



Decidim Cultura

We Decide Culture

Declaration by professionals in the culture industry for the referendum on 1 October

We are culture.

Our knowledge, the way we build our lives and the way we think is based on culture – participating in it and making it our own. We imagine and project reality from the base of culture. It is the primary foundation and the final receptacle for our own particular forms of expression and our creativity.

Culture is reflected in the art of living. For one and for all. And the art of living is the sum of the tools which enable us to understand life, have a full awareness of what is our own and from that reap maximum rewards.

Culture is the result of the mesh of historical processes of specific cultures. All of them. Each unique and unreplaceable. Each the result of a specific collective historical experience. Each one influenced by, mixed with and grafted on the tastes and genius of the others. Our own culture – often so precarious and troubled – is no exception.

The extraordinary complexity and diversity of Catalan culture today, the flexibility and desire for inclusiveness which characterises it, inspire its adaptation to the challenges of globalisation. And it is this present situation, the openness and specificity of our culture – of our arts, thought, heritage, science, industries, languages, patrons – that we reclaim as a starting point for re-thinking the society we share. Culture is a bottomless well of resources for directing the project for our country and the social changes that have to accompany that project. Culture is the capital that can influence political actions and humanise economic objectives.

Culture is the space that makes it possible to take a critical view, to have an informed opinion and to ensure responsible and committed participation in public debate. Being more informed and more cultured makes us more competent. It makes us more capable, both as individuals and collectively, of making sense of the constant stimuli that reality throws at us – in short, it makes us more free.

To turn these considerations into a proposal which we can launch and make work, we need all the tools available from all other cultures we admire for their capacities and qualities.

That is why our proposal is to participate in the referendum on 1 October, so that culture will be the flesh and blood of the Republic, and we invite everyone who loves and respects culture to vote with us.

For democracy.

For our condition as subjects of political sovereignty.

For freedom.

For responsibility and confidence in our future.

For a decisive and strong vote to and for culture.

Barcelona, September 25, 2017