



Courageous Citizens

Idea Incubator Workshop

21-22 September, Rome



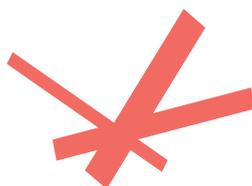
European Cultural
Foudantion



EUTROPIAN
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*“Every person living in every village, city and town is a citizen, not just a chosen few. **Courageous Citizens** are individuals, collectives and organisations whose energy and courage help to cultivate Europe as a home. They help spark ideas for alternative and diverse stories. They embrace fellow citizens who are under-represented and marginalised. And they open up space for learning and questioning the fundamental nature of our democracy, shifting the mindset of people and short-term behaviour to more enduring and sustainable solutions”*





European Cultural Foudantion

The **European Cultural Foundation** is an independent, impact driven organisation with more than 60 years of experience. ECF catalyses, connects and communicates civil society initiatives in arts and culture to work together for an open, democratic and inclusive Europe. ECF supports cultural changemakers through grants, exchanges, and incubator programmes.

There are many examples of courageous citizens drawing on culture and creativity as a way of contributing to better ways of living together. These individuals or collectives work with their communities, peers, policy-makers or institutions, and include unheard or dissenting voices. ECF believes these courageous citizens can inspire the creation of models, movements and policies, acknowledging the role culture can play in making positive change.

Courageous Citizens is a R&D grant from ECF that provides seed money and offers the opportunity to explore new and daring concepts.

The **“Idea Incubator Workshop”** is a key element of Courageous Citizens’ grant scheme.

Selected grantees come together in an international workshop where they can exchange ideas and knowledge among peers, in order to help each other to expand the impact of their ideas in-development.



EUTROPIAN Research & Action

A research, policy and advocacy organisation helping civic involvement in urban transformative processes, hosted the “Idea Incubator Workshop” in Rome

Grantees



Danilo Prnjat [Serbia] is a member of an experimental collective which has built three machines for recycling plastic, in order to subvert the economic model and showcase alternative. With their “Mini-Plant” they will reach out to refugee communities in Serbia, for workshops concerning joint work organisation and planning.



Vonne Hemels [Greece] represents “Boomboomtales”, an organisation that focuses on storytelling workshops and publishing. Together with migrants they publish books, stories, zines, postcards, maps, comic books and posters. They make publications that promote inclusion, diversity, non-violent resistance and alternatives to the status quo.



Duygu Toprak [Turkey] is working on a new idea of imagining the city outside the borders of neoliberalism and of democratising how urban spaces are formed. “ORTAKLAŞA” project focuses on the urban commons in Turkey, which have flourished especially after 2013 [when the Gezi protests happened].



Mateja Moric [Slovenia] and her partners are “Overcoming the Culture of Humiliation” in their country where LGBTIQ+ people are faced with institutional discrimination and oppression. To overcome this humiliation the project aims to have a presence both offline, throughout the series of art-oriented workshops with ongoing pedagogical support, and online, raising awareness amongst the general public.



Aris Papadopoulos [Greece] works for “CRATE”: a refugee-led Centre for Refugee Art, Technology and Environment. CRATE explores the topic of cultural citizenship and what tools and methods can be used by refugees to prototype it, new forms of curatorial engagement and questions of how contemporary art, design and technology can accelerate the cultural integration of refugees.



Iana Mikhailina [Russia] and “The Probationary Department” want to create a space/resource centre located in St Petersburg, Russia, where critical theory, art and community practices merge through activities like workshops, participatory art projects, research, body conferences, reading groups and prepare some artistic replies to current social issues.

Idea Incubator Workshop - Program

21st SEPTEMBER

Networking breakfast and presentation

Site visit @ Baobab Experience

Theory of Change and Strategic Development

Short presentation,
work in pairs, exercise & collective discussion

Stakeholder mapping

Short presentation,
work in pairs, exercise & collective discussion

Communication

Presentation by Clara Habte

Public Event

City and work: creating territorial networks

Introduction by Eutropian & ECF
Carlo Venegoni, SUPER Festival delle Periferie di Milano
Group roundtable discussions
Closing remarks and aperitivo

22nd SEPTEMBER

Site visit @ Parco di Centocelle

LabGov -LUISS Universty
European Heritage Days, Rome

Action Planning

Short presentation,
work in pairs, exercise & collective discussion

Problem mapping

Short presentation,
work in pairs, exercise & collective discussion

Impact Assessment

Short presentation,
work in pairs, exercise & collective discussion

Closing remarks and dinner



DAY 1

Our first morning together consisted in an informal meeting @Zazie nel metrò, a local café run by a social cooperative. Every participant could introduce its own organisation and project and get to know more about the European Cultural Foundation and Eutropian's work on community-led urban processes.



The second part of the morning was dedicated to a site visit @Baobab Experience, a network of volunteers that offers psychological support, healthcare, legal assistance, clothing, food bank, a place to sleep, culture and leisure to asylum seekers. This project represents more than just a camp, it is an anti racism presidium.



In the afternoon, @IPSIA Sisto V grantees worked in pairs to compare their projects and think together about possible challenges and stakeholders their projects would meet. Learning from each other and been coordinating by Eutropian and ECF team, grantees shared their impressions in a final collective meeting.

IPSIA Sisto V hosted also our public event "*City and work: creating territorial networks*". Carlo Venegoni presented "SUPER-Festival delle Periferie di Milano", a slow festival which organises tours around neighbourhoods, inviting people to discover hidden places and organisations. The day was closed by an aperitivo



DAY 2

Our second morning together was coordinated by "*LabGov - the LABaboratory for the GOVernance of the City as a Commons*" and "*Comunità Parco Pubblico di Centocelle - OdV*". In a bike tour we visited the Centocelle Park, which is also a site we are studying for the H2020 OpenHeritage research project.



We had a ride through places that form the cultural heritage of this area of the city, such as the Centocelle archaeological park, the San Giovanni tower, the Alessandrino aqueduct, the Rugantino library in Torre Spaccata, and the places where the activities of the "*CoRoma*" project takes place since many years

After a lunch @*Fusolab* our final part of the workshop took place @*BinarioUno Coworking*, and it was dedicated to a more focused analysis of every participant's project.

A first collective overview was given to each participant before starting another session of work in pairs together.

Action planning and **Impact assessment** were the main topics of this afternoon. Grantees were asked to think about how their projects would reach an impact on their local communities thanks to the ECF grant. Thinking of a timeline and of possible obstacles their projects would face.

A mutual learning process, assisted by the Eutropean team, helped grantees to further develop their projects during this two days workshop that was closed by a final confrontation.

A special thanks goes to all the grantees and to the European Cultural Foundation for their engagement and commitment in creating a positive change for a better future of Europe.

