



ENCATC news

A monthly e-newsletter for the latest in cultural management and policy

## 30th Congress confirms the leading role of ENCATC in cultural management and policy education and research



# Thank you!

*Dear colleagues and friends,*

A very special edition of the [ENCATC Congress](#) took place in Brussels and Antwerp on 17-19 October, marking the **30th anniversary** of our organization and affirming once again the **key role of ENCATC in the field of cultural management and policy**. Over the course of 3 days, we brought together **more than 150 scholars, educators, policy makers, cultural managers and artists** to debate together on the most pressing issues of our time, sharing a global conversation about internationalization in the contemporary world.

The **knowledge, exchange and peer learning opportunities** that were generated through the action-packed programme including **interactive debates, presentations, panel discussions, group sessions, and networking** are impressive. They will contribute to the advancement of the **scientific debate**, to the promotion of **new policies and practices**, and to the development of **new partnerships** at the international and local level.

The enthusiasm of the numerous participants is a testament to the importance of this event as the occasion to explore **ground-breaking innovations**, bridge the knowledge gap, promote research esteem and encourage steps to ensure significant improvements in the industry. The high number of participants coming from all over the globe proves that **the ENCATC Congress is today a must for the cultural management and policy community around the world**.

*Yours faithfully,*

**GiannaLia Cogliandro Beyens**  
ENCATC Secretary General



## Keynote on internationalization: Bernd Fesel points out opportunities during crises

The first session of the Congress on October 17 was the Keynote intervention by Bernd Fesel, Interim Chief Executive Officer of EIT Culture & Creativity. In his speech, entitled “The challenges and opportunities of internationalization”, Fesel addressed the **challenges that the cultural sector is currently facing**, touching upon the **necessity to reinvent the field** dictated by the pandemic, and **the role of digital solutions** in this mission. As the newest Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC) of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology, EIT Culture and Creativity will build **world-class partnerships** embodied in innovation communities capable of bringing the sector forward. Furthermore, Fesel reminded the audience of **the opportunities that the current crises pose**, calling on everyone to contribute, cooperate, and network to help the recovery and sustain the field’s flourishing.

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## Education and Research sessions and the YERF: A unique opportunity to professionalize the career of emerging and established researchers

At the Congress, **academic research** is a key component. Thanks to the precious contribution of the **University of Antwerp**, the first afternoon of the conference was the opportunity to profit from the **wealth of knowledge** made available during the event, through the **Education and Research Sessions** and the **Young and Emerging Researchers' Forum**.

The E&R sessions addressed **6 different thematic tracks** related to current issues in the cultural management and policy field. Organised around **10 sessions**, it saw over **50 researchers** bringing their knowledge to the table through **33 presentations**, fostering a global exchange among participants.

The **Young and Emerging Researchers Forum (YERF)**, the section of the Congress specifically designed for the new generation of talented researchers, saw various sessions taking place over the course of the afternoon. **ENCATC offered the YERF as a contribution to the European Year of Youth**, fostering visibility, exchange and networking for the new generation of young academic talents.



## ENCATC Research Award Ceremony: Congratulations to Kathrin Schmidt!

The first day of the Congress featured the Ceremony of the [ENCATC Research Award](#), the recognition aimed at **stimulating academic research** in the field of cultural management and policy. During the ceremony, three finalists presented their research. The winner, Kathrin Schmidt, a PhD student from Goldsmiths University, presented a thesis on *Performing Salone: The impact of local and global flows on the aesthetics and ecology of contemporary Krio theatre in Sierra Leone*. As per tradition, **the winning PhD researcher will now see their work published** in the [Cultural Management and Cultural Policy Education Book Series](#), a series of publications specialising in topics related to cultural management and cultural policy, published by leading academic publisher **Routledge**. One of many practical examples of ENCATC's commitment to **sustaining young researchers** and the advancement of the field in academia.

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## The Global Conversation: the challenges of decolonizing culture

Organized in partnership with the Association of Arts Administration Educators, AAAE, this year's Global Conversation, entitled "Decolonising and diversifying internationalization: from theory to practice", touched upon **the challenges that the wider topic of decolonization poses**. A number of speakers, coming from the four corners of the planet to take part in the debate, engaged with the difficulty of reconciling, on one hand, the **need to deconstruct current mental structures**, and, on the other hand, the current **tendency towards internationalization of cultural education programmes**. They reminded of the necessity to **encourage the adoption of precise actions** inside education institutions, and also to continue **interrogating the capital-centered system**, promoting a shift in focus towards other kinds of values - social, spiritual, emotional.

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In the photo, from left to right: Catarina Vaz Pinto, Former Deputy Mayor for Culture of the Lisbon City Council, Delphine Houba, Liliana Turoiu, Director of the Romanian Cultural Institute in Brussels, GiannaLia Cogliandro Beyens, and Paul Dujardin.

### **Partnerships and local legacy: UNESCO, European Commission and city representatives joined us**

At the Congress, ENCATC received **support from all its key partners**, who took an active role in the event. At the international level, **Ernesto Renato Ottone Ramirez**, Assistant Director-General for Culture of UNESCO, took part. From the city of Brussels, ENCATC welcomed **Paul Dujardin**, Chief Project Director 50/200, KMKH-MRAH | Jubelpark – Cinquantenaire, and **Delphine Houba**, Alderwoman of Culture, Tourism, Big Events and Municipal Equipment of the city of Brussels.

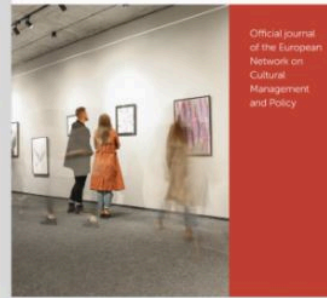
Finally, from the European Commission the Congress was joined by **Barbara Gessler**, Head of Unit at Creative Europe, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, **Catherine Magnant**, Deputy to the Director and Head of the Cultural Policies department at DGEAC, and **Walter Zampieri**, Head of Culture at EACEA.

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# European Journal of Cultural Management and Policy

Gold open access



Official journal  
of the European  
Network on  
Cultural  
Management  
and Policy



Co-funded by  
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## Open source ENCATC Journal launch: Innovative publishing agreement between ENCATC and Frontiers on EJCMP

During the Congress, ENCATC announced the **special agreement** it recently reached with the academic open-source publisher **Frontiers**. Thanks to this agreement, ENCATC's **European Journal of Cultural Management and Policy (EJCMP)** will become the first ever publication in the cultural management and policy field to be published on Frontiers. As the **3rd most cited and 6th largest publisher** and open science platform, Frontiers will act as a special platform for ENCATC to reach **a whole new international dimension**, in the pursuit to engage with scholars, educators, policymakers and cultural managers.



## 3 days, many sessions: roundtables, panel sessions, debates and more

The richness of the Congress was evident in the great variety of sessions it offered. These ranged from a panel session on **“Mentoring in education in the cultural and creative sector: an international perspective”**, focusing on mentoring practices in the field, to a roundtable

data for developing policies in the cultural field.

During the "**Resources for collaborative and sustainable practices supporting the international dimension of research in digital times**", panelists focused on the role of financing programs like Horizon Europe in the academic and research field. Finally, presentations under the label "**The Art of Teaching**" provided participants with interesting and innovative insights in educational methods in the cultural field.



### **Gala dinner to celebrate the anniversary and retrace the legacy of 30 years of history**

The second day of the Congress was coronated, in the wonderful premises of the **Stanhope Hotel**, by a special Gala dinner to celebrate **ENCATC's 30th anniversary**. The evening, marked by the presence of distinguished guests, was the opportunity to celebrate ENCATC's new birthday with old and new members, **retracing the history of the organization** together with some of its founding members, recalling the **legacy of thirty years of initiatives and events**, and exploring the **lookout towards future projects**, by reuniting together in a cheerful and convivial evening.

The evening represented an opportunity to launch the **next series of appointments** that ENCATC will host during the course of 2023. Among these, there is the next ENCATC Congress to take place in Helsinki, and also the prestigious **Encatc Academy on Sustainable Cultural management and policy**, developed in partnership with the **city of Santander**, and which will take place from 24 to 27 April 2023 in the beautiful **capital of Cantabria**. During the Academy, cultural practitioners, high level experts, academics, researchers and policy makers will gather to **build a dialogue on cultural sustainable development**, with a view to advance the sector in an innovative way. It will also be a unique opportunity to discover the very rich **cultural offer of the city** and some of its **key cultural landmarks**, like the Centre Botin.





### Cultural programme: Giving young confirmed and emerging artists the opportunity to have a global audience

With the aim to contribute to the European Year of Youth, during the Congress special attention was devoted to **promoting young talents in culture**, particularly in the field of music. To this end, during the Gala dinner a young European musical talent was invited to perform: **Antonin Musset**, French violoncellist, winner of many important competitions and active performer in important festivals such as Verbier and the Seiji Ozawa International Academy, currently an artist in residence of the Queen Elizabeth Music Chapel since September 2021.

Furthermore, with the aim to offer ENCATC members a privileged space to disseminate deliverables from EU funded projects among the Congress giveaways, participants received a **music record** linked to a project by ENCATC member, the **International Yehudi Menuhin Foundation**. The Foundation, which promotes power of the arts to transform society, works through programmes such as the **Artist Ambassadors** project, a network of artists that act as spokespersons of the values promoted by the Foundation, and **MUS-E**, a longstanding programme devoted to implementing **the use of creative arts in primary school curriculums**.

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### Study Visits: bridging theory and practice at the Congress!

The third day of the Congress focused on the **link from theory to practice**, bridging the discourses and themes raised during the first two days with **in person activities** developed with local realities, involving participants in a series of **Study Visits and Members' Talks**. Divided up in 4 different destinations, participants had an opportunity to look more closely into what some of the most important Belgian cultural institutions, from the **Royal Museum for Central Africa** to the **Migration Museum**, the **Holland House** and the **AMVB museum**, are doing to innovate, decolonize and experiment on and with their cultural programming.

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## Sustainability Policy Debate: A contribution to the European Year of Youth

The Policy Debate on “How to make internationalization greener? Young generation perspectives and recommendations for more sustainable transnational cooperation” raised important questions on one of the **hottest topics of today’s agenda** in the cultural field. Involving **young representatives of the cultural sector** alongside policymakers, the session was an opportunity to reflect on the **opportunities and challenges** posed by the Covid pandemic, and on the numerous positive examples introducing **concrete sustainability actions into cultural initiatives and projects**. Within the framework of the ENCATC Congress, the Policy Debate was a direct contribution to the **European Year of Youth**, providing emerging professionals with a platform to share their voices and **be heard by decision makers**.

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### Promoting environment-friendly practices at the Congress

At the Congress, we adopted as many steps as possible to **lower the conference's impact on the environment and climate**. We acted by recommending to participants **hotels with an 'environmental sustainability' label**, easily accessible from the conference venues on foot or by a short public transport ride. We made sure to **keep track of participants' means of transport** to Brussels and the Congress location, encouraging to travel by train or making other **sustainable travel arrangements**.

During the Congress, catering was selected following sustainability criteria, featuring **local, seasonal and vegetarian options**. Finally, printed materials and giveaways were kept to a minimum. The Congress **tote bags were made of recycled fabric**, kindly offered by **MAD, Home of Creators**, a platform for gathering expertise from Brussels' Fashion and design sectors.



Photo credit: Lina Attalah, Ahdaf Soueif & Iman Mersal © DR/GR

### ENCATC Cultural Happy Hour - Drinks & Literature Talk at Bozar

In the frame of the 30th ENCATC Congress, a networking opportunity was offered to participants



Attarian, Amal Souei & Imran Mersal engaged in a conversation on **writing as an act of resistance** and a way to remember oppression, but also as the foundation for **new ideas for a different future**. Sponsored by ENCATC members BOZAR and the Creative Europe Desk Flanders, this evening was based on the book of the same name by Alaa Abd el-Fattah, an independent philosopher and political prisoner, who was published in English last year. The line is a **metaphor for the fight for justice**, as well as a **message of hope**.

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## 2023 Agenda: ENCATC Congress in Helsinki and ENCATC Academy in Santander

During the Congress ENCATC launched the **next appointments** that it will host in the course of 2023, continuing to lead the sector in always innovative ways. Two of them will be the **highlights of next year**. On one hand, the next **Encatc Congress**, which will take place in **Helsinki on the 11-13 of October 2023**, in collaboration with ENCATC's Finnish partners. On the other hand, from the **24 to 27 April 2023** the prestigious **Encatc Academy on Sustainable Cultural management and policy** will take place in the beautiful city of **Santander**. Do not forget to mark these dates down!

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ENCATC member the University of Antwerp, who took special care of the scientific side of the programme. Furthermore, we are very proud to have received the patronage of the Czech presidency of the Council of the EU.

The Congress was financed through the generosity of the Creative Europe programme of the European Union. The other partners, which we thank deeply, include Bozar, the Royal Museum for Central Africa, Holland House, Creative Europe Desk Flanders, the Delegation to the European Union of the Government of Catalonia, Mad, Home of Creators, VZW Horizon 50-200 ASBL, and the Archive and Museum for the Flemish Living in Brussels (AMVB).

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**Co-funded by  
the European Union**

ENCATC is the European network on cultural management and policy. It is an independent membership organisation gathering over 100 higher education institutions and cultural organisations in over 40 countries. ENCATC was founded in 1992 to represent, advocate and promote cultural management and cultural policy education, professionalise the cultural sector and make it sustainable, and to create a platform of discussion and exchange at the European and international level.

ENCATC is also an NGO in official partnership with UNESCO.

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