



Media Advisory

ASEM Culture Ministers' Meeting

1-2 March 2018

The eighth Asia-Europe Meeting of Ministers of Culture (ASEM CMM8) will be held in Sofia in the period 28 February to 2 March. The motto of the meeting is "The role of culture in external relations: the road forward".

The forum will be chaired by the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Bulgaria Mr Boil Banov.

Agenda

1 March 2018 | Thursday

09:00 – 10:00 Arrivals and handshake

10:00 – 10:40 Opening remarks

Mr Boil Banov, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Bulgaria

Ms Lilyana Pavlova, Minister for the Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU

Mr Tibor Navracsics, Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport

Mr Jongmin Na, 1st Vice Minister, Ministry of Culture, Sport and Tourism, Head of the Delegation of South Korea (Host of the CMM7)

10:40 – 10:50 Family photo

11:00 – 15:15 **Plenary session 1**

Ministers will share their views on the following questions:

How does culture contribute to strengthening and consolidating international relations between countries? What are your views on developing a more open approach to international cultural relations, based on mutual understanding and reciprocity?

What measures could be taken on a national level to promote the cooperation between all stakeholders in order to ensure synergies and added value to international initiatives in the cultural domain?



16:00 – 18:30 Parallel workshops

Workshop 1: *Supporting culture as an engine for sustainable social and economic development*
Chair: Ms Marjan Hammersma, Director General Culture and Media, Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, Netherlands

Workshop 2: *Promoting culture and intercultural dialogue for peaceful inter-community relations*
Chair: Ms Aloisia Wörgetter, Head of the Task Force "Dialogue of Cultures" and the Austrian representative in the OMC group on intercultural dialogue and refugees, Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs, Austria

Workshop 3: *Reinforcing cooperation on cultural heritage*
Chair: Ms Irena Todorova, Director, Regional Centre for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in South-Eastern Europe under the auspices of UNESCO, Bulgaria

2 March 2018 | Friday

8:30 – 9:30 Meeting of workshop co-chairs

9:30 – 12:30 **Plenary session 2**

Workshop wrap-up

Report on ASEF's work in culture (2016-2018) and key messages from the ASEF Policy Panel
Ambassador Karsten Warnecke, Executive Director, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

Chair's Statement

Mr Boil Banov, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Bulgaria

The 9th CMM Host Country's Speech (TBD)

12:30 – 13:00 Press conference

Accreditation information

Accredited journalists can pick up their badges on Monday, 26 February at the Registration Desk at Entrance B-2 of the National Palace of Culture between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Members of the press arriving in Sofia on the day of the event will be able to get their badges at the same entrance upon their arrival at the National Palace of Culture. Only accredited members of the press will have access to the National Palace of Culture.



Photos and videos

All media opportunities during the event (doorstep statements, handshake, roundtable, press conference) will be streamed live on the [Website of the Bulgarian Presidency](#). Throughout the day, photos and videos will be uploaded in the [Photo](#) and [Video](#) sections of the Website. All official photos from the event are also available for download in high resolution on the [Flickr](#) account of the Bulgarian Presidency. Videos can be downloaded from [Vimeo](#).

Press contacts

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