



The European Pavilion

Press Release

First open call to curate and host The European Pavilion 2024 met with widespread enthusiasm

Imagining Europe and its future(s) through arts and culture

Inviting cultural organisations to submit an ambitious artistic proposal that contributes to imagining Europe and its future(s), the call to curate and host The European Pavilion 2024 sparked interest all over the continent. The [European Cultural Foundation](#) (ECF) received as many as thirty-nine proposals from organisations based in more than twenty countries.

The single commissioning grant of up to €500,000.00 will be awarded to the most convincing proposal, which will then be implemented over the course of 2024. The selection of the winning bid, to be announced in January 2024, is entrusted to an independent jury of distinguished personalities from arts and culture. ECF expects The European Pavilion to develop into a major European cultural event not to be missed.

Sneak peek into the proposals

As The European Pavilion offers a platform for experimental, versatile and transnational work, the call was open to professionals from all fields of arts and culture. The organisations and collectives that applied are active in the fields of visual and performing arts, music, design, film, cultural heritage and arts education.

Most proposals involve international collaborations and artistic productions, and twenty of them are led by consortia that together represent over thirty countries from all over the continent and beyond, stretching from Turkey to Denmark, from Ukraine to Portugal, and from the Netherlands to Greece.

Topics touched upon in the proposals include: affirming the need to broaden European identity; drawing on its rich diversity without forgetting its shortcomings; reclaiming our future as a space of possibilities and imagining new places of conviviality and resilience; envisioning a paradigm shift that gives impetus to non-hierarchical structures and sustainable lifestyles, and the role of the arts in this.

About the jury

The jury is made up of seven members, each with voting rights, and a non-voting chair. Together, they represent a wide range of cultural backgrounds, expertise and practices.

Their role is to select the recipient of the commissioning grant following a process that entails reading and evaluating the shortlisted proposals and interviewing up to five finalists.

The jury chair is Sepake Angiama, artistic director of the Institute of International Visual Arts in London. The seven members are: Ferran Barenblit (SP), Lorenza Baroncelli (IT), Máté Gáspár (HU), Teja Reba (LI), Hassan Mahamdallie (UK), Françoise Vergès (FR), Olga Wysocka (PL). Read more about them [here](#).



Asked about her expectations, jury chair Sepake Angiama affirms that one of the things she will be looking for is “how the 2024 European Pavilion speaks to a relevance to now

but also to Europe. How will the Pavilion help us to radically reimagine Europe?” Another aspect is to consider what are the audiences that the Pavilion will engage with in terms of cross- or interdisciplinarity. “Culture is powerful,” she adds, “it gives us an opportunity to come together with people who have different ideas and perspectives to have a collective experience.” Read the full interview with Sepake Angiama [here](#).

What is the timeline?

The jury will meet on November 8 to discuss the shortlisted proposals, following an internal preselection. From then onwards, ECF will introduce the 4-5 finalists and present their proposals. In January 2024, ECF will reveal the name of the organisation that will develop and host the European Pavilion 2024.

The European Pavilion

The European Pavilion was initiated by the European Cultural Foundation in 2020 with the ambition to build an arts and culture programme that put the question of Europe and its future(s) at the forefront. It stems from the conviction that we need more cultural spaces that go beyond national remits to explore and imagine what Europe is and what it can or should become.

One of the goals of The European Pavilion is to make Europe more understandable and relatable as a socio-geographical and cultural space that connects us through shared as well as contested sentiments. Through cultural projects and art commissions The European Pavilion offers a rare opportunity to reflect on new and transnational perspectives from a pan-European point of view.

One of the main events that took place since the inception of the Pavilion was a [public programme and series of exhibitions organised in Rome in November 2022](#).

The European Pavilion curatorial call will be reopened in early 2024.

More information?

Find more information about The European Pavilion on the dedicated [site](#). Or on the European Cultural Foundation [site](#).

Euronews [coverage](#) of The European Pavilion in Rome.

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