

DECLARATION FOR ACCESS OF YOUNG PEOPLE TO CULTURE

Ref: P7553

RECALLING:

- The Recommendation of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 on key competences for lifelong learning, helping integrate culture in all learning activities in schools, youth organizations and training institutions;
- The study commissioned by the European Commission about access of young people to culture, published in 2008;
- The Council Resolution of 27 November 2009 on a renewed framework for European cooperation in the youth field (2010-2018) which states that young people's creativity and capacity for innovation should be supported through better quality access to and participation in culture and cultural expressions from an early age, thereby promoting personal development, enhanced learning capabilities, intercultural skills, understanding and respect for cultural diversity and the development of new and flexible skills for future job opportunities;
- The Council Conclusions of 27 November 2009 on promoting a Creative Generation: developing the creativity and innovative capacity of children and young people through cultural expression and access to culture, including 6 priorities;
- The Council Conclusions of 19 November 2010 on access of young people to culture;
- The Revised European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life Adopted by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe (10th Session – 21 May 2003).
- The Council Conclusions of 10 May 2019 on Young Creative Generations setting up five priorities in addressing challenges of children and young people in today's globalized world;
- PEARLE's Priorities 2019 – 2024 for the live performance, where the access to culture is determined as most essential and that cultural education is to be widely integrated in curricula from a very young age. It should be directly or indirectly available for all citizens as culture and the arts are an intrinsic value of society.

ACKNOWLEDGING AND UNDERLINING:

- That access of young people to culture comprises two main aspects: young people as users, buyers, consumers and audience; and young people actively involved as active participants and creators of arts and culture;
- The importance of this for good cooperation between the field of youth and the field of culture;
- The importance of the knowledge, promotion, visibility and use of new information and communication technologies, including digitalization of cultural content, for the purpose of increasing the access of young people to culture;
- The digital world has shaped innovative patterns of access to culture, and of personal reinterpretation and self-expression, arousing keen interest among young people and engaging them as active audiences;
- That access of young people to culture is also about an experience of self-expression, personal development and confidence, innovation and creativity, enjoyment, and having an open mind to other cultures, including Europe's cultural heritage;
- The importance of the lifelong development of cultural competences of young people and all relevant stakeholders because it interlocks with other key competences;
- The relevance of culture as a means of promoting social inclusion, equality and the active participation of young people, as well as combating discrimination and poverty.

WE, THE MEMBERS OF PEARLE*-LIVE PERFORMANCE EUROPE HEREBY DECLARE OUR INTENTIONS TO:

1. Facilitate access of all young people to culture, reducing related obstacles (e.g. financial, linguistic, time and geographical constraints), taking into account the role of cultural and art education and training for all young people from an early age, in a lifelong learning perspective and by using targeted programmers.
2. Promote the development of long-term coordinated policies for access of young people to culture on all levels, with a clear youth perspective, for example by stimulating partnerships and contacts between the creative sector and stakeholders in the fields of youth, education and other relevant fields;
3. Deepen the knowledge on the access of young people to culture;
4. Exchange and promote experiences, practices and information of all relevant stakeholders on all levels related to access of young people to culture.
5. Advocate for effective guarantees for the access of young people to Arts in school by adapting curricula to include creative skills and Music, Art, Dance, Theatre, Audio-visual and Digital Art as mandatory for the students from I to XII grades;
6. Promote access of young people to culture as a means of promoting social inclusion, equality and the active participation of young people, as well as combating discrimination and poverty;

7. Call upon policy makers to make young people understand the rich intangible cultural heritage of theatre, music and dance as part of the larger context of history by a renewed policy commitment to include such teaching in education curricula;
8. Promote the efforts undertaken by live performance organizations that reach out to young audiences, giving meaning to their lives, provide place where they can develop their talents and take part in exchange and debates on societal themes in a safe environment;
9. Promote to all relevant national stakeholders the priorities set out in the Council Conclusions on promoting a Creative Generation.

ADOPTED
AT THE 57th PEARLE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
PLOVDIV, BULGARIA
24-25 MAY 2019