

QUADRENNIAL PERIODIC REPORT

**ON MEASURES TO PROTECT AND PROMOTE THE DIVERSITY OF CULTURAL
EXPRESSIONS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE 2005 UNESCO CONVENTION**

Slovak Republic

March 2012

Summary

The Slovak Republic ratified the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expression (hereinafter referred to as the “Convention”) on 18 December 2006. The Convention entered into force on 18 March 2007 and as of this date it also entered into force for the Slovak Republic. Upon the completion of the ratification process of the Convention, the Slovak Republic entered the implementation phase.

In compliance with the United Nations Charter, the principles of international law and the generally acknowledged instruments in the field of human rights, the Slovak Republic confirms its sovereign right to formulate and apply cultural policies and to adopt measures for the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions and the strengthening of international cooperation in order to fulfil the aims of this Convention.

The Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter referred to as the “Ministry”) is the administrator for implementing the Convention in the Slovak Republic.

Pursuant to Act No. 403/2010 Coll. which amends and complements Act No. 575/2001 Coll. on the Organization of Activities of the Government and the Central State Administration Organs (the *Competence Act*) the Ministry is the central state administrative organ for the state language, the preservation of monuments fund, cultural heritage and librarianship, art, copyrights and the rights related to the copyrights, cultural educational activities and folk art crafts, presentation of the Slovak culture abroad, relations with churches and religious communities, media and audio-vision.

While elaborating the 1st periodic report on the measures to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions that the Slovak Republic submits in 2012, the Ministry cooperated with the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister of the Slovak Government for Human Rights and National Minorities, the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic.

Due to its limited extent (20 pages) the periodic report contains only the most significant cultural – political measures introduced for the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions in the phases of the creation, production, distribution, dissemination and participation in culture that were adopted at the national and international levels in the legislative, institutional and financial areas.

The measures elaborated at the national level (Section 2.1) include the promotion of art, media and audio-vision, the creative industry, traditional folk art, the promotion of the cultures of national minorities and disadvantaged groups of the population, cultural rights and access to culture, cooperation with churches and religious communities and measures in the area of promoting intercultural dialogue. Measures elaborated in the area of international cooperation (Section 2.2) are related to the mobility of artists and professionals, bilateral cooperation with the developing countries and Official Development Assistance. The content of this report also includes measures aimed at the integration of culture in sustainable development policies (Section 2.3). In the area of the protection of the cultural expressions under threat, the periodic report contains measures for the protection of the monuments fund (Section 2.4). This report also includes cooperation with the civil society at the national and international levels (Section 3.1, 3.2). The challenges related to the introduction of the Convention and the solutions identified for their implementation also constitute part of this report (Section 4). Annexes to the Report contain the available statistical data (Section 5). The

Slovak Republic submits the 1st periodic report on measures for the protection and promotion of the diversity in cultural expressions in two UNESCO working languages – English and French.

1. General Information

- a) Name of Party: Slovak Republic
- b) Date of Ratification: 18 December 2006
- c) Ratification Process: the Government of the Slovak Republic approved the proposal for the ratification of the Convention through Resolution No. 929 of 8 November 2006; the National Council of the Slovak Republic expressed its agreement with the Convention through its Resolution No. 152 of the National Council of the Slovak Republic of 12 December 2006; the President of the Slovak Republic ratified the Convention on 16 December 2006; the ratification deed was submitted to the UNESCO Director General on 18 December 2006, the Convention depositary; the Convention entered into force for the Slovak Republic on 18 March 2007.
- d) Total Contribution to the IFCD as at 5 March 2012: 3,538 €
- e) Organization or entity responsible for the preparation of the report: Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic
- f) Official designated point of contact: Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic
- g) Date of elaboration of the report: March 2012
- h) Name of the official signatory of the report: Mgr. art. Natália Cehláriková, State Secretary of the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic
- i) Name of the representative of participating civil society organisation: Academic artist Pavol Kráľ, Chair of the Committee of the Slovak Coalition for Cultural Diversity

2. Measures

This report contains the most significant cultural – political measures introduced for the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions in the phases of the creation, production, distribution, dissemination and participation in culture that were adopted at the national and international levels in the legislative, institutional and financial areas.

The measures presented herein are structured according to the Framework for Periodic Reports on Measures to Protect and Promote the Diversity of Cultural Expressions as responses to the following key questions:

- a) What is the main objective of the policy or measure? When was it introduced?
- b) How has it been implemented, which public agency is responsible for its implementation and what resources have been allocated to ensure implementation?
- c) What challenges have been identified in the implementation of this measure?
- d) What has been the effect or impact of the policy or measure? What indicators were used to come to this conclusion?

2.1 Cultural Policies and Measures

Promotion of Art

In the area of the institutional promotion of professional art and library culture, the Ministry ensures the performance of state administration in compliance with the generally binding legal regulations and international conventions in the sector of art and participates in creating conditions for the development and presentation of culture in all areas of professional art and library culture.

- a) Currently, 14 organizations in the area of professional art and library culture are fully funded from and receive contributions from the State Budget in the competence of the Ministry as promoter (theatres, musical ensembles and information-documentation centres with national competence as a rule). They include: *Bibiana* – international house of art for children, the Slovak National Theatre, the *Nová scéna* Theatre, the Košice State Theatre, the Banská Bystrica State Opera House, the Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra, the Košice State Philharmonic Orchestra, the Žilina State Chamber Orchestra, the Theatre Institute, the Literary Information Centre, the Musical Centre, the Slovak Centre of Design, the *Lúčnica* art ensemble and the *Slovenský ľudový umelecký kolektív (SĽUK)* (Slovak Folk Art Ensemble). Each of the aforementioned institutions has its specific professional mission and at the same time provides cultural services to a wide circle of interested parties regardless of age, social status, political affiliation and faith, and including disadvantaged groups of the population (elderly citizens, children and youth, the disabled).
- b) The aforementioned institutions in the field of art were founded pursuant to Act No. 523/2004 Coll. on the State Administration Budget Rules and on amendments and supplements to certain Acts as amended; some were founded directly by the law (for example Act No. 385/1997 Coll. Act on the Slovak National Theatre; Act No. 114/2000 Coll. Act on the Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra). Each conducts its activities in compliance with its deed of incorporation within the intentions of the law. Their financing is ensured in the form of contracts between the individual organizations and the Ministry which monitors the drawing of funds from the state budget.
- c) Continuous care for the development of all the areas of professional art at the qualitative and quantitative levels was the challenge in introducing the measure.
- d) The 20 to 90 years of existence of the institutions mentioned above continuously operating in the area of professional art and library culture is the measuring stick of the effectiveness of their operations.

The system of subsidies of the Ministry is one of the key means for promoting contemporary art for non-government and non-state organizations operating in various areas of professional art.

- a) In its Art Subsidy Programme in terms of the production and dissemination of works of art and their reflections and educational programme in culture, the Ministry supports projects in the sphere of professional art aimed at the public presentation or publication of art reflections, the publishing of periodical and non-periodical publications, theatre and musical productions and presentations, the implementation and public presentation of works of visual art, the release of audio and visual recordings, the implementation of cultural events, festivals, competitions and similar activities of national significance and the payment of membership fees in international organizations for applicants conducting their activities in the area of culture, as well as for the internal development of individual areas of culture and education through culture and art. The Ministry provides subsidies for these purposes within the following sub-programmes: Theatre and dance (professional cultural activities), Music

(professional cultural activities), Fine art, applied art, photography, design, architecture (professional cultural activities), Inter-sector professional cultural activities (events that are the summary of activities of several types of art) and Literature and book culture.

b) The subsidy system was introduced through the modification of internal managing acts approved by the Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic (Decree No. MK-3026/2008-10/11619 of the Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic of 26 August 2008 on the Provision of Subsidies within the Ministry Competence). Since 2011, the Ministry provides subsidies pursuant to Act No. 434/2010 on the Provision of Subsidies within the Ministry Competence which regulates the purpose, extent, method and conditions for the provision of these subsidies.

c) The qualitative growth of professional art in all its areas and the sustainability of art life at the national and international levels constitutes the challenge in introducing the measure.

d) The measurable indicator of effect is the support of projects in the area of professional art expressed in figures. In 2008, at total of 1,180 projects were supported within the framework of the Art Programme in the total sum of 4,148,011 € in 2009, a total of 1,490 projects were supported in the total sum of 4,683,090 € in 2010, a total of 855 projects were supported in the total sum of 4,483,275 € and in 2011, a total of 796 projects in the total sum of 4,319,800 € were supported.

Audiovisual Fund

The Audiovisual Fund (hereinafter referred to as the “Fund”) as a public institution for promotion and development of audiovisual culture and industry, was founded through Act No. 516/2008 Coll. and entered into effect on 1 January 2009 in terms of the Slovak Republic. The Fund replaced the Audio-Vision Programme from the Ministry subsidy system through which the promotion of audiovisual creation was promoted until the end of 2009. The council, the supervisory commission and the director are the organs of the Fund. The elementary principle of financing of the Fund lies in multi-resource financing. The contributors to the Fund are the state, whose contribution from the state budget may not be lower than the total sum of the contributions from the other contributors for the given calendar year, broadcasters based on the law (5% of the overall revenues from commercials and teleshopping), broadcasters based on the license (2% of the total revenues from commercials and teleshopping), cinema operators (0.03 € for each ticket sold), retransmission operators (1% of total revenues from the provision of retransmission) and distributors of audiovisual works (1% of total revenues for distribution of audiovisual works on the territory of the Slovak Republic except for the revenues for audiovisual performance). The Fund may provide funds to independent audio-visual producers and to the producers of Slovak audiovisual works, authors and co-authors of Slovak audiovisual works and distributors of audiovisual works, persons involved in the renovation and development of the technological basis for the production of audiovisual works and their public presentation on the territory of the Slovak Republic, to persons involved in the promotion and support of the dissemination of audiovisual works, to natural persons involved in the development of education and professional research in the area of audiovisual culture and film art, as well as the operators of audiovisual technical facility on the territory of the Slovak Republic for the renovation and development of the technological basis of these facilities.

a) The main objective behind the establishment of this Fund was to enhance the promotion of audiovisual creation and the audiovisual industry, as well as the introduction of multi-resource financing for this promotion. The Fund provides funds for the development, preparation of implementation and production of Slovak audiovisual works (feature, documentary and animated) but also for the distribution of Slovak audiovisual works, the implementation and distribution and co-production cinematographic works in which a Slovak producer has the co-

production share for festivals, the presentation and promotion of Slovak audiovisual works, the dissemination of periodical publications and non-periodical publications from the field of audio-vision and cinematography and for the development of technologies, education and professional research in the area of audio-vision and film art. Act No. 516/2008 Coll. was introduced to the general public in 2008.

b) Bill No. 516/2008 Coll. was prepared by the Ministry and entered into effect on 1 January 2009. A total of 149,370 € were provided from the state budget in 2009 for establishing the Fund and its organs and for ensuring the activities necessary for its functioning.

c) The main challenge was to preserve and increase the promotion of audiovisual creation in Slovakia. Up to 2009, state support for audiovisual creation comprised approximately 15 % of the overall finances necessary for development and production of audiovisual works and other related activities. In 2007, within the Ministry subsidy system in the Audio-Vision programme, only 121 of 315 applications were supported and less than 117 million Slovak crowns were allocated from the total requested amount of 713 million SKK. From the long-term perspective, the constant drop in the total volume of funds invested in audiovisual culture and industry led to an annual decrease in the number of Slovak audiovisual productions – featured, documentary and animated.

d) In 2010, the Fund provided 6,907,530 € in total for promotional activities, of which the contribution from the state comprised 4.5 mil. € Increasing the total volume of funds for promoting audio-vision projects is a positive outcome of the Fund's activities. As opposed to the annual average in the previous subsidy system of the Ministry (approximately 4.5 mil. €) the total available sum grew by approximately 2.5 million € what is an increase of more than 55%; this is particularly the result of collecting contributions from individual contributors designated by the law (see table Audio-vision). In 2010, the Fund acquired approximately 97% of anticipated amount of the sum of contributions from the contributors and the approach of the majority of contributors to their new legal duty is positive and responsible. Thanks to the higher volume of resources available in 2010, the Fund could support more projects than the previous subsidy system and 265 supported applications means the growth of support by more than 130%.

The producers of audiovisual works may also request support for the development and production of documentary audiovisual works whose content is oriented on issues of minorities and disadvantaged groups, which in 2010 was among the priorities of the Fund's promotional activities.

Amendments to Acts regulating the mission, main tasks and activities of public-service broadcasters, introduction of the institute of the agreement with the state

Through Act No. 312/2009 Coll. on Certain measures related to Slovak Radio and Slovak Television, the revenues of the public-service broadcasters (Slovak Radio and Slovak Television) originated from transfers from the state budget designated for covering expenditures for ensuring the broadcasting abroad, transfers for the implementation of certain programmes in the public interest and capital transfers from the state budget designated for implementing purposeful investment projects paid by contributions from the state budget based on an agreement with the state and designated for implementing the programmes in the public interest, for implementing purposeful investment projects or for covering expenditures for ensuring broadcasting abroad. In relation to the plurality of information and cultural diversity, the introduction of the institute of agreement with the state for the area of public-service broadcasting ensured the promotion of the production of such programmes which in most cases do not constitute a subject of interest for the commercial sector. The agreement between the state and the public-service broadcaster is concluded for a period of five years and designates the underlying structure of riders to this agreement which are concluded for

the relevant calendar year of the agreement's period of validity. The concept of the promotion of public-service broadcasting through the agreement with the state was introduced in 2008.

a) The aims of introducing the institute of the agreement with the state for the area of public-service broadcasting which ensures a specific type of broadcasting that is irreplaceable in the domestic and international context, and with regard to the legal requirements for this type of broadcasting and long-term insufficient financial arrangements were to make the drawing of public finances more efficient, to make the processes of handling these resources more transparent and particularly to promote the production of new programmes in the public interest.

b) The bill that regulated the financing of public-service broadcasting and introduced the institute of the agreement with the state was prepared by the Ministry and entered into the effect in 2009; the contribution from the state was provided for the first time in 2010. No funds needed to be allocated for the introduction of this measure.

c) Resolving the long-term insufficient financing of public-service broadcasting in terms of the Slovak Republic was the main challenge.

d) Based on the agreement with the state, 12.5 million € were provided to Slovak Television in 2010 for the implementation of the established proportion of the programme commitment (for the production of programmes in the public interest) and 4.5 mil. € were provided to Slovak Radio, of which 2.5 mil. € were earmarked for the production of programmes in the public interest and 2 mil. € were earmarked for ensuring broadcasting abroad. In 2011, a total of 14 million € were provided to the public-service broadcaster (already Radio and Television of Slovakia) based on the agreement with the state.

Creative Industry

In 2011, the Ministry submitted to the session of the Slovak Government the Baselines for the Concept for the Promotion of the Cultural and Creative Industry in the SR.

Pursuant to the resolution of the European Parliament of 12 May 2011 on Unlocking the Potential of Cultural and Creative Industries, these industries in the EU provide 5 million jobs and comprise 2.6% of its GDP. The cultural and creative industry is one of the driving forces of growth in the EU; it creates new jobs, plays a key role within the framework of global value chains and instigates innovations, brings added value as an element of social coherence and serves as an effective instrument in combating the current recession.

a) The Baselines summarise the issues of creative economics and the creative industry and map examples of the positive effect of the creative industry on the economies of countries that supported its growth; they point out the potential of creative economics in the future, name the tools for the promotion of the creative industry and the development of creative economics in terms of the Slovak Republic and propose the steps which must be taken at the state administration to ensure increased growth, development and positive effects on the economy and society in this sector.

b) The creative industry and creative economics in particular are beyond the agenda of the Ministry. Based on experience from abroad, the operative cooperation of the affected ministries and in the area of the executive attributing of priorities at the Slovak Government level are necessary for the development of creative economics. Therefore, the institutionalization of cooperation of the affected organs by the establishment of a permanent joint coordination organ composed of representatives of the Ministry of Economy of the SR, the Ministry of Finance of the SR and the Ministry of Culture of the SR, as well as other subjects of the public and private sector operating in the field of creative industry is a suitable solution.

The Ministry allocated 10,000 € for the elaboration of the material entitled, Baselines for the Concept for the Promotion of the Cultural and Creative Industry in the SR.

- c) Problems for the creative industry include the lack of information of affected subjects regarding issues of intellectual ownership rights, its imperfect application in civil and business relations, the failure to apply the instruments for enforceability provided by Directive No. 48/2004 of the European Parliament and the Council on Enforceability of Intellectual Ownership Rights, as well as overall length of court proceedings. Therefore it is necessary to popularize the creative industry as such, to enhance consumer awareness of the significance of supporting innovation and the demand for products with added value and on intellectual ownership rights and the relations arising from them.
- d) The Concept for the Promotion of the Cultural and Creative Industry in the SR shall be elaborated in 2012 according to these baselines.

Concept of Support for Traditional Folk Culture

The concept was elaborated particularly as the implementation of the UNESCO Convention for Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003) however to a great extent its implementation fulfils the recommendations and main objectives of the Convention.

- a) The main objective of the Convention is to enhance the safeguarding and care for the intangible cultural heritage of the SR and to preserve it in its entire diversity for future generations. The Concept was approved in 2007.
- b) The Ministry is responsible for introduction of this measure and since 2008 it has been the independent workplace of the Coordination Centre of Traditional Folk Culture which is delegated by the implementation of individual tasks. In 2008, the Ministry allocated 33,140 € in 2009 it allocated 135,779 € in 2010 it allocated 150,263 € and in 2011 it allocated 54,000 € for their implementation.
- c) The question of resolving the functioning of the workplace fulfilling the tasks, its staffing, financial and material equipment as well as the form of cooperation with the affected subjects remain the main challenge in introducing this measure.
- d) Based on the adopted measure, the protection and care for traditional folk culture in the SR was enhanced. Since 2008, numerous activities have been implemented in the area of the publication of support materials, the creation of a database and an electronic encyclopaedia, the implementation of international cooperation, the design of the Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Slovakia, etc. The fulfilment of tasks is elaborated in the Evaluation Report on the Implementation of the tasks arising from the Concept of Safeguarding of Traditional Folk Culture, which was noted by the Slovak Government at its session on 3 February 2010.

Establishing a Specialized Museum of Folk Arts and Crafts

- a) The main objective of this measure is to enhance safeguarding and care for the network of traditional crafts and folk art production in Slovakia. The roles of the museum include the continuous processing of museum documentation, the digitalizing of its own collections and traditional folk methods of production, the preparation of a permanent exposition of folk art production in Bratislava and the establishment of in-situ expositions by reconstructing preserved craft workshops.
- The Museum of Folk Arts and Crafts – an open depository of the Centre for Folk Art Production was established on 1 January 2009.
- b) The founding of the museum was approved by the Ministry and the Centre for Folk Art Production is the responsible organization. The Ministry allocated funds in the amount of 131,359 € for the building of the museum depository and they were drawn in 2010 and 2011.
- c) To date, no challenges were identified in the implementation of this measure.
- d) The measure improved the performance of the state administration and care for the area of traditional crafts and folk art production in Slovakia. By the end of 2011, the museum's collection fund included 10,313 items registered in the central national system for registering

museum and gallery objects (CEMUZ). The exhibits are protected by an automatic safeguarding and fire protection system and a system for the surveillance of persons and objects in the depository. Technical and organizational preconditions were created for the gradual digitalization of museum collections in the upcoming years and thus also for broadening knowledge about folk art production among the parties interested in carrying out these creative activities in the future.

Promotion of the Cultures of National Minorities

There are thirteen national minorities living on the territory of the SR: Bulgarian, Czech, Croatian, Hungarian, Moravian, German, Polish, Roma, Ruthenian, Russian, Serbian, Ukrainian and Jewish. The cultures of all national minorities living on the territory of Slovakia represent part of the tangible and intangible cultural wealth of the Slovak Republic and this is how Slovakia approaches the promotion and presentation of these cultures at home and abroad. The subsidy programme is one of the instruments for the promotion of the cultures of national minorities.

a) The aims of the subsidy programme are the promotion of cultural activities and periodical and non-periodical publishing. The following are among the cultural activities: presenting the cultures of national minorities, supporting the activities of 4 professional national theatres and 8 national museums, promoting the activities of civil societies developing the culture of all 13 national minorities, promoting the activities of the professional Hungarian folk ensemble Young Hearts– Ifjú Szivek, promoting the activities of regional cultural centres and public libraries and promoting the public-service broadcasting of programmes in the languages of national minorities– Radio and Television of Slovakia.

b) Up to 2010, the subsidy programme for the promotion of the culture of national minorities was in the competence of the Ministry. Now it is in the competence of the Deputy Prime Minister for Human Rights and National Minorities. 15 grant commissions operate in the subsidy programme and each commission takes care of the applications of one national minority; two commissions were established for the Hungarian minority. The members of these commissions are members of national minorities and representatives of the Government Office of the SR. As advisory organs, the commissions professionally assess all of the applications for subsidies of the relevant national minority and propose the amount of the financial subsidy. 3,287,061 € were allocated for the subsidy programme Culture of National Minorities in 2008; in 2009 it was 3,463,273 €, in 2010 it was 3,485,362 € and in 2011 it was 3,934,270 €

c) Statistics from 2011 showed the need to increase the volume of funds for the promotion of the culture of national minorities. 4.5 million euro (500,000 € more than in 2011) are allocated from the state budget for 2012.

d) Based on this measure, activities in the areas of theatre, dance, music, literature, fine arts, education, culture and publishing of national minorities were supported and contribute to the strengthening of national culture and identity and to the development of the multicultural understanding of society. The project brings a synergic effect to this area of culture and its outcome is the creation, preservation and development of permanent cultural values and special attention to projects with activities for children and youth.

Promotion of the Cultures of Disadvantaged Groups of the Population

In 2004, within the framework of its subsidy system, the Ministry created the subsidy programme Culture of Disadvantage Groups of the Population to promote the access of culture for vulnerable groups and to promote the equality of opportunities and prevent discrimination and all forms of violence. The subjects ensuring care for the development of the cultural needs of disadvantaged groups (the disabled, the elderly, vulnerable groups of

children and youth, the homeless, migrants, marginalized Roma communities, women, etc.) can apply for support within the framework of the subsidy programme.

a) The programme aims at strengthening the equality of opportunities in the area of culture for disadvantaged groups of the population and eliminating material and mental barriers, prejudices and stereotypes in the access to cultural values, to create conditions for the propagation and presentation of the specific cultures of the disadvantaged. The subsidy programme has operated since 2004, and in 2009 the funds allocated through this programme were markedly increased.

b) In 2009, the funds were increased through the measure by approximately 104,000 € which presents a nearly 50% growth in support. The Ministry is responsible for implementing this measure.

c) Challenges for introducing this measure stemmed from the need for more systematic and permanent support and extension of human rights regarding the cultures of disadvantaged groups of the population, the introduction of temporary compensatory measures, particularly the need for the better accessibility of culture for disadvantaged groups of the population (such as extending the possibilities for free or discount entry fees for all vulnerable groups, implementation of creative workshops, model projects, etc.) the need to train employees from the culture sector in the issues of human rights in culture (information on the life and problems of vulnerable groups, physical and mental barriers to access to culture) as well as the need to create conditions for access to cultural values and creative self—fulfilment (model projects).

d) The effect of this measure was the increase in the number of applications for financial support within the framework of the subsidy programme and the increase in the number of supported applications. In 2007, a total of 47 projects were supported in the total amount of 198,067 € in 2008, a total of 54 projects were supported in the sum of 198,067 € in 2009, a total of 88 projects were supported in the sum of 302,245 € in 2010, a total of 89 projects were supported in the sum of 307,350 € and in 2011, a total of 83 projects were supported in the sum of 298,500 €. The sum of 375,000 € is budgeted for 2012.

Cultural Rights – Access to Culture

The Ministry implements the activities and projects aimed at promoting the access of people to culture through institutional and financial support. The Ministry established a subsidy programme entitled, Cultural Vouchers to support the access of young people to culture and art. This programme is designated for pupils and teachers of elementary and secondary schools. Cultural vouchers subsidized by the state enable admission to theatres, museums, galleries, libraries and other cultural institutions that conduct cultural events for children and youth.

a) The main objective of this measure in the area of institutional promotion is to create an open democratic platform enabling access to culture for all interested parties. The objectives of the Cultural Vouchers subsidy programme is to promote the relationship of children, youth and their teachers to cultural values, to mobilize the participation of cultural institutions in the education and upbringing of youth, to promote competition among cultural institutions with the aim to enhance the quality of their activities, to promote the fact that state subsidies provided to cultural institutions are directed properly and clearly, based on the real interest of citizens in their services, to create a survey of the interest of children and youth in culture and to monitor the attendance of cultural institutions by this age category.

b) In the area of institutional promotion, the measure was introduced through organizations within the promoter's competence of the Ministry. The Cultural Vouchers subsidy programme is part of the Ministry's subsidy system. In 2008, a total of 53,562,000 SKK were provided for cultural vouchers; in 2009, a total of 2,391,510 € was provided; in 2010, a total of

2,760,669 € was provided and in 2011, a total of 3,083,846 € The sum of 2,860,000 € is budgeted for this programme for 2012.

c) Designing material whose aim was to map the current forms of provision of discounts and advantageous admission fees for cultural events aiming at enhancing the accessibility of culture was a challenge in the area of cultural rights and promoting access to culture. This material was elaborated by the Ministry in 2011.

d) Organizations within the promoter's competence of the Ministry continuously evaluate the impacts of the introduced measure. Representative examples were selected with a special consideration of the cultural rights of young people.

The National Centre of Public Education and Culture (NOC) evaluates amateur artistic activities. The number of ensembles whose members are between the ages of 15 - 26 slightly dropped recently in the field of theatre (drama, musical, puppet, performing, dance, theatre of poetry and pantomime) and artistic reading from 201 to 193; the number of ensemble members decreased from 2,509 to 2,054 and the number of activities implemented dropped from 5,655 to 4,690.

The Slovak National Gallery (SNG) conducts an annual evaluation of attendance at its activities. The outcomes show that the accompanying events are an increasingly significant indicator of attendance. In 2010, such attendance was more than 12,000, which comprises almost 30% of the overall attendance of gallery. As a result, in 2011 the SNG established the department of gallery pedagogy in order to work more effectively on the educational level of the audience. It also included new events in its programme (such as the gallery bus) which are directly aimed at reducing barriers to access to the SNG and at working in wider geographical scale.

The events of the Slovak National Library in Martin (SNL) also have a sustainable nature along with inspiring international confrontation. The 13 literary competitions and the existence of 15 literary clubs are the outcome of projects organized or co-organized by the public libraries in 2010 and 2011.

The Matej Hrebenda Slovak Library for the Blind (SKB) in Levoča publishes 17 periodicals for the blind; the magazine *Mladosť (Youth)*, which caters to young readers is among them. It serves as a forum for their contributions. The Magazines *Kultúrno - literárny výber* (Cultural-literary Review) represents another space for cultivating the intellectual needs of young people and from 2011, Literárna dielňa (Literary Workshop) offers space for young people to publish their literary works.

The Centre for Folk Art Production (ÚĽUV) annually extends its activities aimed at the young generation. It regularly holds two public competitions with the theme of folk art production, it cooperates with the secondary School of Applied Fine Arts in Ružomberok and encourages young designers to cooperate in producing an assortment of products with the ÚĽUV brand.

In the area of financial support, the Ministry also contributes to the events aimed at supporting the access of marginalized groups to culture, such as events for migrant children, children from orphanages and young people with mental disorders. The Ministry contributed to eliminating barriers in accessibility of culture and deepening the cultural rights for marginalized Roma communities by supporting events in the area of culture, education, amateur leisure time activities aimed at the development and awareness of spiritual, cultural and ethical values and their significance in life and motivating positive thinking and involvement in the process of creating cultural values.

Cooperation with Churches and Religious Communities

Pursuant to the UNESCO definition (preamble of UNESCO's Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity of 2001) the Slovak Republic considers culture as a system of characteristically spiritual, material, intellectual and emotional features of society or social groups which together with art and literature also incorporate the lifestyle, manners of co-existence, value systems, traditions and beliefs.

The Ministry is a central state administration organ in the matters of churches and religious societies; however it is not superior organ of the aforementioned subjects and it does not interfere with their internal affairs or guide their activities methodologically. The Ministry bases this approach on its acknowledgement of their social and legal status as public-service institutions *sui generis*. However it cooperates with them and supports dialogue among them.

a) The aim of this measure is to ensure the intensification of cultural exchanges in favour of mutually respectful cultures, to support dialogue and stimulate inter-culturalism for the development of cultural interaction. Churches and religious societies organize public educational and cultural or charity activities on their own which also leads to the fulfilment of the objectives and principles of the Convention. They have created societies of the solidarity and benevolence of people of various opinions and societies. They carry out care for each person regardless their views or nationality, assist people in need and create conditions for the development of human dignity and one's own cultural and religious heritage.

b) The Ministry is the central state administrative organ in matters of churches and religious societies. The issues regarding the financial relations of the state and churches are regulated by Act No. 218/1949 (Digest) on State Economic Support for Churches and Religious Societies in the wording of Act No. 16/1990 (Digest) which abolished the state supervision over churches in the wording of Act No. 522/1992 (Digest) and Act No. 467/2005 Coll. The state provides direct subsidies through the budget chapter of the Ministry to finance salaries and contributions for the clergy of all eighteen registered churches and religious societies and contributions to operating expenses of church headquarters (episcopates). In 2008, funds in the amount of 33,931,089 € were provided from the state budget; in 2009, they amounted to 37,191,961 € in 2010, they amounted to 37,480,512 € and in 2011, they amounted to 37,461,769 €

d) Within the framework of cooperation with registered churches and religious societies, a dialogue began on the systematic and lifelong learning of representatives of churches and religious societies which is one of the forms of support and respect for the diversity of cultures.

2008 European Year of Multicultural Dialogue

Europe has become the space with a growingly diverse culture. The expansion of the European Union (hereinafter referred to as the "EU"), the deregulation of employment and free movement of labour, as well as globalization has transformed the character of many European states – countries with one nation, the same history and a unified culture, habits and traditions become multicultural states that are characterized by several languages, religions and ethnic and national groups. All of this results in the fact that more diverse cultural communities can be found on the old continent than at any time in its history.

a) The aim of the European Year of Multicultural Dialogue (EYMD) which ran from January to December 2008, was to show that huge diversity can be an advantage if we can manage it on a highly civilized level. Activities which inspired Europeans to the joint use of cultural heritage and to learn and draw from various cultural traditions were implemented throughout the year. The aim of these activities as well as the activities of the EYMD partners was to mobilize EU citizens. The involvement of the civil society in their implementation was the basis of the activities.

b) The Ministry was the responsible coordinator of activities; it ensured the promotion and propagation of activities in the form of conferences and many accompanying events – proceedings, information fliers, concerts, websites, etc. The Ministry contributed approximately 3,230 € for the financing of the international conference in Bratislava entitled “*Rozmanitosť spája – medzikultúrny dialóg*”/Diversity Unites – Intercultural Dialogue.

c) The challenge is to achieve the long-term sustainability of activities and their permanent effect on improving relations among nations, ethnic groups and religions and other cultural communities within the EU.

d) The effect and success of the EYMD were achieved not only at pan-European events, but also thanks to activities that were held at the national level in cooperation with non-governmental organizations, institutions and self-governments. More information regarding this activities can be found at the website <http://www.medzikulturnydialog.gov.sk/index>.

In the words of Ján Figel', the Slovak Euro Commissioner at that time, responsible for education, vocational training, culture and youth, the building of a multicultural society is the European challenge of the 21st century: “We want a society in which people of various cultures will simply live next to each other. We must give an impulse for the transformation of our societies to ensure the creation of a multicultural Europe which will enrich us and respect the human dignity of each individual.”

2.2 International Cooperation

Mobility of Artists and Cultural Professionals

The subsidy sub-programme entitled Mobility of Artists and Cultural Professionals, international cooperation in the area of culture of the Ministry subsidy programme entitled Pro Slovakia, is aimed at promoting the mobility of artists and cultural workers and the development of bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the area of culture.

a) The main objectives of this subsidy sub-programme is to promote the direct and dynamic exchange of opinions and experience at the international level and to contribute to developing creativity in the area of art and culture. Another intent is the support of intercultural dialogue through reciprocal art projects and activities conducted at home and abroad.

b) This measure is part of the subsidy system of the Ministry which is responsible for its management.

In 2008, at total of 31 applications were supported in the total sum of 81,723 € in 2009, a total of 16 applications were supported in the sum of 58,000 € in 2010, a total of 68 applications were supported in the sum of 207,188 € and in 2011, a total of 73 applications were supported in the sum of 193,106 €

c) The challenge in introducing this measure was to increase the number of supported applications by increasing funds which was manifested in past two years.

d) The outcome of this measure was the support of the mobility of artists and their presentation within international cultural cooperation, the involvement of artists in international networks, creative and residential stays, their participation in creative workshops, symposiums and seminars and the enhancement of intercultural competences and skills of artists and professionals, the development of international cooperation in the area of culture and the creation and intermediation of international partnerships and networks in the area of culture. The projects were implemented in the areas of theatre and dance, music, fine art and design, architecture, photography, literature, folklore, and multimedia. Artists and cultural professionals were also sent to developing countries within the framework of the project's implementation.

Bilateral Cooperation with Developing Countries

From 2008 to 2011, the Ministry administratively and organizationally ensured, coordinated and signed contractual documents (agreements, programmes of cooperation, memoranda of understanding) in the area of culture and art with the following developing countries: Ukraine, Republic of Armenia, Republic of Azerbaijan, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Arab Republic of Syria, the People's Republic of China, Georgia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Republic of Turkey, the Republic of India, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Kenya.

a) The main objective of bilateral contractual documents with developing countries in the area of culture is to create legal frameworks for the support of the mobility of artists and cultural professionals abroad and to provide greater access to the market for the distribution of cultural goods and services. The bilateral contractual documents with the aforementioned countries were signed or implemented between 2008 and 2011.

b) These documents were implemented through organizations in the promoter's competence of the Ministry, Slovak institutes and foreign embassies.

The contractual documents are related to audio-vision and copyrights, cultural heritage, cultural and artistic expressions in all forms and also include exchanges of artists and professionals from these areas. The contractual documents concluded at the level of the Ministry were financed from the budget chapter of the Ministry. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the SR is the administrator of all contractual documents concluded at the level of the Slovak Government.

c) One of the challenges in introducing this measure is the insertion of the reference to the Convention in bilateral contractual documents, particularly with third countries.

d) The Ministry and the organizations in its promoter's competence organized, ensured and financially supported exchanges of artists and cultural professionals by means of which they contributed to facilitating international cooperation with developing countries. Participation at folk festivals, creative workshops of translation and poetry, writers' discussions, literary seminars, international music festivals, international theatre festivals, museum expositions, international film festivals, cultural heritage exhibitions, presentations of disabled artists, exchanges of television programmes, participation in international fine art competitions, book presentations, naïve art exhibitions, music-dance performances, etc. were the outcome of this measure.

Official Development Assistance

The Slovak Republic as an EU and OECD Member State is among the most developed countries. Because of the favourable macro-economical development of the SR in 2008 it graduated from the World Bank operations; in other words, the SR is no longer a beneficiary, but a provider of development assistance. Based on the Medium-term Concept of Official Developing Assistance of the SR for the Period of 2003 – 2008, and within the framework of developing assistance of the SR from 2003, the SR supports bilateral programmes and projects in developing countries and provides trilateral and multilateral assistance and humanitarian aid (Slovak Aid). Since 2004, the SR, as an EU Member State, has participated in financing development activities of the European Commission.

a) Up to 2010, the Ministry partially participated in official development assistance in the area of bilateral programmes and projects aimed at raising the awareness about developing countries pursuant to the criteria of the DAC OECD directive for the provision of development assistance. In the area of multilateral, aid by providing a contribution to the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) in the amount of 3,538 € the Slovak Republic also applied this contribution as Official Development Assistance.

- b) The Ministry implemented the aforementioned bilateral assistance. In 2009, the Ministry contributed 32,500 € to projects in Serbia and Ukraine, and in 2010, it contributed 8,688 € for projects in Serbia and Georgia.
- c) Budgeting funds in the budget chapter of the Ministry for the Official Development Assistance for cultural programmes pursuant to the criteria of DAC OECD valid from 2010 is a challenge.
- d) Naïve and marginal, photographic, literary, folk art by artists from developing countries as well as theatre and film art festivals were supported based on the provided funds.

2.3 Integration of Culture in Sustainable Development Policies

Culture is the driving force and the future of sustainable development. Intellectual vision as well as practical ability to design and put through measures for its implementation are necessary for the future of culture. Culture, education and science constitute three pillars on which only the sustainable – also economic – development of society can be built. These three supra-structure pillars however must stand on firm foundations – economic as well, to support the entire “structure”.

EU Structural Funds

Within the Programming Period 2007 - 2013 the SR has the opportunity to use the EU funds based on the document entitled National Strategic Referential Framework of the SR (NSRF SR). The strategic goal for the period of 2007 – 2013 formulated in the NSRF SR is to significantly increase competitiveness and the performance of regions, the Slovak economy and employment by 2013 while respecting sustainable development. The strategy, priorities and goals of the NSRF SR are implemented through 11 operational programmes. The Regional Operational Programme (ROP) and Operational Programme Informatization of Society (OPIS) are among the operational programmes of the NSRF SR in which the Ministry participates.

- a) The main objective of the ROP is to increase the accessibility and quality of the civil infrastructure in the regions. The ROP’s orientation contributes to the stimulation of the internal resources of regions and to developing business activities (small and medium-size enterprises). It also enhances the activity of regions through foreign investments. Co-financing from structural funds within the ROP covers the entire territory of Slovakia with the exception of the Bratislava region. Within the framework of ROP 2007 – 2013, , Priority Axis 3: “Strengthening the Cultural Potential of the Regions and the Tourism Infrastructure” (ROP PA3) and Priority Axis 7: “The European Capital of Culture – Košice 2013” (ROP PA7) pertain to the cultural policies and measures which are implemented through the Ministry.

ROP PA3 contains Measure 3.1: Strengthening the Cultural Potential of the Regions.

The main objective of Measure 3.1 is to increase the quality of services provided by memory and heritage fund institutions (gallery, libraries, museums) at the local and regional levels through their reconstruction, extension and modernization, including the procurement of their equipment and the revitalization of significant monument structures in relation to the preservation of the cultural heritage and its use in cultural and sightseeing tourism.

ROP PA7 contains measure 7.1: European Capital of Culture – Košice 2013.

The main objective of Measure 7.1 is to create the conditions for increasing the number and quality of services in the area of culture in the city of Košice and its surroundings through reconstruction, completion and modernization of the cultural infrastructure and the strengthening of public space infrastructure in connection with the implementation of the project entitled European Capital of Culture – Košice 2013.

Measures 3.1 and 7.1 were introduced within the ROP, which is a part of the NSRF SR for the Period of 2007 - 2013. The NSRF SR was elaborated in compliance with the EU regulations regarding the structural funds and the Cohesion Fund. It was approved by the Slovak Government on 6 December 2006 and by the European Commission on 17 August 2007.

b) Measure 3.1 was introduced through calls for the submission of applications for non-repayable financial contributions.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the SR, which is the Managing Authority of the ROP and the provider of the non-repayable financial contribution (NFC) is responsible for introduction of the measure in question. The Ministry is the final recipient of the NFC. Individual projects within the measure are based on authorization implemented through the organizations under the Ministry's competence as promoter (the Slovak National Museum, the Slovak National Uprising Museum, the Slovak Technical Museum, the Centre for Folk Art Production).

11,683,958 € of the NFC was approved within the implemented calls ROP-3.1a-2009/01 and ROP-3.1b-2009/02).

In the case of Measure 7.1, the Managing Authority for ROP authorized the Ministry of the Intermediary Body under Managing Authority (IBMA) to perform implementation tasks. 60,000,000 € of the NFC was allocated. The City of Košice, the Košice upper-tier territorial unit and the Ministry are the eligible recipients. Upon their approval, the Ministry projects shall be implemented through the organizations within its competence as promoter – the Slovak Technical Museum, the Košice State Scientific Library and the Košice State Theatre.

c) The introduction of Measure 3.1 should result in an increase in the number of technologically appreciated memory and heritage fund institutions – galleries, libraries, museums, revitalized intangible cultural monuments, new and quality services at the local and regional levels and newly created jobs.

The introduction of Measure 7.1 in the City of Košice should result in the building of new cultural centres, the reconstruction and revitalization of selected immovable cultural monuments, the reconstruction and revitalization of selected memory and heritage funds institutions, the strengthening of the infrastructure of public spaces and an increase in the number of new and quality services provided in culture in connection with the implementation of the European Capital of Culture – Košice 2013 project.

d) Since the 2007 – 2013 Programming period is still in progress and the projects of the Ministry within Measures 3.1 and 7.1 are not yet implemented, it is impossible to indicate the effect or impact of these measures.

2.4 Protecting Cultural Expressions under Threat

Monument Fund Preservation Concept

The most significant cultural monuments were identified and a number of cultural monuments under threat or cultural monuments damaged or neglected were quantified within the framework of the Monuments Funds Preservation Concept.

a) This measure aims at creating the preconditions for eliminating the negative effects causing the damage or destruction of cultural monuments. The identification of actual threats in relation to cultural monuments or other parts of cultural heritage, such as archaeological cultural heritage (archaeological findings and sites) as well as alternative proposals for addressing these threats form part of this concept.

The concept was approved by Resolution No. 813 of 14 December 2011 of the Slovak Government.

b) This measure is part of the aforementioned concept. The Ministry is responsible for its implementing; i.e., the state administration at the first and second levels is carried out by the Monument Board of the Slovak Republic or the regional monument boards. State administration organs implement measures continuously or as necessary within the framework of the approved resources from the state budget.

c) The following legislative barriers were identified in implementing this measure – insufficient competences in performing the state administration, low enforceability of the law, discrepancies between the requirements for monument fund preservation and the possibilities of financial support of the Ministry subsidy system, neglected regular maintenance of cultural monuments, “cultural crime” and illegal merchandizing of cultural heritage.

d) Because of the date of adopting the concept, the effect or impact of this measure can not be stated in concrete terms. At the general level, we anticipate the improvement of the status of at least some cultural monuments. The indicators will also include the change of the ratio of monuments in good – satisfactory – damaged - neglected state or the number of monuments under renovation. The data are collected annually and statistically processed by the Monument Board of the Slovak Republic.

3. Outreach and Engagement of the Civil Society

3.1. What Parties Are Doing

The Slovak Republic acknowledges the fundamental role of the civil society in protecting and promoting the diversity of cultural expressions and encourages their active participation in activities designated to achieve the objectives of the Convention.

European Seminar regarding the Convention for the Protection and Promotion of Diversity in Cultural Expressions

On 26 August 2006, the European seminar regarding the Convention for the Protection and Promotion of Diversity in Cultural Expressions was held in Bratislava. It was organized by the Slovak Commission for UNESCO at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the SR in Cooperation with the Slovak Coalition for Cultural Diversity. The seminar was held with the financial support of the UNESCO regional office in Venice and the UNESCO Division for Cultural Policies and Dialogue among Cultures in Paris.

a) The objective of this seminar was to support the ratification process of the Convention and to initiate discussion regarding the modalities of its implementation.

b) More than 150 participants from 26 countries participated in this seminar which represented not only international and national institutions, but also the civil society and thus created a true professional network. Their participation in this seminar confirmed that an adequate place is designated for the civil society and particularly for artists, creators of art and other professionals in culture, whose involvement in favour of the diversity of cultural expressions is crucial.

c) The organizing of an European seminar in the implementation phase of the Convention by the European countries with the motto: “From ratification to implementation” is the challenge. An international seminar should reflect the statement contained in the introduction to the UNESCO World Report on Cultural Diversity of 2009 that the issues related to cultural diversity reached the point where the notion itself does not have an exact meaning and became more than concept, only a vague idea that can only be grasped with difficulty. Therefore, the seminar should be the presentation of good examples and challenges which in the cultural policies of the countries contribute to the protection and promotion of diversity in cultural manifestations and which are contained in periodic reports.

d) This seminar contributed to the awareness that the difference and diversity of cultures presents unique wealth and by its protection and promotion we also contribute to mutual respect and tolerance. Improving one's own cultural existence and the will to contribute to common values is not only a right and option for every developed cultural state, but also a moral imperative for all.

Speeches and presentations of participants are collected in the proceedings published by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the SR with the financial support from the UNESCO Regional Office in Venice.

Intellectual Ownership

In 2011, a private member's Bill was submitted in the National Council of the Slovak Republic based on the initiative of the Society for Open Information Technologies (SOIT) which amends and supplements Act No. 618/2003 Coll. on Copyright and Rights Related to Copyrights (the Copyright Act) as amended related to the issues of so called public licenses (Creative Commons, GNU, GPL, BSD and EUPL).

a) Passing this Bill shall enable the use of so-called public licenses and the conclusion of license contracts in an on-line environment and through specific procedures such as click-wrap, shrink-wrap licenses. These are forms and methods used for concluding licenses which are not permitted by the current Slovak legislation because of the obligatory written form which is an exception in comparison with the majority of European legislation, as well as the process of contracting itself. Because of the specific procedures in concluding license contracts in an on-line environment, the condition of the effectiveness of accepting a proposal for concluding a contract and the obligatory written form of license contract are also obstacles. The private member's Bill addresses all of these problematic issues.

b), c), d) Because of the shortened term of the office, the legislative process in the National Council of the SR has not been completed.

3.2. What the Civil Society Is Doing

Note: The representatives of the Slovak Coalition for Cultural Diversity are responsible for selection of facts and for opinions in section 3.2 and in the Annex; their opinions do not have to be identical with the opinions of the Ministry.

The Slovak Coalition for Cultural Diversity (SCCD) was founded with the aim to promote the implementation of the Convention in Slovakia and the introduction of its principles in practice. In Slovakia it currently represents 19 associations of artists across the entire artistic spectrum. The petition with the aim to stop the deterioration of the social status of artists and mobilize the cultural community in 2011 in an effort to effect change in the prepared governmental proposal for tax and contribution reform was one of the most significant activities of the SCCD.

The SCCD, as a representative of artists, has long strived for constructive dialogue with relevant state administration organs, particularly the Ministry of Culture of the SR, but also with the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the SR and the Ministry of Finance of the SR with the aim to address problems in culture which have been accumulating for a long period of time and whose resolution has been constantly postponed.

Although negotiations have taken place sporadically for years at various levels (with the participation of directors of departments and general directors from the Ministry, state secretaries of the Slovak Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, ministers of culture and labour, Slovak parliament deputies, representatives of political parties, twice even with the participation of the Slovak prime minister) their

effectiveness is problematic: there is a lack of continuity and systematic inter-ministerial cooperation, the work returns to square one after every new election.

On the other hand we can state that particularly in the past year, cooperation has intensified, discussions of many issues of artists have taken on a more systematic character; we can also talk about some partial outcomes: accepting of the SCCD as a negotiating partner, representation of the SCCD in the Council of the Minister of Culture for Art (particularly, active participation in preparing the Strategy for the Development of Culture for the Period of 2012 – 2016), in a working group of the Ministry for addressing the financing of culture, improvement of cooperation with the Department for International Cooperation of the Ministry (preparing the agreement on cooperation between the SCCD and the Ministry), passing a new amendment to the Act (distinction between active and inactive revenues – a small step toward the improvement of the social status of artists in the area of contributions), intensive cooperation with the Ministry of Culture in addressing issues related to the founding of the *Danubiana*, Museum of Contemporary Art and in the working group founded with the aim to prepare the establishment of institutions such as *Kunsthalle* (aimed at the presentation of the latest trends of contemporary fine art).

The SCCD is also active within the framework of developing international cooperation. It is a founding member of the European Coalitions for Cultural Diversity (ECCD) and the International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity (IFCCD) which were established with the aim to promote the implementation of the Convention. We continuously participate in their activities. More detailed information regarding involvement of civil society is contained in the Annex 3.2 Outreach and Engagement of Civil Society.

4. Achievements and Challenges to the Implementation of the Convention

Outcomes achieved in introducing the Convention are contained in elaborated measures for the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions in the 1st periodical report. Other challenges and related solutions were also identified in introducing the Convention.

Identified Challenges and Solutions

- to establish a Working group for addressing the status of artists in society or a working sub-group under the Council for Art;
- to comprehensively resolve the legal and social status – statute – of artists in society;
- to take into consideration the specific status of artists in the Act on Collective Bargaining and social and tax Acts;
- to strengthen the bargaining position of authors and performing artists in the Copyright Act;
- to resolve the system of support for original works in Slovakia;
- to include the purchase of artwork among the items which are tax deductible;
- to transform art funds;
- to adopt measures for acquiring other financial resources for the support of artwork;
- to introduce the obligation to use 1 to 2% of the total costs for the purchase of works of art with public structures;
- to ensure the stake of domestic original cultural production in mass media, public-service mass media in particular;
- to establish a Centre of Contemporary Fine Art;
- to introduce the obligation to make decisions regarding the selection of artwork for public buildings and public spaces based on competitions;
- to support the presentation of original domestic works abroad;

- to promote international cooperation in the implementation of the Convention;
- to adopt measures to ensure that foreign audiovisual works, including the works of world cinematography in the Slovak market will also have a Slovak version (title of the work, subtitles, dubbing),
- to continue in the regular participation in sessions of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of Diversity of Cultural Expressions and the Conference of State Parties;
- to continue in the activities of the point of contact that has existed at the Ministry since 2009. Its task is to provide information regarding the Convention in cooperation with the civil society;
- to continue to operate in the panel of experts for the assessment of projects of developing countries supported from the International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD). Marek Adamov, the representative of the SR, was selected as an alternative for the expert panel in the pilot phase for 2010 – 2012;
- to provide voluntary contributions to the IFCD on a regular annual basis. The recommended minimum amount of financial contribution is 1% of the annual contribution of the country in the UNESCO budget, i.e., in case of the SR, it is 3,538 € This contribution can be also included in the Official Development Assistance (ODA) of the SR;
- to promote the inclusion of culture in ODA and to budget funds in the budget chapter of the Ministry for the improvement of the cultural development of the population of developing countries;
- to search for cooperation with the Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation (SAMRS) in the implementation of SR assistance to developing countries;
- to insert the reference to the Convention in bilateral cultural agreements, particularly agreements with third countries;
- to reflect the objectives of the Convention in the prepared concept for the support of cultural and creative industries;
- to include the Convention implementation in the Strategy of the Cultural Policy of the SR;
- to include the Convention implementation in the programme of the Council for Art;
- to consider organizing international events with the aim of exchanging experience with the implementation of the Convention;
- to create synergy in the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions by the active participation of the SR not only in UNESCO, but also in the European Union, Council of Europe, the Visegrad Group, the EUROMED organization and the Anna Lindh Foundation;
- within the framework of intercultural and inter-religious dialogue while taking into consideration the local cultural and religious specifics, to support the balance between preserving cultural identity and social integration;
- within the framework of International Decade for the Rapprochement of Cultures (2013 - 2022) to contribute to harmonious interaction among cultures and people in order to disseminate ideals of peace and non-violence, promote dialogue among religions, preserve cultural diversity and cultivate tolerance.

5. Supporting Information and Data

5.1 Main Sources and Links

5.2 Reporting on Available Statistics

5.2.1 Demographic Context

- a) Population structure (Annex No. 5.2.1 a)
 - Total population (Annex No. 5.2.1 a)
 - Total annual growth rates per 1,000 inhabitants (Annex No. 5.2.1 a)
 - Age structure (Annex Age Structures)
- b) Migration (Annex No. 5.2.1 b)
 - Migration stock as a percentage of the population (Annex No. 5.2.1 b)
 - Emigration (Annex No. 5.2.1 b)
- c) Language and literacy (Annex No. 5.2.1 c)
 - Number of official languages (Annex No. 5.2.1 c)
 - Number of languages spoken (Annex No. 5.2.1 c)
 - Literacy rates (Annex No. 5.2.1 c)

5.2.2 Mobility of Cultural Goods and Services

- a) Total flows of cultural goods and services (Annex Foreign Trade, Annex No. 5.2.2 Film)
 - Total exports of trade cultural goods in € (Annex Foreign Trade, Annex No. 5.2.2 Film)
 - Total imports of trade cultural goods in € (Annex Foreign Trade, Annex No. 5.2.2 Film)
 - Total exports of trade cultural services in € (Annex Foreign Trade, Annex No. 5.2.2 Film)
 - Total imports of trade cultural services in € (Annex Foreign Trade, Annex No. 5.2.2 Film)
- b) Translation flows
 - Total number of published translations – data not available
 - Total number of titles translated and published abroad – data not available

5.2.3 Cultural Production, Distribution

- a) Films (Annex No. 5.2.3)
 - number of national featured films produced/annually (Annex No 5.2.3)
 - % films co-produced (Annex No 5.2.3)
 - % of nationally controlled distribution companies (Annex No 5.2.3)
 - number of cinemas per 1,000 inhabitants (Annex No 5.2.3)
- b) Radio/TV Broadcasting (Annex No 5.2.3 b, Annex Radio/TV Broadcasting in hours)
 - annual television broadcasting time by programme type (in hours) (Annex No 5.2.3 b)

- annual broadcasting times (TV and radio) for programmes related to indigenous and tribal people (in hours)
 - annual broadcasting time (TV and radio) by programme production type (national/foreign, in hours) (Annex Radio/TV Broadcasting in hours)
- c) Books
- number of titles published – data not available
 - number of publishers – data not available
 - number of book shops – data not available
- d) Music (Annex Culture and Religion)

5.2.4 Cultural Consumption/ Participation

- a) Percentage of people attending cultural events such as concerts, live theatre several times a year, broken down by gender and age (if possible) – data not available
- b) Cinema admission in 1,000s (Annex No. 5.2.4 b)
- c) Book sales – data not available
- d) Household equipment (% hab.) (Annex No. 5.2.4 d)
- Number of households with TVs (Annex No. 5.2.4 d)
 - Number of computers per 1,000 inhabitants (Annex No. 5.2.4 d)

5.2.5 Connectivity, Infrastructure, Access

- a) Number of mobile phone subscribers per 1,000 inhabitants (Annex No. 5.2.5 a)
- b) Number of Internet users per 1,000 inhabitants (Annex No. 5.2.5 b)
- c) Internet penetration rate as a % of the population (Annex No. 5.2.5 c)
- d) Number of online newspapers (Annex No. 5.2.5 d)
- e) Number of Internet radio stations (Annex No. 5.2.5 e)
- f) % public radio and television institutions (Annex No. 5.2.5 f)
- g) Number of community radio stations - none

5.2.6 Economy and Finances

- a) Contribution of cultural activities to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in percentage (Annex No. 5.2.6 a)
- b) Percentage of people employed in culture (Annex No. 5.2.6 b)

- c) Public expenditures: government expenditures on culture – chapter of the Ministry:
2008 – 181,781,053 €, 2009 – 196,706,931 €, 2010 – 190,271,102 €, 2011 – 196,792,885 €
- d) Household expenditures on culture and recreation (Annex No. 5.2.6 d)

5.2.7 International Cooperation

- a) Official Development Assistance allocated to culture (estimated percentage of total allocable ODA)
- b) Net receipts (in USD) of Official Development Assistance allocated to culture (estimates) – the SR is not a beneficiary of Official Development Assistance

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