



## **RE: UNION LUBLIN GUIDE**

### **HOW TO SUBMIT A PROJECT TO THE COMPETITION LUBLIN EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE 2029**

### **JOIN THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE COMPETITION**

The following Guide has been created for the inhabitants of Lublin and the region, artists, animators, managers, informal groups, non-governmental organizations, cultural institutions, and companies from creative areas – for everyone who wants to get involved in the process of preparation of Lublin's application in the competition for the European Capital of Culture 2029. The Guide contains the most important information, helpful in understanding the specifics of the competition and the procedure for selecting the winner.

The motto of Lublin's application is **RE:UNION**. It refers to the idea of the Union of Lublin and the tradition of the multinational Republic of Poland. The historical perspective is only a starting point for us. It encourages questions about the new community, and the awareness of separateness and uniqueness while acting in the spirit of synergy, and cooperation.

Wide and active participation in the process of creating the ECC 2029 programme, creative initiatives, ideas, and projects, both local and European, are important factors in the building of the application. The concept of the European Capital of Culture should be strategic and forward-looking – we believe that only such a strategy is necessary to win. Let's think broadly, looking for ideas that will be initiated at the stage of applying for the title – one that will not end in 2029, but will become elements of sustainable, long-term development of the city and region.

However, we must remember that the ECC is a competition. Lublin competes with over a dozen Polish cities, and there can only be one winner. We must remember that the mere desire to run, the determination of the local government, and the community of Lublin, and even a well-prepared application may not be enough. Lublin has had a difficult but also inspiring experience of participation in the European Capital of Culture competition in 2016. We believe that Lublin's culture should once again show Poland and Europe its quality. A status of a candidate city is a value in itself: it allows us to systematize our thinking about the city and its culture, and to diagnose the problems, and challenges we are currently facing. We can emerge wiser and stronger from the process itself. We can only win the title if we work together.

Join us in co-creating the application.

European Capital of Culture Lublin 2029 coordinating team at the Centre for Culture in Lublin

# CALENDAR OF THE EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE 2029 COMPETITION

The title of the European Capital of Culture is transitive. One Polish city will hold the title in 2029. The competition has two stages. The selection of the winning city takes place five years before the year of the celebration, followed by a long-term preparation process.

## Until July 7, 2023

The deadline for submitting your projects and ideas via the form

## Until July 15, 2023

Analysis and consultation of projects

## September 15, 2023

The first stage of the competition, the presentation of the proposed applications to the Commission (document size: max. 60 pages)

## Autumn 2023

Review of the submitted application at the end of the pre-selection phase. The panel of experts agrees on a short list of cities.

## Spring 2024

The second stage of the competition; the presentation of the final application with the framework programme for the European Capital of Culture year (document size: max. 100 pages)

## 2024–2028

Four-year preparations for the European Capital of Culture year

## 2029

Events of the European Capital of Culture

Detailed information on the competition, in Polish and English, can be found on the website of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage  
<https://www.gov.pl/web/kultura/nabor-2029>

## The motto: **RE:UNION**

The historical perspective is only a starting point for Lublin – to revise the concept of union, both in reflecting on the present, and in designing the future. **RE:UNION** becomes a tool for researching the unstable identity of Europe plunged into crisis, looking for an ideological antidote. **RE:UNION** aims to revive hope in post-pandemic times and during the war in Ukraine.

«Free with the free, equal with equals», the basic idea of the treaty which was signed in the past, remains valid even today, when the process of European integration gains new dynamics. The document signed in Lublin in 1569 set conditions for peaceful coexistence and cooperation of many peoples and nations, while respecting their subjectivity, and preserving their ethnic, cultural, or religious character. The Commonwealth was supposed to be a state of Poles, Lithuanians, Belarusians, and Ukrainians with equal rights. The Germans, both from the Royal and Ducal Prussia, had a great role to play. The Jews created a unique culture in these areas. Looking at the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth from the European perspective, it can be said that

it was a unique combination of many elements, a melting pot of cultures. The phenomenon of the Union of Lublin was thoroughly analysed by historians studying the roots of the European cultural space, for instance, Jerzy Kloczowski.

The **RE:UNION** motto encourages questions about the new community, awareness, separateness, and uniqueness when acting in cooperation. It points to an invisible network of connections between the countries of Eastern Europe, between art, science, sport, creative industries, and business.

**RE:UNION** will strengthen them, enabling the flow of experience and knowledge, and critical reflection, which will launch synergistic actions for real, sustainable development of the city.

RE:UNION – reintegration as a natural consequence of induced disintegration caused by the pandemic, crisis, and war.

RE:UNION – an increase in the quality, intensity, and frequency of interpersonal contacts.

RE:UNION – the acceptance of a multiple of value systems, norms, and assessments.

RE:UNION – the extraction of an axiological common set.

RE:UNION – a new, inclusive social contract.

RE:UNION – building a real community.

RE:UNION – a dialogue between different fields of art, cultures, generations, tradition and modernity, past and future.

RE:UNION – a union of entities under one flag and idea.

RE:UNION – a meeting.

Eastern European Union

European Union

Intergenerational union

Union of animators, artists and audiences

A union above artistic divisions

A Union of Special Needs

Territorial Union

Multilayer, diversity, identity

Integral, awareness

Union of sport, recreation and free time

Intergenerational, friendship, relationships, brotherhood

Experience, interdisciplinarity

Media Union for Culture|

Union of Nations

Community, a new tribalism

Harmony, internal reunion, spiritual and bodily reintegration, balance

Bridge, understanding, curiosity

Union instead of war

Union of Cultural Environments

Mosaic, complexity, mandala

Values

Meeting, rebirth, connection

ecological union

Multiculturalism

Union of denominations and minorities

Union of the culture, education, and business sectors

Academic Union

Creative Industries Union

VR AR AI Digital Union

Cross-sectoral

# PROJECTS

Open call for projects of the European Capital of Culture Lublin 2029 programme.

The submitted projects will be analysed by the coordinating team and advisors from Poland and the European Union.

The ideas with the greatest potential will be included in the application and developed, with the participation of the bodies responsible, in the subsequent stage of the application process.

If you want to join the process of Lublin's application for the title of ECC 2029, you have a vision of what culture in Lublin may look like in 2029 – fill out the application and submit your project.

We will divide the projects into categories:

**SMALL\*** ideas and initiatives relating to existing or emerging cultural phenomena, which we may combine into common thematic blocks or include in «umbrella» projects.

**LARGE\*** long-term projects that can cover large spaces, broad groups of stakeholders, and cross-sectoral areas.

\*Small projects in the further stages of the competition may become part of large projects, combining individual ideas into thematic blocks.

The application under the motto **RE:UNION** will consist of projects aimed at creating innovative, ambitious events at the highest European level. Innovation and originality are required not only in theory but also – more importantly – in practice, i.e. in execution. The idea of the project should assume action for social change, and its impact on the city and its inhabitants. Projects can define a cultural and social problem and how to solve it. In addition to the vision and framework definition of activities, the project concept should also take into account the long time of preparation in 2023-2028, culminating in 2029, as well as a continuation in 2030, and in subsequent years.

The form is available at the link:

<https://forms.gle/a7HYmdPpeRsSuYiq5>

**PLEASE NOTE:  
DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS JULY 7, 2023, 11:59 PM.**

## TEMPLATE OF THE APPLICATION

### 1. Category:

a/ small

b/ large

### 2. Suggested title:

### 3. Project description:

### 4. Expected cooperation:

Whom would you like to implement the project with, and who do you want to partner with?

We suggest thinking not only in terms of the city, but also of Europe, or the world. You can include both individuals and institutions, non-governmental organizations, and European partners.

**5. Expected budget:**

- the estimated cost of the project
- the possibility of financing the project from other sources

**6. Other remarks relevant to the project.**

**7. Please justify why the project should be included in Lublin's application for the European Capital of Culture 2029.**

**8. Contacts and copyright details**

(name, surname or organization name, phone number, e-mail address)

There is no obligation to answer all of the above.

Copyrights are guaranteed.

Availability of the planned activities for people with special needs is an important factor.

During the first application process, projects which will be included in the preliminary description of the programme will be selected. During the preparation of the final application, the projects will be further described in detail. At this stage a second open call ensuring a «broad» dimension of the programme, will be announced.

**SOME GUIDELINES FOR CITIES APPLYING FOR THE TITLE EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE 2029.**

Prepared based on the «Guide for cities preparing to submit applications»:

<https://www.gov.pl/web/kultura/nabor-2029>

**LOOKING FORWARD**

A city will not win the title solely based on the presentation of its cultural heritage or a permanent, current cultural offer. The city will receive the title based on the original programme, presented in the application form. Think ahead.

**NOT AS USUAL**

Some candidates submitted applications, combining their previous cultural activities under the motto of the European Capital of Culture. They were not successful. The title is granted in view of a special programme, one that goes beyond the normal cultural activities of the city.

**UNIQUENESS**

Each city is unique, so there is no standard template for a city-submitted program. The application is to reflect real needs and set goals while meeting the formal criteria of the ECC.

**THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CITY**

One of the goals of the ECC is to raise the international rank of the city through culture. Most Capitals saw an increase in tourism; this is a success factor for many of them. However, the ECC programme focuses primarily on citizens, in particular on the inhabitants of the city.

**CHALLENGES**

The city can challenge itself. The title is an opportunity to openly and critically examine the history of the city, with its brighter and darker sides.

## **TWO SCENARIOS**

All candidate cities must have a developed concept of using the dynamics of preparations and the idea presented in the application, which they will be able to use even if they do not receive the title of the European Capital of Culture.

### **TO SHOW YOU THE PROCESS OF PREPARING LUBLIN'S COMPETITION APPLICATION, WE PRESENT THE MANDATORY GUIDELINES FOLLOWED BY THE COORDINATING TEAM.**

#### **ARTISTIC VISION AND STRATEGY OF THE PROGRAMME**

- presentation of an overarching, strategic artistic vision and concept. It should be in line with the objectives set by the candidate city, and take into account the European dimension. It should also permeate the entire cultural program and related activities, in particular, marketing and communication
- building a program based on the city's roots, heritage, and cultural fabric
- provide an overview of the structure of the cultural programme, including the scope and variety of events that will mark the ECoC year
- explaining how the cultural program will combine local cultural heritage and traditional art forms with new, innovative, and experimental cultural expressions
- describing how the city has involved or plans to involve local artists and cultural organizations in the creation and implementation of the cultural programme.

#### **THE PROGRAM DEVELOPED SPECIFICALLY FOR THE TITLE YEAR SHOULD:**

- be of high artistic and cultural quality. This applies to both participatory projects, and more mainstream arts activities
- cover a wide range of art forms, balancing free and ticketed events
- include activities carried out by large and renowned cultural entities as well as small non-governmental organizations
- reflect the growing development of socially engaged creative interventions
- demonstrate the coherence of the program and its artistic vision with the strategy and objectives.
- adequately take into account the level of detail of the proposal at each stage of the competition
- present a curated selection of topics in the context of a strategic vision and avoid over-subtitles
- include information on the digital artistic strategy of the European Capital of Culture.

## **CONTACT**

If you want to talk about the idea of the European Capital of Culture or have questions related to Lublin's application – please visit the ECoC Info Zone located at:

**Centre for Culture in Lublin**

**12 Peowiaków street**

**ground floor, Small Hall**

**Open Monday to Friday from 1.00 – 7.00 pm**

You can get in touch by e-mail at: [esk@lublin2029.pl](mailto:esk@lublin2029.pl)

If you are unable to complete the form yourself due to the language barrier or other obstacles – please contact us. It is possible to receive an assistant in order to prepare a project description.

Detailed information on the competition, in Polish and English: <https://www.gov.pl/web/kultura/nabor-2029>

Not all submitted projects will be considered at the stage of preparing the first application. In the event of a positive decision and Lublin is entered on the list of finalists, the projects will be subject to further discussion and development for the needs of the detailed application.