



H. Exc. Ms. Heidy Purga Minister of Culture Republic of Estonia

19 November 2024

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Dear Minister,

We are pleased to invite you to the UNESCO regional consultation on cultural policies and sustainable development for the Eastern European States region. This consultation will take place on 12 December 2024 in online format, under the leadership of H. E. Ms. Agnese Lāce, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Latvia, who will chair the meeting.

This regional consultation is a key component of the inclusive and participatory process leading to the UNESCO World Conference on Cultural Policies and Sustainable Development – MONDIACULT 2025. Convened by the Director-General of UNESCO, this ministerial conference will be hosted by the Government of Spain from 29 September to 1<sup>st</sup> October 2025, in Barcelona.

In preparation for MONDIACULT 2025, six regional consultations will be held between November 2024 and January 2025. These consultations aim to review the implementation of the MONDIACULT 2022 Declaration, centering on its six priority areas, while also identifying emerging issues and focus areas in the cultural sector at the regional level. They will also serve to mobilize Member States and stakeholders across the region in support of MONDIACULT 2025 with a view to positioning culture as a stand-alone goal in the UN post-2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

In preparation for this consultation, a set of surveys were conducted among Member States and civil society organizations between May and August 2024. The report on the findings is available at the link below and is intended to enrich the discussions during the meeting.

In light of the above, we invite you to participate in the regional consultation for Eastern European States or to designate a representative from your country to attend.

The consultation will follow a one-day format, encouraging inclusive dialogue among national authorities including National Commissions for UNESCO, regional intergovernmental organizations, academia, and civil society sub-regional and regional organizations and networks. The report of the regional consultations will inform the preparations for MONDIACULT 2025.

In the following link you will find the working documents of the meeting: <a href="https://www.unesco.org/en/mondiacult/2025/regional-consultations">https://www.unesco.org/en/mondiacult/2025/regional-consultations</a>

We kindly ask you to confirm your participation at your earliest convenience by e-mail to <u>EUR-mondiacult2025@unesco.org</u>, including the name of your representative and a contact person. UNESCO will provide the secretariat support for the meeting and remains at your disposal for any further information you may require.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

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Ernesto Ottone R. Assistant Director General for Culture UNESCO

Agnese Lāce Minister of Culture Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia