



Accepted

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Barents scholarship for cultural cooperation Guidelines

Adopted by the Joint Working Group on Culture (JWGC) on 8th November 2016.

Barents cooperation objectives

The principles and objectives of the Barents cooperation are aiming at promoting stability, well-being and sustainable development in the Barents region. Barents cultural cooperation shall seek to increase awareness of the significance and potential of human, natural and cultural resources as well as the attractiveness of the Barents region.

The JWGC, according to its mandate and strategy for 2014 – 2018, aims at promoting dialogue and cooperation in the Barents region. Furthermore, the JWGC shall help establish prerequisites for practical cultural cooperation by creating meeting places and encouraging multicultural dialogue, exchange and cooperation, thus contributing to diverse and innovative arts and culture and encouraging artistic and culture development in the region.

1. Barents scholarship objectives

In line with the Barents cooperation objectives, the Barents Euro Arctic Council (BEAC) in collaboration with Joint Working Group on Culture (JWGC) awards Barents scholarships to recognize and encourage artistic excellence and cooperation across borders and to support common arenas and meeting places for artistic and cultural development in the region.

2. Barents Scholarship funding

All Barents countries contribute to the establishment, funding and award of Barents scholarships on equal terms.

The Barents scholarship is established as a trial arrangement for four years, and is continued through silent procedure unless decided otherwise within the 2018 – 2019 chairmanship period.

3. Provisions

Scholarships are awarded to professional artists and artistic associations within the cultural field in the Barents region.

Scholarships are awarded every second year, once per JWGC presidency.

All scholarships can be awarded within the same identified and specifically chosen cultural fields including multidisciplinary initiatives and with the view to cover the whole cultural field over a certain time.

Awarding scholarships shall be based on an overall assessment of:

- Experience and ambitions: experience with cultural cooperation across borders in the Barents Region and ambitions for further development of projects.
- Artistic quality in previous work.
- Barents affiliation: The recipient must be a resident and work within the Barents Region.

4. Nomination and selection procedures

The countries will each select one candidate from each of the Regions under the Barents Cooperation to be presented as candidates for the final selection by JWGC.

Selection procedures for Regional candidates are determined by each country.

The JWGC makes the assessment of the candidates and the final selection of scholarships among the Regional candidates. Four scholarships are awarded, one for each country in the Barents cooperation.

Selection of the candidates and scholarship recipients shall be based on an open and democratic process, in accordance to the criteria, determined in section 3.

The scholarship recipients are announced publicly and awarded at an appropriate event by the BEAC chairs. The date for the event and the host are to be decided by BEAC chairs, after consultations with the JWGC.

5. The Scholarship

The Barents scholarship amounts to 10 000€ per country – a total of four scholarships.

The Award ceremony in the Barents Region will be organized by the appointed host in cooperation with the JWGC/BEAC. The venue for the event is chosen by the host.

Four scholarship holders and four new recipients are to take part in the event. The event acts as a kick off platform and encourages the scholarship recipients to cooperate in the future. The Barents cooperation partners will provide financial support to cover travel expenses and accommodations for the recipients from respective countries.

6. Conditions

The funds awarded must be used in accordance with the scope and purpose defined by the JWGC when awarding the scholarship. The recipients shall deliver a brief written report on how the scholarship has been used. The documentation shall be submitted to the JWGC electronically. The information may be published on the BEAC web sites.