



**INTENSIFICATION OF CULTURAL EXCHANGE BETWEEN AFRICAN CITIES AND EUROPEAN CAPITALS OF CULTURE**

ECoC-Africa-Cooperation: 01/2018 Marrakech (Morocco)

ECoC-Africa-Cooperation: 02/2019 Rijeka (Croatia)

## **INTENSIFICATION OF CULTURAL EXCHANGE BETWEEN AFRICAN CITIES AND EUROPEAN CAPITALS OF CULTURE**

**Panel Discussion and Workshop of the EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

**designed by Sylvia AMANN**

**Faculty of Civil Engineering of the University of Rijeka, University Campus**

### **PROGRAMME**

**Rijeka (Croatia), 31 May 2019**

**8 May 2019**

#### **BACKGROUND & AIMS**

The city level has the potential to be a core enabler for international exchange close to the citizens and to involve a larger part of the population. Transnational cooperation and exchange are equally crucial on all levels of cultural development of a city or a local government. This panel discussion and workshop are designed for leveraging the cooperation potential of culturally equally rich continents – the African and the European. On the European side it will focus on international cultural exchange in the framework of the European Capitals of Culture. The European Capitals of Culture are one of the most emblematic and long-term actions of the European Union in the field of Culture. The initiative started back in 1985 aiming at celebrating culture in European cities and has seen more than 60 European cities designated so far. In addition, the European Commission published the EU Strategy for International Cultural Relations in 2016 and highlights in this document the huge potential of the European Capitals of Culture for cultural internationalisation and exchange. On the African continent, investments in culture are dynamic in many countries, a wide range of established and new cultural and creative initiatives in cities are under way and provide frameworks for enlarged international cooperation. A raising number of African cities participate also in the UNESCO Creative Cities network – favourable conditions for intercontinental debates on cultural relations and enhanced cooperation. This initiative builds on a first encounter between representatives of African cities and European Capitals of Culture organised by the European Commission in the framework of the Africities Summit in Marrakech (Morocco) in November 2018.



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### **PANEL DISCUSSION: “THE FUTURE OF ENHANCED INTERCONTINENTAL CULTURAL COOPERATION BETWEEN EUROPE AND AFRICA” – 09:00-11:00 hours; Room 003**

Many policy makers on all levels have already started to engage for enhanced city-to-city cultural exchange between the European and the African continents. Main policy makers like the EUROPEAN COMMISSION and UNESCO have taken important steps forward in the framework of the internationalisation of the European Capital of Culture initiative as well as for the further involvement of African cities in global creative networks. Networks like the UCLG- United Cities and Local Governments provide platforms for global debate – including on state-of-the art cultural policy making in cities considering the Sustainable Development Goals. Important cultural institutions globalise further and engage for city development. This panel discussion focusses on the future of intercontinental exchange between the European Union and Africa. Which vision(s) could guide a new quality of cultural cooperation between cities (and other stakeholders) from both continents? What are persisting obstacles and are the tools available to overcome them? Who must move to make much broader cultural and artistic exchange between Africa and the European Union feasible?

#### **Panellists:**

- Mr. Lupwishi MBUYAMBA (Executive Director of Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa, Maputo, Mozambique)
- Mr. Ismail MAHOMED (CEO Market Theatre Foundation, Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa)
- Ms. Barbara GESSLER & Mr. Sylvain PASQUA (European Commission, DG Education and Culture)
- H. E. Ms Smiljana KNEZ, Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia to Republic of Croatia
- Mr. Jan GOOSSENS (General Director of Festival de Marseille, Marseille, France & Artistic Director of Dream City, Tunis)
- Ms. Irena KREGAR ŠEGOTA (Development and Strategic Partnerships Director, Rijeka 2020, Rijeka, Croatia)

#### **Moderator:**

Ms. Sylvia AMANN, Member of the European Capital of Culture Expert Panel of the European Commission

#### **Rapporteur:**

Ms. Valeria MARCOLIN, Culture et Développement



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### **WORKSHOP: “AFRICAN-EU CULTURAL COOPERATION IN PRACTICE – A FORUM FOR EUROPEAN CAPITALS OF CULTURE AND AFRICAN CITIES” – 11:00-13:30 hours, Room 309**

African and European cities have already expressed their will for and interest in intercontinental cooperation. A set of six main foci were elaborated during the strategic encounter organised by the European Commission at the Africities Summit in Marrakech in 2018 including inter alia the role of culture and creative industries in social inclusion, participation in culture and citizens’ engagement as well as mobility of artists. This workshop on “African-EU Cultural Cooperation in Practice” will build on these elements and provide a forum for representatives from both continents with the aim to develop concrete cooperation ideas for implementation in the nearer future.

#### **Programme:**

- **A brief introduction on the results of the Marrakech workshop as well as the specific ECOC framework** – Ms. Sylvia AMANN (& European Commission)
- Inspirations and cooperation ideas from European Capitals of Culture and African Cities and cultural operators *(in alphabetical order)*:
  - Blantyre – Cultural Cooperation (Malawi) - tbc**
  - Brazzaville – Creative City (Congo Republic)**
  - Cidade Velha – Shared Cultural Heritage (Cape Verde) – tbc**
  - Dresden – European Capital of Culture candidate city (Germany)**
  - Hannover – European Capital of Culture candidate city (Germany)**
  - Johannesburg - Market Theatre Foundation and South African Festivals (South Africa)**
  - Kaunas 2022 – European Capital of Culture (Lithuania)**
  - Marrakech 2020 – African Capital of Culture (Morocco)**
  - Marseille – Marseille Festival and former European Capital of Culture (France)**
  - Nairobi – Book Bunk Private-Public-Partnership (Kenya)**
  - Rijeka 2020 – European Capital of Culture (Croatia)**
  - Tampere - European Capital of Culture candidate city (Finland)**
  - Tunis – Dream City 2019 (Tunisia) (tbc)**
  - Veszprém 2023 – European Capital of Culture (Hungary)**
  - AIR Wro – Wroclaw 2016 European Capital of Culture legacy institution (tbc)**
- Discussion of participants in small groups and one-to-one  
*The setting will provide opportunities for all to exchange, to network and to discuss cooperation ideas.*
- Concluding session

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