



Mr. Jean-Claude Juncker
President
European Commission
Rue de la Loi / Wetstraat 200
1049 Brussels, Belgium

17 November 2017, Amsterdam

Dear Mr. President,

It is with great interest that the sector of Higher Arts Education and Culture took notice of the EC's communiqué of November 14, 2017 with regard to the creation of a European Education Area by 2025.

Our sector recognizes the potential of such a policy decision for the creation of a stable and inclusive Europe.

We applaud your statement that 'education and culture are the key to the future – both for the individual as well as for our Union as a whole.' The Commission thus points to the intrinsic link between the areas of education and culture and the unique contribution of education in the arts to ensure broad access to cultural participation, to strengthen a shared European identity and to empower young people from an early age as the future driving force of free and democratic European societies.

Our institutions represent 550 stakeholders operating on the intersection of Education, Culture and the Arts. Higher Arts Education is a cornerstone in this important strategic process, drawing on its extensive experience engaging in the implementation and enhancement of the European Higher Education Area. Towards the definition of concrete actions with broad ownership in the sector, we are prepared to engage in a consultation process with you.

On behalf of the members of ELIA and the AEC, in collaboration with Culture Action Europe, we are at your disposal as soon as the road map for implementation of the new strategic focus is known.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T. D. Meier'.

Thomas D. Meier
President
ELIA-European League of Institutes
of the Arts

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Eirik Birkeland'.

Eirik Birkeland
President
Association Européenne des Conservatoires,
Académies de Musique et Musikhochschulen