



A call for stories:

Cultural Cities

The new UBC Cultural Cities Commission has already launched its activities. The Commission wants to be a voice for culture to make the cultural issues better heard and included into all policies on local, regional, national and international levels.

The impact of culture on society and economy of the region and its development seems to be evident but it is still undervalued. There is a need to improve the communication between cultural, administrative, financial, economic and educational sectors to fully use the potential of culture. How to more engage culture and creativity in building a stronger, more competitive, sustainable and smart Baltic Sea area?

The UBC Cultural Cities Commission has developed four objectives:

1. Network based cultural cooperation, promoting a more intensive cooperation between the UBC cities;
2. Professionalization of the cultural field, based on the exchange of knowledge and experience through project cooperation, meetings and conferences, and communication;
3. Strategic partnerships, namely cooperation with other organisations and cultural institutions;
4. Research.

Also, the Commission wants to work strategically and cross border with national and international bodies dealing with policy making for sustainable and inclusive development within the Baltic Sea strategy and EU 2020 strategy. But the key Commission's partners are the cities.

The Editorial Board would like to invite the cities to share their experience on cultural field to get an overview of the main trends and development in bridging culture and creativity with development agendas.



Gdańsk, 8 September 2015

- How can culture and creativity contribute to local and regional development in the Baltic Sea region?
- How does your city use the potential of culture and creativity?
- How does culture meet and mix with social innovations, entrepreneurship, and education?
- What kind of projects within the cultural field does your city implement? How are the inhabitants involved in the cultural activities?
- How does your city support local cultural organizations?
- Does your city cooperate on international level in the field of culture?
- Do you have concrete suggestions or projects on how to meet the current challenges through culture in the Baltic Sea region, such as youth unemployment, migration flow and social inequality in order to build more sustainable, equal and coherent Baltic Sea region / or local level?
- Do you have innovative examples to share how cultural projects can be run together with local authorities, artists, sponsors and private sector? How to create financially stable and creative cooperation among these actors?

As usual, apart from the main theme, we are looking forward to receiving stories on interesting events and daily news from our member cities. Those articles are published in the chapter "News from Member Cities".

Looking forward to your reply,

Paweł Żaboklicki
UBC Secretary General



Gdańsk, 8 September 2015

Please follow these guidelines when submitting your story:

- Deliver the story by e-mail to: anna.dargiewicz@ubc.net in MS WORD format. Please remember to kill the viruses before sending it. Please expect confirmation of reception. Lack of confirmation means that the message is not delivered.
- Each member city may submit two articles - one related to the cover theme and one to the chapter "News from Member Cities". All stories shall be sent in English.
- Each article may have max 400 words, no more than 1 page A4, font TimesNewRoman 12pt. The editorial board sometimes needs to shorten the stories in order to include more stories into the Bulletin. It is also important to include the author's name and contact details for any follow-up questions related to the story.
- Please make all efforts to include a smashing photo or a digital picture to illustrate the article (JPG format, min. 300 ppi, one e-mail - one picture, the file should not exceed 3 MB). Remember to send us also the coat of arms of your city, if you have not sent it earlier.
- The deadline for stories to the Bulletin is **9 October 2015**. Please respect this timetable as we are unable to print out stories received after this deadline.

If you have interesting issues to report, please do not hesitate to send them. The bulletin is distributed in around 4000 copies all around the Baltic Sea Region to over 200 Baltic cities and numerous key organizations and institutions, including the EU.