

Form Submission: Quadrennial Periodic Report

GENERAL INFORMATION

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Name of Party:

Belarus

Date of

Ratification:

2006

Officially Designated Point of Contact of the Convention:

Website: <https://www.kultura.by> (<https://www.kultura.by>)

Ms.

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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.:

A multilateral consultation process involving representatives of the public sector and civil society was undertaken to prepare the periodic report. The consultation process included meetings and discussions with all the parties concerned, researching, statistical data analyzing, selective interviewing, and questioning of target groups and peer-reviewing.

The consultations were held at the level of various departments of the Ministry of Culture and other Ministries: the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Sports and Tourism, the National Statistical Committee of the Republic of Belarus, with the representatives of museums, libraries, theatre community.

Additional consultations through face-to-face meetings and online negotiations were held with the civil society agencies working in the field of culture and art.

Executive summary:

Since 2006, when the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions was ratified, the Republic of Belarus has been deliberately working to implement its main provisions in the cultural policy and legislative system of the country.

The present Constitution of the Republic of Belarus recognizes and guarantees the fundamental rights in the field of culture, including the right to preserve one's national identity, the right to use one's native language and the freedom to choose the language of communication, upbringing, and education (Article 50). The Constitution also recognizes the responsibility of the state to preserve the cultural heritage and free development of cultures of all the ethnic communities residing in Belarus (Article 15), guarantees the right of everyone to take part in cultural life (Article 51), and ensures the protection of the economic and moral copyrights of authors of artistic works (Article 51).

In 2017, the Code of the Republic of Belarus on Culture, which is the main regulating act in the field of culture, came into force. The Code accumulated the pre-existing laws in the field of culture and cultural heritage protection. Moreover, it determined the basic principles of civil relations in this field (Article 2), including the free development of cultures of national minorities with priority given to the development of the Belarusian culture and language; the accessibility of cultural goods for all the citizens, including ones residing in the rural areas, people with disabilities and other representatives of disadvantaged social groups. The Code guaranteed the freedom of creative activity, the protection of intellectual rights, the equal rights and opportunities of the citizens in creation and usage of cultural values, as well as the approval and dissemination of humanistic ideas, scientific knowledge, and global culture achievements, the formation of aesthetic living space.

There are no special plans or programs for the implementation of the 2005 Convention, but the Republic of Belarus implements the basic principles of the Convention through various national and regional strategies, programs, and activities.

The ratifications of the 2005 Convention provided a platform for structured discussions about the cultural policy and its application. The permanent discussions are underway between the state and civil society on various dialogue platforms, including the important ones such as the Minsk Dialogue international forum, which has been annually held in Minsk since 2003 with the direct involvement of the Belarusian authorities and the representatives of the European Union countries; numerous conferences, meetings, and seminars organized by the state cultural institutions and non-governmental organizations.

However, the process of the implementation of the 2005 Convention has not been completed yet. The further integration of its provisions into the national law and real policies is required. The monitoring process is also complicated by the lack of an appropriate statistical matrix. Therefore, capacity-building and awareness-raising are needed to make the implementation of the Convention through national policies more flexible and visible.

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 Culture of the Republic of Belarus	ministerstvo@kultura.by	https://www.kultura.by
Public Sector	Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus	root@minedu.unibel.by	https://edu.gov.by
Public Sector	Ministry of Information of the Republic of Belarus	info@mininform.gov.by	http://mininform.gov.by

Public Sector	Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Belarus	minec@economy.gov.by	http://economy.gov.by
Public Sector	Ministry of Sport and Tourism of the Republic of Belarus	info@mst.gov.by; tourism@mst.gov.by	http://www.mst.by
Public Sector	Center of National Cultures	zentr-nazkult@kultura.by	http://nationalcultures.by
Public Sector	National Library of Belarus	inbox@nlb.by	https://www.nlb.by
Public Sector	National History Museum of the Republic of Belarus	histmuseum@histmuseum.by	http://histmuseum.by
Public Sector	National Art Museum of the Republic of Belarus	nmmb@artmuseum.by	https://www.artmuseum.by
Civil Society Organization (CSO)	Belarusian Committee of ICOMOS	icomosby@gmail.com	https://icomos.by
Civil Society Organization (CSO)	Belarusian Committee of ICOM	secretary@icom-belarus.org	http://www.icom-belarus.org
Civil Society Organization (CSO)	Belarusian Union of Designers	unidby@gmail.com	http://unid.by
Civil Society Organization (CSO)	Republican Public Association "Belarusian Union of Cinematographers"	viktorakter@mail.ru	http://roobsk.com
Civil Society Organization (CSO)	Center for Visual and Performing Arts "Art Corporation»	Email: artcorporationinfo@gmail.com	http://www.artcorporation.by
Public Sector	Belarusian TV and Radio Company	webmaster@tvr.by	https://www.tvr.by
Public Sector	Republican Centre of National Cultures	zentr-nzkult@kultura.by	http://nationalcultures.by
Civil Society Organization (CSO)	Belarusian Foundation of Culture	bfk@tut.by	http://bfk.by
Civil Society Organization (CSO)	Belarusian Language Society named after F. Skaryna	siadziba@gmail.com	https://tbn-mova.by
Civil Society Organization (CSO)	Belarusian Public Association "Rest in the Village»	info@ruralbelarus.by	http://www.ruralbelarus.by
Civil Society Organization (CSO)	Contemporary Art Gallery «U»	nfo@ygallery.by	http://ygallery.by
Civil Society Organization (CSO)	Foundation «Cultural Heritage and Modernity»	chm.fund@gmail.com	http://heritagefund.by
Civil Society Organization (CSO)	Belarusian Union of Writers	oo-spb@tut.by Web-site: www.oo-spb.by	http://www.oo-spb.by

Civil Society
Organization (CSO)

The Union of Belarusian Writers

spb@lit-bel.org

<http://www.lit-bel.org>

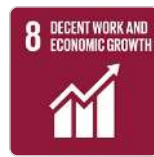
Civil Society
Organization (CSO)

Belarusian Union of Artists

belartunion@solo.by

<http://www.belartunion.by>

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:

Technical and vocational education and training programmes in

Cinema/Audiovisual arts

Cultural management

Design

Digital cultural and creative sectors

Media arts

Music

Performing arts

Publishing

Visual arts

Cinema/audiovisual arts

Cultural management

Design

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:

evaluating cultural policies

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

41.00%

2019

Please provide whenever possible disaggregated data by sector:

The data is not available

Share of employment in the cultural and creative sectors:

15.00%

2019

Please provide whenever possible disaggregated data by sector, age, sex and type of employment:

2016 r: 64 690, including 64,8% women, under 40 years old – 39% Librarians and museum workers – 14541, including women – 82%; creative sector and performing arts – 20560, including women – 67%; theatrical sector – 4223, including women – 58%; movie sector – 956, including women – 60%; cultural education sphere – 20302, including women – 78%; parks and zoos –428, including women – 50%; other sectors – 1251 workers. Top-managers – 2299, including women – 65%. 2017 r: 63 118, including 64,2% women, under 40 years old – 38% Librarians and museum workers – 14147, including women – 86%; creative sector and performing arts – 20259, including women – 70%; theatrical sector – 4213, including women – 58%; movie sector – 939, including women – 60%; cultural education sphere – 19727, including women – 79%; parks and zoos –454, including women – 50%; other sectors – 1159 workers. Top-managers – 2220, including women – 70%. 2018 r: 61 950, including 64% women, under 40 years old – 38% Librarians and museum workers – 14109, including women – 84%; creative sector and performing arts – 18797, including women – 72%; theatrical sector – 4236, including women – 59%; movie sector – 956, including women – 60%; cultural education sphere – 19980, including women – 78%; parks and zoos –443, including women – 50%; other sectors – 1251 workers. Top-managers – 2178, including women – 65%. 2019 r: 61 938, including 65% women, under 40 years old – 36% Librarians and museum workers – 14541, including women – 82%; creative sector and performing arts – 19296, including women – 67%; theatrical sector – 3987, including women – 60%; movie sector – 865, including women – 60%; cultural education sphere – 19842, including women – 78%; parks and zoos –412, including women – 50%; other sectors – 1251 workers. Top-managers – 2156, including women – 65%.

Total public budget for culture (in USD):

7,000,000USD

2019

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

The data is not available

Relevant Policies and Measures:

The Code of the Republic of Belarus on Culture

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

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Visual Arts

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<https://www.kultura.by/by/zakanadautva-kultury/>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

The Code of the Republic of Belarus on Culture was adopted by Decree No. 413-Z of the President of the Republic of Belarus dated July 20, 2016, and it came into force on February 3, 2017. It was developed in accordance with the global core principles of cultural policy. The Code aims to establish the legal, institutional, economic, and social basis for cultural activities, in order to preserve and use the cultural heritage, to develop cultural institutions, and to ensure the accessibility of the cultural goods. The Code on Culture accumulated all the pre-existing legislative and regulatory acts in the field of culture, including the framework Law on Culture in the Republic of Belarus, as well as a number of sectoral laws regulating the relations in librarianship and museum affairs, historical and cultural heritage protection, traditional culture and craft activities, visual arts and cinematography, artists creative activities, and etc. Today it is the main regulatory act in the field of culture, in which the basic principles and priorities of state cultural policy have been determined. Thus, under the Code on Culture, the core principles of the cultural policy of the Republic of Belarus are as follows: recognizing the culture as one of the main factors of the identity of the Belarusian people and other ethnic communities residing in Belarus, as well as the basis for the formation and development of individuality; ensuring the accessibility of the cultural goods and the protection of the rights and opportunities of everyone, including people with disabilities, to participate in the cultural life; asserting the freedom of creativity; preventing unlawful advantages or privileges and the monopolization of cultural activities; promoting and protecting the copyright and civil rights of cultural workers and artists; ensuring the interaction of the Belarusian national culture with other cultures and its integration into the global cultural space. Among the priorities of the cultural policy of Belarus, there are the preservation, development, and popularization of the Belarusian culture and language, the creation of conditions for the aesthetic education of citizens, the promotion of informational support in the field of culture, the support of talented young people and the creation of conditions for their fruitful activities, the social protection of cultural and creative workers, the formation and development of a competitive cultural environment, cultural diversity, support for the development of culture in rural areas, etc. Among the positive changes in legal regulation in the field of culture approved by the Code of Culture, we can't but mention the provisions encouraging the development of craft activities, artists support, simplification of taxation for certain groups of creative workers, for example, for designers and artists, preferences to art patrons and sponsors, the development of production activities in the field of cinematography and performing arts.

Does it specifically target young people?: NO

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?:

1) The codification of legislation on culture made it possible to systematize disparate laws, to identify the duplication, inconsistency of certain requirements, to fill in some gaps in legal regulation, and ultimately resulted in more effective governance in the field of culture and transparency in the implementation of legal norms. 2) Many norms of relevant international laws relating to cultural policies were included in the Code on Culture. There is no explicit reference made to the 2005 UNESCO Convention in the Code on Culture, but certain principles and provisions of the Convention can be found in the Code. In addition, Clause 2 of Article 4 of the Code specifies that if an international treaty signed by the Republic of Belarus (these include the 2005 Convention) establishes other rules than those provided for by the Code, the rules of the international treaty shall be applied. 3) The Code contains a number of provisions that increase the participation of the civil society representatives in decision-making on the cultural policy issues (Chapter 7) through the right to freedom of creation and participation in various cultural associations, including artistic unions and associations, supervisory boards of cultural institutions, different advisory bodies of the Ministry of Culture and local authorities, formed to improve the regulation and management of cultural activities. 4) The adoption of the Code on Culture contributed to the creation of favorable conditions for the development of culture, the strengthening of the conditions for the development of partnerships and the protection of the civil and intellectual rights of artists.

Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:

The funding of the cultural sector is ensured by annually allocated government investments (see statistics above), sponsorship funds and funds of the State Program “Culture of Belarus”, other state programs, and as well as from the Fund and Special Fund of the President of the Republic of Belarus for Supporting Culture and Talented Youth. The annual state budget for culture is 0.38-0.41% of GDP.

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

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

The effectiveness of the implementation of the cultural policies and the practical application of the main provisions of the Code on Culture is annually monitored by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus and independent experts. The monitoring results are reviewed by the annual reporting panels of the Ministry of Culture and widely covered by the national media. In 2019, a wide campaign was held to discuss possible changes and proposals to the Code of the Republic of Belarus on Culture. They are planned to be implemented in 2020. Among the changes that should be made to this legislative act, the most important ones are as follows: 1) to work more thoroughly on the further implementation of the main provisions of the ratified international treaties, including but not limited to the UNESCO Convention in general and particularly the 2005 Convention, agreements regarding the freedom of cultural expression, creative industries and the ones expanding the capabilities of the non-governmental cultural sector, creating conditions for expanding the production and consumption of the national cultural products. 2) to link the existing provisions of the Code with the implementation of the

Sustainable Development Goals, ratified by the Republic of Belarus in 2019, to pay particular attention to such issues as creating a supportive and diverse environment for the development of the local cultural and creative industries, protecting and promoting the social status of an artist, promoting the cultural expression and traditions of the local communities.

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

All cultural institutions

Type of entity:

Public Sector

All cultural institutions

Type of entity:

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

All cultural institutions:

Type of entity:

Private Sector

The State Program “Culture of Belarus” on 2016 — 2010

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

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<https://www.kultura.by/by/zakanadautva-kultury/>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

The State Program “Culture of Belarus” was adopted by Decree of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus No. 180 dated March 4, 2016. It was amended by the decrees of the Council of Ministers No. 990 dated December 2, 2016, No. 950 dated December 12, 2017, No. 788 from 03.11.2018 and No. 776 from 20.11.2019. The main goals of the program are as follows: preserving the historical memory of the Belarusian people, their national and cultural identity, involving the Belarusian citizens in the cultural life of the country, and unleashing the creative potential of the nation. The state program consists of 4 subprograms: Art and Creativity, Belarusians in the World, Heritage, Archives of Belarus. For the purposes of the 2005 Convention, the first three subprograms are of particular interest. The main goal of the Art and Creativity subprogram is to support professional and amateur art, folk art, as well as the activities of theatrical entertainment organizations and clubs; to create conditions for organizing cultural recreation (leisure) for the population, aesthetic education of children and youth, expanding international cultural cooperation. It is aimed at solving the following problems: increasing the competitiveness and relevance of national cultural products; effective use of economic mechanisms in the activities of theatrical entertainment organizations; developing the Belarusian cinema and its promotion; increasing the talent capacity of cultural workers. The Belarusians in the World subprogram is aimed at supporting the Belarusian diaspora abroad, preserving its national and cultural identity, and promoting the study of the Belarusian language abroad. The Belarusian diaspora in the world is approximately 2.5 million people and is more strongly represented in the neighboring countries and the countries historically linked to Belarus (Russia, the Baltic States, Ukraine, Poland, Kazakhstan, and Moldova). It is considered to be an important national, intellectual, social, cultural, demographic, and economic resource of the Republic of Belarus, which can become a significant factor in the implementation of the Belarusian foreign and domestic policies, the development of trade, economic, and cultural ties, promotion of the international image of the Belarusian State. The subprogram “Heritage” is aimed at the protection of historical and cultural heritage, conservation and restoration of monuments, safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage as well as the development of traditional knowledge and practices and their integration in the implementation of the national strategy of the sustainable development.

Does it specifically target young people?: NO

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?:

1. legal and social protection of cultural workers has been ensured and remuneration system has been improved; 2. the program has contributed to the preservation, use and ensuring great access to the historical and cultural heritage of the country; 3. the cooperation between cultural institutions and their audience has been strengthened, the attendance at cultural events and the number of the amateurs have increased; 4. the program has contributed to the development of international relations and inter-cultural communication through the implementation of international agreements of the Republic of Belarus and celebrating the days of the Belarusian culture abroad; 5. cultural education programs have been created in various fields of culture and harmonized with the requirements of the labor market; higher education institutions of culture and art offer high-quality and competitive education, and their research centers deal with important research cultural issues; additional professional education of cultural workers is developing; 6. multilateral communication with compatriots abroad has been ensured through the implementation of numerous cultural and educational initiatives, including festivals, exhibitions, organization of the Belarusian language courses for the Belarusian diaspora, publishing and research projects, and activities in support of the common heritage. 7. conditions for better mobility of the Belarusian artists and for the export of cultural products in such industries as cinema, visual arts and design, performing arts, librarianship and museum affairs have been created.

Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:

For the implementation of the State Program “Culture of Belarus” were allocated funds in the amount: 2 655 439 355, 35 BUR (1 646 409 451,3 USD), including: 2016 — 517 356 324,02 BUR/239 468 747,3 USD, including the public budget -- 81 355 929, 02 BUR (40 931 741,31 USD), local budget — 292 005 302, 99 BYR (146 913 515, 29 USD), own funds of cultural institutions — 99 975 893, 97 BYR (50 299 805, 78 USD), other funds, including sponsorship — 2 630 956.15 BYR (1 323 684,92 USD); 2017 — 475 968 082,13 BUR/267 727 346,3 USD, including the public budget -- 87 717 539, 42 BUR (45 393 054,9 USD), local budget — 315 290 049, 12 BYR (163 159 826, 7 USD), own funds of cultural institutions — 110 268 097, 14 BYR (57 062 770, 2 USD), other funds, including sponsorship — 4 080 638.3 BYR (2 111 694,45 USD); 2018 — 621 533 267, 9 BUR/305 017 062,4 USD, including the public budget -- 99 124 184, 49 BUR (48 645 722,3 USD), local budget — 388 171 095, 5 BYR (190 494 722, 3 USD), own funds of cultural institutions — 128 390 379, 7 BYR (63 007 498, 5 USD), other funds, including sponsorship — 5 847 608.3 BYR (2 869 710,12 USD); 2019 — 723 072 529, 14 BUR/345 736 123,7 USD, including the public budget --146 499 641, 5 BUR (70 048 599,7 USD), local budget — 417 315 459, 35 BYR (199 538 806, 2 USD), own funds of cultural institutions — 148 270 129, 9 BYR (70 895 156, 3 USD), the bank loans - 85,000.00 BYR (40,642.63 USD), other funds, including sponsorship — 10 902 298.37 BYR (5 212 918,8 USD); 2020— 793 477 233, 95 BUR/353 489 211, 9 USD, including the public budget --191 002 128 BUR (85 090 269,5 USD), local budget — 461 684 616, 12 BYR (205 677 647, 8 USD), own funds of cultural institutions — 140 790 489, 8 BYR (62 721 294, 5 USD).

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

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

The annual monitoring of the program “Culture of Belarus”, which is carried out by the Ministry of Culture allows to make the correction of some plans and activities, to develop measures for improving the program’s management and increasing its effectiveness.

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

All cultural institutions

Type of entity:

Public Sector

All cultural institutions

Type of entity:

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

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

Community programming for marginalised groups (e.g. indigenous peoples, migrants and refugees, etc.)

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):

Ministry of Information of the Republic of Belarus

If YES, these regulatory authority(ies) monitor:

Public media

Community media

Private sector media

Online 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 gender equality in the media

Relevant Policies and Measures:

Promotion of the cultural content's diversity in the Belarusian media

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

Ministry of Information of the Republic of Belarus, public and non-governmental media

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<http://mininform.gov.by>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

Nowadays, a fairly extensive network of print and electronic media of various forms of ownership and various orientations operate and develop in the Republic of Belarus. Foreign media are also widely represented in the country's media space (more than 4,000, including periodicals from Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, the USA, Great Britain, Germany, Italy, France, the Netherlands, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia). The principle of informational freedom in the Republic of Belarus is enshrined in such constitutional rights as the right to receive, store and disseminate complete, reliable and timely information about the activities of state bodies, public associations, political, economic, cultural and international life, the state of the environment (Part 1 Article 34); freedom of the mass media (section 33 (2)). The basis of the mass media activity is the Law of the Republic of Belarus of July 17, 2008 "On the Mass Media", which takes into account the approaches of international legal regulation and experience in the field of mass media. Today, 722 newspapers and 851 magazines are published in Belarus. More than two thirds of them are private. Printed publications are published mainly in Belarusian and Russian, however, there are certain publications in English, Polish, Ukrainian, and German. There are periodic specialized publications devoted only to cultural topics: "Kultura" (Culture) and "Litaratura and Mastatstva" (Literature & Arts) newspapers, Art and Culture magazine and "Mastatstva" (Arts) magazines. The Belarus-3 TV channel and the Culture channel of the Belarusian radio are completely devoted to cultural issues. The Ministry of Information of the Republic of Belarus allocates state subsidies to support certain publications promoting the national culture and publishing in the Belarusian language. For example, "Zvyazda" newspaper; "Maladosts", "Polymya", "Nyoman" literary and art magazines, and "Litaratura i Mastatstva" newspaper. They play a significant role in popularizing the best examples of the Belarusian literature. "Kultura" newspaper and "Mastatstva", "Narodnaya Asveta", "Belaruski Hystarychny Chasopis" magazines contribute to the methodological support of the scientific and educational process in the country and provide significant assistance to teachers. This list also includes certain newspapers and magazines in Belarusian for adolescents and children: "Byarozka" and "Vyaselka". In accordance with the new version of the Law of the Republic of Belarus On Mass Media dated December 1, 2018, the country's television and radio companies should have provided 30% of the Belarusian (national) content in the broadcast network by the end of 2020. Besides the print media, there are 167 radio programs and 98 television programs broadcasting in Belarus. 27 radio programs and 54 television programs are private. About 30 radio stations, including but not limited to Radius-FM, Radio Unistar (Belarusian-German media project), Europe Plus, FM-broadcast in Belarus. The broadcasts of the Belarus radio station in Belarusian, Russian, English, German, Polish, French, Spanish and Chinese are intended for foreign audiences. There are national television channels: Belarus 1, Belarus 2 (youth), Belarus 3 (social and cultural), Belarus 5 (sport), "Obshchenatsionalnoye Televideniye" (ONT), and "Stolichnoye Televideniye" (STV). In September 2015, the regional television channel Belarus 4 started broadcasting. Today it acts as a platform for all the regions of the country and as the Belarusian international satellite television channel Belarus 24. Its audience is about 270,000,000 viewers in 100 countries. The basis of the Belarus 24 content is news and analytics about the most important events in the country and the world, the history and culture of Belarus, its visitor attractions, famous people, cuisine, and etc. By June 2015, Belarus has made a complete transition from analogue to digital broadcasting. Today, digital broadcasting

(the first multiplex of 8 television and 1 radio programs) is available to almost 100% of the country's population. There are more than 200 foreign television channels rebroadcasted in the territory of the Republic of Belarus, including Euronews, BBC, Eurosport. The Law of the Republic of Belarus On the Rights of the Child (November 19, 1993 No. 2570-XII as amended of May 13, 2016) and the Program of Continuous Education of Children and Young People for 2016 -- 2020 provided for the existence of specialized children and youth content in the Belarusian media. The thematic profile of the children's press related to the implementation of the goals of the program is determined by such Belarusian publications as "Vyaselka", "Zorka", "Yuny Spasatel", "Perekhodny Vozrast", etc. They cover the creative and intellectual successes and problems of children and adolescents, publish materials on a healthy lifestyle, current cultural events, the choice of a future profession, ecology, Belarusian historical heritage, etc. 10-15% of the air content of the republican and local state television and radio channels is broadcasting for children and young people.

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?:

1) a variety of media content is provided; 2) the rights of independent and private media are ensured; 3) there are special media for youth audiences and children, as well as for various sub-cultural groups.

Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:

The data is not available

Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: NO

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

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus

Type of entity:

Public Sector

Ministry of Sport and Tourism of the Republic of Belarus

Type of entity:

Public Sector

Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus

Type of entity:

Public Sector

Media and Publishing Forums in Belarus

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

Ministry of Information of the Republic of Belarus, public and independent media

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Media Arts

Publishing

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<http://mininform.gov.by>

<https://www.tvr.by>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

A number of media and publishing forums are held annually in Belarus. They contribute to the promotion of various media, their evaluation, and the broader participation of civil society in the discussion of the role and importance of modern media for society in the Republic of Belarus. These forums include: International specialized exhibition “Media in Belarus” It has been held since 1997 and reflects the entire spectrum of the country's information space. Print and audiovisual media, Internet resources, news agencies, cable television operators and distributors, print distributors, and publishing houses participate in this exhibition. The exhibition offers the media community and visitors a rich variety of events. It includes presentations of information and Internet projects, autograph signing, workshops, flash promotions, and etc. The exhibition program provides for the discussions of such significant issues as the functioning of media, its role in the development of society, state, and culture. Within the exhibition, the winners and laureates of the National Literary Media Competition Zolotaya Litera and the winners of the Republican Contest among Journalists and the Media for the best coverage of the issues of interethnic and interfaith relations, intercultural dialogue in the Republic of Belarus, and cooperation with compatriots abroad get their awards.

Belarusian International Media Forum Partnership for the Future It has been held annually since 2003. Its key goal is to discuss the role of the media in interstate development, the ways it strengthens humanitarian values, promotes mutual understanding between countries and peoples, media digitalizing, media management, etc. The annual forum is dedicated to various topics and hosts participants from more than 30 countries. Within the framework of the forum, the Summer School of Journalism is organized where leading foreign and Belarusian media persons and experts give their workshops. In 2019, the media forum was held in Brest. The main topics discussed at the forum were as follows: media space and information security, the influence of social networks and the blogosphere on the formation of public opinion, modern trends in online journalism and its role in solving the socio-political problems of the regions.

The Minsk International Book Fair is held in early February. Every year it opens the international calendar of book exhibitions. The exhibition is of great practical importance for its participants and visitors. It plays a significant role in strengthening mutually beneficial international relations in the field of book publishing and book distribution. In 2020, the XXVII Minsk International Book Fair took place from February 5 to 9 and was represented by more than 300 exhibitors from 30 countries across the former Soviet Union and beyond. About 60 thousand people visited the exhibition. A special place in the annual calendar of events of the country is occupied by the Day of Belarusian Writing – a holiday dedicated to national culture, literature, and printed word. Traditionally, it is held in the historical centers of culture, science,

literature, and printing. The main idea of the holiday is to preserve and develop the spiritual heritage of Belarus, promote national cultural traditions, show their ties with the Slavic origins and modern times. The program includes an international roundtable discussion held with the participation of foreign writers, the Republican contest of young readers Zhivaya Klassika, a scientific and practical conference devoted to the history of the city – the holiday's capital – entertaining quizzes, quests, and the Book and Press Festival.

Does it specifically target young people?: NO

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?:

- presentation of the national media and publishing achievements;
- establishment of the discussion platform and involvement of youth and the broad public in the process of discussion of the national media and publishing strategy.

Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:

The data is not available

Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: NO

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

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus

Type of entity:

Public Sector

Ministry of Sport and Tourism of the Republic of Belarus

Type of entity:

Public Sector

Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus

Type of entity:

Public Sector

independent media

Type of entity:

Private 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.): NO

Statistics or studies with recent data on access to digital media, including on the type of cultural content available through digital media, are available: NO

Percentage of the population with subscriptions to online cultural content providers (e.g. Netflix, Spotify, Amazon, etc.):

10.00%

Relevant Policies and Measures:

Digitalization of cultural content in the Republic of Belarus

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

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus

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:

<https://www.kultura.by>

<http://www.nlb.by>

<https://www.dkmf.by>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

A number of regulatory acts were adopted for digitalization in Belarus: Decree No. 8 On the Development of Digital Technologies, the Strategy for the Development of Informatization in the Republic of Belarus for 2016–2020, and the State Program for the Development of the Digital Economy and Information Society for 2016–2020. Moreover, today the High-Tech Park

operates as a key institute of digital transformations in the country. The creation of a Ministry of Digital Economy has been discussed, and the establishment of an IT university is planned. The main emphasis in the development and implementation of digital technologies has been made towards the creation of an information and communication infrastructure and conditions for electronic communication between the government bodies, business community, and citizens. In Belarus, as of January 1, 2019, 74% of the population are Internet-users. According to the National Statistics Committee, 83% of the city and 67.9% of the rural population have access to the Internet. The total number of mobile subscribers in Belarus is 11.87 mln (126%), and 62% of the subscribers have access to 3G and 4G networks (67% of the subscribers in the world). Digitalization has affected all areas of social life, including culture. Nowadays, the automation of the accounting processes and paperwork management of the collections of libraries, museums, and archives has been fully completed, about 0,6 mln library collections, and 70% of museum collections have been fully digitalized. The access to the documentary, library, and museum collections is provided through open online resources: the electronic library catalog (<https://e-catalog.nlb.by>) and the State Museum Collections Catalogue of the Republic of Belarus (<https://www.dkmf.by/about>). There are also databases of tangible immovable cultural property, intangible cultural heritage (www.livingheritage.by), archaeological monuments. The digitalization of the treasures of the Belarusian National Film Fund was carried out by the State Archive of Cinema and Photo Documents of the Republic of Belarus and the Museum of Belarusian Cinema. About 60% of the country's film fund is digitized. Nowadays, there are about 142 thousand domains registered in the national domain zone, including 15 thousand in the ".бел" Cyrillic zone and 127 thousand in the ".by" zone in the Republic of Belarus. About 30% of the domains are cultural resources. As for music, the independent Belarusian music portal <https://zaycev.net> is popular. Musical compositions are distributed there in accordance with contracts with the copyright holders (legal entities and individuals). There is a cultural and educational Internet platform — The World of Classical Music (<https://classicalmusic.by>) — for those who prefer classic music. In 2017, on the occasion of the 500th anniversary of the Belarusian book printing, the National Library of Belarus issued a full facsimile edition of Francisk Skaryna's book collection in 20 volumes. Most of the original editions of his works are in the libraries of the Russian Federation, Poland, Great Britain, Lithuania, Germany, and the USA. There are only 10 incomplete Skaryna's works in Belarus. Meticulous library and information studies allowed to choose the best preserved and the most complete copies, including Skorina's famous "Psalter". There are only two copies of this book in the world, and both of them are incomplete. As a result, about 300 Skaryna's editions have been collected and digitized. Today, the full collection of facsimile copies (20 volumes) are kept in the National Library, and a part of the archive is freely accessible on the Internet. The prints retain all the features of paper, pencil and pen marks in the margins of the books, stains, and tears. They have not been retouched to maintain all the features. The facsimile edition opened up the possibility of exploring the past to a wide range of readers. Previously, only scientists had access to the 500-year-old copies. But now the publication has been sent to all universities, city and district libraries of the country, museums, and other institutions named after the first printer.

Does it specifically target young people?: NO

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 digitalization of culture and cultural resources is an important element of the country's cultural policy. During the reporting period, the following was achieved: 1) the unified national archival information system has been developed; 2) the State Catalogue of the Museum Collections of the Republic of Belarus was transferred to cloud technologies; 3) the infrastructure of electronic libraries and the digitization of materials stored in the National Library of Belarus have been improved; 4) joint environment is being developed for managing and accessing information related to culture and historical and cultural heritage.

Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:

The data is not available

Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: NO

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

National Library of Belarus

Type of entity:

Public Sector

National Film Studio "Belarusfilm"

Type of entity:

Public Sector

State Committee for Archives of the Republic of Belarus

Type of entity:

Public Sector

Museums and libraries of Belarus

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

Design

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: YES

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:

Meetings and consultations with the representative of civil society on the cultural policy issues are held constantly.

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:

The governmental support for the participation of civil society in promoting the diversity of cultural expressions.

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

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Music

Performing Arts

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<http://www.kultura.by>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

According to the Ministry of Justice, in Belarus, cultural and educational institutions make 31% of all the registered public associations and companies. The state cooperates with and provides support to non-governmental organizations in several ways: • implementing and

building up a constant dialogue with representatives of civil society through consultations, meetings, implementation of joint projects and programs; • providing material support for creative association initiatives and NGOs, including, but not limited to individual tax preferences. It is done in accordance with the legislative initiative specified in Chapter 11 of the Code of the Republic of Belarus on Culture, which guarantees the rights and freedoms of members of creative unions and the protection of their interests. The state establishes creative unions and associations to promote various projects and programs, supports art schools, creative forms and techniques, and ensures the continuity of knowledge and skills. The Ministry of Culture keeps a list of all creative unions and associations which activities meet the criteria and correspond to the definition of a "creative union" specified in Chapter 11 of the Code on Culture. This list is updated from time to time. In 1992, the Belarusian Confederation of Creative Unions has been established. It includes 13 public associations: unions of artists, architects, designers, filmmakers, composers, theater workers, craftsmen, musicians, journalists, literary and art critics, photographers, and the Belarusian Culture Foundation, Screen Actors Guild. In total, it includes about 10,000 people. In the Republic of Belarus, there are many different forms of material and financial incentives for the activities of various creative unions: 1) granting land and buildings (Article 60 of the Code on Culture); 2) providing tax preferences for individual artists, designers, and actors); 3) providing benefits for art studio rentals for artists and designers, etc. All non-governmental organizations and associations have many opportunities to participate in competitions for state social and creative orders with an aim to implement various projects and programs, as well as to receive financial (grant) support from the President's Fund for the Support of Culture and Art and the President's Special Fund for the Support of Talented Youth. Sponsorship and Patronage in Culture. The Code of the Republic of Belarus on Culture encourages the development of sponsorship and patronage supporting culture and cultural activities, including heritage protection, the development of museum affairs and librarianship, art, theatrical activities, etc. (Chapter 12). At the reporting panel of the Ministry of Culture, the Patron of the Year commemorative badge is awarded to individual representatives of the business sector who have made a significant contribution to supporting cultural initiatives every year. Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus No. 300 dated July 1, 2005 On the Provision and Use of Gratuitous (Sponsor) Assistance defines the procedure for providing sponsor assistance and state preferences for sponsors.

Does it specifically target young people?: NO

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?:

1. At the legislative level (the Code of Culture), the status, powers and some preferences for creative unions and creative professionals (Code of Culture) have been defined. 2. The state provides support and promotion at various levels to patronage and sponsorship in culture. 3. The Republic of Belarus creates good conditions for a wider dialogue between the state and civil society in support of the development of cultures and art.

Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:

The data is not available

Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: NO

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

Belarusian Confederation of Creative Unions and other NGO's and associations

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.)

Specific visa policies or other cross border measures supporting the inward mobility of foreign artists and cultural professionals in your country (e.g. simplified visa procedures, reduced fees for visas, visas for longer durations)

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:

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

Relevant Policies and Measures:

Minsk International Film Forum "Listapad"

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

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus Festival Directorate (Private Theater and Entertainment Institution of Culture "Center for Visual and Performing Arts" ART Corporation").

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Media Arts

Visual Arts

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<http://listapad.com>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

The first Listapad Film Forum was held in Minsk in 1993, until 2002 it was called the International Film Festival of the CIS Countries and Baltic States. In 2013, the Minsk International Film Festival Listapad received permanent accreditation from the International Federation of Film Producers Associations and entered the list of the most prestigious film forums where such world-famous film forums as Berlin, Venice, Warsaw, and Moscow festivals are included. The competition program of the festival consists of 4 sections: ▪ feature films (Main Feature Films Competition and Debut Feature Films Competition "Youth on the March"); ▪ documentary films (Main Documentary Films Competition and National Film Schools Competition); ▪ Children and Youth Films Competition "Listapadzik"; ▪ National Competition (includes documentary, feature, and animated films). Every November, the Festival Listapad brings the best films from around the world to Minsk. The main contests of feature and documentary films are focused on new films created in the countries of the former USSR: the CIS countries, Central and Southeast Asia, the Baltic States, Eastern and Central Europe. The films from this region recognized at the most prestigious international film festivals, compete for the main award of the Minsk International Film Festival. 7 International juries work at the Festival Listapad. The highest award of the Festival is Golden Listapad Grand Prix for the Best Film, Grand Prix for the Best Documentary Film, the Golden Listapadzik Prize for the Best Film, and the FIPRESCI International Press Jury Prize. During the festival week, more than 232 screenings take place at 5 venues. The majority of the screenings are followed by Q&A sessions with the authors of the films. The program includes workshops, retrospectives, and exhibitions. MIFF Listapad is visited by about 20,000 spectators and more than 100 guests from more than 50 foreign countries every year. Some of them belong to the cultural and business elite of world film-making industry. Since 2014, a special competition has been held at the festival for the Belarusian filmmakers residing and working not only in Belarus but also in other countries of the world. In addition, since 2014, the BelCinema Industrial Platform has been taking place within the framework of the Festival Listapad, during which about 15 events are organized. These are workshops of the international B2B Doc platform and Adami Media Prize, Virtual Reality Days featuring VK films from Poland, Lithuania, France, Belarus, Argentina, Czech Republic and the USA. The executive body – the Festival Directorate – is an example of partnership between state and private owners, since its functions were outsourced by the Ministry of Culture to a public association — the Private Theater and Performance Institution Culture Center for Visual and Performing Arts, which accumulates financial investments (public and private) to organize the festival, and manages it.

Does it specifically target young people?: NO

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?:

1) effective implementation of the state cinema policy; 2) increase in the domestic film

production and audience; 3) the best visibility and recognition of the Belarusian film industry; 4) strengthening the position of cinema in the national cultural and educational system; 5) ensuring mobility of Belarusian cinematographers and promoting their art; 4) an acquaintance with the best foreign practices in the film industry and the transfer of experience; 5) formation of a high social and cultural status of the cinema and the involvement of young filmmakers in the industry.

Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:

\$ 365 079 was spent on the festival in 2016 (10% sponsorship), in 2017 - \$ 357 USA (24% sponsorship), in 2018 - \$ 393,883. (21% sponsorship), in 2019 - \$ 408,741 (19% sponsorship).

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

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

The Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus with the wide participation of the civil sector carries out the evaluation of the results of the festival constantly. Based on monitoring, the recommendations have been developed for improving management, expanding the capabilities and the geography of the festival, attracting additional funds and new stakeholders.

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

Minsk City Executive Committee

Type of entity:

Public Sector

Belarusian TV and Radio Company

Type of entity:

Public Sector

National film studio "Belarusfilm"

Type of entity:

Public Sector

Belarusian Union of Cinematographers

Type of entity:

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

International Theater Arts Forum "TEART"

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

Center for Visual and Performing Arts "ART Corporation"

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Performing Arts

Visual Arts

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<http://www.teart.by>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

TEART — the international theater forum — shows the best theatrical art performances, that received various awards and participated in prestigious world festivals. But the TEART festival itself focuses on experiments and artistic innovation in theater. The forum has a wide geography. Among the participating countries, there are Argentina, Belarus, Hungary, Germany, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Estonia, France. Workshops, meetings with the creators of performances, open discussions are the mandatory part of the theater festival. The specific feature of this festival is that it was initiated and originally carried out only by efforts of civil society and private business. It is inspired and organized by the Center for Visual and Performing Arts "ART Corporation" — an organization whose mission is to increase the status and strengthen the image of our country in the world, to perform cultural and educational activities in the field of cinema and theater. Today the TEART festival is a large-scale world-class phenomenon. The state is actively involved in its activities through the participation of various state institutions (theaters), as well as through direct financing of certain its projects and programs.

Does it specifically target young people?: NO

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?:

1) the wide involvement of the civil sector in the preparation and conducting of the festival; 2) this is a good example of public-private partnerships; 3) the focus on the experiment, innovation makes the festival a very popular and attractive for young people; 4) it enhances the image of Belarus in the international arena, expands the possibilities of cultural cooperation and export of cultural services, increases the mobility of theater professionals, contributing to the development of creative freedoms.

Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:

35 000 USD was spent on the festival organization from the public budget for 4 last years.

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

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

The festival results are evaluated directly by the organizers with the active participation of all involved actors, including the Ministry of Culture. This allows to develop the recommendations for improving the festival management, increasing the cost effectiveness, expanding the capabilities and geography of the festival, attracting the additional funds and new stakeholders.

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

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus

Type of entity:

Public Sector

Minsk City Executive Committee

Type of entity:

Public Sector

Belgazprombank Ltd

Type of entity:

Private 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

Design

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:

-

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:

-

If YES, please provide up to 2 examples:

-

Relevant Policies and Measures:

The program of cultural cooperation between the Republic of Belarus and the People's Republic of China

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

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<https://www.kultura.by>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

On September 4, 2014, in Beijing, an agreement was signed between the Government of the Republic of Belarus and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the

establishment of the Belarusian-Chinese Intergovernmental Cooperation Committee, under which a cultural cooperation commission was established. Its activity resulted in the exchange of cultural events, including but not limited to exhibitions and presentations of museums and galleries, celebrations of the Days of Belarus in China and the Days of China in the Republic of Belarus, concerts, performances, participation in book fairs joint film screenings and participation in festivals, conferences, and educational projects. Representatives of the People's Republic of China take part in the International Festival of Contemporary Choreography in Vitebsk, in the International Music Festival named after I.I. Sollertinsky, and in Minsk Film Festival Listapad. From September 20 to September 24, 2016, the Week of Chinese Cinema was held in the Republic of Belarus. Belarusian films were shown in China in 2017 and 2019. In the framework of bilateral cooperation, students and teachers of Belarusian and Chinese universities participate in exchange programs.

Does it specifically target young people?: NO

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?:

Exchange of best practices in cultural management; expanding and strengthening the capacity of workers from public and private cultural institutions; supporting the development of civil society; an exchange of best practices and cultural achievements; the development of professional cooperation between individuals from different cultural sectors.

Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:

The data is not available

Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: NO

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

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus

Type of entity:

Public Sector

Chinese Embassy in the Republic of Belarus

Type of entity:

Public Sector

Embassy of the Republic of Belarus in China

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:

NO

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:

UNDER NEGOTIATION

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: NO

Relevant Policies and Measures:

Bilateral and multilateral international cultural cooperation

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

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<https://www.kultura.by>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

The international cultural policy of the Republic of Belarus is implemented through fruitful cooperation with international organizations such as the UN, the EU, the Council of Europe, UNESCO, the CIS, etc., entering bilateral and multilateral intergovernmental or interdepartmental agreements, programs and action plans, participation in various platforms of international cooperation. The main subjects of the foreign cultural policy are the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, diplomatic missions, and cultural attaches. State and non-governmental institutions of art and culture, unions and associations of artists, higher art schools, local municipalities are also actively involved in international cultural cooperation. They are members of relevant European or international networks of culture and art. In 2017, the Republic of Belarus and the PRC have established a Commission for Cultural Cooperation, which provides for the integration and effective implementation of many joint cultural projects. As for the protection of the historical and cultural heritage, there is a Belarusian-Polish Advisory Commission on Cultural Heritage Issues. The Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Belarus and the Government of the United States of America on the protection and preservation of certain cultural property, the Agreement

between the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania on cooperation in the field of protection of historical and cultural heritage are concluded. In 2016 – 2019, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus signed 23 agreements on cultural cooperation with foreign countries. The agreements are aimed at strengthening state and non-governmental cooperation in the field of culture as a whole and its certain areas: cinema, visual and performing arts, historical and cultural heritage, design and media space; at the support of the intercultural dialogue and cultural diversity, and expanding of the export of the culture and cultural products, promotion of the Belarusian culture abroad.

Does it specifically target young people?: NO

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?:

Through international cooperation, the policy on promoting the Belarusian cultural content is being implemented. The intercultural dialogue is being formed and interaction is being developed between individuals, organizations and creative unions, as well as the geography of cultural cooperation is expanding.

Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:

The data is not available

Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: NO

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

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus

Type of entity:

Public Sector

Diplomatic missions of the Republic of Belarus in foreign countries

Type of entity:

Public Sector

Creative unions and associations

Type of entity:

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

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)
Creativity and innovation

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): 3

Social (e.g. social cohesion and inclusion, inequality and poverty reduction, values and identity, vulnerable and minority groups, empowerment and human capital, education): 3

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): 3

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: NO

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

Latest data on cultural participation rates by socio demographic variables (sex/age groups/rural- urban/income levels/education levels):

The data is not available

Relevant Policies and Measures:

Supporting the national minorities' culture and its integration into the Belarusian society

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

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus
Belarusian Center of National Minorities

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Design
Media Arts
Music
Performing Arts
Publishing
Visual Arts

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<http://nationalcultures.by>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

In accordance with the Law of the Republic of Belarus On National Minorities (adopted in 1992, latest revision of 2007), all the citizens of the Republic of Belarus, regardless of their nationality, shall enjoy the protection of the State on an equal basis (Article 13). They shall have equal political, economic and social rights and freedoms (Article 6). The Republican Center of National Cultures was established to implement the main provisions of this Law, to strengthen the inter-ethnic harmony, to create conditions for the practical enforcement of the rights of the citizens of Belarus of different nationalities and to satisfy their cultural interests. There are 21 public national-cultural associations operating in the center, 11 groups of art work, such as the folk choir of the Ukrainian song Krinitza, the collective of Korean culture “Arirang”, the Armenian folklore ensemble “Erebuni”, the gypsy dance ensemble “Cherginori”, the Kazakh creative team “Saltanat”, the choir of the Polish song “Mayevy kvyat”, etc. There are courses of the Georgian, Lithuanian, Polish, Korean, and Ukrainian languages. The Center for National Cultures is the organizer of the Belarusian Festival of National Cultures, which has been held in Grodno every 2 years since 1996 and gathers more than 1000 participants — representatives of about 40 nationalities residing in the Republic of Belarus or invited as guests of the festival. The Center also contributes immensely to the support of the Belarusian diaspora abroad: it organizes trips for Belarusians abroad to their homeland, their creative team performances in Belarus, collaborates with the Belarusian schools and gymnasiums in Lithuania, Latvia, Poland, organizes summer camps and Belarusian language courses for children of Belarusians residing abroad.

Does it specifically target young people?: NO

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?:

Increasing the tolerance, integrating national minorities into the Belarusian society, supporting the cultural diversity and promoting intercultural dialogue, educating young people and adults.

Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:

The data is not available

Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: NO

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

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus

Type of entity:

Public Sector

Diplomatic missions of the Republic of Belarus abroad

Type of entity:

Public Sector

Diplomatic missions of various countries in the Republic of Belarus

Type of entity:

Public Sector

National cultural associations in the Republic of Belarus

Type of entity:

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

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:

-

Development cooperation strategies, including South-South cooperation strategies, recognize the strategic role of creativity and diverse cultural expressions: NO
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:

-

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

0.00

Relevant Policies and Measures:

Holding the Days of Belarusian Culture in various countries

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

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<https://www.kultura.by>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

One of the important directions in the development of the international cooperation in the Republic of Belarus with other countries is holding the Days of Belarusian Culture abroad. It will promote the national cultural achievements, strengthen cultural ties, ensure the mobility of artists and creative people, export cultural products, and develop intercultural dialogue. In 2016, the Days of Belarusian Culture were held in the Russian Federation, Turkey, Laos, and in 2017 the geography of celebrating expanded and covered 6 more countries, including India, Hungary, China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Georgia. In 2018–2019, the Belarusian culture was presented in 10 more countries in Europe and Asia. During this event, various cultural achievements and products are presented, for example, exhibitions of Belarusian artists, craft fairs, concerts of classical and pop music, book fairs and creative presentations of the Belarusian writers and poets, dance and theater productions, and Belarusian films are held. In its turn, Belarus hosts similar presentations of other countries' cultures. From 2016 to 2020, more than 15 such events have been organized in Belarus by various countries. In particular,

in 2019, Belarus hosted great cultural events of Vietnam, Ukraine, Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Poland, and China. It has already become a good tradition when foreign embassies accredited in the Republic of Belarus organize cultural events, which are very popular among Minsk citizens and guests. Every year, from May to September, music concerts, folk art fairs, and culinary traditions presentations are held in Minsk Verkhniy Gorod (the historical center of the city).

Does it specifically target young people?: NO

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?:

- strengthening the position of culture in the policy of international cooperation;
- the development of wider access for the international community to the cultural products, the creative initiatives and cultural processes of Belarus;
- the development of cultural tourism;
- the involvement of various creative associations and groups in the organization and holding of the Belarusian culture days abroad.

Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:

The data is not available

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

The results of international cooperation and the Days of Culture of Belarus abroad are annually summarized by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus. A detailed analysis of these results allows to improve the management of the event and introduce new forms of presentation of Belarusian culture abroad. The recommendations are related to the expansion of the geography of international cooperation of the Republic of Belarus, the specification of goals and the development of cooperation between various stakeholders.

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

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus

Type of entity:

Public Sector

Belarusian Union of Theater Workers

Type of entity:

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

Belarusian Union of Musical Figures

Type of entity:

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

Belarusian Union of Artists

Type of entity:

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

Belarusian Union of Craftsmen

Type of entity:

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

GOAL 4 - PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS



GENDER EQUALITY

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

Do not exist

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:

-

Percentage of total public funds given to female artists and cultural producers:

0.00%

Percentage of women/men in decision-making /managerial positions in public and private cultural and media:

More than 60%

Percentage of works from female/male artists displayed / projected in important festivals of the arts and cultural industries (film, book publishing, music industry etc.):

The data is not available

Percentage of women receiving art national prizes/awards:

20.00%

Percentage of women participation in cultural activities:

60.00%

Relevant Policies and Measures:

The policy of gender equality in Belarus

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

Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus

All ministers and departments in accordance with their competence

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<http://www.mintrud.gov.by/system/extensions/spaw/uploads/files/Nats-plan.pdf>

<https://www.genderperspectives.by>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

The gender policy of the Republic of Belarus is based on generally accepted international norms enshrined by the UN conventions and other international documents aimed at overcoming all forms and manifestations of gender discrimination and creating conditions that give everyone the right to fully realize their personal potential, regardless of gender. The principle of equal rights for women and men in all spheres of life is enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus. The implementation of this principle is ensured by such legislative acts as the Marriage and Family Code, the Labor Code, the Criminal Code, the Civil Code, the Law of the Republic of Belarus On Employment of the Population of the Republic of Belarus, and others. 53.4% of the population of Belarus are female. Belarus ranks 30th out of 188 countries in the Gender Inequality Index. In 2019, women accounted for 35% of the total number of the citizens who received subsidies for organizing entrepreneurial activities, eco-tourism services, craft activities. In 2017, the National Action Plan for Gender Equality in the Republic of Belarus for 2017 - 2020 was adopted. It was approved by the Decree of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus dated February 17, 2017. Its goal is to develop mechanisms for introducing a gender approach into the process of developing and implementing public policy measures in various areas of society. There are many women at the middle managerial level in Belarus. However, senior management positions are held mostly by men. The share of women in the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus is 33.7% of the total number of deputies. At the same time, feminization of certain professions is observed in the country, primarily in the fields of media, education, and culture. Among 69 thousand cultural workers in the country, 70% are female, many of them occupy senior management positions.

Does it specifically target young people?: NO

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?:

Positive changes in the gender policy of Belarus are connected with the adoption of the National Action Plan on Gender Equality in the Republic of Belarus by 2020 and cooperation with independent experts in the field of gender policy in the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda by the Republic of Belarus. Nowadays the basic task of the country's gender policy is integrating the principles of gender equality in various areas of social activity, including in the sphere of culture and education. Among the important areas, there are changes in lifestyle

trends of women and men, attitude to health, environmentally friendly models of life; improving the opportunities for combining work and family life that change the division of responsibilities related to childcare, parenting, and housekeeping between women and men, increasing the participation of women in entrepreneurship, which contributes to the well-being of families and social protection of women. It is also necessary to improve experts' understanding of the essence of gender equality and the importance of applying a gender approach in cultural policy.

Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:

The data is not available

Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: NO

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

International Public Association "Gender Perspectives"

Type of entity:

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

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: NO

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.): YES

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.): NO

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.): NO

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.): YES

Relevant Policies and Measures:

The Fund for the Support of Culture and Art of the President of the Republic of Belarus

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

The Council of the Fund for the Support of Culture and Art of the President of the Republic of Belarus

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<http://www.kultura.by>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

The Fund for the Support of Culture and Art of the President of the Republic of Belarus was established on April 15, 1998. by Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus No. 211 acts on the basis of Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus dated December 13, 2004 No. 601 "On some issues of the activity of the Fund for the Support of Culture and Art of

the President of the Republic of Belarus ". It is aimed at financing culture and art, creating favorable conditions for the creative development of a person, social support for cultural and art workers, preservation of the historical heritage and cultural traditions of the Belarusian people. The resources are received by the fund from the republican budget, charitable contributions of the Belarusian and foreign citizens, companies, enterprises, foundations, and other legal entities. The Fund's resources are managed by the Fund's Council, which is formed from the leading cultural and art workers, representatives of the Presidential Administration of the Republic of Belarus, the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus, ministries concerned, and other republican government bodies, creative unions and public associations. The Fund's Council, on the basis of proposals received from companies, institutions, creative unions, and various public associations, makes decisions on the allocation of funds for:

- payment of fees and grants for the creation of works of culture and art;
- acquisition of tools and materials for classes to improve skills and the implementation of creative activities;
- internships for cultural and art workers, the implementation of creative projects in Belarus and abroad;
- ensuring the participation of creators in competitions, exhibitions, festivals, symposiums and other events in the field of culture and art;
- organization of festivals, concerts, exhibitions, publications, and creation of stage works, works of fine art, other events to identify and promote talents and works;
- assistance in organizing advanced training, improving the professional skills of creative workers;
- single-time payment of financial aid to cultural and art workers;
- other goals related to the preservation of historical and cultural values.

Every year, the fund sponsors the awards of the President of the Republic of Belarus 'For Spiritual Revival' and special prizes to cultural and art workers.

Does it specifically target young people?: NO

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 Fund provides the sustainable funding for programs to support culture and art, the mobility of artists, formal and non-formal education in the field of culture, pays scholarships and bonuses to cultural and art workers, which in general allows organizing the sequence and continuity of the cultural development process and its promotion at the national and international levels. Part of the funds goes to support the projects of non-governmental organizations in the field of culture and art.

Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:

For last 5 years 37 various projects have received the support and funding from the President's Fund in the amount of 4.67 billion rubles (2,30 billion USD),

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

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

The Fund's activities (operational and financial) are monitored annually by the Fund's Council. Based on monitoring, the measures and recommendations are being taken to improve the management of the fund and increase its potential.

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

cultural and art institutions of the Republic of Belarus

Type of entity:

Public Sector

creative unions and non-governmental organizations in the field of culture and art

Type of entity:

Civil Society Organization (CSO)

The President's Special Fund for the Support of Talented Youth

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

The Council of the President's Special Fund for the Support of Talented Youth
Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus

Cultural domains covered by the policy/measure:

Cinema/ Audiovisual Arts

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<http://www.kultura.by>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

The President's Special Fund for the Support of Talented Youth was created by Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus No. 18 dated January 12, 1996 in order to finance activities aimed at creating conditions for the search, establishment and creative development of gifted youth. The resources of the fund are generated from the allocations from the reserve fund of the President of the Republic of Belarus, voluntary contributions from the citizens of the Republic of Belarus, foreign citizens and stateless persons, as well as legal entities, and etc. The Council of the Fund manages the fund's resources. The Council consists of the leading cultural and art workers, representatives of the Presidential Administration of the Republic of Belarus, the Office of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus, interested state bodies and institutions, creative unions, and other public associations. The Fund Council, in accordance with the proposals from state bodies, institutions, public associations and the recommendations of the expert and art commission of the fund, encourages talented students, teachers, young artists and cultural workers with creative achievements. The Fund pays talented young people scholarships, grants and bonuses, provides them with financial assistance for internship participation, to conduct master classes by leading artists. The Fund resources are allocated for creative projects and meetings with recognized artists of various countries. They are also sent for the organizing contests, festivals, concerts, exhibitions, publications and other events as well as to identify and promote young talents and their creativity; ensuring the participation of creative youth in international competitions, exhibitions, symposiums and other actions in the field of culture and art aimed at the development and mutual enrichment of national cultures; the acquisition of musical instruments, stage costumes, materials and equipment for art classes. In 2005, the Fund created a Database of talented young people. It works and is updated continuously. The formation and use of the database of talented youth is carried out in accordance with Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus dated April 26, 2010 No. 199. The database is a unique automated system for centralized accounting, accumulation and recording of information about the scholarship holders, diploma winners, and laureates of The President's Special Fund for the Support of Talented Youth. The data bank is maintained in order to ensure the effective use of the creative and intellectual potential of talented youth, to assist in

its professional activities. The information is entered into the database in order to: ensure a unified system for recording talented young people and attracting them to creative events; provide assistance in the organization of youth education, career guidance, etc. Besides the information on laureates, scholarship holders, and award winners of the Special Fund who are younger than thirty-one, the data bank contains information about contests, achievements, educational institutions, teachers, and the place of residence of all awarded. All the data about people who have reached thirty-one years of age are archived. In total, by January 01, 2020 there is information about 2,884 talented young people and 232 creative groups. Many of them were repeatedly encouraged by the fund. It means that the level and international prestige of the performing skills of the young Belarusian talents is high.

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 activity of the The President's Special Fund for the Support of Talented Youth provides the tremendous assistance in the formation and development of a creative person. It stimulates the motivation of talented young people to achieve a high creative performance, and supports teachers, state and non-governmental organizations of culture and art, universities and the children's educational institutions in the art sphere.

Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:

2019: 80 352 USD was allocated for the promotion of 386 representatives of talented youth. Among them are the winners of international and national competitions and festivals in the field of music, arts and crafts, visual, choreographic, choral and model art. 63,744 USD were spent on 40 scholarships, 37 awards, 52 incentive awards, 13 grand prizes for talented students.

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

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

The Fund's activities (operational and financial) are monitored annually by the Fund's Council. Based on monitoring, the measures and recommendations are being taken to improve the management of the fund and increase its potential.

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

cultural and art institutions of the Republic of Belarus

Type of entity:

Public Sector

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.:

In order to prepare the periodic report, a working group was created, which included representatives of the civil society of Belarus: the creative sector, various NGOs working in the field of culture, education and tourism, as well as the IT sector related to the production of cultural products. The online consultation process was also organized and conducted with the use of the special NGO form. The expert assessment of the main directions of the national cultural policy was carried out. All these measures made it possible to identify the main problems arising in the implementation of the provisions of the Convention 2005, to determine the priorities for the development of cultural policy for the next four years and to establish new prospects for cooperation between the state and civil society.

GOAL 1 - Support sustainable systems of governance for culture:

Crowdfunding platforms to support the production and promotion of cultural products

Name of CSO(s) responsible for the implementation of the measure/initiative:

Ulej.by (High Project Ltd)

Talaka.by

Cultural domains covered by the measure/initiative:

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

Website of the measure/initiative, if available:

<https://ulej.by>

<https://www.talaka.org/hello>

Describe the main features of the measure/initiative:

Crowdfunding – a new phenomenon for the Belarusian socio-cultural field – has recently become popular. It gives the opportunity to the consumers of cultural products directly finance them. The authors of crowdfunding projects can directly, without any intermediaries, receive funds – voluntary contributions from sponsors – and shorten the path from an idea to its implementation, test the competitiveness of their product, and find customers. It was crowdfunding that made it possible to publish many popular and iconic books, to finance many creative startups, especially in the field of design and gallery business, and documentary films.

Today, there are two independent crowdfunding platforms – Ulej and Talaka – operating in Belarus. Among other things, they also support cultural initiatives.

Does it specifically target young people?: NO

Does this measure/initiative receive or has it received International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) funding?: NO

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

- promoting the freedom of a creative person's choice;
- expanding the opportunities for funding of creative projects
- development of cultural and social entrepreneurship, support for cultural startups
- strengthening the cooperation and solidarity

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

The formation and development of creative and cultural spaces in the urban environment

Name of CSO(s) responsible for the implementation of the measure/initiative:

The Book Shop Lohvinau

The "Ź" Gallery of Contemporary Art

The Korpus Cultural Center

Cultural Hub OK16

Cultural domains covered by the measure/initiative:

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

Website of the measure/initiative, if available:

<https://ygallery.by>

<https://lohvinau.by>

<https://ok16.by>

Describe the main features of the measure/initiative:

A relatively new and dynamically developing phenomenon of the last three years is the development of public cultural spaces, which, on the one hand, act as an infrastructure for the development of cultural and social activity, and on the other hand, have their own agendas and programs (The Book Shop Lohvinau, The "Ź" Gallery of Contemporary Art, The Korpus Cultural Center, Cultural Hub OK16, etc.). A feature of this process in the city of Minsk is that these spaces usually appear in the former industrial zones, where they initiate active revitalization of the industrial heritage monuments. A trend towards the creation and development of independent cultural spaces is also observed in the regions where there are objects of historical and cultural heritage: for example, the "Valley of Angels" in Mozyr, Gomel Region, a museum and cultural center dedicated to the famous art association of the 1920s, UNOVIS in the building of the former art school in Vitebsk, the Kola Center and the Center for Urban Initiatives (Mogilev), the Ethnic-shop Tsudounya (Grodno), the Kryly Khalopa space

(Brest), the 1387 Time Club (Bobruisk) and others. Cultural spaces serve not only as an infrastructure for various cultural events (i.e. they host different cultural initiatives), but also become new active cultural players, initiating their own programs and events. These open and independent spaces involve a wide range of people in their activities, which are not limited to social, thematic or format frameworks.

Does it specifically target young people?: YES

Does this measure/initiative receive or has it received International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) funding?: NO

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

1) promotion the cultural heritage protection and revitalization; 2) reduction of social distance between different groups; 3) development of national content, emphasis on youth policy; 4) promoting the development of social and creative entrepreneurship, improving the employment situation of young people; 5) promoting the development of creative freedom and mobility of artists and artists, intercultural dialogue and cultural diversity.

GOAL 3 - Integrate culture in sustainable development frameworks:

Free courses of the Belarusian language “Mova Nanova”

Name of CSO(s) responsible for the implementation of the measure/initiative:

Social and Cultural Institution For the Development of the Belarusian Language and Culture “Mova Nanova”

Cultural domains covered by the measure/initiative:

Publishing

Website of the measure/initiative, if available:

<http://www.movananova.by>

Describe the main features of the measure/initiative:

Mova Nanova — free courses of the Belarusian language. It was founded in Minsk in 2014 by philologist Alesya Litvinovskaya and journalist Gleb Labadenko. Today the courses are available in more than 15 cities of Belarus, gather a large number of people, and are especially popular among young people. About 3,000 people attend these weekly courses. The name of the courses is simple. Many Belarusians say that Belarusian is their native language. At the same time, they do not speak it or do not speak it fluently. The courses provide great motivation for learning the native language and contribute to its wider spreading. The concept of the courses is non-academic language learning. Teaching is interactive, learning is fun and easy. In June 2014, the Mova Nanova language courses were awarded the Grand Prix at the Belarusian ADNAK Advertising Festival in the category “Social Values Projects”. In December 2014, the courses became winners of the “Event of the Year” contest at the V Festival of non-formal education.

Does it specifically target young people?: NO

Does this measure/initiative receive or has it received International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) funding?: NO

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

The courses have a huge impact on the development of motivations for the study and use of the native language. They involve many people of different generations and social status in these processes. They contribute to the consolidation of people within different communities, the development of their intellectual and creative potential.

GOAL 4 - Promote human rights and fundamental freedoms:

The activities of “Art – Syadziba” (Art Manor) to develop creative freedoms and support the independent cultural initiatives

Name of CSO(s) responsible for the implementation of the measure/initiative:

Project “Art-Syadziba” (Historic and Educational Institution “Amaroka”)

Cultural domains covered by the measure/initiative:

Design

Media Arts

Music

Performing Arts

Publishing

Visual Arts

Website of the measure/initiative, if available:

<http://artsiadziba.by>

Describe the main features of the measure/initiative:

Art-Syadziba is the youth initiative, which is aimed to involve the young people in studying of the history and culture of Belarus. It also aims to develop the creative freedoms and civil rights of independent authors and artists. It was founded in December 24, 2011. During the existence of the institution, more than a thousand various events were organized and held, including concerts, presentations, exhibitions, workshops, popular lectures, etc.

Does it specifically target young people?: YES

Does this measure/initiative receive or has it received International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) funding?: NO

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

The independent activity of the Art-Syadziba became the experimental platform for various creative innovations in arts and culture. This activity is developing in order to maintain cultural expression and protect the creative freedoms, civil rights of artists, actors, musicians, other creative individuals.

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.:

1) Civil society experts talk about a positive trend, which has become apparent recently — narrowing the gaps between the state and independent actors. However, state cultural institutions still have preferences regarding working conditions and the use of infrastructure. At the same time, non-governmental cultural institutions use a wider range of ideas and techniques, a combination of commercial and non-commercial practices, and flexibility of approaches. The priority is the further rapprochement of the public sector of culture and representatives of the civil society at all the levels: from the implementation of joint projects to expanding the possibilities of

obtaining state subsidies for cultural start-ups, as well as developing the sphere of economic preferences for cultural initiatives. 2) There is an increase in the number and variety of initiatives in the field of cultural expression (craftsmanship, hand-made, cultural spaces, youth blogging development, etc.). The priority is that the process of relations between professional and amateur activities in the cultural field requires the discussion and establishment of norms, rules, domains of competence. 3) There is a quantitative and qualitative growth of various events and programs in the field of culture. Moreover, it is quality development that is the main guideline for assessing the state of the cultural sphere. The qualitative changes include a variety of forms and genres, the emergence of new formats for the participation and development of cultural initiatives, and the development of technological innovations. The priority is to promote and support contemporary trends in the development of creative initiatives based on self-expression and interaction in the cultural space. Among other priorities, there are more active state support of the export of a modern and high-quality products of the non-governmental sector of culture; more active promotion of dialogue between different cultural groups and communities within the country; further development of networking between various cultural actors; creating conditions for the development of creative self-employment, including the solution of this issue at the legislative level; enhancing the human and intellectual potential of cultural workers at all levels.

EMERGING TRANSVERSAL ISSUES

Relevant Policies and Measures:

“Fest Ekskursavodau” (The Guides’Fest) - the youth initiative for the development of cultural tourism in Belarus

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

Belarusian Committee of ICOMOS

Website of the policy/measure, if available:

<https://festguides.by>

Describe the main features of the policy/measure:

Fest Ekskursavodau is a youth initiative aimed at the development of cultural tourism in Belarus. The fest is annually held in April to celebrate the International Day of Monuments and Sites. A few people who care about history decided to hold it in 2009, time went on and every year it expanded and was of great interest to visitors. Nine festivals have already passed, and more than a thousand participants took part in them, hundreds of interesting multifaceted excursions were held. So far, the festival has attracted regular visitors and many fans. They call it "Guided holidays". This is a completely volunteer initiative, and all the Festival excursions are free for participants. During the festival, you can take part in unique author tours throughout the country. The festival offers special excursions with special audio and tactile models for visually and hearing-impaired people.

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?:

1) the involvement of a large number of people of different ages, various social spheres, in the process of studying Belarusian history, culture and the important urban spaces; 2) promoting the national and local identity; 3) formation of "heritage communities" and the influence on local authorities' policy on the protection of cultural heritage; 4) promoting the creative activity of people and the cohesion of local communities; 5) development of public-private partnerships, intercultural and intersectoral dialogue.

Financial resources allocated to the policy/measure in USD:

The data is not available

Has the implementation of the policy/measure been evaluated?: NO

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

Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus

Type of entity:

Public Sector

Local municipalities

Type of entity:

Public Sector

Belarusian Internet portal "Tut.by"

Type of entity:

Private Sector

CHALLENGES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

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

The main results of the implementation of the 2005 Convention are that its main provisions have been integrated into the legislation and state policy in the field of culture at the level of long-term and short-term planning, and they have been implemented in the context of sustainable development goals, including integration into other sectoral policies related to the economy, environment, education, tourism. It goes without saying that the ideas of the Convention have had an impact on the foreign policy of the country, as they have become an instrument of cultural diplomacy. They contribute to strengthening intercultural dialogue and cooperation between people and various institutions. In the process of implementing the Convention, a sustained dialogue has been established with the civil society through advisory councils, committees, and working groups that work under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture and with regional cultural authorities. This has made it possible to identify the problems associated with the social status of creative workers, the protection of their intellectual and civil rights, the necessity in their capacity-building, improving formal and non-formal education in the field of culture. The Convention has encouraged private business at the national level to invest in diversifying cultural offerings and cultural industries. This has resulted in greater development of specific areas such as theater, publishing, cinema and film production, as well as design and fashion, visual arts, and in the involvement of numerous actors, artists, civil society institutions, and entrepreneurs. The crowdfunding platform and various forms of sponsorship and patronage has begun to develop, with the help of which the production of cultural products has received the opportunity of additional financing directly from the consumers of this product. An unprecedented increase in the volunteer movement in the cultural sector can be observed. Young people are actively involved in public cultural processes related to the preservation of historical and cultural heritage, museum initiatives designed for introducing new innovative forms of work with visitors, non-formal education, and environmental projects. The development of international relations, including in the field of culture, has been influenced by the introduction of visa-free entry for foreigners for a period of 30 days, which has caused an unprecedented increase in domestic tourism and contributed to the emergence and development of many new initiatives, including in the creative sector.

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

The preparation of the report and numerous consultations with the representatives of the cultural sphere has revealed the fact that the implementation of certain specific aspects and areas of the Convention on a national scale is not properly balanced. Namely: the issues of preferential treatment, the involvement of civil society and youth in the development of the policies; strategies and measures relating to the general cultural process, interaction between different players, as well as the problems of export and import of cultural products and services, promoting greater mobility for artists. It is also necessary to solve the problems associated with the creation of socio-economic conditions for the development of creative self-employment, expanding opportunities to increase individual growth through the development of various forms

of non-formal education, and helping to increase the contribution of private business to the cultural sphere. Moreover, there is some dissonance between the development of the center and the regions. It is necessary to pay attention to the support of the regional creative initiatives and the development of their quality. Due to the COVID19th pandemic, many independent cultural organizations and creative spaces left their offices and went online. But many of them note that the quality of cultural content produced today online is too great, which makes its quality suffer. “Already in March, it was clear that the sector of independent culture, which in good times was unprofitable, risks simply disappearing,” said Irina Lukashenko, co-founder and director of the socio-cultural project ARTONIST (Minsk). In such circumstances, the independent cultural sector needs to unite. To do this, today many of them launched a number of campaigns to support artists, art galleries and an independent theater, and also sell "open tickets" for future projects. Angelika Krashevskaya, director of the Center for Visual and Performing Arts “Art Corporation”, also emphasizes: “in culture, the worst thing is not to be left without work, but to be unnecessary.”

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:


New initiatives and solutions designed to overcome the challenges associated with the implementation of the Convention include the following actions for the next 4 years: • facilitating the transfer of cultural capital to other areas to create new enterprises and products; encouraging innovations development in the economy, social sphere and the environment and cultural heritage, as well as in public administration; promoting the export potential of the creative industries of Belarus; • improving the infrastructure for the development of national culture, providing effective tools for various cultural manifestations at the state level and stimulating the emergence of new independent cultural spaces; • promoting the development of national identity, promoting the Belarusian language at all levels; developing the cultural potential of national minorities; • providing diverse and high-quality cultural services and access to them for the widest public; promoting the formation of barrier-free spaces in the cultural environment; • further development of the regulatory framework (Code on Culture) to support the development of creative initiatives, ensure creative freedoms and better mobility for artists; • developing all forms of formal and non-formal education to increase the capacity of cultural workers; • further interaction of the public sector of culture and the non-governmental sphere, organizing discussions on the issues of cultural policy and the development of cultural management; • promoting the dissemination of knowledge of the basic principles and ideas of the 2005 Convention at the national and local levels.


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.:

Attachment

 The Code on Culture accumulated all the pre-existing legislative and regulatory acts in the field of culture, including the fram

 `stattistical_information.pdf`

SUBMISSION

Designated official signing the report:

Title: Mr.

First name: Yury

Family name: Bondar

Organization: Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Belarus

Position: Minister

Date of submission:

2020

Electronic Signature:

