

**UNeECC Annual Conference 2024**  
**Impact and Legacy of the ECoC Program**  
**9-12 October 2024, Timișoara (Romania)**

**CALL FOR CONFERENCE**

The **University Network of the European Capitals of Culture (UNeECC)** was founded in 2006 by the University of Pécs with the intention that the universities of the ECoC cities should contribute to the success of the programmes and provide background research for the ECoC organisers. The aim of the organisation is to recognise the role and contribution of universities in the success of the cities that have been awarded the title of European Capital of Culture. The network presently connects more than 50 higher education institutions.

The UNeECC cordially invites you to its next annual conference in Timișoara titled **Impact and Legacy of the ECoC Program**, hosted in Timișoara, Romania, by the Alliance of Timișoara Universities in partnership with the City of Timișoara, through the Center for Projects, on 9-12 October 2024.

**Sessions:**

**1. Assessing community building and public participation in ECoC cities**

This track focuses on how increasing the citizens' sense of belonging to a common cultural area influences the dynamics of a city, especially in neighborhoods and areas not typically associated to the cultural phenomena. The track invites contributions that address (but are not restricted to):

- Assessment methodologies to identify and measure social impacts of the ECoC title
- Participative practices for the management of culture
- Strategies, public policies and experiences for enhancing a participatory culture
- Cultural mediation programmes
- Cultural consumption and sense of belonging
- Community building through cultural/intercultural experiences.

**2. Art and technology - new forms of cultural expressions (UPT):**

This track focuses on the contemporary trend in creating and promoting cultural production and consumption, which is intrinsically tied to the digital and technological extensions of human beings. The track invites contributions that deal with (but are not restricted to):

- Reinterpretation and/or promotion of cultural products with (new) technological devices and channels;
- Wearable technologies in visiting “classical” cultural sites: cities, museums, exhibitions etc.
- New means of cultural expressions, using (new) technology to create art
- The role of mixed teams artists-engineers (technology experts) in the production, promotion and ensuring the sustainable existence of the new forms of art.

**3. Impact of culture for the future of urban services**

Culture deeply influences the future of urban services, being an active factor of social cohesion and inclusion, economic development, and transformation acceleration. Contributions that tackle

healthcare, education, urban planning, environmental protection, and recreational activities from multiple perspectives are welcomed. They may include but are not limited to:

- Cultural beliefs and practices that influence healthcare, preferences for treatment modalities, and perceptions of health and illness.
- Cultural diversity in urban areas; inclusive and culturally responsive educational practices.
- Inclusive urban design which takes into account the needs and preferences of diverse cultural communities, including accessibility, safety, and social cohesion; participatory planning processes and collective decision-making.
- Ecological practices and biodiversity conservation in addressing social and cultural leisure activities or recreational facilities.

#### 4. Sustainable practices in ECoC ecosystems

The European Capital of Culture programme has always addressed the sustainability issue and encouraged eco-practices and environmentally friendly events. This track focuses on how culture can raise awareness and influence behaviour in regards to sustainable economic development, and welcomes papers on circular economy, short supply chains, eco-tourism, shared and distributed leadership in event management, as well as any other topics covering the 2030 Agenda.

#### 5. Governance of recent ECoC programmes

The European Capital of Culture programme went through different stages since its start in 1985, its evolution being driven, among others, by the change in vision and guidelines given of the European Commission, as well as the evolution of the cultural and societal modes of production, consumption, and the recognition of the relevance of culture for territorial development. This track focuses on the different approaches of the governance of ECoC programmes, their principles and the way they influence the outcomes, presentation and assessment of different evaluation methodologies of the governance and of the development of the ECoC Programme ecosystem - network formation, size, cohesion etc.

#### 6. Building capacities within the cultural sector and beyond

Recent European Capitals of Culture have highlighted the importance of building capacities of the cultural sectors for a positive implementation of the Programmes and for a sustainable legacy. This track will focus on how such programmes rely and develop these capacities, extending the discussion from the capacities of cultural organizations to the importance of human and organizational capacities within the public administration and funders, and how these influence a sustainable legacy of the ECoC Programme.

#### DEADLINES

- 3rd Call for registration: **19th July (extended)**
- Registration and abstract submission deadline: **25 August**
- Acceptance of abstract via e-mail: **4 September**
- Conference fee payment: **30 September**
- Paper submission deadline of the selected full papers: **31 October**  
(the proceedings book will be scheduled by Springer or you may publish in the UNeECC proceedings [Proceedings - Uneecc](#))

#### FEES

Participant from UNeECC member institution: 170 EUR

Participant from other institution: 190 EUR

Presenter from UNeECC member institution: 150 EUR

Presenter from other institution: 170 EUR

PhD student: 90 EUR for the entire conference/ 0 EUR only the pre-conference

Waiver - 0 EUR for local (Timișoara) policy makers, researchers and cultural actors to be selected to present at the conference, as a result of the partnership with the City of Timișoara, through the Center for Projects.

The conference fee includes:

All coffee and lunch breaks, gala dinner, guided sightseeing, guide to the cultural event venues, conference abstracts/proceedings (online).

**REGISTRATION (until 23 June)**

Please click on the following **registration link**: [UNeECC Annual Conference 2024- registration - Google Forms](#)

We hope to see you in Timisoara, the European Capital of Culture 2023!

**The Organising Committee**

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**For further information please visit the official website of the conference:**

<https://uneecc2024.org/>

**Find out more about the organisation on the official website of the UNeECC:**

[www.uneecc.org](http://www.uneecc.org)