

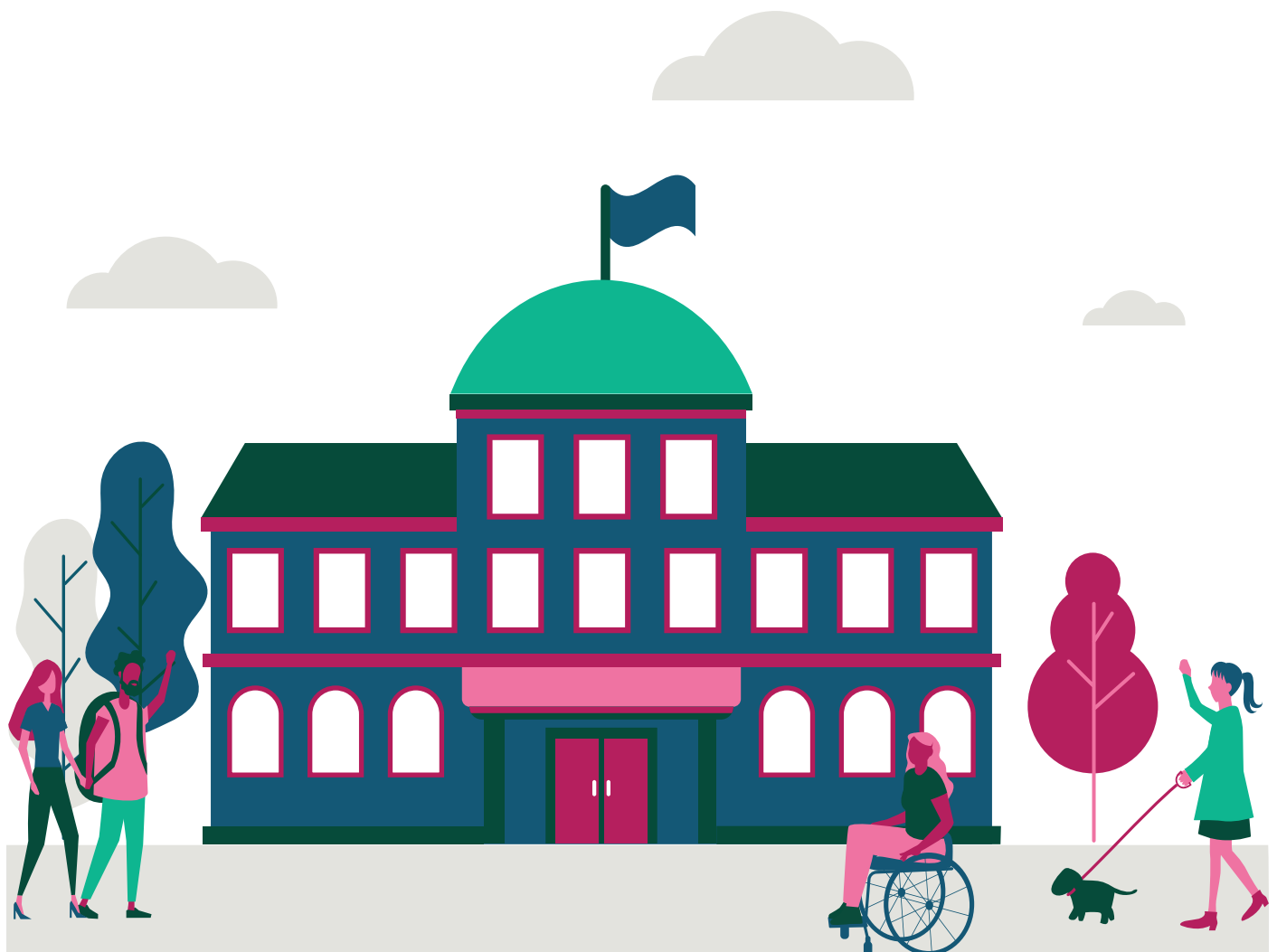
A more sustainable and inclusive culture starts in cities

Eurocities' call for culture to drive change in Europe

There is no vibrant city without a vibrant cultural scene: culture is an engine for urban economic development and contributes directly to enhancing the quality of life of citizens.

Culture, heritage and architecture are increasingly at the heart of cities' agendas, and their connections to other areas (inclusion, urban regeneration, city attractiveness) are becoming ever more evident. This is also a clear trend at EU level, which is reflected in more and more transversal European policies and programmes where culture is connected to strategic policies.

Cities understand and share the urgency for action to meet the ecological imperative through their public policies, including those on culture. Cities also commit to the objectives of artistic excellence and social inclusion, understanding that provision of culture for society's least privileged ultimately benefits everyone.



To make the most of culture, heritage and architecture as levers to support positive changes, cities recommend that the EU takes further works towards:

Sustainable culture: greening (with) culture and culture by all and for all

Local policy makers are working towards local cultural policies and events that are greener and that use less resources. They also work towards more inclusive cultural policies and activities that are ambitious, open to all, independent from their backgrounds, diverse and participative.

To achieve sustainable culture on the ground, the EU should support pilot projects to develop innovative actions beyond the Creative Europe programme.

Cultural heritage as a vector for Europe's green, social and digital transformation

Through experimentation and participation, cities can leverage cultural heritage policies and activities to mitigate or solve challenges such as climate change, social inclusion and economic competition as well as global megatrends such as rapid urbanisation, digitalisation and individualisation.

The EU should support mainstreaming cultural heritage across key policies, covering all levels of governance and with a special focus on green, social and digital transformation.

Sustainable urban architecture, design and built environment

Architecture has a fundamental impact on people's quality of life. Cities must have well-designed buildings and environments that are inclusive and considerate of everyone's needs, without harming the environment.

There is a clear need to mobilise resources for cities to deliver on New European Bauhaus objectives. These should operate as a transdisciplinary living lab, inform stakeholders about innovative solutions, and provide a public deliberative space on new approaches to sustainable and inclusive cities.

Cities' collaborations for sustainable and inclusive cultural policies, for a sustainable built environment and quality urban design

Cities need to learn from each other. Supporting cities to do more together is a crucial yet straightforward way of delivering on the EU's policy objectives.

The EU should promote and support long-term peer-learning schemes to identify new working models that are tested in European cities, share their results, and assess their transferability to other local contexts.



Eurocities in brief

Eurocities is the largest network of European cities. We count over 200 large cities among our membership, representing more than 150 million people across 38 countries, from within and outside the European Union.

Vision

We strive for a Europe where cities are at the heart of European and national decision making, to create a better sustainable and inclusive future for all.

Mission

Eurocities is the leading network of major European cities, working together and with other stakeholders to ensure a good quality of life for all our citizens and make cities places where everyone can enjoy a good quality of life and a sustainable future.
