

ROADMAP

Title of the initiative: **Commission Communication on the implementation of the European Agenda for Culture**

Type of initiative (CWP/Catalogue/Comitology): major initiative, CWP 2010

Lead DG: EAC-C1

Expected date of adoption of the initiative (month/year): July 2010

Date of modification: 23/03/2010

Version No: 2

Initial IA screening & planning of further work

A. Context and problem definition

(i) What is the political context of the initiative? (ii) How does this initiative relate to past and possible future initiatives, and to other EU policies?

The Communication is a report on progress towards the three strategic goals of the European Agenda for Culture since its adoption by the Commission in May 2007:

- promotion of cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue;
- promotion of culture as a catalyst for creativity;
- promotion of culture as a vital element in the Union's international relations.

The Agenda was endorsed by the Council in its Resolution of November 2007 and by the European Council in its Conclusions of December 2007. Following this, the Council agreed a Workplan on Culture 2008-2010, the implementation of which has been taken forward notably through the Open Method of Coordination (OMC), studies and analyses, and increased efforts to "mainstream" cultural aspects in relevant policies.

The Agenda also led to the launch of a more structured dialogue between the Commission and the culture sector, notably to the organisation of the European Culture Forum in 2007 and 2009 and to the support of three thematic structured dialogue Platforms of European cultural associations and operators.

What are the main problems identified?

The purpose of the Communication is to take stock of progress towards the goals of the Agenda, describing developments at European and national levels and in civil society. Discussion of the Communication by the Cultural Affairs Committee will feed into Member State reflection and discussion of the future Council Workplan for Culture, running from 2011. A draft Workplan will be presented by the Belgian Presidency in the second semester 2010.

Who is affected?

Member States, other Commission services and culture civil society will respond to the messages of the Communication, which will constitute a "snapshot" of progress since 2007 and facilitate reflection by stakeholders on future actions and priorities.

(i) Is EU action justified on grounds of subsidiarity? (ii) Why can the objectives of the proposed action not be achieved sufficiently by Member States (necessity test)? (iii) As a result of this, can objectives be better achieved by action by the Community (test of EU Value Added)?

The Communication will establish a picture of the progress made by different actors (Commission services and other EU institutions, Member State administrations, OMC working groups, the culture sector) towards the goals of the Agenda. The Commission's task is to analyse and synthesise varied contributions to the report in order to present a coherent overview in the

Communication, and to highlight those fields where action continues to be needed if the Agenda objectives are to be reached.

B. Objectives of EU initiative

What are the main policy objectives?

The objective of the Communication is to identify progress made towards the three strategic goals of the European Agenda for Culture, to highlight actions remaining to be taken to reach those goals and identify those best placed to act.

Do the objectives imply developing EU policy in new areas or in areas of strategic importance?

No.

C. Options

(i) What are the policy options? (ii) What legislative or 'soft law' instruments could be considered? (iii) Would any legislative initiatives go beyond routine up-date of existing legislation?

Not applicable. The Communication is a report.

Does the action proposed in the options cut across several policy areas or impact on action taken/planned by other Commission departments?

The report will include input from a number of Commission departments. Since adoption of the Agenda in 2007, efforts to "mainstream" culture aspects in other relevant Community policies have intensified and have led to positive results in a number of fields. DGs in the Interservice Group on Culture are invited to report on relevant policy or programme initiatives in their fields of responsibility. These will be summarised in a Staff Working Document which will accompany the Communication.

Explain how the options respect the proportionality principle

Not applicable.

D. Initial assessment of impacts

What are the significant impacts likely to result from each policy option (cf. list of impacts in the Impact Assessment Guidelines pages 32-37), even if these impacts would materialise only after subsequent Commission initiatives?

Not applicable.

Could the options have impacts on the EU-Budget (above 5 Mio €) and/or should the IA also serve as the ex-ante evaluation, required by the Financial Regulation?

Not applicable.

Could the options have significant impacts on (i) simplification, (ii) administrative burden or on (iii) relations with third countries?

Not applicable.

E. Planning of further impact assessment work

When will the impact assessment work start?

Not applicable. No IA is foreseen, since the Communication is a report.

(i) What information and data are already available? (ii) Will this impact assessment build on already existing impact assessment work or evaluations carried out? (iii) What further information needs to be gathered? (iv) How will this be done (e.g. internally or by an external contractor) and by when?
(v) What type and level of analysis will be carried out (cf. principle of proportionate analysis)?

Not applicable.

Which stakeholders & experts have been/will be consulted, how and at what stage?

Not applicable.