European Alliance for **CULTURE** and the **ARTS**

G7 CULTURAL SUMMIT:

OPEN LETTER TO THE CULTURAL MINISTERS OF FRANCE, ITALY AND GERMANY

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In a time of increasing global challenges which have an impact on our societies, it is essential for Europe to reinforce the Union's common project and redefine its political objectives.

On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Rome Treaties, to be celebrated on 25 March in Rome, EU Member States will have the opportunity to reaffirm their commitment to the fundamental European values.

On 30 and 31 March, in Florence, the G7 cultural summit will be organised for the first time, in the context of the Italian presidency of the group.

The European Alliance for Culture and the Arts*, welcomes this initiative as it provides an opportunity – just a few days after the Rome celebrations – to discuss the EU's approach to culture and to deliver a strong message to other countries.

In this context, we call upon the cultural ministers of the G7 group to include culture in the newly upcoming fundamental discussion on Europe's future and to appeal to other member states and the EU institutions to put culture at the heart of European policies. Culture is the basis and a crucial condition for the development of democratic societies. It is a lever for a sustainable Europe and a key aspect of its relations with third countries.

Attached to this letter you will find the Alliance's latest political statement as well as a position paper on the European 2030 Strategy for the Sustainable Development Goals and the Alliance's founding document "The Power of Culture and the Arts".

Thank you for taking our appeal into consideration when discussing the essential role of culture at the G7 meeting in Florence.

* The European Alliance for Culture and the Arts, currently conveying 31 European and international associations, advocates for recognising the role of culture and the arts in strengthening the European project, and including them in the EU's strategic goals.

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