

Urban cultural strategies in the context of the current crisis

Three scenarios

(zukunftsInstitut, Frankfurt and Nesta, London)

Authoritarian turn and system crash/permanent crisis

Neo-tribes, 15-minute city, mutuality, post-tourism

Resilient society/post-coronavirus settlement

Some of the pandemic's already visible effects for the cultural sector in Europe

Crisis of cultural philanthropy

Risk of decline of political status of, and support for, cultural policy

Need for emergency funds to avoid collapse

Crisis of medium-sized cultural organisations in particular

Growing risk of exclusion for people suffering from educational, cultural and economic poverty

New community roles of cultural organisations

Growth of the 'arts and health' and 'cultural welfare' agendas

Potential for rapid development of creative technologies

Massive growth of amateur creative practices during the lockdowns

Towards a new urban cultural policy agenda

Focus on cultural interventions (including community arts and library projects) which can help reduce social exclusion, unemployment and digital divides, and contribute to re-skilling

Importance of projects (e.g. co-creation in theatre, literature and the visual arts) that can help deal with the psychological and social traumas produced by the pandemic

Recognition of the important role of BAME citizens and other immigrants in the pandemic and possible development of multicultural and intercultural arts projects

Use of cultural mapping methods to identify resources for post-tourism and culture-based local development strategies

Re-modelling of cultural venues and spaces

Does the Capital of Culture format have a future?

Crisis of the retail, night-time and tourism economies of many cities

Some possible implications for urban policies

Difficulties in collaboration between central governments, regional authorities and city councils

Large cities are in many cases characterised as unhealthy, environmentally unsustainable, unpatriotic, too permissive, chaotic

The 'smart city' returns with a vengeance
(and with new issues of democratic control and governance)

Possible new forms of co-operation between cities and rural hinterlands

Potential key role of Agenda 2030 objectives

Capital of Culture initiatives are still useful to generate and discuss visions of a city's future during and after the pandemic

Towards a 'curative' approach to urban regeneration?

Growing importance of health and environmental impacts

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