



MOBILITY FUNDING IN KOSOVO



Edition 2017

Written by:
Tamara Bračić Vidmar
Bunker, Ljubljana
& Balkan Express
Network

Supported by:
On the Move

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and Bunker, Ljubljana



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ON THE AUTHOR:

Tamara Bračič Vidmar studied Cultural studies at the Faculty for Social Sciences in Ljubljana, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. Since then she worked with different artists and festivals as executive producer, PR officer, fundraiser or tour manager.

Since 2002 she works in [Bunker Ljubljana](#) as an executive producer and head of communication, she was the selector of artistic programme for three editions of International Festival Drugajanje, she organised several international and national projects among which she was the executive producer of International Festival Mladi levi and IETM meeting in Ljubljana, she takes an active part in international networks IETM – International Networks for Contemporary Performing Arts, Sostenuto, A Soul for Europe, and she is the president and coordinator of the International Network and Association Balkan Express since its beginnings.

She collaborated with E.P.I. centre independent organisation for production of contemporary theatre in Ljubljana, Slovenia. She is a board member of Slovene dance festival Moving Cake, of Slovene Network for Contemporary dance and Asociacija, Association of Arts and Culture NGOs and Freelancers. She was a member of advisory board of the Cultural and Congress Centre Cankarjev dom in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

ON THE MOVE

On the Move is the cultural mobility information network active in Europe and worldwide. On the Move signposts on a free, regular and updated manner funding opportunities for the mobility of artists and cultural professionals – all disciplines covered – in Europe and worldwide. Thanks to its members' and partners' expertise, On the Move also shares information on key challenges related to cultural mobility (eg. visas, social protection, taxation, environmental issues). Beyond this information channel, On the Move facilitates training, workshop and/or makes public presentations on cultural mobility issues. It also advises on internationalisation of practices and organisations in partnership with cultural bodies, agencies, networks, foundations etc. The On the Move network has recently started to work on evaluations and impacts' studies related to artists' mobility.

Born as a website in 2002 as project of IETM (the international network of contemporary performing arts), it has evolved as a dynamic network which now counts more than 40 member-organisations.

<http://on-the-move.org>

BALKAN EXPRESS NETWORK

Launched in April 2002 in Ljubljana, Slovenia, **Balkan Express** was formed as an informal network of contemporary performing arts operators from South East Europe and from other regions interested in collaboration in and with the Balkans. The network was initiated through the volunteer work of members of the IETM Network (Belgium) and cultural organisations Bunker Ljubljana (Slovenia) and Ecumest Association (Romania), and later joined by AltArt Foundation, Expeditio Association and many others, who believed that the Balkan region needed immediate action to overcome the issues of lack of mobility and lack of dissemination of artistic and cultural information and work.

The mission of Balkan Express is to act as an ongoing platform connecting people interested in collaboration in and with the Balkans, who are involved in contemporary art and complementary socially engaged practices. Through its activities Balkan Express gives space for reflection on the new roles of contemporary arts in a changing political and social environment. It builds new relations, encourages sharing and cooperation, and contributes to the recognition of contemporary arts in the Balkans and wider. Balkan Express organises summer retreats, training sessions, professional visits, residencies and meetings in order to deepen the understanding and involvement in pressing social issues and to enhance collaboration in the field of socially engaged contemporary art.

<https://balkanexpresss.wordpress.com>

www.bunker.si



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1) GENERAL INTRODUCTION ON KOSOVO INDEPENDENT / CIVIL SOCIETY SECTOR

ABOUT KOSOVO CIVIL SOCIETY

Currently, the civil society in Kosovo is going through a number of positive developments but it still faces large challenges. Although some CSOs (eg. Civil Society Organisations) are increasing their human and financial capacities, the largest part of the sector remains dependent to international funding. Besides this, the continuous increase of European Union portion in civil society funds, bureaucratic procedures for application and the rather large minimum amounts of EU grants prevent a large number of organisations from gaining these funds, since the majority of organisations are too small to execute or absorb such amounts, thus increasing the division between the 'large' and 'small' CSOs. In an attempt to survive in such a situation, the civil society priorities in the majority of cases have reflected donor priorities, thus increasing the number of those that estimate that a large number of civil society initiatives are not driven by the interests of the community.

Source: <http://www.kcsfoundation.org/?page=2,106#.WQtcZNykLIU>

- **Towards Cultural Policy in Kosovo**

http://www.forumikulturor.net/repository/docs/Towards_a_cultural_policy.pdf

- **News on Kosovo's cultural policy developments**

<https://ifacca.org/en/places/europe/kosovo/>

- **National strategy for cultural heritage of Kosovo**

http://mkrs-ks.org/repository/docs/eng_strategy_for_heritage.pdf

Social Identities: Journal for the Study of Race, Nation and Culture

Article:

In 'no man's land': the im/mobility of Serb NGO workers in Kosovo

By Signe Borch

The article explores the ways in which Serb NGO workers navigate these obstacles in order to create physical, social and economic mobility for themselves. It identifies two interrelated dynamics essential to understanding the impact on NGO workers of the conflict reality: one is between national identity and ethno-political space in the context of the specific community; the other, between the local moral order of being 'good Serbs' and internationally formulated aims to engage the locals in peace and reconciliation work. The paper argues that the focus of international peacebuilding missions on inter-ethnic cooperation and policy influencing activities, at least for Serb NGO workers in Mitrovica, impedes the mobility of local NGOs.

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/13504630.2017.1281470>

2) GOING DEEPER IN THE CULTURAL SCENE IN KOSOVO

● Information on Kosovo - culture

<http://www.balkaninsight.com/en/page/kosovo-home>

<http://culture-ks.org/en>

<http://euicc-ks.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/KOSOVART-Eng-v4.pdf>

● Major festivals in Kosovo

<https://www.hotelgracanica.com/things-to-do/festivals-events/>

<http://www.beinkosovo.com/major-festivals-in-kosovo/>

<http://www.kosovoguide.com/?cid=2,214>

● Flagship events in Kosovo

Dokufest Prizren

<http://dokufest.com/>

Film festival Kosovo

<http://festfilmkosova.com/>

Student Film and Theatre Festival

<http://www.filmfestivallife.com/Skena-Up-International-Students-Film-Theatre-Festival>

Literary festival in Prishtina

<https://polipfestival.wordpress.com/>

Anibar International Animation Festival

<http://anibar.org/about/>

Prishtina Architecture Week

<http://www.prishtinaarchitectureweek.com/>

HAPU Fest

(organised by Oda Teatri, member of the IN SITU Platform for artistic creation in public space)

<http://www.in-situ.info/en/places-in-europe/en/teatri-oda-hapu-fest-pristina-kosovo-19>

www.hapu.me

3) FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES / ORGANISATIONS IN KOSOVO

● Kosovar Civil Society Foundation - KCSF

Kosovar Civil Society Foundation (KCSF) has for objectives, the ones of strengthening civil society's role in drafting and implementing policies affecting the communities and general public through the promotion of joint activities with partners. It provides financial support for regional / international representations of civil society organisations.

<http://www.kcsfoundation.org/?page=2,6,455#.WP-oP9ykLIU>

Activities funded: conferences, seminars, congresses, workshops, network meetings

Who can apply: Representatives of non-governmental organisations registered in Kosovo.

http://www.kcsfoundation.org/?page=2,6,454#.WP-a_tykLIV

KSCF funds membership fees of Kosovar civil society organisations in international networks (upon application).

● The Ministry of Culture of Kosovo

In Kosovo most of the local/national funding for culture comes from the Ministry of Culture of Kosovo. Mobility is treated above all as the mobility for the needs of international co-productions or cultural projects. The funding for mobility at the Ministry for Culture does not have a special designated budget, but depends on written requests for financing special activities, such as touring a performance abroad etc.

<http://www.mkrs-ks.org/?page=2,1>

This is the task of the Sector for promotion of culture, which announces regular competitions for projects in the field of culture, selected projects are then supported by a certain amount of funding for their implementation. Every year, over 100 projects from different fields of culture are supported. The objectives are to promote local artists, support best conditions for intercultural exchanges in Kosovo and abroad, increase the promotion of Kosovo's art at international level, promote and exchange works and artistic initiatives within and outside Kosovo.

Yearly open calls for funding are published here:

<http://www.mkrs-ks.org/?page=1,63> (only in Shqip language, it is necessary to apply with a Kosovar partner)

● Foreign Embassies in Kosovo

Kosovar organisations can apply to the Embassies of specific countries, when they would like to invite foreign artists to Kosovo. The Embassies based in Kosovo are:

https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/kosovo/1389/travel-eu-kosovo_en#Study+programmes

Embassy of Austria in Prishtina www.bmeia.gv.at/botschaft/pristina.html

Belgian Office to Prishtina <http://kosovo.diplomatie.belgium.be/en>

Embassy of Finland in Kosovo www.finlandkosovo.org

Embassy of France in Prishtina <https://kosovo.ambafrance.org/>

Embassy of Germany in Kosovo www.pristina.diplo.de/

Greek Liaison Office in Prishtina www.mfa.gr/missionsabroad/en/pristina-en

Embassy of Hungary in Kosovo <https://pristina.mfa.gov.hu/>

Embassy of Italy in Prishtina www.ambpristina.esteri.it/ambasciata_pristina/it/

Embassy of the Netherlands in Prishtina <https://www.netherlandsandyou.nl/your-country-and-the-netherlands/kosovo/about-us/embassy-pristina>

Embassy of Norway in Prishtina www.norway.no/en/kosovo

Liaison Office of Romania in Kosovo www.mfa-ks.net/?page=2,50,367

Slovak Liaison office in Prishtina www.mzv.sk/web/pristina-en

Embassy of Slovenia in Prishtina www.pristina.embassy.si/index.php?id=3365&L=1

Embassy of Sweden in Prishtina www.swedenabroad.com/en-GB/Embassies/Pristina/Contact/The-Embassy/

Embassy of Switzerland in Prishtina www.eda.admin.ch/pristina

● Qendra Multimedia

For the first time in Kosovo, **Qendra Multimedia** invited in 2013 artists from central and southeastern Europe and Germany to apply for the artists - in - residence program “**Pristina has no river**” in Prishtina (Kosovo). **Qendra Multimedia** makes an open call every year.

<https://pristinahasnoriver.wordpress.com/>

● Stacion - Center for Contemporary Art Prishtina

Stacion – Center for Contemporary Art Prishtina organises a Summer School as School programme, which is designed to unite and disseminate critical knowledge and address relevant challenges of today, implementing new models and possibilities in art education and artistic collaboration.

Stacion and partner institutions with Summer School as School have created a unique international educational platform, based in Prishtina.

Summer School as School is designed for students of visual art, art history, curatorial studies, set

design, and film, as well as artists, architects, curators, designers, writers and anyone interested in art, architecture, design, writing and publishing, and arts education.

Scholarships are available upon application.

<http://www.stacion.org/en/Summer-School-as-School-2017>

The Artists of Tomorrow Award is a project of Stacion Centre which provides young visual artists under the age of 35 the opportunity to produce new work, be part of a tailored education process, have meetings and presentation for an international jury, have a joint exhibition with the finalists at Stacion ñ Center for Contemporary Art Prishtina, but also to travel to the United States for a two month residency at Residency Unlimited, and have a solo exhibition at Stacion ñ Center for Contemporary Art Prishtina after returning from US.

<http://www.stacion.org/en/Artists-of-Tomorrow-2017>

● **Anibar International Animation Festival**

Anibar has been a registered NGO in Kosovo since July of 2010. It is an organisation of passionate activists that encourages young people to express their ideas and worldview through animation and to discuss important social subjects pertinent to the youth of Kosovo. Anibar's mission is to commit itself to breaking civic apathy through cultural activism.

Anibar is partnering up with Visegrad Group members (Hungary, Poland and Slovakia) to cultivate further the animation culture between the two neighboring areas that are Western Balkans and Visegrad Group. The project Cultivation of animation culture between Western Balkans and Visegrad Group will be comprised of animated film programs, a series of workshops, presentations, lectures, and development of an educational guide and is meant for animation professionals and film students (ongoing until February 2018).

<http://anibar.org/about/>

● **Hajde! Foundation**

Hajde! Foundation is an open platform that aspires to support and promote contemporary art in Kosovo. From talks, seminars and training in collaboration with institutions and academies in the field of art and beyond, to residencies with critics and artists, to the support of art and publication projects, Hajde! aspires to develop, expand and grow with artists and art organisations on local, regional, and international levels constantly forging new creative links. Hajde! aims at hosting relations and creating synergies through an active network of artists and collaborators, at being a platform for the presentation of contemporary art, and a critical forum to strengthening the ties and interactions between contemporary Kosovo culture and the rest of the world.

Hajde! Foundation publishes open calls for Kosovar artists and arts students for artist in residence

programmes as well as other possibilities of mobility within Kosovo and to other countries.

<http://www.hajde.info/>

<http://www.kosovodiaspora.org/artist-in-residency-program/>

● ODA Teatri

ODA Teatri is an independent cultural organisation undertaking initiatives, programmes and projects in the field of producing and co-producing contemporary art work in theatre, music and arts in public space in Kosovo, region, Europe and wider. It has its own theatre venue in Prishtina.

ODA is a member of IN SITU, the European Platform for Artistic Creation in Public Space and in the frame of its European partnership in this platform also organises HAPU Festival in Prishtina dedicated for art in public space, presenting European and also local artists working in public space.

ODA promotes Kosovar artists inside and outside of Kosovo, both in performing arts but also emerging artists working in public space.

www.teatrioda.com, [www.fb.com/teatrioda](https://www.facebook.com/teatrioda)

www.hapu.me, [www.fb.com/hapufest](https://www.facebook.com/hapufest)

www.in-situ.info

4) FOREIGN FOUNDATIONS TO FUND THE MOBILITY OF KOSOVAR ARTISTS GOING ABROAD OR INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS COMING TO KOSOVO

● KosovoDiaspora.org

KosovoDiaspora.org (KD) is a crowdsourcing digital engagement and diplomacy platform that connects Kosovars to the world, and the world with Kosovars. KD uses social and online media to highlight and celebrate achievements of individuals, groups, and organisations related to Kosovo. KD also serves as a tool to nurture existing links between Kosovo and its diaspora community. It is also a good tool for information for Kosovar artists about open calls for mobility within arts.

<http://www.kosovodiaspora.org/culture/>

● BJCEM, Biennale des jeunes créateurs de l'Europe et de la Méditerranée

The aim of the BJCEM Association is to create opportunities for the young creators of training, mobility, exchange, mutual understanding, intercultural dialogue and collaboration. The Association supports their creativity processes and put them in contact with local and international realities in order to help them to grow personally and professionally.

The Association organises a biennial exhibition, where artists from Kosovo can also be invited.

<http://www.bjcem.org/association/what-is-the-bjcem/>

● European Cultural Foundation: STEP travel grants

STEP stands for 'Supporting Travel for Engaged Partnerships'. STEP travel grants support creative and critical cultural workers travelling across Europe and its neighbours, to help foster a society with greater solidarity, equality and a stronger sense of social justice. The programme is initiated and managed by ECF with the support of Compagnia di San Paolo.

Please see the guidelines and submit your application at <http://ecflabs.org/grants/stepbeyond>. The deadline to apply is a minimum of 60 days before the departure date.

<http://www.culturalfoundation.eu/grants/>

● CEC ArtsLink

CEC ArtsLink is an international arts service organisation. Their programmes encourage and support exchange of artists and cultural managers between the United States and Eastern and Central Europe, Russia, Central Asia and the Caucasus. Two artist/arts manager grants are available.

www.cecartslink.org

Eligibility: artists, cultural managers and non-profit arts organisations from the U.S. or from the eligible countries listed here: http://www.cecartslink.org/grants/eligible_countries.html

● CEI Fellowship for Writers in Residence

The CEI Fellowship is a fellowship aimed at encouraging cross-border cooperation and promotion in the field of literature for young writers (below 35) from European countries (Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia and Ukraine). 3-month residency provided each year since 2006. Check the website for the new deadlines.

www.cei.int

<http://www.cei.int/content/cooperation-activities>

Eligibility: Writers under 35 years of age from non-EU CEI countries (Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Kosovo and Ukraine).

● European programme ERASMUS +

Erasmus + is a European funding programme, which supports mobility and confirms the principle of lifelong learning by linking support to formal, non-formal and informal learning throughout the education, training and youth fields. The Programme also enhances the opportunities for cooperation and mobility with Partner Countries, notably in the fields of higher education and youth. Some opportunities may arise also for people involved in the cultural field.

The support and funding are subject to open call applications.

<http://www.erasmuspluskosovo.org/>

<http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/>

An example of ERASMUS project including partners in Kosovo:

Focus Roma Youth Cinema Project:

<https://m.facebook.com/focusromacinemayouthproject/>

Erasmus + comprises numerous actions, one of which being Individual mobility:

Mobility of learners and staff: opportunities for students, trainees, young people and volunteers, as

well as for professors, teachers, trainers, youth workers, staff of education institutions and civil society organisations to undertake a learning and/or professional experience in another country, as well as promoting student and staff mobility, Erasmus+ helps higher education institutions to modernize and become more international in their outlook.

<http://www.erasmuspluskosovo.org/mobility-of-individuals>

● **British Council Kosovo**

British Council is open to collaborations between local artists (from Kosovo as well as other Balkan countries) and the UK. In collaboration with local organisations British Council sets up projects such as Mix the City – The Balkans, which is a collaboration between the BC and the Exit Festival or they help bring and present UK artists in other countries and contexts.

<https://kosovo.britishcouncil.org/en/programmes/arts>

British Council established an info point on their website (one can also subscribe to a newsletter) called Arts Opportunities with an updated list of their current and upcoming international opportunities for artists, creatives, professionals and organisations.

https://www.britishcouncil.org/arts/opportunities?_ga=2.101564033.1696256045.1501424735-1034936334.1494535951

● **Goethe-Institut**

The Goethe-Institut does not have a local office in Kosovo. In 2017 the Goethe-Institut in Skopje has started to gradually assume responsibility for Kosovo, which until now has been served by the Goethe-Institut's offices in Belgrade and Thessaloniki. Goethe Institut supports cultural exchange programmes and projects between Germany and other countries, among which also Kosovo.

<https://www.goethe.de/ins/mk/de/index.html>

● **Alliance Française de Pristina**

The French Alliance in Pristina is non-governmental organisation , established in 2002 as the French Cultural Centre, and became an Alliance Francaise in 2011. It is part of the Alliance Francaise network, coordinated by the Foundation Alliance Francaise. Besides offering French language courses and certifications, they organise Francophone cultural events, presenting French artists in Kosovo.

<http://af-pristina.com/en/>