

**Communiqué**  
**from the 26<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Ministers responsible for culture**  
**of the Visegrad Group Countries, Plzeň 10<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

The meeting of the Ministers responsible for culture of the V4 countries was held in Plzeň, Czech Republic, on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

The meeting of the Ministers was preceded by a working meeting of ministerial experts, which took place on 8<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> June 2016. In preparation of the Experts' Report for the meeting of the Ministers responsible for culture the following day, the topics given below were discussed:

1. Progress on the implementation of cultural projects since the 25th Meeting of the Ministers responsible for culture of the V4 countries in Bratislava in 2015:
  - a. The Colloquium of Library and Information Workers from the Visegrad Group;
  - b. The Working Group for Cultural Heritage in the V4 countries;
  - c. Co-operation in the field of performing arts in V4 countries;
  - d. Seminars on the Evaluation of the Use of EU Funds in the Area of Culture and Creative Industries;
  - e. Visegrad Initiative for Audiovisual Co-operation;
  - f. The International Master Courses in the field of music for the students of V4+.
2. Nomination for the "2015 International Visegrad Prize".

**The Ministers' discussion focused on the topic "European Capital City of Culture".** The ministers discussed their countries' activities related to organizing of European Capital City of Culture. Each of the V4 countries has already participated in organizing of the European Capital City of Culture and they emphasised the need to share experiences. They agreed that the European Capital City of Culture project plays an important role in their countries, both at local and national levels. The ministers informed each other about the steps that have been taken in the field of organizing the European Capital City of Culture up to the present time. Future perspectives, good examples and practices at the national level were also discussed.

**The following conclusions were adopted at the meeting of the Ministers:**

1. The Ministers accepted the joint Experts' Report, expressed their satisfaction with the progress in the implementation of the individual projects and agreed with the experts' recommendations.

2. The Ministers welcomed the information on the activities and success of the International Visegrad Fund.
3. Several follow-up projects were supported: Seminars on the Evaluation of the Use of EU Funds in the Area of Culture and Creative Industries, Co-operation in the field of performing arts in V4 and Audiovisual co-operation, The Colloquium of Library and Information Workers from the Visegrad Group and International Master Courses Project.
4. The Ministers fully supported the activities of the Working Group for Cultural Heritage in the V4 countries and look forward to the next activities in the framework of The Summer Course on the Management of UNESCO World Heritage Sites and The Heritage Forum of Central Europe.
5. The Ministers appreciated the successful continuation of projects in the area of the performing arts (EEPAP and PACE.V4).
6. The Ministers welcomed the idea of co-operation in the field of audiovisual issues.
7. In connection with the 2015 International Visegrad Prize, which will be awarded at the following meeting, the Ministers approved the candidate „Olomouc Museum of Art”.

Parties agreed that the following meeting of the Ministers responsible for culture of the V4 countries will be held in Poland in 2017.

Signed in Plzeň on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2016

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**Daniel Herman**

Minister of Culture  
of the Czech Republic

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**Bence Rétvári**

Parliamentary Minister of State,  
Ministry of Human Capacities  
of Hungary

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**Piotr Gliński**

Deputy Prime Minister,  
Minister of Culture and National Heritage  
of the Republic of Poland

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**Ivan Sečík**

State Secretary,  
Ministry of Culture  
of the Slovak Republic