



Cultural Heritage & Museums | Music | Performing Arts | Festivals | Visual Arts | Architecture | EU response

Lviv and Nikšić shortlisted for European Capital of Culture 2030

The selected cities have many opportunities to seize and develop their potential.

A Ukrainian city and a Balkan city have been shortlisted for the [European Capital of Culture 2030](#). Lviv in Ukraine and Nikšić in Montenegro were selected by a panel of 10 independent experts in a decision that takes on particular significance in light of the ongoing war in Ukraine and the Balkan countries' efforts to build more bridges of cooperation with the European Union. Being shortlisted for the title can bring significant cultural, economic and social benefits to the cities concerned, provided that their application is part of a longer-term cultural development strategy.



Culture consists of two rounds. In the first round, a shortlist is drawn up. In the second round, which takes place about nine months later, the final selection is made. Candidate cities should prepare a cultural programme with a strong European dimension that will have a lasting impact and contribute to the long-term development of the city. Cities must also demonstrate that they have the support of the relevant local public authorities and the capacity to implement the project.

Launched in 1985 on the initiative of the then Greek Minister of Culture, Melina Mercouri, the European Capitals of Culture have become one of Europe's most ambitious cultural projects and one of the EU's best known - and most appreciated - activities. Their aim is to promote the diversity of cultures in Europe, to

highlight their common features and to promote the contribution of culture to the long-term development of cities.

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photo 1 credit: Jorge Láscar

photo [source](#)

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