

PRESS RELEASE

**FUTURE EUROPEAN PROGRAMME « CREATIVE EUROPE »:**

**THE EUROPEAN COALITIONS REQUEST CLARIFICATIONS AND GUARANTEES/ENSURANCES  
ON THE AUTONOMY AND THE FUNDING OF THE MEDIA AND CULTURE STRANDS**

The European Coalitions for Cultural Diversity (ECCD) have concerns on the future of the new seven-year European programme « *Creative Europe* » which will group together, from 2014 onwards, the « MEDIA » and « Culture » programmes, with an addition horizontal strand aiming to support the cultural and creative industries funding.

The Coalitions do not find, in the European Commission's proposal, any of the guarantees promised in March 2011 by the European Commission's President, Jose Manuel Barroso and the Culture Commissioner, Androulla Vassiliou, relative to the autonomy and the funding of the actions in the audiovisual and cinema field.

The European Coalitions for Cultural Diversity (ECCD) fear that the vagueness of the proposal leads to a situation where the specificity/identity as well as the effectiveness of the « MEDIA/MEDIA Mundus » and « Culture » programmes will be challenged.

Therefore, they request:

-that the autonomy of the “MEDIA/MEDIA Mundus” and “Culture” strands of the new programme be ensured via a clear and detailed definition of each constitutive strand of « Creative Europe »;

-that the « MEDIA/MEDIA Mundus» and « Culture » strands be increased through the mention in the future regulation of, on the one hand, the amounts effectively dedicated to cultural and audiovisual activities and on the other hand, on the budget distribution between the different strands of « Creative Europe »;

-that the regulation guarantees that the « MEDIA/MEDIA Mundus » programme identity/specificity be maintained through the mention of budget allocated guidelines and of the actions to be undertaken.

- that the future « *Creative Europe* » programme fully respects the spirit and principles of the UNESCO Convention on the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions ratified by the European Union.

Whereas the European Coalitions were fully satisfied with the 2011's European Commission commitments, they will be active from now on so that those promises are made legally-binding through the European Parliament decision-making process.

The European Coalitions will also call on MEPs to give more details in the regulation's proposal on the actions lines and the amounts allocated to them.