

15 YEARS REPORT

2006-2021

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Preface

By Dr. Vasileios Laopodis, founder and president of CulturePolis

In the preface of the anniversary edition for the 10th anniversary of CulturePolis in September 2016, I wrote: "[...] Each anniversary - especially if it represents a positive event, is always a time of temporary reprieve, recollection, celebrations, but also reflection, which inevitably leads to personal connotations."

In the same manner, the celebration of our 15th anniversary brought back memories of the launch of the organisation in 2006, when its original name was "Europe of Cultures Forum: Adriatic - Ionian Chapter" and reflected the vision of the founders of the organization for a pioneering Greece in a Europe that would be built on the cultures of its member states. This vision has not yet become a reality but it has helped to set the foundations for the important role that Culture-Polis plays today, that of a catalyst in civil society relations with authorities and institutions in Greece and abroad for issues relating to culture, sustainability and innovation.

Looking back at the different points in the history of these 15 years is a pleasant process. It is important for the founders, but I believe also for many of the readers of this issue who have experienced the 15-year course either from the inside - as co-founders, partners, Board members, employees, volunteers, and associates, or as observers or external partners from Corfu, the Ionian, Greece, Europe, the Mediterranean.

The publication that you are reading is more than a record of the past 15 years. Beyond acting as a reference point of the most important projects and actions of our course over these years, it attempts to capture their impact on society and culture in their area of implementation.

Through this perspective, seeing again what we have done within these 15 years, I believe that CulturePolis has played a major role in promoting innovative interventions at many levels with a focus on culture: starting with the promotion of the various cultural identities and intercultural dialogue in the wider Southeast European re-

gion, through efforts to raise awareness among citizens and to promote sustainable management of the cultural heritage of UNESCO, up to the present pluralist and outward-looking image of CulturePolis with innovative projects and experiments in the relationship of artists and society, specific forms of tourism, agri-food and gastronomy, policy innovation, accessibility, education, youth actions and enhancing the training and employment of young people.

Unfortunately, the pandemic has limited our physical presence in Corfu as well as in Europe and the Mediterranean. But I believe that our strong digital and online action did not leave our initiatives inactive and perhaps forced us to engage in institutional partnerships with several public and private organisations in Greece and abroad by expanding our services, as is the case in the "Center of Greek and Arabic Literature and Culture (K.EL.A.L.P.)" that was founded in 2020 to better understand the "other" through culture.

The 15th anniversary of the creation of Culture-Polis is marked by a great effort to utilize the legacy of these 15 years. Thus, already in mid-2020, the founders together with old and new partners have been engaged in a torturous attempt to record what we have done in every area we have dealt with, and especially positive impact if there was any, on local communities, institutions, professionals and civil society organisations.

The bar has already been set very high for the following years and I firmly believe that it is time for the founders to pass the baton to a group of young associates and executives who from 2022 will be called to put their personal touch on the new CulturePolis era and put this legacy in good use. They will develop it, improve it and modernize it for the benefit of our society and culture through constructive synergies inside and outside Greece.

To this direction, the survey's findings of citizen and institution opinions that has just been completed and presented in the 15-year anniversary event that took place on 7 October 2021, as well as the comments and criticisms of close friends and associates who have met us and worked closely together over the years, help considerably.

I would like to thank all those who have contributed whatever role they have wanted or have been able to do as partners, board members, associates, employees, volunteers, partners in European projects or project contractors in their own way in the 15-year successful course of CulturePolis and reassure them that it will continue with greater momentum in the future. I would like to extend special thanks to the close group of associates the last five years - all new scientists, who have fallen into the deep waters of culture, sustainability and innovation and managed to represent us worthily!

We will soon announce an "image reconstruc-

tion" of CulturePolis after the determined withdrawal of current partners and from 2022 the take-over of the management and responsibilities from younger people with knowledge, contemporary skills, and especially fresh ideas, with the signatory remaining a "gold reserve" and a volunteer to guarantee the transfer of the legacy.

Enjoy the reading of our report!

Dr. Vasileios Laopodis Founder & President of CulturePolis

Corfu, October 2021





Dr. Vasileios Laopodis Founder & President



Afrodite Laopodi Founding Member & Board member



Nikolaos Goumenakis Board member



Dionisia Koutsi Projects Coordinator



Xanthippi Kontogianni Projects Officer



Eleftheria Karamitrou Secretariat & Communications Manager



Maria-Louiza Laopodi Founding Partner & Strategy & Networks Advisor



Nikoleta Lechouriti IT & Administration Assistant



Persa Koumoutsi Director of K.EL.A.L.P.



Eftychia Mylona Scientific collaborator of K.EL.A.L.P.



Dr. Khaled Raouf Translation Collaborator of Arabic Literature

Our vision

CulturePolis aims at creating a single area of sustainable development and culture where citizens will feel they have common references - and in particular for the members of the European Union, a European cultural identity stemming from shared values, objectives and commitments for a democratic process.

The aim is for CulturePolis to operate as a catalyst so that the above-mentioned links can be strengthened with respect for the concept of sustainability everywhere and in particular citizens' cultural identities.

In this single area there will be tolerance between cultures, which can be caused by differences between race, languages, religions etc. This vision is extended and strengthened by embracing all neighbouring people and countries by disseminating the same values and goals.

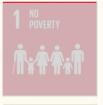
Our mission

CulturePolis is a private non-profit organisation based in Corfu, Greece, classified in private law non-profit civil society organisations (Civil Society Organisations - CSOs) and is primarily active in Europe and the Mediterranean Basin. Its main aim is to contribute – through research, analysis, debate and dialogue, as well as targeted action in information / awareness raising on issues related to:

- (A) culture and the arts in the broadest sense
- (B) intercultural dialogue and the promotion of different cultural identities
- (C) sustainability in all its facets
- (D) promoting innovative approaches and new technologies in society and economy
- (E) the creative economy and entrepreneurship

These issues identify with the following 6 <u>UN</u> <u>Sustainable Development Goals.</u>







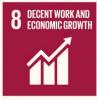


























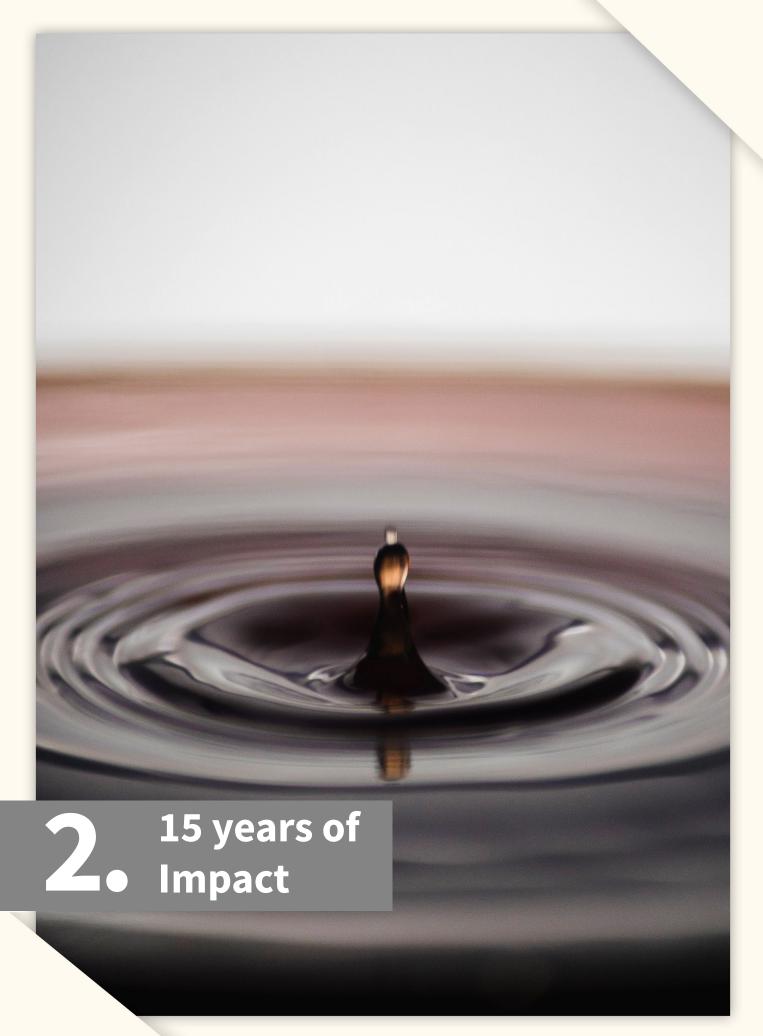






The people of CulturePolis today





2. 15 years of Impact

Open consultation events

Corfu Abroad Greece

26 32 16

Places and communities



Publicity Activities



Testimonials

Annika Patregnani

President of the international organization Habitat World

Let's grow together. I am convinced that we can achieve high goals together and with institutional cooperation to work for the good of the Mediterranean region.

Amin Nehme

Director Lebanese Development Network

Culturepolis turned out to be an effective, reliable and supportive partner. With its diverse gifts, Culturepolis is now called upon to play an even more dynamic role at a regional level.

Aldo Di Russo

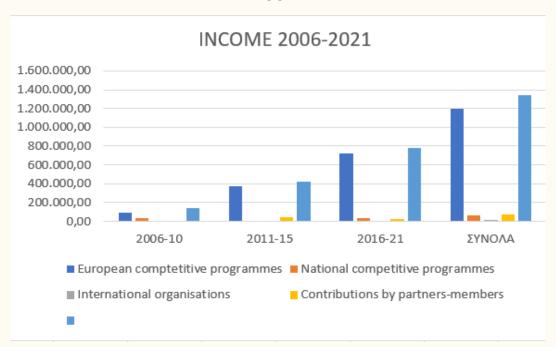
industrial and cultural heritage audio visuals Director

Many organisations run away when confronted with the realization that culture flourishes mainly when it is called upon to give solutions when face to face with the unpredictable, unexpected, and even the shocking. Culturepolis is the perfect example

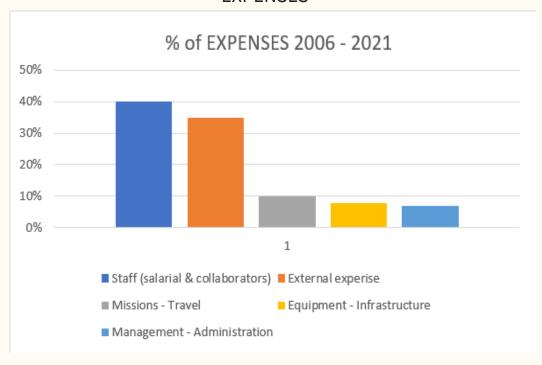
Financial Report

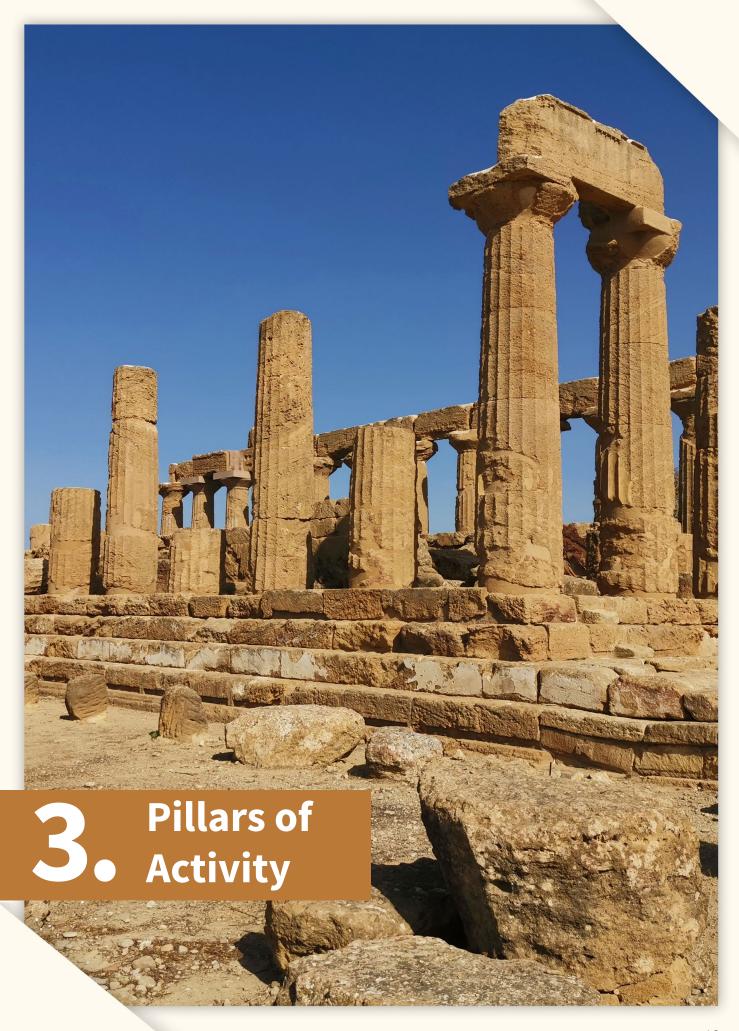
We share with you our successes but also our failures, just as the numbers can capture them:

INCOME



EXPENSES





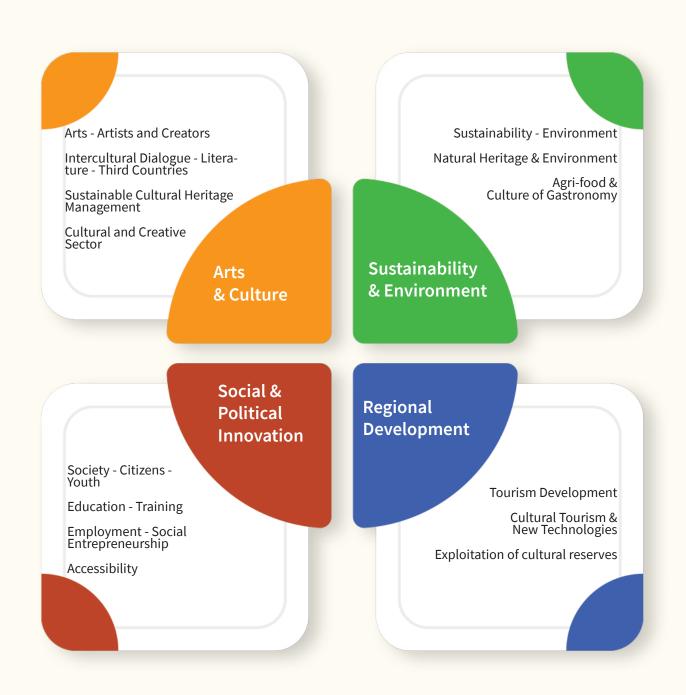
Our 15-year course



- Arts & Culture
- Sustainability & Environment
- Regional Development
- Social & Political Innovation
- Our Initiatives

CulturePolis in its 15 years of action conceived, designed and implemented dozens of small and large projects and initiatives mainly through funding from competitive EU programmes such as ERASMUS +, INTERREG, HORIZON, Creative Europe, Europe for Citizens, COSME, etc., as well as studies and research with self-financing and synergies with third parties in Greece and abroad.

Depending on their thematic, projects and initiatives they are classified in the following categories:



A. Arts & Culture

Projects relating to study, strengthening and promotion of the arts and the Artists - Creators as well as the Creative Economy & Entrepreneurship and in general the Cultural and Creative Sector, are part of this category. Projects relating to Intercultural Dialogue and in particular the understanding of the 'other' through literature and their culture are found in the same category, whereas a large number of projects relate to the Sustainable Management of Cultural Heritage.

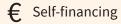
"Cultural Identities and European Citizenship"- 2006

The action "Cultural Identities and European Citizenship" was a European regional initiative for culture in the Ionian Islands and historically the first international meeting of the then newly founded Citizens Union "Europe of Cultures Forum: Adriatic-Ionian Chapter", which is today's CulturePolis. It was held in Corfu on 21 July 2006 with the support of the European non-profit organisation "Europe of Cultures Forum" - see www.europeofcultures.org, and the European Commission (DG Education and Culture).

Impact

Round table with the subject "Cultural identity and cultural tourism in Europe"

Meeting reports with all the suggestions



1st Conference of Intercultural Dialogue in the Adriatic-Ionian - 2008

In the context of the 2008 celebrations as the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue by the European Union and as the Year of Multilingualism by the UN, the 1st Conference of Intercultural Dialogue in the Adriatic - Ionian, together with the European Parliament's Offices for Greece, Italy and Slovenia, was co-organised in Corfu on 27-28 June 2008. The aim of the Conference was to promote dialogue between representatives from all Adriatic-Ionian countries to discuss the challenges of interculturalism, with a view to improving cultural cooperation and better understanding among citizens of the region.

Impact

Submission of proposals to promote intercultural dialogue in the Adriatic-Ionian region with the contribution of the European Parliament

At the end of the Conference's work, the participants signed the "Declaration of Intercultural Dialogue in Corfu," a document containing not only the conclusions of the conference but also reflections on further actions in the Adriatic and Ionian region as well as the views of the conference participants on intercultural dialogue in the region of Europe



€ 10.000 European Parliament, Ministry of Development / Tourism

Initiative "Get Culturally Connected" - 2008-2010

The <u>"Get Culturally Connected"</u> initiative started at the beginning of 2008 in the context of the action "Creation of a register of Cultural Institutions in Corfu - Ionian" in cooperation with the Prefecture of Corfu.

The aim of this initiative was to create a "cultural portal" that will accommodate and work with all stakeholders.

Impact

A co-operation platform for cultural operators and other creative businesses was established providing free hosting of web pages of cultural operators, event calendars and general networking.

The platform "Get Culturally Connected" offered services until 2010 when it was abandoned due to non-admission of data by cultural operators.



€ 25.000€ - Ministry of Employment - NGO action plans, Cycle B in 2008

Cultural Organisations Collaboration Network - 2008-2012



This is a redevelopment of the "Get Culturally Connected" initiative in conjunction with the then attempt to create Cultural Antennas for its expansion in various regions of Greece with a view to creating a "Cultural Organisations Collaboration Network" to seek co-operation, etc. Its aim was the general networking between cultural and social actors.

Impact

Special events were held in cities such as Preveza, Arta, Nafpaktos, Pirgos, Athens, but also abroad in Lecce (Italy), Sarandë (Albania), in conjunction with the establishment of local Cultural Antennas

In the next stage it was proposed to the Ministry of Culture and Sport to extend it to a Greekwide action under the title "Greeks Get Culturally Connected". Similarly, a proposal to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs was made for its adoption by the worldwide Greek diaspora, proposals which were not followed up.

€ Self-financing

CultLink - Arts and crafts, a gateway to dialogue and diversity - 2009

The <u>CultLink</u> project's main objective was to contribute to improving the social, educational and cultural conditions in Syria where the recovery and protection of cultural heritage are key factors for social and economic development.

The aim of the project was to demonstrate the contribution of arts and crafts to cultural diversity, dialogue and local development, to ensure exchanges and dialogue between artisans to promote their activities and share best practices, to establish permanent contact points between civil society organizations, and elevate the community conditions through improving their ability to participate in sustainable human, cultural and economic development.

Impact

Presentation of good practices by participating countries

Exhibition of handicrafts by women in Arab countries



€ 13.000 Office of the European Commission Delegation in Syria under the EuropeAid programme

Fortress Cultural Meetings - 2009-2010

The <u>"Fortress Cultural Meetings"</u> were a targeted attempt to integrate into society - mainly Corfu, our newly then created organisation. They were designed to provide a forum for dialogue with citizens on culture and sustainable cultural development. Their aim was to raise awareness among citizens and the various social groups in Greece and abroad on issues relating to culture in all its manifestations.



Impact

14 events took place within 2 years in Corfu and in some other cities in Greece that covered all aspects of culture and sustainable development.

Πρόγραμμα (Χορηγός: "Παλαιό Φρούριο Café-Bar")		
1η - Δε 16 Φεβρ. 2009	ΠερίΠολιτιστικής Ταυτότητας και Διαπολιτισμικού Διαλόγου	
2η - Δε 23 Φεβρ. 2009	ΠερίΤεχνών: η περίπτωση του Θεάτρου	
3η - Δε 09 Μαρτ. 2009	ΠερίΤεχνών : η περίπτωση της Μουσικής	
4η - Δε 16 Μαρτ. 2009	ΠερίΦεστιβάλ και Πολιτιστικών Εκδηλώσεων	
5η - Δε 30 Μαρτ. 2009	ΠερίΠολιτιστικής Κληρονομιάς	
6η – Δε 27 Απρ. 2009	ΠερίΧρηματοδότησης Πολιτιστικών Δραστηριοτήτων	
7η - Δε 4 Μαίου 2009	ΠερίΓλώσσας, Λογοτεχνίας και Βιβλίου	
8η - Τε 9 Δεκ. 2009	ΠερίΤέχνης, Ηχου & Εικόνας	
9η – Δε 18 Ιαν. 2010	Περίταξιδιών και περιηγήσεων: η πολιτιστική διάσταση	
10η - Δε 25 Ιαν. 2010	Περίαναπαράστασης ιστορικών/ πολιτιστικών περιόδων	
11η - Σα 30 Ιαν. 2010	ΠερίΛαογραφίας και παράδοσης	



Intercultural Dialogue Festival - East-West Cultural Meeting - 2010-2011



<u>1st Arab World Festival of Corfu</u>, organized on 1-6 April 2011

Impact

The festival reference point was the Arab Tent "Jaima" where Arab storytelling was held for young and older by storytellers together with readings from Arabic literary works by Corfiot artists and writers.

The main event at the Festival was the two-day (3-4 April) International Conference on "The journey: From Odysseus of Homer to Sinbad Legend of the Seven Seas" with important presences such as those of Tunisia's Ambassador to Greece, the Cultural attaché of the Egyptian Embassy, Arab universities professors, the Anna Lindh Foundation, the Islamic Art Museum/Benaki Museum among others.

Book fairs, crafts and other materials, film screenings, music, etc. from the Arab world as well as films, videos and music supported by Greek and international publishing houses, were visited by an older -in majority- audience.

Storytelling Competition for youth with the theme "West-East Cultural Meeting".

€ 100.000 CULTURE Programme EU 2007-2013, 50% self-financing

Places and words of Memory: space and tools for citizenship - 2011

"Remember! Action - art"

The project "Places and words of Memory: space and tools for citizenship" aimed at linking the preservation of memory of the past with the construction of the future for a democratic and inclusive civil society in Europe. The project took place during the whole year of 2011 and carried out various activities from 9 partners from 5 European countries.

Impact

In Greece the action "Remember! Action - art " was held by Culturepolis - Cultural Antenna of Preveza in co-operation with the local council of Kommeno, the Cultural Association of Kommeno and the municipality "Nikolaou Skoufa".



€ 1.218 European Commission, within the framework of the specific action, Active European Memory of the "Europe for Citizens" programme

SUSTCULT - Achieving sustainability through an integrated approach to management of cultural heritage - 2011-2014



The <u>SUSTCULT</u> project lasted 3,5 years with the City of Venice as project leader and a view to improving the efficiency of the management of cultural heritage in southeast Europe, particularly inhabited cities such as the Old Town of Corfu on the UNESCO World Heritage list.

Among the main objectives of the project was to raise awareness among the general public and the main stakeholders through intensive consultations around the value of southeast Europe's cultural heritage and its potential for attracting financial resources and sustainable development as well as greater institutional capacity in the management and promotion of cultural heritage.

Impact

Development of a common methodology for sustainable management of cultural heritage common to all stakeholders

Implementation of the methodology to each monument / location of the UNESCO partner - cities Corfu, Ohrid, Venice, etc.

Set up of the local and trans-national network of the Southeast Europe Consultative Committees Operating a geographic information systems platform (WebGIS) for the purpose of mapping/ promoting cultural resources

Definition of a sustainable marketing strategy for the specific monuments and cultural resources based on the analyses and business plans of the local market with a view to increasing tourism attractiveness € 225.000 EEuropean Union – Southeast Europe Transnational Cooperation Programme (South East Europe - SEE) and the Greek State

CAI - Citizen Artist Incubator - 2015-2017



Citizen Artist Incubator - CAI was a pioneering European project based on the concept of an "Citizen Artist" developed in Harvard by the famous violinist YoYoMa. The aim of the project was to experiment on the "Citizen Artist" phenomenon that started as a need for artists to find new innovative ways of using their art through Incubation Camps.

Impact

Hosting, educating and guiding 30 selected artists of various fields from all over the world, in special 15-day Incubation Camps, at the end of which the creative ideas developed by artists during their stay were performed

A Virtual Incubation Platform was created to support artists before and after their participation in Incubation Camps

Participating artists signed a Manifesto about the citizen - artist's obligations towards society

€ 77.810.39 Creative Europe Programme of the EU.

Lazaretta - 2020

<u>Lazaretta</u> was a multi-level project involved in the production and presentation of Greek and international digital culture by reference to the two Lazaretta, of Siros and of Corfu, and inspired by the modern historical moment of the pandemic.

The aim of the project was to highlight the cultural heritage, the importance and the role of digital culture to give artists an opportunity to create in time of confinement, to stimulate local communities by giving them an active role, to design new cultural pathways through the use of new technologies and set the foundations for international synergies.



Impact

Project Lazaretta created two important deliverables:

Digital Culture Platform with Digital & Video Art Digital Culture Platform, Screen Dance, Video Dances, Sound Art projects inspired by the two Lazaretta of Siros and Corfu and focusing on the historical moment of the pandemic

Audio document from selected thoughts, words, suggestions, sounds of people who lived in the pandemic and in confinement

€ 13.000 Ministry of Culture and Sports

TOGETHER - TOwards a cultural understanding of the oTHER - 2020-2022

The project <u>TOGETHER</u>, which is in progress, was born of the need to create and disseminate know-how about intercultural dialogue between EU countries and non-European countries. Intercultural dialogue is based on shared values emerging from the cultural heritage of the different countries and has the potential to strengthen the sustainable development of local communities.



Impact

Transnational co-operation of partners between EU countries but also beyond European territory

Contribution to the integration of intercultural dialogue in the cultural development of local communities

Training of representatives of local actors and bodies to become "ambassadors" of intercultural dialogue

Develop original educational processes using digital tools.

€ 49.690 Erasmus + programme of the European Union

Defying the gods - Alkyone's journey and other perpetual transformations - 2021

This artistic action provided for a live original music and dance performance from the Alcedo Folk Band with the aim to bridge people and cultures of the Mediterranean.

CulturePolis offered the organisational umbrella and project management by contributing to the creation of innovative partnerships in particular between artists, people of art, literature, culture and other cultural operators.

Impact

Two original performances were scheduled for September 2021 in the archaeological site of Europos, Kilkis. Performances were expected in other cities too.



€ 15.000 Ministry of Culture and Sports - "All Greece one Culture"

One thousand and one... gatherings - 2021



The project of CulturePolis "One thousand and one... gatherings" is being implemented in 2021 with emphasis on the newest writing work of Greece's intellectual people. It seeks to unravel the panorama of modern Greek culture, calling for dialogue between the Greek and the Arab-speaking audiences through a series of actions and events.

The aim of the project was to promote the image and thinking of today's Greece to the exterior, to present a representative sample of the work of modern Greek writers in the Arab world and to "reintroduce them" into Greek society, thus encouraging philanagnosia.

Impact

Three meetings have been planned under the project with 12 contemporary Greek authors/creators with the following themes:

"A City through a narrative"

"Hosting the Other in our Narratives"

"Historical and cultural pathways of modern Greek Prose in the Mediterranean"

In addition, authors/creators and their works will be promoted through targeted communication actions, a special edition will be issued in Greek and Arabic language with the minutes of the 3 meetings of the project.

€ 5.000 Ministry of Culture and Sport and self-financing

ENVISION - Culture and Creativity Sectors' Entrepreneurship Empowerment in the Digital Era - 2021 - 2022

ENVISION is an innovative 24-months project, aiming to actively support stakeholders and professionals in the sector of culture and creativity, through the development of entrepreneurial skills and digital competences, to ensure both resilience and recovery during the current or any potential future crisis, such as the covid-19 pandemic.



Impact

The project is in progress and provides for:

mapping the needs and requirements of the cultural and creative sector in partner countries

development of the digital platform for stakeholders in the cultural and creative sector

development of consultancy and mentoring services content for cultural entrepreneurs

implementation of a cultural event

Design and development of a Crowdfunding mechanism for entrepreneurs with cultural activities

€ 24.329 Erasmus + programme of the European Union

READ-IN-CLUB - READ-INg for CuLtUres across Borders - 2021-2023

READ-IN-CLUB is a project in progress where the art of literature and the institution of reading clubs combined with the power of digital technology are seen as enablers of informal learning and dialogue, creating an environment of culture that encourages creativity and innovation. The project aims at workers in the book sector who organize and coordinate the operation of reading clubs or other educational activities related to literature.

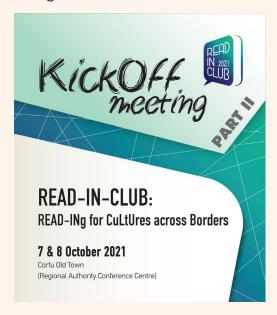
Impact

Cross-sectoral and transnational cooperation of project partners

Strengthening the educational value of reading clubs for social inclusion and intercultural dialogue, especially since the time of the COVID-19 pandemic

Strengthen the professional skills of the reading clubs coordinators and their mobilization to become intercultural dialogue mediators

Develop a platform to digitize the functions of the reading clubs



€ 33.099 Erasmus + programme of the European Union

B. Sustainability & Environment

This category includes projects generally related to sustainability and the environment - biodiversity and the protection of natural heritage, but also the link with the new trends in agri-food and gastronomy culture.

Human - Art - Environment - 2008

The "Human - Art - Environment" project was intended to act as an encouragement to local communities in relation to recycling, intercultural dialogue, respect for the Other, human creation, human-natural environment relations. It was carried out with the support of the European Commission, the Youth Institute, the Prefecture of Preveza and the Bar Association of Preveza - An initiative by the Youth Group of the Preveza Cultural Antenna, involving groups of volunteers from the four Municipalities of the Prefecture of Preveza (municipality of Parga, Thesprotiko, Louros, Preveza).

Impact

Seminars for children and parents from specialized pedagogues

Creative children's games and recycling structures

Visual and other interventions in Preveza, garbage cans in Parga, Louro etc.



igspace 6.028 New Generation in Action Programme

Veni Vidi Comedi: Cooking for Europe - 2012-13

<u>Veni Vidi Comedi</u> was a project on food, designed for students, young professionals at the start of their careers, employees, unemployed people looking for work and generally for people moving at a fast pace.

It is related to the development of a sustainable practice around European culinary culture adapted to a fast society, through a practical autonomy and DIY approach (Do It Yourself), which links daily nutrition to gastronomy and healthy lifestyle.



Impact

A healthy and sustainable food culture aimed at contributing to the cultural integration of young people in Europe through the movement of various international gastronomic practices.

A website containing a reference to a database where users can browse or search for a fast, healthy and delicious recipe throughout Europe

Creating a community around food culture

List of dishes and recipes in the participating countries

€ 18.000 Erasmus+ programme of the European Union



GROW Observatory- 2016-2019

The <u>GROW Observatory</u>, belonging to the "Citizen Science" initiative of the EU, addressed thousands of growers, scientists and people obsessed with soil and earth throughout Europe. The objective was to create together a pan-European farmers' community, the discovery of the secrets of the soil, the use of simple tools to manage it more efficiently and to contribute to its protection and scientific follow-up.



Impact

Creating a central repository of open knowledge and data generated and maintained by growers who will be in continuous interaction with civil society and communities specialising in science, politics and industry

Creation of "GROW champions" in many countries in Europe for the dissemination and support of young farmers with new technologies

€ 249.945 HORIZON 2020 Programme of the European Union



C. Regional Development

Projects and actions related to tourism and the exploitation of new technologies with a focus on cultural tourism and exploitation of the cultural reserve are part of this category.

DIVERTIMENTO - 2015-2017

The <u>DIVERTIMENTO</u> project aimed at proposing diversification of tourism proposals to regional destinations with products and services based on cultural heritage, alliances and synergies between actors and skills for internationalisation of locally operated micro-businesses and facilitating their promotion on world markets.



Impact

Development of the "EUROTHENTICA" trilogy, including: "Cultural routes - ibook/epub - heritage games"

Implementation in 7 countries to highlight 70 European destinations in participating countries with a particular cultural identity and heritage through the use of new technologies

Establishment of a transnational association entitled EUROTHENTICA Association established in Rome to promote these technologies

₹ 77.538 COSME programme of the European Union / Tourism and Culture and Virtual Museums / 25% self-financing

INNOVIMENTOR - 2017-2021

INNOVIMENTOR aimed at supporting the capacity of tourism SMEs in remote, peripheral and sparsely populated areas to grow in regional, national and international markets and to engage in innovation processes in the tourism sector.

The INNOMENTOR project was a synthesis of research, education, knowledge transfer, innovation, applications, networking with the involvement of stakeholders and representatives of different levels and sectors.



Impact

A Creative Tourist Route with 80 unique demonstration points and 8 Location Games

An online book on iOS/Android/Windows available for free download, iCloud Free Access Museum

A demo App setting up a community model, turning visitors to reputation-site creators,

Set up a Business Network and a <u>Tourism-Culture Roving Business School.</u>

€ 173.642 INTERREG Balkan-Mediterranean programme of the European Union and National Resources of the Participating Countries

D. Social & Political Innovation

This category includes projects and actions involving Society - Citizens - Youth and actions related to social innovation and entrepreneurship, employment and accessibility for Persons with Disabilities in general and in particular in cultural areas. In the same category we also find important education and training activities in a number of areas.

Platform For Political Innovation - 2014-2015



The <u>Platform for Political Innovation</u> was a project aimed at strengthening the role and efficiency of civil society in Greece, emphasising the imperative need for innovation in policy-making.

Impact

The project included:

comparative research and visualisation of civil rights and the institutional role of civil society in Greece;

civic education programmes in participatory design and participatory leadership;

innovation workshops for the development of participatory decision-making processes at local and national level;

Applications and activities to disseminate new knowledge and information about the democratic deficit in Greece and the potential of democratic and cooperative practices in today's world, an international interdisciplinary meeting on "social and technological innovation for democracy," as well as

A Toolset - open source technology tools for urban interlocking.

€ 29.000 Program "We Are All Citizens" of the EEA Grants

JOYNEET: Job Opportunities for Youth with the Network of European Towns - 2015-2016



The aim of <u>JOYNEET</u> was to provide new business models to foster entrepreneurship in participating countries, combining entrepreneurs and interested networks in European cities, with a view to creating synergies for the development of business activities.

Impact

7 meetings took place in several European countries focusing on European Union policies aimed at helping young NEET citizens (Not in Employment, Education or Training) to improve their CV for better job placement or to start their own business and to develop intercultural understanding.

At the final meeting in Corfu, a collaboration agreement was signed for the creation of a European NGO (ENGO) to promote project results

€ 20.200 Europe for Citizens Programme of the European Union

OHAS - Opening Heritage and Archeological Sites for People with Special Needs - 2018 - 2021

The aim of OHAS swas to facilitate people with disabilities, allowing access to more friendly and equipped cultural heritage sites as possible, such as archaeological sites, galleries, museums etc., through the development of a programme of people in cultural sites who contact and interact with people with disabilities, but also informing and awareness-raising activities for the general public.



Opening Heritage and Archaelogical Sites for People with Special Needs

Impact

Study on the status of services provided for people with disabilities in cultural sites

Accessibility guide for cultural sites

Training programme for employees of cultural sites

Creation of an International Digital Platform

€ 51.264 Erasmus + programme of the European Union

ECHOES - European Cultural Heritage: Opportunities for citizens' Engagement and Social inclusion - 2018-2021

ECHOES was an innovative ongoing project with a view to sustainable and as effective as possible cooperation between NGOs and Local Self-Government Organisations from 18 EU countries, creating a network of cooperation to solve common problems such as the social integration of migrants, people with disabilities, young people and more generally vulnerable groups on cultural heritage.

The aim of the project is to collect and disseminate good practices concerning the use of local cultural heritage, to inform and raise awareness on the value of the local cultural heritage and the importance of its protection.

The project relates to initiatives related to the Year of European Heritage, aiming to assess its results in the participating countries. Finally, the organisation of a youth counselling and guidance event involving all partners aims to support and promote initiatives related to local cultural heritage features.

Impact

5 Physical meetings of the partners and 1 online - presentations of research results, good practices, campaigns

Conducting the campaign "My Culture, My Future, My Europe," consisting of 2 parts: a) Tell Your Story! gathering stories of young people as part of the intangible cultural heritage of their place, b) Europe, Heritage, Startup! where young people were invited to submit ideas for the exploitation of sites related to their city's local cultural identity

Establishment of a group of experts

Support for start-ups transnationally through a joint event of an advisory nature involving all the countries in Munich, Germany

Exchange of good practices



€ 2.450 Europe for Citizens of the European Union

ACCESS4All - Awareness and Capacity building for ChangEs in policy SchemeS for disability towards incLusive societies - 2020-2022

CESS4All , that is in ACCESS progress, is the integration of the concept of accessibility in the city through a series of deliverables and actions, involving the training of responsible institutions in matters relating to disability accessibility, but also information and awareness



raising of the general public. Through the project we are aiming at equal access for all to more employment opportunities and active participation of people with disabilities in cultural and social life.

Impact

Shaping an integrated asynchronous educational material on city accessibility that will be available on a e-learning platform

Creating a tool for evaluating accessibility policies

as well as a guide for good practices and policies

€ 24.146 Erasmus + programme of the European Union

A4EUS - Action 4 Europe of Solidarity - 2020-2021

The aim of the A4EUS project was to raise citizens awareness on the issue of migration that concerns European society as early as 2015. In particular, the aim of the project was to disseminate a new narrative and approach to the issue of migration in Europe, promoting a Europe without fear with a focus on the European solidarity approach that set the European Union as a beacon of culture and democracy around the world.

Impact

14 online information events - one in each part-

ner country, with a common thematic strategy on project targeting in relation to European policies on EU migration



2.450 Europe for Citizens of the European Union

SPACES - Creating Spaces for Creativity 2021-2023

The <u>SPACES</u> project, which is in progress, is an innovative 24-months project that aims to support the development of creativity by contributing to the creation of a friendly space for the development of creative thinking skills and rapid adaptation of pupils and teachers / educators through the exchange of experience and good practices.

Impact

The project provides for the development of educational and supervisory material / manuals in three axes:

- 1) How to learn creatively? Manual for secondary education students
- 2) How to teach creatively? Manual for teachers
- 3) How to create creative space? Teaching materials, recommendations



€ 37.270 Erasmus + programme of the European Union



CULTURE and CREACTIVITY OBS ERVATORY



2016 - today

The <u>Culture and Creativity Observatory (COBS)</u> is an initiative of CulturePolis, which came to cover the lack of indicators and information on the Cultural and Creative Sector in Greece, to contribute to the development of cultural strategies at all levels (national, regional, local), as well as addressing the very limited participation of citizens in decision-making.

An integral part of the Observatory is the Digital Platform that collects, assesses data from many public and private sources and helps to formulate policy proposals. This initiative by Culture-Polis is proposed as a mechanism for providing long-term, specialised and integrated services to policy makers and active bodies in the cultural and creative industries.

Impact

The Observatory's footprint is divided into the following categories of work:

Surveys

Consultations

Institutional proposals

Educational initiatives

Digital tools & Platforms

Publications & Guides

€ Self-financing and partial funding from European programmes

Surveys

Opinion surveys for municipal elections regarding cultural matters - 2006 & 2014

These are specialized opinion surveys on the cultural programs proposed by municipal candidate political parties in the October 2006 elections (Corfu, Ionian Islands) and a comparative presentation of culture programmes of municipal candidate political parties for the 2014 elections.

Impact

Proposed programmes were recorded and compared

An open civic meeting was held with representatives of political parties

Cultural Strategy of Greek Cities Survey - 2016- 2018

CulturePolis carried out the nationwide online survey "Cultural strategy of Greek cities" addressed to the Greek municipalities as a whole and took place in two phases. The first took place in 2016 in cooperation with the Greek Union General Secretaries "Klisthenis" and beyond the main part it also included a "Self-evaluation of the cultural strategy and activities" of the municipalities based on the UN standard "Agenda 21 for culture".



The success of the first phase led to repeat the survey in 2017 focusing solely on the "Self-evaluation of the cultural strategy and activities" of municipalities for reasons of recording the track

of the Municipalities in relation to their cultural programmes.

Impact

The findings of the survey were published online and were widely shared and sent to all stakeholders

The results of the self-evaluation were sent to the specific Local and regional authorities

A framework was drafted by CulturePolis for services to local and regional authorities



Surveys on demand and supply of tourism and culture projects - 2021

Two surveys were carried out under the INNOVI-MENTOR project:

A survey researching the needs and skills required to engage in entrepreneurial activity by tourism and culture institutions at local level - SUPPLY

Demand-side satisfaction survey at local level in Corfu - DEMAND

Impact

The final deliverables of the project were based on the findings in each country

The results were published online

Survey "Citizens for Culture"

- CitizenTalks - 2018

As part of the activities of the 2018 European Year for Cultural Heritage, CulturePolis launched a nationwide online survey entitled "Citizens for Culture" - CitizenTalks which aimed at identifying the needs of citizens, recording their opinions on the cultural activity of their city of residence and on culture in general.

The presentation of the results of the survey took place on 21 November 2018 at the Michael Cacoyannis Foundation. This survey was conducted under the aegis of the Ministry of Culture and Sports, supported by the Michael Cacoyannis Foundation and the communication was sponsored by the $\epsilon\lambda$ culture.gr platform.



Impact

The findings of the survey were published online and were widely shared and sent to all operators

The proposals - comments of participants were recorded and forwarded to the municipalities where they were residents

Presentation of survey results to the general public (Michael Cacoyannis Foundation, November 2019)



Consultations

Consultation with tourism and culture decision-makers and entrepreneurs - 2020

The representatives of institutional and business actors in the tourism and culture area of Corfu were invited to sign a COLLABO-RANDO Cooperation Agreement with a view to creating the "Business Network of tourist services". In this consultation Local Authorities actors, Chambers,



Professional associations, the Ionian University, Scientific and Cultural Entities, specialised companies and non-profit bodies took part.

Impact

Cooperation Agreement establishing a "Business Network of tourist services"

Requirements for the "Tourism-Culture Roving Business School" were drafted



Institutional proposals

Proposals for updating the Management and Action Plan (2013-2018) for the Old Town of Corfu (SUSTCULT) - 2013-2014

The proposals are a result of the SUSTCULT project results delivered on 30 April 2014. Those were are considered very important at international level by experts such as the Venice Commission. A new methodology for sustainable management of the cultural



heritage in southeast Europe was developed, an online 6-month long learning programme and a local one for cultural heritage management officers in the participating countries were developed, cooperation networks were set up - 6 local and one international, open public consultation took place in all countries.

Impact

Implementation of the SUSTCULT methodology by each partner in its monument

CulturePolis applied it to the Old Town of Corfu-Monument UNESCO - and the study was made public to organizations, the government and citizens

Organisation of a Sustainable Management of Cultural Heritage Week in Corfu with wide publicity results

Analytic proposal: ISUU version

Summary of the Working Group's <u>Update Proposals (8-page brochure)</u>

Proposals for culture and development infrastructure and actions - 2016-2021

In the last five years, CulturePolis took an active part in all consultations by institutions such as the municipality of Corfu and the Region of Ionian Islands on culture and sustainable development and submitted complete and innovative proposals for exploitation by those institutions.

Impact

To the Municipality of Corfu for SPDs/OSSA

In particular, CulturePolis has submitted proposals to the SPDs/OSSA initiative for urban development of cities of the unified Municipality of Corfu as well as for cultural infrastructure and actions.

Proposals for infrastructure and actions for culture and development to the Region of Ionian Islands

Detailed proposals have been put forward in the context of the Ionian Culture Conference in Lefkada in 2017

Educational initiatives

Incubator for Cultural and Creative Companies - 2016-2018

CulturePolis designed the creation of an Incubator for Cultural and Creative Companies addressed to members of the Ecosystem of Cultural and Creative Industries for the development of their professional skills and provided them with space to prepare their own business work in cooperation with scientists and professionals of art and culture.

This proposal was submitted to the Region of Ionian Islands and concerned the creation of a system/network of "Incubators for Cultural and Creative Industries" in Corfu and other islands, focusing on objectives for which there are comparatively local advantages: Entrepreneurship & Innovation - Production of cultural products - Strong cultural tradition - Tourism.

Impact

Proposals for Innovation - Business intelligence

Proposals for Digital Technology - Arts

Proposals for Crafts - Digital Technology



CulturePolis planned a new initiative under the name ForCulture: Culture-Creativity-Cities-Citizens focusing on the provision of innovative educational services related to the Cultural and Creative Sector. The ForCulture initiative aimed at providing a wide selection of courses from different disciplines and specialised trainings combined with exploring new experiences in Greece. In addition, it sought to give the citizens - both local and visitors of the selected regional Greek sites - the chance to communicate with the activities of the ForCulture students for mutual cultural enrichment.

The effort had been piloted for a short period of time but was withdrawn due to the pandemic in order to redesign it on a digital basis.

Impact

Design of an educational organisation for hosting of creators - Provision of education - training and Incubator services

Development of educational programmes

Digital tools & Platforms

2015-2021

Under the DIVERTIMENTO project

Development of the <u>«Eurothentica</u>» trilogy including "Cultural routes - ibook/epub - heritage games".

Under the **INNOViMENTOR** project

The digital panorama and the main output of the project consist of 5 key components:

- a) Creative Tourism Route in 80 geolocations INNOVIMENTOR APP
- b) Template of reservations Electronic app
- c) Multimedia eBOOK compatible with iOS/Android/Windows operating systems INNOVIMENTOR Mobile Application:
- -Play Store
- -App Store
- d) Cultural games for the public (onsite-offsite), and also a Cooperative Museum

Impact

Digital Panorama in the partner languages

Carrying out 8 pilot projects aimed at exporting the tourist identity of the region of intervention at international level

Proposals for new international tourism markets, new visitors as well as offering personalised tourism/cultural experiences Incubator Digital Platform <u>Citizen Artist</u> (CAI) 2017

Providing a framework for services to artists and cultural creators by collecting and providing educational and other materials, consultancy services, networking, financial resources, etc. (The website is under reconstruction)

Digital Platform for Culture and Creativity - 2017-2018

CulturePolis carried out a study for the creation of a Digital Platform for Culture and Creativity aimed at offering an appropriate digital environment and tools, allowing equal access for all citizens, public bodies, universities and schools, associations and cultural institutions as well as private operators and businesses to the potential of new information and knowledge technologies.

At the same time, it was part of the overall digital transformation of the country and aimed at increasing the availability of appropriate digital services to all citizens as well as the fight against the digital gap in all its manifestations (geographical, age, people with disabilities etc.). The project was abandoned due to lack of resources during the covid-19 pandemic period.

Impact

Specifications and operating framework to be considered by public and private bodies

Publications & Guides

Corfu Tourism Guide - 2013

CulturePolis, as part of its initiatives to offer to society and visitors of Corfu and with respect to the island's cultural heritage, has created a complete tourist guide for Corfu, which contains the most important cultural heritage sites in the city, as well as historical data.

Impact

Application for Android to use by tourism companies and Corfu operators

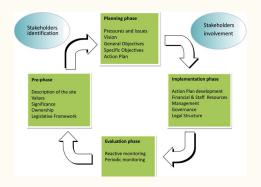
Methodology for sustainable management of UN-ESCO cities - 2011-2012

The main purpose of a common methodology is to provide a support tool for managing authorities to develop and design Management Plans which balance protection with the sustainable use of cultural heritage.

Impact

Development of a methodological framework for UNESCO cities

Handbook for cultural heritage managers



<u>Guide for employees of cultural sites regarding access for People with Disabilities</u> (OHAS project) - 2019-2021

This Guide was created to train employees in cultural sites (housed or open-air) in accessibility issues for people with disabilities and was based on a study on the status of services provided for people with disabilities in cultural areas.



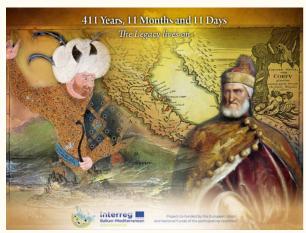
Opening Heritage and Archaelogical Sites for People with Special Needs

Impact

Manual for dealing with people with disabilities by cultural sites operators (in 5 languages)

e-book INNOVIMENTOR/DIVERTIMENTO

In the project, specific digital applications were created with the most representative one being the e-book for Android & iPhone, presenting the history and cultural characteristics of each partner region.

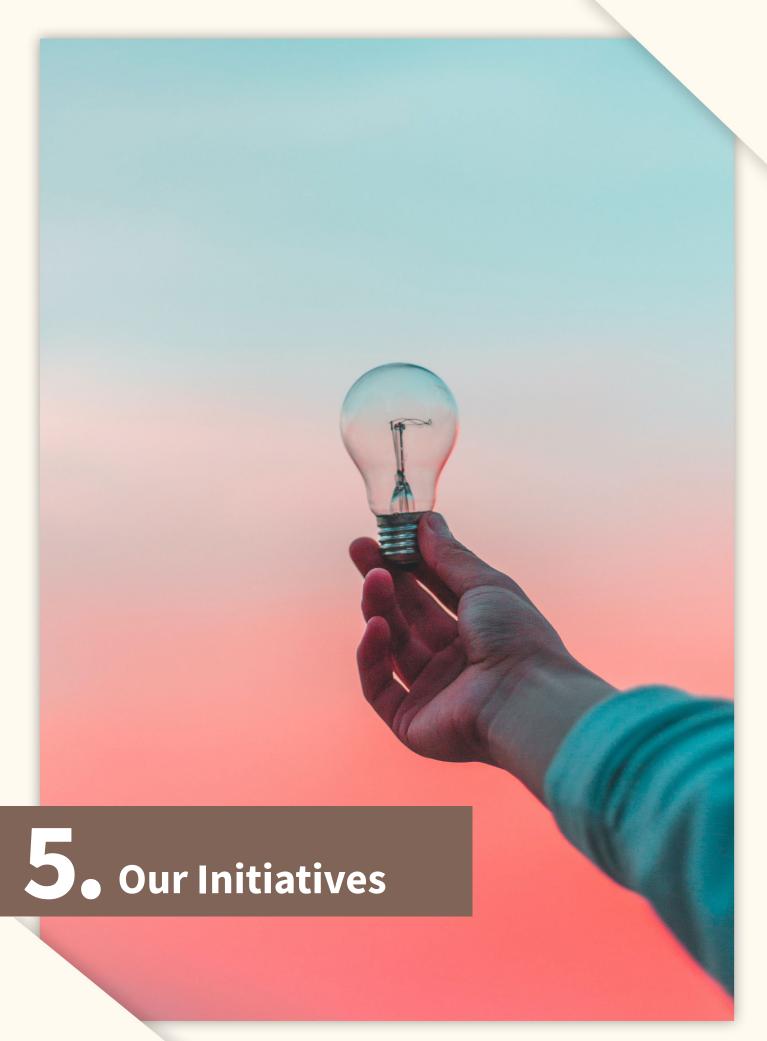


For Greece, an e-book for the Old Town of Corfu and for the Chios Monastery as UNESCO monuments were created. (ISBN for Corfu, 978-618-851-90-0-8)



Impact

Appstore Google Play



Corfu Gastronomy Club - 2011-2013

Under the aegis of CulturePolis, the <u>Corfu Gastronomy Club</u>, was established through the initiative of Gina Laopodi, founding member of CulturePolis and a member of Slow Food who gathered many friends of gastronomy in Corfu. The effort was abandoned in 2014 because many members and friends were unable to participate as a result of the economic crisis and the rest of the fund was donated at the Corfu Municipal Nursing Home.



Impact

A series of 4 lectures on the Culture of Gastronomy

Series of 6 thematic banquets in Corfu restaurants (To psomi, Oinognosia, etc.)

Reviews following secret visits of members of the Corfu Gastronomy Club to restaurants in Corfu which were posted in a special column of the newspaper "CORFU TODAY" (Kerkyra Simera).



Tourism-Culture Roving Business School

This initiative was a proposal of the INNOViMENTOR project at the initiative of CulturePolis to exploit its results and aims at successful mentoring and training of small and medium-sized businesses in the tourism sector, especially those based in regional, remote and sparsely populated areas, in order to be given the opportunity to develop at regional, national and international level through innovative technological applications.

Impact

Specifications for the developing of a Roving Business School in Corfu stemming from the COLLABORANDO COOPERATION AGREEMENT signed by stakeholders from municipal authorities, chambers, professional associations, the Ionian University, scientific and cultural stakeholders, specialised companies and nonprofit entities, such as CulturePolis.

Center of Greek and Arabic Literature and Culture - K.EL.A.L.P.



Κ.Ελ.Α.Λ.Π.

K.EL.A.L.P.

Κέντρο Ελληνικής & Αραβικής Λογοτεχνίας και Πολιτισμού

Center of Greek & Arabic Literature and Culture

مركز الثقافة والأنب البوتاتي والعربي

www.culturepolisngo.wixsite.com/kelalp



The Center of Greek and Arabic Literature and Culture (K.EL.A.L.P.) was created in 2020 as a new, autonomous initiative under the aegis and operational support of CulturePolis.

The aim of K.EL.A.L.P. is to promote and strengthen an open to all study of the two cultures to better understand "what unites us, rather than what separates us" through research, analysis, discussion, and dialogue, as well as targeted actions and programmes to inform / raise the awareness of experts and the public on Greek and Arabic literature, poetry and language.

Impact

Contribution to the design and implementation of national and European works, to which CulturePolis participates as a lead partner, which are related to books, philanagnosia, intercultural dialogue, language and literature themes, such as Together TOwards a cultural understandinG of the other (erasmus+), read-in-club: read-INg for CuLtUres across Borders (ERASMUS+) and One thousand and one...gatherings (Ministry of Culture and Sports).

Organising among other activities a series of thematic meetings such as the cycle "Meetings of Greek and Arab Poets" with themes such as "The Mediterranean and its Story", "From Another Place", "Women in the Greek-speaking and Arabic-speaking Poetry"



Μια αυτόνομη πρωτοβουλία της CulturePolis



Τι είναι το Κ.Ελ.Α.Λ.Π.

Το Κέντρο Ελληνικής και Αραβικής Λογοτεχνίας και Πολιτισμού (Κ.Ελ.Α.Λ.Π.) δημιουργήθηκε το 2020 ως μια νέα, αυτόνομη, πρωτοβουλία υπό την αιγίδα της αυτικής μη κερδοσκοπικής εταιρίας CulturePolis (culturepolis.org).

Σκοπός του Κ.Ελ.Α.Λ.Π. είναι η προώθηση και η ενίσχυση μιας ανοικτής σε όλους προσπάθεισς μελέτης του δαο πολιτισμών για την καλύτερη κατανόηση «του τι μας ενώνει, παρά εκείνων που μας χωρίζουν» μέσα από την έρευνα, ανάλυση, συζήτηση και τον διάλογο, καθώς και στοχευμένες δράσεις και προγράμματα για την ενιμέρωση ε αυαιθαήτοποίηση αδιάκων και κοινού σε θέματα ελληνικής και αραβικής λογοτεχνίας, ποίησης και γλώσσας.

Γλώσσα - Λογοτεχνία - Βιβλίο - Φιλαναγνωσία Τέχνες - Πολπισμός Έρευνα-Μελέτη - Ανάλυση Συζήτηση - Διάλογος Ευαισθητοποίηση

Λίγα λόγια για την CulturePolis...

Η CulturePolis είναι μια αστική μη κερδοσκοπική εταιρία με έδρα την Κέρκυμρα από το 2006, που δραστηριοποιείται κυρίως στην Ευρώπη και την Μεσογρασή Λεκάνη, Βοσικός της ακοπός από η έρευνα και συμβολή μέσα από στοχειμένες, δράσεις και πρωτόβουλίες προς δημόσους και εθωτικούς φορείς και την κοινωνία των πολιπούν, σε θέμιστα που απτοντα:

1.00 πολιποιλισικού τουχούν και την ανάδειξη των διαφόρων πολιποικού τουτοιτίτων σε κάθει τόπο της βιωσούμπησε σε δως της τε εφεφύσιας της βιωσούμπησε σε δως της τε εφεφύσιας της προσάθησης καινοτομικόν προσεγγάσεων και νέων τεχονδυγών στην κοινωνία και ακισνωμία

1.τις δημιουργικής οικονομίας και επιχειρημιστικότητας





Participation in networks

Cultural heritage, Environment and

Sustainable Development

Human rights

The Thessaloniki Alliance for Culture is a participatory horizontal venture for networking and co-operation between institutions, organisations, funders and individuals, smaller or larger scale, of public or private interest, for-profit or non-profits directly or indirectly involved in culture and wishing to expand its role as a lever for social cohesion and economic

prosperity for the entire city of Thessaloniki.

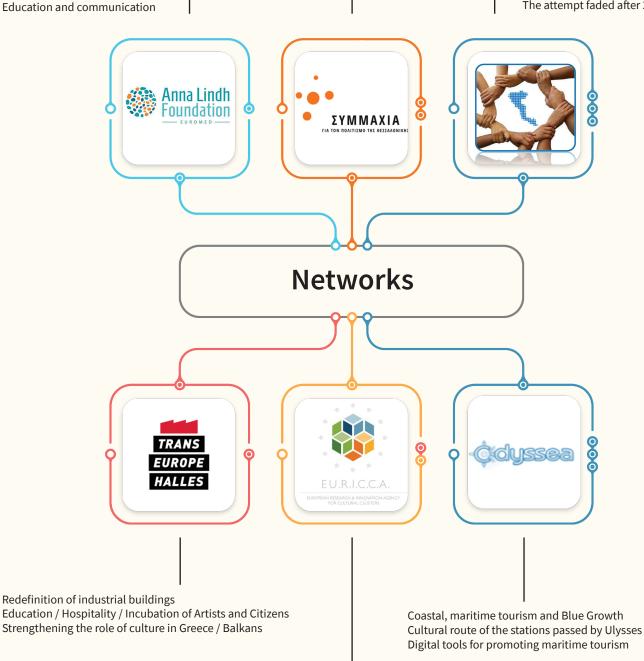
VOLUNTEER NETWORK OF CORFU

Promoting the idea of Volunteering in Corfu

Promoting the cooperation and interconnection for the coordination of Corfu actors

Participation in jointly accepted voluntary actions

The attempt faded after 2013.



Linking training, Entrepreneurship, Market Needs and European Actors of Culture and Creative Sector Facilitating access to global markets Exchange of know-how



Strategic partnerships with partners from Greece, Europe, but also non-EU countries over the past 15 years have contributed and greatly determined the quality of the results and an increase in the impact of our actions at local, regional, national and international level.

Examples below are informal partnerships and / or signed cooperation agreements with local authorities but also universities in Greece and abroad, networks, for-profit and non-profit organisations, but also international organisations.

Indicative list

- Municipality of Corfu and Diapontia Islands (Greece)
- Hellenic Foundation for Culture
- Ionian University (Greece)
- Anna Lindh Foundation (Egypt)
- Greek network Anna Lindh Foundation
- Dundee University (Scotland)
- Found.ation (Greece)
- Lebanese Development Network (Lebanon)
- Odyssea Joint venture for tourism culture (France)
- FAO Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
- IED Institute of Entrepreneurship Development (Greece)
- EWORX (Greece)
- Union of Bulgarian Black Sea Local Authorities (Bulgaria)

Open call for collaborations!

CulturePolis remains open to new partnerships with any interested party from the Private or Public Sector. These partnerships and the interconnection with relevant European and/or international actors will contribute to the promotion of a pole of reference for cultural activity in Greece.



CulturePolis of the future, as we see it, is a non-profit entity that, as a Civil Society Organisation, will continue to operate in the intersection of socio-cultural changes and propose innovative approaches and solutions.

The 15-year legacy and the evaluation of the projects' impact gives us the impetus to capitalise on their results by keeping the best ones and enrich them with new materials. Such a process will enable us to be more timely and resilient to the needs and demands of the way civil society works.

It will also enable us to learn from our mistakes and develop our successful methodologies. Finally, it will enable us to remain grounded in close contact with the different groups of society.

In our effort to focus where we are most useful and where there is more need, we have decided to work from here on with three ways:

- * To operate as a platform for cooperation of our Euro-Mediterranean "neighbourhood", acting as a lever of content production and facilitating actions and activities of third parties.
- * Continue our actions in regional development and intercultural dialogue by linking the communities of political "centres" to the geographical regions through cultural innovation.
- * Support communities of people to adapt to the new economy. We want to evolve our know-how

in the democratisation of knowledge and the shaping of the conditions for the integration of the forgotten of the new world into an inclusive practice.

To transcend to the new era, we have planned and currently implement our digital transformation with the use of cloud systems, Artificial Intelligence and data visualization tools while we will soon begin to redesign all our communications channels.

On this transition path, you are all welcome to continue together the creative course that was envisioned 15 years ago by the founder of CulturePolis, Dr. Vasileios Laopodis.

Happy Birthday CulturePolis!



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CulturePolis NGO



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