



**European Committee
of the Regions**

The President
The Chair of the SEDEC commission

Brussels, *date of official registration*
PCAB/PM/vs - D/1660 (2021)

Subject: Call for expressions of interest to join the Community of best practice in promoting EU values through education and culture

Dear member, dear colleague,

As illustrated by our June plenary debate on *Promoting European values through education and culture*, with Margaritis Schinas, Commission Vice-President for Promoting our European Way of Life, the need to act to defend and promote our European values is now more pressing than ever before. As local and regional leaders, we are responsible for empowering young people to understand the importance of these values and of the European Union, which promotes and secures peace and prosperity.

While the EU has limited competence on education, many regional and national authorities hold shared competences in terms of education and school curricula, and have established good practices of educational and cultural projects promoting Europe's founding values and knowledge about the European Union. Therefore, considering the particularly favourable context of the [Conference on the Future of Europe](#), encouraged by the support from our members, and building on the existing examples from many regions, we suggest that a *community of best practice* be set up, to facilitate dialogue and the exchange of these good practices. This is a bottom-up process made possible strictly on a voluntary basis through the involvement of and based on the interest expressed by EU regional and local authorities, and does not create new classes on European values but promotes existing good practices in the Member States and regions.

To this end, we invite you to share with us your best practices and initiatives promoting EU values via education and culture, sent to sedec@cor.europa.eu by Thursday 30 September 2021. Please include:

- a short title of your action/project/example;
- a brief summary of the action (max. 100 words, preferably in English);
- if available, a link to the relevant website for more information;
- if available, a high-resolution image (300 dpi) related to the project (free-to-use pictures)

This call builds on the [Joint Action Plan](#) with European Commissioner Mariya Gabriel, responsible for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth. Should you have any further questions, the SEDEC commission secretariat (telephone: 02 282 2064; or email: sedec@cor.europa.eu) is available for support.

Yours sincerely,

Apostolos Tzitzikostas
President

Anne Karjalainen
Chair of the SEDEC Commission

Encl.: Concept note, Roadmap