

To the Ministers of Culture of all Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO

28 May 2025

## Culture Sector The Assistant Director-General

Ref.: CLT/CPD/25/0528

Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of the Director-General of UNESCO, I have the honour to invite you to participate in the UNESCO World Conference on Cultural Policies and Sustainable Development – MONDIACULT 2025, to be held from 29 September to 1 October 2025 at the Barcelona International Convention Centre (CCIB), in Barcelona, Spain.

MONDIACULT 2025 will provide a timely opportunity to reaffirm our shared commitment to culture and its irreplaceable role in sustainable development, while strengthening intergovernmental dialogue on cultural policies. The Conference will serve as a global platform to promote cultural rights, foster collaboration and solidarity, and advance inclusive, locally grounded development through culture. Through constructive and inclusive dialogue, the Conference will also contribute to reinforcing multilateral cooperation. MONDIACULT 2025 offers a unique opportunity to carry this momentum forward — to translate shared commitments into concrete actions, and to collectively shape the future of cultural policies.

Your presence and leadership will be essential to shaping the outcomes of this major global gathering, which builds on the 2022 edition of MONDIACULT held in Mexico City, where Member States unanimously adopted a landmark <u>Ministerial Declaration</u> recognizing culture as a global public good and a fundamental human right. Among other commitments, the Declaration called for culture to be fully integrated into the next international development framework and advocated for regular ministerial dialogue to ensure lasting progress.

We would be honoured to count on your participation in this globally significant Conference. Kindly confirm your attendance by **4 July 2025**.

To ensure a focused and impactful ministerial dialogue, each Minister is kindly invited to select **one thematic cluster** for their intervention, from among the following:

- 1. Culture and education & Culture and peace
- 2. Cultural rights & Economy of culture
- 3. Culture and climate action & Culture, heritage and crisis
- 4. Digital technologies and culture & Artificial intelligence and culture

While each Minister may intervene in only one session, they are welcome to attend all sessions. To support preparations, the UNESCO Secretariat will provide guiding questions for each session in advance.

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In your official reply to this invitation, we kindly request that you provide the following information and follow the procedures below:

- 1. **Send an e-mail to** <u>mondiacult2025@unesco.org</u> providing details of your country's delegation, including the names, functional titles, and contact information of each participant. Delegations may include up to four (4) representatives. The inclusion of a youth delegate for the Youth Forum is strongly encouraged.
- 2. Indicate in the same message the thematic cluster in which the Minister wishes to intervene.
- 3. **Complete the online pre-registration for each delegate** via the following platform: <u>pre-registration</u> (https://premondiacult2025.eventszone.net). Organizers will confirm pre-registration and send additional information directly to each delegate.
- 4. **Send a verbal note** to the Permanent Delegation of Spain, listing the names and functional titles of the delegates comprising your official delegation (<u>dl.spain@unesco-delegations.org</u>).

The concept note, programme outline, and logistical details — including information on registration, visas, travel, and accommodation — are available on the official UNESCO website: <u>MONDIACULT 2025</u> (https://www.unesco.org/en/mondiacult).

Limited financial assistance is foreseen to support the participation of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS). This support will be granted on a *first-come, first-served* basis, subject to the availability of funds. Interested Member States are kindly invited to express their interest at their earliest convenience by contacting the Secretariat at: mondiacult2025@unesco.org.

As part of the preparatory process for MONDIACULT 2025, UNESCO has also launched a Digital Library to showcase innovative policies, research, and practices in the field of culture. Member States are invited to contribute relevant publications, reports, or audiovisual content aligned with the MONDIACULT thematic priorities (guidelines in web). Submissions are due bv 31 Julv 2025. Further details can be found at: Digital Library (https://www.unesco.org/en/mondiacult/digital-library).

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the UNESCO Secretariat at <u>mondiacult2025@unesco.org</u>.

Please accept, dear Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

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Ernesto Ottone R.

cc: National Commissions for UNESCO Permanent Delegations to UNESCO