

Program for implementation of the activities of project

„Norway-Bulgarian Partnership for Transparent and Effective Public Support for the Cultural Sector in Bulgaria“

1. The Norwegian Art Council- a presentation

This chapter provides an explanation of the Norwegian Council. It is from Norwegian Arts Council's own information. I have adapted it somewhat to this report. It is nevertheless important to already now to emphasize that Norwegian Council is divided into two parts. A Council designated as the “Collegiate organ”, who run The Cultural Found , and a administration. The important arms length principle is added in the Collegial organ.

See further information here; www.

About the Norwegian Arts Council

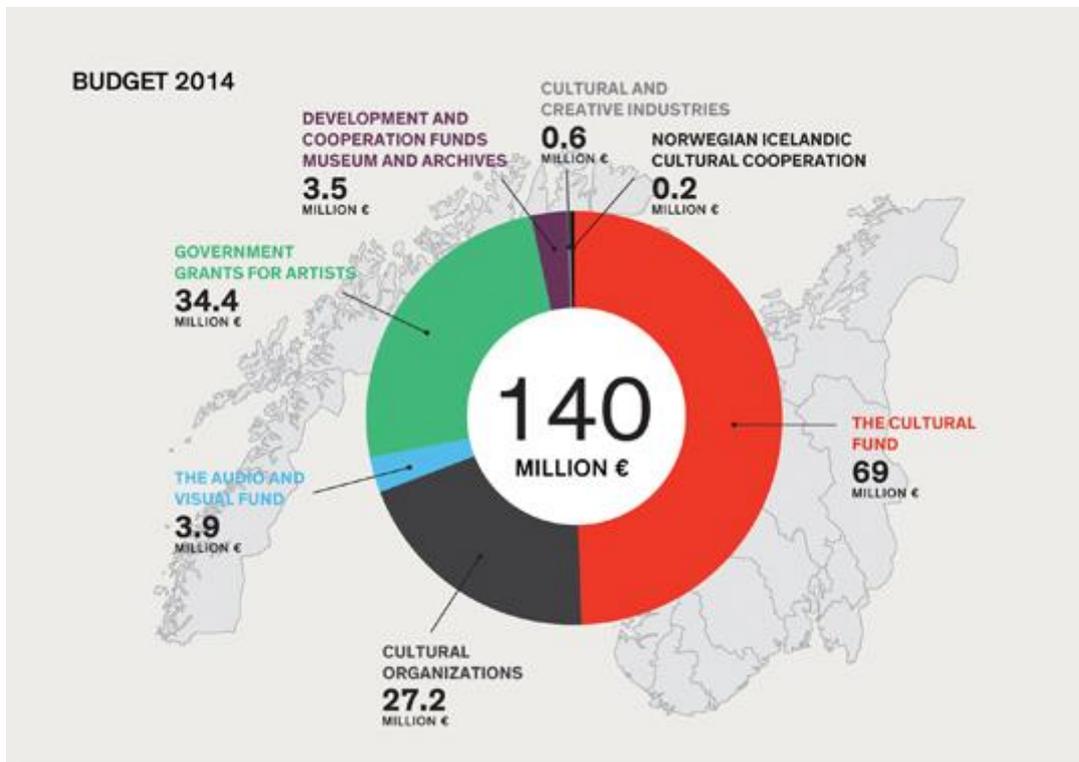
Arts Council Norway was established in 1965 in order to run the Norwegian Cultural Fund. Today, Arts Council Norway is in charge of a broad spectrum of administrative tasks and functions within the cultural field, including artists' grants, the Audio and Visual Fund and a number of other funding schemes.

Arts Council is governmental operator for the implementation of Norwegian cultural policy in the “free field” of arts. Arts Council Norway functions as an advisory body to the central government and public sector on cultural affairs.

The Arts Council is fully financed by the Ministry of Culture.

Arts Council Norway also manages government initiatives in the museum and archive sectors, The Arts Council has a staff of around 125 people.

In 2014, the total allocation from Arts Council Norway to the Norwegian cultural sector will amount to 140 million euros. The allocations provide funding for a variety of projects and activities within the performing arts, visual arts, music, literature, archives, museums and more.



THE CULTURAL FUND The Arts Council – ten members appointed by the government – is responsible for the management of the Norwegian Cultural Fund (69 million euros in 2014) and of Cultural Organizations (30.2 million euros in 2013).

The final decision on the allocation of money from the Fund is made by the Council, in accordance with the arm's length principle.

The goals of the Norwegian Cultural Fund are to

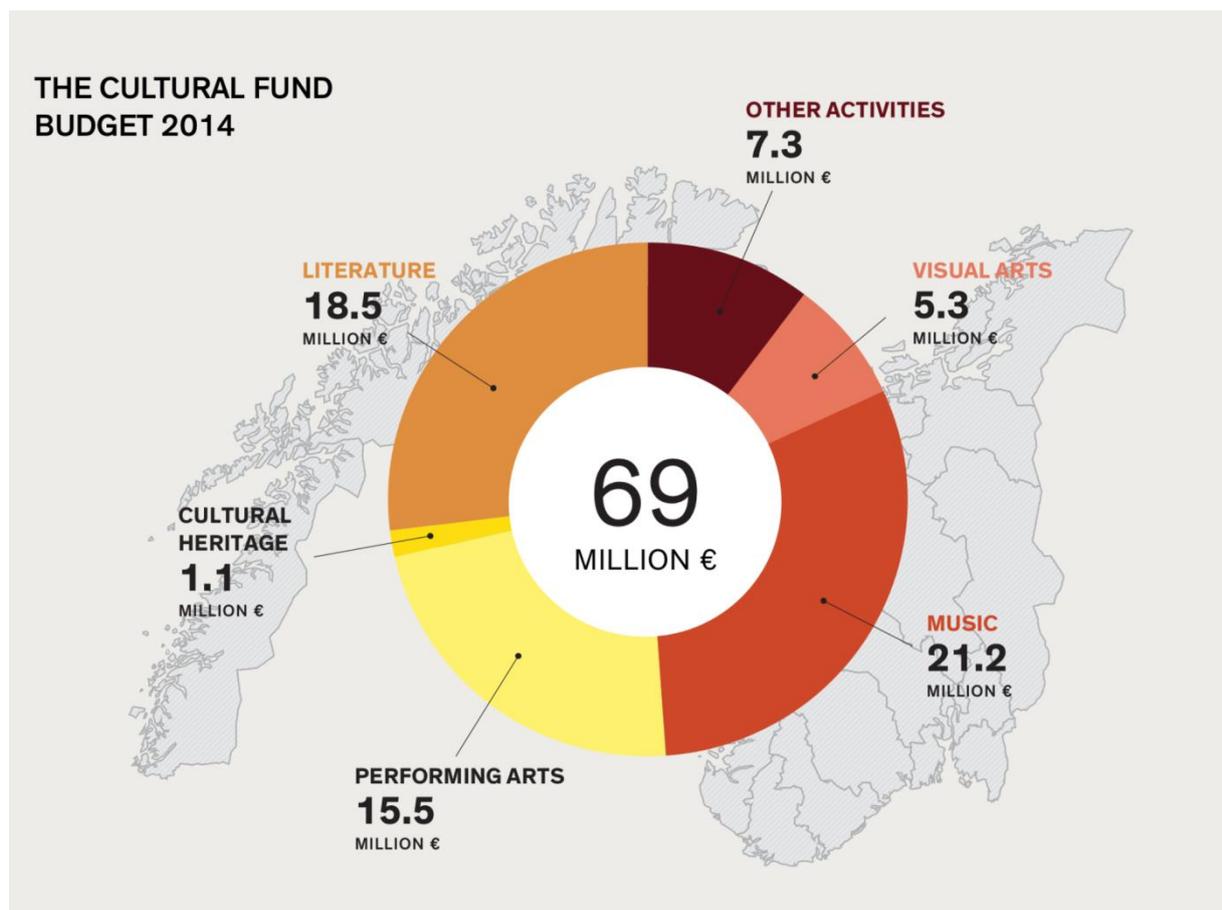
- stimulate creative literary and artistic activities
- preserve cultural heritage
- make cultural life accessible to as many people as possible.

In addition, allocations from the Fund serve to

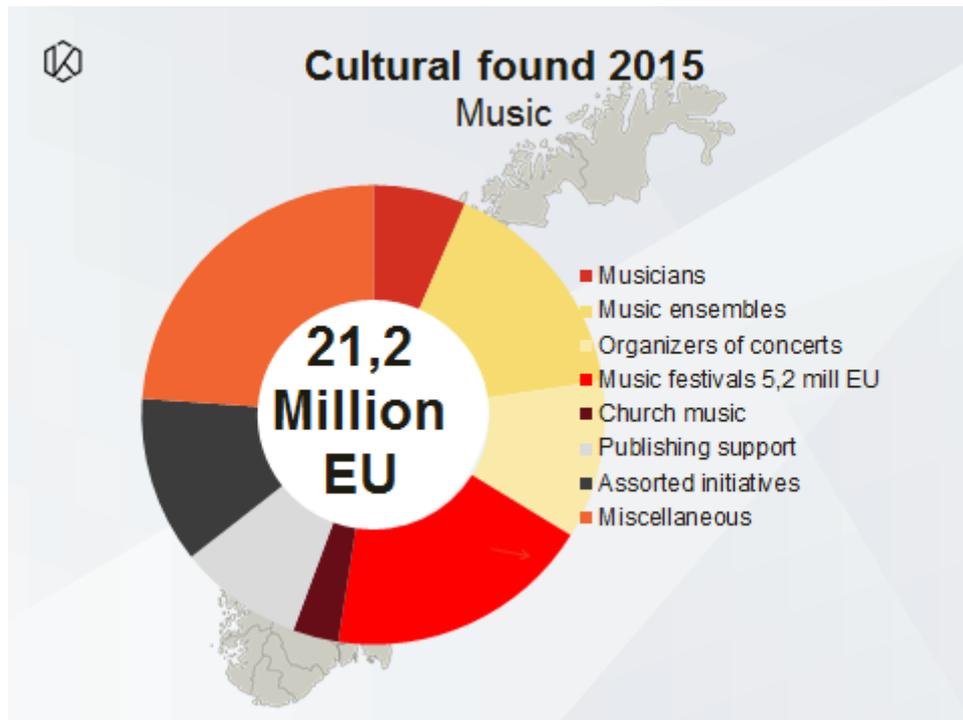
- support innovative art

- encourage new forms of artistic expression
- stimulate new presentation methods

The Council normally meets six times a year, and is advised by twenty-seven expert committees. Members are appointed on the basis of their artistic and cultural qualifications. The Cultural Fund covers eight fields of professional activity: literature, music, performing arts, visual arts, cultural heritage, children's and youth culture, arenas for art and other activities. Nearly 3.000 arts projects received founding in 2013.



Music deposition is largely divided into three parts, performers, promoters and production.



2. Establishing funding.

It is important when establishing funding to make them as transparent for applicants as possible and that it adds efficiency requirements as the main basis .

This can be obtained by:

- Fewest possible administrative bodies and levels
- Fewest possible staff
- Active use of objective criteria
- Fewest possible programs

Fewer programs may also imply wider complex expert committees so that no diversity of artistic activities is limited.

To spread the power of decisions is also an important consideration to apply when establishing a scheme. To decentralize decisions can mean many different things;

- political decentralization
- administrative decentralization
- operational decentralization
- Decentralized participation in key decisions

Factors and criterias underlying priorities of Festival grants.

Anyone applying for a grant must have insight into how the assessments and decisions are taken. Knowledge of the various criteria are also required. This indicates that it is clear who decides, what they decide and on what terms.

It is also important to provide insight into who is applying , how much they are applying for and who gets. It may contribute to inappropriate practices and tendencies. It can also be considered whether to give reasons for any refusal.

Purpose for the festival grants;

The program aims to help the music at a high artistic and professional level can be maintained and developed to:

- make high quality music available for as many as possible
- encourage artistic innovation and development by taking care of, communicate and develop music traditions
- promote the use of contemporary music
- convey the music to children and young people
- promote the music with a high level of quality can be maintained and developed
- stimulate innovation with regard to dissemination

What can get support;

The program provides grants for music festivals that have public concerts as its primary goal, held annually or every two years with at least two days duration and receives public subsidies from their own region.

One can apply for grants of up to three years. Festivals seeking perennial grants must demonstrate that it will be awarded from the home region of the application period.

Who can apply

Music festivals held annually or every two years with at least two days duration, may apply the scheme.

Applicants can have different forms of organization, but it can not be taken out dividends from projects / initiatives supported by the Arts Council.

Festivals assessed from the qualities the individual festival showcase.

A number of factors and criteria underlying priorities:

- festivals distinctiveness as the venue for a concert program with an artistic profile
- communication skills and public support
- willingness to artistic innovation and to provide the respective genre expressions development
- festivals that tradition bearers
- festival organization solidity, efficiency, stability and professionalism
- festival's significance / grounding in their own region and geographical location
- grants for the festival from county and municipality
- festival possibility of actual earnings

3. The experts.

The so-called arm's length principle is one of the pillars of cultural policy. The principle is to ensure that the art is free from political control. The term is still not clear and it is defined differently from country to country. The term is also in other areas such as research and academia. Arm's length principle is not only distance to the political authorities, but also to organizations.

Another important principle is how to use artists as experts and how they are appointed. In this report I will use some effort to look at different ways to designate and use artists as experts. Through examples I will show how the strength of the arm's length principle are presented.

Decisions should be taken in as cost effective manner as possible, without unnecessary bureaucracy. This is to ensure that most of the scheme will grant the recipients .

It is among the experts decisions is to be taken when the objective criteria in the application are met. It is therefore important that these experts are free and independent. It is particularly important that their "conflicts of interest" is considered.

The following part is an example how the main rules on such a conflict is to be considered.

Rules regarding disqualification

Automatic disqualification

Members and employees of the Norwegian Council, members of the Advisory Committee, and any other person

performs work or services for Norwegian Council is disqualified from preparing the basis for a decision or to make a decision in a case

a) when he or she is a party to the case;

b) when he or she is related by blood or marriage to a party to the ascent or descent or sideline as close as siblings;

c) when he or she is or has been married, spouse, cohabitant or engaged with, or is the foster parent or foster child, to a party;

d) when he or she is guardian or agent of a party to the case or has been the guardian or agent of a party after the case began;

e) when he or she heads or senior position in, or is a member of the Board or

Corporate Assembly for a public or private enterprise, institution, association or foundation

Examples of how four different program or schemes is driven with a focus on labor between the Administration and Expert committees and how they are appointed.

Music Equipment Scheme www.utstvorsordningen.no

Music Equipment Scheme (MUO) is the national subsidy for technical equipment, acoustics and facilities.

Operation: Nonprofit

Financing; From the State budget

Owners; National music organizations

Board; Elected by the General Assembly

Academic Committee; Appointed by the Board.

Application deadlines; Twice a year.

Proceedings:

Applications are accepted in the digital application portal.

The administration proposes to expert committee.

Expert committee makes the final decision.

Arm's-length strength; High.

Found for Audio and Visual www.fflb.no

The fund will promote the production and dissemination of recordings of audio and footage and distributed for the benefit of licensees within the music scene and film.

Operating mode; Fund subject to the Ministry of Culture

Financing; From the State budget

Board; Appointed by the Ministry of Culture on the proposal of the organizations.

Academic Committee appointed by the Board following proposals from the organizations.

Application deadlines: Four times a year

Proceedings:

The administration undergoes applications.

Committees recommendation to the Board.

The Board makes the final decision.

Arm's-length strength; Medium

3. Fund for Performing Artists. www.ffuk.no

Fund for Performing Artists supports projects in which it participates professional performing artists, and for recordings made in Norway. For both cases, the artists must live and mainly have their work in Norway.

Operation: Separate legal personality by the Law on Fund for Performing Artists

Financing; Separate charge of not protected public music

Board; Appointed by the Ministry of Culture on the proposal of the organizations.

Committees; None.

Applications are accepted in the digital application portal.

Deadlines; four times a year.

Proceedings;

The administration reads the applications but recommends not to the board.

The Board is itself expert committee and making final decisions.

Arm's-length strength; Weak

4. Norwegian Arts Council. www.kulturraadet.no

Norwegian Council aims to stimulate contemporary diverse artistic and cultural expression and to ensure that arts and culture are created, preserved, documented and made available to as many as possible.

Operation: Funds under the Ministry of Culture.

Financing; appropriated the national budget.

Board; Collegial body appointed by the King in Council

Expert committees appointed by the collegial body.

Applications are accepted in the digital application portal

Application deadlines; four times a year.

These committees do, as a rule, a final decision in all matters.

Arm's-length strength; medium.

Literature;