



# COMMITMENT TO AN EXPLICIT CULTURE GOAL IN MONDIACULT DECLARATION WELCOME: NOW IS THE TIME TO DELIVER

LAUNCHED ON 1 FEBRUARY 2023

The members of the [Culture 2030 Goal Campaign](#), representing global cultural networks, strongly welcome the undertaking in the Declaration of the MONDIACULT 2022 Conference to integrate a specific Culture Goal in the post-2030 development agenda. We are happy to see strong interest from UNESCO Member States, at the Executive Board, in ensuring effective follow up.

This commitment by governments echoes the core argument made by the Campaign in its own [statement](#) in advance of MONDIACULT - namely that the only way to ensure the proper recognition of culture and cultural actors in supporting sustainable development is through an explicit Culture Goal.

We believe that further concrete action to refine and clarify the form and content of a Culture Goal would pay major dividends, both in terms of engaging early in plans for the post-2030 agenda, and in focusing on the rich and essential role of culture in sustainable development. In particular, such a goal would ensure that:

- | There is adequate focus on culture at the highest level of government
- | The range of connections between culture and other policy areas are fully accounted for
- | The culture sector itself feels a sense of engagement in and ownership of the goals
- | All other goals are activated and that their achievement is strengthened through the mobilising power of culture
- | The achievement of all goals can be protected from systemic and behavioural barriers that can be addressed through a cultural lens.



Notably, in the Declaration, Ministers of Culture invite UNESCO to launch a broad consultation on the multidimensional impact of culture in our societies as a global public good.

To this end, we strongly recommend that such an effort should draw on the [zero-draft of a Culture Goal](#) published by the Campaign on the eve of the Mondiacult conference. This document identifies the following potential targets for a future Goal:

- | Realise cultural rights for all
- | Promote a culture of peace and non-violence
- | Protect and safeguard all forms of heritage
- | Protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions
- | Promote local culture and products, the economic and social rights of artists and cultural professionals and artistic freedom
- | Enhance legal conditions and practical opportunities for mobility of cultural professionals
- | Empower indigenous peoples to strengthen their own institutions, cultures and languages
- | Develop a cultural approach in environmental protection and sustainable urbanisation
- | Strengthen cultural institutions, including through international cooperation
- | Ensure, through transversal, multi-stakeholder collaboration, that cultural considerations are taken into account in all international development goals



World leaders must not again miss the opportunity to explicitly recognise the role of culture as an accelerator of development today, and a pillar of any future inclusive development model, as they did in the years up to 2015. We stand ready to work with the UNESCO Secretariat and Member States with the common aim of ensuring that culture stands at the start and the heart - not on the edges - of sustainable development policy-making.

We also stand ready to work with the teams of the UN Secretary General, UNDESA and the High-Level Political Forum to ensure a real discussion on the urgency, the feasibility, the context and the content of the Culture Goal, both at the UN SDG Summit (2023) and the UN Summit of the Future (2024).



## BACKGROUND

During the process of creation and adoption of the UN 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, several cultural global networks campaigned, under the banner '[The Future We Want Includes Culture](#)', for the inclusion of one specific Goal devoted to Culture, and the integration of cultural aspects across the SDGs. In the context of this #Culture2015goal campaign, 4 documents were produced: a [Manifesto – Proposal for a Goal](#) (September 2013), a [Declaration on the inclusion of culture in the 2030 Agenda](#) (May 2014), a [proposal of indicators for measuring the cultural aspects of the SDGs](#) (February 2015), and a [Communiqué on the final 2030 Agenda](#) (September 2015) which highlighted "progress made" but also noticed that "important steps remain ahead".

In the context of the Covid-19 pandemic, the #Culture2030goal campaign released on 20 April 2020 a Statement entitled "[Ensuring culture fulfils its potential in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic](#)", which was [officially launched](#) on 21 May 2020, on the occasion of the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development. The Statement has been [endorsed by the President of the United Nations General Assembly](#) and signed by more than 280 individuals and organisations worldwide.

The campaign has published two analytical (and critical) reports on the cultural dimension of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda: "[Culture in the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda](#)", analysing the National Voluntary Reviews, in 2019, and "[Culture in the Localization of the SDGs: An Analysis of the Voluntary Local Reviews \(VLRs\)](#)", in 2021. The campaign has also promoted several discussions in the context of the [2020](#) and [2021](#) United Nations High-Level Political Fora (HLPF).

In 2021, the campaign published its [strategic vision](#). The campaign wants a stronger place for culture throughout the implementation of the current UN 2030 Agenda, the adoption of an explicit Goal for Culture in the Post-2030 Development Agenda, and the adoption of an ambitious and comprehensive Global Agenda for Culture.



DELIVERING A  
CULTURE GOAL FOR  
GLOBAL AGENDAS



**I Arterial Network**

Web: [www.arterialafrica.org](http://www.arterialafrica.org)



**I Culture Action Europe**

Web: [www.cultureactioneurope.org](http://www.cultureactioneurope.org)



**I ICOMOS - International Council on Monuments and Sites**

Web: [www.icomos.org](http://www.icomos.org)



**I IFCCD - International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity**

Web: [www.ficdc.org](http://www.ficdc.org)



**I IFLA - International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions**

Web: [www.ifla.org](http://www.ifla.org)



**I IMC - International Music Council**

Web: [www.imc-cim.org](http://www.imc-cim.org)



**I UCLG (United Cities and Local Governments) Culture Committee - Agenda 21 for culture**

Web: [www.agenda21culture.net](http://www.agenda21culture.net)



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**#CULTURE2030GOAL**