



## “CULTURE FOR CITIES AND REGIONS”

EUROCITIES has been chosen by the European Commission to lead a brand new initiative called ‘Culture for cities and regions’. We are implementing it in partnership with KEA European Affairs and ERRIN (European Regions Research and Innovation Network). The project runs from January 2015 to September 2017.

### Context and objectives

Investment in culture is broadly recognised as a key element in urban and regional development strategies. The presence and quality of cultural activities is a major factor of attractiveness of a city and a measure of quality of living.

This €1 million initiative funded under the Creative Europe programme (DG EAC) aims to examine existing practices of culture as a key element in local and regional development strategies. It also enables the exchange and transfer of knowledge, to better understand successful examples of cultural investment, and to go into the details of policy planning and implementation.

Three main dimensions are explored:

- culture and the creative industries for local economic development and urban regeneration
- cultural heritage as a driver for economic growth and social inclusion
- culture for social inclusion, social innovation and intercultural dialogue

### What is it about?

During this three-year initiative, we will:

- produce a catalogue of 70 case studies
- organise 15 thematic study visits
- provide expert coaching for 10 cities/regions

We are working with a group of external experts. Visits will lead to policy recommendations that will feed in the European Commission work. All findings are shared on a dedicated website: [www.cultureforcitiesandregions.eu](http://www.cultureforcitiesandregions.eu)

### A unique opportunity for cities and regions

Beyond a “simple” exchange of experiences, Culture for cities and regions will ensure a real impact and a meaningful transferability of local practices. It is foreseen that between 60 and 95 cities and regions of all sizes will gain visibility at the European level and directly benefit from the project through their active involvement in study visits and coaching activities.

## Important dates

	What?	When?
Catalogue of 70 case studies	All practices are uploaded regularly on the project <a href="#">website</a>	You can also follow the #Cultureforcitiesregions on Twitter
Study visits in cities/regions	Second online call to attend the next five study visits in Birmingham, North Portugal, Helsinki-Espoo, Lodzkie region and Sofia.	Open from 2 November to 2 December
	Third online call to attend the last five study visits in Antwerp, Aarhus, Barcelona, Regensburg and Vilnius.	To be launched in February 2016
Coaching for cities/regions	Call for city/region representatives willing to coach a city/region	March 2016
	Call for cities/regions willing to be coached	March 2016

## More information

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Cécile Houpert: [cecile.houpert@eurocities.eu](mailto:cecile.houpert@eurocities.eu)