



izmir '21
UCLG Kùltür Zirvesi
UCLG Culture Summit

CULTURE: SHAPING THE FUTURE



İZMİR
SUMMIT: 9-11 SEPTEMBER 2021
ONLINE LAUNCH: 10 JUNE 2021





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UCLG Culture Summit

IF YOU ARE A JOURNALIST WORKING ON:

- Sustainable cities
- Globalization and culture
- Culture, cultural policies and cities
- People-centered development

You cannot miss this Summit!

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND THE SUMMIT:

- Please let us know ASAP
- We will be pleased to provide detailed information



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1 – The Summit

The fourth UCLG Culture Summit will be hosted by the city of **Izmir** (Turkey) from **9-11 September 2021**, with an online official launch on **10 June 2021**.

The world has changed. Humanity is looking for a new balance where culture must be central in societies that care for all. The cultural dimension of development is essential for People, for the Planet and for the Governments. This is why the title of the Summit is **Culture: Shaping Our Future**.

The Summit will provide examples of concrete policies, programmes and projects developed by cities during the COVID-19 crisis and for the recovery. We will discuss challenges, obstacles, dreams, ideas and solutions. The Summit is informed by global Agendas, including the UCLG Presidential Decalogue and the announcement of a new UCLG Pact for the Future of Humanity: For People, for the Planet, for the Government, to be approved in 2022.

The **main topics** of the Summit are:

- Culture, Environment and Health in the PostCovid19 Era.
- The #Culture2030Goal Campaign: Towards a Culture Goal.
- Culture and the Climate Emergency.
- Cultural Rights and Communities.
- A gender perspective in cultural policies.
- The International Year of Creative Economy and Cultural Diversity.
- Cultural Heritage and Tourism.
- Cultural Diplomacy.
- Accessibility and Culture.
- Five Years of the New Urban Agenda.
- Culture 21 Actions: results from Leading and Pilot Cities.
- Culture, Obstacles and Inequalities.
- Implementing the Seven Keys.
- The International Award “UCLG – Mexico City – Culture 21”.

For further information, please consult the following websites:

- [Culture Summit website](#)
- [Agenda 21 for culture website](#)
- [UCLG website](#)

2 - Who is coming?

A number of global leaders on culture and sustainable cities will be attending the Summit.

Mayors and leaders from

Izmir, Lisbon, Mexico City, Buenos Aires, Barcelona, Rome, Jeju, Bilbao, Bogotá, Porto Alegre, Malmö, Montreal, Xi'an, Abitibi-Témicamingue, Bandung, Baie-Mahault, Bristol, Bulawayo, Accra, Concepción, Dakar, Esch-sur-Alzette, Jinju, Konya, Lyon, Puerto de la Cruz, Ramallah, Vaudreuil-Dorion...

The UCLG sections

UCLG – Middle East and West Asia, UCLG – Asia-Pacific, UCLG – Eurasia, the Council of European Municipalities and Regions – CEMR, UCLG – Africa, UCLG – North America, UCLG – Latin America with Mercociudades and FLACMA, Metropolis and the UCLG Forum of Regions.

Organisations and networks

The Culture2030Goal campaign, the Climate Heritage Network (CHN), the European Commission, the Cultural Development Network of Australia (CDN), Culture Action Europe (CAE), Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), the International Cities of Refugees Network (ICORN), the African Capital of Culture initiative, the International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity (IFCCD), the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), International Music Council (IMC), Arterial Network, Culture et Développement, UNESCO, UN-HABITAT, UNCTAD, ...AND MANY MORE

Experts and activists

Serhan Ada, Farida Shaheed, Sylvia Amann, Pierluigi Sacco, Lourdes Arizpe, Jordi Baltà, Karima Bennoune, Luca Bergamo, Nancy Duxbury, Ana Falu, Daisy Fancourt, Antoine Guibert, Ricardo Klein, Zayd Minty, Andrew Potts, Ayşegül Sabuktay, Shain Shapiro, Ege Yildirim ...AND MANY MORE STILL TO BE CONFIRMED

Our Summit is the most important meeting in 2021 in the global conversation on culture and development.

FURTHER DETAILS ABOUT THE SPEAKERS AND PARTICIPANTS CAN BE PROVIDED UNDER REQUEST

3 – UCLG and Culture 21

UCLG (United Cities and Local Governments) is **the global organization of cities and local governments**.

UCLG is the united voice and world advocate of democratic local self-government, promoting its values, objectives and interests through **cooperation between local governments**, and within the wider international community.

UCLG has played an important role in promoting the role of culture in sustainable cities:

- > **2004.** Adoption of the [Agenda 21 for culture](#) on local cultural policies and human rights, governance, sustainable development, participatory democracy and peace.
- > **2010.** Approval of ["Culture: Fourth Pillar of Sustainable Development"](#), which engages local governments to explicitly include culture in development models.
- > **2013.** The [Global Taskforce](#) facilitated by UCLG has included Culture in local and regional governments' inputs to global agendas (2030 Agenda and New Urban Agenda). See: [Statement of the 2nd World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments](#).
- > **2015.** Approval of [Culture 21 Actions](#), a practical toolkit on culture and sustainable development in cities which allows self-evaluation, policy innovation and peer-learning.
- > **2018.** ["Culture in the Sustainable Development Goals. A Guide for Local Action"](#) presents information on each one of the 17 SDGs, helps to understand why cultural issues are important and provides relevant examples.
- > **2018.** The [OBS](#) showcases more than 210 good practices on culture and sustainable development indexed by 3 criteria (SDGs, Commitments of C21A, and keywords).
- > **2019.** The [#culture2030goal campaign](#) advocates for a stronger place for culture in the 2030 Agenda and the adoption of culture as a stand-alone goal in the post-2030 agenda.
- > **2019.** The 6th UCLG World Congress adopts the ["The Future of Culture"](#) manifesto, to defend a fair cultural globalization based on the full exercise of cultural rights by peoples, communities, and individuals.
- > **2020.** The [UCLG Presidency Decalogue for the COVID-19 aftermath](#) identifies culture as one of the key priorities to guide the advocacy of UCLG in the coming years.
- > **2020.** The [Rome Charter](#) describes the right to participate "fully and freely" in cultural life as vital to cities and communities, through cultural capabilities: Discover, Create, Share, Enjoy and Protect.

The UCLG Committee on Culture is a unique platform, which gathers cities, associations and networks that foster the relationship between local cultural policies and sustainable development. The Committee is co-chaired by Buenos Aires, Lisbon and Mexico City, and is vice-chaired by Barcelona, Bilbao, Bogotá, Jeju, Porto Alegre and Rome. It has members and partners across all continents.

4 – Why Izmir

Izmir, the City of Culture and Nature

Located at the west coast of Turkey by the Aegean Sea, Izmir belongs to the wider area of Southeast Europe, and is one of the key port cities in the Eastern Mediterranean. Throughout its 8.500 years of history, the city has become home to different civilizations and cultures. Izmir was one of the prominent cities of the Hellenistic period and the Roman Empire. Under the governance of Ottoman Empire, it became a major port and attracted significant overseas trade owing to the silk trade. By then the city housed Levantine, Greek Orthodox, Armenian, Jewish, Roma and Muslim communities, and it still bears the cultural marks of its diverse heritage.

Izmir overflows with heritage sites and elements which are catalogued in the UNESCO World Heritage List. Today, the city celebrates its unique contemporary culture with its heritage, cuisine and outdoor lifestyle, where the sea and the agricultural hinterland play an important role. With a population of 4.500.000, Izmirians embrace this cultural hub, enjoying its many festivals dedicated to arts, culture, ecology and gastronomy, numerous museums, art centers and independent cultural organisations. The city is also known for its international fair and Kùltürpark, a vast green public space in the city centre that connects the city to the global economy and culture since the 1930s.

The cultural vision of the city involves promoting Izmir as a city of arts, design and innovation, supporting ecological lifestyle, alternative production, distribution and organization models. Another aspect of this vision involves developing trans-national relations by transforming the city into an effective node within the network of major Mediterranean cities, whilst celebrating diversity. Izmir Metropolitan Municipality has developed a cultural framework that entailed Izmir's participation as a "Pilot City" at the European scale in the "Agenda 21 for Culture" programme of the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), on the basis of a decision taken by the Izmir Metropolitan Municipal Council in 2015. With UCLG's invitation, Izmir joined the "[Leading City](#)" programme in 2020.

Much more, here: <https://www.visitizmir.org/en/Home>





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5 – Logistics

The UCLG Culture Summit will be held in the city of Izmir (Turkey) from 9-11 September 2021, in the Kùltürpark.

Working languages

The official languages of the Summit are **English, French, Spanish and Turkish.**



IF REQUIRED, WE ARE ABLE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH MORE INFORMATION ABOUT REGISTRATION, TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS AND ACCOMMODATION

Contact

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