ALTERNATIVE CULTURE
SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITIES

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SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITIES DURING THE PROJECT

The project aims to strengthen the capacity of NGOs and relevant cultural stakeholders to initiate, promote, implement and monitor public policies adapted to the current cultural context in Romania in order to improve and synchronize it with the European and international cultural environment and to formulate an alternative proposal to the Artist Status in Romania. The first important element the project proposes is a **perception survey**, in the form of an **on-line questionnaire** (https://statutulartistului.ro), designed to support the collection of specific information on the impact and effects of cultural legislation on artists from various cultural sub-domains in Romania. At the same time, the project gathers information and good practices through a **comparative study** of the cultural landscape of five European countries: France, Germany, Denmark, the UK and Slovakia.

The results of the comparative study will also include interviews with cultural operators and artists from the five countries concerned, which will also give an insight into the perception of artists working in these countries, also collecting information on their improvement proposals so that the public policy proposal—the main result of the "Alternative Culture" project— to be synchronized with the European artistic environment.

The **direct interaction with the Romanian artists** will be realized by the social dialogue facilitator of the project through a series of meetings with artists from specific cultural areas. Meetings will take place in major cultural centers in the country and will raise questions about the essentials laws and formulation of solutions that the artists have identified through their work. In order to solve one of the biggest problems of the independent artistic movement, that of communication and union, a **virtual social dialogue network** will be developed through webinars. The webinars will be transmitted on-line, on the website of the project.

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The webinars will have as guests important Romanian figures from various cultural fields. They will propose discussions on topics of interest and will come into **direct communication with the public** interested in the project, on-line, on the website of the project.

In the next chapter, the project "Alternative Culture" proposes a series of **meetings of the public policy expert** from the project team, **with representatives of public institutions, NGOs and the media**, in cultural centers of the country. These meetings will call into question the current legislation in order to collect proposals and observations that will support the formulation of an alternative public policy regarding the condition of the artist in Romania.

In order to support NGOs and artists less developed in the administrative field, the Alternative Culture Project also proposes a training component. The training activities proposed by the project are designed to help NGO representatives and artists from different cultural areas to discover and learn ways and means to support their involvement, participation and influence through democratic mechanisms, on the laws with great impact on their life and activity.

To this end, a **training camp** will be organized with the participation of some cultural operators, selected during their participation in the project's previous activities. The project team trainers will produce **a good practices manual** and will support during the camp a course aimed at facilitating an understanding of how artists can contribute to policy formulation and how they can influence legislative provisions in line with democratic principles.

The final stage of the project will be dedicated to the main outcome of the project, the **formulation of an alternative public policy regarding the condition of the independent artist in Romania.** Ten work-shops will be held, during which some proposals will be formulated that will contribute to the formulation of the final **public policy proposal.**

The project will provide artists, throughout the project and beyond, with all the information and resources prepared and produced within it, through a dedicated website that can be accessed at https://statutulartistului.ro

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The main activities of the project can be grouped as follows:

1. Development of mechanisms for strengthening the social and civic dialogue:

- Organizing specialized workshops to identify specific needs in the field of culture;

- Creating a virtual network of communication between the cultural environment and the civic environment;

2. Developing the involvement of relevant actors in the cultural field and their capacity to develop, implement and monitor public policies in the context of the legislative mix on Artist Status:

- Carrying out actions to support the involvement of local stakeholders in decision-making processes at local, regional and national level;

- Organizing a training camp in the development of alternative proposals to public policies;

3. Develop and promote an alternative proposal to public policies in the field of culture, with an emphasis on the Artist Status:

- Organizing 10 workshops for developing alternative policy proposals in the field of culture;

- Formulate an alternative proposal on Artist Status;

- Organize 7 events for the dissemination of policy proposals in regional cultural centers in Romania;

- Introducing the alternative proposal to the public policies in the field of culture towards the relevant institutions;

- Dissemination of good practices in the implementation of public policies.

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