

QUADRENNIAL PERIODIC REPORT ARMENIA 2020

GENERAL INFORMATION

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Name of Party:

Armenia

Date of Ratification:

2007

Officially Designated Point of Contact of the Convention:

Country: Armenia

Website: <http://www.escs.am>

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Describe the multi-stakeholder consultation process established for the preparation of this report, including consultations with relevant ministries, public institutions, local governments and civil society organizations.:

The procedure for drafting and approving the national reports of the Republic of Armenia, in accordance with the international obligations of the Republic of Armenia, has been established upon Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1267-N of 12 September 2019.

Upon the decision of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia, an inter-agency working group has been established, including representatives of the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport; Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Finance and Office of the High Commissioner for Diaspora Affairs, as well as the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography and the Institute of Arts of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia.

To ensure participation of civil society, representatives of the Union of Writers, the Artists' Union, the Union of Composers and the Union of Cinematographers of the Republic of Armenia and independent experts have been included in the specified inter-agency working group.

The format presented in the first stage has been transmitted to the members of the inter-agency working group, and it was proposed to provide necessary information, according to priorities and policies being implemented.

The process of drafting the report included the stages of organising and monitoring of inquiries, study of policies, data collection, completion of analyses and formulation of conclusions.

The obtained information was summed up, it was agreed upon with the stakeholders once again, after which it was submitted to the Government of the Republic of Armenia for approval.

In this period, the inter-agency working group has convened a few sessions during which clarifications and consultation have been given in regard to preparation of the draft of the report.

Executive summary:

In the cultural policies targeted at implementation of the Convention, the Republic of Armenia has enshrined development and awareness-raising of Armenian contemporary arts and the contemporary arts of other nations, by applying the target measures for ensuring cultural diversity.

The State has been an equal partner for creators, disseminators and consumers of culture through juxtaposition of formal and informal cultural education; active and balanced international cooperation hinged on cultural dialogue; ensuring of availability, access to and mobility of cultural products and services in the sectors of cinema/audiovisual arts, theatre arts, music, visual arts, dance and publishing, as well as targeted support to creators and disseminators of cultural products.

The report describes examples of actions, measures and programmes, as well as digital and content-based analyses that contribute to ensuring of cultural diversity.

Cinema/Audiovisual arts: The main goals of implementation of the state policy are to enhance the system of state support for film production and grant competitions; develop the "low-budget film" industry in Armenia; establish cooperation with the film unions and associations of various countries through the joint production of films; establish a school of film producers and screenwriters; disseminate domestic films abroad and restore and digitise Armenian film heritage.

Theatre arts: The main goals of implementation of the state policy are to develop the sector of theatre arts and ensure a qualitatively high result; support and promote creative works; enhance the system for procurement of dramatic works; improve the system of state grants; develop tours and theatre arts festivals; support participation in international theatre arts festivals; study and juxtapose trends in international theatre arts; create conditions for healthy competition in the sector of theatre arts; support debut programmes; provide young creators with a "free stage"; develop, introduce and improve the system of management and administration; improve building conditions; upgrade technical means: light and sound equipment; encourage joint creative projects between capital cities and communities; monitor the sector of theatre

arts and analyse data related to the field.

Visual arts: The main goals of implementation of the state policy are to popularise contemporary works; promote the revealing of new ideas and values and stimulate the creative potential of young people.

Music: The main goals of implementation of the state policy are to create concert programmes upon creative order; obtain new works of contemporary composers; internationalise and raise awareness of national music; ensure favourable conditions for the competitiveness and creative activities of young creators and performers; encourage musicians by supporting their participation in international competitions and festivals; ensure preservation, development, dissemination and awareness-raising of music and implementation of new programmes, ideas and creative initiatives and strengthen international cultural cooperation.

Dance: The main goals of implementation of the state policy are to choreograph classical and contemporary ballets and ethnographic and folk dances in a new way; support the activities of operating dance groups; present Armenian dances to the international community; ensure competitiveness of Armenian dances and create prerequisites for the natural change of generation of dancers.

Cultural education: The main goals of implementation of the state policy are to regulate the legislation on art education; reveal the creative potential of gifted children and ensure full use of that potential; ensure normal operation of art education institutions; ensure access to education within the framework of extracurricular art education and aesthetic education and promote the activities of young creators through the implementation of debut programmes, etc.

Contact details of the stakeholders involved in the preparation of the quadrennial periodic report (QPR). Please also include the contact details of the civil society organizations (CSOs) if they have contributed to the QPR drafting, including through the CSO form.:

Public Sector

Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Armenia

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<http://www.escs.am>

GOAL 1 - SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE SYSTEMS OF GOVERNANCE FOR CULTURE



CULTURAL AND CREATIVE SECTORS

A Ministry (or agency with ministerial status) is responsible for cultural and creative sectors: YES

Regional, provincial or local governments or administrations have decentralised responsibilities for policies and measures promoting the cultural and creative sectors:: YES

Regulatory frameworks and sector specific laws, policies and/or strategies supporting the cultural and creative industries have been revised or adopted during the last 4 years: YES

If YES, has at least one of them been designed through interministerial cooperation (involving different government departments responsible for policy areas, such as communication, education, ICT, trade, foreign affairs, labor, finance): YES

Specific education and training programmes in the arts and the cultural and creative sectors are established, including:

Cinema/Audiovisual arts

Cultural management

Digital cultural and creative sectors

Media arts

Music

Performing arts

Publishing

Visual arts

Cinema/audiovisual arts

Cultural management

Digital cultural and creative sectors

Media arts

Music

Performing arts

Publishing

Visual arts

Specific measures and programmes have been implemented over the last 4 years to:

Support job creation in the cultural and creative sectors

Statistical offices or research bodies have produced data during the last 4 years:

related to cultural and creative sectors

Share of cultural and creative sectors in Gross Domestic Product (GDP):

0.30%

2019

Share of employment in the cultural and creative sectors:

1.00%

2019

Total public budget for culture (in USD):

35,247,000USD

2019

Please provide whenever possible the share allocated by cultural sectors/domains (in %):

Republic of Armenia for 2019 made up 1,0%, and the GDP — 0.3%:

Relevant Policies and Measures:

Support to contemporary arts (theater arts, cinema/audiovisual arts, music, dance, visual arts, cultural education)

Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:

Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Armenia

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

Each of the sectors of contemporary arts has a unique feature, direction and style in terms of genre and programme, particularly: Cinema/Audiovisual arts: support to individual filmmakers to write scripts and implement film projects; ensuring participation of Armenian films and individual creators in international film festivals and film markets. Theatre arts: implementation of performances through creative orders and obtainment of dramaturgical works; participation of theatre companies and individuals in international theatre arts festivals. Visual arts: organising of individual exhibitions; participation of young creators in international biennales and exhibitions and support to innovative programmes. In music — obtainment of musical works, new adaptations and musical arrangements; ensuring of participation of Armenian music and dance groups and individual performers in international music festivals. Music: implementation of concert programmes through creative orders and obtainment of large-scale and chamber works; participation of individual performers and creative music groups in international music projects. Dance: implementation of creative orders; increase of the knowledge of contemporary and ethno dances, dance creators and performers and increase of the quality of preferences; restoration of dance choreographies; organisation of international and republican festivals and public showings. Cultural education: ensuring of quality of art education and access to aesthetic education; preparation and training of specialists in the culture sector; improvement of the system; ensuring of continuing education of specialists; increase of the quality of cultural services and implementation of targeted programmes contributing to the formation of future citizens of the Republic of Armenia.

Does it specifically target young people?: YES

Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?: NO

What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:

Theatre arts: in the reporting period, 61 dramatic, opera, ballet, musical, comedic, marionette, puppet and pantomime performances have been staged for various layers of society, audiences and people of all ages within the framework of creative orders; 1 dramaturgical work has been obtained; participation of 14 Armenian theatre companies and 13 individuals has been ensured in 28 international projects. Music: obtainment of musical works, new adaptations and musical arrangements; ensuring of participation of Armenian music and dance groups and individual performers in international music festivals. In the same period, 73 works (19 in 2016, 30 in 2017, 24 in 2018) of over 50 Armenian authors have been obtained, new adaptations and musical arrangements of 71 works have been made, 10 albums have been released, the participation of 15 Armenian music groups and 51 individual performers in 56 international music festivals and projects has been ensured. Cinema/Audiovisual arts: in the reporting period, nearly 65 full-length films, 25 short-length films, 45 documentaries, 22 animated films have been produced, and support has been provided for the issuance of 4 student programmes, 8 debut programmes and 3 film magazines and for the development of 17 draft scripts and film projects of individual filmmakers; participation of Armenian films and individual creators has been ensured in a total of 43 international film festivals, film markets and forums. Visual arts: support has been provided to the organisation of 12 individual exhibitions, the participation of young creators in 16 international biennales, exhibitions and innovative programmes; 2 visual arts works have been obtained. Dance: in the reporting period, 19 new dances have been choreographed; support has been provided to the participation of 4 dance ensembles and 17 individual performers in 18 international festivals and competitions; 1 pan-Armenian and 1 international festival have been held. The following have been implemented in the cultural education sector: The educational programme for the national, string and brass instruments in music and art schools (2,361 schoolchildren of 144 community schools, including 1,779 national instruments, 258 string instruments and 324 brass instruments). “Acquisition of musical instruments for music and art schools” 319 musical instruments of 17 types within the scope of the programme. The “Educational-Methodical and Practical Assistance” programme, which was held with the participation of 29,545 schoolchildren and 5,449 pedagogues of music, art, fine arts and dance schools of the republic. “Teacher Training” programme, which was held with the participation of 2,075 pedagogues of the aforementioned schools. “Organising of master classes in Armenia by foreign specialists and support to participation of gifted musicians and performers in master classes and creative camps abroad” programme, which was held with the participation of 518 gifted schoolchildren and 313 pedagogues of music and art schools of the republic. “Target programme for development and improvement of talented teen musicians and performers in the Republic of Armenia” programme, within the scope of which individual lessons and master classes were given to 15 gifted teen musicians and performers (classical music instruments: piano, violin, cello). Out of the gifted teen musicians involved in the programme, 15 of them participated in over 150 different events, including competitions, festivals and concerts. Most of them received laurels at republican and international competitions. In the reporting period, through the “Development and publication of new curricula, textbooks and methodical manuals for music, art and fine arts schools” programmes, 50 educational-methodical manuals in 11,700 copies were published and distributed free of charge to educational institutions providing cultural education in the republic. “Philharmonic of Schoolchildren” programme, within the scope of which 108 lesson-concerts were organised and held with the participation of nearly 43,420 children and teens of the republic. The pilot programme for introducing the “Cultural organisation-school” subscription system which was carried out in two stages (May-June and September-October) in Yerevan, for nearly 1,625 schoolchildren (aged 10-14) studying at middle classes of 49 primary schools in 47 borderline villages of the Syunik, Tavush, Ararat, Vayots Dzor and Gegharkunik Marzes [Provinces] of the Republic of Armenia (three events, including one performance, a concert programme and a museum exhibition). Schoolchildren of general education schools of Yerevan, Syrian-Armenian children and children of orphanages from Yerevan and Gavar joined the participants of the programme on a regular basis and visited the National Gallery of Armenia, the Komitas Museum-Institute, the History Museum of Armenia, the Hovhannes Tumanyan Museum, the National Academic Theatre of Opera and Ballet named after Alexander Spendiaryan and attended the concert programme of Armenian State Honored Ensemble of Song and Dance named after Tatul Altounyan and State Ensemble of Armenian Folklore Music. Visits to Tsitsernakaberd [Armenian Genocide Memorial Complex], “Mayr Hayastan” [Mother Armenia] Memorial and Komitas Pantheon were also organised for the children. By selection of profession, support has been provided to 143 individual performers and 1 choir for participation in 42 international child and youth competitions, festivals and master classes. From 2018 to 2019, in the cultural education sector, several turning processes took place for schoolchildren of general education schools in all domains of art, and these processes were due to the implementation of the “Introduction of Subscription System”, “LessonA”, “Your Art in School” and “Class+Classical” target programmes.

Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: YES

If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:

Due to the work done over the past four years, tangible results have been recorded in terms of revitalisation of cultural life, proportionate development of the sectors of contemporary arts (cinema/audiovisual arts, theatre arts, visual arts, music, dance, cultural education), improvement of the activities of individual creators and creative groups, identification of the potential of young creators and promotion of activities and awareness-raising of Armenian contemporary arts in the republic, as well as expansion of international partnerships and internationalisation of Armenian contemporary arts. Alongside this progress, nevertheless, the imperfection of the legal-contractual field remains a major issue, and as a result, this does not clearly ensure the legal relations between the State and creators.

Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:

MFA, Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography, Institute of Arts, 60 state non-commercial organisations and NGOs

Type of entity:

Public Sector

Support to Diasporan artists

Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:

Office of the High Commissioner for Diaspora Affairs of the Republic of Armenia

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

The main feature of implementation of the policy is the preservation of the Armenian identity; identification of the potential of the Diaspora and use of that potential in the processes in Armenia; preparation of community figures; implementation of cultural programmes in Armenia and the Diaspora; training courses and presentation of the activities of Armenian artists under the influence of different cultural environments. The following events have been held in order to achieve the aforementioned goals: - "Diaspora" Summer School" Programme: "National Song and Dance Master Class" (2016, 2017), "Training Course for National Dance Instructors and Choirmasters" (2019); - "My Armenia" Pan-Armenian Festival: Organising of master classes for instructors of dance groups and choirmasters of the Diaspora (in cooperation with the Chair of Dance Education of the Armenian State Pedagogical University after Khachatur Abovyan and the Musical Society of Armenia (2016); - Business trip of dance instructor Hovhannes Dashtoyan to Sao Paulo: Training for members of "Kilikia" Dance Group of Hamazkayin Armenian Educational and Cultural Society (2017-2018); - Business trip of dance instructor Lusine Arakelyan to Australia: Training for members of the Armenian dance groups of Sydney and Melbourne (2018); - Organising the business trip of professor of Komitas State Conservatory of Yerevan Mushegh Harutyunyan and Merited Cultural Figure of the Republic of Armenia, founder and artistic director of "Karin" Traditional Song and Dance Ensemble Gagik Ginosyan to hold a training course for members of the song and dance groups in the city of Armavir of Russia.

Does it specifically target young people?: YES

Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?: NO

What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:

Tangible results have been recorded and particularly concern the professional training courses for cultural figures, heads and members of cultural groups of the Diaspora in Armenia and the Diaspora; awareness-raising of their activities in the homeland; support provided to educational and cultural institutions; revitalisation of cultural life in communities of the Diaspora and the operation of informational and cognitive websites presenting various sectors of Armenian culture.

Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: YES

If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:

Presenting themselves alongside the best artists and field representatives of the world on reputable international platforms gives the representatives of the Armenian Diaspora the opportunity to present the traditions of not only Armenian culture, but also the cultures of their respective countries of residence, bringing the best practices to not only Armenia, but also their respective places of residence.

Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport (also state non-commercial organisations operating under the subordination of the Ministry); Ministry of Defence; Ministry of Territorial Administration, etc.

Type of entity:

Public Sector

Policy to disseminate literature and make Armenian literature more recognisable and perceptible abroad

Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:

Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Armenia

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Publishing

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<http://escs.am/am>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

The policy of the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Armenia to disseminate literature and make Armenian literature more recognisable and perceptible abroad is aimed at ensuring proportionate development of all circuits of the literary field; preserving, developing, disseminating and raising awareness of literary-cultural heritage through literary products; civil society formation; creating conditions for reproduction and enhancement of the creative potential of society and creating favourable conditions for international cooperation in the sector of dissemination of literature. This policy is also implemented with the participation of Armenia in international book fairs. During the book fairs, the "Armenian Literature in Translations" grant programme is presented with special emphasis; the grant programme supports the publishing houses of foreign countries that wish to publish books by classic and contemporary Armenian authors in foreign languages in their respective countries. The aim of the programme is to make Armenian literature popular beyond Armenia. It not only contributes to the popularisation of Armenian writers, but also to increase in the level of recognisability of Armenia.

Does it specifically target young people?: YES

Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?: NO

What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:

For the reporting period, support has been provided for the publication of the following 22 books through the "Armenian Literature in Translations" grant programme: 1. Gurgen Khanjyan, "Eye of Yenok" (Macedonian) 2. Gurgen Khanjyan, "Eye of Yenok" (Albanian) 3. Grig, "Cat of Jesus" (Dutch) 4. Susanna Harutyunyan, "Ravens Before Noah" (English) 5. Karine Khodikyan, "The Door was Open" (English) 6. Hrachya Saribekyan, "The Sun of the Twins" (Macedonian) 7. Hovhannes Tumanyan, "Fairy Tales" (Dutch) 8. Raffi, "The Madman" (Albanian) 9. Group of Authors, "Anthology of Armenian Contemporary Literature" (Greek) 10. Franz Werfel, "Forty Days of Musa Dagh" (Latvian) 11. Vano Siradeghyan, "Short Stories" (German) 12. Nikol Pashinyan, "The Other Side of the Earth" (Macedonian) 13. Alexander Topchyan, "Ottoman Bank" (Latvian) 14. Ruben Marukhyan, "The Adventures of Chikareli" (Persian) 15. Hovhannes Tumanyan, "Fairy Tales" (Lithuanian) 16. Komitas, "Letters" (English) 17. Hrant Aleksanyan, "Armenian Elegies: Poetry" (Croatian) 18. Aram Pachyan, "Robinson" (English) 19. Hovhannes Tumanyan, "Fairy Tales" (German) 20. Group of Authors, "Anthology of Short Stories" (Swedish) 21. Vardan Grigoryan, "Eternal Return" (Ukrainian) 22. Sargis Harutyunyan, "World of Old Novels of Armenians" (Persian) Through this programme, support is provided to publishing houses of foreign countries for publishing the translations of Armenian literature.

Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: YES

If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:

Participation in international book fairs in Leipzig, London, Bologna, Tehran, Moscow and Frankfurt has been ensured. Armenia has participated in the aforementioned international book fairs with separate pavilions. In general, international book fairs serve as a best platform for presenting classic and contemporary literature and gather a large number of publishers, writers, translators, literary agents and readers. International book fairs serve as a major opportunity to present Armenian literature published in foreign languages, establish contacts with foreign publishing houses and literary agents and reach agreements over the publication of classic and contemporary Armenian literature in foreign languages abroad.

Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:

Organisers of international book fairs in Leipzig, London, Bologna, Tehran, Moscow and Frankfurt; publishers and other institutions of Armenia; "Antares" Publishing House; "Zangak" Publishing House; "ARI" Literary and Talent Agency, etc.

Type of entity:

Public Sector

MEDIA DIVERSITY

Public service media has a legal or statutory remit to promote a diversity of cultural expressions: YES

Policies and measures promote content diversity in programming by supporting:

Regional and/or local broadcasters

Linguistic diversity in media programming

Socio-cultural programming (e.g. children, youth, people with disabilities, etc.)

Domestic content regulations for audio-visual media exist (e.g. quotas for production or distribution requirements for national films, TV series or music on radio): YES

Regulatory authority(ies) monitoring media exist: YES

If YES, please provide the name and year of establishment of the regulatory authority(ies):

Commission on Television and Radio. Year of establishment: 2001

If YES, these regulatory authority(ies) monitor:

Public media

Community media

Private sector media

If YES, these regulatory authority(ies) are responsible for:

Issuing licenses to broadcasters, content providers, platforms

Receiving and addressing public complaints such as online harassment, fake news, hate speech, etc.

Monitoring cultural (including linguistic) obligations

Monitoring editorial independence of the media

Monitoring diversity in media ownership (diversity of ownership structures, transparency of ownership rules, limits on ownership concentration, etc.)

Relevant Policies and Measures:

Regulation of audio-visual media sector

Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:

National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia and interested state bodies

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Media Arts

Music

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

Draft Law of the Republic of Armenia "On audio-visual media" is in circulation in the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia, which aims at ensuring everyone's right to receive reliable information, the right for editorial independence and the right to freedom of expression of opinion, independence of the body regulating audio-visual media sector, independence of the body ensuring management of activities of public audio-visual media services and carrying out control, diversity of audio-visual programmes and protection and development of audio-visual information area.

Does it specifically target young people?: YES

Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?: NO

What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:

As a result of implementation of the policy in audio-visual media sector, it is expected to improve the quality of audio-visual products of public broadcasters, establish favourable and prospective legal framework, create equal competitive environment in the media sector, establish high-quality journalism, raise the level of media literacy, exclude hate speech, ensure effective media management, ensure transparency of the ownership rights in the media sector.

Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: YES

If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:

The Law of the Republic of Armenia "On television and radio" in force is no more relevant for regulating audio-visual media sector, as the provisions of the law are not in line with the existing characteristics of the outlook. Adoption of a new law regulating the sector will allow regulating all the types of audio-visual communications that are under the responsibility of editorial staff of the service provider, distributors and those making audio-visual products available to users.

Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:

Ministry of Justice, Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Armenia

Type of entity:

Public Sector

DIGITAL ENVIRONMENT

Policies, measures or mechanisms are in place to support the digital transformation of cultural and creative industries and institutions (e.g. funding for digitization of analogue industries): YES

Policies or measures have been introduced to ensure vibrant domestic digital cultural and creative industries markets with a diversity of e-players of all sizes (e.g. fair remuneration rules; control market concentration; prevention of monopolies of digital content providers/distributors or their algorithms that potentially restrict the diversity of cultural expressions, etc.): NO

Policies and measures have been implemented to enhance access to and discoverability of domestically produced cultural content in the digital environment (e.g. action plans or policies for digital content pluralism, public support to cultural or artistic portals in specific languages, national or regional online distribution platforms for domestic content, etc.): YES

Measures and initiatives have been implemented to promote digital creativity and competencies of artists and other cultural professionals working with new technologies (e.g. spaces for experimentation, incubators, etc.): YES

Statistics or studies with recent data on access to digital media, including on the type of cultural content available through digital media, are available: YES

Relevant Policies and Measures:

Implementation of digitisation activities and application of information technologies in the culture sector

Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:

Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Armenia

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<http://escs.am/am>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

Preservation and awareness-raising of moveable culture heritage of our country is one of the most important domains of the state cultural policy. Establishing electronic information database of cultural values (Armenian treasury) which has launched upon Decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia No 1058-N of 11 September 2014 "On approving the procedure for establishing electronic information database of cultural values and the list of organisations providing information to the database" is aimed at the solution of this issue. It is aimed at integrating in a unified format in a single domain moveable cultural heritage of the Republic of Armenia and making it accessible both for the general public and the scientists-researchers studying that wealth. Integrated digitised data on museum, archive and handwritten and printed cultural values of both state storages (museums, libraries, archive) and non-state collections (upon the consent of the owners) are included in the database. The database is aimed at further including Armenian moveable cultural values available in different structures of the world, numerous institutions of the Armenian communities. All this will provide an opportunity to widely raise awareness of the cultural heritage of our country both in Armenia and abroad. The database also contributes to carrying out the process of preserving the values more effectively, monitoring the movement thereof, preventing illegal export and trade of the values, preventing illegal transfer of the right of ownership thereto. 41 organisations under state and community subordination have currently joined the database. Data on around 156 586 cultural values are entered into the database and approved. Activities on uploading information to the database have launched in January 2016. The first stage of the process is envisaged to finish in 2020. "Electronic Union Catalogue of Armenian Libraries" Since 2001, the National Library of Armenia has been carrying out activities on establishing an Electronic Union Catalogue of largest Armenian Libraries. Activities on establishing a Union Catalogue of Libraries are being carried out through "Alef" software of "Ex Libris Group" Israeli company. The Unified Electronic Bibliographic Union Catalogue of Libraries is available at the following link: <http://armunicat.am:8991/F>. Starting from 2017, "Koha" software accepted by the international library community has launched. Armenian largest public, marz [regional] and academic libraries have joined the software. It also allows to provide electronic services to readers. The system allows to conduct multilingual card-indexing. The system also allows to create a number of guiding databases of "Reputable commentaries", "Geographical names", "Organisation names", "Subject headings", which facilitate searches and make their results more perfect. In 2018-2019, 20 live actions, 10 animations and 22 documentaries were produced. Digitisation and preservation of 18 films was ensured through the project "Cinema-photo-phono collections preservation service". In 2018, in close cooperation with Polish "Fixafilm" company, "Hamo Bek-Nazarov: Classics of Armenian films" programme was launched, within the framework of which Armenian film heritage was digitised and restored. In 2019, "Hakob Hovnatanyan" film revived by Sergei Parajanov and digitised was screened within the framework of the Rotterdam's "The Temple of Cinema" project. Armenian state philharmonic concert-courses with the application of new technologies were broadcast online which had 3000 followers from regions and the Diaspora. The National Academic Theatre of Opera and Ballet named after Alexander Spendiaryan performed 3-D projections of G. Verdi's "Requiem", Mozart's "The Magic Flute", Bizet's "Carmen", Puccini's "Tosca" operas. "Masquerade", "Spartacus" and "Gayane" ballets were live broadcast during the ballet festival dedicated to the 115th anniversary of Aram Khachaturian and had 15974, 19471 and 18083 views, respectively. 18 concerts of Armenian National Philharmonic Orchestra were also broadcast. With a view to being a part of the contemporary processes through introduction of newest technologies, in 2019, within the 150th birth anniversary of Komitas Vardapet, which was included in the UNESCO calendar of anniversaries of eminent personalities, "Andzrev Yekav" and "Shorora", as well as Giovanni Croce's "Ecce panis" works performed by "Hover" State Chamber Choir and Italian choir were broadcast online. In 2018-2019, Armenian State Symphony Orchestra made more than 26 live performances, which were broadcast by "Medici" leading classical music TV channel. The Armenian State Symphony Orchestra digitised 16 scores and 25 parts of works of Armenian composers (Avet Terterian, Haro Stepanian, Edvard Mirzoyan, Edgar Hovhannisyann, John Ter-Tadevosyan and others). In 2019, during the opening ceremony of the World Congress on Information Technologies taken place in Yerevan, more than 100 musicians having arrived from 15 countries performed live two works of artificial intelligence. The founder of the World Orchestra of the World Congress on Information Technologies is Sergey Smbatyan, the Principal Conductor and the Artistic Director of the Armenian State Symphony Orchestra. With a view to preserving Armenian and international music, as well as performing arts, 5 CDs were issued. "Electronic Library" programme was also carried out (libmindiaspora.am), through which Armenian literature, teaching and popular science materials in Armenian language, books published by the initiative, order and assistance of the Ministry of Diaspora of the Republic of Armenia were uploaded on the website. The continuity of activities of the electronic periodical "Hayern aysor" ["Armenians today"] (www.hayernaysor.am) was ensured through publishing materials

regarding the works directed at cultural events of Armenia and the Diaspora, activities of cultural figures, activities aimed at preservation of cultural values in Eastern Armenian, Western Armenian, Russian and English languages. The "Virtual Museum of the History of Armenian Diaspora" was created (www.armdiasporamuseum.com), within the framework of which materials and photos concerning the Armenian communities, pan-Armenian organisations and spiritual structures of the Diaspora, concerning Armenia, Armenian Genocide, dictionaries of Armenian names and surnames, Armenian cultural heritage and contributions of eminent Armenians in the world civilisation were posted. With a view to preserving and disseminating Armenian and world contemporary cultural heritage, digitisation of musical works, films, "Golden Fund" of the Public Radio was carried out: replenishment of different cultural funds /film, television, music, theatre/; awareness-raising of the Armenian culture through online platform; creation of contemporary cultural products through introduction of newest technologies. In particular, A. Khzmalyan's collection "Under the question mark" and souvenir collection of Armenian films "The cinema of our independence" were printed, activities on digitising and preserving 31 films are being carried out within the framework of the project "Cinema-photo-phono collections preservation service", radio performance of V. Papazian's "The Rock" and the recordings of Tatevik Sazandaryan's 18 performances kept in "Golden Fund" of the Public Radio were restored and digitised. With a view to ensuring appropriate level of TV airtime, with the support of the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Armenia, TV programme series of "Cultural Armenia" TV programme (64 programmes) and programmes within the framework of TV programme "On the Roads of Armenia" covering Armenian historical and cultural monuments, cultural centres and cultural events, national traditions, rituals and celebrations (56 programmes), "Arvestakirner" [Carriers of Art] (12 programmes), "Antsanot Yerevan" [Unknown Yerevan] (8 programmes), "Hayic hay" [From Armenian to Armenian] 18 (programmes) and "Octava" (8 programmes) marz [regional] and cultural programme were prepared and broadcast by Public Television. With a view to identifying and promoting creative potential in the republic, information databases of educational items for talented teens with and without disabilities, child and youth choirs of Armenia were replenished, as well as in 2019 information databases of educational items necessary for the operating fine arts schools and the Department of "Visual Arts" of art schools of the Republic of Armenia were established.

Does it specifically target young people?: YES

Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?: NO

What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:

Preservation and dissemination of Armenian and world contemporary cultural heritage, replenishment and preservation of cultural funds, awareness-raising of the Armenian culture, creation of contemporary cultural products through introduction of newest technologies.

Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: YES

If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:

As a result of the performed work, Armenian and international audience was expanded, the process of awareness-raising of the Armenian culture was promoted, audiences of different preferences and age groups of the society were involved due to the application of newest technologies, cultural funds were preserved and replenished.

Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia and Ministry of High-Tech Industry of the Republic of Armenia, the Council of Public Television and Radio Company, etc.

Type of entity:

Public Sector

PARTNERING WITH CIVIL SOCIETY

Professional organizations and/or trade unions representing artists and/or cultural professionals in the following sectors exist in your country (i.e. federation of musicians, publishers unions, etc.):

Cinema/Audiovisual arts
Media Arts
Music
Publishing
Visual Arts
Performing Arts

Public funding schemes supporting CSOs involvement in promoting the diversity of cultural expressions exist: YES

Training and mentoring opportunities were organized or supported by public authorities during the last 4 years to build skills on communication, advocacy and/or fundraising of civil society organizations involved in the promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions: NO

Dialogue mechanisms between public authorities and CSOs for cultural policy making and/or monitoring have been implemented during the last 4 years (meetings, working groups, etc.): YES

If YES, please provide up to 2 examples:

As a result of discussions held with the civil society, draft laws of the Republic of Armenia "On cinematography" and "On performing arts" have been developed and submitted for public discussion, "2020-2023 Cultural Policy Strategy" document has been submitted to the Government of the Republic of Armenia for approval.

Policies and measures promoting the diversity of cultural expressions have been elaborated in consultation with CSOs during the last 4 years: YES

Relevant Policies and Measures:

Joint development and discussion of draft laws of the Republic of Armenia "On cinematography" and "On performing arts", as well as joint discussion of issues and challenges in the sector of contemporary arts, etc.

Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:

Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Armenia

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts
Media Arts
Music
Performing Arts
Publishing
Visual Arts

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<http://escs.am/am>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

Establishment and improvement of contractual legal framework in certain sectors of contemporary arts, establishment of mechanisms for regulation of legal relations between the State and creative community.

Does it specifically target young people?: YES

Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?: NO

What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:

Draft laws of the Republic of Armenia "On cinematography" and "On performing arts" have been developed and submitted for public discussion, "2020-2023 Cultural Policy Strategy" document has been submitted to the Government of the Republic of Armenia for approval.

Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:

The measures did not require funding.

Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: YES

If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:

As a result of adoption of the above-stated documents, increase in the quality of cultural products, establishment of favourable and prospective legal framework, creation of equal competitive environment, performance of effective management, ensurance of media transparency.

Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:

Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Armenia, non-governmental organisations carrying out cultural activities, foundations, creative unions.

Type of entity:

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

GOAL 2 - ACHIEVE A BALANCED FLOW OF CULTURAL GOODS AND SERVICES AND INCREASE THE MOBILITY OF ARTISTS AND CULTURAL PROFESSIONALS



MOBILITY OF ARTISTS AND CULTURAL PROFESSIONALS

Please indicate if the following policies and measures exist in your country:

Policies and measures supporting the outward mobility of artists and cultural professionals (e.g. export offices, support for participation in international cultural markets for cultural professionals, etc.)

Work permit regulations supporting the inward mobility of foreign artists and cultural professionals in your country (e.g. double taxation avoidance agreements, special work permits and health insurance, subsidies to cover living expenses, etc.)

Please indicate if the following operational programmes have been developed or supported/funded by public authorities during the last 4 years:

Information resources or training services providing practical guidance to facilitate the mobility of cultural professionals (e.g. Internet platforms)

Infrastructure (e.g. arts residencies, cultural institutes, etc.) having a mandate to promote the diversity of cultural expressions and hosting a large number of foreign artists, notably from developing countries

Major cultural events (e.g. cultural seasons, festivals, cultural industries markets, etc.) having a mandate to promote the diversity of cultural expressions and hosting a large number of foreign artists, notably from developing countries

Please indicate if the following mobility funds (e.g. scholarships, travel grants, etc.) have been managed or supported by public authorities during the last 4 years:

Public funds supporting the outward mobility of national or resident artists and other cultural professionals

Public funds supporting the inward mobility of foreign artists and other cultural professionals, notably from developing countries

Public funds specifically supporting the mobility of artists and other cultural professionals from or between developing countries, including through North-South-South and South-South cooperation

Relevant Policies and Measures:

Development and awareness-raising of the Armenian culture

Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:

Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Armenia

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<http://escs.am/am>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

With a view to strengthening foreign cultural policy and raising awareness of national and contemporary Armenian creative sectors, competitive conditions were created for ensuring participation of the whole culture sector in international events. Equal conditions and transparent procedures were ensured for establishing competitive framework between the cultural organisations and individual creators. With a view to increasing the recognisability of the country and the culture, as well as ensuring additional quality and the necessary high profile to the events, targeted programmes (international and republican festivals and competition programmes, exhibitions, film screenings, other educational and cultural programmes) are being implemented in the Republic of Armenia every year with the participation of famous foreign artists, creative groups and sector specialists. With a view to raising awareness of the Armenian culture, support was provided to Armenian creative groups and individual performers for participation in international projects, in particular: - Cinema/Audiovisual arts: participation of Armenian films and individual creators in a total of 43 international film festivals, film markets and forums; - Theatre arts: participation of 14 Armenian theatre companies and 13 individuals in 28 international projects; - Visual arts: participation of young creators in 16 international biennales, exhibitions and innovative programmes; - Music: participation of 15 Armenian musical groups and 51 individual performers in 56 international music festivals and projects; - Dance: participation of 4 dance ensembles and 17 individual performers in 18 international festivals and competitions; - Cultural education: participation of 143 individual performers and 1 choir in 42 international child and youth competitions, festivals and master classes. With a view to promoting the diversity of cultural expressions, during the reporting period, 171 diverse and multi-genre projects (competition-festivals) were implemented in the republic in the sectors of theatre arts, cinema/audiovisual arts, music, dance, visual arts, as well as cultural education, 108 of which only were international projects and 63 — republican projects. FILM PROGRAMMES: Film weeks organised in Armenia, co-production of films, conclusion of international agreements, membership to international institutions, international festivals held in Armenia, etc. In the Republic a series of Republican and international festivals take place which ensure the communication of the citizens with multinational, multigenre, diverse cinema. "Golden Apricot" Yerevan International Film Festival continues to take place under the theme "Crossroads of Civilisations and Cultures" and is the major regional international film festival receiving state support. In the reporting period, more than 490 films have been shown within the scope of the festival, 1520 accredited participants, 435 guests and 144000 viewers have been included. During the festival directors and films representing different ethnic groups, nations, religions and aesthetics are seen, telling the daily life, troubles and joys, domestic life and habits of ordinary people from unique perspective.

During this period of time the renowned guests were Jia Zhangke, Kim Ki-Duk, Amos Gitai, Artavazd Peleshian, Michael Glawogger, Fridrik Thor Fridriksson, Bruno Dumont, Catherine Breillat, Leos Carax, Carlos Reygadas, etc. The members included in the honorary board of the festival are: Atom Egoyan (Canada), Jos Stelling (Netherlands), Krzysztof Zanussi (Poland), Godfrey Reggio (USA), Fanny Ardant (France), Asghar Farhadi (Iran), Alexander Sokurov (Russia), Lee Chang Dong (Korea). In the reporting period, during the film festival the following have been carried out: retrospective shows, opening of the stars of classics of Armenian cinema, international programmes, regional programmes, Yerevan premiers, workshops, master classes, Talent labs. In the reporting period, the initiatives promoting international cooperation progress and development of the film industry are the following: presenting to the Armenian audience a greater number of the best films by film directors of the Asian, regional countries, as well as by film directors of Armenian origin, inclusion of filmmakers enjoying greater international reputation in the competition juries, launch and development of GAIFF Pro industry platform, launch and development of the project of C2C co-production film market, launch and development of CineThink project, establishment of regional film market – Armenia, Georgia, Turkey, expanding the cooperation with Rotterdam IFF, EAVE, IDFA, Bozar (Belgium), Israel Film Fund, Estonian Film Institute, Polish Film Institute, Tribeca Film Institute, promoting co-production, expansion and development of In Focus programme, inclusion of new countries. Within the wider scope of the festival, animation films (“ReAnimania” International Animation Films Festival — 400 animation films from 100 countries), spiritual films (“Fresco” International Festival of Modern Art and Spiritual Films), ethnographic films (“Apricot Tree” International Documentary Film Festival) are also presented, creating diversity in the cinema. From the point of view of gender expression, importance is attached to the numbers of “KIN” (51 films from 16 countries) and “Sose” (more than 172 films from 39 countries have participated therein) International Film Festivals. Events assisting to young and junior creatives include Yerevan Short Film Festival, “One Shot” International Short Film Festival for youth and “Rolan” International Film Festival for Children and Youth (186 films from 63 countries). Films of domestic production and creative staff have participated in a number of international film festivals and film markets with the support of the Ministry (the Cannes, Moscow, Prague, Annecy, Talin, Lisbon, Guangzhou, Zielona Gora, Targu Marus, Brussels, Netherlands, Berlin, Bucharest, Kolkata, Tricase). Since 2018, the works of restoration of the Armenian film heritage have started jointly with FIXAFILM Company in Poland. The samples of the film heritage were shown in Rotterdam International Film Festival, Netherlands, 2019, at Pera Museum, Istanbul, 2019, at the National Gallery, London, 2019, at Close-Up Film Centre, London, 2019, at Moscow International Film Festival named after Andrey Tarkovskiy, 2019, at the Lincoln Cultural Centre in New York, within the framework of New York City International Film Festival, 2019, “Curtas Vila do Conde” Portuguese International Film Festival, 2019, and at the scientific conference of the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies, San Francisco, USA, 2019. Screenings are foreseen at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, 2020, at the Hong Kong International Film Festival, 2020, at “Cinemathek” Movie Theater of Copenhagen, 2020. THEATRE PROGRAMMES: Within the framework of International Theatre Festivals held in 2016-2019, the global contemporary theatre arts have been presented – “High Fest”, “ArmMono” Mono Performances, Leonid Yengibaryan Mime and Shakespeare International festivals. Importance has been specially attached to the programmes implemented for children and youth groups and young beneficiaries, such as “Tumanyan Fairy Tale Day”, “Pomegranate Seed” Children and Youth Theatre Festivals. Famous artists from Russia, France, Germany, Israel, Lithuania, Egypt, the USA, the Great Britain, Switzerland, as well as from Iran have participated in “ArmMono” One Man Show International Festival. Popular Russian actors Regimantas Adomaitis, Aleksander Kalyagin, Genadi Khazanov, Yuri Kraskov, actor of Y. Vakhtangov Theatre, German Philipp Hochmair, etc. have honoured the festival with their presence. Directors of international festivals of well-known mono performances: Nina Mazur, theatre critic, Co-Chair of the International Monodrama Forum of UNESCO, Vetslav Geras (Poland), Director of Wrocław Festival, Jolanta Sutowich (Germany), Maria Tanana (Lithuania) and other were among the honourable guests. Popular and young Armenian artists also participated in the festival. In recent years Armenian participants received invitations to participate in this or that prestigious mono festivals and returned with awards, Grand Prix. Since 2009, the festival is held not only in the capital city, but also in the marzes of Armenia – Syunik, Lori, Tavush, Kotayk. The festival presented nearly 30 performances; it had 60 participants and around 2000 attendees. Leonid Yengibaryan International Mime Festival is held in the open air; all the performances are given both in the parks of Tsakhkadzor and on open stages placed in the central square. During the festival, a separate programme also engages the audience through master classes and lectures. Within the framework of the festival, 43 performances were given, 34 theatre companies of 6-7 countries each year, and it had more than 10000 attendees. In addition to Armenian theatre companies, the students and graduates of Yerevan State Institute of Theatre and Cinematography give performances during the festival, as well as pupils of the School for hard of hearing children also engage therein. The 1st World Mime Conference on “The physical impression of gestures as a prerequisite for aesthetic emotions” was held in 2016. Each year the “High Fest” International Theatre Festival has different titles, in particular: In 2016, it was “Realise your dream with “High Fest”” (250 participants from 20 countries). Remarkable performances of the festival included “Seven Moons” of the Ilkhom Theatre (Uzbekistan), “Auction of Souls” of Maxim Gorky Theatre directed by famous Canadian-Armenian actress Arsinee Khanjian (Germany), “The Karamazov Brothers” of Nebolshoy Drama Theatre (Saint Petersburg). Within the framework of events dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Armenia, the international conference on “Contemporary theatre” was held jointly with Yerevan State Institute of Theatre and Cinematography. In 2017, it was “We are 15 years old young” (200 participants and guests from 20 countries). Within the framework of the IETM (International Network for Contemporary Performing Arts) “Caravan” programme took place, the aim of which was to disclose the current theatrical situation in the Caucasus. In 2018, it was “High Fest is your PASS to the world of theatre” (more than 250 participants and guests from 22 countries). The remarkable performances of the festival included “Mamaza” dance performance by “Fabrice Mazliah” of Germany, “Broadway Hits” of the Theatre of Musical Comedy of Saint Petersburg. Within the framework of “High Fest”, the European Festivals Association (EFA) has implemented the programme entitled “Europe for festivals and festivals for Europe”. This programme was aimed at integrating the performing arts of the region into the European festival environment. The programme “Eastern Dance Partnership” took place, which pursued an aim to present the contemporary dance and dance arts, created by the best Polish artists, teachers and professionals. In 2019, it was “Meaning is now” (more than 310 participants and guests from 29 countries). In 2019, the EFA (European Festivals Association) chose “High Fest” International Performing Arts Festival from among 715 European festivals and included in the list of 24 best festival laureates. The EFFE award ceremony was held at BOZAR Centre for Fine Arts in Brussels. MUSIC PROGRAMMES: In the past four years in the field of music a concert programme was implemented in collaboration with foreign and Armenian ensembles, musicians, conductors, which included diversity of genres and traditions — classics, folk, ethnographic, jazz, avant-garde, etc. In music, the diversity in genre and participation is ensured also by “Yerevan Perspectives”, “Aram Khachaturian” International Festival of Classical Music, “Yerevan, as well as Viola and Cello festival named after Henrik and Geronti Talalyan, Armenian and Foreign Contemporary Composition Art (Armenian Contemporary Music, Armenian Composition Art) Festivals”. In 2016-2019, “Yerevan Perspectives” International Music Festival has presented a range of events and initiatives which left indelible mark on our cultural life. High-ranked musicians of the world visited Armenia, they had joint performances with their Armenian counterparts, meetings of minds in a special format were organised, concerts — in marzes, master classes — on different platforms. Renowned soprano Renee Fleming, “Hortus Musicus” Medieval Ensemble, Pianist Evgeny Kissin, violist Yuri Bashmet and “Moscow Soloists” Chamber Orchestra, legendary pianist Ivo Pogorelich and Sir Andras Schiff, Vienna Boys Choir, famous Armenian soprano residing in France Lianna Harutyunyan, legendary British vocal group “The Swingle Singers” having won 5 Grammy Awards, Grammy Award-winning Parker Quartet, Amandinda Percussion Group, Japanese pianist Nobuyuki Tsuji blind from birth, cellist Gautier Capuçon, the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra conducted by world-famous conductor Neeme Järvi, Polish accordionist Maciej Tworek, Grammy Award-winning, famous American-Armenian violist Kim Kashkashian and exclusive percussionist Robyn Schulkowsky, two-time Grammy Award-winning violinist and conductor Pinchas Zukerman performed during the festival. Master classes and meetings of minds took place at Byurakan Art Academy, Music College named after Romanos Melikyan, Gyumri branch of Komitas State Conservatory of Yerevan, Music School No 1 in Vanadzor. The International Festival named after Aram Khachaturian has its unique place in the cultural life of the Republic, which, by its nature, is the only one in the region and it also expands beyond the limits of the country: Russia, Italy, Belgium, France — the non-exhaustive list of the countries where the festival

concerts were presented. Each year, in the autumn in Yerevan, the brightest stars of the world of the classical music — Krzysztof Penderecki, Alexander Romanovsky, Karen Shahgaldian, Narek Hakhnazaryan, Mayu Kishima, Maria Domashenko, Nin Fen, Zakhar Bron, Maxim Vengerov and others come together to jointly create a platform for establishment and strengthening of international and cultural ties, which is the basis for fruitful dialogue of not only different nations, but also the entire civilized world. The Khachaturian festival had 93 concerts taken place, including 31 Armenian and 5 world premieres. The Festival is truly a classical music holiday; simultaneously its doors are open to jazz and other genres of world music. It offers the audience a wide range of music impressions, starting from symphony concerts to chamber evenings. Each autumn the Khachaturian festival hosts more than 18.000 concert-goers. In 2019, “Contemporary Classics” Composers’ Festival was held for the first time. This one-of-a-kind music event presented to the audience a whole constellation of world-famous composers in one place. Within the framework of the festival, legendary composers of our age from across the world, such as China, Georgia, Poland, Malta, Russia, Latvia, the United Kingdom and, of course, Armenia, visited Armenia. “Contemporary Classics” Composers’ Festival gave the music-loving audience an exclusive opportunity to enjoy the works of acclaimed composers of our age by the live performance of the Armenian State Symphony Orchestra and world-famous virtuosos. Due to this unique project, Tigran Mansuryan, Qigang Chen, Giya Kancheli, Krzysztof Penderecki, Alexey Shor, Georgs Pelecis, Alexander Chaykovsky and Karl Jenkins presented their compositions on one stage in Armenia. The beautiful compositions of composers were performed by world-famous musicians, such as Maurio Brunello, Gidon Kremer, Boris Berezovsky, Darya Chaykovskayan, Yuri Bashmet and others. One of the forms of musical diversity is the jazz music. In November 2011, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) declared 30 April as the International Jazz Day. Starting from 2012, that event has been organised each year and it has been celebrated grandly in Yerevan and in the other marzes of Armenia. Armenia is officially considered as a member country of the international network. Each year the International Jazz Day is celebrated in Yerevan, within the framework of which world-famous artists and famous Armenian groups and individual performers (four-time Grammy Award-winning Gonzalo Rubalcaba, Tavitjan Brothers Trio, Goran Gesovski, Richard Bona, Chico Freeman and others) performed. The mission of development, popularising of jazz music is carried out by “Yerevan Jazz Fest” Annual Jazz Festival. Within the framework of the festival Grammy-winning artists visited Armenia, such as Dee Dee Bridgewater, Marcus Miller, Gonzalo Rubalcaba, Artur Sandoval, Stanley Clarke, etc; around 27 concerts, more than 25 000 concert-goers, more than 90 popular musicians from more than 15 countries, representatives in 3 countries of the world. The festival is held both in Yerevan (4 concert days), and in other countries of Armenia for one day. The festival includes movie screenings, master classes, exchange of experience, concert performances, official meetings, visits to historical and cultural centers. The primary aim of the festival is to develop the cultural tourism, restore the reputation of Yerevan as the capital of jazz, cooperate with tour agencies and institutions, thus ensuring the tourist inflow during the festival. When drawing up the programme emphasis is placed on the joint performances of invited artists and Armenian jazzmen, thus presenting to the audience unique and special performances. In this musical mosaic a special place is given to the programmes for young audience, in particular “7” concert programme dedicated to the International Children’s Day. This interactive concert event was accompanied by classical music (Symphony No 40 by Mozart, Sabre Dance by Khachaturian, Spring by Vivaldi, etc.), educational and informative stories. Within the framework of the project, interesting stories associated with number 7 were presented, i.e. 7 notes, 7 colours of the rainbow, 7 days of the week, 7 wonders. PROGRAMMES IMPLEMENTED IN THE FIELD OF VISUAL ARTS: The programmes for popularising and developing Armenian contemporary visual arts are aimed at creating new exhibitions, presenting the Armenian contemporary art on international prestigious platforms, organising designated events in Armenia, organising exhibitions dedicated to individual and jubilee, as well as memorable dates of renowned artists. In particular: The competition for the slogan and symbol of the 100th anniversary of the Republic of Armenia and May heroic fights, “Sunny Dragon” International Graphic Humour Festival headed “Welcome to Armenia” in the city of Goris (caricatures from 46 countries were exhibited), “Armenian Palette” Armenian Chinese Plenary exhibition in the Tumanyan region of Lori Marz, mobile photo exhibition headed “Ararat through the eyes of an Armenian” at Tekeyan Centre, which was exhibited also in Gyumri, “Land of Vitality” Exhibition, within the framework of which the works of more than 40 painters and sculptors were presented. More than 20 individual exhibitions of a number of artists were held, including “Abrahamians” exhibition, “Bronze Age of Benik Petrosyan” Retrospective Exhibition dedicated to the 20th death anniversary of sculptor Benik Petrosyan, individual exhibitions dedicated to the 90th anniversary of artist and sculptor Vanik Khachatryan (Van Khachatur), to the 80th anniversary and 90th anniversary of Hrant Tadevosyan and Stepan Andranikyan, People’s Artists of the Republic of Armenia, to the 85th anniversary of painter Karen Smbatyan, “Memory Loft” Exhibition of own analog photos by sculptor Ashot Harutyunyan, “Environmental Protection through the language of Visual Arts” Exhibition, Gold Medal-winning “The Fly” and “Evolution” multimedia exhibition of artworks by Arman Nur, the exhibition of “SUNMAN” art project by artist Ashot Tatevosyan and “Illusion and Reality” Exhibition by France-based Armenian artists Gevorg and Vardan Tarloyans, and «The Wheel of Time» feature photography exhibition by photographer Vram Hakobyan in Bonn (the Federal Republic of Germany). The catalogue of works presented in the above-mentioned exhibition was published. In 2018, a section entitled “Current Armenian Palette” opened on the official website of the the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports, under which portrait essays on visual arts masters of our age (artists, sculptors, designers) were published regularly. The aim is to popularise the works of artists ensuring today’s artistic development, so that the art-loving public and particularly our young generation could see them. PROGRAMMES FOR CULTURAL EDUCATION: In 2018-2019, in the field of cultural education many crucial processes took place for pupils of schools of general education in all domains of the art and they were conditioned by the implementation of designated programmes “Introduction of Subscription Programme”, “DasA”, “Your Art at School”, “Class+Classics”. “DasA” is aimed at familiarising pupils with classical music through specially prepared interactive materials. The programme is intended for pupils of high schools of Yerevan. According to the format of the Programme, meeting-classes were held at schools and “Aram Khachaturian” Concert Hall, which were conducted by Sergey Smbatyan, Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of the Armenian State Symphony Orchestra, orchestral musicians, as well as invited soloists performing with the orchestra. Within the framework of the programme, around 13300 pupils of 35 schools participated in 18 concerts, and around 2000 returned to the concert hall. The monitoring of the return was implemented by “DasA” application specially created for the programme. Then, a gala-concert was organised solely for the participants of the programme. The Programme “Your Art at School” is aimed at developing critical, analytical and creative thinking, increasing interest in classical music and visual arts, appreciating contemporary artists, popularising their activities, establishing direct contact and communication between artists and pupils. Within the framework of the programme, 43 artists and theorists, by drawing lots, had the opportunity to bring to life their projects at around 1290 schools of general education in Yerevan and marzes of the Republic of Armenia (each participant in 30 schools). The Programmes covers three main dimensions — classical music, visual arts and literature. The programme “Subscription System” enables around 380.000 pupils and teachers, regardless of social status, place of residence and access to cultural institutions, to participate in the cultural event, by ensuring for schoolchildren the minimum opportunity to exercise the right to cultural education, simultaneously providing the cultural institutions with the opportunity to have more visitors and compete with other cultural centres on equal footing to have more visitors. In 2019, under the subscription programme 116037 pupils and 7121 teachers visited museums, 2546 pupils and teachers visited concert halls, and 2546 pupils and 154 teachers visited theatre and concert centres. The programme “Class+Classics” solely refers to the theatre arts, and 250 pupils submitted an application for participation in it. The participants were given time to write an essay on the topic dedicated to the Armenian theatre arts. As a result of summerisation of the results of the essay 60 pupils were selected, of which 55 received a certificate for participation in the programme. They had the opportunity to participate for free in the seminar-lectures on the topics “The history of theatre”, “The art of acting”, “Stage direction”, “Engagement of other types of the art in the theatre”, “Organisation of theatrical business”, which were conducted by the best specialists of the field: Henrik Hovhannisyan, theatrologist, corresponding member of the National Academy of Science of the Republic of Armenia, Merited Artists of the Republic of Armenia Ruben Babayan, Nelli Kheranyan, Davit Hakobyan, People’s Artist of the Republic of Armenia Armen Elbakyan and other famous theatrologists and other cultural figures. The five-day lectures were also accompanied by seeing performances. The above-mentioned programmes were included in the long-range programmes of the Ministry as effective projects. OPERATIVE STRATEGY OF UNESCO ABOUT YOUTH Programmes for

promoting young creatives and creative groups are annually extended, by establishing a relevant platform for their self-manifestation, improving professional skills, providing favourable conditions for development of their creativity, which is conditioned by competitions held in different fields of art, festivals, shows, awards, organising and participation in master classes in reputable Armenian and foreign studios, tours, performances and designated programmes. International and Republican competition-festivals held in the field of music each year — 26 (international — 6, Republican — 20) in 2016-2019, provide opportunity to creatives and groups to appear before the public and professional commissions on equal footing. The participation in such projects provides young people with opportunity to enter into professional creative field. In the past four years “Debut” Young Armenian Composers Festival, “Renaissance” International Competition-Festival for Musicians in Gyumri, Armenian Song Competition-Festival by “Zvartnots Renaissance” Foundation, Republican Competition of Performing Arts of Chamber Ensembles, Republican Competition for Young Accompanists named after Hegine Ter-Ghevondyan, Republican Competition for Soloists (classical singing). The best young musicians having participated in the competitions held in the Republic joined the creative staff of not only national, but also foreign leading opera houses and orchestras. In the past four years, the Aram Khachaturian International Competition established since 2003 is held, as is the tradition of the competition, in Yerevan on 6-14 July each year. The competition is aimed at identifying talented young musicians in four professions (piano, violin, cello, conductorship). By the unanimous decision of the World Federation of International Music Competitions, in 2017 another profession — vocal, is added to the Khachaturian International Competition. The Board of Trustees of the Competition is comprised of world-famous figures, such as Prof. Jonathan Freeman-Antwood, Konstantin Orbelyan, Prof. Reinhart von Gutzeit, Pavel Kogan, Elżbieta Penderecka, John Fisher, Rezo Kiknadze, Mark Zilberquit and others. The geography of participants is quite broad: the competition hosts young musicians from the CIS countries, the USA, Mexico, France, Spain, Italy, Belgium, the Great Britain, China and many other countries. In the reporting period, 93 musicians (piano — 25, cello — 16, vocal — 38, conductorship — 14) participated in the competition. Over the years, the leading specialists of the field — Grigori Zhislin (Great Britain), Jean Ter-Merkerian (France), Zakhar Bron (Germany), Vladimir Landsman (Canada), Jasper Parrott (Great Britain), Chun Pan (China), Boris Kushnir (Austria), Sergey Kravchenko (Russia), Alexander Sokolov (Russia), Svetlanna Navasardyan (Armenia), Isabel Bayrakdarian (Canada), Meehae Ryo (Korea) and others, have joined the composition of the jury. Such names already ensure the impartiality of the competition and serve as a guarantee of high reputation and good name. Due to international reputation growing every year, the competition has been included in the composition of the World Federation of International Music Competitions (WFIMC), constituting a part of big and prestigious family, to which world-famous competitions have joined, such as the International Chaykovski Competition, the Queen Elizabeth Competition (Brussels) and Montreal International Competition. In 2016, a concert titled “Generation of Independence”, dedicated to the 25th anniversary of independence of the Republic of Armenia was held. This programme was unprecedented by its volume and coverage: 700 minor and teen musicians at the age of 7-20 gathered, creating the orchestra and chorus named “Generation of Independence”. Teens and young people having arrived from different places had the opportunity to be part of this large-scale programme, appear before the world and present the Armenian cultural potential. All the members of the created orchestra and chorus were born in the period of independence. They were born, received education in the years of independence and presented the achievements of independence. This project was also an attempt to find the composers in different, even in the furthest corners of Armenia and Artsakh and give them opportunity for self-manifestation. In 2016, the Young Artists Opera Programme was created at A. Spendaryan National Opera and Ballet Academic Theatre. To date, more than 25 gifted young people have been directly involved in the programme and they have won both on Armenian and international prestigious stages (prize of the President of the Republic of Armenia, International Hans Gabor Belvedere Competition, “Big Opera” International Competition-TV show, Delphic Games of the CIS countries, Minsk International Christmas, Pyongyang International Competition, Aram Khachaturian International Competition for Vocalists, Vyatskoye International Competition, Klaudia Taev Competition, Tenor Viñas International Competition, Gohar Gasparyan Pan-Armenian Solo Singing Competition, etc.) The soloists of the Programme have participated in master classes in Germany, Russia, Estonia, Italy, Romania and other countries. The aim of the programme is the identification of talented young opera artists, creation of a new generation of competitive singers in compliance with international standards, ensuring of smooth succession of generations at A. Spendaryan National Opera and Ballet Academic Theatre, as well as comprehensive development and improvement of soloists in the art of vocal. From September to December 2019, an educational and cultural programme was implemented with the support of the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Republic of Armenia, which was considered to be concerts and master classes for students of music, general education and cultural centres of the Republic of Armenia and the Republic of Artsakh. Within the framework of the programme, 7 concerts and master classes in total were held in Ararat, Shirak, Tavush Marzes of the Republic of Armenia, and in Yerevan. As a result of master classes, 15 soloists from the Republic of Armenia and Artsakh received non-formal education, by relating to the performing skills of the classical opera. In the field of cinema — “Yerevan Short Films”, “ONE SHOT” International Short Film Festivals for filmmakers, Debut Film Project Production, debut film project workshops and competitions at Gaiff.Pro Regional Film Market, in which more than 76 film projects participated. In the field of visual arts, the thematic exhibition-competition of young creatives dedicated to the feast of St. Sarkis, Patron of Love and Youth, in which more than 30 young painters and sculptors participated. The programmes aimed at identification and promotion of the potential of young people, constitute an integral part of projects implemented in the field of theatre arts (festivals, programs, awards). 88 young creatives (theatre arts, cinema, music, dance, visual arts) and more than 10 creative groups of the Republic have participated in more than 50 international projects (festivals, competitions, master classes, tours).

Does it specifically target young people?: YES

Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?: NO

What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:

- Appearing next to the best artists of the world and representatives of the field on the prestigious platforms, Armenia has been provided with an opportunity to present the Armenian culture, realise our competitiveness on the international platform at the given moment, evaluate, improve the cultural product and the form of presentation and take them to a new level of quality, join the international professional network, introduce the best practice in Armenia. - Regular cultural events and famous names recognised by the international community and on professional platforms, as well as the engagement of young creatives have provided the opportunity to implement a targeted developing and popularising policy in the mentioned fields of culture, thus establishing and developing international creative environment.

Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: YES

If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:

The full-fledged and comprehensive presentation of the Armenian creative potential on international platforms, in prestigious programmes has been ensured, favourable conditions for the intercultural cooperation between creatives acting in different cultural fields have been created.

Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia, CSOs, foreign diplomatic representations accredited in the Republic of Armenia, state and community non-commercial organisations, individual creatives.

Type of entity:

Public Sector

Ensuing the mobility of painters and cultural professionals

Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:

Office of High Commissioner for Diaspora Affairs of the Republic of Armenia

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

The main peculiarity of the implementation of the policy is the presentation of the activities of Armenian creatives under the influence of preservation of Armenian identity, identification of the potential of the Diaspora and engagement thereof in the Armenian processes, preparation of community leaders, implementation of cultural programmes in Armenia and the Diaspora, trainings, different cultural environments. To achieve the above-mentioned objectives, the following measures have been implemented: - Organisation of concerts with the participation of Armenian singers in Australia, Argentina, Uruguay within the framework of the programme "Educational and cultural support to Armenian communities" (2016); - Organisation of concerts in the cities of Astrakhan and Volgograd of the Russian Federation within the framework of the programme "Support to educational and cultural development of Armenian communities of the EAEU countries" (2016); - Organisation of concerts with the participation of cultural groups and individuals having arrived from the Diaspora in Yerevan, marzes of the Republic of Armenia and Artsakh within the framework of "My Armenia" Pan-Armenian Festival (2016); - Jubilee concerts dedicated to the creative activity of Australian-Armenian singer, soprano Arax Mansourian (2017); - Organisation of concerts with the participation of Armenian singers in Latin America within the framework of the programme "Educational and cultural support to Armenian communities" (2017); - Organisation of the concert programme of "Tsaghkazard" Ensemble in the cities of Moscow, Tver, Rzhev and Kimry of the Russian Federation within the framework of the programme "Days of Armenian Culture in the Russian Federation" (2017); - Organisation of concerts with the participation of Armenian singers in Australia, Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil within the framework of the programme "Educational and cultural support to Armenian communities" (2018); - Organisation of concerts in Armenia within the framework of the programme "Days of Armenian Community of Istanbul" ("Maral" Song and Dance Ensemble, "Vomank" Rock Group, Evening with songwriter Mazhak Toshikian, a concert with the participation of singers Artur Baghdasarian and Edvin Galipian, etc.) (2018); - Organisation of the presentation of "Armenian Spiritual Heritage" Art Book by Polish-Armenian intellectual, benefactor Ashot Arakelian (2019); - Organisation of "Khrimian Hayrig" Mono Performance in Armenia jointly with Hamazkayin Armenian Educational and Cultural Association within the framework of events dedicated to the 80th anniversary of publicist, translator Hrant Markarian and 60th anniversary of his creative activity (2019); - Ensuring the participation of Cultural Figure of the Republic of Armenia, tightrope artist, conjuror Vladimir Hakobyan in "Golden Apricot 2019" International Festival in Tuapse (2019); - Ensuring the participation of pupil of Pyotr Tchaikovsky School, laureate of Republican and international competitions Eduard Khorozyan – the only Armenian participant, in X International Instrumental Music Festival "Sunny Clarinets", jointly organised by the Department of Culture and Tourism of the Zhytomyr regional state administration, School of Culture and Arts named after Ivan Ogienko, Sviatoslav Richter Philharmonic Society (2019).

Does it specifically target young people?: YES

Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?: NO

What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:

Tangible results have been recorded, which relate, in particular, to professional trainings of cultural figures, leaders, members of groups of the Diaspora in Armenia and the Diaspora, popularising of their activities in the Motherland, support provided to educational and cultural institutions, revival of the cultural life in the communities of the Diaspora, activities of information, educational websites introducing different fields of Armenian culture.

Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: YES

If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:

Appearing next to the best artists of the world and representatives of the field on prestigious international platforms, the representatives of the Armenian Diaspora have the opportunity to present not only the Armenian cultural traditions, but also those of their place of residence, by bringing the best practice not only to Armenia, but also to their place of residence.

Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:

Office of High Commissioner for Diaspora Affairs of the Republic of Armenia and Armenian communities of the Diaspora, Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Republic of Armenia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia, etc.

Type of entity:

Public Sector

FLOW OF CULTURAL GOODS AND SERVICES

Export strategies or measures to support the distribution of cultural goods and services outside your country exist for the following cultural domains:

Cinema/Audiovisual arts
Media Arts
Music
Publishing
Visual Arts
Performing Arts
Cultural management

Your country has granted or benefited from preferential treatment* to support a balanced exchange of cultural goods and services in the last 4 years:

YES, I have granted preferential treatment

YES, I have benefited from preferential treatment

If YES, please provide up to 2 examples:

The Aleksandr Spendiaryan Opera and Ballet National Academic Theatre, G. Sundukyan National Academic Theatre, as well as "Aram Khachaturian" Philharmonic Concert Hall have been re-equipped through "Waagner Biro" Group of Companies. The selection of "Waagner Biro" Group of Companies is conditioned by the fact that programmes for re-equipping cultural facilities are financed by the Government of Austria at the expense of credit funds allocated under preferential conditions (at 0% interest rate).

Your country has provided or benefited in the last 4 years from Aid for Trade support, a form of Official Development Assistance (ODA), that helped to build capacities to formulate trade policies, participate in negotiating and implementing agreements that provide a special status to cultural goods and services:

-

If YES, please provide up to 2 examples:

-

Relevant Policies and Measures:

Building of capacities of cultural institutions, import of cultural goods under preferential conditions

Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:

Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Republic of Armenia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts
Media Arts
Music
Performing Arts
Publishing
Visual Arts

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<http://escs.am/am>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

On 4 July 2018, the European Parliament voted for the EU-Armenia Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement, Chapter 18 of which refers to the cooperation in the cultural field. In particular, Article 96 highlights that the parties will promote the cooperation in accordance with the principles enshrined in the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions of 2005; and Article 97 specifies the fields that the cooperation will focus on. These are cultural cooperation and cultural exchanges, mobility of art and artists, intercultural dialogue, as well as implementation of Creative Europe Programme, etc.

Does it specifically target young people?: YES

Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?: NO

What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:

As a result, in August 2018, the Creative Europe Desk Armenia was established with the support of the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Republic of Armenia and the European Commission. The Desk is aimed at raising awareness of the EU programme of cultural grants – Creative Europe, take measures for capacity building of cultural operators, as well as implement measures for providing information about calls for funding, host trainings and consultations.

Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: YES

If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:

Taking into consideration the requirements prescribed by the guidelines for Creative Europe Programme, we attach importance to establishment of direct contacts between cultural organisations operating in Armenia and non-governmental organisations of the European Union, which will allow the organisations to participate in large-scale programmes.

Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:

Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Republic of Armenia, Creative Europe Desk Armenia

Type of entity:

Public Sector

TREATIES AND AGREEMENTS

Multilateral or bilateral trade and/or investment agreements providing a special status to cultural goods and/or services have been signed during the last 4 years or are under negotiation:

YES

Multilateral or bilateral agreements including specific provisions providing a special status to cultural goods and services and digital products in the field of e-commerce have been signed during the last 4 years or are under negotiation:

NO

Multilateral or bilateral agreements, declarations and/or strategies on relevant policy issues for the diversity of cultural expressions (e.g. education, digital, intellectual property, sustainable development, gender equality, etc.) signed or amended to take into account the objectives or principles of the Convention during the last 4 years: YES

Relevant Policies and Measures:

Expanding Enhancing international cultural cooperation

Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:

Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Republic of Armenia

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<http://escs.am/am>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

For the purpose of ensuring the right of artists to free movement and opportunity to directly cooperate, the right to interact with the Armenian culture and that of the peoples of the world, the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Republic of Armenia has initiated and continued to implement measures for consistent amendment, update of the legal and contractual basis and attracting special-purpose investments. Importance is attached to the consolidation of diversity of cultural expressions presented by different countries and individuals, ensuring the participation of Armenia in significant humanitarian and cultural activities carried out by international organisations, expanding the cooperation with the international network of non-governmental organisations in order to enhance institutional and management capabilities, promoting the integration of culture into sustainable development policies, etc.

Does it specifically target young people?: YES

Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?: NO

What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:

As a result of a consistent policy, we had the opportunity to establish cooperation with more than 60 states, covering almost all the continents. Such agreements provide Armenian artists with the opportunity to participate, under preferential conditions, in events organised in different countries and organisations. The signed international agreement enabled the implementation of major programmes, by re-equipping a number of cultural organisations and reconditioning many monuments.

Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: YES

If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:

The established legal and contractual basis allows to expand the geography of cooperation, create preferential conditions for theatre and concert organisations, individual creatives, as well as create prerequisites for attracting additional funds from foreign countries. At the same time, divergence in interpretation of the provisions of the Convention and the low level of public awareness pose obstacles to the comprehensive cooperation. In this context, we recommend carrying out works for raising public awareness.

Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia, Office of High Commissioner for Diaspora Affairs of the Republic of Armenia, etc.

Type of entity:

Public Sector

GOAL 3 - INTEGRATE CULTURE IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORKS



NATIONAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT POLICIES & PLANS

National sustainable development plans and strategies recognize the strategic role of:

Culture (in general)

Please rate from 1 to 4 the type of outcomes expected by the inclusion of culture in national sustainable development plans and strategies 1 most often expected outcome 4 least expected outcome):

Economic (e.g. employment, trade, intellectual property, cultural and creative industries, rural and territorial development): 2

Social (e.g. social cohesion and inclusion, inequality and poverty reduction, values and identity, vulnerable and minority groups, empowerment and human capital, education): 1

Environmental (e.g. natural resources, reducing environmental impact of cultural industries and practices): 4

Cultural (e.g. cultural infrastructure, participation and access to culture, innovation, artists support): 1

Public cultural bodies and agencies responsible for culture or creative industries are involved in the design and implementation of sustainable development policies and plans (i.e. participate in coordination mechanisms such as joint planning committees): YES

Cultural industry-led regeneration initiatives and projects at the regional, urban and/or rural levels have been implemented in the last 4 years: YES

Policies and measures facilitate participation in cultural life and access to diverse cultural facilities and expressions, notably addressing the needs of disadvantaged or vulnerable groups (e.g. via reduced entrance fees; audience development, arts education and audiences awareness-raising): YES

Relevant Policies and Measures:

Promoting the integration of culture into sustainable development policies

Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:

Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Republic of Armenia, Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Armenia, Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Armenia and other state institutions

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<http://escs.am/am>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

In the reporting period, consistent works have been carried out to value and appreciate culture as sustainable development potential. The role of culture in economic stability, preservation of national identity, formation of the civil society and social capital in the country, preservation of peace, cultural diversity is studied. The Government Programme of the Republic of Armenia which includes provisions concerning the economy, urban development, healthcare, nature protection, culture and other sectors, and is aimed at the development of tax policy and administration, institutional modernisation and development of infrastructures of the country. The success of implementation of the cultural policy firstly depends on the principle of state budgeting. The financing of the cultural sector is carried out on the basis of programme budgeting, the priority areas of which derive from laws of the Republic of Armenia in force, decisions of the Government of the Republic of Armenia, as well as the system of measures designated by the sustainable development programme. The whole chain of “drafting — planning — budgeting” of those policies is implemented through triennial medium-term state expenditure frameworks, in the elaboration, financing, organisation, monitoring of which the civil society representatives in the composition of sectoral professional boards of the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Republic of Armenia are engaged. In the field of culture the revenues geared down to the potential of economic growth are the revenues received from cultural services rendered to the public that mostly generate from the sales of tickets to theatre goers, concert goers and to exhibition visitors, lease of halls, premises, bailment of drawings, bibliographic and indexing services, sales of books, newspapers, etc. From the point of view of building the capacities of national minorities and human capital, ensuring their education, importance is attached also to many non-governmental organisations and cultural centres of national minorities operating in the Republic of Armenia, the aim of which is to nurture national consciousness, preserve and develop the mother tongue, literature, history and culture. Inclusive creative measures and targeted educational programmes for full-fledged integration of vulnerable groups into the cultural life, providing conditions for their further creative development and progress, creating self-manifestation opportunities, as well as building a climate of tolerance in the public are implemented in the sector.

Does it specifically target young people?: YES

Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?: NO

What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:

Promoting the integration of culture into sustainable development policies has allowed to ensure sector stability, which is displayed in economic and social results. Consistent works for increasing the number of cultural goods and services are being carried out, which will result in growth in the number of the employed, will allow to essentially increase the money flow and reproduction capacities. With respect to preservation of the national culture of national minorities, a series of events have been held, in particular, participation in national celebrations of Yazidis — “Khdrnavi”, “Malake Taus”, “Chle havine” “Charshama sor” (New Year), cultural festival of national minorities residing in Armenia, participation of “Kharitoni” Greek Ensemble in “The harvest by the centuries, Stimaga” International Folk Dance festival held in the Hellenic Republic, 20th anniversary event for the establishment of “Ukraine” Federation of Ukrainians of Armenia, comprehensive programme of cultural events on the occasion of “Day of solidarity of Kurdish people”, activity of “Ezdikhana” newspaper covering the domestic life, culture, creative life of Yazidis residing in Armenia, recording and release of the CD “Willy Weiner & Friends” of choral pieces by Jewish composer Willy Weiner. Inclusive programmes: In the reporting period, in diverse fields of art (theatre, concert, film, visual arts, cultural education) various inclusive programmes have been implemented and events have been held, support has been provided to cultural programmes for creative groups and individuals having limited physical capacities (Centre for children having limited physical capacities of “Prkutyun” Non-Government Organisation, “Paros” Choir, Choir of Association of the Blind and Folk Instruments Ensemble, “Nairyan” Vocal Ensemble) and to the participation in international projects (“Step Towards” International Creative Festival for people with disabilities held in Saint Petersburg — Aleksander Zhuykov (classical singing) and Narine Ghukasyan (painter), “Paros” Choir in wheelchair in the World Choir Games held in Odessa and tours in France, “Luys” Choir in International Music Festival held in Georgia). Within the framework of creative order, support has been provided to the release of the CD of blind singer Lusine Davudyan, the staging of theatrical production “The forgotten tale — The Will of Unlucky Panos” with the participation of aged beneficiaries residing at Nork Nursing Home, specially scripted upon the works by Tumanyan, which was played not only in Yerevan, but also in Vanadzor and Gyumri. Once in two years the Republican Integrative Festival of Children and Youth Art is held. 614 children with disabilities, left without parental care and disadvantaged children have been included in the system of aesthetic education, the database of gifted children with disabilities has been replenished, support has been provided to their participation in many Republican and international projects, events dedicated to the International Disability Day have been held. Only in 2019, 11 programmes were implemented in the field of cultural education (Children and Youth Creative Summer School for children from vulnerable groups, “Invisible is visible” Programme, summer performances, “I hear you”, “Film School without Borders”, “Disclosing cryptograms of Yervand Kochar”, “To awesome rooms” network programme, “Together” Inclusive Children and Youth Exhibition, “Side By Side” Inclusive Music Festival, “I feel good”, “Innovation” Innovative Film School). The majority of the mentioned programmes were implemented in the marzes of the Republic of Armenia, including in border communities. For the purpose of ensuring the participation of retired citizens in the cultural life, supporting the tradition of access of pensioners to cultural institutions, promoting active lifestyle of the aged, increasing the level of self-realisation and self-sufficiency, around 2000 retired beneficiaries were provided with free tickets in 2018-2019.

Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: YES

If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:

Organisations functioning within the Ministry analyse their performances, make revenue forecasts generating from the provision of cultural services and approve the schedule for submission of monthly reports. Non-financial indicators are developed for each cultural programme, through which the effectiveness of use of funds, including the quantity or number, become measurable. As regards national minorities, opportunity was provided to unlock and promote the creative potential of certain strata of society, as well as their integration into the society was ensured through culture, with the targeted support of certain strata and creative programmes of non-governmental organisations dealing with their issues.

Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:

Ministries of Education, Science, Culture and Sports, Finance, Economy, Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Labour and Social Issues of the Republic of Armenia, UN in Armenia, etc.

Type of entity:

Public Sector

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Your country has contributed to or benefited from the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) during the last 4 years:

YES, my country has contributed to the IFCD

Development cooperation strategies, including South-South cooperation strategies, recognize the strategic role of creativity and diverse cultural expressions: -

If YES, please provide the name(s) of the strategy and year(s) of adoption:

-

Your country manages multi- and/or bilateral technical assistance and capacity building cooperation programmes supporting:

Cultural policy development and implementation in developing countries

Artists and cultural professionals in developing countries

Value of the total national contribution to the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (in USD):

200.00

Relevant Policies and Measures:

Cooperation for Sustainable Development

Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:

Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Republic of Armenia

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<http://escs.am/am>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

For the Government of the Republic of Armenia to promote the import of products and services (including cultural), the Commission for Coordination of Charity Programmes operates in Armenia, which implements the state policy in the sector of humanitarian aid and charity. In the context of the policy for ensuring sustainable economic growth in the Republic of Armenia, the development of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) is called to ensure the stability of the economic growth of the country, giving the economy an innovative direction and flexibility. Each year, the Government of the Republic of Armenia discusses and adopts a programme for supporting small and medium enterprises, the development and implementation of which is based on the Law of the Republic of Armenia "On state support for small and medium enterprises". The programmes are based on fundamental principles of economic policy adopted by the Government of the Republic of Armenia and contribute to the economic development of the country, especially its remote and borderline settlements, and the overcoming of disproportions. In this regard, the SME, with its features and development opportunities, has a significant impact on the economic development of the country, in general, and in particular, on the culture sector, where 95% of products and services are provided by the SMEs of the field. The Government of Armenia encourages the circulation of materials of cultural nature, which significantly increases the level of ensuring and disseminating cultural diversity in the country. In 2010, Armenia acceded to the Florence Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials and the Nairobi Protocol to that Agreement, which contribute the free distribution of books, cultural, educational and scientific materials, access to customs and administrative processes related to the importation of such materials, as well as their free circulation. The application of the Agreement in Armenia has created favourable conditions for the establishment and awareness-raising of the cultural expressions.

Does it specifically target young people?: YES

Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?: NO

What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:

In fact, the State has a financial participation in all charity programmes being implemented in Armenia, amounting to 20% and more of the value, exempting the programmes from certain types of taxes and duties. This policy creates favourable conditions also for the charity import of cultural products and services. During the reporting period, the number of cultural charity programmes increased dynamically, as a result of which the general basket of products and services of cultural diversity has been replenished.

Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: YES

If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:

In this field, importance is attached to carrying out constructive and coordinated work with international organisations and international organisations operating within their framework. The implementation of such a policy will provide an opportunity to attract additional funds for the cultural industry.

Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:

Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Armenia, Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Armenia, Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Armenia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia and other institutions

Type of entity:

Public Sector

GOAL 4 - PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS



GENDER EQUALITY

Ministries, governmental agencies and/or parliamentary bodies in charge of gender equality:

Exist and are relevant for artists and cultural professionals

Policies and measures to support the full participation of women in cultural life have been implemented during the last 4 years: YES

Policies and measures have been adopted to support the recognition and advancement of women as artists, cultural professionals and/or creative entrepreneurs, (e.g. ensure equal pay for equal work or equal access to funding, coaching or mentoring schemes, anti-discrimination measures, etc.): YES

Data is regularly collected and disseminated to monitor:

Participation of women in cultural life

Relevant Policies and Measures:

Implementation of the requirements of the Law “On ensuring equal rights and equal opportunities for men and women” and ensuring of the provisions of “The Strategic Programme for the Gender Policy Implementation in the Republic of Armenia for 2019-2023”.

Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:

Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Republic of Armenia, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Republic of Armenia,

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<http://escs.am/am>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

In 2015-2019, the Government of the Republic of Armenia, has set — as priorities in the culture sector for upcoming years — a task to increase the preservation of cultural foundations of the society, the overcoming of provincialism, the expansion of the world view of citizens, ensuring access to national and global cultural resources for the population. The main domains in the culture sector have been set as follows: the proportionate development of culture, the preservation of cultural heritage and the development of modern infrastructures of art, the promotion of cultural processes, the application of information technologies and the cultural education. The activities of cultural institutions and organisations are aimed at ensuring equal rights and opportunities for women and men to freely participate in [cultural] life, to enjoy the benefits of their own creation, and to freely interact with cultural values. Within the framework of improving the situation of women in the Republic of Armenia and increasing their role in the society, a task is set to cover the ideas of gender equality through culture and mass media, to promote the formation of ideals of a woman and a man and to increase the prestige of women in the public consciousness. From the point of view of gender expression, importance is attached to “KIN” [“A Woman”] (51 films from 16 countries) and “Sose” (more than 172 films from 39 countries participated) international film festivals.

Does it specifically target young people?: YES

Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?: NO

What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:

The following results have been recorded during the implementation of the policy: - Introduction of gender expert examination of laws, secondary legal acts, policies and programmes in the culture sector; - Development of analytical tools for the purpose of establishing gender perspectives in the cultural policy; - Encouraging the positive coverage of gender issues in the print media and publishing and promoting the spread of ideas of equality between men and women; - Creation of educational and methodological complexes for teaching gender subjects in the form of textbooks and methodological manuals; - Inclusion of the gender component in the state policy in the culture sector; - Targeted support of social programmes dedicated to the issues of gender equality in the audiovisual sectors (cinema, theatre, advertising) within the framework of state order financing; - Introduction of gender knowledge in the training system of cultural workers.

Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: YES

If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:

The following results have been recorded during the implementation of the policy: - Ensuring equal access to state cultural institutions for women and men; - Rooting the principles of gender equality and non-discrimination in the culture sector; - Overcoming of ideas distorting national traditions and culture, as well as overcoming sexual stereotypes; - Encouraging the overcoming of gender stereotypes and promoting a balanced presentation of positive images of women and men; - Expanding representation of women at the levels of decision-making in the cultural management system and development of cultural policy; - Creating an opportunity for creative women to present their work and to start their own business in the future, as well as to make new acquaintances for cooperation; - Presenting the right ideas to the audience about gender equality.

Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:

Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Republic of Armenia, Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Armenia, state administration and local self-government bodies, non-governmental organisations

Type of entity:

Public Sector

ARTISTIC FREEDOM

The constitution and/or national regulatory frameworks formally acknowledge:

The right of artists to create without censorship or intimidation
The right of artists to disseminate and/or perform their artistic works
The right for all citizens to freely enjoy artistic works both in public and in private
The right for all citizens to take part in cultural life without restrictions

Independent bodies are established to receive complaints and/or monitor violations and restrictions to artistic freedom: YES

Initiatives to protect artists at risk or in exile have been developed or supported by public authorities during the last 4 years (e.g. providing safe houses, guidance and training, etc.): -

Measures and initiatives intended to ensure transparent decision-making on government funding/ state grants and awards for artists exist (e.g. through independent committees, etc.): -

Social protection measures that take the professional status of artists into account have been adopted or revised in the last 4 years (e.g. health insurance, retirement schemes, unemployment benefits, etc.): YES

Economic measures that take the status of artists into account have been adopted or revised in the last 4 years (e.g. collective agreements, income tax and other regulatory frameworks, etc.): NO

Relevant Policies and Measures:

Ensuring a favourable environment for full expression and realisation of creative abilities through the introduction of a grant competition system

Name of agency responsible for the implementation of the policy/measure:

Government of the Republic of Armenia, territorial administration and local self-government bodies.

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts
Media Arts
Music
Performing Arts
Publishing
Visual Arts

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<http://escs.am/am>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

The necessity of implementing the measure is conditioned by the need to apply a competitive, fair and transparent principle, to increase the quality and efficiency in various sectors of art, as well as to ensure equal starting conditions for creative, state, non-state organisations and individual creators. In 2019, through the introduction of an open-competition system of grants for the purpose of ensuring a favourable environment for full expression and realisation of creative abilities, more than 80 creative programmes in various sectors of culture have been supported, in which CSOs, state and non-state creative organisations operating in the culture sector participated.

Does it specifically target young people?: YES

Does the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) support the implementation of the policy/measure?: NO

What are the results achieved so far through the implementation of the policy/measure?:

More than 60 CSOs, state and non-state creative organisations received state support for the implementation of creative programmes, in particular: Theatre arts: 19 performances (pantomime, puppet, children's performances and other genres); Music: in 18 different genre directions and formats (classical, folk, jazz-music, symphonic, chamber, choral, vocal); Dance: 6 performances (1 plastic-dance, 3 ballet, 1 of which is children's, 2 dance performances); Cinema/Audiovisual arts: 37 film projects.

Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: YES

If yes, what are the main conclusions/recommendations?:

Strengthening of the cultural connection between the State, CSOs and individual creators, ensuring the diversity of creative programmes in the field, discovering the creative potential.

Partner(s) engaged in the implementation of the measure:

CSOs, state and community non-commercial organisations, individual creators.

Type of entity:

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

MEASURES AND INITIATIVES REPORTED BY CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

Describe how the CSO form has been used to promote collaboration with CSOs in the preparation of this report, including the distribution of the form and the modalities of collection and analysis of the information received. Please indicate the percentage of measures and initiatives received that have been considered as relevant by the Party and included in the QPR.:

For the purpose of ensuring the participation of civil society, representatives of the Union of Writers, the Artists' Union, the Union of Composers and the Union of Cinematographers of the Republic of Armenia and independent experts have been included in the inter-agency working group established for the preparation of the QPR. At the same time, the form of the QPR has been circulated among the above-mentioned non-governmental organisations, as a result of which recommendations have been received to be included in the draft.

GOAL 1 - Support sustainable systems of governance for culture:

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GOAL 2 - Achieve a balanced flow of cultural goods and services and increase the mobility of artists and cultural professionals:

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GOAL 3 - Integrate culture in sustainable development frameworks:

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GOAL 4 - Promote human rights and fundamental freedoms:

-

On the basis of the analysis of the responses provided through the CSO form, present up to ten main priorities of CSOs to implement the Convention over the next four years.:

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EMERGING TRANSVERSAL ISSUES

Relevant Policies and Measures:

-

CHALLENGES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Describe the main results achieved to implement the Convention (at least one major achievement in one of the four goals):

- In the field of aesthetic education of future generations, formation of their artistic taste, "perception" of culture, a significant role has been assigned to the inclusion of knowledge on cultural diversity in the education system, for the development of which a number of fundamental documents and targeted programmes have been developed. As a result, the involvement of all age and social groups in the education system has been ensured, which has brought about a qualitative change in the lives of the latter. - Intercultural dialogue has been ensured through the targeted programmes being implemented in Armenia — the Armenian society has an opportunity to get acquainted with the culture, history and traditions of different countries, different manifestations of contemporary arts and at the same time to present reciprocally its own rich material and intangible cultural heritage. In the course of these years, translation has been the best mode of expression for the interaction with other cultures. - The involvement of individuals being members of the culture of the given country of the Armenian Diaspora in the process of ensuring cultural diversity has been ensured. - Due to the establishment of direct connections between international agreements, operational programmes and institutions, the geography of cooperation has been expanded, the number of programmes being implemented on a reciprocal basis has increased, as well as the format of programmes has been amended and updated.

Describe the main challenges encountered to implement the Convention and the main solutions found or envisaged to overcome them:

- The challenges facing the Diaspora are varied and numerous. From the point of view of the implementation of the Convention, they are mainly the following: preservation of cultural identity, dissemination and awareness-raising of national culture, recording of the cultural potential of the Diaspora, inventory of cultural heritage, presentation of Armenian products and famous cultural figures in the Diaspora and vice versa, lack of awareness about the programmes and measures being implemented within the framework of not only the Homeland-Diaspora, but also the Diaspora-Diaspora cultural cooperation, the need for creating electronic platforms fully presenting that information, etc., which imply human, organisational, technical and financial contributions. - As a result of the processes of global geopolitics, a distortion of the expressions of different cultures takes place, even up to assimilation. This challenge may endanger cultural diversity. - Insufficient level of public awareness of the Convention, both at national and international levels, causes differing and often contradictory interpretations of the Articles of the Convention. Describe the steps planned in the next four years to further implement the Convention and the priority areas identified for future policy action based on the conclusions of the current reporting process:

Describe the steps planned in the next four years to further implement the Convention and the priority areas identified for future policy action based on the conclusions of the current reporting process:

- Raise the level of public awareness of the provisions of the Convention and the possibilities provided thereby, - Develop strategies and/or action plans based on the provisions of the Convention that will enable the representatives of the civil society and the creative industry, as well as all age and social groups to get thoroughly involved in cultural processes, including the education system. Based on the fact that the function of carrying out activities with the Diaspora in the culture sector has been transferred to the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Armenia since the establishment of the Office of the High Commissioner for Diaspora Affairs of the Republic of Armenia — the planning of the steps for the upcoming four years ensuring the implementation of the Convention is within the scope of this Ministry, with regard to the part concerning the Diaspora — in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner.

ANNEXES

Please upload relevant documents (law, policy, agreement, regulation, strategy, etc.), studies and statistics in PDF format related to the implementation of the 4 goals and the 11 areas of monitoring of the Convention in your country. The documents should have been produced during the reporting period covered by this periodic report. Please provide the title and a description of the main content of the document in English or French.:

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SUBMISSION

Designated official signing the report:

Title: Mr.

First name: Artur

Family name: Martirosyan

Organization: Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Armenia

Position: Deputy Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Armenia

Date of submission:

2020

Electronic Signature:



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