



MINISTER
KULTURY I DZIEDZICTWA NARODOWEGO
Prof. Piotr Gliński

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27 October, 2016

Ms Danielle Cliche
Section of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions
UNESCO

Dear Madam,

Please find enclosed the Quadrennial Periodic Report of Poland on the implementation of the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Gliński'.

QUADRENNIAL PERIODIC REPORT

2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expression

GENERAL INFORMATION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As a historically multicultural country, Poland has a long-standing tradition of accepting cultural diversity. After the democratic transition, Poland has practised this tradition in a variety of ways. At the same time, Poland's situation is unique in that currently it is one of the most mono-cultural countries in Europe. Despite this, Poland's cultural policies create a particularly friendly climate for building an interesting and diverse cultural life. Each year it hosts dozens of festivals promoting music, theatre, the fine arts and the folk traditions of other nations and ethnic minorities living in our country. Cultural institutions rarely resort to simple didactics to communicate complex and obscure ideas. However, they are very effective at sculpting attitudes, inspiring interest in new social phenomena and sparking discussions on emerging problems that have not yet been described by sociologists and social psychologists. This is also true for supralocal and supranational phenomena that are relevant to experiences of all people regardless of their race, political beliefs and religion, including happiness, love, concern for children, bereavement, despair, but also curiosity about other people and cultures.

Artistic and dissemination institutions routinely cooperate with their counterparts from other European and non-European countries, organising guest performances, participating in national and international festivals, staging joint exhibitions and co-producing spectacles. Theatres put on plays by authors from all over the world and musical institutions regularly host outstanding foreign composers and musicians. It should be stressed, however, that cultural institutions present the art of other nations due to its humanistic and artistic value, with nationality and ethnicity being of secondary importance.

Notably, the economic rapprochement, unrestricted freedom of travel and shared laws governing many areas of operation across the EU contribute to cultural cooperation as well. Promoted by local-government authorities, border cooperation among cities, institutions and individual artists is an effective method for bringing down cultural barriers. Easier communication and border crossings, combined with bilateral willingness to make changes,

produce some surprising effects. Many artistic events are devoted to equal treatment and counteracting social exclusion.

The projects mentioned in this report represent only a portion of the totality of measures at various levels and by various institutions. We hope, however, that they, at least to a certain degree, reflect what is the most important about the diversity of cultural life in Poland. This report is, therefore, a point of departure for a reflection on how to use the Convention as a valuable vehicle for change. There are three areas, not necessarily dichotomic, that hold much promise in this respect.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Name of party: Poland

Date of ratification: 2007

Organization(s) or entity(es) responsible for the preparation of the report: The Ministry of Culture and National Heritage

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Name of stakeholders, including civil society organizations, involved in the preparation of the report

Name: Prof. Dorota Ilczuk, Anna Karpińska

Position

Organization: Pro Cultura Foundation

Describe the multi-stakeholder consultation process established for the preparation of this report*

The Report was produced as a result of analytical work carried out by Pro Cultura Foundation between January and April 2016. The work was divided into two stages. The first stage involved the identification and analysis of source data. The analysis covered the contents of the websites of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, the Ministry of the Interior and Administration and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. An analysis was also conducted of the on-line resources of such cultural institutions as the Adam Mickiewicz Institute, the National Heritage Board of Poland, the National Centre for Culture, the International Cultural Centre, the National Audiovisual Institute, the Polish National Commission for UNESCO, the Polish Film Institute, and the websites of the POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews, the European Solidarity Centre, the Museum of the Second World War, etc. Polish and foreign reports on cultural policies and related subjects were investigated as well. A special focus was on Compendium, Cultural Policies and Trends in Europe – a compilation of data on the cultural policies of numerous countries commissioned by the European Council and put together by ERICarts. (<http://www.culturalpolicies.net/>). Information from the OECD's website was used as well.

The second stage involved extensive surveys among the Departments of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage (MKiDN) and their subordinate institutions. The respondents included:

- The National Library
- The Financial Department of MKiDN
- The Legislative Department of MKiDN
- The Department of National Culture Institutions of MKiDN
- The Department of Art and Culture Education of MKiDN
- The Department of Intellectual Property and Media of MKiDN
- The Department of International Relations of MKiDN
- The Krzysztof Penderecki European Centre for Music
- The European Solidarity Centre
- The Adam Mickiewicz Institute
- European Network Remembrance and Solidarity Institute
- The International Cultural Centre
- The POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews
- The Museum of the Second World War in Gdańsk
- The Adam Mickiewicz Museum of Literature in Warsaw
- Lublin Museum

- The National Museum in Gdańsk
- The National Museum in Kraków
- The National Museum in Warsaw
- The National Museum in Wrocław
- The Museum of King John III's Palace at Wilanów
- The Museum of the Silesian Piasts in Brzeg
- The Museum of Art in Łódź
- The Łańcut Castle Museum
- The Malbork Castle Museum
- The Kraków Saltworks Museum in Wieliczka
- The Silesian Museum in Katowice
- The National Audiovisual Institute
- The Podlasie Opera and Philharmonic – European Art Centre in Białystok
- The State Museum at Majdanek in Lublin
- The Polish Film Institute
- The "Song of the Goat" Theatre – the organiser of the Brave Festival
- The Ester Rachel Kamińska and Ida Kamińska State Jewish Theatre. The Centre for Yiddish Culture
- The Wawel Royal Castle National Art Collection
- The Royal Castle in Warsaw – Museum. The Residence of the Monarchs of the First Polish Republic
- The Jewish Historical Institute

OVERVIEW OF CULTURAL POLICY CONTEXT

This report summarises the measures initiated at the national level with a view to protecting and promoting cultural diversity in Poland in the years 2012-2015. It is particularly concerned with the activities of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage (MKiDN) and the state organisations it has established within its framework.

A special focus is on the areas that are directly related to the preoccupations of the UNESCO Convention. One of these areas is the protection of tangible and intangible cultural heritage. This part also presents the projects aiming to improve the functioning of museum institutions which play an important role in providing access to cultural goods.

However, the issue of the protection and promotion of cultural diversity extends beyond cultural policy. Culture is also an important component of foreign, ethnic and national minority and development policies, as noted in subsequent parts of the report. It is therefore essential to take into account the government agencies that are co-responsible for these matters, such as the Ministry of the Interior and Administration. In terms of international

cooperation, it is the priority of Polish institutions to maintain relations within the European Union and the Eastern Partnership.

Also, in the context of the measures to promote and protect the diversity of cultural expressions, the report highlights the role of civil society. A multitude of NGOs engage in efforts in these areas, often with the support from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, which provides funding for cultural projects under the annually announced operational programmes.

An important initiative of civil society are Citizens of Culture. It is a civil movement, convened in an act of opposition to the policy that does not appreciate the social and democratic functions of culture. Beginning from Krakow's Culture Congress in 2009 they demand reform and the socialisation of public media. A year later, in 2010, the Citizens' Committee of Public Media prepared and presented, in the manner of a public hearing, the draft media law. In 2011, the Pact for Culture demanded legal guarantees ensuring the fulfilment of obligations by and improved quality of public media.

An assessment of the direct impacts of ratifying the Convention will be possible in the long term. This report is already a second attempt at exploring these issues, and as such it might soon help to draw certain conclusions as to the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expression in the context of the Convention, and also to outline the current needs in terms of promoting the Convention's objectives.

Has the Convention been integrated into the policy development process in any of the following ways?

- a. It is (or has been) the basis for changing one or more policies?
- b. It is (or has been) a tool to promote policy discussion?

Poland's cultural policies relating to diversity and the promotion of modern thinking about culture as a driver of economic and social development are supported by, among other entities, the Polish National Commission for UNESCO. As part of its conferences and publishing activities this institution has been committed to promoting the message of the 2005 UNESCO Convention by underscoring the importance of culture for sustainable development and the role of education in promoting cultural diversity.

- c. It is (or has been) a reference for ongoing policy development?

Cultural Policies

protect and promote everything that is both specific to Polish culture and shared by Polish culture with other cultures and communities, especially European.

As a result of a major redefinition of the role of museums in the contemporary world and of the transformation of museum institutions themselves, the Ministry of Culture has engaged in cooperation with the museum community in recent years on a multitude of initiatives to create a climate that fosters the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions. Major developments included the establishment of modern and interactive museums (e.g. the POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews). To meet international exhibition standards, many institutions have undergone major refurbishments (e.g. the National Museum in Warsaw) or have been relocated, or are planning to relocate, to buildings that are better adapted to their needs (e.g. the European Solidarity Centre, the Second World War Museum).

Established in 2011 by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage, the National Institute for Museums and Public Collections (NIMOZ)⁴ is tasked with the accumulation and dissemination of knowledge of museums and public collections, setting museological standards, and raising the awareness of the values, and preservation of cultural heritage. NIMOZ is responsible for the Museology Development Strategy. This Strategy aims to spark off and provide technical support for the development of museums as institutions that model social life, community identity, sensibility, etc. All the Institute's activities (e.g. the "Museum Time?" debate, the "Visible Museums" competition, the "E-museums" project committed to providing access to collections) support the implementation or development of the museology strategy.

THE CULTURAL INDUSTRY

The vitality of national, regional and European cultures is driven by the ability of cultural industries to produce and distribute cultural goods and services. It is reasonable for governments to intervene in this field with a view to protecting national identity, fostering the good quality and diversity of cultural services, and also preventing price from being a barrier to access to cultural goods for average consumers. Particularly strong government support is received by the publishing market and cinematography. Of great importance for the former are the efforts of the National Library, which collects, compiles, makes available and archives the entire national publishing output, including works that are published in Poland by, and addressed to, national and ethnic minorities. Through international cooperation agreements, the National Library provides opportunities for publishing-house exchanges, international lending and collaboration in science and culture. Currently, the Library's partners include the

⁴ For more information about the Institute's activities, go to <http://www.nimoz.pl/en/>.

National Library of Serbia in Belgrade, the M.F. Akhundzade National Library of Azerbaijan and the Morocco Archive. In 2012 Poland, in cooperation with the Institute of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and as part of a UNESCO project, put together an exhibition at the National Library entitled "The 11th-century Codex Suprasliensis in the context of Byzantine-Slavonic relationships". The exhibition showcased the history of the Codex Suprasliensis, one of the most valuable Cyrillic literary monuments, inscribed on Memory of the World Register. The publishing market is also supported through direct subsidies. The Book Institute⁵ under MKiDN provides grants for translations of Polish literature into foreign languages.

A resolution of the Council of Ministers established in 2015 the 2016-2020 multiannual programme called "The National Readership Development Programme". The Programme has three priorities: purchasing new publications to be available at public libraries; the 2016-2020 Library Infrastructure; and the development of interests among students by promoting and supporting the development of readership among children and young people, including the purchasing of new publications. The programme is in line with, and supports the objectives of, the cultural policies of the European Union and Poland, including the promotion of cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue. We will have to wait several years, until it has been completed, to see the programme's results.

As far as Polish cinematography is concerned, the Polish Film Institute (PISF)⁶ plays the central role. Its main job is to provide support for the Polish film industry and to promote Polish works of cinema abroad. To do this, the PISF uses, among other sources of funding, subsidies provided under four operational programmes, including "Film Production", "Film Education and Dissemination of Film Culture", "Development of Cinema Infrastructure" and "Promotion of Polish Film Abroad". Under the Cinematography Act of 30 June 2005, Polish film-market players (cinemas, distributors, television broadcasters, including public television, digital platform operators and cable-television operators) are obliged to give, each year, 1.5 percent of their revenue to the PISF. These contributions are the main vehicle for co-funding film production in Poland. The PISF is also tasked with the promotion of Polish film art at festivals, film roundups and film fairs. More than 160 Polish festivals and Polish film roundups were held abroad between 2012 and 2015. Most of them were organised in cooperation with Polish diplomatic agencies. As well as co-funding these events, the PISF helped to select films and acted as a mediator between the event organisers and producers, and also helped festival organisers to get the films they wanted to screen. On the initiative of the PISF, thanks to cooperation with the Kraków Film Festival, industry meetings (DOCS TO GO!) were held for the first time at this festival. At these meetings, foreign producers and sales agents saw Polish documentary projects at various stages of production. PISF staff supported the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage in the signing in 2012 of film co-production agreements with

⁵ For more information about the Institute's activities, go to <http://www.bookinstitute.pl/en/ik/site,42,87.php>.

⁶ For more detailed information about the PISF, go to: <http://www.pisf.pl/en/>.

France (March) and India (November). The signing of the agreement with India was accompanied by a presentation of Polish cinematography and its co-production capabilities at the International Film Festival of India in Goa.

THE OPERATIONAL AND CROSS-DISCIPLINARY PROGRAMMES OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND NATIONAL HERITAGE

The operational programmes led by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage exemplify a systemic project-based solution for the publicly funded support of a range of cultural entities. Each year, a list is announced of grant programmes for local-government and state cultural institutions, local government units, NGOs, churches and religious associations. These programmes are primarily concerned with artistic events, museum collections, literature and readership promotion, education, cultural heritage and cultural-infrastructure development. A very important program, in the context of the Convention, is the Culture Observatory, which is operated by the National Centre for Culture. The program's objective is also to identify particularly important areas of operation of the cultural policy by subsidising research projects and projects interpreting data about culture. MKiDN has also engaged in multiannual programmes, such as the CULTURE+ programme, whose aim in the years 2011-2015 was to improve access to culture and raise participation in cultural life in rural areas and mixed rural and urban areas by upgrading and building the library infrastructure and digitising the resources of Polish museums, libraries and archives.

INITIATIVES TO SUPPORT NATIONAL-LEVEL MEASURES

Poland's cultural policies relating to diversity and the promotion of modern thinking about culture as a driver of economic and social development are supported by, among other entities, the Polish National Commission for UNESCO. As part of the conferences it organises and its publishing activities this institution has been committed to promoting the message of the 2005 UNESCO Convention by underscoring the importance of culture for sustainable development and the role of education in promoting cultural diversity. The Polish National Commission for UNESCO has been a member of the Polish EUROMED network – the Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue Between Cultures, whose job is to promote intercultural dialogue and the objectives of the Barcelona Process by facilitating cultural, intellectual and social exchange.

- Put together by the Polish National Commission for UNESCO in cooperation with MKiDN, under the honorary patronage of the Sejm Speaker Ewa Kopacz, a conference entitled "Why and how to protect cultural heritage using modern methods" was held in 2013. The conference was attended by 200 people and the speeches discussed

mainly the issues of monument protection, the role of local governments in the monument protection and conservation system and the essence of intangible heritage within the meaning of the 2003 UNESCO Convention. A conference publication is available in Polish on the Commission's website.⁷

- The Polish National Commission for UNESCO, along with the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, the Foundation in Support of Local Democracy and the Society for the Protection of Monuments, organised in September 2014 a debate on "The Social Dimension of the Cultural and Natural Landscape". The debaters noted the need to take care of the environment as a cultural and natural whole, the necessity to counteract chaos in public spaces and the possibility of measures supporting the sustainable development of the environment we live in, including the methods for public participation in deciding on the immediate surroundings and public spaces of supralocal value. These issues are all the more important as the cultural and natural landscape in this sense is a determinant of social and economic development. In 2015, referring to this debate, The Polish National Commission for UNESCO published a book entitled "The cultural and natural landscape from the social perspective".
- In March 2012 the Polish National Commission for UNESCO held the fourth workshop on intercultural education under the theme "In the World of Islam". In addition to lectures and workshops on the culture of Islam, workshops were held for the first time on the preparation of Polish schools to enrol children from other cultures or children of repatriates. Seven more workshop sessions on this subject were held by 2015. Held between 16 and 17 October 2015 in Poznań, the 11th session of the workshop "In the World of Islam" brought together 100 teachers from across the Wielkopolskie Voivodeship.

MKiDN has also engaged in efforts to promote modern thinking about culture as a driver of socio-economic development. This premise is the basis for the social campaigns that have been in place since 2012, including the "Legal Culture" initiative aiming to promote legal sources of culture and education in the field of intellectual-property protection, and the "Mother Tongue – Add to Favourites" campaign, which promotes attention to the correct use of Polish.

International Cultural Cooperation

The primary responsibility for Poland's international cooperation lies with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MSZ) and the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage (MKiDN)⁸ and its subordinate institutions (i.e. the Adam Mickiewicz

⁷ Publication in Polish: <http://www.unesco.pl/dlaczegojjak/indexPop.htm>

⁸ More detailed information on what these two ministries do is available on their websites: MSZ – www.msz.gov.pl, MKiDN – www.mkidn.gov.pl.

Institute (IAM), the National Centre for Culture (NCK), and the International Cultural Centre (MCK)⁹.

Poland is pursuing the objectives of Articles 12, 14 and 15 primarily through actions within multilateral cooperation programmes. Major programmes here include:

- The Eastern Partnership¹⁰
The Eastern Partnership aims to bring Partnership States closer to the European Union through strengthened cooperation and integration based on EU values, norms and standards. It also has the objective of supporting reforms designed to bolster and modernise institutions of Partnership States for the good of their citizens.
- ASEM (The Asia-Europe Meeting)¹¹
ASEM facilitates relations between Europe and Asia, while also being complementary to other bilateral and multilateral forums for political dialogue. There are a number of developing countries that actively engage in dialogue as part of ASEM, including Cambodia, Laos, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Vietnam, China, Malaysia and Thailand.

Moreover, Poland cooperates with regional organisations such as:

- The Visegrad Group¹²
- Ars Baltica¹³.

The Adam Mickiewicz Institute (IAM) deserves special mention for its commitment to the objective of "lending permanent credibility to Poland's role as an essential player in international networks circulating ideas, values and cultural goods of the highest quality."¹⁴ Between 2011 and 2016 the IAM launched and led the I, CULTURE Orchestra project. Its mission has been to advance dialogue between Eastern European and South Caucasus countries in the field of music. For instance, young musicians from Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Ukraine, Poland, Moldova and Armenia played a concert in Kiev in 2015 to celebrate the Independence Day of Ukraine. In 2014 the Institute launched, and continues to lead, the "Wystawiajmy się" ("Let's Go on Show!") project making sure that Polish designers are present on international design festivals and shows. This gives the artists an opportunity to showcase their work as well as to strike up international partnerships. Another Polish undertaking is the Eastern European Performing Arts Platform (EEPAP) launched by the Adam Mickiewicz Institute and based in Lublin. This is an international exchange platform for artists and curators from Central and Eastern Europe. A range of study visits, artist & curator residencies and workshops took place in 2015 as part of the EEPAP. Notable workshops

⁹ More detailed information on what these institutions do is available on their websites: IAM – www.iam.pl/en, NCK – www.nck.pl/ (in Polish, only), MCK – www.mck.krakow.pl/en.

¹⁰ More on <http://www.eastern-partnership.pl/>

¹¹ More on <http://www.aseminfoboard.org/>

¹² More on <http://www.visegradgroup.eu>

¹³ More on <http://www.ars-baltica.net/>

¹⁴ More on <https://iam.pl/en/about-us>

included the dramaturgy workshop of the Theatre Laboratory, held as part of the Desant educational project, attended by 20 young directors, critics and theatre researchers from Ukraine.

Preferential Treatment

There are various approaches and terminologies used to define developing countries – this report used as its reference the DAC list, according to which the OECD determines eligible recipients of official development aid¹⁵. Poland has been supporting the development of DAC-list countries through measures within bilateral cooperation programmes, by co-organising cultural events, making financial contributions to international organisations, and providing direct support for artists and individual authors.

Examples of cultural projects carried out in cooperation with partners from developing countries

TURKEY

The main part of the cultural programme was presented in Turkey primarily between April and September 2014. The programme made use of the triumphs of Polish classical, contemporary and modern music, new forms in visual arts and design, and also the winning streak of Polish theatre, dance and cinema. The cultural programme is consolidated by two historical exhibitions demonstrating Poland's and Turkey's shared heritage: The exhibition entitled "Distant Neighbour, Close Memories: 600 Years of Polish-Turkish Relations" and the closing exhibition entitled "Orientalism in Polish painting, drawing and graphic art" held at the Pera Museum in cooperation with the National Museum in Warsaw.

THE ASIA PROJECT

The Asia project is meant to increase the presence of Polish culture in Asian countries, including in particular China, the Republic of Korea and Japan. In 2013 Poland's presence in the region was marked through the concert tour of the Lutosławski Quartet (Hong Kong, South Korea, China, Singapore), the concerts by Zakopower and Cracovia Danza at the Meet in Beijing Festival and the contemporary-dance programme at the Beijing Fringe Festival. In Hong Kong Teatr Dramatyczny put on the "Persona. Marilyn" spectacle by Krystian Lupa and Teatr Polski from Bielsko-Biała put on "Zbrodnia", directed by Ewelina Marciniak, at the Seoul

¹⁵ The list is available on <http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/documentupload/DAC%20List%20of%20ODA%20Recipients%202014%20final.pdf>

Performing Arts Festival in the Republic of Korea. The Polish jazz artists, including Anna Maria Jopek, Maciej Obara, Marcin Masecki and Pink Freud played at the Jarasum International Jazz Festival in South Korea, the Tokyo Jazz Festival and the New Polish Music Festival in Japan. As part of the Asia Project, Polish culture was presented in Hong Kong, Singapore, Burma, India and Taiwan.¹⁶

UKRAINE

In response to a cooperation agreement between the governments of Poland and Ukraine in connection with the co-organisation of EURO 2012, the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage initiated a Polish-Ukrainian cultural project called "The European Stadium of Culture". The core objectives of the project are to build Poland's and Ukraine's image by promoting the richness of their cultures; creating a shared cultural space by promoting a shared cultural heritage; building shared social and cultural capital; engaging in promotion; breaking down stereotypes and instilling respect and tolerance for other cultures.

Examples of recurring/multiannual projects

THE POLISH-UKRAINIAN YOUTH EXCHANGE¹⁷

The programme is addressed to children and young people aged 12-18. Funding is provided to eligible schools, local-government cultural institutions and NGOs. It aims, among other objectives, to help young Poles and Ukrainians to get to know each other and to show the cultural similarities and differences between them.

THE NESVIZH ACADEMY¹⁸

The "Nesvizh Academy" International Postgraduate Summer School is a Polish-Belarusian project whose mission is to train conservation specialists from Central and Eastern Europe. Training courses are held every two years. Each course is devoted to various subjects related to the protection, conservation and management of monuments.

Scholarship programmes

- The "Gaude Polonia" Programme run out by the National Centre for Culture

Provided by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage, the "Gaude Polonia" scholarship programme is intended for young creators of culture and translators of Polish literature from Central and Eastern Europe. The purpose of this six-month scholarship is to allow its

¹⁶ The list is available on

<http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/documentupload/DAC%20List%20of%20ODA%20Recipients%202014%20final.pdf>

¹⁷ <http://asia.culture.pl/pl>

¹⁸ More on the programme: <http://www.nck.pl/sub.pl.oprogramieplukr.html>.

recipients to explore Polish culture and hone their creative techniques under the guidance of acclaimed Polish authors and institutions in major centres of Polish culture.

- The "Thesaurus Poloniae" scholarship programme of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage

Theasaurus Poloniae is a three-month scholarship programme set up by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage and run by the International Cultural Centre in Kraków. It is intended for foreign scientists conducting research into the culture, history and multicultural heritage of Poland and Central Europe.

- The Scholarship Fund of the Polish History Museum

Set up by the Polish History Museum, the Scholarship Fund has the objective of supporting research into Poland's history and projects promoting Poland's history abroad. Scholarships are provided to foreigners who are actively interested in or want to start exploring Polish history.

Integration of Culture with Sustainable Development Policies

The principle of fostering sustainable socio-economic development, as mentioned in particular in Article 13 of the Convention, is incorporated both into the Constitution of the Republic of Poland (Article 5) and EU treaties. This principle is also reflected in strategic documents setting out the objectives and priorities of Poland's development policy. The role of culture in this respect is underscored by the authors of "The National Development Plan for the Years 2007-2013 and 2014-2020"¹⁹, "The 2020 Social Capital Development Strategy"²⁰ and the "Poland 2030" report²¹. Moreover, bringing about a more sustainable cultural development is one of the objectives of "The 2004-2020 National Cultural Development Strategy"²².

Another undertaking geared towards building social capital and enhancing social cohesion through investment in cultural institutions is the KULTURA+ Multiannual Programme operated by the MKiDN. Its aim is to upgrade and build the library infrastructure in the smallest towns and villages on the one hand, and to establish an integrated network of digitisation laboratories for the mass digitisation of cultural resources on the other. These measures are intended to improve access to culture, counteract cultural and digital exclusion

¹⁹ More on the programme: <http://www.nid.pl/idm,372,miedzynarodowa-podyplomowa-letnia-szkola-akademia-nieswieska.html>.

²⁰ Available in Polish on <http://www.funduszestrukturalne.gov.pl/informator/npr2/npr.htm>

²¹ Available in Polish on

http://ks.mkidn.gov.pl/media/download_gallery/20130520SRKS_na_stronie_internetowej.pdf

²² Available in Polish on <http://www.polska2030.pl/>.

and encourage people living in small towns and rural and mixed rural and urban areas to become more involved in cultural life.

Emerging Transversal Issues: Resolution 5.CP 9b

All ministerial departments engage in cooperation with NGOs, with the Department of State Patronage in particular being responsible for the coordination of measures under the Public Benefit and Volunteer Work Act. The subjects of the Convention were not directly addressed by the Non-Governmental Organisations Council under the MKiDN, which is the opinion-forming and advisory body for the Minister of Culture, tasked with providing proposals and opinions on the areas and forms of cooperation of the MKiDN with NGOs, expressing opinions on draft legal acts applicable to NGOs' activities in the cultural sector. It should be stressed, however, that in the years 2012-2015, the MKiDN provided – through annual Ministerial Programmes and calls for proposals – funding for a multitude of projects involving the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions implemented by NGOs²³.

Numerous public cultural entities are also engaging in cooperation with NGOs, as exemplified by the National Heritage Board of Poland, which supports NGOs committed to spreading and strengthening intercultural dialogue and to promoting the diversity of cultural expression. The National Centre for Culture uses subsidies to support measures in various fields of culture. The Adam Mickiewicz Institute also provides financial support for NGOs.

More than 100 NGOs, public institutions and schools of higher education are members of the Polish network of the Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue Between Cultures²⁴, which is coordinated by the International Cultural Centre in Kraków. The Foundation's task is to support the most broadly defined cultural and intellectual exchanges involving journalists and young people from Mediterranean countries, hold patronage over selected events, and promote the achievements of the Barcelona Process. In accordance with its statutes, the Foundation operates as a "network of networks", an information-sharing platform for national networks of institutions active in cultural cooperation. The three-year action programme of the Foundation for the years 2012-2014 builds on the successful efforts of the organisation in the previous period, underscoring the intercultural mission of the Foundation and trying to make an appropriate and effective response to the emerging challenges in the Euro-Mediterranean region, including in particular the democratic-transformation processes in Northern African countries, as well as the global economic crisis.

²³ The official website of the Ministry: mswia.gov.pl

²⁴ More information on MKiDN's website www.mkidn.gov.pl.

The Foundation's strategic focus remains on Culture and Creativity, Education and Intercultural Teaching, Urban Spaces and Citizenship, and Media and Public Opinion.

Based in Sejny, the Borderland Foundation is making a great contribution to the implementation of the Convention's objectives²⁵. This organisation aims to promote the borderland ethos and to build bridges for people of different religions, nationalities and cultures. It operates mainly on the basis of grants provided by various institutions and organisations, and private individuals. The Foundation cooperates closely with the "Borderland of Arts, Cultures and Nations" Centre under a cooperation agreement which reflects the converging objectives of both institutions. Among other projects, the Foundation runs the Summer School of Intercultural Dialogue, which is an international programme designed to educate integration leaders in multicultural communities. Programme participants include cultural managers, social activists, journalists, artists, teachers and members of local governments from the Eastern Partnership countries – Belarus, Ukraine, Georgia and Poland. The "Borderland of Arts, Cultures and Nations" Centre is also involved in the "It's worth asking about culture" project involving symposia originated by the Department of Culture and National Heritage of the Governor's Office of the Podlaskie Voivodeship.

In the face of the current situation, we believe it is of great importance to help refugees. Particularly notable here is the Refugee.pl organisation. This Foundation is currently implementing two projects co-financed by the EU under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (the projects also use state-budget funds). Both projects are partnered by the Office for Foreigners.

- "Refugee.pl 5" is a project that will help to support the pre-integration with Polish society of foreigners applying for refugee status.
- Sharp Lawyers – Legal Assistance and Information is a project that provides comprehensive legal assistance to people who have applied for international protection in Poland and are currently living in centres for foreigners.

Both projects have only just entered their first stages of implementation.

- In 2015 the Office for Foreigners commissioned the Foundation to hold two open-house events in centres for foreigners in Linin and Dębak. Open-house events are the only opportunity for the residents of neighbouring towns and villages, and other interested parties, to see how foreigners live in such centres. It is also an opportunity to meet with foreigners, watch them perform their national dances and try ethnic cuisine, as well as to meet employees and NGO members, and to share with them reflections, thoughts and ideas²⁶

The Ocalenie Foundation plays a very important role in helping foreigners and facilitating intercultural dialogue. In 2015 the Foundation completed the following projects:

²⁵ More on the Foundation's activities on <http://www.alfpolska.org/>.

²⁶ More information on the Borderland Foundation's website <http://pogranicze.sejny.pl/?lang=en>.

- The Help Centre for Foreigners – a project that involves the provision of specialised assistance and aid to foreigners by Poles and other foreigners. The first consultation point has been opened in Warsaw as part of the HCF, where assistance has been provided by numerous specialists (e.g. psychologists, lawyers, and advisers) in a range of languages (including English, Arabic, Georgian, and Russian).
- Q-Integration – an aid project addressed to people under international protection and people who applied for refugee status. Its aim has been to develop and improve the integration and advisory services addressed to the said group of people.
- The social and economic integration of Muslim immigrants in Poland – this project aims to study whether there is a relationship between religion and ethnicity and the socio-economic integration of Muslim immigrants in Poland. Also, the project's task was to come up with conclusions to be considered by Polish institutions responsible for foreigner-integration policies. This was the first such study of Muslim immigrants²⁷

Gender Equality

Research of the Central Statistical Office shows that women are more active than men in terms of cultural participation. There are numerous organisations supporting women. Among them, by far the most recognisable is the Congress of Women Association. Their main objectives are to:

- 1) contribute to the equal treatment of men and women,
- 2) make efforts to increase the activity of women and their participation in political and public life,
- 3) assist in gaining knowledge and skills to enable women to actively participate in social, political and public life,
- 4) perform actions aimed at improving the situation of women.

One of the main activities and demands of the Congress of Women is the promotion of culture created by women.

Youth

One of the priorities of Polish cultural policy, in terms of raising cultural competence to both create/produce and use cultural services, is to support cultural and artistic education and create the infrastructure for this purpose. Cultural education is considered to be one of the drivers of social potential, focusing on stimulating creativity and preparing people to function in an information society. Its aim is also to raise the levels of participation in culture among

²⁷ More information on the Refugee.pl Foundation's website: <http://refugee.pl/>

various social groups. These tasks are carried out by both schools and other entities, including local-government agencies and national cultural institutions, NGOs, churches and religious associations. Community cultural centres and libraries are the most active in this field, playing a key role in cultural development, especially in small towns and villages.

MKiDN's funds and the programmes implemented using these funds represent another important instrument fostering cultural education. Major programmes in the years 2012-2015 included:

- **The "Cultural Education" and "Artistic Education" Programmes of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage**

One of the operational programmes led by the Minister is addressed to local-government and state cultural institutions, local-government units, NGOs, churches and religious associations. It aims to develop creative expression and creativity among citizens, and support artistic events addressed to children and young people, as well as to improve artistic education in Poland by providing financial support for the most valuable projects addressing students at schools and universities and graduates of art schools and universities.

- **Online culture for children²⁸**

In 2010 the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage launched the kula.gov.pl website, which is addressed to the youngest Internet users. For six years now, Kula and Kulek (the two creatures – game protagonists) have invited kids to embark on a virtual tour of Poland. The website has been designed to get children interested in the cultural heritage of Poland by providing accessible and interesting user experience.

- **The School Music Library²⁹**

The project has been developed by the National Audiovisual Institute in cooperation with experts – pedagogues and musicologists. It aims to educate conscious music audiences and active participants in culture, and to improve universal musical education. Launched in 2011, this platform for musical education has succeeded in accumulating not only abundant audio and video recordings, but also lesson scenarios for teachers, various types of games, etc. roku.

- **Cultural Education - innovative and creative society. The need for art education in modern school**

The Polish National Commission for UNESCO organised an international conference and workshop for teachers on "Cultural education - innovative and creative society. The need for art education in modern school " in Łódź on 17-18 September 2015. The inspiration for the first of a planned series of conferences was the UNESCO document "Seoul Agenda: Goals for the development of Arts Education", translated into Polish and published in the book "Education through culture. Creativity and Innovation" (ed. Polish National Commission for UNESCO, Warsaw, 2011).

²⁸ Website <http://www.kula.gov.pl/>.

²⁹ Website <http://www.muzykotekaszkolna.pl/>.

Is Civil Society contributing to this report?

In Poland there is no extensive research on the involvement of civil society in the implementation of the Convention. Nevertheless, the Pro Cultura Foundation actively participated in the creation of this report. The following information relates to its activities:

Has the civil society taken initiatives to:

- Promote the principle and the objectives of the Convention locally and internationally

The Pro Cultura Foundation makes efforts to take an active part in promoting the principles and purposes of the Convention. E.g. Through activities such as:

- **Metropolitan cities in Europe. Urban cultural life and cultural cooperation between cities for cultural diversity in Europe.** The project was co-financed by the European Commission within the framework of "Preparatory actions for cooperation on cultural matters." The project leader was CIRCLE (Cultural Information and Research Centres Liaison in Europe). The Pro Cultura Foundation, as part of its unpaid statutory activities, together with the Italian association Associazione per l'Economia della Cultura was a co-organiser of this project. The project involved the examination of the issues of cultural diversity in five European cities (Barcelona, Budapest, Rome, Tallinn, Warsaw) over three years. Studies have been supplemented by shorter studies in Berlin, Helsinki, Moscow and Zagreb.
- **European Intercultural Campus in Warsaw** was implemented in cooperation with the City of Warsaw's Culture Department. The aim of the project was to create opportunities for representatives of municipalities, artistic circles, migrants, ethnic and national minorities, non-governmental organisations and researchers interested in the cultural richness of Europe to familiarise themselves with different views on the social background of multiculturalism/interculturalism, as well as to exchange experiences on urban cultural policy in this area. The campus involved panel discussions, workshops, and a closed meeting of experts on the Programme for the Development of Culture in Warsaw in the years 2009-2020. The project was continued by the publication of "How to differ and communicate beautifully? Intercultural Dialogue in Contemporary Metropolis", released in December 2008.
- **Promoting ratification of the Convention and its implementation by governments**

The Pro Cultura Foundation did not concern itself on this subject.

- Bringing the concerns of citizens, associations and enterprises, including vulnerable groups, to public authorities

In its activities, the Pro Cultura Foundation is engaged in research on culture but also in the creation of recommendations on cultural policy. The Foundation has been a strategic partner

of the Ministry of Culture programme Observatory of Culture. The circumstances of work of professional artists and creators in Poland were studied. The project ended with the release of a report. It identifies the trends occurring on the studied market and the opportunities and risks involved in its development. The report is available on the rynekartystow.pl website. This study showed how bad the economic situation of artists and creators is. It was also an important voice in the discussion on the situation of artists in the labor market.

- Contributing to the achievement of greater transparency and accountability in cultural governance

The Pro Cultura Foundation takes an active part in all the meetings addressed to NGOs relating to various kinds of operational programs.

- Monitoring policy and programme implementation on measures to protect and promote diversity of cultural expression

The main activity of the foundation is conducting research. Recent studies related to the Labour Market of Artists and Creators in Poland. The Foundation also took part in the Study on the contribution of culture to local and regional economic development as part of European regional policy and many other research projects. At the request of MKiDN, the Foundation also prepared periodic reports for 2008-2011 on the implementation of UNESCO's 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions.

- Building capacities in domains linked to the Convention and carrying out data collection
- Creating innovative partnerships with the public and private sectors and with civil society in other regions of the world

During its activity, the Pro Cultura Foundation has gained a worldwide reputation and has established extensive cooperation with the best experts in the world. It cooperates with international cultural networks CIRCLE, EFAH, ENCATC and foreign organisations, institutions and foundations: the European Institution for Comparative Cultural Research (ERICarts), based in Bonn (Germany), Kulturkontakt (Austria), Budapest Observatory (Hungary), Observatorio Interarts (Spain), Finnish Foundation for Cultural Research (Finland), Euclid (United Kingdom), Intelligence on Culture (United Kingdom), the Association of Cultural Economics (Italy), the Cultural Policy Institute (Russia). It participates in many international projects and prestigious conferences, and prepares reports and expert opinions. It is particularly proud of its participation in the international research project co-financed by the European Commission within the framework of "Preparatory actions for cooperation on cultural matters". The leader of the project "Metropolitan cities in Europe. Urban cultural life and cultural cooperation between cities for cultural diversity in Europe", was the CIRCLE international network - and the Pro Cultura Foundation was invited to it as a main partner. Its project was selected by the European Commission as one of the most valuable examples of

practices in the field of intercultural dialogue.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

Describe main results achieved in implementing the Convention

It has been almost ten years since Poland ratified the UNESCO Convention on the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions. This is far too little time to make even initial assessments of whether the Convention has achieved anything, and to say what lies ahead. In addition, such a summary should recognise the nature of the Convention, which in the first place legitimises the protection of domestic culture and reflects modern thought on the role of culture in sustainable socio-economic development. The Convention does not provide for any obligations or sanctions. Rather, it is designed to inspire measures to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions in individual countries. It is difficult to assess the extent to which such an objective is being achieved, especially because there are no specifically defined indicators for this purpose, and it is immensely difficult to measure culture. It seems, therefore, that the solution suggested in this report, involving an outline of cultural policies promoting diversity, is appropriate. Everyone can choose what seems to be of greatest importance from the perspective of a country. Once general information is complemented with detailed information on the protection and promotion of diversity, such as information on the cultural rights of national minorities and civil society development levels, a fairly large space opens up for the exploration of the matter at hand. It is important to stress, however, that this report is a recapitulation on the situation in Poland in terms of how it has cared for cultural diversity in the initial period following the ratification, rather than a discussion of measures undertaken directly as a result of the ratification.

Challenges encountered or foreseen to implement the Convention

First of all, it is of fundamental importance to engage civil society in the process of disseminating and implementing ideas put forward by the Convention. Polish society and NGOs have yet to raise their insufficient awareness of the existence and importance of the Convention. Measures to raise this awareness should be taken. Indeed, by reaching civil communities, we can gain immense opportunities for multiplying the expected outcomes, including the common awareness of the existence of the Convention and the implementation of its postulates.

Second, it is extremely important to continue modernising the system of organising and funding cultural activities in Poland. Also, efforts should be made to ensure that emerging legal solutions keep up with the ever-changing reality, as clearly exemplified by the debate on protecting intellectual property in times of the digitisation of culture. These changes should be ensured by the ever-powerful voice of civil society, as well as the increasingly modern

approach to culture, in which culture, along with all the cultural industries, is considered to be a single whole acting as a driver of creativity, and innovation while remaining very diverse.

Efforts to implement the Convention are particularly important – and even of symbolical significance – now, as Europe is amidst a heated debate on multiculturalism, facing rapidly growing immigration rates.

Solutions found or envisaged to overcome those challenges

The Ministry of Culture and National Heritage believes that it would be extremely beneficial to establish – as an addition to the existing international forum – local and national forums for sharing best practices in the area of cultural diversity. Indeed, it is important to highlight various dimensions of diversity and focus on establishing permanent mechanisms for its promotion and protection. This means that instead of individual projects, priority should be given to comprehensive programmes.

Steps planned for the next 4 years

BRAZIL 2016

A presentation of Polish culture in Brazil will mention not only its economic growth, but also the swift social and cultural transformations that the country is experiencing. Support will be provided for projects aiming to find the answers, devoted to workshop tasks and joint artistic activities. The project will focus on the visual arts, architecture, theatre and contemporary music as the fields that best reflect the current dynamics of change.

WICEPREZES RADY WŁAŚCICIELÓW
MINISTERSTWA KULTURY
I DZIEDZICTWA NARODOWEGO

prof. Piotr Gliński

QUADRENNIAL PERIODIC REPORT

2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions

GENERAL INFORMATION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As a historically multicultural country, Poland has a long-standing tradition of accepting cultural diversity. After the democratic transition, Poland has practised this tradition in a variety of ways. At the same time, its situation is unique in that currently it is one of the most mono-cultural countries in Europe. Despite this, Poland's cultural policies create a particularly friendly climate for building an interesting and diverse cultural life. Each year it hosts dozens of festivals promoting music, theatre, the fine arts and the folk traditions of other nations and ethnic minorities living in this country. Cultural institutions rarely resort to simple didactics to communicate complex and obscure ideas. However, they are very effective at shaping attitudes, inspiring interest in new social phenomena and provoking discussions on emerging problems that have not yet been described by sociologists and social psychologists. This is also true for supralocal and supranational phenomena that are relevant to the experiences of all people regardless of their race, political beliefs and religion, including happiness, love, concern for children, bereavement, despair, but also curiosity about other people and cultures.

Art institutions and culture-promoting organisations routinely cooperate with their counterparts from other European and non-European countries, organising guest performances, participating in national and international festivals, staging joint exhibitions and co-producing performances. Theatres put on plays by authors from all over the world and musical institutions regularly host outstanding foreign composers and musicians. It should be stressed, however, that cultural institutions present the art of other nations due to its humanistic and artistic value, with nationality and ethnicity being of secondary importance.

Notably, the economic rapprochement, unrestricted freedom of travel and shared laws governing many areas of operation across the EU contribute to cultural cooperation as well. Promoted by local-government authorities, border cooperation among cities, institutions and individual artists is an effective method for bringing down cultural barriers. Easier communication and border crossings, combined with bilateral willingness to make changes,

produce some surprising effects. Many artistic events are devoted to equal treatment and counteracting social exclusion.

The projects mentioned in this report represent only a portion of the totality of measures undertaken at various levels and by various institutions. We hope, however, that they, at least to a certain degree, reflect what is the most important about the diversity of cultural life in Poland. This report is, therefore, a point of departure for a reflection on how to use the Convention as a valuable vehicle for change. There are three areas, not necessarily mutually exclusive, that hold much promise in this respect.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Name of party: Poland

Date of ratification: 2007

Organisation(s) or entity(es) responsible for the preparation of the report: The Ministry of Culture and National Heritage

Officially designated Point of Contact:

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Name of stakeholders, including civil society organisations, involved in the preparation of the report:

Name: Prof. Dorota Ilczuk, Anna Karpińska

Position

Organisation: Pro Cultura Foundation

Describe the multi-stakeholder consultation process established for the preparation of this report*

The Report was produced as a result of analytical work carried out by Pro Cultura Foundation between January and April 2016. The work was divided into two stages. The first stage involved the identification and analysis of source data. The analysis covered the contents of the websites of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, the Ministry of the Interior and Administration and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. An analysis was also conducted of the on-line resources of such cultural institutions as the Adam Mickiewicz Institute, the National Heritage Board of Poland, the National Centre for Culture, the International Cultural Centre, the National Audiovisual Institute, the Polish National Commission for UNESCO, the Polish Film Institute, and the websites of the POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews, the European Solidarity Centre, the Museum of the Second World War, etc. Polish and foreign reports on cultural policies and related subjects were investigated as well. A special focus was on Compendium, Cultural Policies and Trends in Europe – a compilation of data on the cultural policies of numerous countries commissioned by the European Council and put together by ERICarts. (<http://www.culturalpolicies.net/>). Information from the OECD's website was used as well.

The second stage involved extensive surveys among the Departments of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage (MKiDN) and their subordinate institutions. The respondents included:

- The National Library
- The Financial Department of MKiDN
- The Legislative Department of MKiDN
- The Department of National Culture Institutions of MKiDN
- The Department of Art and Culture Education of MKiDN
- The Department of Intellectual Property and Media of MKiDN
- The Department of International Relations of MKiDN
- The Krzysztof Penderecki European Centre for Music
- The European Solidarity Centre
- The Adam Mickiewicz Institute
- European Network Remembrance and Solidarity Institute
- The International Cultural Centre
- The POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews
- The Museum of the Second World War in Gdańsk
- The Adam Mickiewicz Museum of Literature in Warsaw
- Lublin Museum

- The National Museum in Gdańsk
- The National Museum in Kraków
- The National Museum in Warsaw
- The National Museum in Wrocław
- The Museum of King John III's Palace at Wilanów
- The Museum of the Silesian Piasts in Brzeg
- The Museum of Art in Łódź
- The Łańcut Castle Museum
- The Malbork Castle Museum
- The Kraków Saltworks Museum in Wieliczka
- The Silesian Museum in Katowice
- The National Audiovisual Institute
- The Podlasie Opera and Philharmonic – European Art Centre in Białystok
- The State Museum at Majdanek in Lublin
- The Polish Film Institute
- The "Song of the Goat" Theatre – the organiser of the Brave Festival
- The Ester Rachel Kamińska and Ida Kamińska State Jewish Theatre. The Centre for Yiddish Culture
- The Wawel Royal Castle National Art Collection
- The Royal Castle in Warsaw – Museum. The Residence of the Monarchs of the First Polish Republic
- The Jewish Historical Institute

OVERVIEW OF CULTURAL POLICY CONTEXT

This report summarises the measures initiated at the national level with a view to protecting and promoting cultural diversity in Poland in the years 2012-2015. It is particularly concerned with the activities of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage (MKiDN) and the state organisations it has established within its framework.

A special focus is on the areas that are directly related to the preoccupations of the UNESCO Convention. One of these areas is the protection of tangible and intangible cultural heritage. This part also presents the projects aiming to improve the functioning of museum institutions which play an important role in providing access to cultural goods.

However, the issue of the protection and promotion of cultural diversity extends beyond cultural policy. Culture is also an important component of foreign, ethnic and national minority and development policies, as noted in subsequent parts of the report. It is therefore essential to take into account the government agencies that are co-responsible for these matters, such as the Ministry of the Interior and Administration. In terms of international

cooperation, it is the priority of Polish institutions to maintain relations within the European Union and the Eastern Partnership.

Also, in the context of the measures to promote and protect the diversity of cultural expressions, the report highlights the role of civil society. A multitude of NGOs engage in efforts in these areas, often with the support from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, which provides funding for cultural projects under the annually announced operational programmes.

An important initiative of civil society are Citizens of Culture. It is a civil movement, convened in an act of opposition to the policy that does not appreciate the social and democratic functions of culture. Beginning from Krakow's Culture Congress in 2009 they demand reform and the socialisation of public media. A year later, in 2010, the Citizens' Committee of Public Media prepared and presented, in the manner of a public hearing, the draft media law. In 2011, the Pact for Culture demanded legal guarantees ensuring the fulfilment of obligations by and improved quality of public media.

An assessment of the direct impacts of ratifying the Convention will be possible in the long term. This report is already a second attempt at exploring these issues, and as such it might soon help to draw certain conclusions as to the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expression in the context of the Convention, and also to outline the current needs in terms of promoting the Convention's objectives.

Has the Convention been integrated into the policy development process in any of the following ways?

a. It is (or has been) the basis for changing one or more policies?

b. It is (or has been) a tool to promote policy discussion?

Poland's cultural policies relating to diversity and the promotion of modern thinking about culture as a driver of economic and social development are supported by, among other entities, the Polish National Commission for UNESCO. As part of its conferences and publishing activities this institution has been committed to promoting the message of the 2005 UNESCO Convention by underscoring the importance of culture for sustainable development and the role of education in promoting cultural diversity.

c. It is (or has been) a reference for ongoing policy development?

Cultural Policies

Cultural diversity is closely related to the cultural policies pursued by Poland. It is, therefore, fitting to provide here the general picture of these policies complete with the multitude of areas and entities they involve, and the range of programmes and projects these entities carry out¹. In this part, however, the authors decided to demonstrate only those cultural policies where the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions come into the foreground. The information provided below concerns primarily the activities of MKiDN and its subordinated state institutes and cultural institutions. Consideration is given to the measures to protect and promote Poland's cultural diversity in both the historical and contemporary contexts. Also, the Report discusses those operational, multiannual and interdisciplinary programmes led by MKiDN that are directly concerned with the promotion of modern thinking about culture. The Report concludes with an outline of measures that, while not feeding directly into cultural policies, support national-level efforts.

THE PROTECTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

Cultural heritage is seen as a common good of paramount importance, and also a prerequisite for building social cohesion and developing individual and group identity. Inherent to Poland's national heritage is the heritage of various national, ethnic, ethnographic and religious groups, etc.

The record-keeping, and defining of standards for the protection of tangible and intangible heritage within the territory of Poland is the responsibility of the National Heritage Board of Poland (NID)², a body appointed by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage. The NID carries out its tasks of promoting and protecting Poland's multicultural heritage by accumulating and disseminating knowledge of the heritage, coordinating voluntary measures (as part of the "Volunteers for Heritage" programme), raising social awareness of the cultural heritage, monitoring and analysing threats to the heritage and implementing rules for the sustainable protection of monuments. The NID handles the nationwide coordination of the European Heritage Days³, whose main objective is to promote cultural diversity and multiculturalism, with special emphasis on the regional cultural heritage, intercultural dialogue and the contribution of various cultures to the European heritage. The NID also participates in conferences (e.g. the 13th Polish-German Conference and Study Visit "ANTIKON 2012 Half-Timbered Architecture – Common Heritage") and working groups on the promotion and management of the multicultural heritage (e.g. "Spiritual values of protected areas of Europe"). The NID extends its patronage to a

¹ The annually updated profile of Poland's cultural policy is provided in the *"Compendium of Cultural Policies Facts and Trends"* commissioned by the European Council and put together by ERICarts: <http://www.culturalpolicies.net/web/poland.php>.

² The official website of the National Heritage Board of Poland <http://www.nid.pl/idm,45.html>.

³ The official website of the European Heritage Days <http://www.edd2012.pl/>.

variety of events, including conferences (e.g. the national conference on “digitisation in sciences of history and heritage protection – an analysis of potentials and threats” held in 2015) and festivals (e.g. the Open Gardens Festival, the Traverse into Poland Festival). The measures also include the putting together and rental of themed exhibitions which aim to expand familiarity with Polish culture and other cultures associated with the territory of Poland (e.g. Tracing the Multiculturalism of the Republic of Both Nations, the Wooden Tserkvas of the Carpathian Region in Poland and Ukraine).

Projects devoted to the protection of the cultural heritage are also carried out by other public institutions and multiple NGOs. Opened in 2013, the POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews provides educational programmes promoting the cultural heritage of Polish Jews among children, young people and educational communities (e.g. Let's Meet at the Museum – a programme for students and teachers, Neighbours – Witnesses. Objects, People, Stories). The Krzysztof Penderecki European Centre for Music, which hosts numerous concerts and festivals (e.g. the EMANATIONS Festival), adheres to the fundamental principles of approaching heritage protection and promotion, including equality, diversity, equivalence, involvement in sustainable development, the importance of individual authors, and the role of local communities in the process.

The Museum of the Second World War in Gdańsk cooperated with partners from the Netherlands, France, the UK and Germany on the international historical and tourist project called Liberation Route Europe. The first phase of the project came to an end in 2015 and the second phase is due to close in 2017. The underlying objective of the project has been to compile a single resource of information on events related to the Second World War in Europe and its ending, and also to demonstrate the divergent experiences of the people of the War-affected countries. By propagating the common historical and cultural heritage, the project also aims to support international tourism and promote participating cities and regions. A website and a mobile app have been developed as part of the Liberation Route Europe project – they are available in the languages of all project partners. Both the website and the app help users to gain quick access to information on major events, places and figures associated with the Second World War in Europe and its ending, and aftermath.

MUSEOLOGY

The primary objectives of Polish museum institutions (as set out by the Museums Act of 21 November 1996) are to accumulate and protect tangible and intangible cultural heritage, promote the fundamental values of Polish and international culture, raise the awareness and appreciation of cultural heritage, and provide access to collections. Museums are currently engaging in educational, exhibition, research, publishing and conservation efforts aiming to

protect and promote everything that is both specific to Polish culture and shared by Polish culture with other cultures and communities, especially European.

As a result of a major redefinition of the role of museums in the contemporary world and of the transformation of museum institutions themselves, the Ministry of Culture has engaged in cooperation with the museum community in recent years on a multitude of initiatives to create a climate that fosters the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions. Major developments included the establishment of modern and interactive museums (e.g. the POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews). To meet international exhibition standards, many institutions have undergone major refurbishments (e.g. the National Museum in Warsaw) or have been relocated, or are planning to relocate, to buildings that are better adapted to their needs (e.g. the European Solidarity Centre, the Second World War Museum).

Established in 2011 by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage, the National Institute for Museums and Public Collections (NIMOZ)⁴ is tasked with the accumulation and dissemination of knowledge of museums and public collections, setting museological standards, and raising the awareness of the values, and preservation of cultural heritage. NIMOZ is responsible for the Museology Development Strategy. This Strategy aims to spark off and provide technical support for the development of museums as institutions that model social life, community identity, sensibility, etc. All the Institute's activities (e.g. the "Museum Time?" debate, the "Visible Museums" competition, the "E-museums" project committed to providing access to collections) support the implementation or development of the museology strategy.

THE CULTURAL INDUSTRY

The vitality of national, regional and European cultures is driven by the ability of cultural industries to produce and distribute cultural goods and services. It is reasonable for governments to intervene in this field with a view to protecting national identity, fostering the good quality and diversity of cultural services, and also preventing price from being a barrier to access to cultural goods for average consumers. Particularly strong government support is received by the publishing market and cinematography. Of great importance for the former are the efforts of the National Library, which collects, compiles, makes available and archives the entire national publishing output, including works that are published in Poland by, and addressed to, national and ethnic minorities. Through international cooperation agreements, the National Library provides opportunities for publishing-house exchanges, international lending and collaboration in science and culture. Currently, the Library's partners include the

⁴ For more information about the Institute's activities, go to <http://www.nimoz.pl/en/>.

National Library of Serbia in Belgrade, the M.F. Akhundzade National Library of Azerbaijan and the Morocco Archive. In 2012 Poland, in cooperation with the Institute of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and as part of a UNESCO project, put together an exhibition at the National Library entitled "The 11th-century Codex Suprasliensis in the context of Byzantine-Slavonic relationships". The exhibition showcased the history of the Codex Suprasliensis, one of the most valuable Cyrillic literary monuments, inscribed on Memory of the World Register. The publishing market is also supported through direct subsidies. The Book Institutes under MKiDN provides grants for translations of Polish literature into foreign languages.

A resolution of the Council of Ministers established in 2015 the 2016-2020 multiannual programme called "The National Readership Development Programme". The Programme has three priorities: purchasing new publications to be available at public libraries; the 2016-2020 Library Infrastructure; and the development of interests among students by promoting and supporting the development of readership among children and young people, including the purchasing of new publications. The programme is in line with, and supports the objectives of, the cultural policies of the European Union and Poland, including the promotion of cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue. We will have to wait several years, until it has been completed, to see the programme's results.

As far as Polish cinematography is concerned, the Polish Film Institute (PISF)⁶ plays the central role. Its main job is to provide support for the Polish film industry and to promote Polish works of cinema abroad. To do this, the PISF uses, among other sources of funding, subsidies provided under four operational programmes, including "Film Production", "Film Education and Dissemination of Film Culture", "Development of Cinema Infrastructure" and "Promotion of Polish Film Abroad". Under the Cinematography Act of 30 June 2005, Polish film-market players (cinemas, distributors, television broadcasters, including public television, digital platform operators and cable-television operators) are obliged to give, each year, 1.5 percent of their revenue to the PISF. These contributions are the main vehicle for co-funding film production in Poland. The PISF is also tasked with the promotion of Polish film art at festivals, film roundups and film fairs. More than 160 Polish festivals and Polish film roundups were held abroad between 2012 and 2015. Most of them were organised in cooperation with Polish diplomatic agencies. As well as co-funding these events, the PISF helped to select films and acted as a mediator between the event organisers and producers, and also helped festival organisers to get the films they wanted to screen. On the initiative of the PISF, thanks to cooperation with the Kraków Film Festival, industry meetings (DOCS TO GO!) were held for the first time at this festival. At these meetings, foreign producers and sales agents saw Polish documentary projects at various stages of production. PISF staff supported the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage in the signing in 2012 of film co-production agreements with

⁵ For more information about the Institute's activities, go to <http://www.bookinstitute.pl/en,ik,site,42,87.php>.

⁶ For more detailed information about the PISF, go to: <http://www.pisf.pl/en/>.

France (March) and India (November). The signing of the agreement with India was accompanied by a presentation of Polish cinematography and its co-production capabilities at the International Film Festival of India in Goa.

THE OPERATIONAL AND CROSS-DISCIPLINARY PROGRAMMES OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND NATIONAL HERITAGE

The operational programmes led by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage exemplify a systemic project-based solution for the publicly funded support of a range of cultural entities. Each year, a list is announced of grant programmes for local-government and state cultural institutions, local government units, NGOs, churches and religious associations. These programmes are primarily concerned with artistic events, museum collections, literature and readership promotion, education, cultural heritage and cultural-infrastructure development. A very important program, in the context of the Convention, is the Culture Observatory, which is operated by the National Centre for Culture. The program's objective is also to identify particularly important areas of operation of the cultural policy by subsidising research projects and projects interpreting data about culture. MKiDN has also engaged in multiannual programmes, such as the CULTURE+ programme, whose aim in the years 2011-2015 was to improve access to culture and raise participation in cultural life in rural areas and mixed rural and urban areas by upgrading and building the library infrastructure and digitising the resources of Polish museums, libraries and archives.

INITIATIVES TO SUPPORT NATIONAL-LEVEL MEASURES

Poland's cultural policies relating to diversity and the promotion of modern thinking about culture as a driver of economic and social development are supported by, among other entities, the Polish National Commission for UNESCO. As part of the conferences it organises and its publishing activities this institution has been committed to promoting the message of the 2005 UNESCO Convention by underscoring the importance of culture for sustainable development and the role of education in promoting cultural diversity. The Polish National Commission for UNESCO has been a member of the **Polish EUROMED network** – the Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue Between Cultures, whose job is to promote intercultural dialogue and the objectives of the Barcelona Process by facilitating cultural, intellectual and social exchange.

- Put together by the Polish National Commission for UNESCO in cooperation with MKiDN, under the honorary patronage of the Sejm Speaker Ewa Kopacz, a conference entitled "Why and how to protect cultural heritage using modern methods" was held in 2013. The conference was attended by 200 people and the speeches discussed

mainly the issues of monument protection, the role of local governments in the monument protection and conservation system and the essence of intangible heritage within the meaning of the 2003 UNESCO Convention. A conference publication is available in Polish on the Commission's website.⁷

- The Polish National Commission for UNESCO, along with the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, the Foundation in Support of Local Democracy and the Society for the Protection of Monuments, organised in September 2014 a debate on "The Social Dimension of the Cultural and Natural Landscape". The debaters noted the need to take care of the environment as a cultural and natural whole, the necessity to counteract chaos in public spaces and the possibility of measures supporting the sustainable development of the environment we live in, including the methods for public participation in deciding on the immediate surroundings and public spaces of supralocal value. These issues are all the more important as the cultural and natural landscape in this sense is a determinant of social and economic development. In 2015, referring to this debate, The Polish National Commission for UNESCO published a book entitled "The cultural and natural landscape from the social perspective".
- In March 2012 the Polish National Commission for UNESCO held the fourth workshop on intercultural education under the theme "In the World of Islam". In addition to lectures and workshops on the culture of Islam, workshops were held for the first time on the preparation of Polish schools to enrol children from other cultures or children of repatriates. Seven more workshop sessions on this subject were held by 2015. Held between 16 and 17 October 2015 in Poznań, the 11th session of the workshop "In the World of Islam" brought together 100 teachers from across the Wielkopolskie Voivodeship.

MKiDN has also engaged in efforts to promote modern thinking about culture as a driver of socio-economic development. This premise is the basis for the social campaigns that have been in place since 2012, including the "Legal Culture" initiative aiming to promote legal sources of culture and education in the field of intellectual-property protection, and the "Mother Tongue – Add to Favourites" campaign, which promotes attention to the correct use of Polish.

International Cultural Cooperation

The primary responsibility for Poland's international cooperation lies with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MSZ) and the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage (MKiDN)⁸ and its subordinate institutions (i.e. the Adam Mickiewicz

⁷ Publication in Polish: <http://www.unesco.pl/dlaczegoijak/indexPop.htm>

⁸ More detailed information on what these two ministries do is available on their websites: MSZ – www.msz.gov.pl, MKiDN – www.mkidn.gov.pl.

Institute (IAM), the National Centre for Culture (NCK), and the International Cultural Centre (MCK)⁹.

Poland is pursuing the objectives of Articles 12, 14 and 15 primarily through actions within multilateral cooperation programmes. Major programmes here include:

- The Eastern Partnership¹⁰
The Eastern Partnership aims to bring Partnership States closer to the European Union through strengthened cooperation and integration based on EU values, norms and standards. It also has the objective of supporting reforms designed to bolster and modernise institutions of Partnership States for the good of their citizens.
- ASEM (The Asia-Europe Meeting)¹¹
ASEM facilitates relations between Europe and Asia, while also being complementary to other bilateral and multilateral forums for political dialogue. There are a number of developing countries that actively engage in dialogue as part of ASEM, including Cambodia, Laos, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Vietnam, China, Malaysia and Thailand.

Moreover, Poland cooperates with regional organisations such as:

- The Visegrad Group¹²
- Ars Baltica¹³.

The Adam Mickiewicz Institute (IAM) deserves special mention for its commitment to the objective of "lending permanent credibility to Poland's role as an essential player in international networks circulating ideas, values and cultural goods of the highest quality."¹⁴ Between 2011 and 2016 the IAM launched and led the I, CULTURE Orchestra project. Its mission has been to advance dialogue between Eastern European and South Caucasus countries in the field of music. For instance, young musicians from Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Ukraine, Poland, Moldova and Armenia played a concert in Kiev in 2015 to celebrate the Independence Day of Ukraine. In 2014 the Institute launched, and continues to lead, the "Wystawiajmy się" ("Let's Go on Show!") project making sure that Polish designers are present on international design festivals and shows. This gives the artists an opportunity to showcase their work as well as to strike up international partnerships. Another Polish undertaking is the Eastern European Performing Arts Platform (EEPAP) launched by the Adam Mickiewicz Institute and based in Lublin. This is an international exchange platform for artists and curators from Central and Eastern Europe. A range of study visits, artist & curator residencies and workshops took place in 2015 as part of the EEPAP. Notable workshops

⁹ More detailed information on what these institutions do is available on their websites: IAM – www.iam.pl/en, NCK – www.nck.pl/ (in Polish, only), MCK – www.mck.krakow.pl/en.

¹⁰ More on <http://www.eastern-partnership.pl/>

¹¹ More on <http://www.aseminfoboard.org/>

¹² More on <http://www.visegradgroup.eu>

¹³ More on <http://www.ars-baltica.net/>

¹⁴ More on <https://iam.pl/en/about-us>

included the dramaturgy workshop of the Theatre Laboratory, held as part of the Desant educational project, attended by 20 young directors, critics and theatre researchers from Ukraine.

Preferential Treatment

There are various approaches and terminologies used to define developing countries – this report used as its reference the DAC list, according to which the OECD determines eligible recipients of official development aid¹⁵. Poland has been supporting the development of DAC-list countries through measures within bilateral cooperation programmes, by co-organising cultural events, making financial contributions to international organisations, and providing direct support for artists and individual authors.

Examples of cultural projects carried out in cooperation with partners from developing countries

TURKEY

The main part of the cultural programme was presented in Turkey primarily between April and September 2014. The programme made use of the triumphs of Polish classical, contemporary and modern music, new forms in visual arts and design, and also the winning streak of Polish theatre, dance and cinema. The cultural programme is consolidated by two historical exhibitions demonstrating Poland's and Turkey's shared heritage: The exhibition entitled "Distant Neighbour, Close Memories: 600 Years of Polish-Turkish Relations" and the closing exhibition entitled "Orientalism in Polish painting, drawing and graphic art" held at the Pera Museum in cooperation with the National Museum in Warsaw.

THE ASIA PROJECT

The Asia project is meant to increase the presence of Polish culture in Asian countries, including in particular China, the Republic of Korea and Japan. In 2013 Poland's presence in the region was marked through the concert tour of the Lutosławski Quartet (Hong Kong, South Korea, China, Singapore), the concerts by Zakopower and Cracovia Danza at the Meet in Beijing Festival and the contemporary-dance programme at the Beijing Fringe Festival. In Hong Kong Teatr Dramatyczny put on the "Persona. Marilyn" spectacle by Krystian Lupa and Teatr Polski from Bielsko-Biała put on "Zbrodnia", directed by Ewelina Marciniak, at the Seoul

¹⁵ The list is available on <http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/documentupload/DAC%20List%20of%20ODA%20Recipients%202014%20final.pdf>

Performing Arts Festival in the Republic of Korea. The Polish jazz artists, including Anna Maria Jopek, Maciej Obara, Marcin Masecki and Pink Freud played at the Jarasum International Jazz Festival in South Korea, the Tokyo Jazz Festival and the New Polish Music Festival in Japan. As part of the Asia Project, Polish culture was presented in Hong Kong, Singapore, Burma, India and Taiwan.¹⁶

UKRAINE

In response to a cooperation agreement between the governments of Poland and Ukraine in connection with the co-organisation of EURO 2012, the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage initiated a Polish-Ukrainian cultural project called "The European Stadium of Culture". The core objectives of the project are to build Poland's and Ukraine's image by promoting the richness of their cultures; creating a shared cultural space by promoting a shared cultural heritage; building shared social and cultural capital; engaging in promotion; breaking down stereotypes and instilling respect and tolerance for other cultures.

Examples of recurring/multiannual projects

THE POLISH-UKRAINIAN YOUTH EXCHANGE¹⁷

The programme is addressed to children and young people aged 12-18. Funding is provided to eligible schools, local-government cultural institutions and NGOs. It aims, among other objectives, to help young Poles and Ukrainians to get to know each other and to show the cultural similarities and differences between them.

THE NESVIZH ACADEMY¹⁸

The "Nesvizh Academy" International Postgraduate Summer School is a Polish-Belarusian project whose mission is to train conservation specialists from Central and Eastern Europe. Training courses are held every two years. Each course is devoted to various subjects related to the protection, conservation and management of monuments.

Scholarship programmes

- **The "Gaude Polonia" Programme run out by the National Centre for Culture**

Provided by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage, the "Gaude Polonia" scholarship programme is intended for young creators of culture and translators of Polish literature from Central and Eastern Europe. The purpose of this six-month scholarship is to allow its

¹⁶ The list is available on

<http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/documentupload/DAC%20List%20of%20ODA%20Recipients%202014%20final.pdf>

¹⁷ <http://asia.culture.pl/pl>

¹⁸ More on the programme: <http://www.nck.pl/sub.pl.oprogramieplukr.html>.

recipients to explore Polish culture and hone their creative techniques under the guidance of acclaimed Polish authors and institutions in major centres of Polish culture.

- **The "Thesaurus Poloniae" scholarship programme of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage**

Thesaurus Poloniae is a three-month scholarship programme set up by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage and run by the International Cultural Centre in Kraków. It is intended for foreign scientists conducting research into the culture, history and multicultural heritage of Poland and Central Europe.

- **The Scholarship Fund of the Polish History Museum**

Set up by the Polish History Museum, the Scholarship Fund has the objective of supporting research into Poland's history and projects promoting Poland's history abroad. Scholarships are provided to foreigners who are actively interested in or want to start exploring Polish history.

Integration of Culture with Sustainable Development Policies

The principle of fostering sustainable socio-economic development, as mentioned in particular in Article 13 of the Convention, is incorporated both into the Constitution of the Republic of Poland (Article 5) and EU treaties. This principle is also reflected in strategic documents setting out the objectives and priorities of Poland's development policy. The role of culture in this respect is underscored by the authors of "The National Development Plan for the Years 2007-2013 and 2014-2020"¹⁹, "The 2020 Social Capital Development Strategy"²⁰ and the "Poland 2030" report²¹. Moreover, bringing about a more sustainable cultural development is one of the objectives of "The 2004-2020 National Cultural Development Strategy"²².

Another undertaking geared towards building social capital and enhancing social cohesion through investment in cultural institutions is the KULTURA+ Multiannual Programme operated by the MKiDN. Its aim is to upgrade and build the library infrastructure in the smallest towns and villages on the one hand, and to establish an integrated network of digitisation laboratories for the mass digitisation of cultural resources on the other. These measures are intended to improve access to culture, counteract cultural and digital exclusion

¹⁹ More on the programme: <http://www.nid.pl/idm,372,miedzynarodowa-podyplomowa-letnia-szkola-akademia-nieswieska.html>.

²⁰ Available in Polish on <http://www.fundusze-strukturalne.gov.pl/informator/npr2/npr.htm>

²¹ Available in Polish on http://ks.mkidn.gov.pl/media/download_gallery/20130520SRKS_na_stronie_internetowej.pdf

²² Available in Polish on <http://www.polska2030.pl/>.

and encourage people living in small towns and rural and mixed rural and urban areas to become more involved in cultural life.

Emerging Transversal Issues: Resolution 5.CP 9b

All ministerial departments engage in cooperation with NGOs, with the Department of State Patronage in particular being responsible for the coordination of measures under the Public Benefit and Volunteer Work Act. The subjects of the Convention were not directly addressed by the Non-Governmental Organisations Council under the MKiDN, which is the opinion-forming and advisory body for the Minister of Culture, tasked with providing proposals and opinions on the areas and forms of cooperation of the MKiDN with NGOs, expressing opinions on draft legal acts applicable to NGOs' activities in the cultural sector. It should be stressed, however, that in the years 2012-2015, the MKiDN provided – through annual Ministerial Programmes and calls for proposals – funding for a multitude of projects involving the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions implemented by NGOs²³.

Numerous public cultural entities are also engaging in cooperation with NGOs, as exemplified by the National Heritage Board of Poland, which supports NGOs committed to spreading and strengthening intercultural dialogue and to promoting the diversity of cultural expression. The National Centre for Culture uses subsidies to support measures in various fields of culture. The Adam Mickiewicz Institute also provides financial support for NGOs.

More than 100 NGOs, public institutions and schools of higher education are members of the Polish network of the Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue Between Cultures²⁴, which is coordinated by the International Cultural Centre in Kraków. The Foundation's task is to support the most broadly defined cultural and intellectual exchanges involving journalists and young people from Mediterranean countries, hold patronage over selected events, and promote the achievements of the Barcelona Process. In accordance with its statutes, the Foundation operates as a "network of networks", an information-sharing platform for national networks of institutions active in cultural cooperation. The three-year action programme of the Foundation for the years 2012-2014 builds on the successful efforts of the organisation in the previous period, underscoring the intercultural mission of the Foundation and trying to make an appropriate and effective response to the emerging challenges in the Euro-Mediterranean region, including in particular the democratic-transformation processes in Northern African countries, as well as the global economic crisis.

²³ The official website of the Ministry: mswia.gov.pl

²⁴ More information on MKiDN's website www.mkidn.gov.pl.

The Foundation's strategic focus remains on Culture and Creativity, Education and Intercultural Teaching, Urban Spaces and Citizenship, and Media and Public Opinion.

Based in Sejny, the Borderland Foundation is making a great contribution to the implementation of the Convention's objectives²⁵. This organisation aims to promote the borderland ethos and to build bridges for people of different religions, nationalities and cultures. It operates mainly on the basis of grants provided by various institutions and organisations, and private individuals. The Foundation cooperates closely with the "Borderland of Arts, Cultures and Nations" Centre under a cooperation agreement which reflects the converging objectives of both institutions. Among other projects, the Foundation runs the Summer School of Intercultural Dialogue, which is an international programme designed to educate integration leaders in multicultural communities. Programme participants include cultural managers, social activists, journalists, artists, teachers and members of local governments from the Eastern Partnership countries – Belarus, Ukraine, Georgia and Poland. The "Borderland of Arts, Cultures and Nations" Centre is also involved in the "It's worth asking about culture" project involving symposia originated by the Department of Culture and National Heritage of the Governor's Office of the Podlaskie Voivodeship.

In the face of the current situation, we believe it is of great importance to help refugees. Particularly notable here is the Refugee.pl organisation. This Foundation is currently implementing two projects co-financed by the EU under the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (the projects also use state-budget funds). Both projects are partnered by the Office for Foreigners.

- "Refugee.pl 5" is a project that will help to support the pre-integration with Polish society of foreigners applying for refugee status.
- Sharp Lawyers – Legal Assistance and Information is a project that provides comprehensive legal assistance to people who have applied for international protection in Poland and are currently living in centres for foreigners.

Both projects have only just entered their first stages of implementation.

- In 2015 the Office for Foreigners commissioned the Foundation to hold two open-house events in centres for foreigners in Linin and Dębak. Open-house events are the only opportunity for the residents of neighbouring towns and villages, and other interested parties, to see how foreigners live in such centres. It is also an opportunity to meet with foreigners, watch them perform their national dances and try ethnic cuisine, as well as to meet employees and NGO members, and to share with them reflections, thoughts and ideas²⁶

The Ocalenie Foundation plays a very important role in helping foreigners and facilitating intercultural dialogue. In 2015 the Foundation completed the following projects:

²⁵ More on the Foundation's activities on <http://www.alfpolska.org/>.

²⁶ More information on the Borderland Foundation's website <http://pogranicze.sejny.pl/?lang=en>.

- The Help Centre for Foreigners – a project that involves the provision of specialised assistance and aid to foreigners by Poles and other foreigners. The first consultation point has been opened in Warsaw as part of the HCF, where assistance has been provided by numerous specialists (e.g. psychologists, lawyers, and advisers) in a range of languages (including English, Arabic, Georgian, and Russian).
- Q-Integration – an aid project addressed to people under international protection and people who applied for refugee status. Its aim has been to develop and improve the integration and advisory services addressed to the said group of people.
- The social and economic integration of Muslim immigrants in Poland – this project aims to study whether there is a relationship between religion and ethnicity and the socio-economic integration of Muslim immigrants in Poland. Also, the project’s task was to come up with conclusions to be considered by Polish institutions responsible for foreigner-integration policies. This was the first such study of Muslim immigrants²⁷

Gender Equality

Research of the Central Statistical Office shows that women are more active than men in terms of cultural participation. There are numerous organisations supporting women. Among them, by far the most recognisable is the Congress of Women Association. Their main objectives are to:

- 1) contribute to the equal treatment of men and women,
- 2) make efforts to increase the activity of women and their participation in political and public life,
- 3) assist in gaining knowledge and skills to enable women to actively participate in social, political and public life,
- 4) perform actions aimed at improving the situation of women.

One of the main activities and demands of the Congress of Women is the promotion of culture created by women.

Youth

One of the priorities of Polish cultural policy, in terms of raising cultural competence to both create/produce and use cultural services, is to support cultural and artistic education and create the infrastructure for this purpose. Cultural education is considered to be one of the drivers of social potential, focusing on stimulating creativity and preparing people to function in an information society. Its aim is also to raise the levels of participation in culture among

various social groups. These tasks are carried out by both schools and other entities, including local-government agencies and national cultural institutions, NGOs, churches and religious associations. Community cultural centres and libraries are the most active in this field, playing a key role in cultural development, especially in small towns and villages.

MKiDN's funds and the programmes implemented using these funds represent another important instrument fostering cultural education. Major programmes in the years 2012-2015 included:

- **The "Cultural Education" and "Artistic Education" Programmes of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage**

One of the operational programmes led by the Minister is addressed to local-government and state cultural institutions, local-government units, NGOs, churches and religious associations. It aims to develop creative expression and creativity among citizens, and support artistic events addressed to children and young people, as well as to improve artistic education in Poland by providing financial support for the most valuable projects addressing students at schools and universities and graduates of art schools and universities.

- **Online culture for children²⁸**

In 2010 the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage launched the [kula.gov.pl](http://www.kula.gov.pl) website, which is addressed to the youngest Internet users. For six years now, Kula and Kulek (the two creatures – game protagonists) have invited kids to embark on a virtual tour of Poland. The website has been designed to get children interested in the cultural heritage of Poland by providing accessible and interesting user experience.

- **The School Music Library²⁹**

The project has been developed by the National Audiovisual Institute in cooperation with experts – pedagogues and musicologists. It aims to educate conscious music audiences and active participants in culture, and to improve universal musical education. Launched in 2011, this platform for musical education has succeeded in accumulating not only abundant audio and video recordings, but also lesson scenarios for teachers, various types of games, etc. roku.

- **Cultural Education - innovative and creative society. The need for art education in modern school**

The Polish National Commission for UNESCO organised an international conference and workshop for teachers on "Cultural education - innovative and creative society. The need for art education in modern school " in Łódź on 17-18 September 2015. The inspiration for the first of a planned series of conferences was the UNESCO document "Seoul Agenda: Goals for the development of Arts Education", translated into Polish and published in the book "Education through culture. Creativity and Innovation" (ed. Polish National Commission for UNESCO, Warsaw, 2011).

²⁸ Website <http://www.kula.gov.pl/>.

²⁹ Website <http://www.muzykotekaszkolna.pl/>.

Is Civil Society contributing to this report?

In Poland there is no extensive research on the involvement of civil society in the implementation of the Convention. Nevertheless, the Pro Cultura Foundation actively participated in the creation of this report. The following information relates to its activities:

Has the civil society taken initiatives to:

- Promote the principle and the objectives of the Convention locally and internationally

The Pro Cultura Foundation makes efforts to take an active part in promoting the principles and purposes of the Convention. E.g. Through activities such as:

- **Metropolitan cities in Europe. Urban cultural life and cultural cooperation between cities for cultural diversity in Europe.** The project was co-financed by the European Commission within the framework of "Preparatory actions for cooperation on cultural matters." The project leader was CIRCLE (Cultural Information and Research Centres Liaison in Europe). The Pro Cultura Foundation, as part of its unpaid statutory activities, together with the Italian association Associazione per l'Economia della Cultura was a co-organiser of this project. The project involved the examination of the issues of cultural diversity in five European cities (Barcelona, Budapest, Rome, Tallinn, Warsaw) over three years. Studies have been supplemented by shorter studies in Berlin, Helsinki, Moscow and Zagreb.
- **European Intercultural Campus in Warsaw** was implemented in cooperation with the City of Warsaw's Culture Department. The aim of the project was to create opportunities for representatives of municipalities, artistic circles, migrants, ethnic and national minorities, non-governmental organisations and researchers interested in the cultural richness of Europe to familiarise themselves with different views on the social background of multiculturalism/interculturalism, as well as to exchange experiences on urban cultural policy in this area. The campus involved panel discussions, workshops, and a closed meeting of experts on the Programme for the Development of Culture in Warsaw in the years 2009-2020. The project was continued by the publication of "How to differ and communicate beautifully? Intercultural Dialogue in Contemporary Metropolis", released in December 2008.
- **Promoting ratification of the Convention and its implementation by governments**

The Pro Cultura Foundation did not concern itself on this subject.

- Bringing the concerns of citizens, associations and enterprises, including vulnerable groups, to public authorities

In its activities, the Pro Cultura Foundation is engaged in research on culture but also in the creation of recommendations on cultural policy. The Foundation has been a strategic partner

of the Ministry of Culture programme Observatory of Culture. The circumstances of work of professional artists and creators in Poland were studied. The project ended with the release of a report. It identifies the trends occurring on the studied market and the opportunities and risks involved in its development. The report is available on the rynekartystow.pl website. This study showed how bad the economic situation of artists and creators is. It was also an important voice in the discussion on the situation of artists in the labor market.

- **Contributing to the achievement of greater transparency and accountability in cultural governance**

The Pro Cultura Foundation takes an active part in all the meetings addressed to NGOs relating to various kinds of operational programs.

- **Monitoring policy and programme implementation on measures to protect and promote diversity of cultural expression**

The main activity of the foundation is conducting research. Recent studies related to the Labour Market of Artists and Creators in Poland. The Foundation also took part in the **Study on the contribution of culture to local and regional economic development as part of European regional policy** and many other research projects. At the request of MKiDN, the Foundation also prepared periodic reports for 2008-2011 on the implementation of UNESCO's 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions.

- **Building capacities in domains linked to the Convention and carrying out data collection**
- **Creating innovative partnerships with the public and private sectors and with civil society in other regions of the world**

During its activity, the Pro Cultura Foundation has gained a worldwide reputation and has established extensive cooperation with the best experts in the world. It cooperates with international cultural networks CIRCLE, EFAH, ENCATC and foreign organisations, institutions and foundations: the European Institution for Comparative Cultural Research (ERICarts), based in Bonn (Germany), Kulturkontakt (Austria), Budapest Observatory (Hungary), Observatorio Interarts (Spain), Finnish Foundation for Cultural Research (Finland), Euclid (United Kingdom), Intelligence on Culture (United Kingdom), the Association of Cultural Economics (Italy), the Cultural Policy Institute (Russia). It participates in many international projects and prestigious conferences, and prepares reports and expert opinions. It is particularly proud of its participation in the international research project co-financed by the European Commission within the framework of "Preparatory actions for cooperation on cultural matters". The leader of the project "Metropolitan cities in Europe. Urban cultural life and cultural cooperation between cities for cultural diversity in Europe", was the CIRCLE international network - and the Pro Cultura Foundation was invited to it as a main partner. Its project was selected by the European Commission as one of the most valuable examples of

practices in the field of intercultural dialogue.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

Describe main results achieved in implementing the Convention

It has been almost ten years since Poland ratified the UNESCO Convention on the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions. This is far too little time to make even initial assessments of whether the Convention has achieved anything, and to say what lies ahead. In addition, such a summary should recognise the nature of the Convention, which in the first place legitimises the protection of domestic culture and reflects modern thought on the role of culture in sustainable socio-economic development. The Convention does not provide for any obligations or sanctions. Rather, it is designed to inspire measures to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions in individual countries. It is difficult to assess the extent to which such an objective is being achieved, especially because there are no specifically defined indicators for this purpose, and it is immensely difficult to measure culture. It seems, therefore, that the solution suggested in this report, involving an outline of cultural policies promoting diversity, is appropriate. Everyone can choose what seems to be of greatest importance from the perspective of a country. Once general information is complemented with detailed information on the protection and promotion of diversity, such as information on the cultural rights of national minorities and civil society development levels, a fairly large space opens up for the exploration of the matter at hand. It is important to stress, however, that this report is a recapitulation on the situation in Poland in terms of how it has cared for cultural diversity in the initial period following the ratification, rather than a discussion of measures undertaken directly as a result of the ratification.

Challenges encountered or foreseen to implement the Convention

First of all, it is of fundamental importance to engage civil society in the process of disseminating and implementing ideas put forward by the Convention. Polish society and NGOs have yet to raise their insufficient awareness of the existence and importance of the Convention. Measures to raise this awareness should be taken. Indeed, by reaching civil communities, we can gain immense opportunities for multiplying the expected outcomes, including the common awareness of the existence of the Convention and the implementation of its postulates.

Second, it is extremely important to continue modernising the system of organising and funding cultural activities in Poland. Also, efforts should be made to ensure that emerging legal solutions keep up with the ever-changing reality, as clearly exemplified by the debate on protecting intellectual property in times of the digitisation of culture. These changes should be ensured by the ever-powerful voice of civil society, as well as the increasingly modern

approach to culture, in which culture, along with all the cultural industries, is considered to be a single whole acting as a driver of creativity, and innovation while remaining very diverse.

Efforts to implement the Convention are particularly important – and even of symbolical significance – now, as Europe is amidst a heated debate on multiculturalism, facing rapidly growing immigration rates.

Solutions found or envisaged to overcome those challenges

The Ministry of Culture and National Heritage believes that it would be extremely beneficial to establish – as an addition to the existing international forum – local and national forums for sharing best practices in the area of cultural diversity. Indeed, it is important to highlight various dimensions of diversity and focus on establishing permanent mechanisms for its promotion and protection. This means that instead of individual projects, priority should be given to comprehensive programmes.

Steps planned for the next 4 years

BRAZIL 2016

A presentation of Polish culture in Brazil will mention not only its economic growth, but also the swift social and cultural transformations that the country is experiencing. Support will be provided for projects aiming to find the answers, devoted to workshop tasks and joint artistic activities. The project will focus on the visual arts, architecture, theatre and contemporary music as the fields that best reflect the current dynamics of change.