



Ljubljana, Sept. 16, 2019

Subject: A call to the president of European Commission to rename the official title of the department designated for culture

Dear Ms. President Ursula von der Leyen,

You have successfully formed a new suggested composition of the European Commission, by announcing the Commissioner-Designates and their portfolios last week. At Asociacija – Association of non-governmental organizations and individuals in the field of culture, and Motovila – Centre for the promotion of cooperation in the cultural and creative sectors, we positively assess the redeployment of sectors, combining the field of Culture with the field of Youth, Research, Innovation, Sport and Education lead by Ms. Mariya Gabriel.

On the other hand, we are deeply concerned about the withdrawal of culture from the official title of the commissioner's portfolio since we believe that it could negatively influence the very position of this field as well as the Commission's attitude towards culture. We are questioning ourselves whether the new structure of the European Commission recognizes not only the contribution of culture to sustainable development and innovation but also the immense value that culture has in creating a united, democratic and inclusive Europe.

At Asociacija association and Motovila institute, we have joined European initiatives that call to preserve the culture in the designated Commission's department's title. We strongly believe that it is vital to keep the visibility of culture and maintain the appropriate level of recognition of this field. Therefore, we urge you Ms. President Ursula von der Leyen, to transform the proposed title "Innovation and Youth" into "Innovation, Youth and Culture".

Best regards,
Asociacija association and Motovila institute

DRUŠTVO ASOCIACIJA
— association of non-governmental
organizations and individuals in the field
of culture

OFFICE
Dalmatinova 4, 1000 Ljubljana

Official address
Metelkova 6, 1000 Ljubljana
+386 (0)1 4341 244
+386 (0)51 773 611
info@asociacija.si
www.asociacija.si

VAT NUMBER
38450666 (nismo dav. zav.)

ID NUMBER
1768875

TRR
SI56 61000 0014575 664
(pri DH d.d.)