



## National Workshop on Artistic Freedom

Capacity-development programme of the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions

3 – 4 May 2018

Mövenpick Ambassador Hotel, Accra, Ghana

# Background

On the occasion of [World Press Freedom Day 2018](#) (Accra, Ghana, 2-3 May 2018), UNESCO is organizing for the first time a two-day workshop on 3 and 4 May for civil society and government officials on policies and measures to protect, promote and monitor artistic freedom.

Organized within the framework of UNESCO's [Aschberg programme for artists and cultural professionals](#), it seeks to facilitate a better understanding of the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions and its overall goal to promote human rights and artistic freedom. Under this notion, UNESCO understands a bundle of rights that relate to freedom of creation, freedom of expression, freedom of movement, social and economic rights.

As the first of its kind, this two-day multi-stakeholder workshop will examine existing laws, policies and measures that promote and protect artistic expression, and challenges that countries face in designing and implementing them. It will discuss, through presentations, case studies and group exercises, what works or not and what could be improved to support artistic freedom.

It will also debate obligations that governments (in close cooperation with civil society) have in terms of reporting to UNESCO on policies and measures taken to promote artistic freedom, in particular through the "Quadrennial Periodic Reports" that countries submit every four years on progress achieved in implementing the 2005 Convention. As a State Party to the Convention since 2016, Ghana is due to submit its first periodic report in 2020.

The first day of the workshop will introduce participants to the concept of artistic freedom and help to engage a discussion on global challenges to artistic freedom, the international legal frameworks regulating artistic freedom, social and economic rights of artists and data collection mechanisms.

The second day will focus on how to report on artistic freedom worldwide and in Ghana. Through group works, the participants will qualify how Ghana may report on artistic freedom as part of the forthcoming quadrennial periodic report submission to UNESCO on the implementation of the 2005 Convention.

Two UNESCO experts will facilitate the workshop:

- **Ole Reitov** is founder and former Executive Director of Freemuse, an international organization advocating and defending artistic freedom. He served as expert consultant to the UN Special Rapporteur in the Field of Cultural Rights for the 2013 report [The right to freedom of artistic expression and creativity](#)
- **Sara Whyatt** is a campaigner and researcher on freedom of expression and human rights, notably leading international writers' organisation, PEN International's, advocacy for writers at risk. She has worked on projects for Freemuse, Culture Action Europe, PEN, UNESCO, among others.

Both facilitators have been responsible for writing the chapters on "artistic freedom" in UNESCO's Global Monitoring Reports, *Re-Shaping Cultural Policies* (2015 Global Report available at <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002428/242866e.pdf>) and 2018 Global Report available at <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0026/002605/260592e.pdf>).



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# Programme

## Thursday 3 May 2018

### Welcoming remarks

09:00-09:30 am

Catherine AFEKU, Minister, Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture  
 Ama Serwah NERQUAYE-TETTEH, Secretary-General, Ghana National Commission for UNESCO  
 Tirso DOS SANTOS, Head, UNESCO Office in Accra

### Workshop and participants introduction

09:30-10:00 am

*Presentation of the learning objectives of the workshop, its purpose as part of the capacity-development programme of the 2005 Convention, the workshop programme and the pedagogical approach, as well as a self-presentation by each participant.*

### Reflections on Artistic Freedom

10:00-10:30 am

*This session discusses the concept of artistic freedom and how it is defined by the 2005 Convention. What are artistic and cultural rights? What has led to an increase in interest for artistic freedom and why it is included in the 2005 Convention's monitoring framework? Where does artistic freedom figure among the international human rights conventions and what national measures have been taken by States to protect and promote artistic freedom?*

10:30-10:45 am

Coffee break

10:45-11:15 am

### Reflections on Artistic Freedom (continuation)

### Challenges to Artistic Freedom

11:15 am – 12:30 pm

*This session introduces a brief overview of the main challenges to artistic freedom and why these are important to identify and understand in the context of the 2005 Convention. What are the main motivations and arguments for challenging artistic freedom?*

12:30-1:30 pm

Lunch buffet

1:30-2:15 pm

### Challenges to Artistic Freedom (continuation)

2:15-3:30 pm

### Social and economic rights



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*This session presents how social and economic rights are addressed in the 2005 Convention and other normative instruments relating to artists and cultural professionals. It will also discuss the status of these rights in Ghana and their relationship to artistic freedom.*

3:30-3:45 pm

Coffee break

### Legal limitations

3:45-4:45 pm

*This session focuses on reporting requirements on artistic freedom within UNESCO and the United Nations. It will also introduce three key areas where national legislation may have been used to constrain freedom of artistic expression: laws relating to anti-terrorism, insult and defamation, blasphemy and traditional values. Which are the legal instruments relating to freedom of expression and to artistic freedom? and what laws are most often used to curtail these freedoms?*

### Collecting Data

4:45-5:45 pm

*This session aims at providing information on some existing global data and sources and introduce existing tools to collect and collate relevant information and data on violations on artistic freedom. Which data are relevant for the monitoring of artistic freedom? Which data and sources are available globally, and how can these data be used as a model for local collation?*

5:45-6:00 pm

Wrap up session

## Friday 4 May 2018

### Introduction to reporting on the implementation of the 2005 Convention

09:00-09:30 am

*This session briefly presents the reporting requirements under the 2005 Convention, its monitoring framework and core indicators for artistic freedom.*

### Reporting on artistic freedom pt.1 – Group work

09:30-10:30 am

*In this session, participants will identify available data relevant for Ghana's forthcoming quadrennial periodic report on the implementation of the 2005 Convention under the monitoring area of artistic freedom. State representatives and civil society representatives will each qualify inputs in two parallel working groups.*

10:30-10:45 am

Coffee break

10:45-11:30 am

**Reporting on artistic freedom pt.1 – Group work (continuation)**



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### Reporting on artistic freedom pt.2 - Plenary

11:30 am – 12:30 pm

*The two groups will report on findings in plenary. What data has been collected? What data is missing? What data may be difficult to report on? Which issues have consensus and which issues needs to be further qualified?*

12:30-1:30 pm

Lunch buffet

### Dialogue building – Group work

1:30-2:40 pm

*Government and civil society representatives will work in two merged, interdisciplinary groups to fine tune and further qualify initial findings. They will also identify possible issues of dissent and explore how can State and civil society bodies collaborate on monitoring artistic freedom.*

### Dialogue building – Plenary

2:40-3:30 pm

*The two groups will report on findings in plenary. How did participants from different backgrounds collaborate on reporting? Has this collaboration improved the reporting? Which topics/areas are still missing?*

3:30-3:45 pm

Coffee break

### Merging findings and way forward for the preparation of Ghana's quadrennial periodic report on the implementation of the 2005 Convention – Group work

3:45-4:45 pm

*Two interdisciplinary groups will work in parallel. Group one will merge findings and develop a draft report section on artistic freedom in Ghana. The other group will discuss issues that need further qualification and point to relevant stakeholders that should be consulted. The group will draft a plan for further dialogue and qualification.*

### Merging findings and way forward for the preparation of Ghana's quadrennial periodic report on the implementation of the 2005 Convention – Plenary

4:45-5:15 pm

*The two groups will report on findings in plenary and reflect on how this intersectional collaboration has improved the understanding of the reporting process and the quality of reports. How can the process continue after the training workshop?*

5:15-5:45 pm

**Conclusions and workshop evaluation**



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*This was the first ever UNESCO workshop on artistic freedom. What were the most essential learnings? What was missing and how can future workshops be improved?*

### Closing remarks

5:45-6:00 pm

Ama Serwah NERQUAYE-TETTEH, Secretary-General, Ghana National Commission for UNESCO

Danielle CLICHE, Chief, Diversity of Cultural Expressions Section, UNESCO