

Region II Eastern Europe

Poland



Association of Folk Artists

NGO accredited to provide advisory services to the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage



Relevant projects or initiatives

- AFA has created national databases of folk creators and rural artistic groups since 1998, which are verified and updated annually. The databases currently contain more than 12,000 records. It fosters knowledge about regional culture, its characteristic products and specific creators.
- AFA organizes the annual Folk Art Fair in Kazimierz Dolny (55th edition in 2022) which takes place during the Festival of Folk Bands and Singers - one of the oldest and most prestigious national festivals presenting contemporary folk culture in Poland. The unique atmosphere enables direct contact and transmission of knowledge and skills between artists and recipients.
- AFA is the only entity in Poland that has been publishing individual authors' volumes and anthologies of folklore since 1976. "The Folk Creativity" ("Twórczość ludowa") is the only Polish nationwide magazine devoted entirely to contemporary folk art and ICH, its challenges, achievements and problems.

NGO's activity networks and more information



Geographic Coverage of NGO's expertise: Poland.

Vision

We believe that by being rooted in our traditions we may embrace and create our present and future in a sustainable way. In order to achieve this we respect, care for, cooperate with and listen to ICH bearers.

Mission

The Association was established in 1968 and since then its core aim has been to safeguard traditions of folk culture in all fields, to promote expressions of folk art, provide care for folk artists and represent them. Thanks to 22 local branches that operate throughout the country, the Association remains as close as possible to the bearers themselves. The Association cooperates with diverse communities, groups and individuals through different ways aimed at raising awareness, the transmission of knowledge and skills in the field of ICH, and folk culture specifically.

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Main areas of work related to the Convention



Organization of workshops, seminars, conferences, concerts, exhibitions, presentations, fairs and dance meetings where all bearers can meet, teach their skills and transmit their knowledge to anyone interested, with a special focus on the young generation.



Dissemination and popularization of the creativity of folk artists at home and abroad.



Administrative and organizational assistance in diverse procedures related to obtaining grants and scholarships by individual creators.



Publication of folk literature and documentation of folk artefacts with the close cooperation of folk artists.



Participation in statutory meetings and preparation of nomination files.

Contact Information

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