

## DUBLIN WILL HOST CULTURE SUMMIT IN 2023

The UCLG World Congress has selected Dublin as the host city of the UCLG Culture Summit in 2023. This Summit will be the 5th Culture Summit of United Cities and Local Governments, after the successful events organised in Bilbao (2015), Jeju (2017), Buenos Aires (2019) and Izmir (2021).

The Summit is the most important global event of cities on the place of culture in sustainability and development.

The UCLG Culture Summit 2023 will gather all key stakeholders on culture, public policies and sustainability. The Summit will be a collaborative platform for local and national governments, civil society organisations and international organisations to discuss the current position of culture in global agendas. We live in a time of unprecedented global challenges: it is more important than ever to note that only if it is people-centered and people-empowering will the global agendas reach their objectives.

During 3 days, the Summit will emphasise that culture is an integral part of sustainable cities, and promote the sharing of experiences and innovations from cities across the world. In hosting these global conversations, Dublin has demonstrated its ongoing commitment to being an active and visible part of a global movement working to ensure human rights, cultural diversity, sustainability and participatory democracy, placing culture at the heart of development.

The UCLG Culture Summit will also include the implementation of the outcomes of the 7th UCLG World Congress (Daejeon, 10-14 October 2022), especially the Pact for the Future, for People, for the Planet, for the Government. Special attention will be paid to the relation between cultural policies and the climate emergency, the connection between culture and gender equality; as well as the role that cultural rights play in addressing the growing inequalities in our societies.

The Summit will also further develop the “Culture Goal” proposal, championed by the global campaign Culture 2030 Goal, and included in the final declaration of UNESCO’s Mondiacult 2022 Conference held in Mexico City on 28-30 September 2022.

Last, but not least, the Summit will show to the world the cultural vitality of Dublin and the key place that culture plays in its new City Development Plan 2022-2028, where it sits as a key function alongside its sustainable action plans for quality housing and neighbourhoods, planning, environmental, infrastructure, shape and structure of the city, regeneration, built heritage and archaeology, movement and transport. For Dublin to host this Summit will be a major boost for all those involved in cultural work and local government across the city, not only to feel part of a worldwide movement but in creating a lasting legacy for citizens and local partners.

The Summit is the ideal place to amplify UCLG’s mission to promote culture as the fourth pillar of sustainable development by bringing forth first person testimonies on people-centred approaches and cultural rights from the voices of people and communities who have directly experienced cultural and creativity as a driving force for change within their daily lives. ‘The Citizen is the Maker’ is a one-day event at the centre of The Summit, where these ‘in the first person’ events will focus on cultural rights, cultural participation, cultural confidence and cultural actions supporting gender equality and climate resilient development.

Created and delivered by cultural participants from our programmes across Dublin City Council Culture Company and the City Council and across the City and likeminded UCLG members, the citizen-maker events will examine, respond to and articulate their (the citizen / the participant) understanding of culture and sustainable development. It will take place around the city in homes, libraries, cultural and civic centres, shopping centres and public spaces, standing for the spaces where people are and live.

## **BACKGROUND**

### **UCLG – United Cities and Local Governments**

United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) UCLG is the world organization of local and regional governments and their associations, representing and defending their interests on the world stage. UCLG’s membership serves 70% of the world’s population and is present in all world regions. UCLG’s key areas of political interest are: local democracy, the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, culture in sustainability, local finance, urban development and city diplomacy in peace building.

Visit [www.uclg.org](http://www.uclg.org) and follow @uclg\_org for more.

### **The UCLG Culture Committee**

The mission of the Committee is “to promote culture as the fourth pillar of sustainable development”. The Committee promotes local cultural policies as a key asset in any strategy for local development and sustainability. Culture is at the core of processes that widen the freedoms and rights of citizens and build local identity. Culture is also a strand of global solidarity and fraternity, and a vector for peace and human rights. The activities of the UCLG Committee on Culture are based on the first-ever cultural rights-based toolkit for cities: “[Culture 21: Actions](#)”. This practical toolkit is currently used by cities around the world in peer-learning and capacity-building programmes. The UCLG Committee on Culture is a leading global actor in research, communication and advocacy on issues related to culture in development, mainly with the advocacy campaign [#culture2030goal](#). The campaign recently released the “[Culture Goal](#)” proposal, a complete “zero-draft” for culture to become one of the SDGs in the near future. Also, the UCLG Committee on Culture

and Mexico City organises the biennial [International Award 'UCLG – Mexico City – Culture 21'](#), which recognizes significant cities and individuals in the field of culture and sustainable development. This Award was won by Dublin in 2022, with the programme “AWE – Cultural Engagement through Accessibility, Wellbeing and Evidence”. Dublin had received a Special mention of the Jury in 2018 for the project “Culture Connects”.

Visit [www.agenda21culture.net](http://www.agenda21culture.net) and follow @agenda21culture for more.

### **Dublin City Council Culture Company**

Dublin City Council (DCC) established the Culture Company in 2018 to create new connections and opportunities for cultural inclusion and participation across the city that put people at the centre of its cultural policy. This work is a central part of DCC’s Cultural Strategy and underpins the central role that culture plays in the daily lives of people who live in or visit Dublin. DCC’s outgoing Cultural Strategy confirms its commitment to squaring the triangle, to include culture as one of its corporate strategies for a sustainable city and communities (the four pillars are economic, social inclusion, environmental and culture) which is also at the heart of the work of UCLG in the area of Culture via Agenda 21 for Culture. The Culture Company runs creative placemaking programmes, cultural knowledge projects and cultural buildings such as 14 Henrietta Street (a social history museum) and Richmond Barracks (a cultural centre) with these values at the centre of how it does things.

More on Dublin City Council Culture Company work and programmes available at [www.dublincitycouncilculturecompany.ie](http://www.dublincitycouncilculturecompany.ie)

### **CONTACT**

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