**European Sector Skills Council for the Audiovisual
and Live Performance Sectors (phase 1) -** **VS/2014/0459**

The European Sector Skills Council for the Audiovisual and Live Performance Sectors started its activities in November 2014. Implemented by sector stakeholders[[1]](#footnote-1) and co-funded by the European Commission[[2]](#footnote-2), it will contribute to the development of EU-level intelligence and initiatives on employment and skills in the sectors.

During its first phase of activities (18 months), it will operate in an informal way and always look at producing outputs of direct interest for the sector.

While working on a first series of European products, it will also develop a reflection on how best to pursue its activities after 2016 (structure, governance, positioning, etc.).

Here are the key principles that will guide the Council’s activities during its first phase of activities.

Taking part in EU discussions to shape the terms of the debate

Better skills strategies are one of the central initiatives of the EU to combat unemployment and support economic growth. Strategy papers on the topic are being expected in the years to come and programmes supporting sectoral skills partnerships will continue to be available.

Making our voice heard in EU skills discussions will therefore be of crucial importance not only to position the sector but also to try and influence the terms of the debate.

A EU initiative with direct national and local benefits

Initiated and piloted by European social partners with the support of National skills organisations, the European Council will be deeply rooted in the realities of the sector.

While contributing to EU processes, it will pay attention to offering direct benefits to national, regional and local stakeholders. To do so, it will base its work on national experience and make sure outputs (the collection of information, their analysis and recommendations) answer existing sectoral needs and prepare for a better anticipation of future needs.

In the period to April 2016, the European Council will produce three thematic reports: (1) on the employment situation in the sector incl. forecasts and trends, (2) on the qualitative evolution of skills and focusing on the evolution of occupations, (3) on innovative tools, strategies, and methods put in place at national level to monitor skills needs. Each report will be discussed and adopted during a Council meeting. The consolidated reports and recommendations will be presented at a final European conference to be organised in Brussels in Spring 2016.

Through its different activities, the Council will also aim at establishing a productive dialogue with education and training institutions and networks.

The Council will finally look at the ways the development of professional skills can contribute to sustainable strategies and growth in the sector.

An informal platform of exchange for stronger EU co-operation

In its first phase of activities the European Council will work in a totally informal way. National/regional/local organisations will be invited to take part on the basis of the relevance of their activities. The potential of an organisation to play a role in the future in national and European skills discussions will also be taken into account when establishing the list of invitees. While developing a work plan for a second phase of activities (2016-2018), the need to formalise or not the work of the Council in the future will be discussed.

Because of their advanced experience in skills anticipation and data collection, 8 national skills organisations[[3]](#footnote-3) from 4 countries (France, United Kingdom, Belgium, the Netherlands) have been invited to join the Council’s steering committee, alongside European social partners.

In addition to those 4 countries, representatives from national sector skills councils from 6 other countries (Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Romania, and Spain) will be invited to participate in the Council meetings as well as representatives from 3 additional countries (Germany, Austria, Sweden). Stakeholders from other countries might also be invited if deemed relevant.

This network of partners will be further extended at the occasion of capacity-building workshops to be organised following two of the Council meetings. Those workshops will aim at increasing the capacity of skills organisations and institutions from Central, Eastern and the South of Europe, in particular, to take part in European exchanges.

The Council will set up a dedicated website where all its publications will be available to all interested parties. The website will also offer direct links to useful European and national sectoral information on employment and skills.

Any other objective or activity to be pursued by the Council during its first phase of existence will come out of collegial decisions taken at the different Council’s meetings.

1. The project is supported by the social partners member of the European Social Dialogue Committees for the Audiovisual and Live Performance Sectors. It is more specifically piloted by UNI Europa (EURO-MEI), EBU, PEARLE\*, FIA, FIM and EFJ [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. PROGRESS programme (European Commission, DG Employment), Call for Proposals VP/2013/010 – ‘Delivering on skills for growth and jobs’ [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. CPNEF SV and CPNEF AV from France; Creative & Cultural Skills and Creative Skillset from the United Kingdom; mediarte.be, Podiumkunsten, ‘Fonds de sécurité d’existence de la commission paritaire 304’ from Belgium and GOC from the Netherlands. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)