

MEDITERRANEAN CREATIVE EUROPE DESKS MEETING

Organized by Creative Europe Desks Italy

in collaboration with Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Tunisia Desks

JUNE 22ND-24TH, 2026, GIBELLINA - SELINUNTE

DAY 1 -June 22nd: Gibellina, Venue Museum Fondazione Orestiadi

9.30 – Registration of participants

10.00 am – 10.20 am

Welcome speeches

Francesca Maria Corrao, President Fondazione Orestiadi

Angelo Piero Cappello, Director-General for Contemporary Creativity - Italian Ministry of Culture, Coordinator Creative Europe Desk Italy

Introduction to the meeting

Alessandra Luchetti, European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) Head of Department: Creativity, Citizens, EU values and Joint operations (EACEA.B)

First session (10:20 am - 1:00 pm)

1st panel

(10.20 am – 11.30 am)

International, European and national policies in the Mediterranean: Policy Framework and Opportunities

Stefano Dotto, Team Leader - Good Governance, Directorate-General for the Middle East, North Africa, and the Gulf A.2, European Commission, *EU cultural cooperation in the Mediterranean - New Pact for the Mediterranean*

José Manuel Fernández Arroyo, Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, European Commission, *From Creative Europe to AgoraEU: Culture strand*

Giovanna Basile, Directorate- General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology Unit I.3 Audiovisual industry and media support programmes, *From Creative Europe to AgoraEU: MEDIA⁺ strand*

Giuliana De Francesco, Policy Officer - Seconded National Expert (European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (RTD), *Synergies with other programs. The cultural and creative projects financed by Horizon Europe Cluster 2. Another perspective*
Interactive Q&A

Silvia D’Elia, Project Officer, Unit B1 - Creative Europe: Culture, European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA), European Commission, *Creative Europe: cooperation and opportunities for the cultural and creative sectors*

Mar. Magg, Eugenio Borgese, Carabinieri Command for the Protection of Cultural Heritage, Blue Helmets for Culture

Antonio Barone, Director Council of Europe’s Phoenician Route, *Interreg – Euromed: experiences from beneficiaries, ECO-SEAROUTES project*

Moderators: Sara Machado, Creative Europe Desk Culture Portugal – Anna Conticello, Creative Europe Desk Culture Italy

Coffee break

2nd panel

(11.50 am – 1.00 pm)

National cultural policies in the Mediterranean

Maria Assunta Peci, Director-General for European and International Affairs - Italian Ministry of Culture

Angelo Piero Cappello, Director Task Force for Cultural Cooperation with Africa and the Wider Mediterranean - Italian Ministry of Culture

Giorgio Carlo Brugnoli, Director-General for Cinema and Audiovisual - Italian Ministry of Culture, *Co-development projects and national policies for the Mediterranean*

Christophe Turon-Trommenschlager, *France-Mediterranean Season*

Mónica Comas, Spain, *National cultural policies for the Mediterranean*

Haifa Gebes, Tunisia, *National cultural policies for the Mediterranean*

Margherita Rizza, Director-General Regione Siciliana: *Regione Siciliana cultural policies for the cultural cooperation in the Mediterranean region*

Moderator: Enrico Proietti, Creative Europe Desk – Culture Italy

Interactive Q&A

1.00 – 2.00 pm – Light Lunch

Second session (2.00 pm – 4.00 pm)

Challenges and Opportunities for Cultural Cooperation in the Mediterranean

- Exchange between Creative Europe Desks and beneficiaries:

Panel A (2.00–3.00 pm)

“Culture, Environment, Heritage & Social Engagement”

How can culture address societal and environmental challenges while engaging communities?

1. **Fabio Bruno**, Università degli Studi di Cosenza – 3DResearch, *COOP Art4Sea - Melting Art, Creativity and Marine Sciences to foster Ocean Literacy in the Mediterranean area*
2. **Victoria Sanagustín Fons**, Universidad de Zaragoza, *ClimAid - Building resilience to climate change through Cultural Heritage and Urban Arts*
3. **Umayma Elamin Amer Elamin**, President Migrant Women Association Malta, *MUSE: Mosaic of Understanding through Style and Expression*
4. **Yannis Ziogas**, Professor, Department of Fine and Applied Arts, University of Western Macedonia, *WALC: Walk and Local Communities Program.*

Moderators: Mónica Comas Rodríguez, Creative Europe Desk Culture Spain - Konstantina Liakopoulou, Creative Europe Desk Culture Greece

Panel B (3.00–4.00 pm)

“Strengthening Europe's Cultural and Creative Sectors”

How can Creative Europe strengthen cultural ecosystems, professional networks, and audience development?

1. **Paolo Montemurro**, Consorzio Materahub Industrie Culturali e Creative, *PLAT Craftwork 4.0 All - European Emerging Craft Platform*
2. **Pauline Duverger**, *OTRart – Crafting a Greener World through Artistic Creation*
3. **Mario Gulisano**, Darshan Cultural Association, *Music in the Circle*
4. **Christoph Storbeck**, Associazione Culturale Glenn Gould, SMA! (Small Festivals Accelerator)

Moderators: Aneta Stofner Creative Europe Desk Culture Croatia – Mateja Lazar, Creative Europe Desk Culture Slovenia

DAY 2 - June 23rd: Selinunte, conference hall in hotel Admeto

9.30 – *Registration of participants*

10.00 *Welcome speeches*

Enrico Bufalini, Project Manager Creative Europe Desk MEDIA Italy

Nicola Tarantino, Director of Sicilia Film Commission

1st Session Creative Europe Projects: Cross and MEDIA strands in Practice

Experiences from Cross sectoral strand: Innovation Lab. From artificial intelligence (AI) to virtual experiences

10.20 – 11.00 am

Two case studies:

- **Emanuele Galloni**, CEO of Connemaris Media, *Project REMICAAT*
- **M. Mohamed Zoghliani**, NetInfo School, *Project Cultural XR Network*

Moderators: Andrea Coluccia, Creative Europe Desk MEDIA Office Bari Italy - Marzia Santone, Creative Europe Desk Culture Italy

Q&A

11.15 – 12.00 am

1st Panel: Content Cluster

- **Claudio Esposito**, CEO of Piranesi Experience co-producer of the film “Recrucified”
- **Erica Barbiani**, Videomante co-producer of the film “Fiume o morte”
- **Andreia Nunes**, CEO of Wonder Maria coproducer of “The curse of sugar”

Moderator: Andrea Coluccia, Creative Europe Desk MEDIA Office Bari Italy

Coffee break

12.15 am – 1.15 pm

2nd panel: Audience Cluster and Market

- **Eleni Michalaki**, Press and Communications Manager of the International Animation Festival Animasyros
- **Tanja Hladnik**, festival director of Kino Otok - Isola Cinema International Film Festival.
- **Giorgos Papakonstantinou**, "ANIMAFEST Cyprus – The International Animation Festival of Cyprus”

Moderator: Anna Kasimati, Creative Europe Desk MEDIA – Greece

DAY 3 - June 24th Selinunte venue, Hotel Admeto

9.00 – Registration of participants

9.30 – 12.00 pm

Informal meeting of the Council of Europe's Cultural Routes based in the Mediterranean.

Cultural Routes are networks that promote the principles underpinning all the values and policies of the Council of Europe: human rights, cultural democracy, cultural diversity, mutual understanding and cross-border exchanges. They act as vehicles for intercultural dialogue and promote a better knowledge and understanding of European history.

Session dedicated to the Mediterranean Cultural Routes

LAB40 : Cultural Route of the Council of Europe Program 40th Anniversary (1987-2027): the Italian and European experience and the program's prospects, what is the new role of cultural routes (new cultural institution for the enhancement of heritage and regenerative tourism)

Moderator: Antonio Barone, Director of the Phoenicians' Route – Cultural Route of the Council of Europe

Introduction

Best practices in the Mediterranean region

Cultural Routes & European Cooperation: From Routes to Projects: Opportunities for Creative Europe:

Cultural routes as cooperation models. How Cultural Routes can connect with Creative Europe Future cooperation perspectives

Round table with the participation of the Managers of the Routes (or delegates)

Rotta dei Fenici- Phoenicians' Route

Via Francigena

Iter Vitis

European Route of Ceramic

Atrium

Huguenot and Waldensian Trail

Iron Age Danube Route

Aromas – Route the Historic Pharmacies

Via Romea Strata

Saint Francis Way

Questions and answers between EuroDesk and Cultural Routes

European Capital of Culture, tools for Mediterranean dialogue and cooperation

- **Joseph Calleja**, "Victoria - Malta ECoC 2031, Malta" (video)
- **Iosif Hadijkyriakos**, "Larnaca ECoC 2030, Cyprus"

Closing