

GREECE

Compiled from the questionnaire response prepared by Constantinos Dallas (Panteion University, Athens)

1. CULTURAL EMPLOYMENT IN FIGURES (2005)

Total employment		Cultural employment		Cultural employment in %
4 382 000		92 400		2,1%
Employed	Self-employed	Employed	Self-employed	
71,1%	28,9%	65%	35%	

Source: EUROSTAT, EU Labor Force Survey, 2005.

2. RECENT DEBATES ON THE MOBILITY OF CULTURAL PROFESSIONALS

- There is a general view that the state does not support enough mobility in the arts. Civil society is also considered to be very weak. Professional organisations of artists and cultural professionals operate as the long hand of the state but since they also do not have any financial independence they rely on the budget of the central government.
- The most important centres for artists to go are in the more developed western countries of Europe thus creating a gravity centre where all artists and professionals tend to orientate their activities; many of them leave the periphery of Europe without human resources to utilize for artistic development. Others however believe that this trend does have the positive effect of creating schemes of cooperation or transfer of know-how by means of which development is trickled down to the artists and the artistic centres in the periphery of Europe.
- There exists a general feeling that there exists a geographical distribution of artists and cultural professionals in sub-regional areas of Europe with some particular similarities in their cultures. Thus, Baltic and Nordic countries seem to enjoy a more intensive mobility among them than with other parts of the European continent. The same seems to apply in Western Europe. This is not the case however for Eastern European and South-East European countries which seem to export artists to other European countries and cities with significant infrastructure in artistic markets such as London, Paris and Berlin. The consequences for Greece, according to some professionals interviewed, seem to be leading to a certain degree of integration of Greek artists and professionals to the Mediterranean sub-region due to a lack of similarities in language and cultural background with the country's neighbours as well as due to a significant lack of artistic infrastructures in the South East of Europe. However, some mobility of immigrants from eastern European countries and the Commonwealth of Independent States can be detected, who try to become active in the field of arts in Greece. There is no empirical grounding though on whether this is a significant trend in the art market of Greece or just the reaction of immigrants who happened to arrive in Greece.
- There is a widely shared view among cultural professionals interviewed for the purposes of this questionnaire, that the state shows only a limited interest for the artists. There are also some drawbacks regarding the language barriers in order for people with different language backgrounds to communicate. More significantly, it appears that there are some communication problems which do not have so much to do with understanding each other but with the cultural capital as well as the professional jargon and mentality. Western Europeans are considered in Greece to live in a more professional environment for the arts and consequently to have developed a more professional mentality than their Greek colleagues. Terms and professional practices that are common ground for artists coming from Western Europe seem to Greek artists and professionals to be a new thing to accustom to, such as a "portfolio" as a way to disseminate their work. One could safely draw the conclusion that, in Greece, the training of artists, but their mentality as well, is more academic and amateur with less weight put on their professional skills and practices. Interestingly enough, in the field of cinema, there has been a considerably change of interest on the part of the main financing body, the Greek Film Centre: in the past years, foreign artists and cultural professionals were brought to Greece for short periods of time in order to stimulate the local production with their ideas.

3. MAIN TYPES OF MOBILITY SCHEMES

Type of mobility schemes	Outgoing Schemes available in the country for nationals/residents (-N)	Incoming Schemes to bring foreign cultural professionals (FCPs) into the country (-F)
Artists / writers residencies (AR)	X	X
Event participation grants (EP)	XX	X
Scholarships for further / postgraduate training courses (FT)	X	X
"Go and see" or short-term exploration grants (GS)	X	X
Market development grants (MD)	X	X
Support for the participation of professionals in trans-national networking (NW)	X	X
Project or production grants (PR)	XX	X
"Research" grants or scholarships (RS)	--	--
Touring incentives for groups (TO)	--	--

4. MOBILITY SCHEMES: IMPORTANT EXAMPLES

NB:

- The schemes below are classified according to whether they target nationals/residents or foreign cultural professionals
- Those marked with an * are open to both nationals/residents and foreign cultural professionals

4.1 Outgoing schemes available for nationals/residents

Promoting the translation of contemporary Greek literature in foreign languages

(<http://www.yppo.gr>)

Objective: Promoting the translation of contemporary Greek literature in foreign languages.
 Administered by: The Greek Ministry of Culture, Department for Literature
 Type of scheme: PR-N
 Main destination: All countries
 Funding: No funding data available
 Eligibility: Nationality: Either, Greeks, Europeans or Internationals who have a contract from a publishing house to translate a Greek author
 Profession: Translators;
 Other: There has to be no other public financial support for the same project.

Representation at international exhibition of theatre scenography and architecture

(<http://www.hellastheatre.gr>)

Objective: Representation of the country at the international exhibition of theatre scenography and architecture.
 Administered by: Hellenic Centre of the International Theatre Institute of UNESCO
 Type of scheme: EP-N
 Main destination: All countries
 Funding: Year: 2007
 Total budget: 100 000 EUR
 Eligibility: Nationality: Only for Greeks;
 Profession: For artists from the fields of theater and scenography;
 Other: Significant relevance of the Greek artist to the theme that the organizers of the international festival define.

***Athens System**

(http://www.hellastheatre.gr/system08/en/iti_as2008_01.htm)

- Objective: Athens System is a system of communication between the Greek and the international theatre. This action mainly aims at presenting Greek theatre productions abroad with an ultimate goal their presentation on international theatre stage. Furthermore, Athens System aims at the enhancement of the Greek theatre's status in the Greek society through a potential concentration of performances of the current theater season, which seem to be particularly interesting.
- Administered by: Hellenic Centre of the International Theatre Institute of UNESCO
- Type of scheme: EP-N, NW-N / EP-F, NW-F
- Main destination: Greece and all countries
- Funding: Year: 2007
Total budget: 100 000 EUR
As an outcome of last year's Athens System pilot phase 4 out of 8 theatre companies were invited to international festivals.
- Eligibility: Nationality: Open to all;
Profession: Persons of international appeal, such as important international festival directors, theatre critics as well as distinguished artists.
Other: Every year a special review committee, which consists of professionals from the arts and the letters, is appointed in order to make a selection among the performances produced in the current theatre season. The selected performances are then staged to be viewed by invited guests of international appeal, such as important international festival directors, theatre critics as well as directors of cultural organizations who can potentially suggest and invite productions abroad.

***Greek Ministry of Culture - Office for Bilateral Relations**

(<http://www.yppo.gr>)

- Objective: Provision for cultural exchanges within the framework of bilateral agreements of Greece with other states. It is for Greek professionals to go abroad and foreigners to come in Greece to get training or gain expertise.
- Administered by: The Greek Ministry of Culture, Department for International Relations, Office for Bilateral Relations
- Type of scheme: GS-N / GS -F
- Main destination: Greece and all countries
- Funding: Approximately 10 000 EUR for each bilateral agreement. Decisions for funding are taken ad hoc according to the budget of the capacities of the ministry of culture
- Eligibility: Nationality: Open to all;
Profession: Mainly cultural operators;
Other: The expert must already be of acknowledged status and the country to receive him must also agree before he goes.

***Accommodation of writers and translators**

(<http://www.literarycentre.gr> / <http://www.halma-network.eu>)

- Administered by: International Writer's and Translator's Centre of Rhodes
- Type of scheme: AR-F / AR-N
- Main destination: Rhodes (Greece)
- Funding: Accommodation, breakfast and infrastructure such as library, computers etc. is provided, duration of stay is limited from two to six weeks
- Eligibility: Nationality: Open to all;
Profession: Writers and translators.

***Greek Writers Abroad**

(<http://www1.ekebi.gr/english/m03.htm>)

Objective: Offers Greek writers the opportunity to travel abroad and present their work in translation, as the guests of publishers, bookshops, universities, cultural associations etc.

Administered by: National Book Centre of Greece

Type of scheme: AR-N, EP-N / AR-F

Main destination: Mainly Europe and Mediterranean regions

Funding: Ad hoc coverage of per diem and travel expenses

Eligibility: Nationality: Only for Greeks;
Profession: Writers;
Other: Formal invitation by the organizers of the event is requested.

***MapXXL**

(<http://www.art4eu.net>)

Objective: Artists residencies in European countries with the objective to promote the mobility of artists from different cultures and horizons within Europe, to reveal the talent of young creators and to accompany the artists on their professional path at European and international levels.

Administered by: Pépinières européennes pour jeunes artistes (in Greece: Ministry of Culture, Department for International Relations)

Type of scheme: AR-N / AR-F

Main destination: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Quebec - Canada

Funding: No funding data available.

Eligibility: Age: From 20 to 35 years old;
Nationality: Greek as well as European nationals;
Profession: Artists from all fields.

***Mobility Programme of the Roberto Cimetta Fund**

(<http://www.cimettafund.org>)

Objective: Promoting artistic exchange and the mobility of professionals in the field of contemporary performing arts and visual arts within the Mediterranean area.

Administered by: Fonds Roberto Cimetta

Type of scheme: AR-N, EP-N, FT-N, NW-N, PR-N / AR-F, EP-F, FT-F, NW-F, PR-F

Main destination: Euro-Mediterranean zone (27 EU countries + Serbia, Albania + Turkey, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Jordanian, Palestine, Israel, Cyprus, Malta, Algeria, Libya)

Funding: Year: 2007
51 candidates supported
Reimbursement of the real international travel and visa costs.

Eligibility: Age: No age limit but a preference for young artists and professionals is shown;
Nationality: Residents (non nationals) of the 27 EU countries and the non EU countries of the Mediterranean Sea;
Profession: Artists (interpreters, creators, teachers), cultural operators (organizers, managers, technicians) ;
Other: Projects at a professional or pre-professional level, priority is given to applicants who do not have access to other funds supporting their travel, and to those who are the most artistically and economically isolated.

***House of Literature**

<http://www.ekemel.gr>

Objective: Aims at effecting a closer contact between Greek and foreign literatures, through numerous and diverse activities.

Administered by: The European Center for the Translation of Literature and the Human Sciences (EKEMEL)

Type of scheme: AR-F / AR-N

Main destination: Lefkes (Greece)

Funding: Offers hospitality for a duration of 2 weeks up to three months

Eligibility: Nationality: Open to all;
Profession: Writers and translators;
Other: EU residents must pay a monthly rent of 80 EUR. Non EU residents pay a daily rent of 15 EUR.

Promotion of Greek films in the markets of international film festivals

<http://www.gfc.gr>

Objective: Is to promote Greek artists and their films abroad.

Administered by: The Greek Film Centre, Hellas Films

Type of scheme: MD-N, PR-N

Main destination: All countries

Funding: Year: 2007
Total budget: 100 000 EUR

Eligibility: Nationality: Greek nationality is a requirement
Profession: For artists from the film sector and film producers.

The Greek Film Centre – Training of young directors and film professionals

<http://www.gfc.gr>

Objective: Training of young directors and other film professionals at the Berlinale international film festival

Administered by: The Greek Film Centre

Type of scheme: FT-N, GS-N

Main destination: Berlin (Germany)

Funding: No funding data available

Eligibility: Age: Preference to young professionals;
Nationality: Only for Greeks;
Profession: Directors and film professionals
Other: A bilateral agreement between the Berlinale festival and the Greek Film Centre

The Greek Film Centre - Support of foreign film productions in Greece

<http://www.hellastheatre.gr>

Objective: Support of foreign film productions in Greece

Administered by: The Greek Film Centre

Type of scheme: PR-F

Main destination: Greece

Funding: No financial support, only administrative help in the production of the film

Eligibility: Nationality: Open to all foreigners;
Profession: Only for film producers.