



NDPC Strategy 2017 – 2020

The Northern Dimension Partnership on Culture (NDPC) was established in 2010 as the fourth Partnership in the Northern Dimension Policy. The Northern Dimension (ND) is a joint policy between EU, Russia, Norway and Iceland, with participation of EU countries in their national capacities, regional councils, such as the Arctic Council, the Barents Euro-Arctic Council (BEAC), the Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS), the Nordic Council of Ministers (NCM) and other organisations such as research institutes, international financial institutions and others.

The members of the NDPC are: the European Commission and the Ministries responsible for culture in Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, the Russian Federation and Sweden. The partners signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on establishing the NDPC on May 20, 2010. The MoU was prolonged on May 20, 2015.

Within the broader framework, ND partnerships contribute and are complimentary to the EU Baltic Sea Region strategy for 2030, they contribute to a wide range of goals of the Europe 2020 Strategy and the United Nations Agenda for Sustainable Development 2030, with special impact on the objective to establish and sustain cross-border partnerships for reaching the 2030 goals.

Vision

Culture and creativity is a driving force in regional and international sustainable development and a cornerstone for cooperation in the ND area, setting a collaboration framework in wide spheres of society and facilitating social inclusion through means of culture and creativity.

Mission

The mission of the NDPC is to contribute to social and economic sustainable development, and innovation and diversity in the ND area by focusing on the operating conditions for cultural and creative industries (CCIs).

Aims and challenges

The ND area is a region of vibrant cultural and creative diversity, with rich cultural heritage and various cultural traditions preserved through time. Sustainability, growth, innovation and social inclusion are important policy concerns throughout the region connected to the challenges and opportunities of various aspects of globalisation, changing patterns of cultural consumption and technological developments.

The central aims of the NPDC include:

- Promotion of and benefitting from the diversity of the CCI field in the ND area.
- Facilitating development of sustainable and effective policies and incentives.
- Connecting and building synergies between CCI stakeholders and other relevant societal actors throughout the entire ND area.
- Bridging the gap between public and private funding and strengthening cooperation between the CCIs, policymakers and business communities.

These aims are not exclusive but do complement each other. Further objectives can arise on the basis of these aims on a more actual basis.

The aims should be carried out:

- By developing national and regional policies and activities basing on knowledge, communication and information exchange.
- By developing and utilising networks on regional and national levels.
- By supporting, developing and promoting collaboration projects.
- By furthering CCI development and accessibility to culture and cultural heritage through the possibilities presented by technological developments.

Cultural and creative diversity within the ND area

The situation in CCI policy development, support instruments, development of CCI businesses, and general CCI knowledge and awareness, is on markedly different levels within the NDPC area, therefore it is complicated to find a unified approach for all countries. The CCI field is characterised by diverse sectors and various national experiences. This presents the possibility of a knowledge and good practice exchange for further development of CCI policies in the region, and development of new finance access tools to help the overall growth of CCIs in the ND area. The diverse CCI field, from the arts to creative industries and cross-sectorial businesses, has a unique role and unique opportunities in facilitating local and regional sustainable development, promoting places and regions, building attractive environments and furthering innovation.

National and regional policies and activities based on knowledge, communication and information exchange

NDPC operates and brings added value on an international and regional level. NDPC is in a unique position, because the collaboration platform provides the possibility for policy makers to meet and

exchange information and knowledge on policy developments, best practices, funding mechanisms, national priorities, events, networks and other national and regional CCI developments on a regular basis.

NDPC will continue knowledge sharing on CCI policies on political as well as network levels, and carrying out CCI studies, including research and mapping. NDPC will continue collaboration with the Northern Dimension Institute and other relevant institutions.

Network and synergy development

NDPC will continue to work on network and synergy development through organising or co-organising regular networking events, focused on its strategic aims, and dedicated to contributing to relevant, already existing meeting places.

Collaborating with and avoiding overlap with relevant regional networks, such as CBSS, BEAC, NCM and others, is of great importance, as is sharing results and experiences between these networks, including the most outstanding initiatives on the regional level and also outside metropolitan areas.

NDPC's Annual Forum aims to become an attractive meeting place for CCI operators from the ND area in bringing new knowledge, building new networks and providing additional value and visibility.