

CONTENT

- 1. General Conference of UNESCO, 2023
New Recommendations on the artist's condition**
- 2. Main results of the world consultation on the artist's condition**
- 3. Methodological guide for the participatory development of a law on the artist's status**
- 4. Financing Arts and Culture**
- 5. Reminder : Use of the Unesco Logo**

In November 2023 the 42nd UNESCO General Conference was held in Paris, at the Headquarters of the Organization. In her opening speech, Ms. Audrey Azoulay, Director General, emphasized the flagship ideas that were to guide the debates and discussions of this General Conference:

- . Education for all**
- . The ethical challenges posed by new technologies**
- . The preservation and maintenance of World Heritage Sites**
- . Tools intended to fight climate change and our relationship to Nature**

She particularly insisted on two major challenges:

- . Peace, thanks to the revision of the 1974 Recommendation on education for Peace and Human Rights**
- . neurotechnology ethics**

Stressing that these challenges arose on a global scale and, therefore, requested a global response, including the maximum number of people and commitment, including that of artists, young people, and theorists from all horizons, stakeholders whose voices were going to be heard during this General Conference.

This is how the Secretariat of the General Conference chose to exhibit two visual artists:

- . A digital artist: Michaël Zancan, (Michaël Zancan - Artist Profile - Le Random)**

whose works were an opportunity to pose the problems relating to digital works and the innovative solutions proposed by the Web 3 in relation to the initiatives of UNESCO cultural preservation , non -fungible token technology (NFT) associated with works of art, as well as environmental consequences of Blockchain technology.

Indeed, last February, UNESCO held a global conference on the regulation of digital platforms for information as for the public good. The normative text is available under the link: <https://unesdoc.org/ark/48223/pf0000382949>

- An ecological artist: Thijs Biersteker (<https://thijsbiersteker.com/amazonium> <https://unesco.org/en/articles/unesco-and-lvmh-share-first-results-amazon-project>

who worked with UNESCO scientists for his "Amazonium" installation, which offered an immersion experience in the Amazon forest delivered to deforestation.

[New Recommendations on the artist's condition](#)

Following the text proposed by the Secretariat during the Executive Council, examined by the Culture Commission in which AIAP/IAA participated, please see : Report of the Culture Commission (CLT) - UNESCO Digital Library <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark/48223/p0000387688>

The new Recommendations on the artist's condition were voted unanimously by the Member States.

They are available under the link: summary report on the application by the member states of the 1980 recommendation relating to the artist's condition - UNESCO Digital Library <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark/48223/p0000387395>

[2. Results of the world consultation on the artist's condition](#)

These recommendations followed the investigation which was carried out by the Member States on the implementation of the UNESCO Recommendation of 1980 relating to the condition of the artist, and published during the General Conference. This survey is available under the title "Encourage creativity" and is available under the link: Encourage creativity: implementation of the 1980 UNESCO Recommendation relative to the artist's condition; 5th World Consultation - UNESCO Digital Library <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark/48223/P0000387453>

It particularly deals about :

- . legislative and regulatory executives
- . social and economic rights
- . digital environment
- . preferential treatment
- . artistic freedom
- . equality, inclusion and diversity
- . COVID 19 and the condition of the artist
- . the condition of the artist and sustainable development: main challenges and ways

It highlights the progress made in the legislative framework by and in the Member States which have agreed to participate to the survey, as well as the European Union and the African Union, and proposes very precise examples by country.

3. Methodological guide for the participatory development of a law on the artist's status

The role of UNESCO is to help the Member States to set up a policy that takes into account the Organization's Recommendations. *Not to vote laws to be applied in each country, which is legally impossible. Each Nation is called to be inspired and to follow these Recommendations, in the respect of each country freedom and cultural diversity.*

It is therefore up to the National Parliaments to draw inspiration from these Recommendations to prepare and to write their own laws, and to enforce these laws in the legal framework set up in each country.

In no case UNESCO can legally replace the National Parliaments.

This is how, in collaboration with the International Labor Organization, UNESCO has designed and produced a Guide for Governments and Parliamentarians, in order to help them, very concretely, to develop laws in favor of the status of Artists.

This guide is available on the link: <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/arlc/48223/pf0000387564>
ISBN: 978-92-3-200301-0

4. Financing Arts and Culture

One of the most interesting side events was that devoted to the financing of Culture. He follows the declaration made to Mondialcult, in Mexico City, in 2022, by the Ministers of Culture, who recalled: "We (the Ministries of Culture of the Member States of UNESCO) urgently ask for the preservation and strengthening of funding Culture with the medium term aim of allocating a national budget as a gradual increase to meet the emerging needs and opportunities in the Culture sector. "

A representative of the African Fund for Culture, affiliated with the African Development Bank, recalled the role played by this bank in the creation of jobs in the Culture sector in Sub-Saharan Africa and North Africa.

The Triodos Bank, in the person of Ms. Maria Coronado, Spain, exposed the financing possibilities of this Bank in Europe for projects such as festivals in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals of UNESCO (Oceans, Forests, Water, climate change, biodiversity, etc.). Other projects can also be submitted.

The Triodos Bank works in close relation with the European Union for its programs in favor of the Cultural and creative sectors.

Funding is intended to support SMEs focused on cinematographic and media productions, art schools, music festivals, theater and musical production.

Finally, the Triodos Bank offers support for SMEs in Belgium, Germany, Spain and the Netherlands, with the aim of supporting around 250 companies.

Links: https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/triodos_bank

https://www.eif.org/what_we_do/guarantes_news/2023/triodos-bank-toextend-supports-for-cultural-and-creative-sectors.htm

Finally, the African Culture Fund presented itself as a Pan -African organization which aims to support the professionalization of the cultural and creative sector of African countries through innovative projects that it finances.

Link: the African Fund for Culture (ACF) | Financing and professionalization (AfricanCulturefund.net)

The visual arts are very supported by this fund which regularly launches calls for projects.

Then was recalled, during a meeting with Ambassadors and National Commissions, the importance for NGOs to keep their Delegations to UNESCO informed of the actions they organize in order to obtain the support of governments, as well as possible funding.

Once again, it was explained that reporting all the experiences and actions carried out by NGOs helped UNESCO to understand the situation on the ground. This allows the Commissions to work on the themes, normative directives and other questionnaires which are presented to the Executive Council, then to the General Conference for voting with *encouragement* for application by the Member States. It is the National Commissions which constitute the link between NGOs such as AIAP and UNESCO. All the reports and information provided by NGOs help to successfully implement UNESCO's objectives through the synergy and interaction they offer with the Organization's programs. The Forums organized at the request of UNESCO by the NGO Liaison Committee, in close collaboration with NGOs and UNESCO, serve to provide new ideas and suggestions able to help to the creation of new directives (*and not laws*), all based on experiences reported by the civil society.

5. REMINDER : Use of the UNESCO Logo

It is reminded to all the AIAP/IAA National Committees that the use of the UNESCO logo is strictly prohibited and needs a written authorization.

On the other hand, this use is limited to very specific conditions. See link.

Requests must be submitted - *at least three months in advance* - to the National Commissions to UNESCO which examine the requests in committee and agrees for the authorization.

Link: Logo and patronage | Unesco

MP