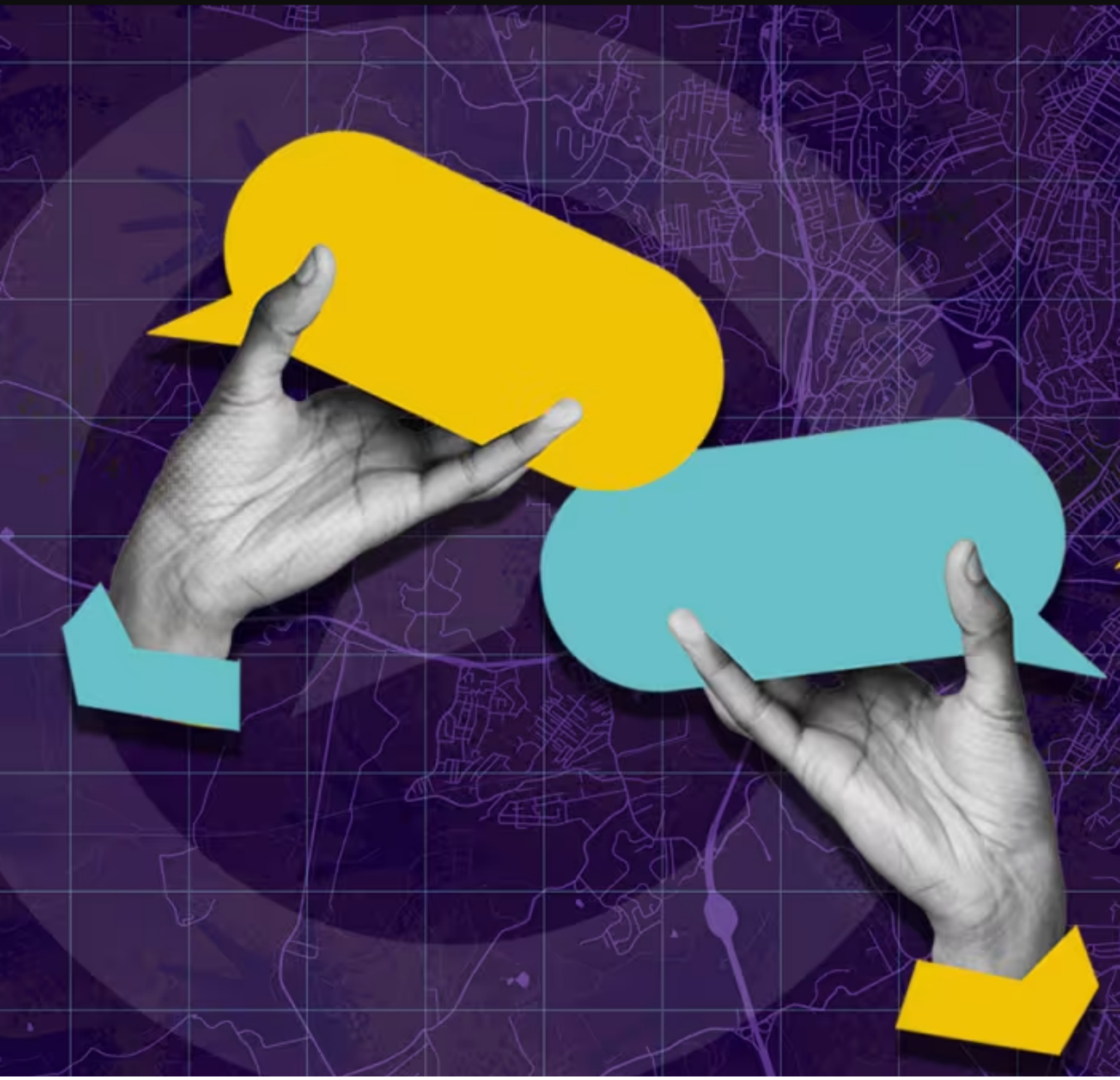

All CCS and Cross-sectoral Research / Surveys EU response All Europe Countries Working Conditions

European Artists: How Free Are You Really?

CREATIVESUNITE

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The Commission has opened a five-minute survey on creative freedom, working conditions and the effect of generative AI

The European Commission is asking artists across the EU to describe their working lives in a new survey of the pressures they face.

Published on 13 November, the EU Artists' Survey takes about five minutes and is available in all 24 official EU languages. It covers pressures on the freedom to create, the conditions artists work in, and the impact of generative AI on their practice. It closes on Friday 15 January 2027.

Glenn Micallef, the Culture Commissioner, announced it to coincide with the first anniversary of the Culture Compass for Europe, the Commission's strategic framework for cultural policy. It is part of the EU Culture Dialogue, a forum Mr Micallef launched on 12 November to bring the cultural sectors into policymaking. The Commission says the survey will be run every year.

Responses will feed a report on the state of culture in the EU, due in 2027 with a particular focus on artistic freedom. The Compass's action timetable pencils the report in for the third quarter of 2027.

A Special Eurobarometer on culture, published in May 2025 after fieldwork in February and March, interviewed 26,319 people across the 27 member states. Some 88 per cent said freedom of artistic expression was important to them personally, and 77 per cent believed artists in their country could express themselves without fear of censorship or government retaliation. Another 73 per cent said they were concerned that generative AI might affect artists' employment or earnings, while 51 per cent agreed that artists in their country were generally fairly paid.

You can take the survey here

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