

PRESS RELEASE  
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## **BUENOS AIRES TO HOST THE THIRD UCLG CULTURE SUMMIT**

### **HOST CITY**

The UCLG World Council chose Buenos Aires as the host city of the third UCLG Culture Summit in 2019. The decision was taken by the UCLG World Council on 11 December 2017 in Hangzhou (China).

Buenos Aires is a founding member of the UCLG Committee on Culture, and has extensively contributed to the work programmes of the Committee. It is the current Co-President of the Committee.

### **THE SUMMIT**

The Summit is a global event. It is the meeting point of people, cities, local governments, national governments, academics, networks, civil society organizations and international organizations to discuss the current position of culture in the global agendas. **The Summit demonstrates how cities are taking the lead in recognizing the necessity of culture in sustainable development.** It sends strong global messages on the role of culture in development.

The success of the first and second UCLG Culture Summits, respectively held in Bilbao (2015) and Jeju (2017) proved the growing importance of culture in local development, a fact that is being evidenced in all continents since the beginning of the 21st century.

UCLG work on culture is based on the **Agenda 21 for Culture**, the first global declaration promoting policies and actions by cities and local governments on “culture in sustainable development”.

### **THE THIRD SUMMIT**

The third Summit will emphasize that culture is an integral part of sustainable cities. It will discuss and provide evidences from cities around the world that the core areas of culture (diversity, knowledge, heritage, creativity) have a strong connection with people-centered development (human rights, governance, environment, urban planning, social inclusion and the economy). Good practices from cities around the world will be presented during the Summit.

The third Summit will address the place of cultural aspects within the global agendas on sustainable development (namely, the Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals), as well as how to strengthen the position of culture in their implementation. In late 2017, UCLG Committee on Culture will launch a document entitled “Culture in the SDGs: a Guide for Local Action”, which will provide guidance in this area. The UN agencies and global civil society networks will participate in these debates.

The city of Buenos Aires has a very strong cultural imprint and is the cradle of outstanding expressions, institutions and cultural programmes recognised by the international community. The Summit will also represent a great opportunity for cities around the world to connect with Buenos Aires’ culture.

### **UNITED CITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS (UCLG)**

UCLG is the world organization of local and regional governments and their associations, representing and defending their interests on the world stage. UCLG's network of members represents 70% of the world's total population and is present in all world regions: Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe, Eurasia, Latin America, the Middle East and West Asia, and North America; organized into 7 regional sections, 1 metropolitan section and 1 Forum of regions. This network includes over 240,000 towns, cities, regions and metropolises, and over 175 associations of local and regional governments in 140 countries. Among UCLG's key areas of political interest are: local democracy, culture, climate change and environmental protection, the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, local finance, urban development and city diplomacy in peace building.

### **UCLG COMMITTEE ON CULTURE**

The Committee on Culture of UCLG – also known as the Agenda 21 for culture network – is a unique global platform of more than 800 cities, local governments and organizations. They cooperate on “culture in sustainable development” through peer-learning activities, tailored monitoring programmes, global advocacy campaigns, publications and biennial events, including an Award and a Summit. The Committee on Culture works with actors in all the continents to “promote culture as the fourth pillar of sustainable development” and to operationalise this narrative with practical tools.

### **CONTACT**

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