

GOALS FOR THE FINNISH GOVERNMENT 2027-2031

The goals of the union of artist associations, **Forum Artis**, are based on the primary objectives listed in the official report on Finland's cultural politics, to be enacted by 2040.

Culture is a force of change; Cultural creators and artworks are key; Culture is a universal right; Culture fosters international impact.

1. Allocations for culture will be raised to 1% of the government budget

Conserving and developing Finnish culture is the task and duty of all Finnish people. This sector carries nationwide significance and requires proportionate funding, which will all return back to society many times over in myriad ways.

Statistics on the size and scope of Finland's cultural sector (in Finnish), compiled by the Trade Union for Art and Culture Professionals (TAKU): <https://taku.fi/nain-vaikutamme/taide-ja-kulttuurialan-avainlukuja/>

2. The social security and pensions of artists will be improved

Practicing the profession of an artist can be possible only through the fair treatment of artists, on par with the rest of Finnish society. Incomes from multiple sources are becoming more common among people in general, as well as artists, meaning that a successful social security and pension reform will benefit Finnish people on a broad spectrum. It is necessary to create a fair form of combination insurance, and to guarantee that entrepreneur pension insurance (YEL) payments are based on actual income brackets, for artist entrepreneurs as well.

<https://stm.fi/hanke?tunnus=STM047:00/2025> (Combination insurance; in Finnish)

<https://valtioneuvosto.fi/-/1271139/selvitys-yel-jarjestelman-kehittamistarpeista-valmistunut>

(Report on the YEL insurance system's need for reform; in Finnish)

3. Grant systems will be developed and maintained

Only proper support can enable the strong culture and art of a small population and language region. Grants are investments, and the internationally praised, peer-review-based system must be improved and nurtured. The level of grant money payouts will be raised to apply to the general median net income.

4. Compensation for private copying will be returned to its proper level

Compensation is a legal rebate for the right of each citizen to copy artworks for their own personal use. The payment level of the compensation must be returned to proper levels, and made payable by consumers instead of saddling the government's budget with the reimbursements. The compensation policy must be brought in line with other EU countries.

<https://kopiosto.fi/en/kopiosto/about-copyright/compensation-for-private-copying/>

5. Culture and cultural environments are seen as investment targets

The cultural sector accounts for a significant proportion of economic growth in immaterial and sustainable ways. Tangible renovations will bring jobs, cherish culture and history, and strengthen communities through ecological sustainability. Conserving cultural environments necessitates inter-ministerial collaboration, such as between the Ministry of Education and Culture and the Ministry of the Environment.

<https://ym.fi/en/cultural-environment>

6. The export potential of cultural assets will be strengthened

Art has always been part of bringing Finland onto the world stage. The art and culture sector is a vast ecosystem whose capacity should be fully utilized with properly assigned investments that take into consideration the special characteristics of artistic work and also improve international scope. Business Finland should more aptly recognize and support a morphing, networked form of

entrepreneurship. The justifications, criteria, and interpretation of business subsidies must be reformed in cooperation with creative sectors, including returning the export-boosting funds for small-sized actors in the art world, along the lines of the now discontinued Exhibition Explorer funding service.

<https://www.teosto.fi/lausunto-valtiovarainvaliokunnalle-esityksesta-valtion-talousarvioksi-vuodelle-2026/> (in Finnish)

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