



Envisioning the way forward



#TheatreEU #PushBoundaries

**EUROPEAN
THEATRE
FORUM 2023**

**OPOLE, POLAND
11-13 May**

Creative Europe



EUROPEAN THEATRE FORUM 2023

Last version: 27 April 2023

ETF DAY 1 – COMMON GROUNDS | Day 1 – Thursday, May 11th 2023

14:00 – 17:00

Registration at the JK Opole Theatre

ETF Stakeholders arrive at the theatre and register to the ETF
Opole – Poland

15:00 – 17:00

Arrival and Welcoming Drinks (in parallel) - *First floor JK Opole Theatre*

Music, finger food and drinks

Attendees are invited to network while enjoying music, finger food and coffee at the first floor of the JK Opole Theatre. Individual network meetings can take place in the lower foyer, in which guests find sofa and table corners

Master of Ceremony: Ian de Toffoli & Natasha Syvanenko

Discussions will be held in English.

17:00 – 17:30

Opening Reception - *[Main Stage]*

Online Opening address, Commission

17:30 – 18:30

Roundtable Artistic Impulse - Democracy, Collaboration and the Power of Theatre
[Main Stage]

Artists share and discuss their experience of the power of theatre and the essential role of international collaboration and cultural exchange in their work.

18:30 – 19:30

Opening Standing Dinner *[Lower and Upper Foyer]*

Music, dinner and drinks

Attendees are invited to network while enjoying live music, finger food and coffee at the first floor of the JK Opole Theatre.

20:00 – 22:30

Performance: Top Secret Research, by Norbert Rakowski

Attendees are invited to network while enjoying music, finger food and coffee at the first floor of the JK Opole Theatre.

22:30

Official End of Day 1

Attendees are welcomed and invited to join the Followed by ETF Get Together with music in the Theatre Foyer





ETF DAY 2 – PLAY-GROUND | Day 2 – Friday, May 12th 2023

Master of Ceremony: Ian de Toffoli and Natasha Syvanenko

Discussions will be held in English.

09:00 – 09:15

Opening

Introduction to the Day's schedule and activities

09:15 – 10:00

Who is Here? Speed Meeting and Icebreaker [Upper Foyer]

A structured networking event for attendees to (re)connect and get ready to share on the guiding themes of the ETF. A fast-paced networking event to enable deep connection and start conversations, to be picked up again and continued for the remaining duration of the Forum.

10:00 – 10:30

Presentation: European Theatre Study [Main Stage]

An introduction to the study of theatres across Europe.

The authors of the study of theatres across Europe, commissioned by the European Commission as part of its European Theatre Initiative and published in the second half of 2022, present their research, which highlights and questions the theatre sector's successes and challenges before and during the COVID-19 pandemic.

10:30 – 11:00

Overview of current policy affairs and priorities by DG EAC [Main Stage]

Input from DG EAC on current affairs and current/future cross-cutting priorities, building and expanding on the findings from the study, would be very helpful to frame and guide the working group sessions coming after. It would help you receive more interesting, immediately useful/focused content from the discussions at the tables afterwards.

11:00 – 11:30

Coffee Break

11:30 – 12:30

Working group Session 1 [Upper Foyer, VIP, Modelatornia]

Deep-dive discussion tables to exchange on practical step for the future of theatres

Attendees share input and knowledge on key themes that are relevant to their area of expertise.

Topics will include:

1. #FreeToCreate: Artistic Freedom and experiments
2. #FragileContexts: Large-scale cooperation with Ukraine and in fragile contexts
3. #NewEuropeanBauhaus: mainstream sustainable thinking across European Audiences
4. #Mobility and Emerging Artists
5. Working conditions of Theatre Professionals
6. Mental Health and Social Inclusion

12:30 – 13:00

Rapporteurs' statements Thematic Sessions 1 [Upper Foyer, VIP, Modelatornia]

Moderators: Maria Delgado, Kasia Lech

13:00 – 14:30

Networking Lunch





14:30 – 15:15 Transformations fast forward: Tackling burning societal challenges to transform and equip Europe's theatre sector

Keynotes *[Main Stage]*

- Co-creating the digital shift in theatre: the presentation of a study on Digital Strategies and Business Models in European Theatre (15 minutes + 5 minutes for questions)
- followed by a philosophical input on sustainability as a holistic concept (not only ecology but the Sustainability goals of the UN / the principles behind the European Green Deal)
> what's at stake – [New forms of interventions and passions of joy to preserve our planets' diversity](#) (15 minutes + 5 minutes for questions)
- Even though we know the "why", it gives the participants' brains some time to settle and organise their thoughts after lunch and develop thinking on the 'how'!

15:15 – 16:15 Panel Discussion, A Shared Strategy for Sustainable Theatre in Europe *[Main Stage]*

- Presentation: Digital accessibility, Inclusion and Green Strategies and Business Models in European Theatre

Providing and sharing the tools for European Theatre to make their activities sustainable

16:15 – 16:45 Coffee break

16:45 – 17:45 Best Practice Table Talks *[Upper Foyer, Modelatornia, VIP Room]*

Deep-dive discussion tables to exchange on innovation and developments in theatre

1. Agile and Affordable: Digital theatre as an opportunity
2. Theatre vs Online Commercial Platforms? Streaming and online 'discoverability'
3. Experiments in VR theatre and using Robotics
4. Applied Research & Digital Theatre
5. Introducing a shared assessment tool to measure sustainable progress in theatres
6. Sustainable and inclusive touring
7. Peer to peer learning on walking the path towards sustainable theatre creation
8. New Bauhaus goes centre stage on Europe's theatres

Signal for possibility to change table at half-time

17:45 – 18:15 Rapporteurs' statements Thematic Sessions 2 – *[Upper Foyer]*

Moderators: Maria Delgado, Kasia Lech

18:15 – 21:00 Individual dinners

- 18.45 – 21.00 Performance: Top Secret Research, by Norbert Rakowski
- 21:00 – 22:15 Performance: Danse Macabre, by Renata Piotrowska-Auffret
- 21:30 – 22:45 Performance: The Wonderful neither This nor That, by Tomasz Cymerman



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ETF DAY 3 – FUTURE GROUNDS | Day 3 – Saturday, May 13th 2023

Master of Ceremony: Ian de Toffoli and Natasha Syvanenko

Discussions will be held in English.

- 09:15 – 09:30** **Opening [Main Stage]**
Introduction to the Day's schedule and activities
- 09:30 – 10:15** **Get Engaged! Shared Drama – Artistic Networking Event [Upper Foyer]**
A hands-on read-through of noteworthy contemporary European theatre texts
- 10.15 – 11.30** **Backstage Talks: A Shared European Theatre Policy [Backstage of the Main Stage and on the Stage]**
In line with the Forum's aims to create intense interaction between policy makers and the theatre sector at the European level, the attendees will be introduced to the 'Backstage Talks' session.
Eight small groups, moderated by representatives from the sector, will collectively intertwine the aforementioned key policy priorities with cross current priority of ETF. These will be used to formulate a vision for the future, consisting of actionable steps for making Europe's theatre sector more sustainable, equitable and equipped to deal with challenges.
1. Digital readiness
 - a. Artistic Freedom
 - b. Working conditions of Theatre Professionals
 2. Sustainability,
 - a. #NewEuropeanBauhaus:
 - b. #Mobility and Emerging Artist
 3. Democracy, International Collaboration, and the Power of Theatre
 - a. #FragileContexts
 - b. Mental Health and Social Inclusion
- 11:30 – 12:00** **Coffee break**
- 12:00 – 12:30** **Rapporteurs' statements Backstage Talks [Main Stage]**
Moderators: Maria Delgado, Kasia Lech
- 12:30 – 13:15** **Outlook Panel & Conclusion: A Shared European Theatre Policy [Main Stage]**
Feedback from the group sessions will be summarised and discussed. The results of this panel will be used to develop a set of recommendations for a strategic agenda for the European theatre sector 'Opole Recommendations', following-up on the 2020 'Dresden Declaration' and presenting the values, challenges and concrete proposals for the way forward.
- 13:15 – 13:30** **Closing of the European Theatre Forum by a representative of the European Commission (DG EAC) [Main Stage]**
The European Commission closes the second European Theatre Forum by reflecting on the knowledge shared within and progress made for the sector during the event.



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Hashtags

Main hashtag: **#TheatreEU**

Supporting hashtags: #ETF2023 #EuropeanTheatreForum #CreativeEurope #CreativeCulture

Tags

@europe_creative @ETC @GabrielMariya @ChristophidouEU @EU_Commission

Main messages

- The 2023 European Theatre Forum (ETF) aspires to bring together key voices from the European theatre community with decision-takers to collectively address ongoing challenges faced by the European Theatre Sector. Organised by the European Commission, the event builds on the first 2020 Online European Theatre Forum, and aims at establishing long-lasting, trustworthy and structured discussions between the sectors. With representatives from all EU member states, European institutions and civil society, the Forum will ultimately turn this community of interests into a community of practices and equipped professionals with the adequate skill set to engage in strategic cross borders cooperation.
- The Forum will amplify the significance of artistic international collaboration and cross-border cooperation. The Forum will highlight the urgency and political necessity of theatre and put foundations in the ground for the European Commission to go further in its specific support for the theatre sector, embedding this support in its upcoming funding programmes.
- The ETF in 2023 will harness the momentum of the first Forum to formulate a vision for the future and a roadmap consisting of actionable steps for making Europe's theatre sector more sustainable, equitable, and equipped to deal with challenges. The first day will be dedicated to common ground, the second to play grounds, and the third to future grounds, addressing challenges faced by sector: Democracy, International Collaboration, and the Power of Theatre; Sustainability and Green Transitions, and Digital Readiness.
- Building on the political headway carried by the European Commission since 2020, the aim is to shape lasting connections between theatre makers and policymakers through structured networking events and to provide an overview of the key challenges facing the sector. The Forum is a result of various measures taken as part of the [European Theatre Initiative](#) by the European Commission aiming to develop a more targeted policy approach towards the performing arts and the theatre sector. It is an opportunity to create a strong European cultural policy path for the future of theatre.
- Attendees will address the urgencies faced by theatres, reflect on recommendations, and co-design an ambitious and forward-looking framework for action. The reflections gathered from stakeholders during the Forum will establish the Opole Recommendations, a new policy document, which will spell out the policy

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priorities for the theatre sector in the upcoming years.

- Date: 11-13 May 2023
- Location: [Jan Kochanowski Theatre in Opole, Poland](#), and online streaming
- The online streaming is free of charge





European Theatre Forum 2023

Concept Note

Preamble

We believe in the power of theatre as an intrinsic element of democracy, a power further enhanced through international collaboration. In Ancient Greece, playwrights helped to plant and nurture the seeds of representative government through their characters and plots. Today, in 2023, it is time to come together as a European theatre sector, respecting the democratic tradition of giving the widest number of people a voice. The European Theatre Forum 2023 creates a three-day intense agora of dynamic and energetic interaction. To reflect this, we've planned a large range of 37 short and lively sessions, including 20 table and backstage talks, to maximise our time together. The themes of democracy and our sector's century challenges underpin the way we designed and run the programme. The Forum is a think tank in many ways; it invites everyone to be in the room, to be involved.

Overview

The European Theatre Forum (ETF) 2023 brings key stakeholders from the theatre community together with policymakers to build a roadmap for addressing the critical priorities and main challenges that the sector faces this century. Organised by the European Commission, the event follows the first European Theatre Forum in 2020 to establish structured, open discussion between representatives from the entire theatre ecosystem and member states, European institutions and civil society. The ambitious three-day programme of artist talks, panel discussions, participatory workshops and networking events is informed by the values and impetus of the European Commission.

The Forum will take place at JK Opole Theatre in Poland to amplify the importance of international collaboration, turning a community of interests into a community of practice. The Forum will highlight the renewed added value and political necessity of theatre and pave the way for European Institutions to go further in their specific support for the theatre sector.





ETF will hold a series of high-level artist talks, panel discussions, workshops and networking events for three days. The events will bring together visionary thinkers, artists and leaders, reflecting the diversity and state of knowledge throughout Europe, united in the goal of finding a common voice and vision to transform and future-proof the theatre sector in Europe and beyond.

Through a range of sessions designed to be equally inspiring and participatory, three 'Century Challenges' facing the theatre sector will be addressed: Democracy, International Collaboration and the Power of Theatre, Sustainability and Green Transitions, and Digital Readiness.

As part of this Structured Dialogue, Attendees will exchange reflections and recommendations and ground themselves in the emotional necessity of theatre while creating a framework for action. ETF embodies a new form of dialogue with civil society. During this process, stakeholders provide key ideas and messages that can also be shared with the relevant policy experts. This dialogue with the theatre sector provides an instrumental framework for exchanging views and information and ensures that the voice of civil society organizations is heard.

Now in its second iteration, the first European Theatre Forum in 2020 created a platform for dialogue between Europe's policymakers and the performing arts sector for the very first time. Building on this success, ETF in 2023 will harness the momentum to collectively formulate a vision for the future and a roadmap consisting of actionable steps for making Europe's theatre sector more sustainable, equitable and equipped to deal with present and future challenges.

JK Opole Theatre: an Agora for Modern Theatre

ETF 2023 will take place in person for the first time, in the city where director Jerzy Grotowski developed his iconic training methods at the Theatre of the 13 Rows in the early 1960s. Hosting the Forum in a theatre is a symbolic nod to our continent's roots. The theatre has been a central hub for artistic expression and exchange since ancient times, and it continues to be a space for community-building and dialogue.

By gathering at JK Opole Theatre, participants will not only be celebrating the innovation and progress of modern theatre but also acknowledging the historical significance of the theatre as a catalyst for cultural and democratic transformation.

In the frame of the Forum, JK Opole Theatre will become an agora and a hub bringing together European theatre practitioners and policymakers to network, connect and exchange together.

The choice of location represents the aesthetics and structure of the event. The open, airy, and modern layout of the venue will provide participants with an ideal environment to inspire and reflect on the past, present, and future of European theatre. This aligns with the design of the Forum and directly reflects the democratic mission of modern theatre - to provide open space for exchange and collaboration.

The Forum has an ideal hosting venue in JK Opole Theatre, which has built a reputation for representing the world in all





its complexity and encouraging audiences to react critically. It has demonstrated steadfast support for the people and culture of Ukraine, with whom Poland shares its Eastern border and the rich diversity of the local communities in Poland.

The theatre is also a natural bridge between the West and East-European traditions of theatre-making. Forum attendees are invited to share these perspectives through the programme of evening performances, drawn from JK Opole Theatre's diverse and ambitious programme, "A theatre of many voices, different views".

Opole has shown the world that ideas forged in a small room can shape cultural debate. Now is a moment to share a vision of the future; to take inspiration from Grotowski, who believed in sacrificing for art "not to teach others, but to learn with them".

Although there is an inevitable ecological and time-related cost in travelling to Opole, attending the event in person is not only an opportunity to experience the rich cultural heritage and diverse theatre programme of the city but also to connect with like-minded individuals from all over the world and engage in meaningful discussions and networking opportunities that can lead to important collaborations, progress and innovations in the field of theatre and sustainability. The travelling impact can be considered offset in view and in perspective of the expected outcome of collectively addressing the climate crisis on theatre stages across Europe, thus reaching millions of citizens.

Objectives & Target Groups

As a unique platform for cross-sectoral dialogue, ETF targets policymakers, thinkers, and practitioners alike from the wider theatre world, gathering at this unique professional meeting point representing European theatre. In line with the organisers' guiding principles, ETF works to ensure that Europe remains an avant-garde place, driven by ideas, content, and values. If we want to collectively face complex global challenges, European stakeholders must put policy into practice and help us join forces with leading partners in innovation, research and education, bringing the culture and talents of the next generations together to pave the way to the future we want to create.

Agenda

The European Theatre Forum 2023 focuses on providing answers to how the theatre sector and policymakers can drive change on core issues for the sector. The sessions are designed to be inspiring and participatory, as a space to produce information, reflections and recommendations rather than only receive them. The programme is designed to ground attendees in the urgency of theatre, create the conditions to exchange on the concrete action already taken in the fields of digitality and sustainability, and build a framework together for action.

ETF kicks off on Day 1 under the banner of 'Common Ground'. The first day of the European Theatre Forum will set the groundwork for connections and collaborations between policymakers and theatre makers, grounding this in the core values of the European Institutions.





Day 2, 'Play-Grounds', aims to forge lasting connections between theatre makers and policymakers through structured networking, while also providing an overview of the key challenges facing the sector and inviting attendees to actively reflect on how to address these concepts through panel discussions, research talks, and participatory working sessions.

On Day 3, we dive into 'Future Grounds'. The final day of the European Theatre Forum 2023 will build on the strong connections made at the European level and make a deep, concrete contribution to a shared European theatre Collaboration, through 'Opole Recommendations'.

ETF offers a stage for the diverse voices from the worlds of the arts, academia and policy. Featuring panel discussions, artistic input, sectoral dialogue meetings, the presentation of the results of the European Theatre Study launched in 2020 and breakout sessions, ETF strives to highlight and question the theatre sector's successes and challenges by fostering a cross-sectoral discussion at all events and invites its participants to engage in dialogue with speakers and panelists.

Three main themes for action for theatre in the coming century – 'Century Challenges' – have been identified for the European Theatre Forum 2023 programme. These are issues on which the European Commission is uniquely placed to coordinate a large-scale activity:

1. Democracy, International Collaboration, and the Power of Theatre
2. Sustainability and Green Transitions
3. Digital Readiness

Across these horizontal challenges, the programme will tackle the following key policy priorities:

1. #FragileContexts: large scale cooperation with Ukraine
2. Mental Health and Social Inclusion
3. EU Green Deal & #NewEuropeanBauhaus: mainstream sustainable thinking across European audiences
4. #Mobility and Emerging Artists
5. #FreetoCreate: Artistic Freedom and Experiments
6. Working Conditions of Theatre Professionals

Format

The Forum is designed to be a participatory event by nature, where attendees are expected to come prepared and actively engage in the discussions. The ethos of the event is centred around democracy and collaboration, where everyone is given a platform to contribute. The programme is fast-paced and content-driven, with participants encouraged to get involved from the get-go.

Attendees will be able to participate in and attend a wide range of formats, including table and backstage talks, policy input sessions and keynotes, panel discussions and creative networking events, including a shared participatory reading



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of theatre plays and watching together performances. With a total of 37 sessions, including 20 table and backstage talks, the programme is curated to be innovative in style and follows the latest trends and challenges in the sector.

Each day's schedule is divided into various formats such as study presentations, best practice table talks, and working group sessions, giving participants opportunities to engage in-depth on specific topics, in a comprehensive manner, while fostering dialogue. The programme is designed to gradually increase participation day by day, establishing a framework for deeper and more meaningful contributions as the event unfolds.

The Forum hence offers a dynamic and immersive experience, providing attendees with opportunities to engage and exchange with their peers, share their experiences and expertise, and develop new insights while exploring the future of theatre in Europe.

The Conclusion session of the ETF on the third day will start with an 'Agora' of the young generation of theatre-makers, invited as observers to follow the proceedings during the three days of the ETF. They will share their insights, observations and comments with the creative and policy-making communities, ensuring that the diversity of the voices of emerging artists – those who will actively shape the future of the sector – are fully heard and included in the policy developments.¹

Overall, the format of the European Theatre Forum 2023 embodies its goals and content by developing a diverse range of sessions based on the latest sectoral developments. It reflects the aesthetics, theories, and practices of contemporary theatre, contributing to the overall democratic ethos of the event.

¹ These seven Young Observers come from six different countries (France, India, Montenegro, Poland, Romania and United Kingdom). They have participated in the ETC Artists in Residence programme 2023, co-funded by the European Union, and have been selected by seven major theatrical institutions from six countries of the European Union (Schauspielhaus Graz/Austria, Cyprus Theatre Organisation, Badisches Staatstheater Karlsruhe/Germany, Divadlo Jan Palarika v Trnave/Slovakia, Slovak National Theatre, Slovene National Theatre Nova Gorica and Stadsteater Göteborg/Sweden) following a world-wide open call answered by close to 250 applicants from 52 countries. Their age range from 23 to 30 year old. During the first semester 2023, they each have spent 6-8 weeks accompanying theatrical productions in their host theatres as assistant director or dramaturge, receiving a first insight into the daily work of public theatre institutions and into the different artistic traditions and theatre structures in Europe.

Their presence in Opole will be organised and financially covered within the frame of the EU-funded project TRANSFORMATIONS. A speakers fee can be offered as part of the ETF.





Deliverables and results

With ETF 2023, we aim to create and reinforce connections and build a standard for the sector. We want to facilitate the development of a shared language, which will allow us to provide policymakers with a representative insight into our sector. By promoting a greater understanding of our way of working, we can help ensure that theatre remains a vital and valued part of our cultural landscape.

Moreover, ETF culminates with the drafting of the Opole Recommendations: These pieces of policy lays out hands-on, practical steps that will shape the theatre sector in the coming years and will be relevant to policymakers to operate on a European level to shape European cultural policy, based on the topics that are covered in the European Theatre Forum 2023.

The Opole Recommendations will be presented to theatre stakeholders for one round of online reflections and feedback, before being revised and presented again at a dedicated consultation event (named 'The Backstage Talks') during the European Theatre Forum 2023.

The Opole Recommendations will be a reference for the theatre sector and ensure a continuation of direct dialogue with the European Institutions. This document will create a legacy for Forum and help the European Commission to move forward with theatre in its policy positions, delivering a step-by-step approach so that what the theatre sector aims to achieve is reflected in new legislation and work plans on a European level.

The Opole Recommendations is a continuation and strengthening of the positions set out in the Dresden Declaration policy paper, created as a result of the first European Theatre Forum in 2020. It will be presented at a theatre policy event during the Festival d'Avignon in July 2023.

Background

The European Theatre Forum (ETF) was launched in 2020 in order to overcome the current structural fragmentation of the theatre sector and strengthen its position as an important cultural form in Europe. ETF also serves to professionalise the sector and create a format for intense interaction with policymakers at the European level. European Theatre Forum 2020: European Performing Arts in Focus was an international platform for ideas, discourse, exchange, networking and policy-making that for the first time offered a European representation for the entire theatre sector as well as other performing arts in Europe and beyond.

Focusing on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the performing arts sector, the three-day event brought together 200 participants from over 30 countries, who represented areas such as the independent and institutionalised scene, ensemble theatres working with a permanent ensemble in the repertoire business and production theatres producing and programming performances with independent artists' groups, festivals and academies, as well as representatives



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of the entire value chain and cultural policy in the European context.

It took place virtually from 11-13 November 2020 and concluded with the presentation of the Dresden Declaration, which includes a set of recommendations for a cultural policy strategic agenda for the European theatre sector, presenting the values, challenges and concrete proposals for the way forward. A study commissioned by the European Commission to examine the situation of European theatres was also launched during the Forum.





The 2023 Edition of The European Theatre Forum announced for 11-13 May at JK Opole Theatre

"Envisioning the Way Forward." - The three-day stakeholders' forum, on 11, 12, and 13 May 2023, will amplify the significance of international main challenges facing theatres in the 21st century and addressing critical themes for action.

The European Commission has announced that the 2023 edition of The European Theatre Forum (ETF) will be hosted at the Jan Kochanowski Theatre in the host city of Opole, Poland. The hybrid event, which will run between 11-13 May, will be open to invited delegates to attend in person, with live streaming of the opening and closing ceremonies available to all interested parties.

An Ambitious Three-Day Programme

The ambitious three-day programme, featuring 37 panel discussions, artists talks, participatory workshops, and networking events, will be informed by the values and impetus of the European Commission, as set out in the Creative Europe's Annual Work Programme.

The event will build on the success of the first 2020 Online European Theatre Forum and aims at establishing long-lasting, trustworthy, and structured discussions between various stakeholders in the theatre and performing arts sectors.

The Forum will draw attention to the challenges and political necessity of theatre. It also seeks to establish a solid foundation for a more strategic and unified European approach to Theatre.

Strategic Cross-Border Cooperation

With representatives from all EU member states, European institutions, and civil society, its ultimate goal is to transform this community of shared interests into a community of practices. This objective will be achieved by equipping professionals with the necessary skill set to engage in strategic cross-border cooperation.

The three-day event will focus on three main themes. The first day will be dedicated to exploring common ground, while the second day will be devoted to exploring playgrounds. Finally, on the third day, participants will address challenges facing the sector, including democracy, international collaboration, the power of theatre, sustainability and green transitions, and digital readiness.



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The Opole Recommendations

The event will culminate with the publication of the 2023 Opole Recommendations, with the aim of helping industry professionals recognise and adapt to the opportunities and threats that theatres face in the modern age. Building on the political headway initiated at the 2020 edition of the ETF and the subsequent publication of the Dresden Declaration, the 2023 Opole Recommendations aim to shape lasting connections between theatre makers and policymakers. This publication represents a real opportunity to create a strong European cultural policy path for the future of theatre.

A Flagship Event for the Theatre and Performing Arts Sector

Commissioner Gabriel highlighted the importance of theatre to European communities: "The 2023 European Theatre Forum is expected to be a flagship event for the entire theatre and performing arts sector across the European Union. Building on the 2020 Dresden Declaration, the 2023 edition of the ETF will harness this momentum and formulate a roadmap for making Europe's Theatre Sector more sustainable, equitable, and equipped to deal with the challenges it faces."

