culture and external relations with China⁹.
8. There is, however, a need for a better coordination of efforts towards a strategic European approach aiming at the consistent and coherent integration of culture in the EU's external relations and contributing to the complementarity of the Union's activities with those of its Member States. Such an approach would include, *inter alia*, thematic and geographic priorities, realistic objectives and outcomes, target groups, common interests and initiatives, financing provisions, citizens participation and implementation modalities.
9. A strategic approach at the EU level would also enable current challenges, such as the migratory crisis, radicalisation and xenophobia, the destruction of and threat to cultural heritage and the illicit trafficking in cultural objects, to be addressed more efficiently.

⁷ Also in line with the European Parliament resolution of 12 May 2011 on the cultural dimensions of the EU's external actions.

⁸ Initiated by the European Parliament in 2012, the Preparatory Action on "Culture in EU External Relations" was carried out in 2012-2013 with the aim to support on-going policy reflection and development on strengthening the role of culture in external relations and to nurture further work in this area. The final report was published in 2014, <http://cultureinexternalrelations.eu/main-outcomes/>

⁹ A strategy for EU-China cultural relations: report of the expert group on culture and external relations – China (November 2012).

Regarding culture in development cooperation

10. Promoting policy coherence is particularly crucial for development cooperation, given the important role that the Member States and the EU play in this area and with regard also to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
11. Culture is an essential component of the human, social, economic and environmental dimension of development and therefore a key element of sustainable development, given that:
 - dynamic cultural and creative sectors, including cultural heritage, in partner countries can contribute to poverty reduction, as they are important catalysts for growth, employment, social cohesion and local development,
 - culture as well as the promotion and respect of cultural diversity play an important role in conflict prevention, peace building and reconciliation in conflict and post-conflict zones,
 - intercultural dialogue fosters better understanding and facilitates deeper partnerships between stakeholders,
 - an independent cultural and media sector is a fundamental condition for freedom of opinion and expression, cultural diversity, active democratic citizenship and a sustainable democratic development,
 - the adoption of specific culture and development cooperation strategies leads to more effective and sustainable actions in a large number of sectors.

12. Nevertheless, in order to take full advantage of the strong potential of culture for development cooperation, a more integrated approach should be developed that includes the mainstreaming of the cultural dimension in development programmes and an appropriate support to cultural operators on a longer term basis rather than one-off interventions.
13. Such an approach could be based, inter alia, upon the following elements:
- recognition of the value of culture in its own right and as a vector for development cooperation,
 - definition, on the basis of a common understanding of coherence and consistency, of practical ways to mainstream the cultural dimension when preparing sectorial development programmes,
 - support for a structured and long-term development of the cultural and creative sectors in partner countries, notably in terms of capacity-building, cultural governance and intellectual property systems,
 - the strengthening of efforts to protect and safeguard the world's tangible and intangible cultural and natural heritage,
 - the promotion of the role of education in fostering pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality between men and women,
 - the setting of a realistic number of priority lines that may be regularly reviewed to have a clear understanding of projects' results and their contribution to sustainable development and poverty reduction as well as to social cohesion, growth and jobs,

- complementarity between existing programmes and financing schemes and instruments of the Union, the Member States and other actors and, when appropriate, the increase of opportunities to support cultural initiatives therein,
 - a bottom-up approach that fosters national and local ownership, involves partner countries and engages all stakeholders, in particular NGOs, civil society and the private sector.
14. A prompt reaction would be particularly important in view of the future implementation and monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda¹⁰ so as to ensure that culture is sufficiently considered and can play its role in that regard.

THEREFORE INVITES THE MEMBER STATES AND THE COMMISSION TO:

15. Participate in an ad-hoc task group that will be hosted by Luxembourg. This group shall contribute to the preparation of a concrete, evidence-based, shared and long-term approach on culture and development cooperation.

In order to facilitate coherence of actions between relevant actors on the ground, the group shall collect and exchange best practices on culture and development cooperation and examine the empirical evidence on the impact of culture on development.

The group will meet for the initial period 2016 - 2017, will be informal by nature and voluntary in participation. It will be open to actors from both culture and development sectors, notably Member States (in particular incumbent and future Council Presidencies), the Commission, the European Parliament, relevant international organisations operating in development and culture fields, partner countries, external partners in particular the EU National Institutes for Culture (EUNIC), as well as civil society and NGO platforms.

Results of the work of this group shall be presented to the concerned Council preparatory bodies, notably in the field of culture and development cooperation.

¹⁰ In particular goals numbers 4 (target 4.7), 8 (target 8.9), 11 (target 11.4) and 12 (target 12.b).

AND INVITES THE COMMISSION TO:

16. strengthen culture as a specific dimension of intervention in development cooperation,
 17. develop and present, jointly with the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, to the Council a more strategic approach to culture in external relations based on the principles outlined above and which should support *inter alia* artistic freedom, freedom of cultural expression and respect for cultural diversity and heritage.
-