

D'Art question 9: National Arts and Culture Policies

From: Mary Cloake
Development Director
Arts Council of Ireland
Email: maryc@artscouncil.ie
URL: <http://www.artscouncil.ie/>

CONTEXT

The Arts Council of Ireland is researching arts policy structures in other countries, and is particularly interested in the relationships between independent arts councils and ministers for the arts and their departments.

QUESTION

The Arts Council's priority is to review written/published government arts policies in countries with an arms-length body that funds the arts and culture. Their main question is:

- Is the Arts Council or culture funding agency in your country directed to adopt or follow government policies?

If it is, can you help by providing:

- copies of or references to the directions or published policies; and/or
- contact details for anyone who would be willing to assist or liaise with the Arts Council of Ireland.

The Arts Council is also interested in a variety of related arts policy issues:

- is government policy framed by the arts minister exclusively?
- does government take account of arts council policies or policy advice?
- how is government policy made and in what way is it communicated to the arts council?
- what level of autonomy does the arts council retain over its decision making in situations where the active policy direction of the minister is a key element of public funding for the arts?

Any help you could provide on these supplementary questions would also be greatly appreciated. Please note that we are aware of the material collected and analysed by Ericarts <http://www.ericarts.org/> and <http://www.culturalpolicies.net/> and by Culturelink at <http://www.culturelink.org/culpol/index.html>. With this D'Art we are hoping to unearth additional material and specific policy documents.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

If you can assist, or you are particularly interested in the issue, reply to Ms Cloake and to IFACCA (ifacca@ozco.gov.au). Please ensure that you provide full references, including url addresses for online information, and remember to let us know if you wish your contribution to remain anonymous. If you know of someone else who could help please forward this message to them.