

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000130/26
to the Commission
Lynn Boylan (The Left)
(14 January 2026)**

Subject: Funds for the preservation of arts and culture spaces in Member States

As the cost of living rises across Europe, arts and culture spaces are under threat. In Dublin, multiple arts and culture venues have closed over the past decade with spaces for artistry and creativity for citizens to enjoy arts and culture rapidly shrinking. The Complex, the only multi-disciplinary arts space in inner-city Dublin, is facing imminent closure. This would not only be a huge loss to Dublin's artistic community but would rob the wider community of one of the few dedicated spaces for the enjoyment of works from artists in the city.

This is representative of a wider issue across the EU, where arts and culture spaces are not adequately supported as the cost of living increases and precarity grows.

1. Does the Commission intend to use the Culture Compass to recognise the intrinsic value of arts and culture spaces both to artists and the wider community?
2. Has the Commission examined whether Creative Europe or the forthcoming AgoraEU programme could have a dedicated fund for the preservation of arts and culture spaces in communities?
3. How does the Commission intend to support artistic practice in the context of a cost of living crisis?

Submitted: 14.1.2026

**Answer given by Mr Micallef on behalf of the European Commission
(16 March 2026)**

The Commission's Culture Compass for Europe ⁽¹⁾ charts a new vision for vibrant, world-leading cultural and creative sectors and aims to make Europe the best place to be an artist. Thriving arts and culture spaces are vital for this vision to be achieved.

The Compass recognises culture's intrinsic value, as well as its societal, civic and economic value, and role as a fundamental public good. Cultural infrastructure must be available equitably across Member States and that investment in youth-led and community-owned creative spaces should be a major element in strategies to develop cultural infrastructure.

Creative Europe's added value lies in supporting project-based actions for collaboration between cultural organisations from different countries participating in the programme.

The projects financed contribute to a thriving cultural sector, including community spaces. The Creative Europe — Culture strand of AgoraEU ⁽²⁾, as proposed by the Commission in the context of the new Multiannual Financial Framework, will continue successful actions in this field.

Other EU funding sources such as the Recovery and Resilience Facility or the cohesion policy funds, also provide scope for cultural infrastructure funding.

The Compass also underlines the importance for artists and other workers in the creative sectors to have quality jobs, a viable career path and fair remuneration.

The Commission will propose an EU Artists' Charter to outline fundamental principles, guidance, and commitments for fair working conditions in the sectors.

⁽¹⁾ <https://culture.ec.europa.eu/document/a-culture-compass-for-europe>.

⁽²⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52025PC0550&qid=1753799477044>.