



EUROPEAN CAPITAL
OF CULTURE

AN OPPORTUNITY
FOR
A LONG-TERM
DEVELOPMENT
OF CITIES

Copyrights:

The copyrights belong exclusively to the City of Skopje
And PI Congress Center *Aleksandar Makedonski*, Skopje



EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT OF CITIES

Activities
to Nominate
Skopje
for the
European Capital of Culture Title



Град Скопје



КОНФЕРЕНСЕН ЦЕНТАР
АЛЕКСАНДАР МАКЕДОНСКИ
СКОПЈЕ



SKOPJE 2027



- Introduction
- What Does the Title *European Capital of Culture* Represent?
- Goals and Objectives
- Necessary Prerequisites
- Directions
- Benefit and Influence of the *European Capital of Culture*
- Range and regulations
- Acquisition Procedure
- Monitoring
- Evaluation
- Selection Criteria
- Organization and Management Structure
- Conclusion
- List of European Capitals of Culture

INTRODUCTION

This publication presents an overview of the activities necessary to initiate the procedure of nominating the City of Skopje as a potential *European Capital of Culture* in the period between the years 2020 and 2033.

The publication is one of City of Skopje's activities in taking the needed steps to begin the procedure and the activities to nominate Skopje for the *European Capital of Culture* title.

Our main objective is to attract the attention of a wider circle of protagonists and players in Skopje's cultural life, such as the institutions of culture, citizen organizations, education and science institutions, the media, politicians, entrepreneurs, and every citizen whose interests lie in the development of the cultural life of the city.

For a number of years, the cities of NON-EU countries did not have the right to bid and take part in competitions connected to the title European Capital of Culture and initiated by the European Commission.

On 16th April 2014, the European Parliament and EU Council adopted Decision No 445/2014/EU, published in the *Official European Union Gazette* no. L132 on 3rd May 2014, thus establishing a Union action for the *European Capitals of Culture* for the years 2020 to 2033 and allowing cities of candidate countries and potential candidates to compete for the ECC title.

Compliant to this Decision, the first city from a candidate country that has received the honour to become a *European Capital of Culture* in 2021, is Novi Sad, Republic of Serbia.

For these reasons, this publication aims to focus on the required procedure, criteria and activities which need to be completed by all *European Capital of Culture* candidate cities, such as our capital, Skopje.

The Department of Public Procurement and the Department of International Collaboration of the City of Skopje, have begun this initiative. Supported by the City of Skopje itself, these Departments have successfully accomplished the following preparatory and promotional activities:

- 2014, The Skopje City Council adopted "A notice to initiate the procedure and necessary activities to nominate Skopje for the title *European Capital of Culture*".
- 2015, The Skopje City Council adopted the Decision to form an Initiative Board *Skopje European Capital of Culture*.
- 2015, A Skopje 2027 logo was created; an international workshop titled *Skopje 2027: The Meaning of the European Capital of Culture Title and its Contribution to the Cultural and General Development of the City* took place in the Youth Cultural Center in Skopje, involving cultural workers. Numerous participants participated in the workshop, including Davor Buinjac Ljubljana, Slovenia; Irena Kregar Shegota Rijeka, Croatia; Momchilo Bajac Novi Sad, Serbia; Valeri Kiorlinski ECC Plovdiv 2019, Bulgaria. A same-titled brochure was published in addition to the workshop, describing the procedures, recommendations, methods and experiences shared by the workshop participants, each of them being experts and representatives of their local ECC teams from Ljubljana, Rijeka, Novi Sad, Plovdiv, two of which received an European Capital of Culture status: Rijeka 2020 and Novi Sad 2021.
- 2016, Study visit of the European Capital of Culture in San Sebastian, Spain; A promotional catalogue titled *Skopje on the road to becoming a European Capital of Culture* was also published.
- 2017, Preparation and publication of a Brochure - a manual aimed at the managers of cultural institutions and organizations; organization of practical workshops for the managers of cultural institutions and organization; organization of cultural events exhibiting a selection of the project programmes of ECC Mons 2015, Plzeň 2015, San Sebastian 2016, Wrocław 2016.

WHAT DOES THE TITLE EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE REPRESENT?

The *European Capital of Culture* is a European Commission programme and a title that has been awarded to 65 cities in 30 European countries. The programme was first initiated in the year 1985, as suggested by Melina Mercouri, then serving as Greece's Minister of culture. As a result of Mercouri's proposition, on 13th June 1985, the ministers of culture of the European Association conceived the term ***European City of Culture***, which would become a prestigious annual event (*Resolution of European Council 85/c 153/02*). For the past thirty years, this initiative has become one of the most prestigious and most attended European manifestations.

The *European Capital of Culture* initiative was based on the mutual understanding and emphasis of the key role of European cities in forming and spreading culture. Experience has shown that the cities that have, thus far, been awarded the *European Capital of Culture* title, have also received a unique opportunity to find solutions to certain problems with which the cities were faced, not only in the fields of culture, but also other fields essential to the long-term development of a certain city, such as economy, tourism, traffic infrastructure, urban planning etc.

At the very beginning, *European Capital of Culture* used to be an intergovernmental initiative which in 1999 became a European Union initiative, endeavouring to set a unique criteria and selection approach for all European cities, and that way, improve the efficiency of the initiative as a whole. Cities compete for this title for a variety of reasons, but most frequently due to the fact that the candidate cities strive to increase their international recognition, thus improving the city's cultural infrastructure and cultural offer.

European Capital of Culture

The *European Capitals of Culture* initiative was designed to:

- emphasise the cultural heritage and cultural diversity of Europe;
- celebrate the cultural characteristic shared by the citizens of Europe;
- strengthen the notion of belonging to one mutual area of culture among the citizens of Europe;
- encourage the cultural contribution to the development of the cities.

Experience has shown that this programme is an outstanding opportunity for:

- the revival of the cities;
- strengthening the international profile of the city;
- improvement of the city's image in the eyes of its citizens;
- breathing new life in the culture of city;
- development of tourism.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The *European Capital of Culture* title is not only considered an immense honour and acknowledgement of cultural development of each and every European city, but it also represents an opportunity to showcase the cultural offer, as well as the city's cultural heritage and the contemporary artistic creativity.

The cities which have already held this prestigious title have given another dimension to elementary goals and objectives, thus emphasising the richness and diversity of European culture, set forth by *European Capital of Culture* in order to further stimulate the general development of the title holding city.

General Goals and Objectives:

- to protect and promote the cultural diversity of Europe and emphasize its mutual characteristics, as well as, strengthen the notion of belonging to one mutual area of culture among the citizens of Europe;
- to encourage cultural contribution to the long-term development of the cities, in accordance with their strategies and priorities.

Specific Goals and Objectives:

- to increase the range, diversity and European dimension of the cultural offer in the cities, involving international collaboration;
- to encourage the approach to culture and cultural participation;
- to strengthen the capacity of the cultural sector and its relations with other remaining sectors;
- to increase the international profile and image of the cities through culture.

NECESSARY PREREQUISITES

Gaining the *European Capital of Culture* title is based on the cultural programme created specifically for the year of *European Capital of Culture*. Not only should it possess strong European dimension, it should represent a long-term strategy of the title-holding city, while at the same time, it is necessary that strategic document in the field of culture is adopted.

The European Capital of Culture title is an activity reserved only to the cities in one particular country, but it also aims to engage a wider audience and intensify the cities' influence. Although only one city can hold the main title and bear the responsibilities that arise from the title itself, the city's surrounding areas and regions can be included in the programme. Serving as examples to this, Essen 2010, including the Ruhr District and Maribor 2012, including 5 additional cities from Eastern Slovenia, are definitely worth mentioning.

To achieve the goal of earning the *European Capital of Culture* title, not only do we need to demonstrate our infrastructural and human capacity, but it is essential that we show the political awareness and willingness to adopt European and international trends in the field of culture, as well as recognise culture as a branch, crucial to the urban, economic, social, ecological and multi-cultural development of the city.



DIRECTIONS

A long-term and strategic nature is one of the most important characteristic of *European Capital of Culture's* programme. The official participation call to which all candidate cities have the right to apply, becomes open 6 years prior to the year for which this title is awarded. For instance, the application call for *European Capital of Culture 2020*, was published and advertised as open in December 2014. For these reasons, the application is considered a long-term procedure which requires a **serious approach** and **overcoming numerous challenges**:

- The candidate city needs to have an existing culture strategy related to the city's development strategy;
- Forming an expert team to work on the candidacy and project application;
- Introducing the wider public, as well as the cultural and creative economic branches to the importance and meaning of this title;
- The existing cultural heritage and activities can serve only as foundation for the candidacy, however not as its essence;
- Ensuring a multi-party-political support.

The European Capital of Culture title is awarded based on the submitted practical bid which needs to be focused predominantly to the future, not towards the past. What is more, it is necessary that the application consists of new high-quality, innovative cultural activities with a European dimension.

BENEFIT AND THE INFLUENCE OF THE EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE

The evaluations and conducted public consultations have shown that the title European Capital of Culture ensures numerous potential benefits in cases when each activity was well and carefully planned. These cultural initiatives have the potential to gain valuable social and economic benefits, especially in cases when they are included in the city's long-term cultural development strategy.

To hold the European Capital of Culture title results in real and lasting benefits as this title not only contributes to the development of the cities, but also to:

The improvement of economic growth

- The *European Capital of Culture* example, **Mons 2015 (Belgium)**, demonstrates that for each euro of the public (budget) funds, the revenue was 5.5-6 euro in the local economy of the city.
- The City of **Marseille - Provence 2013 (France)** attracted a record number of 11 million individual visits.
- 27% increase of the number of overnight stays was recorded in **Pecs 2010 (Hungary)**, reaching a number of 124.000 over the course of one year during which the city was the holder of the *European Capital of Culture* title.
- The City of **Wroclaw 2016 (Poland)** serves as an example for the highest number of investments, worth 615 million euro within the budgets of each *European Capitals of Culture* thus far.

Strengthening the notion of belonging to a community

- The citizens of **Plzeň 2015 (Czech Republic)** were able to identify a large number of public spaces which would benefit from revival. What is more, they succeeded in creating action plans and helped implement the improvements.
- In **Liverpool 2008 (Great Britain)** a total number of 10.000 registered volunteers was recorded, while each of Liverpool's citizens took part in at least one activity throughout the title-holding year.
- In **Linz 2009 (Austria)**, multiple *Cultural Capital Neighbourhoods of the Month*, displayed their own cultural events, exhibiting art pieces in unusual locations all over the city, such as shop window displays, underground tunnels and even on certain bus lines.

Revival of the cities

- Holding the European Capital of Culture title has provided **Marseille-Provence 2013 (France)** with an opportunity to establish a new cultural infrastructure worth over 600 million euro, transforming it with an abundance of new culture content. The most important change is the construction and opening *Museum of European and Mediterranean Civilization* which is the first national museum to be built in a city other than Paris. Moreover, the budget for Marseille-Provence 2013, was increased by 16.5 million euro through private sponsorships by 207 companies.
- In **Košice 2013 (Slovakia)**, the private sector and the local universities worked together to transform this industrial city and increase its creative potential, by the means of creating new cultural infrastructure and labelling Košice as a tourist centre in the Carpathian Region.

The cities which have successfully implemented the *European Capital of Culture* activities, are likely to enjoy continuous benefits arising from the heritage of this prestigious title. Successful *European Capitals of Culture* are not based on traditions and cultural heritage, but they are mostly focused on the vision for the future and the development of the city through new trends and influences.

The cities which, according to the panel of experts, have successfully achieved the previously set goals and objectives and the foreseen dynamics, are awarded the *Melina Mercouri Award*, consisting of 1.5 million Euro non-returnable support funds by the European Union. In addition, the title *European Capital of Culture* significantly increases the opportunity to gain financial aid from EU funds, especially for the purpose of infrastructural projects.

Several key factors are emphasized by the organization teams of a number of successful title-holding cities and which contribute to the success of *the European Capital of Culture* project as a whole, including a high-quality, realistic and feasible application; well-developed communication and cultural strategy; original programme, moto and stable budget for each of *European Capital of Culture* activities.

In their programme concepts, many of the cities have effectively connected the local and European character of ECC, stating that one important success factor is the outstanding connection between the creative and culture sector, in addition to then uniqueness of the local community with its creative potentials (**for, example Plovdiv 2019**).

Some of the title-holders were able to create cultural hubs, thus cleverly investing in opening new cultural spaces which are fully functional, even after the year of *European Capital of Culture* has ended.

What is more, some of the activities and events, initiated during the title year, were unfortunately discontinued as the audience itself, had not recognized them as entertaining. On the other hand, there is a large number of *European Capital of Culture* activities that are still recurrent even today.

RANGE AND REGULATIONS

With the Decision no. 445/2014 of the European Assembly and European Council of 16th April, 2014, published in the *Official European Union Gazette* no. L132 of 3rd Mat, 2014, the Union's initiative for *European Capital of Culture* in the period between the years 2020 and 2033, was adopted. The Decision includes a guideline that entails the procedures, deadlines and participation criteria, for the candidate countries and cities for the *European Capital of Culture* title.

The Education, Culture and Audiovisual Executive Agency (EACEA) is responsible for the process and procedure to gaining the ECC title in the period between the years 2020 and 2033.

A Schedule of the potential countries *European Capital of Culture* title-holders, between 2020 and 2033 is listed in the following chart:

Year	Country I	Country II	Country III
2020	Croatia	Ireland	
2021	Romania	Greece	Candidate-country or potential candidate.
2022	Lithuania	Luxemburg	
2023	Hungary	Great Britain	
2024	Estonia	Austria	Candidate-country or potential candidate.
2025	Slovenia	Germany	
2026	Slovakia	Finland	
2027	Latvia	Portugal	Candidate-country or potential candidate.
2028	Czech Republic	France	
2029	Poland	Sweden	
2030	Cyprus	Belgium	Candidate-country or potential candidate.
2031	Malta	Spain	
2032	Bulgaria	Denmark	
2033	Netherlands	Italy	Candidate-country or potential candidate.

ACQUISITION PROCEDURE

The procedure begins by publishing an open call by the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) that would allow the cities of all eligible countries to bid for the *European Capital of Culture Title*. The call is published at least six years prior to the year for which the title will be awarded.

Candidate-cities submit their applications/bids to the European Commission. The most important aspect of the application is the so-called, “Bid Book”, which contains the objectives, programme, financial plans and the management structure of the candidate-city. This “Bid Book”, which can be as long as 80-100 A4 pages, comprises of s the answers to the questionnaire available on the European Commission's web-site.

The bid deadline is set to at least 10 months after the application call has been opened.

In order to ensure equal rights to both cities of EU countries and cities of candidate countries, each city coming from candidate-country has the right to bid and may submit an application only once, i.e. bid for the title during one year in the period between the years 2020 and 2033, and can only win the title once.



THE PROCEDURE IS DIVIDED IN 2 STAGES - PRE-SELECTION AND SELECTION

The submitted applications are reviewed against a set of established criteria during the pre-selection phase by a panel of independent experts in the field of culture. The panel agrees on a short-list of cities, which are then asked to submit more detailed applications.

The independent experts conduct the pre-selection phase at least 5 years prior to the year of the title, based on the candidate's "Bid Book".

The experts prepare a pre-selection report, including recommendations for the candidate-cities which are listed as pre-selected and submits it to the European Commission.

No meetings with the candidate-cities are held during the pre-selection procedure.

The panel of independent experts submits recommendations to the candidate-cities.

After receiving the recommendations, the candidate-cities prepare and enhance their "Bid Books" according to the pre-selection recommendations, as well as the proposed criteria, after which it is submitted to the European Commission.

The panel of experts submits an application and recommendation report, nominating one (1) city of a candidate-country, that will gain the *European Capital of Culture* title. What is more, the report contains recommendations for the title-holder in reference to the improvements that need to be achieved by the year of the title.

The panel submits a report to the European Commission and based on the reported recommendations, designates the city which will hold the *European Capital of Culture* title during a particular year.

The European Commission notifies all EU institution of the newly designated *European Capital of Culture* four years prior to the actual year.

In cases when none of the candidate-cities fulfills the requirements, the panel of experts has the right to advise the European Commission not to award the title for the year in question.

The cities which will be designated to hold the title during a same year, will need to establish connections between their culture programmes, which will also be evaluated by the European Commission.



MONITORING

After a European Capital of Culture title-holder has been designated by the European Commission, the city is granted 4 years to prepare and apply all necessary procedures, all for the purpose of achieving a successful *European Capital of Culture* year and secure long-lasting outcomes.

The city's governing and administrative bodies are obliged to fulfil numerous administrative procedures, putting special emphasis on the city's long-term cultural strategy. The ECC programme is applied by the city itself and local administrative-political government, while the wider-strategic vision is fulfilled by experts in the field of culture.

During this time, the expert panel supervises the team which works on conducting the Programme, through an active collaboration with the team.

The management team is obliged to notify the panel of experts of each significant change during this period (management changes, financial or programme changes) and submit reports of the dynamics and application of the activates provisioned in the “Bid Book”.

EVALUATION

The *European Capital of Culture* title-holder is obliged to submit an evaluation report to the European Commission 12 months after the year of the title has ended. The report will later be published, containing **a truthful quantity and quality evaluation**, and should in no way take a self-promotion form, which is why it is the best that the evaluation is performed by an independent organization.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The programme which is proposed as part of the application, is based on the following six (6) criteria:

Criterion 1

“Contribution to the long-term culture strategy”:

- The candidate-city should prepare a culture strategy which entails ECC activities and initiatives, as well as culture activities support plans for the years following the year of the *European Capital of Culture* title;
- The strategy should entail plans to strengthen the capacities of the culture and creative sector, including developing long-lasting connections among the culture, economy and social sectors of the candidate-city;
- In regards to the strategy, the candidate-city evaluates the effects that the title would have over the cultural, social and economic development of the city, including its urban development;
- Preparing evaluation and monitoring plans that would assess the ways in which the title influences the city, as well as publishing the gathered results.

Criterion 2

“European dimension”:

- The size and quality of the European culture diversity promotion activities, intercultural dialogue and higher-levels of mutual understanding among citizens of Europe;
- The size and quality of the activities need to emphasize the mutual aspects of European cultures, heritage and history in their European frames and in relation to current European topics;
- The participation of European artists is of great importance, as well as the collaboration with culture operators in different countries, creating participation opportunities for the rest of the title-holding cities (past, current and future), thus forming transnational partnerships;
- Strategy dedicated to the ways to attract the wider European, international and local public.

Criterion 3

“Cultural and artistic content”:

- Gaining this title is a great challenge for any candidate-city. The specially designed programme for the *European Capital of Culture* year should be in created on high art and cultural level, as the ECC project is focused on the future. The panel of experts exists to evaluate the precision and consistency of the artistic vision throughout the one-year-long culture programme. Local artists and culture organizations take part and with their ideas, they build the concept and make their vision a reality.
- The size and variety of the proposed activities should be based on the local cultural heritage and traditional artistic forms however, they need to be built on innovative and experimental concepts in regards to their culture expressions and forms.

Criterion 4

“Realisation capability”:

- One important aspect of gaining this title is the demonstrated capability to conduct as complex and extensive a programme, as ECC. The application must contain strong political support of the course of the 7 candidacy years, until the end of the title year. It's essential that the local and national governing bodies show their dedication to this project, which is of utmost importance to the city and not in any case may it gain political connotation.
- The candidate-city needs to develop and have an accurate and sustainable infrastructure that would allow undisturbed realization of the activities.

Criterion 5

“Range” :

- Including the local population and citizens is one of the key activities through which the success of the ECC project is measured. It's essential that these activities begin in the preparation stages, thus creating new and sustainable possibilities of active citizen participating in cultural activities;
- The expert commission evaluates the level of citizen participation, and especially values the participation of the youth, volunteers, the marginalized and underprivileged groups, including individuals with disabilities and the elderly;
- The strategic approach to development and education of the society, especially the involvement of education institutions in the project, is crucial to the quality of the programme.

Criterion 6

“Management” :

This category consists of a number of factors, such as:

- The feasibility of the strategy to gather funds, as well as a suggested budget plan which includes appropriate planning of the financial aid provided by EU's programmes and funds. Each of the stages, preparation, evaluation and provisions for the upcoming years, in addition to financial reserves for unforeseen activities, need to be equally feasible;
- Another important factor is the planning and election of the management structure and bodies that would successfully implement the *European Capital of Culture* title through collaboration with the local government, the organization structure and art team;
- The procedure to appointing a general and art director and their field of work, is of great importance;
- The communication and marketing strategy needs to be comprehensive, emphasizing its European dimension;
- The structure of the activity implementation teams should include the involvement of experts who will possess strong planning, management and culture programme implementations skills and experience.

ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

Management is one of the key segments to the success of the ECC project. Among the remaining key factors are:

- A serious approach in the creation of ECC programme which will entail high management standards in all segments, starting with the local government, as well as external experts with management knowledge and skills, who will assist in managing the projects in the field of culture;
- Stable organization and management structures of ECC (management board, managers and collaborators);
- Independency from any political or party influences. The political representatives part of the management board should work on a strategic level, while the operational levels should be left to culture experts;
- The election procedure for an executive and art director should be conducted in the early stages of the application process and by the means of a public call;
- All positive practices that have come out of previous ECC title-holders, denote that the work of the ECC management team, even after the year of the title has ended, is of great importance for the overall evaluation. Moreover, it is important that clear and precise authorities are ensured in each of the financing stages, as well as external revision;
- Special attention should be paid to the intellectual property of the ECC project, and because of that, a close collaboration between the ECC project team and the city's tourism and public relations sectors, and with the national and local tourism associations.

CONCLUSION

European Capital of Culture (ECC), is European Union's most important initiative in the field of culture and the process of gaining this prestigious title, in itself, requires not only infrastructural, financial and human capacities, but also strong political dedication and preparedness to accept European and international trends in the field of culture.

Preparing City of Skopje's programme and application is a process that demands a perennial work and detailed preparations in regards to the local government's vision and direction in which Skopje needs to develop in the field of culture.

The programme, in addition the well-organized activities, needs to entail a clear, coherent, vision for the year of the title, as well as a moto which will recur throughout the year.

City of Skopje's objective is to demonstrate preparedness and eagerness to support all candidacy activities and assist in gaining the title in the upcoming few years, thus achieving the following goals: reviving the city, elevating the international profile of the city; creating a fresh cultural offer, tourism improvement, development of the creative industries etc.

The City of Skopje will open the possibility to including artists, culture organizations and institutions in order to create and implement the cultural programme with which the city will run for the *European Capital of Culture* title. Moreover, the social, cultural and creative sector, including the citizens of Skopje, will be provided with an opportunity to actively participate not only in the process of planning, but also in the implementation of the programme itself.

LIST OF EUROPEAN CAPITALS OF CULTURE

1985	Athens	Greece	
1986	Florence	Italy	
1987	Amsterdam	Netherlands	
1988	Berlin	Germany	
1989	Paris	Florence	
1990	Glasgow	Great Britain	
1991	Dublin	Ireland	
1992	Madrid	Spain	
1993	Antwerp	Belgium	
1994	Lisbon	Portugal	
1995	Luxemburg	Luxemburg	
1996	Copenhagen	Denmark	
1997	Thessaloniki	Greece	
1998	Stockholm	Sweden	
1999	Weimar	Germany	
2000	Avignon Bergen Bologna Brussels Helsinki Krakow Prague Reykjavik Santiago de Compostela	France Norway Italy Belgium Finland Poland Czech Republic Island Spain	The year 2000, was a special, millennium year. Because of that, as many as nine locations were chosen and creative intersections were created, including cities of states that were to join the European Union.
2001	Rotterdam Porto	Netherlands Portugal	
2002	Burges Salamanca	Belgium Spain	
2003	Graz	Austria	
2004	Genoa Lille	Italy France	
2005	Cork	Ireland	
2006	Patras	Greece	
2007	Sibiu Luxembourg	Romania Luxembourg	
2008	Liverpool Stavanger	Great Britain Norway	
2009	Vilnius Linz	Lithuania Austria	
2010	Essen, Ruhr Istanbul Pecs	Germany Turkey Hungary	
2011	Turku Tallinn	Finland Estonia	
2012	Guimarães Maribor	Portugal Slovenia	
2013	Marseille Košice	France Slovakia	

2014	Riga Umeå	Latvia Sweden	
2015	Mons Plze	Belgium Czech	
2016	San Sebastian Wroclaw	Spain Poland	
2017	Aarhus Paphos	Denmark Cyprus	
2018	Leeuwarden Valletta	Netherlands Malta	
2019	Matera Plovdiv	Italy Bulgaria	
2020	Rijeka Galway	Croatia Ireland	
2021	Timisoara Elfesina Novi Sad	Romania Greece Serbia	
2022	Kaunas To be announced	Lithuania Luxembourg	Luxembourg (candidate city): Esch – sur- Alzette (eliminated): Differdange, Luxembourg City
2023	To be announced	Hungary Great Britain	Hungary (potential candidates): Gyor, Debrecen, Eger, Miskolc, Tokaj, Veszprem GB (potential candidates): Bristol, Dundee, Leeds/Milton Keynes
2024	To be announced	Estonia Austria To be announced	
2025	To be announced	Slovenia Germany	Germany (potential candidates): Bremen, Chemnitz, Dresden, Frankfurt, Halle/Saale, Hildesheim, Magdeburg, Nürnberg, Würzburg
2026	To be announced	Slovakia Finland	Finland (potential candidates): Mantta – Vilppula
2027	To be announced To be announced	Latvia Portugal	Portugal (potential candidates): Aveiro, Leiria, Braga, Faro, Evora, Ponta Delgada
2028	To be announced	Czech Republic France	
2029	To be announced	Poland Sweden	
2030	To be announced	Cyprus Belgium To be announced	
2031	To be announced	Malta Spain	Malta: Burgu (potential candidate) Spain: Caceres Granada (potential candidate)
2032	To be announced	Bulgaria Denmark	
2033	To be announced	Netherlands Italy To be announced	

REFERENCE:

2017

Creative Europe: European Capitals of Culture, EU, Brussels, 2017
https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/creative-europe/actions/capitals-culture_en
 (15.05.2017)

2016

Evropska prijestonica kulture: Šansa za strateški razvoj kulture u BiH, Akcija za kulturu, Sarajevo, 2016

<http://akcija.org.ba/sites/default/files/Evropska%20Prijestonica%20Kulture.pdf>
 (01.05.2017)

2016

Skopje on the Road to Becoming a European Capital of Culture, JUKCAM, City of Skopje, Skopje, 2016 / 2017

<http://www.kongrescentaraleksandarmakedonski.mk/PDF/BROSURA%20ECO C%20SKOPJE%20%202016.pdf> (25.05.2017)

2015

„Значењето на титулата „Европска престолнина на културата“ и нејзиниот придонес за културен и општ развој на градот“, ЈУКЦАМ, Град Скопје, Скопје, 2015 / 2016 (10.05.2017)

<http://www.kongrescentaraleksandarmakedonski.mk/PDF/Brochure%20ECOC %20SK2027%20December%202015.pdf>

2014

Information about the initiated procedure and the required activities to nominate the City of Skopje for the *European Capital of Culture* title, adopted on the thirty-fifth assembly of City of Skopje's Council, on 2nd December, 2014.



IPMRESSUM

Organizers:

City of Skopje,
PI Congress Centre *Aleksandar Makedonski*, Skopje

About the publisher:

Vera Boshkovska,
PI Congress Centre *Aleksandar Makedonski*, Skopje

Editors:

Tanja Balakj
(Head of the Department of Public Procurement, City of Skopje),
Nada Pesheva
(Councilor of the Department of Culture, City of Skopje),
Ivanka Apostolova
(Programme Coordinator PICCAM)

Photos by:

Marika Dimitrovska

Lector:

Jasmina Gjorgieva

Translation:

Simonida Jovanovska

Design:

Konstantin Dimitrovski

Print:

PRIZMA, Skopje

Sponsor:

City of Skopje
Skopje, 2017

CIP - Каталогизација во публикација
Национална и универзитетска библиотека "Св. Климент Охридски", Скопје
316.7(497.7)"2017"
BOŠKOVSKA, Vera

European capital of culture : an opportunity for a long-term
development of cities / [Vera Boškovska]. - Skopje : PI Congress centre
"Aleksandar Makedonski", 2017. - 28 стр. : фотографии ; 21 см
ISBN 978-608-65933-7-7

а) Скопје - Културна политика - 2017
COBISS.MK-ID 103809290