

## Internationale Gesellschaft der Bildenden Künste (IGBK) - Germany National Report 2019

*The Internationale Gesellschaft der Bildenden Künste (IGBK) unites Germany's three most important supraregional artist associations: Bundesverband Bildender Künstlerinnen und Künstler (Federal Association of Artists), Deutscher Künstlerbund (German Artists' Association) and GEDOK, Verband der Gemeinschaften der Künstlerinnen und Kunstförderer (Federation of Women Artists and Patrons of the Arts). The association was founded in 1957 as the German National Committee of the International Association of Art (IAA). The current chairpersons are annette hollywood (speaker of the board), Susanne Meier-Faust and Werner Schaub. The IGBK and its projects are supported by the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media and by the Kulturstiftung der Länder.*

### Information and service

IGBK councils visual artists on the possibilities of working opportunities and grants, both in Germany and abroad. Information and contact details for international exchange is provided at the IGBK webpage ([www.igbk.de](http://www.igbk.de)). Also the IGBK office helps with formalities with respect to projects abroad and provides advice regarding administrative issues. It issues the 'International Identity Card' of the IAA (818 cards were issued in 2018, valid for 2 years).

### **[www.touring-artists.info](http://www.touring-artists.info) – The information portal for artists working internationally**

Since 2013, the information portal [www.touring-artists.info](http://www.touring-artists.info), a joint project of IGBK and the German Centre of the International Theatre Institute (ITI), provides artists for both the performing and the visual arts comprehensive information on visas and residence, transport and customs, taxes, social and other insurances, and copyright related to cross-border mobility. Furthermore, artists and cultural professionals can make use of the [touring artists helpdesk service](#) for individual consultations on international projects and working stays abroad.

The website and service is available in English and in German and is addressed to artists living in Germany and working abroad for a limited time, as well as to foreign artists who come to work in Germany temporarily.

Since Summer 2018 the service also provides information in Turkish specifically for artists and cultural workers from Turkey who are temporarily or longer termly working in Germany.

From September 2018 on the touring artists helpdesk service also welcomes artists and culture professionals who were forced to leave their home countries and are now residing in Germany. The online portal has been partly translated into Arabic, also for that use. Individual consultations on international projects as well as on questions on how to achieve a future career in Germany are offered. Culture professionals can also obtain information on the Berlin job market in particular. Moreover, the helpdesk service addresses cultural institutions in Berlin that are collaborating with arriving artists.

In cooperation with the European Music Council, a start is made in 2019 to expand the information systematically also for the music sector - by now in German, hopefully in English soon as well.

*touring artists is a joint project of IGBK and the [International Theatre Institute \(ITI\)](#) Germany. The [touring artists helpdesk](#) is a cooperation of IGBK and ITI together with [SMartDe - Netzwerk für](#)*

[Kreative e.V.](#). The project is supported by the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media.

The enhanced service for artists and culture professionals from countries affected by crisis is part of the project 'International Artists Info Berlin' – a cooperation of ITI Germany and IGBK with SMartDe – Netzwerk für Kreative e.V. and Universität der Künste Berlin – Berlin Career College, supported by the Senate Department for Culture and Europe Berlin, programme 'Weltoffenes Berlin'.

## Representing Artists' Interests: Workshops, Symposia and Membership

IGBK organises symposia and workshops on topics of relevance to artists. IGBK invites artists, cultural politicians, scientists, and practitioners in the field of cultural mediation, art education, and the art market. With our partners we discuss topical issues concerning training in the arts, communication, identity, and the conditions and perspectives on contemporary art. Through these activities, IGBK seeks to stimulate new ideas, propose possible solutions and sharpen the vision for future-oriented concepts

### 2019 event series “Übergänge/ Nachbarschaft” on artistic cooperation in border regions

In 2019 IGBK discusses artistic cooperation in border regions of Germany in a series of events under the title "Übergänge/ Nachbarschaft". The events debate the specific quality of artistic work on intra-European borders. What conditions are cooperations subject to? What funding opportunities exist, especially from the EU side, and how do these affect the artistic work in those regions?

The juxtaposition of the talks will also provide ideas as to what the term border in 2019 means artistically and politically in Europe, against the backdrop of new nationalisms within the European Union and also facing Brexit in these days. Are boundaries transitions, and how are these transitions ordered? Which cultural boundaries continue to exist, which ones are new and how do artists deal with them?

Artistic exchange between regions and across borders can decisively be a vehicle for cultural and political cohesion. What changes will there possibly be with a new European Parliament and what will be the possibilities under the new Multiannual Financial Framework of the EU, which will run from 2021 onwards? How can artists become active?

Marcel Noack and Jörg Wagner, members of the board of IGBK, are the project leaders for "Übergänge/ Nachbarschaft".

- The series kicked off with a [podium discussion and a touring artists workshop](#) on 26.04.2019 in Frankfurt (Oder) as part of the student art festival [Art an der Grenze na granicy](#) and the [Brandenburgisches Landesmuseum für Moderne Kunst](#).
- In cooperation with the Weissensee Kunsthochschule Berlin, a [lecture](#) was given on 14.06.2019 by Norbert Cyrus (Research associate of the European University Viadrina, Frankfurt (Oder) - Viadrina Center [B/ORDERS IN MOTION](#)) on the thematization of boundaries in the social sciences and in visual arts.
- The Europe-wide perspective was the focus in Konstanz/ Kreuzlingen, from 23.-26.10.2019 in the Culture Action Europe annual conference "[Beyond the Obvious](#)", this year under the title

"Culture Crops: cultural practices in non-urban territories". IGBK was one of the cooperation partners for organizing the conference at the German-Swiss border.

- More best practice examples will be presented at the closing event and in cooperation with [Kloster Bentlage in Rheine on 15./16.11.2019](#). Program: Panel discussion with artists from Germany and the Netherlands and project leaders of the EUREGIO taNDem project - Consulting workshop in German and Dutch on the international mobility of artists - Workshop discussion: What similarities can be observed across the regions in cross-border work? What specific opportunities and challenges exist? How can artists and cultural actors receive support and bundle results here?

### **“Freepost” – an online debate about Arts and Politics in Fall 2018 and Spring 2019**

Starting October 2018 until May 2019, in a new issue of "Freepost", the digital discourse format at [goethe.de](http://goethe.de), in cooperation with IGBK, artists discussed online how contemporary art positions itself politically, how artists collaborate internationally, and how they can reach directly to the European audience. In two online debates spanning several weeks, three discussion partners exchanged ideas on the current social and political role of artists in Europe at [goethe.de/freepost](http://goethe.de/freepost).

*A cooperation of IGBK with the Goethe-Institut München on [goethe.de](http://goethe.de)*

### **Culture Action Europe annual conference “Culture Crops – cultural practices in non-urban territories” 23-26 October 2019 in Konstanz/ Kreuzlingen**

From 23-26 October 2019 the Culture Action Europe Conference [„Culture Crops – Cultural Practices in Non-Urban Territories“](#) took place in Konstanz/Kreuzlingen. IGBK was one of the cooperation partners for organizing the conference at the German-Swiss border.

170 participants from all over Europe debated on cultural practices in non-urban territories: Where does the rural begin and where does it end? What is the difference between urban visions of the rural and what the rural really is today? How does cultural work in peripheral territories take place and how is it organised? Find the detailed program of the conference [here](#).

The unusual format, with hikes and visits to cultural sites in Konstanz and Kreuzlingen and the surrounding area – such as Kunstraum Kreuzlingen, the public library and Theater Konstanz, Kartause Ittingen, Transitory Museum of Pfyn, Haus zur Glocke and many more – specifically helped to foster the exchange amongst the cultural actors from all over Europe. Right after the visits, the local hosts discussed challenges in their day-to-day work, as well as their questions and wishes to political actors in the European Union, with similar projects from other regions of Europe. Furthermore, an open [Project Agora](#) gave space to 26 cultural projects and artists from rural areas in Europe.

The conference participants quickly assembled several theses and demands that were then discussed by the finishing panel, find them here in a first draft:

- Rural voice should be more heard / represented at EU level. At the same time, there is a need for a stronger exchange of the cultural sector with already existing according institutions, such as the European Committee of the Regions.
- Generate links between cultural policy and the cohesion policy strands and develop transversal action.

- In order to create sustainable communities in non urban territories, cultural practices should follow a holistic approach (territorial, cultural, human, economic) that takes into account the autonomy of the community, as well as foster motivation and self-empowerment by being aware of existing local values
- Adopting and diversifying the EU cultural policy is necessary in terms of issues such as scaling of the program, evaluation criteria capacity building, facilitating application processes to reach the goal of truer territorial equity.
- Enable and facilitate exchanges, connectivity, knowledge sharing, information access, cultural and creative practices between rural areas across the EU. Issues to be tackled at the EU level:
  - - Gathering of knowledge/data
  - - Preservation/transmission of traditional know how
  - - Trans-sectorality
  - - Long-term actions
  - - Capacity to act from local to global
  - - Efficiency of local policies/ if compares to EU

An elaboration of these theses and other conference outcomes will be published with a Culture Action Europe policy paper and further documentation on the [website of Culture Action Europe](#) in the next weeks.

### **Coordination of Open Call for “Kreativ-Transfer” Travel Grants for Artist-Run Project Spaces to Int. Fairs**

In the fall of 2019 IGBK coordinated the first call for travel grants for artist run project spaces in Germany to international art fairs under the new pilot project “Kreativ-Transfer”, a project funded by the German Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media, organized by the umbrella organization The German Association for Dance (DTD).

Travels to trade fairs and platforms for artist-run exhibition and project spaces will be subsidized partially in the first part of 2020, which will allow exhibition and project spaces to present their profile and their artists, to expand their international network, to intensify contacts and to make new ones. Find more information on the Open Call and the Online Form for application [here](#) on the IGBK Website. There will be a 2<sup>nd</sup> call in the 1<sup>st</sup> half of 2020.

Within the program "Kreativ-Transfer" companies, artists and game developers as well as producers, gallery owners and artist-run project space operators travel to international festivals, fairs and platforms in Germany, in Europe and around the world. They present their work, make new contacts and find co-producers and clients. "Kreativ-Transfer" promotes these journeys and strengthens the exchange of professional know-how.

*The project „Kreativ-Transfer“ is funded by the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media. Organizer of the project “Kreativ-Transfer” is the umbrella organization The German Association for Dance (DTD). In the implementation of this program, DTD cooperates with the IGBK as well as with Bundesverband Freie Darstellende Künste (BFDK), the Initiative Neuer Zirkus (INZ), the*

*Bundesverband Deutscher Galerien und Kunsthändler (BVDG), with game - Verband der deutschen Games-Branche eV and transmissions GbR.*

## **Online re-issue of “Dreams of Art Spaces Collected” Videos**

In the summer of 2019 IGBK re-issued many of the video interviews of "Dreams of Art Spaces Collected", an artistic research interview project by Dorothee Albrecht, Alf Löhr, Andreas Schmid and Moira Zoitl for the Internationale Gesellschaft der Bildenden Künste (IGBK) on the IGBK Website.

The project, realized from 2007 to 2015, had been presented in various European locations and in China. The interviews, conducted in Europe, China, Australia and India, collect visions and experiences of artists, curators and theorists in exhibiting and mediating contemporary art. The focus was on non-profit project spaces and artist initiatives. A first collection of seven DVDs was released in 2008. In 2015, the project was expanded with two more DVDs and a comprehensive reader. A large selection of the interviews can now be [viewed on the IGBK Website](#). Further videos may be added in the future.

## **Membership at national, European and international level**

IGBK is engaged with several organizations and networks, particularly at the European level. In cooperation with its partners, IGBK attempts to insure that the interests of artists are taken into consideration at relevant political and administrative decision-making levels.

The IGBK represents the German National Committee of the IAA and is – at the European level – part of the IAA Europe. From 2002 to 2008 and again since 2015 IGBK held the presidency of IAA Europe (president Werner Schaub) and is now handing over the responsibility for the IAA Europe office to the Slovak Union of Visual Arts (SUVA) and the new president of IAA Europe Andrea Kristek Kozárová at the General Assembly of IAA Europe in Bratislava.

In November 2018, IGBK organized the General Assembly of IAA Europe in Brussels as well as, in cooperation with IAA Europe, VG Bild-Kunst and European Visual Artists, the symposium “Exhibition Remuneration Right in Europe 2018”, which was thoroughly followed in 2019 by an extensive documentation, a campaign on the issue in French/German/English and a survey in cooperation with European Visual Artists (EVA), of which the results shall be published in the next months.

In 2019, IGBK co-organized the General Assembly of IAA Europe in Bratislava and the associated conference “Legal and social statutes of artists in Europe - 30 years after the Velvet Revolution: Focus on the Directive (EU) 2019/790 on Copyright in the digital Single Market”, together with SUVA, IAA Europe and the Norwegian National Committee of IAA Europe Norske Billedkunstnere (NBK).

### **“Exhibition Remuneration Right in Europe 2018”**

Symposium 22 November 2018 in Brussels

*Organized by Internationale Gesellschaft der Bildenden Künste (IGBK), the [IAA Europe](#), the German collecting society [VG Bild-Kunst](#), and the association [European Visual Artists \(EVA\)](#). Under the patronage of Sabine Verheyen, MEP, Member of the European Parliament’s Committee on Culture and Education. Further partners are [Culture Action Europe](#) and the [Initiative Ausstellungsvergütung](#).*

The issue of exhibition remuneration has been an important topic for artists' associations throughout Europe for years. At the symposium an exchange shall take place on national and regional

remuneration models that have already been successfully put into practice. In addition, current guidelines and campaigns will be presented. It is also an important goal to make policy and administration aware of the subject of exhibition remuneration at EU level and to draw attention to the 'equity gap' that exists in the visual arts.

IGBK has also produced a handout with texts on Exhibition Remuneration in Europe and beyond, such as Canada, Australia and the USA, which was published together with the extensive symposium documentation. View the program and documentation on the IGBK Website [here](#).

In 2019 IGBK organized a campaign on the issue as office of IAA Europe, and presented the campaign amongst others at the Culture Action Europe (CAE) Members Forum in Brussels in March 2019. Furthermore, IGBK initiated a survey amongst collecting societies in Europe on the issue of exhibition remuneration, together with European Visual Artists (EVA), the results will be presented towards the end of 2019/ beginning 2020.

### **“Legal and social statutes of artists in Europe - 30 years after the Velvet Revolution: Focus on the Directive (EU) 2019/790 on Copyright in the digital Single Market”**

Conference 22 November 2019 in Bratislava

Organized by [IAA Europe](#), [Slovak Union of Visual Arts](#), [Internationale Gesellschaft der Bildenden Künste \(IGBK\)](#) and [Norske Billedkunstnere \(NBK\)](#)

This gathering and accompanying conference takes place upon invitation of the Slovak Union of Visual Arts (SUVA) and will focus on the legal and social statutes of artists in Europe, more specifically on the national implementations of the Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single Market, formally the Directive (EU) 2019/790 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 April 2019 on copyright and related rights in the Digital Single Market and amending Directives 96/9/EC and 2001/29/EC, and its effect on the status and income of visual artists in Europe.

IAA Europe wants to discuss the consequences the EU directive will have for visual artists and artists associations in Europe, be it in EU member states or EFTA/EEA countries. What can we do now to make sure the directive is being implemented in favor of the rights holders/ artists, and more specifically also of visual artists? This get-together is very much about knowledge exchange, which remains very necessary or becomes even more so after the adoption of the strongly discussed directive and with its national implementations ahead in the next years.

Which part, or Article, of the final directive is most important and why? (How) Will it increase the artist economy and strengthen their rights in practice in the best way possible? (How) Can collective agreements serve as a solution to close the “value gap” between tech-giants and artists getting fair remuneration for the use of their artworks?

The political decision process of the directive had a strong focus on the general public, and within the arts mostly on other branches than on the visual arts. So, we want to put IAA Europe members and everybody interested stronger on the track: How can the national implementations of the directive, that are now due, strengthen the position of visual artists? Are there possibly opportunities not everyone is aware of at the moment, which may be worth discussing and sharing? What can artist organizations do to influence and what solutions will be good for the authors / artists?

Four perspectives shall be covered with speakers and participants:

- A summary of the legal implications of the different articles of the copyright directive
- A view on possible networking and knowledge transfer amongst visual artists associations in Europe in the process of the implementations of the directive
- A regional perspective from an EU member state: an exemplary picture on the status quo and hurdles in the implementation
- A regional perspective from the EFTA/EEA countries (an EFTA/EEA country): how is artistic practice affected by the copyright directive in those countries and what consequences are to be expected once the directive is fully in effect?

IGBK is also active in Culture Action Europe ([www.cultureactioneurope.org](http://www.cultureactioneurope.org)) and in the artists mobility network On The Move ([www.on-the-move.org](http://www.on-the-move.org)). IGBK is also a member of the German UNESCO Commission and of the Kunstrat (Fine Arts Council) of Deutscher Kulturrat (German Cultural Council).

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