



International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity

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Lead paragraph

The International Federation of Coalitions for Cultural Diversity (IFCCD) is the voice of cultural professionals worldwide. IFCCD coordinates the efforts of civil society towards the implementation of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. The federation has already participated in the development of a collaborative intervention under the #Culture2030Goal campaign. In this individual submission, the federation specifically wishes to draw attention to the importance of including the perspective of cultural diversity in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

IFCCD:

- Emphasizes the fundamental role of culture in its diverse expression, as a driver of social fabric, a fertile ground for values, and a cross-cutting engine for economic and social development.
- Stresses that there can be no genuine sustainable development without the real protection and promotion of cultural diversity and linguistic diversity.
- Calls for explicit recognition of culture in the Pact for the Future Agenda and the identification of global and localized actions aimed specifically at the protection and promotion of the diversity of cultural expressions.

Chapter I. Sustainable development and financing for development

The IFCCD believes that the Pact for the Future should:

- Recognize culture as the 4th dimension of sustainable development, both as a key determinant and as an end in itself, promoting the importance of cultural diversity of expressions.
- Encourage North-South collaborative initiatives using culture as an engine to achieve the SDGs, and promote intercultural exchanges and education.
- Advocate for the importance of funding culture in all its forms, with special attention to encouraging the diversity of cultural expressions through local and global funding structures.

- Emphasize the pivotal role of artists and all cultural actors in promoting and utilizing culture to achieve the SDGs.

Chapter II. International peace and security

The IFCCD believes that the Pact for the Future should:

- Recognize the role of a healthy cultural diversity as a catalyst for peace and cohesion among groups. By promoting and celebrating differences between nations, culture serves as a place for exchange and understanding. The importance of these spaces for exchanges, both metaphorical and physical (venues dedicated to cultural exchanges), should be emphasized.
- Acknowledge intercultural exchanges and education, as well as cooperation between North and South countries, as a key factor for global and sustainable peace.
- Proactively monitor practices that contravene the protection of cultural diversity and take active measures to counteract them.

Chapter III. Science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation

The IFCCD believes that the Pact for the Future should:

- Recognize the importance of protecting the diversity of cultural expressions online. Culture is increasingly conveyed and disseminated through digital and dematerialized channels. Protecting it on these new channels, which still largely escape government regulations, is crucial to us.
- Emphasize the importance of safeguarding cultural diversity online at various levels of government and from a global perspective. The current lack of coordination greatly hampers the diversity of cultural and linguistic expressions online, which is under threat. Yet, ensuring a diversity of voices and artistic expressions is essential for promoting sustainable development.
- Condemn harmful practices that undermine cultural diversity and the sustainable development of culture in the digital environment, including but not limited to issues related to piracy, the regulation of content distribution platforms, the use of artificial intelligence, and the compensation of artists online.

Chapter IV. Youth and future generations

The IFCCD believes that the Pact for the Future should:

- Recognize the importance of involving young people and future generations in collaborative actions to ensure genuinely inclusive cultural diversity of expressions. To promote a truly diversified culture, it is crucial to ensure a plurality of voices. Given the role that the upcoming generations will play in the years to come, it is essential to include them in discussions from now on.

- Encourage cultural initiatives aimed at involving young people or promoting their voices.

Chapter V. Transforming global governance

The IFCCD believes that the Pact for the Future should:

- Emphasize the importance of concerted and global actions to protect cultural diversity of expressions - which would be possible through the recognition of culture as the fourth pillar. We are concerned that culture is still often considered as a specific domain within the UN. In addition to recognizing the importance of promoting culture and cultural diversity as standalone goals, we believe it is also necessary to integrate it more consistently across all UN activities.
- Further integrate cultural actors in all their diversity into the decision-making process. Culture is carried by and for the people, and it is crucial that the primary creators of culture are at the center of discussions surrounding it.