

SERBIA

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1. CULTURAL EMPLOYMENT IN FIGURES (2005)

Total employment		Cultural employment		Cultural employment in %
2 066 721		12 874		0,6229%
Employed	Self-employed	Employed	Self-employed	
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Source: Center for Study in Cultural Development (www.zaprokul.org.yu), E-culture, database of cultural institutions in Serbia, 2008 and Institute for Statistics of the Republic of Serbia.

2. RECENT DEBATES ON THE MOBILITY OF CULTURAL PROFESSIONALS

- There is a total lack of debate addressing the problem of the mobility of cultural professionals in Serbia. The Ministry of Culture of Republic of Serbia and other organisations (e.g. the Balkankult Foundation) have organised some studies and expert meetings on the issue of cultural diplomacy that touched upon some issues relevant to mobility problems of brain-drain, lack of infrastructure, mobility programmes and transparency in funding. No follow-up to these meetings has occurred to date.
- Neither the Ministry of Culture nor municipal governments (Belgrade, Novi Sad) have created strategies focused on solving the problem of mobility of cultural professionals in Serbia. There is still no Mobility Fund providing travel grants, participation in artists-in-residence programmes or any other type of mobility scheme in Serbia. There is no artists-in-residence center in Serbia, except for artists' colonies. In the draft law on culture there is no mention of mobility of cultural professionals, directly nor indirectly.
- Since 2001 some support, although very limited, is provided by the foreign cultural institutes (e.g. Goethe Institute, French Cultural Center) and by some international bodies within the framework of a cultural cooperation projects (e.g. Pro Helvetia, European Cultural Foundation)
- Mobility between the Nordic countries and Serbia and Montenegro was supported by the programme Norden Balkan Culture Switch (2002-2005), a long-term interregional cultural cooperation programme financially supported by the Nordic Council of Ministers. Once the programme ended, the artists exchange between the Nordic countries and Serbia continued, although considerably less than before. Since then, the Balkankult Mobility Fund was created with financial support from the corporate sector and the embassies of the Nordic countries.
- In Serbia there are no instruments to support artistic or intellectual exchange, interregional or international cultural cooperation, importance of networking etc.
- Artists and other cultural professionals are forced to get by on their own by providing the means need for their mobility. Limited support is provided through some NGOs (e.g. the Balkankult Foundation, official artists unions, informal artists NGO networks etc.). Cultural operators inviting artists through informal NGO networks use already existing events and projects as platforms to support mobility. At the moment there are no public announcements, juries or selection criteria to support artists mobility based on quality of their works. Support is mainly given to those who already have existing professional or private relations and contacts.
- Informal artists NGO networks such as Remont, Walking Theory Belgrade, Kulturni front (Belgrade), Context gallery Belgrade etc have a played an important role in supporting the mobility of artists through cultural cooperation and exchange projects (with no budget or low budgets).

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)	X	X
Scholarships for further / postgraduate training courses (FT)	X	X
"Go and see" or short-term exploration grants (GS)	--	--
Market development grants (MD)	X	--
Support for the participation of professionals in trans-national networking (NW)	X	--
Project or production grants (PR)	X	X
"Research" grants or scholarships (RS)	X	--
Touring incentives for groups (TO)	X	--

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

*Balkankult Foundation

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

Objective:	Traveling, accommodation for the purpose of participation or attendance in various cultural events, institutions, residential centre, workshops, conferences, etc.
Administered by:	Balkankult Foundation
Type of scheme:	EP-N, GS-N / EP-F, GS-F
Main destination:	West Balkan countries / European countries (mobility between West Balkan countries and European countries and vice versa)
Funding:	Foundation is grant seeking and a grant giving institutional body, addressing donors for the purpose of grant giving. From 2005 up to now around 110 artists and cultural professionals got a chance to travel across Europe for various purposes. No standardized form, the calls for proposals are open throughout the calendar year. The decision is made by the expert chosen by the representatives of the Foundation and Donor.
Eligibility:	Age: No limitations regarding the grantees' age; Nationality: Open to all Europeans (preferably from Balkan countries and Nordic countries); Profession: Artists working in any arts discipline, cultural professionals and policy makers

Support from the Ministry of culture of Republic of Serbia

(<http://www.kultura.sr.gov.yu>)

- Objective: Application for funding of travels and participations for artists in any arts discipline invited to participate in reputable international cultural projects. The main objective of this support is active participation of the artists representing Serbia in international cultural projects (festivals, exhibitions etc). However, there is no regular competition or application scheme for this purpose.
- Administered by: Ministry of Culture
- Type of scheme: EP-N
- Main destination: All countries
- Funding: Travel costs (Please, read the NOTE 2 at the bottom of the paper)
- Eligibility: Nationality: Only for citizens and residents of Serbia;
Profession: For artists in any arts discipline

Balkan Incentive Fund for Culture

(<http://www.eurocult.org/we-support-cultural-cooperation/balkan-incentive-fund-for-culture>)

- Objective: Artistic projects of individual either artists or cultural organizations, aiming at intercultural dialogue and interregional cooperation in the Balkans (mobility is an item in the projects).
- Administered by: Fund established as a joint initiative of the European Cultural Foundation (ECF), Hivos and the Open Society Institute
- Type of scheme: PR-N
- Main destination: All countries
- Funding: Grants from 15 000 to 25 000 EUR aimed at supporting artistic projects, intended for cultural organizations and individual artists as well.
- Eligibility: Nationality: Open to all Europeans (preferably from Balkans AL, BiH, BU, CRO, HU, MA, CG, RO, SR, KS);
Profession: For artists; cultural operators, in any arts discipline.

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

(<http://www.cimettafund.org/EN/index.lasso>)

- 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: Roberto Cimetta Fund
- Type of scheme: AR-N, EP-N, NW-N / AR-F, EP-F, NW-F
- Main destination: Mediterranean countries
- Funding: Year: 2007
51 candidates supported
Reimbursement of the real international travel and visa costs. Intended for attendance at professional cultural network meeting, a workshop, artists' in residence, festivals etc. Application scheme organized regularly every 5-6 weeks
- Eligibility: Age: No age limit, but the selection committee prefers to support professionals who are starting their professional careers and who have not already developed their access to international professional networks;
Nationality: The selection committee does not take into account the nationality of the applicants but the country where they live and work (see the list above);
Profession: Artists (interpreters, creators, teachers) and cultural operators (organizers, managers, technicians) working in the fields of contemporary performing arts, fine arts and film.
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.

Cultural exchange programme of the Goethe Institut

<http://www.goethe.de/ins/cs/bel/srindex.htm>

Objective:	Grants for participation in a programme (festival, workshop, seminar etc.).
Administered by:	Goethe Institut Belgrade
Type of scheme:	EP-N
Main destination:	Countries in South-Eastern Europe
Funding:	Grants up to 500 EUR from the Fund of Stability Pact of South Eastern Europe, covering travel and accommodation costs intended for attendance at seminars, festivals, workshops etc. in the region
Eligibility:	Nationality: Open to professionals coming from South East Europe region; Profession: For artists operating in any arts discipline.

Studio Cité Internationale Paris from the Ministry of culture & ULUS

<http://www.ulus.org.yu>

Objective:	The main objective of this support is education of visual artists.
Administered by:	ULUS (The Union of Visual Artists of Serbia)
Type of scheme:	AR-N
Main destination:	France
Funding:	Travel costs, accommodation (Please, read the NOTE 2 at the bottom of the paper)
Eligibility:	Nationality: Only for citizens and residents of Serbia; Profession: for artists in visual arts discipline.

Gulliver Connect

<http://www.gulliverconnect.org/en>

Objective:	Fellowship residencies for artists and cultural operators in the chosen artistic/cultural organization.
Administered by:	The Felix Meritis Foundation, Amsterdam
Type of scheme:	AR-N, FT-N, RS-N
Main destination:	All countries
Funding:	Bursaries up to 1.500 EUR to cover the costs for the work placement, travel, accommodation and daily allowance for the period between 3 - 6 weeks
Eligibility:	Age: Preference for young professionals; Nationality: Open to all Europeans (preferably from Balkans AL, BiH, BU, CRO, HU, MA, CG, RO, SR); Profession: For cultural professionals who have 2-3 years working experience in the field of performing and visual arts, new media, project co-ordination and arts development or management.

Residency programme for translators of the Centre Culturel Francais

<http://www.ccf.org.yu/srp/06a.htm>

Objective:	Residence with work placement on the translating projects
Administered by:	Centre Culturel Francais Belgrade
Type of scheme:	AR-N, PR-N
Main destination:	Countries in South-Eastern Europe
Funding:	Residential bursaries for translators to work in France for a month. Grants cover accommodation costs in France and daily allowances. Application scheme twice a year.
Eligibility:	Nationality: Open to translators for French language from Serbia; Profession: For translators for French language.

4.2 Incoming schemes available for foreign cultural professionals

Artists Colonies

(<http://www.kultura.sr.gov.yu>)

Objective:	Intercultural dialogue, networking, artistic and cultural cooperation. Guesting artists are provided with a short-term residence to work on artistic production projects, along with other participants (local, regional and international) in the artist's colony.
Administered by:	Local Communities (Local Arts Centers) / the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia (department for contemporary creativity)
Type of scheme:	AR-F, PR-F
Main destination:	Serbia
Funding:	The Ministry of Culture constituted a special competition for this support in 2007. The main criteria for giving the financial support to an artist's colony is the quality of its artistic concept programme and art production (of the participants). This matching funding (the Ministry / the local community) covers all the costs relating to the work of artists in the colonies. The Ministry is usually responsible for covering production, organizational and exhibition production costs, in some cases travel costs, and the local community covers accommodation and daily allowances. The application scheme for this financial support by the Ministry is annually arranged.
Eligibility:	Nationality: Open to artists from all over the world; Profession: For artists in visual arts discipline.

NOTE 1

Artist's colonies are a specific phenomenon of mobility scheme in Serbia. This scheme is in many aspects similar to artists-in-residence scheme, except for the fact that artists colonies function as short-term projects whose duration period does not extend beyond 23 weeks. Most of them have already established the tradition and became a sort of "brands" of their local places.

Considering mobility of artists, particularly in the context of international cooperation and intercultural dialogue, it must be noted that artist's colonies have been its most significant incentive in Serbia. They have been the most usual and frequent centre of artistic creativity for international artists coming to Serbia for many decades.

There are about 150 artists' colonies in Serbia, but only 20 of them have been given financial support by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia since 2007, when the national competition was constituted. The main criterion for gaining the financial support for an artist's colony is its quality of artistic programme, concept and art production of the invited participants.

Before the competition for gaining the support was institutionalized the Ministry used to provide for financial support on an ad hoc basis.

Source: "Contemporary Art Initiatives in Serbia", the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia, Belgrade 2006.

NOTE 2

Only bodies that financially support incoming schemes available for foreign cultural professionals are government institutions such as the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia nor the Secretariat for Culture of the City of Belgrade and The Regional Secretariat for education and culture in Vojvodina others, but this mobility is always integral part or item of the cultural/artistic project, and it is treated as such from this point of view.

As for the information on financial budgets for mobility of artists and cultural practitioners, neither the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia nor the Secretariat for Culture of the City of Belgrade could not provide for them. The main reason is that cultural policy in Serbia does not treat mobility as an individual issue or segment, but as an item (travel costs, accommodation, daily allowances) within larger structure of culture projects such as international festivals, cooroduction projects, exhibitions etc.. This is why there cannot be found any evidence on budget used for mobility of artists and cultural practitioners in Serbia.

The general conclusion of the above mentioned public debate on cultural diplomacy, organized two years ago (2006) by the Balkankult Foundation in Belgrade and Novi Sad was that cultural diplomacy in Serbia is lead independently by each level of government, sporadically. The Ministry for Culture in Serbia considered that cities and municipalities, as well as public cultural institutions, are very active internationally, working with the majority of relevant cultural institutions and individuals in formal and informal co-operation, linked with projects and initiatives of the international community from the private (NGO) and public sectors, including inter-governmental bodies such as the Council of Europe and UNESCO. However, the analysis of the scope of cooperation is not satisfactory, as it does not have a policy and priorities, and mostly is re-active to foreign demands. The most important actor in international cultural cooperation is the city of Belgrade, creating and financing the biggest international events in Belgrade for each domain of art (October Salon / Visual Arts, FEST / Film, BEMUS / Music, BITEF / Theatre, Belgrade Book Fair / Literature), as well as for different generations and types of audiences (BELEF / summer festival, The Joy of Europe / children's creativity, etc.).