

COMMISSION

European Union Culture 2000 programme in support of culture

Implementation of the programme for the year 2001 and call for applications

(2001/C 21/08)

I. INTRODUCTION

This document contains information on the implementation for the year 2001 of the 'Culture 2000' programme, which was adopted on 14 February 2000 by the European Parliament and the Council, after consultation of the Committee of the Regions (Decision No 508/2000/EC published in OJ L 63 of 10.3.2000, p. 1). It includes a call for applications for Community financial support for cultural projects and events beginning in the year 2001 and presented by operators from the 28 countries participating in the programme ⁽¹⁾.

The 'Culture 2000' programme was established for a period of five years from 1 January 2000.

II. GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE CULTURE 2000 PROGRAMME

The Culture 2000 programme contributes to the promotion of a cultural area common to the European peoples. In this context, it supports cooperation between creative artists, cultural operators, private and public promoters, the activities of the cultural networks, and other partners as well as the cultural institutions of the Member States and of the other participant States in order to attain the following objectives:

- promotion of cultural dialogue and of mutual knowledge of the culture and history of the European peoples,
- promotion of creativity and the transnational dissemination of culture and the movement of artists, creators and other cultural operators and professionals and their works, with a strong emphasis on young and socially disadvantaged people and on cultural diversity,
- the highlighting of cultural diversity and the development of new forms of cultural expression,

- sharing and highlighting, at the European level, the common cultural heritage of European significance; disseminating know-how and promoting good practices concerning its conservation and safeguarding,
- recognition of the role of culture in socioeconomic development,
- the fostering of intercultural dialogue and mutual exchange between European and non-European cultures,
- explicit recognition of culture as an economic factor and as a factor in social integration and citizenship,
- improved access to and participation in culture in the European Union for as many citizens as possible.

III. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CULTURE 2000 PROGRAMME FOR THE YEAR 2001

In the second year of the Culture 2000 programme, the European Commission will support initiatives in the following four areas:

1. Common European cultural heritage (movable and non-movable heritage, architectural and archaeological heritage).
2. European artistic and literary creation.
3. Mutual knowledge of the history and culture of the peoples of Europe.
4. Reserved action initiatives ('Presidency of the Council of the European Union', 'European Capitals of Culture') ⁽²⁾.

⁽¹⁾ The 15 Member States of the European Union (Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom); the three EEA/EFTA countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway); and the following 10 central and eastern European countries: Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, the Slovak Republic and Slovenia.

⁽²⁾ These initiatives are not covered by this call for proposals.

General guidance

Particular attention will be paid to:

- the degree of involvement of each of the co-organisers in the design, implementation and financing of the project,
- projects which are aimed at young people, people with disabilities and disadvantaged sections of society and which promote their social integration,
- projects which combine artistic, cultural and scientific quality and are accessible to the general public.

Terminology:

- 'co-organiser': in order to be considered as a co-organiser, the operator, from a country participating in the programme, must have a specific and essential involvement both in the design and implementation of the project and in its financing (guaranteed participation from their own or raised money and equal to at least 5 % of the total budget). The involvement of co-organisers must be clearly indicated in the project application,
- 'cooperation agreement': to be admissible as a cooperation agreement, projects must last for two years minimum and three years maximum, and must involve co-organisers from at least five participating countries.

This type of project is based on a common document, in a legal form recognised in one of the participating countries, signed by all the co-organisers and clearly describing the objectives and the initiatives which will be implemented in order to achieve these objectives.

The actions and initiatives which the cooperation agreements must contain are specified for each of the three areas which the Commission intends to support.

Period of eligibility:

- the period of eligibility of expenditure relating to the implementation of a project begins:
 - on 1 May 2001 for experimental, innovative or specific projects, 'European heritage laboratories' projects, cultural cooperation projects in third countries not participating in the programme, and projects relating to the special cultural event devoted to Verdi,
 - on 1 July 2001 for cooperation agreement projects,

- when implementing the project, only expenditure incurred by co-organisers and partners from countries participating in the programme is eligible.

Deadlines for submission:

- for all projects other than cooperation agreement projects, the deadline for submission of applications for Community funding is 4 April 2001,
- for cooperation agreement projects, the deadline for submission of applications for Community funding is 15 May 2001.

Duration of projects:

- for areas 1, 2 and 3, all projects other than cooperation agreement projects must have a duration of one year and must begin in 2001. Community support granted in 2001 will, however, be for only one calendar year.

Areas and categories of action:

- projects must be submitted for only one of the three areas indicated and for only one of the categories of action mentioned in the chosen area. Applicants must therefore clearly state in the application form the area and category of action for which they want their application to be considered. Failure to do so will result in the project application being rejected.

Projects submitted by an operator from a participating central or eastern European country:

- cooperation projects submitted by an operator from one of the 10 central and eastern European countries must involve at least one co-organiser from a Member State of the European Union.

Joint measures between Unesco or the Council of Europe and the European Commission:

- the programme can also accommodate joint measures with Unesco or the Council of Europe, subject to the condition of joint financial contributions and to compliance with the rules proper to each institution. Any proposal for such joint action should be made directly to the European Commission and not under this call for applications,
- this call for applications only concerns project applications for the types of action described below.

Funding will be given to initiatives in the following areas:

1. **Initiatives aiming to highlight common European cultural heritage (movable and non-movable heritage, architectural and archaeological heritage)**

In this area, funding will be given to the following types of project:

1.1. Experimental, innovative or specific projects

(a) Building on the momentum of the Community initiative 'eEurope: an information society for all' ⁽³⁾, funding will be given to approximately 10 projects involving cooperation between museums (or similar institutions of cultural conservation).

These projects should enhance the value of significant movable elements of the common European cultural heritage, using digital technology and a multilingual approach. They should take the form of cultural itineraries in digital space, virtual educational exhibitions and educational software. They should promote interactivity as well as meetings and dialogue (involving experts and users).

(b) Funding will be given for approximately 10 travelling exhibitions to be shown in at least three countries participating in the programme and aimed at a wide audience.

These exhibitions should highlight and put in context elements of movable heritage which are characteristic of a particular European period or artistic movement.

The heritage presented in these exhibitions should fulfil one of the following two criteria:

— they highlight the European dimension, in terms of convergence, parallels, mutual influences and diversity,

— they are placed in their historical, cultural and artistic context.

By using the possibilities offered by new technology, these projects should offer a multilingual approach, combining sound science and accessibility, and should be able to address different audiences.

⁽³⁾ Most of the documentation on this initiative can be found at the following internet address: http://europa.eu.int/comm/information_society/eeurope

(c) Funding will be given to approximately 12 projects involving heritage professionals (crafts persons and science professionals, using traditional or new techniques) in specific and concrete pieces of conservation and restoration work:

— approximately eight of these projects should involve civil, military or religious elements of non-movable heritage of European significance from the 10th to 15th centuries,

— approximately four of these projects should involve elements of movable heritage of European significance from the 10th to 15th centuries.

The aim of the projects must be to highlight the common European roots and dimensions of similar or comparable elements of the movable or non-movable heritage.

These projects must enable professionals to improve their skills and to exchange and disseminate experiences, particularly in conservation and restoration techniques and using traditional and new technologies. The conservation and restoration work must be carried out during the implementation period of the project.

(d) Funding will be given to approximately 10 projects involving professionals in the field of non-movable and archaeological heritage which aim to raise awareness of heritage of European significance amongst the young (of school and non-school age) and/or socially disadvantaged and to make this heritage accessible and comprehensible to these groups.

The aim of the projects must be to highlight the common European roots and dimensions of similar or comparable elements of the non-movable and archaeological heritage.

One of the outcomes of the projects must be to produce and disseminate guides, documentaries and educational tools. The projects must enable professionals to exchange experiences.

Funding conditions which apply to the above types of project

The funding awarded to each project will range from EUR 50 000 to 150 000 and may not exceed 50 % of the project's total eligible budget.

Eligibility criteria which apply to the above types of project

Projects must involve co-organisers from at least three different countries participating in the programme. Particular attention will be paid to the degree of involvement of the co-organisers in the design, implementation and financing of the project.

In order to be considered as a co-organiser, the cultural operator, from a country participating in the programme, must have a specific and essential involvement both in the design and implementation of the project and in its financing (a guaranteed financial participation from their own or raised money and equal to at least 5 % of the total budget). The involvement of co-organisers must be clearly indicated in the project application.

Where a number of projects have been deemed to be of equivalent merit by the group of independent experts, preference will be given to projects which involve the largest number of co-organisers or partners from different participating countries.

1.2. Projects covered by structured, multiannual transnational cultural cooperation agreements

In each of the following areas, funding will be given to one or two projects which implement multiannual cultural cooperation agreements:

- (a) Promoting the European dimension of a cultural or artistic movement which is characteristic of the 19th or 20th centuries (movable or non-movable cultural heritage).
- (b) Sub-aquatic archaeology of relics of European significance.
- (c) Architecture and architectural heritage of European significance.
- (d) Protection and promotion of archives of European significance (except cinematography archives).

These cooperation agreements aim to develop and strengthen cooperation between European cultural operators in a structured and long-lasting way.

The programme of initiatives developed over the course of the different years of the cooperation agreement must include at least four of the following actions:

- the co-production and international touring of exhibitions,
- organising other cultural events aimed at the general public,
- organising initiatives for exchanges of experience (both academic and practical) and the further training of professionals,
- promoting elements of the heritage concerned,
- organising research projects, projects to raise the public's awareness and to teach and disseminate knowledge,
- the adapted and innovative use of new technologies, to the benefit of participants, users and the general public,
- producing educational books, guides, audiovisual documentaries and multimedia products which aim to illustrate the theme of the agreement.

The exhibitions, cultural activities, publications and/or productions must be designed and produced so as to be accessible and intelligible to the widest possible audience (multilingual presentations adapted to the range of target audiences).

Funding conditions which apply to the above types of project:

- funding given to each project may not exceed 60 % of the total eligible budget for the cultural cooperation agreement. The payment will be made in phases during the period of the agreement and may not exceed EUR 300 000 per year,
- the total amount of Community funding may be increased by up to a maximum of 20 % (i.e. 20 % of the 60 %) to cover the administration costs of the agreement. This possibility applies exclusively to new cultural cooperation agreements concluded specifically for the development and needs of the project in question,
- the interim payment will only be made after a technical progress report of the work done, as well as a statement of actual annual expenditure on these actions, has been submitted to, and subsequently approved by, the Commission at the end of each year.

Eligibility criteria which apply to the above types of project:

- in order to be admissible, projects must last for two years minimum and three years maximum, and must involve co-organisers from at least five participating countries,
- in order to be considered as a co-organiser, the operator, from a country participating in the programme, must have a specific and essential involvement both in the design and implementation of the project and in its financing (a guaranteed financial participation from their own or raised money and equal to at least 5 % of the total budget). The involvement of co-organisers must be clearly indicated in the project application,
- this type of project must be based on a common document, in a legal form recognised in one of the countries participating in the programme, signed by all the co-organisers and clearly and precisely describing the objectives and the initiatives which will be implemented in order to achieve these objectives,
- where a number of projects have been deemed to be of equivalent merit by the group of independent experts, preference will be given to projects which involve the largest number of co-organisers or partners from different countries participating in the programme.

1.3. 'European heritage laboratories' projects

Funding will be given to approximately four projects (in different countries) for the conservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage which is of exceptional and European significance and accessible to the public. These projects should contribute to the development and dissemination of innovative methods and techniques at European level.

Funding conditions which apply to the above types of project

The support awarded to each project selected will range from EUR 150 000 to 300 000 and may not exceed 60 % of the project's total eligible budget.

Eligibility criteria which apply to the above types of project:

- the projects will be presented to the Commission by the authorities responsible for cultural heritage in the project

leader's country of origin through its Permanent Representative or Mission to the European Union, and must involve cooperation between a minimum of three countries participating in the programme,

- applications for Community support will be evaluated and funding will be granted on condition that the administrative and financial procedures are properly completed.

2. ***Initiatives aimed at promoting European artistic and literary creation***

In this area, funding will be given to the following types of project:

2.1. Experimental, innovative or specific projects

- (a) Building on the momentum of the Community initiative 'eEurope: an information society for all' funding will be given to approximately five projects involving authors and publishers.

These projects must aim to explore the potential offered by new technologies in the field of literary creation (on-line creation, e-books, electronic publishing, electronic exhibitions or fairs) and its multilingual distribution. These projects must also tackle issues relating to managing copyright.

- (b) Funding will be given to approximately 12 cultural cooperation projects involving operators in the field of artistic creation.

These projects must explore the potential offered by new technologies, either in the development and dissemination of original artistic productions or by using them in the fields of performing and visual arts, either in the creative process or of dissemination to the general public.

- (c) Funding will be given to approximately four cooperation projects which aim to bring together authors, operators and institutes which are active in the literary world, in projects promoting reading and writing.

- (d) Funding will be given to approximately 10 cultural cooperation projects in the field of performing, visual and applied arts.

These projects must be aimed at promoting new forms of cultural and artistic expression, including new ways of reaching or involving the public.

- (e) Funding will be given to approximately eight cultural cooperation projects which aim to promote the movement of young authors, music composers and performers throughout Europe and to facilitate their professional access to theatres and to recognised festivals (particularly those aimed at young people).
- (f) Funding will be given to approximately four cooperation projects aiming to link cultural transmission, artistic creation and social integration.

These projects must promote the active participation of disadvantaged sections of society (socially and culturally), people with disabilities and the long-term sick, and particularly young people. They must be based on collaboration between cultural and sociocultural operators and people from the targeted groups.

- (g) Funding will be given to approximately four cooperation projects promoting collaboration at European level between writers from different genres of literary creation (poetry, narrative literature, theatre).

These projects must enable literary discussions and exchanges, and result in the publication of joint multilingual works, disseminated in at least three countries participating in the programme.

- (h) Funding will be given to approximately 10 travelling exhibitions presenting new forms of artistic expression — particularly those linked to the use of new technologies — and which target the young, the socially disadvantaged and people with disabilities.

These exhibitions, aimed at a wide audience, must take account of the diversity and needs of this audience. They must be accompanied by presentations that explain the creative processes and should have a multilingual, educational and attractive approach.

Funding conditions which apply to the above types of project

The funding awarded to each project will range from EUR 50 000 to 150 000 and may not exceed 50 % of the project's total eligible budget.

Eligibility criteria which apply to the above types of project

Projects must involve co-organisers from at least three different countries participating in the programme. Particular attention will be paid to the degree of involvement of the co-organisers in the design, implementation and financing of the project.

In order to be considered as a co-organiser, the operator, from a country participating in the programme, must have a specific and essential involvement both in the design and implementation of the project and in its financing (a guaranteed financial participation from their own or raised money and equal to at least 5 % of the total budget). The involvement of co-organisers must be clearly indicated in the project application.

Where a number of projects have been deemed to be of equivalent merit by the group of independent experts, preference will be given to projects which involve the largest number of co-organisers or partners from different countries participating in the programme.

- (i) Funding will be given to approximately 50 projects for the translation of literary works (fiction) written by European authors after 1950, including works aimed at children.

Funding conditions which apply to translation projects

For translation projects, Community funding will cover the translator(s)' fees provided these do not exceed EUR 50 000 or 60 % of the total publication costs. In certain justified cases, this figure may be higher than EUR 50 000.

Eligibility criteria which apply to translation projects

Priority will be given to works written in the less widely-used European languages — including regional languages — or translated into these languages:

- the works must not have previously been translated into the target language,
- the translation must start after 1 May 2001,
- the translated works must be published by 30 November 2002 at the latest,
- applications from publishers, whether individually or as part of a joint project, should involve the translation of at least four, and not more than 10, eligible works.

2.2. Projects covered by structured, multiannual transnational cultural cooperation agreements

In each of the following areas, funding will be given to one or two projects that implement multiannual cultural cooperation agreements:

- (a) Contemporary dance, with an emphasis on the co-production and touring of choreographic creations.
- (b) Visual and applied arts, with an emphasis on the co-production and touring of works.
- (c) Opera and lyric theatre, with an emphasis on the co-production and touring of operatic performances.
- (d) Theatre, with an emphasis on the co-production and touring of productions, further training for professionals and raising awareness amongst the public (particularly young people) about European dramatic art.
- (e) Contemporary music (jazz, rock, pop, experimental music), with an emphasis on the co-production and free movement of creators and performers.
- (f) Collaboration between associations of writers and literary institutes to implement an action programme aiming to develop literary creation as well as exchanges, collaborative work, and promoting the world of literature in Europe, with an emphasis on the production and dissemination of multilingual literary reviews.
- (g) Contemporary performing arts, with the accent on multi-disciplinary forms of artistic expression.

These cooperation agreements aim to strengthen cooperation between cultural operators in a structured and long-lasting way.

The programme of initiatives developed over the course of the different years of the agreement must include at least four of the following actions:

- the co-production and international dissemination of artistic or literary works and/or events,
- organising other artistic or literary events aimed at the general public,

- organising initiatives for exchanges of experience (both academic and practical) and the further training of professionals,
- promoting the artistic and cultural elements concerned,
- organising research projects, projects to raise the public's awareness and to teach and disseminate knowledge,
- the adapted and innovative use of new technologies, to the benefit of participants, users and the general public,
- producing educational books, guides, audiovisual documentaries and multimedia products which aim to illustrate the theme of the cooperation agreement.

The exhibitions, artistic and literary events, publications, books and productions must be designed and produced so as to be accessible and intelligible to the widest audience (multilingual presentations adapted to the range of target audiences).

Funding conditions which apply to the above types of project:

- funding given to each project may not exceed 60 % of the total eligible budget for the cultural cooperation agreement. The payment will be made in phases during the period of the agreement and may not exceed EUR 300 000 per year,
- the total amount of Community funding may be increased by up to a maximum of 20 % (i.e. 20 % of 60 %) to cover the administration costs of the agreement. This possibility applies exclusively to new cultural cooperation agreements concluded specifically for the development and needs of the project in question,
- the interim payment will be made after a technical progress report of the work done, as well as a statement of actual annual expenditure on these actions, has been submitted to, and subsequently approved by, the Commission at the end of each year.

Eligibility criteria which apply to the above types of project:

- in order to be admissible, projects must last for two years minimum and three years maximum, and must involve co-organisers from at least five countries participating in the programme,

- in order to be considered as a co-organiser, the cultural operator, from a country participating in the programme, must have a specific and essential involvement both in the design and implementation of the project and in its financing (a guaranteed financial participation from their own or raised money and equal to at least 5 % of the total budget). The involvement of co-organisers must be clearly indicated in the project application,
- this type of project is based on a common document, in a legal form recognised in one of the countries participating in the programme, signed by all the co-organisers and clearly and precisely describing the objectives and the initiatives which will be implemented in order to achieve these objectives,
- where a number of projects have been deemed to be of equivalent merit by the group of independent experts, preference will be given to projects which involve the largest number of co-organisers or partners from different countries participating in the programme.

2.3. Cultural cooperation projects in third countries not participating in the programme

Funding will be given to approximately five events (festivals, exhibitions) promoting intercultural dialogue and mutual exchange between the cultures of countries participating in the programme and those of third countries, on European cultural themes of common interest.

Funding conditions which apply to the above types of project

The funding awarded to each project will range from EUR 50 000 to 150 000 and may not exceed 50 % of the project's total eligible budget.

Eligibility criteria which apply to the above types of project:

- the events must take place in a third country not participating in the programme. They must be undertaken in cooperation with at least three public cultural institutes or other public cultural operators in the countries participating in the programme and a cultural institute or other cultural operation in the relevant third country,

- the three cultural institutes or other public cultural operators in the countries participating in the programme must be established in the third country in question,
- the proposals relating to these actions will be presented to the Commission by the relevant authorities in the project leader's country of origin through its Permanent Representation to the European Union,
- in order to be considered as a co-organiser, the operator, from a country participating in the programme, must have a specific and essential involvement both in the design and implementation of the project and in its financing (a guaranteed financial participation from their own or raised money and equal to at least 5 % of the total budget). The involvement of co-organisers must be clearly indicated in the project application.

3. Initiatives aiming to promote mutual knowledge of the culture and history of the peoples of Europe

In the field of the mutual knowledge of the culture and history of the peoples of Europe, funding will be given to the following types of project:

3.1. Experimental, innovative or specific projects

- (a) Building on the momentum of the Community initiative 'eEurope: an information society for all', funding will be given to approximately five projects promoting the common cultural values and heritage of the peoples of Europe, using digital technology and a multilingual approach.

These projects should take the form of cultural itineraries in digital space, educational virtual exhibitions and teaching software. They should promote interactivity as well as meetings and dialogue (involving experts and users). These projects should combine sound science and accessibility, and should address a range of audiences.

- (b) Funding will be given to approximately five innovative cooperation projects with strong European dimensions and perspectives, which aim to promote and explore in greater depth the theme of culturally historic moments and events shared by Europeans.

Taking advantage of the possibilities offered by new technologies, these projects should offer a multilingual approach and using varied media should present and interpret the political, economic, social and cultural background to these culturally historic moments and events shared by Europeans.

These projects should combine sound science and accessibility, and should address a range of audiences.

- (c) Funding will be given to approximately five projects dedicated to promoting themes and schools of thought which are characteristic of the 18th and 19th centuries in Europe by publishing and distributing educational books, multimedia products and audiovisual documentaries (translation, multilingualism).

Funding conditions which apply to the above types of project

The funding awarded to each project will range from EUR 50 000 to 150 000 and may not exceed 50 % of the project's total eligible budget.

Eligibility criteria which apply to the above types of project:

- projects must involve co-organisers from at least three different participating countries. Particular attention will be paid to the degree of involvement of the co-organisers in the design, implementation and financing of the project,
- in order to be considered as a co-organiser, the operator, from a country participating in the programme, must have a specific and essential involvement both in the design and implementation of the project and in its financing (a guaranteed financial participation from their own or raised money and equal to at least 5 % of the total budget). The involvement of co-organisers must be clearly indicated in the project application,
- where a number of projects have been deemed to be of equivalent merit by the group of independent experts, preference will be given to projects which involve the largest number of co-organisers or partners from different countries participating in the programme.

3.2. Projects covered by structured, multiannual transnational cultural cooperation agreements

For each of the following themes, funding will be given to one or two projects that implement multiannual cultural cooperation agreements:

- (a) Interactions between different philosophical and religious trends in Europe from the 1st to the 9th centuries AD.
- (b) Influence of the Enlightenment on the reality of contemporary European society and on the construction of Europe.
- (c) Mutual knowledge of the history and cultures of the peoples of Europe in the context of non-formal education in Europe and amongst the general public.

These cooperation agreements should aim to strengthen cooperation between European cultural operators in a structured and long-lasting way.

The cultural operators envisaged are research bodies, museums, foundations, specialised associations (working in the fields of history, archaeology, sociology, anthropology, philosophy, theology and pedagogy) which have experience of collaborating at a European level and organising and disseminating initiatives aimed at the general public on the themes concerned.

The projects should combine sound science and accessibility, and should address a range of audiences.

The programme of initiatives developed over the course of the different years of the agreement must include at least four of the following actions:

- the co-production and international touring of exhibitions,
- organising other cultural events aimed at the general public,
- organising initiatives for exchanges of experience (both academic and practical) and the further training of professionals,
- promoting the cultural and historical elements concerned,

- organising research projects, projects to raise the public's awareness and to teach and disseminate knowledge,
- the adapted and innovative use of new technologies, to the benefit of participants, users and the general public,
- producing educational books, guides, audiovisual documentaries and multimedia products which aim to illustrate the theme of the cooperation agreement.

The exhibitions, cultural activities, publications, books and productions must be designed and produced so as to be accessible and intelligible to the widest audience (multilingual presentations adapted to the range of target audiences).

Funding conditions which apply to the above types of project:

- funding given to each project may not exceed 60 % of the total eligible budget for the cultural cooperation agreement. The payment will be made in phases during the period of the agreement and may not exceed EUR 300 000 per year,
- the total amount of Community funding may be increased by up to a maximum of 20 % (i.e. 20 % of 60 %) to cover the administration costs of the agreement. This possibility applies exclusively to new cultural cooperation agreements concluded specifically for the development and needs of the project in question,
- the interim payment will be made only after a technical progress report of the work done, as well as a statement of actual annual expenditure on these actions, has been submitted to, and subsequently approved by, the Commission at the end of each year.

Eligibility criteria which apply to the above types of project:

- in order to be admissible, projects must last for two years minimum and three years maximum, and must involve co-organisers from at least five countries participating in the programme,
- in order to be considered as a co-organiser, the operator, from a country participating in the programme, must have a specific and essential involvement both in the design and implementation of the project and in its financing (a guaranteed financial participation from their own or raised money and equal to at least 5 % of the total budget). The involvement of co-organisers must be clearly indicated in the project application,

- this type of project is based on a common document, in a legal form recognised in one of the participating countries, signed by all the co-organisers and clearly and precisely describing the objectives and the initiatives which will be implemented in order to achieve these objectives,
- where a number of projects have been deemed to be of equivalent merit by the group of independent experts, preference will be given to projects which involve the largest number of co-organisers or partners from different countries participating in the programme.

3.3. Special cultural event: Verdi

As the year 2001 is the 100th anniversary of the death of Verdi, the European Commission will fund three projects which aim to commemorate this anniversary. The events should have a strong European character in terms of their organisation and the audience they target. Particular attention should be paid to presenting the European artistic and historical context in which the works of Verdi were developed.

Financial conditions

The support awarded to each project selected may not be less than EUR 150 000 or more than EUR 300 000, and in any case, may not exceed 60 % of the project's total eligible budget.

Eligibility criteria which apply to the above types of project:

- projects must involve co-organisers from at least three different countries participating in the programme. Preference will be given to high-quality projects that involve the largest number of co-organisers from different participating countries. Particular attention will be paid to the degree of involvement of the co-organisers in the design, implementation and financing of the project,
- in order to be considered as a co-organiser, the operator, from a country participating in the programme, must have a specific and essential involvement both in the design and implementation of the project and in its financing (a guaranteed financial participation from their own or raised money and equal to at least 5 % of the total budget). The involvement of co-organisers must be clearly indicated in the project application.

IV. COMMON ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR ALL PROJECTS SUBMITTED UNDER THIS CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Applicants and co-organisers

(a) Applicants (project leaders) and co-organisers:

- must be public or private cultural organisations with legal status, whose main activity lies in the cultural sphere and which directly address the public ⁽⁴⁾,
- must be involved both in the design and the implementation of the project, and also make a significant financial contribution to the project's budget ⁽⁵⁾,
- must be organisations ⁽⁶⁾ of one of the following countries participating in the programme:
 - the 15 Member States of the European Union (Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom),
 - the three EEA/EFTA countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway) ⁽⁷⁾,
 - the following 10 central and eastern European countries ⁽⁸⁾ Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, the Slovak Republic and Slovenia.

(b) Applicants and co-organisers must also:

- have the operational capacity to bring the project to a successful conclusion,
- provide guarantees of financial viability (approved accounts for the last three financial years) and professional standards (the statutes of the lead organisation and of the co-organisers as well as the CV of the person responsible for the project),

⁽⁴⁾ With the exception of international bodies such as Unesco and the Council of Europe.

⁽⁵⁾ Their financial participation, from their own money or from raised money, must be equal to at least 5 % of the total budget.

⁽⁶⁾ On the strength of the organisation's registered place of business or its place of main activity.

⁽⁷⁾ Subject to the conditions set out in the EEA agreements and in the protocols thereto relating to participation in Community programmes concluded with these countries.

⁽⁸⁾ The final selection will be made subject to the Association Councils finalising the adoption procedure for the specific decisions to enable these applicant countries to participate in the programme from the year 2001.

- have noted the content of the 'Culture 2000' programme and of the European Commission's guide on grants (see Internet site: http://europa.eu.int/comm/culture/index_en.html).

V. COMMON CRITERIA FOR THE EXCLUSION OF PROJECTS UNDER THIS CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The following are excluded:

- projects presented by physical persons,
- projects having started before 1 January 2001 or after 31 December 2001 ⁽⁹⁾,
- projects which were completed before the date for the submission of applications,
- projects whose objective is commercial or profit-making,
- projects receiving support under a different Community programme,
- projects submitted by cultural operators who received funding under a cooperation agreement in the year 2000,
- projects which do not include a balanced budget (total expenditure = total income),
- projects which are not submitted using the official application form, those sent by e-mail or fax, and handwritten applications,
- projects which have not been sent by the stated deadline (the date of the postmark or the date stamp of the delivery company will be considered as the date of the submission),
- projects which do not specify in the application form the area and category of actions for which they want their application to be considered,
- projects not involving the minimum number of co-organisers required for the category of action being applied for,

⁽⁹⁾ These dates must not be confused with those concerning the start of the period of eligibility of expenditure (indicated in Chapter III 'Implementation . . .', General guidance, 'Period of eligibility', and in Chapter VII 'Eligibility of expenditure . . .').

- cooperation projects submitted by an operator from one of the 10 central and eastern European countries which do not involve at least one co-organiser from a Member State of the European Union,
- projects which do not respect the definitions of the terms 'co-organiser' or 'cooperation agreement' as given above, and
- projects submitted under this call for proposals that have Unesco or the Council of Europe as organiser or co-organiser.

VI. PROJECT SELECTION PROCEDURE

This is in three stages:

(a) *Check on the conformity and acceptability of applications* ⁽¹⁰⁾

Commission staff will check on the conformity and acceptability of projects on the basis of the abovementioned exclusion criteria. When assessing the projects, they will also check that the following conditions are fulfilled.

Applications must include:

- the application form, signed and dated,
- the form for acknowledgement of receipt, giving the address of the lead organisation,
- in Annex 1, a certified copy of the lead organisation's constitution or some equivalent document and the co-organisers' constitution (with the exception of public organisations),
- in Annex 2, the CV of the person in charge of overall coordination of the programme of work (i.e. the person responsible for the project),
- in Annex 3, the latest business report of the lead organisation and of the co-organisers (with the exception of public organisations),

⁽¹⁰⁾ The language used in all contacts with the Commission, particularly for the project application, contracts and reports, must be one of the 11 official languages of the European Community.

- in Annex 4, the approved accounts for the last three financial years of the lead organisation and of the co-organisers (unless the organisations are less than three years old and with the exception of public organisations),
- and add, for translation projects only:
 - in Annex 5, a copy of the original book,
 - in Annex 6, a copy of the copyright assignment contract,
 - in Annex 7, a copy of the contract between the publisher and the translator(s),
 - in Annex 8, the CV of the translator(s),
 - in Annex 9, a dated and signed attestation from the publisher that the name of the translator and the fact of Community financial support will be clearly indicated in the translated work,
 - and add, for cooperation agreement projects only:
 - in Annex 10, the text of the cooperation agreement (describing the action to be taken and signed by the co-organisers) in a legal form recognised in one of the countries participating in the programme.

Projects not containing the above documents will not be accepted.

(b) *Selection*

Projects will be selected by the Commission in accordance with the criteria and priorities of the Culture 2000 programme as set out in this call for applications. The Commission will make its selection after hearing the advice of a group of independent experts set up on the strength of proposals made by countries participating in the programme, and after hearing the advice of the committee of Member States' representatives. Representatives of the EEA/EFTA countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway) will participate in committee meetings with the same rights and obligations as those of the Member States, but will not have the right to vote.

The representatives of the 10 abovementioned candidate countries will participate in committee meetings as observers for the items that concern them. They will not be present when other items are discussed, nor will they have the right to vote.

(c) *Outcome*

The outcome of the selection process will be announced as soon as the official selection procedure has been completed. No information on the outcome of individual applications will be given before that date.

VII. ELIGIBILITY OF EXPENDITURE AND PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PROVISION OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Eligible expenditure ⁽¹¹⁾

For experimental, innovative or specific projects, 'European heritage laboratories' projects, cultural cooperation projects in third countries not participating in the programme and projects connected with the special Verdi cultural event, expenditure taken into consideration are those which are linked with activities taking place after 1 May 2001.

For cooperation agreement projects, expenditure taken into consideration are those which are linked with activities taking place after 1 July 2001.

Only the categories of expenditure listed below are eligible, provided they are properly accounted for and evaluated in accordance with the market conditions, and are identifiable and verifiable. They must be direct costs (i.e. generated directly by the project and indispensable for its implementation, having regard to the cost/benefit principle):

- personnel costs incurred exclusively in implementing the project,
- travel/accommodation/daily allowance costs associated with the project (e.g. meetings, European gatherings, travel for training),
- costs associated with conferences (e.g. hiring premises, interpreters),
- publication and dissemination costs,

- equipment costs (only the depreciation element of durable goods can be considered),
- cost of consumables and supplies,
- telecommunication costs,
- insurance, hiring of premises and equipment, copyright (including royalties), follow-up, feasibility studies, technical management and coordination costs, artists' fees.

Non-eligible expenditure

The following expenditure cannot be considered eligible:

- fixed capital costs,
- provisions of a general nature (e.g. for losses and possible future debts),
- debts,
- interest on debts,
- bad debts,
- exchange losses, unless specifically provided for in exceptional cases,
- expenditure on luxuries,
- the production of material and publications for commercial purposes; however, consideration will be given to monographs, collections, reviews, records, CDs, CD-ROMs, CD-I's and videos provided they form an integral part of the project,
- investment or operating costs on the part of cultural organisations which do not form an integral part of the project,
- contributions in kind (e.g. land, immovable property whether in its entirety or in part, durable capital goods, raw materials and unpaid voluntary work).

⁽¹¹⁾ This expenditure is eligible only for cultural operators from the 15 Member States, the three EEA/EFTA countries and the 10 applicant countries.

VIII. FINANCIAL AND GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

1. Project duration

Project applications must have clearly and precisely defined objectives and must be given a realistic timetable, which will not exceed the time allowed under each type of action, i.e. one year ⁽¹²⁾:

- for experimental, innovative or specific projects,

- for 'European heritage laboratories' projects,

- for cultural cooperation projects in third countries not participating in the programme,

- for projects on the special Verdi cultural event,

and no less than two years and no more than three years for cooperation agreement projects.

Applications must clearly state the project start and end dates.

2. Contractual conditions

Community funding will take the form of an agreement between the Commission and the lead organisation, which will be designated as the beneficiary. As a condition for the grant, the Commission requires the beneficiary and the other co-organisers to sign an agreement on the arrangements for the project, including the financial provisions. Beneficiaries must

⁽¹²⁾ As indicated in Chapter III 'Implementation ... for the year 2001', 'Duration of projects'.

adhere strictly to the applicable administrative rules. The Commission attaches the utmost importance to sound administrative and financial management of projects.

The Commission cannot be held legally liable for projects that have received financial support. The financial support that it provides does not constitute a claim on the Commission and cannot therefore be transferred to a third party.

3. Observance of deadlines

The deadlines indicated in the contract must be observed without fail. Exceptionally, where a project has been delayed, only one extension of the contractual period may be granted. Any official request must state how much extra time is being applied for and why the delay came about, and must be submitted at least two months before the end of the period laid down in the contract. Requests will be examined on their merits — and if accepted — an amendment to the contract will be sent to the beneficiary to be signed.

4. Co-financing

Community funding under this programme will be subject to written and binding proof of the significant financial commitment (amount of the commitment) of the co-organisers for the realisation of the project.

5. Payment arrangements

Generally speaking, grants are paid in two instalments (except translation projects, which are paid in one instalment). The first payment will be within two months of signature of the agreement. The second instalment will depend on the Commission's approval of the activity and financial reports.

For multiannual cooperation agreements, the payment of the amount of the annual grant is also in two instalments.

Since the Commission's contribution represents a given percentage of the total estimated cost of the project, the final payment will be calculated on the basis of real declared costs, bearing in mind any other contributions received or input from the lead organisation's or co-organisers' own resources. Should the actual total cost accepted by the Commission be below the total estimated cost, the Commission will reduce its contribution proportionally and will, if necessary, seek to recover any overpayments. On no account may a project make a profit.

6. General provisions

Use of grants awarded to beneficiaries is subject to the Commission's inspection and financial control.

Any concealment by any applicant of all or part of any information which might have an incidence on the Commission's final decision will automatically render the application invalid or, if it is discovered at a later stage, will entitle the Commission to terminate the agreement and demand the full reimbursement of all sums received by the beneficiary under the agreement.

IX. REPORT AND FINAL ACCOUNTS

On completion of a project that has received Community funding, the project leader must submit an activity report on the results and be prepared to supply the European Commission with any information it may need to enable it to evaluate the project. This report must give a succinct but full description of the results of the project and must be accompanied by any publications produced under the project.

This document must also include a report from each co-organiser showing its active participation throughout the project.

If an action makes a financial profit, the funds awarded by the Commission must be repaid, to the level of the profit realised. Should the actual total cost of the project be less than the total estimated cost, the Commission will reduce its contribution proportionally. It is therefore in the applicant's interest to present a reasonable budget estimate.

X. PUBLICITY

The organisers of selected projects are under a contractual obligation to ensure, by all appropriate means and in accordance with the conditions laid down in the contract, that the funding awarded to the project by the European Union is publicised.

XI. APPLICATIONS

The call for applications and the application forms can be obtained on the Europa server on the Internet at the following address:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/culture/index_en.html

Application forms can, if necessary, be obtained from the Culture contact points in the Member States and in the EEA/EFTA countries (see Annex), the Offices of the European Commission in the Member States, the delegations of the European Union in the EEA/EFTA countries and in the 10 applicant countries, or from the 'Development of cultural policy — Culture 2000 programme' unit at the following address:

European Commission
Policy development in the cultural sphere — Culture 2000
Framework Programme
Rue Belliard 100
Bureau 5/21
B-1049 Brussels.

Applications must be duly completed and must be submitted on the official application form. Applications that are sent by e-mail or fax will be rejected. Hand-written applications will likewise not be accepted.

Applications must be sent to the above address:

— by the deadline of **4 April 2001 at the latest** for all projects except cooperation agreement projects (by reference to the postmark or delivery company stamp),

— by the deadline of **15 May 2001 at the latest** for cooperation agreement projects (by reference to the postmark or delivery company stamp).

The deadline must be adhered to and no extension will be granted.

ANNEX

1. 'Culture 2000' programme budget

The total budget for the Culture 2000 programme for the period 1 January 2000 to 31 December 2004 is EUR 167 000 000.

Funding for the second year of the programme (2001) totals approximately EUR 33 000 000.

2. List of cultural contact points in Europe**Austria**

Performing arts and literature
Ms Sigrid Hiebler
Bundeskanzleramt/Kunst Sektion
Schottengasse 1
A-1010 Wien
Tel. (43-1) 531 20 75 31
Fax (43-1) 531 20 75 28
e-mail: liselotte.haschke@bmbwk.gv.at
sigrid.hiebler@bmbwk.gv.at
<http://www.bmwf.gv.at/ccp/about.htm>

Heritage
Ms Liselotte Haschke
Ministry for Education and Cultural Affairs
Schrevoelgasse 2
A-1010 Wien
Tel. (43-1) 531 20 36 26
Fax (43-1) 531 20 36 09
e-mail: liselotte.haschke@bmbwk.gv.at
<http://bmuk.gv.at/kultur>

Belgium*Flemish Community*

Mr Theo van Malderen
VCVO vzw
Gallaitstraat 86
B-1030 Brussels
Tel. (32-2) 215 27 08
Fax (32-2) 215 80 75
e-mail: theo.van.malderen@vcvo.be
<http://www.wvc.vlaanderen.be/ccpvlaanderen/>

French and German Community

Ms Claudine Lison
Théâtre Wallonie-Bruxelles
Boulevard Adolphe-Max 13
B-1000 Brussels
Tel. (32-2) 219 39 08 or 219 28 55
Fax (32-2) 219 45 74
e-mail: Wbt@online.be

Denmark

Cultural Contact Point Denmark
Mr Rasmus Wiinstedt Tscherning
Medie- og Tilskudssekretariat
Nybrogade 10
DK-1203 Copenhagen K
Tel. (45) 33 92 30 40
Fax (45) 33 14 64 28
e-mail: ccp@kulturtilskud.dk
<http://www.kulturtilskud.min.dk>

Finland

Cultural Contact Point Finland
Ms Ulla Holmlund
Centre for International Mobility CIMO
PO Box 343
Hakaniemenkatu 2
FIN-00531 Helsinki
Tel. (358-9) 77 47 70 82
Fax (358-9) 77 47 70 64
e-mail: ulla.holmlund@cimo.fi
<http://www.cimo.fi>

France

Relais Culture-Europe
Mr Claude Veron
17, rue Montorgueil
F-75001 Paris
Tel. (33-1) 53 40 95 10
Fax (33-1) 53 40 95 19
e-mail: info@relais-culture-europe.org
<http://www.relais-culture-europe.org>

Germany

Ms Sabine Bornemann
Cultural Contact Point
c/o Deutscher Kulturrat
Weberstraße 59A
D-53113 Bonn
Tel. (49-228) 201 35 27
Fax (49-228) 201 35 29
e-mail: ccp@kulturrat.de
<http://www.kulturrat.de/ccp/>

Greece

Cultural Contact Point Greece
Mr Georgios Liontos
Ministry of Culture
Directorate of European Affairs
17 rue Ermou
GR-10563 Athens
Tel. (30-1) 323 02 93
Fax (30-1) 331 07 96
e-mail: Georgios.Liontos@dseeeculture.gr
<http://www.ccp.culture.gr>

Ireland

Cultural Contact Point Ireland
Ms Catherine Boothman
The Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon
70 Merrion Square
Dublin 2
Ireland
Tel. (353-1) 618 02 34
Fax (353-1) 676 13 02
e-mail: catherine@artscouncil.ie
<http://www.artscouncil.ie>

Iceland

Cultural Info Centre Iceland
Ms. Svanbjörg Einarsdóttir
Túngata 14
IS-101 Reykjavík
Tel. (354) 562 63 88
Fax (354) 562 71 71
e-mail: ccp@centrum.is
<http://centrum.is/ccp>

Italy

Antenna culturale europea
Mr Massimo Scalari
Istituto universitario di studi europei di Torino
Piazza Castello, 9
I-10123 Torino
Tel. (39) 011 54 72 08
Fax (39) 011 54 82 52
e-mail: iuse.antennacultura@arpnet.it
<http://www.arpnet.it/iuse/antenna.htm>

Luxembourg

Relais Culture Europe-Luxembourg
Ms Marie-Ange Schimmer
Ministère de la culture, de l'enseignement supérieur et
de la recherche
20, montée de la Pétrusse
L-2912 Luxembourg
Tel. (352) 478 66 29
Fax (352) 40 24 27
e-mail: marie-ange.schimmer@mcesr.lu

Norway

Cultural Contact Point Norway
Mr Jean-Yves Gallardo
Grev Wedels plass 1
N-0150 Oslo
Tel. (47) 22 47 83 30
Fax (47) 22 33 40 42
e-mail: kultur@kulturrad.no

Netherlands

Cultural Contact Point Netherlands
Inez Boogaarts
SICA Stichting Internationale Culturele Activiteiten
Herengracht 609
1017 CE Amsterdam
Netherlands
Tel. (31) 205 20 05 95
Fax (31) 205 20 05 04
e-mail: ccpnl@sicasica.nl
<http://www.sicasica.nl/ccp>

Portugal

Ministério da Cultura
Europa-Cultura/Divulgação
Ms Ana Paula Silva
Palacio Foz
Praça dos Restauradores
P-1250-187 Lisboa
Tel. (351-21) 347 86 40/2
Fax (351-21) 347 86 12
e-mail: pontocontacto@min-cultura.pt
<http://poc.min-cultura.pt/europa-cultura/index.htm>

Spain

Cultural Contact Point Spain
Elena Hernando Gonzalo
Consejera Técnica
Dirección General de Cooperación y Comunicación
Cultural
Secretaría de Estado de Cultura
Plaza del Rey, 1
E-28004 Madrid
Tel. (34) 917 01 71 15
Fax (34) 917 01 72 19
e-mail: pcc.cultura@dgcc.mcu.es
http://www.mcu.es/cooperacion/pcc/p_pcc.html

Sweden

For performing arts and literature

The National Council for Cultural Affairs
Mr Leif Sundkvist
S-103 98 Stockholm
Tel. (46-8) 679 31 15
Fax (46-8) 611 13 49
e-mail: leif.sundkvist@kur.se
<http://www.kur.se>

For heritage

Swedish National Heritage Board
Ms Maria Wikman
PO Box 5405
S-114 84 Stockholm
Tel. (46-8) 51 91 80 22
e-mail: maria.wikman@raa.se

United Kingdom

Cultural Contact Point UK
Mr Geoffrey Brown
Euclid
46-48 Mount Pleasant
Liverpool L3 5SD
United Kingdom
Tel. (44-151) 709 25 64
Fax (44-151) 709 86 47
e-mail: euclid@cwcom.net
<http://www.euclid.co.uk>