

2019

THOMASSEN FUND Activity Report 1999 - 2018

A powerful tool for career
and life changing for
educators from Central
and Eastern Europe



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INTRODUCTION

This report builds on the data about the Thomassen Fund collected along the years by the ENCATC office for the period during which this matching and mobility grants fund was in place: 1999-2010.

It is with the aim to assess the impact of the Fund for its beneficiaries (individuals and institutions) and understand its legacy that we have decided in 2018 to review the existing materials for a comprehensive assessment of the Thomassen Fund during its full activity period. The aim of this revision is to provide a general overview of the fund's facts and figures, as well as to highlight the value accumulated along the years through the experience of the grantees and thanks to the generous contributions of the fund's sponsors.

Between 1999 and 2010 a total of 123,362 euros were allocated to 139 individuals in the form of travel grants to attend the General Assembly or other ENCATC meetings, and to 61 organizations from Central and Eastern Europe, which received matching grants towards ENCATC membership fees, especially those who had financial difficulty in meeting their obligations as members.

Most matching grants were awarded to Russian institutions (nearly a 48%), followed by Serbia-Montenegro (11% of the matching grants awarded), Hungary (8%), Bulgaria and Poland (nearly a 7% of the grants each), and at a longer distance by Czech Republic, Latvia, Georgia, Mongolia, Romania, Lithuania, and Moldova.

The Thomassen Fund was supported by KulturKontakt Austria (1999-2002), the Open Society Institute (2001-2003), the Council of Europe (1999-2001), and the European Cultural Foundation (1999-2000), ENCATC (contributor for the full period and only funder from 2004 onwards, when the fund transformed into an asbl under the Belgian law).

The years 2001 and 2005 (the latter already under a different funding scheme, the Thomassen Fund having been converted into an ENCATC programme) see peak moments for the fund. With 31 and 30 grants respectively, those two years were the ones when the highest number of grants were awarded (21 travel grants and 10 matching grants in 2001, and 25 travel grants and 5 matching grants in 2005).

Partners' financial contribution was paramount to provide learning opportunities to individuals who were able to travel to ENCATC events and took the acquired knowledge back home, thus enhancing the development of the arts and cultural field in their home country. This added to the matching grants, which brought European regions closer together through the development of connections among key actors in the cultural sphere.

Among the most valuable aspects of the Thomassen Fund, grantees highlighted the opportunity to be in contact with key institutions at the European level, the inputs and ideas gained during the exchanges for the development of training programs or international projects, and to be active within the network.

While the previously mentioned reports were mainly quantitative in their approach to the assessment of the Thomassen Fund, this report includes the results of a qualitative study on the motivation of participants to apply for the fund, as well as on the impact this experience had in their educational and professional path.

ABOUT THE THOMASSEN FUND

The Thomassen Fund is a mobility fund launched by ENCATC in May 1999 following a proposal of the ENCATC Board gathered in Uppsala, Sweden in May 1998. It was named in honour of Arild Thomassen, a former Board member who died in a tragic accident several years earlier.

The **objective** of the Thomassen Fund is to support and encourage mobility of cultural management educators from **Central and Eastern European**, and to create conditions for better collaboration and partnerships between individuals and/or organizations. It allows colleagues to work together, to learn from each other and to improve their respective skills and competences i.e. participation in training the trainers seminars, development of new educational tools, participation in thematic conferences, etc.

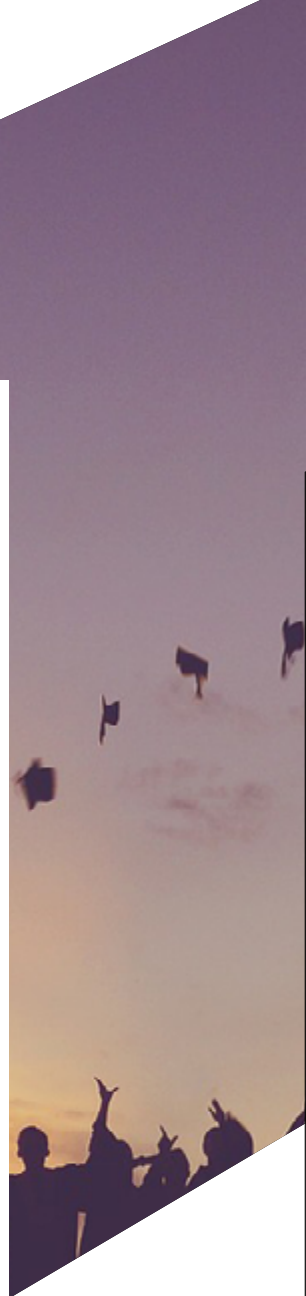
The Thomassen Fund provides two types of grants: **Travel grants** to attend ENCATC meetings (for support of member institutions only, to facilitate the development of projects and to attend network meetings, workshops and working

groups) and **Matching grants towards membership fees** (open only to full member institutions), especially those who have early financial difficulty in meeting their obligations as members.

A Thomassen Grant Committee is responsible for the allocation of the Thomassen Fund grants, and it makes recommendations to the ENCATC Board.

From 1999 to 2003 the Thomassen Fund was supported by the Council of Europe, the European Cultural Foundation, the Open Society Institute and KulturKontakt Austria. From 2004 onwards ENCATC was the unique source of income for the Fund.

In 2005, following a decision of the ENCATC General Assembly gathered in Potsdam in June the Thomassen Fund was set up as an independent **asbl under the Belgium law**. In November 2011, the asbl was finally closed and the Fund transformed in a project of the organization financed by ENCATC members.



QUANTITATIVE ASSESSMENT: FACTS & FIGURES

This section provides an overview of quantitative data about the Thomassen Fund. More specifically, information is presented about the number of people and institutions who benefited along the years, the money invested in supporting mobility and networking, the different funders' contributions, as well as the numbers of matching and travel grants awarded each year.

Following an overview of the Fund during the whole period it was in place – including information about beneficiaries numbers, total invested amount, funders' respective contributions, matching grants awarded per country, and mobility flows, the facts and figures are disaggregated for each year since the launch of the Fund in 1999 are reviewed.

This information is graphically represented, in a way that the dimension and outreach of the Thomassen Fund can be easily grasped.

1999



148
people



62
organizations /
institutions

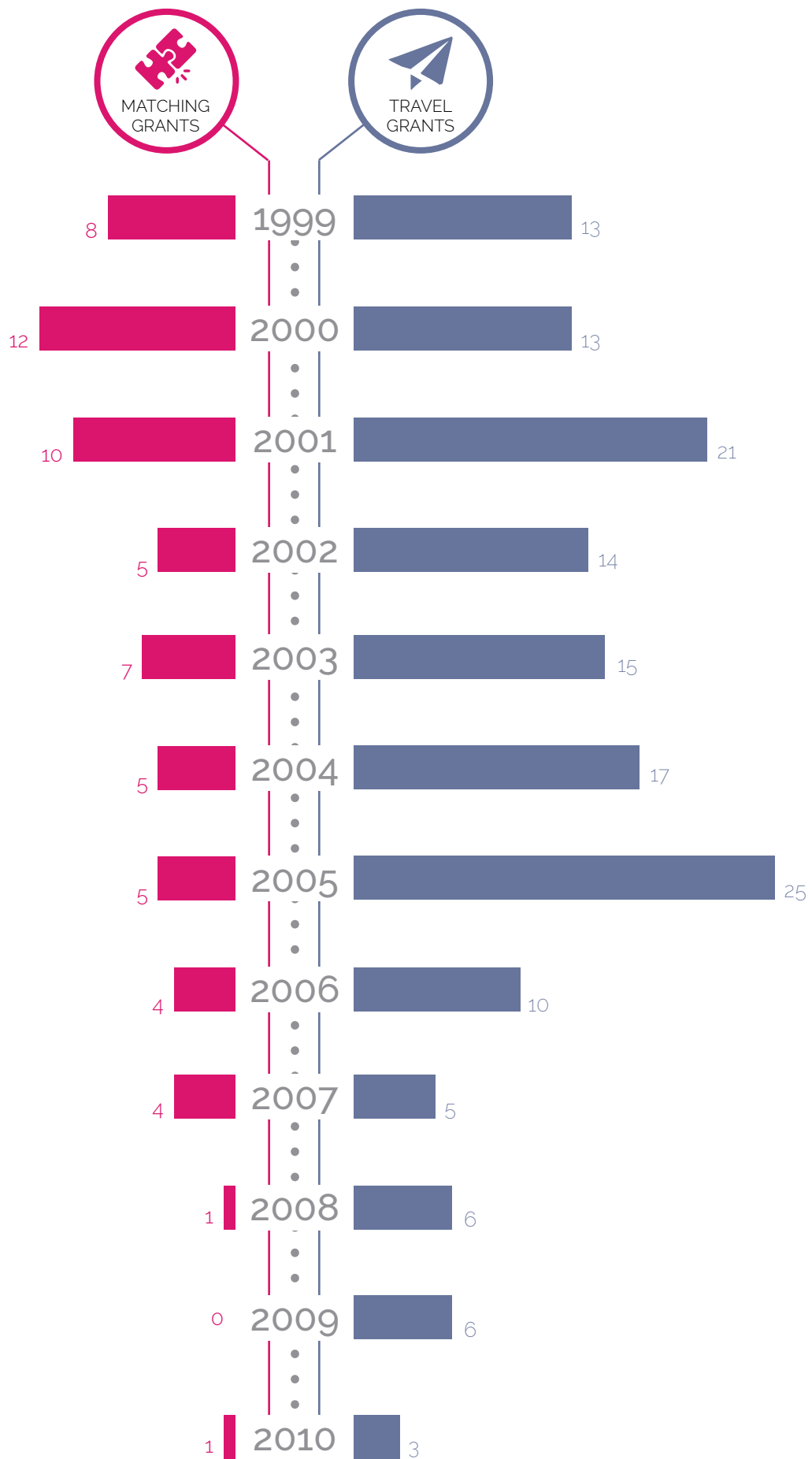


123,362
EURO

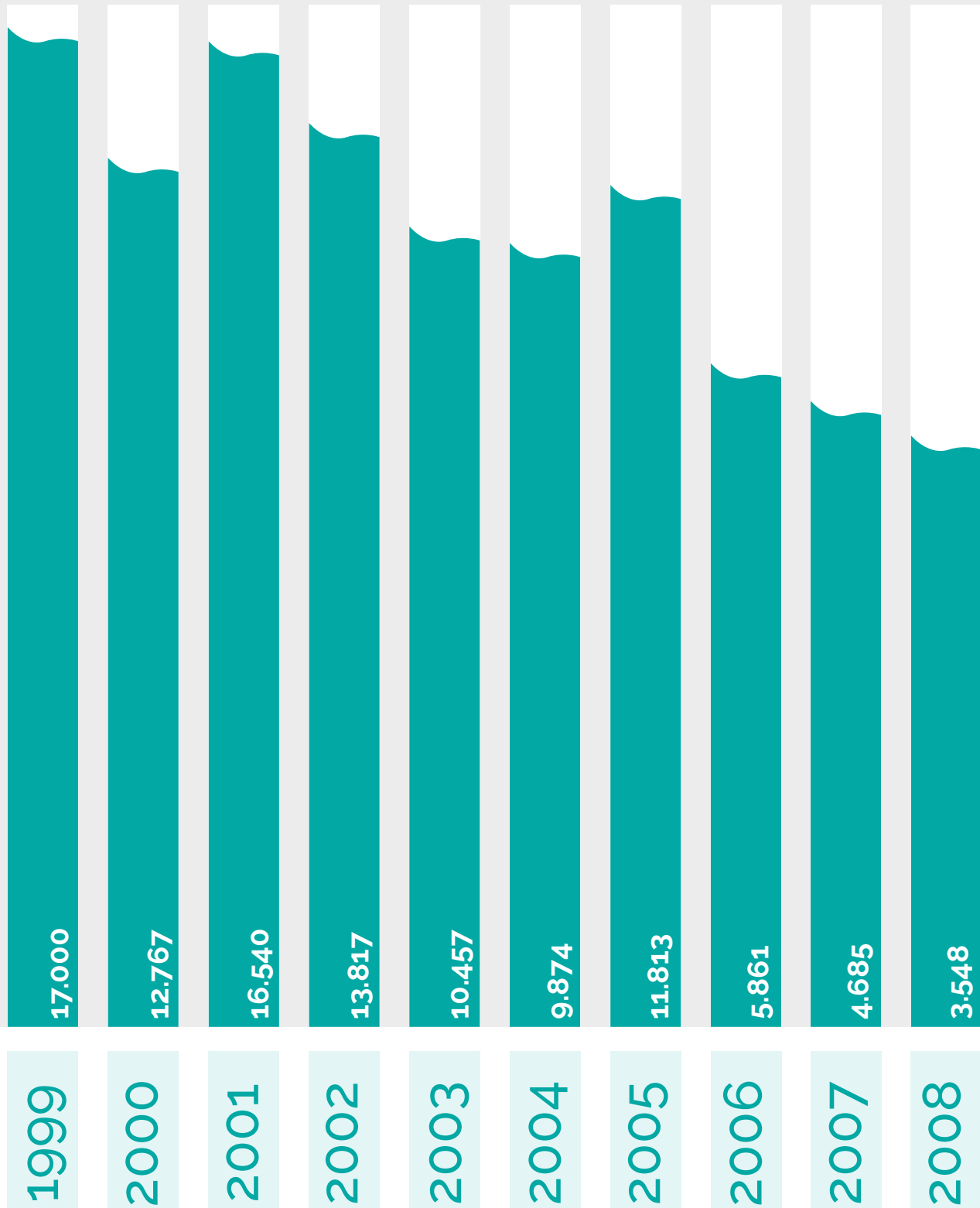
2010

Thanks to the Thomassen Fund between 1999 and 2010, 148 people have received travel grants and have traveled, met colleagues, learned from experience elsewhere and started and continued the face-to-face networking process which is so valuable in questions of cultural management and development. 62 organizations / institutions have received matching grants and have had the opportunity to join ENCATC and to share and develop information, ideas and contacts. Between 1999 and 2010, the Thomassen Fund invested a total of 123.362 EURO in people, organizations and institutions from Central and Eastern Europe.

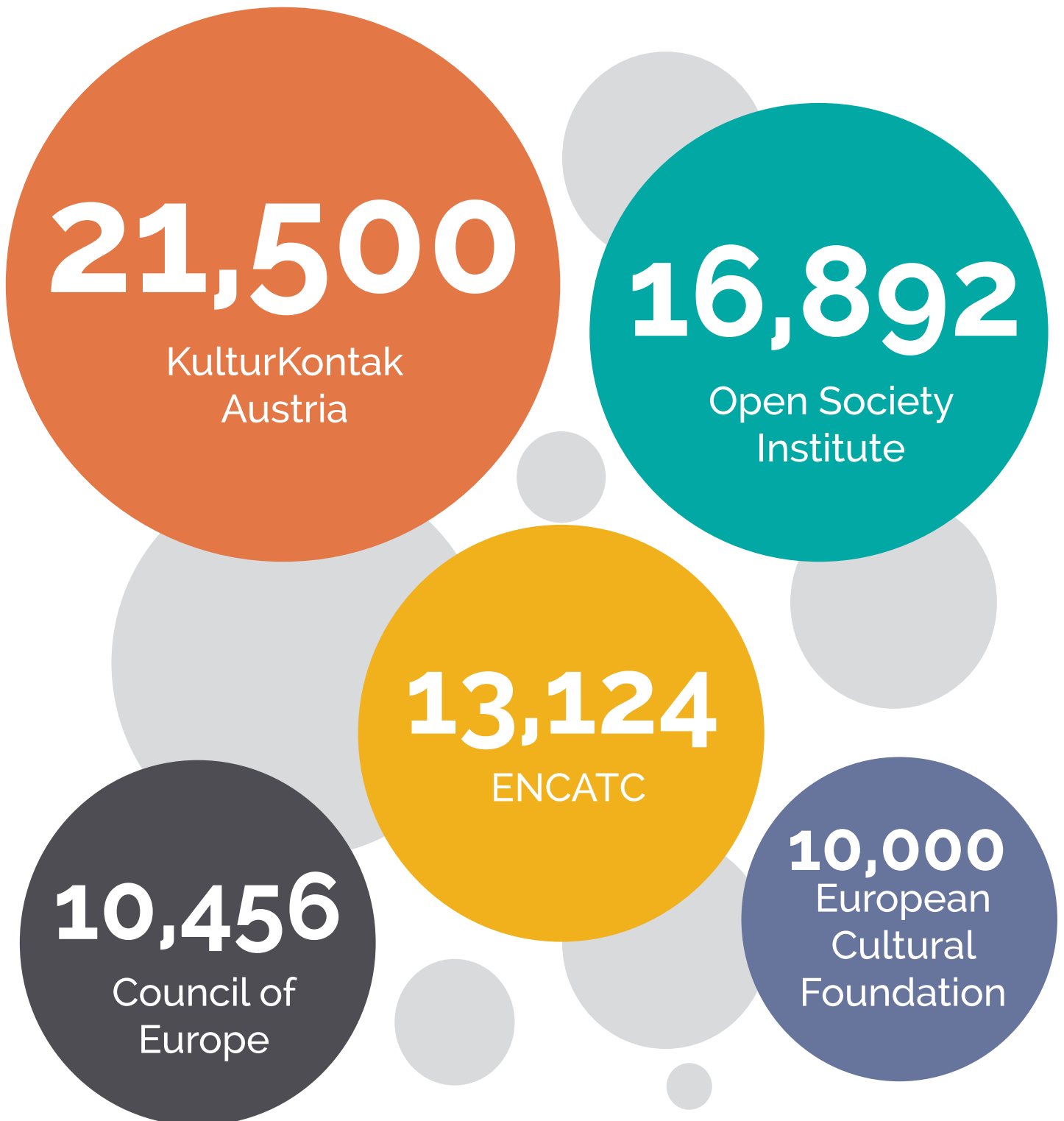
NUMBER OF TRAVEL AND MATCHING GRANTS 1999 - 2010



TOTAL AMOUNT OF GRANTS IN EURO 1999 - 2008



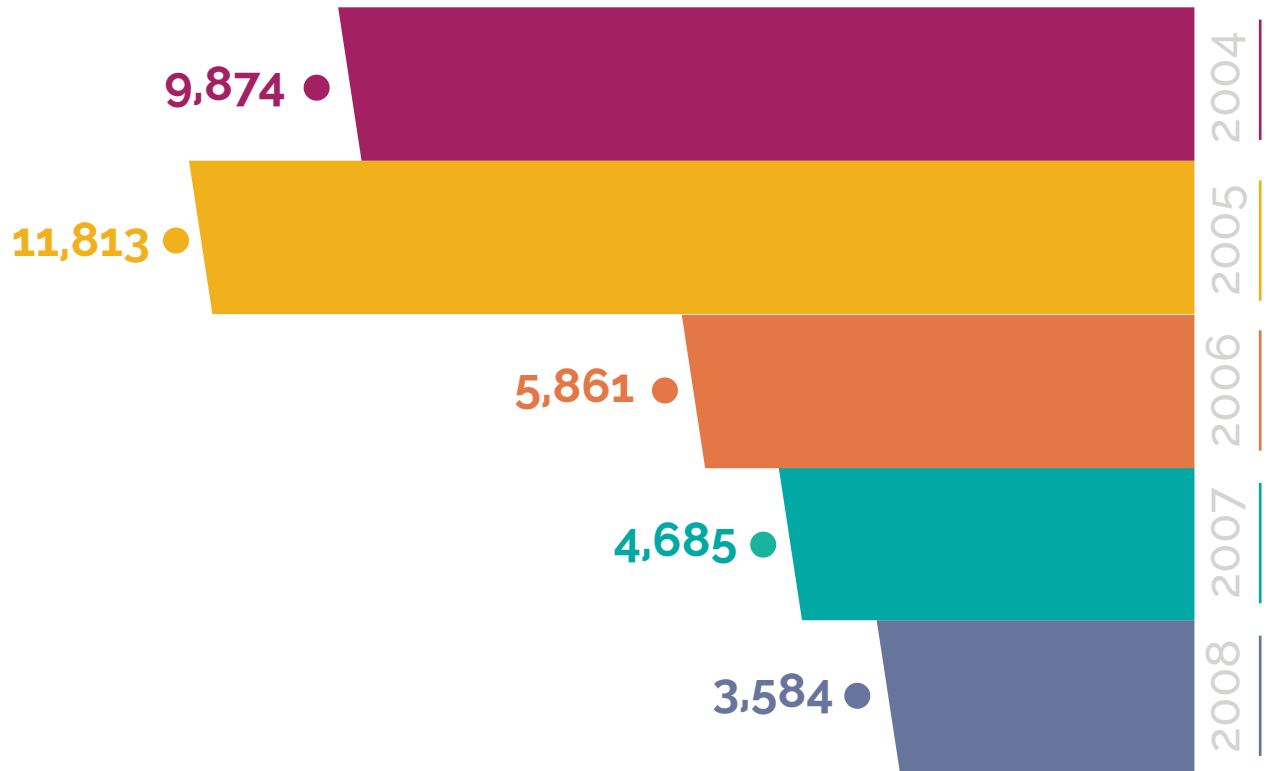
FUNDING INSTITUTIONS 1999 - 2003 Amount in Euros*



* From 2004 onwards, the Fund was entirely funded by ENCATC.

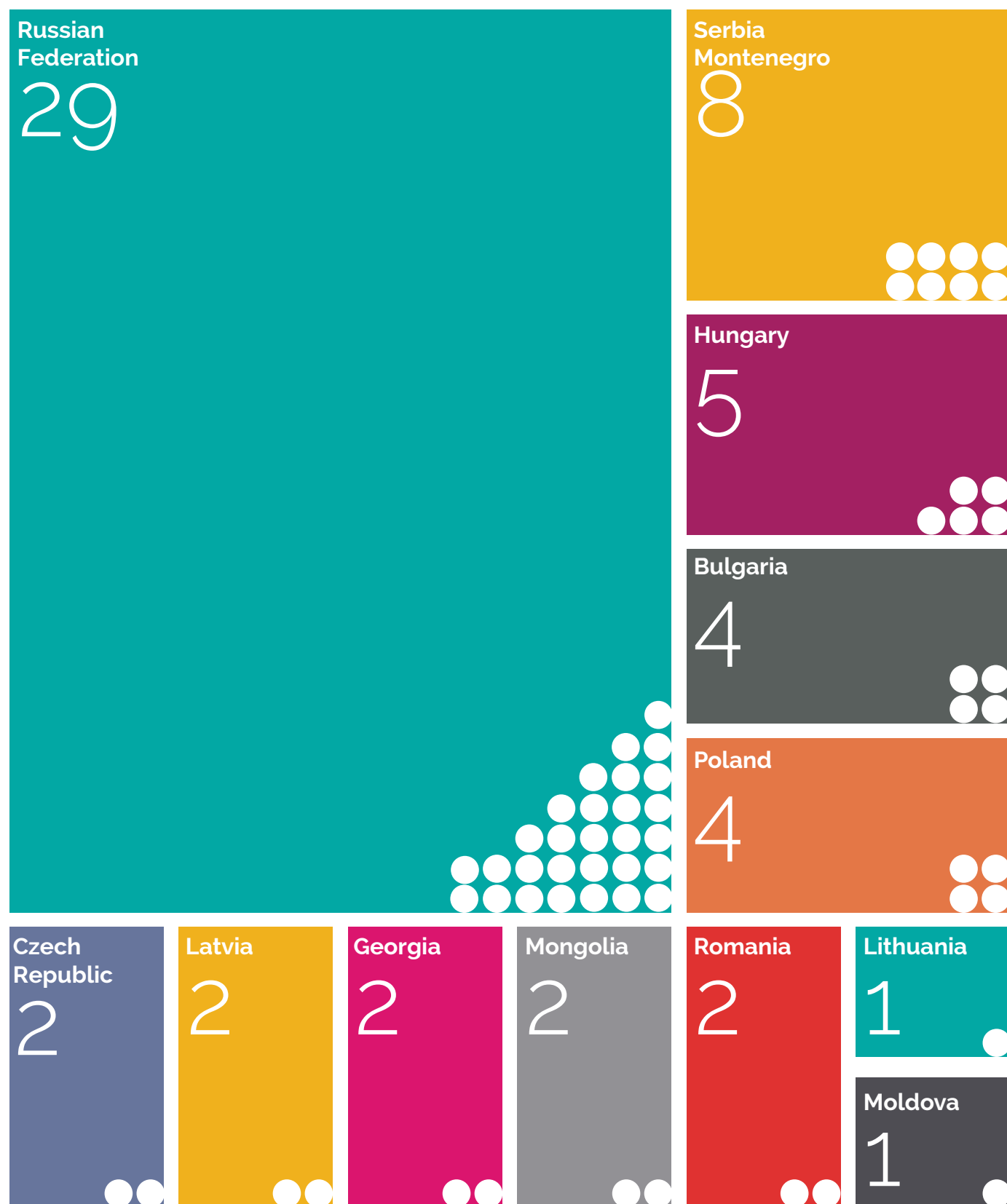
ENCATC CONTRIBUTION

2004 - 2008 Amount in Euros



MATCHING GRANTS ALLOCATED BY COUNTRY

1999 - 2010



FACTS & FIGURES

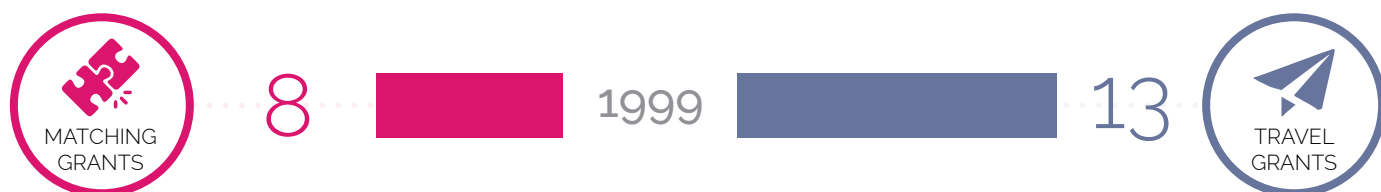
1999

In 1999, KulturKontakt Austria contributed to the Thomassen Fund with a grant for the year of 5,000 EURO, while the Council of Europe contributed 3,750 EURO, the European Cultural Foundation 6,000 EURO and ENCATC 2,250 EURO towards the participation of members and non-members in the General Assembly and to attend other European meetings. Thus, the total income for the year 1999 was 17,000 EURO. In 1999, 8 people traveled from Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Russia and Hungary to ENCATC's General Assembly in Paris with travel grants, 5 people went to Board and other ENCATC Meetings. The Thomassen Fund made 8 matching grants to:

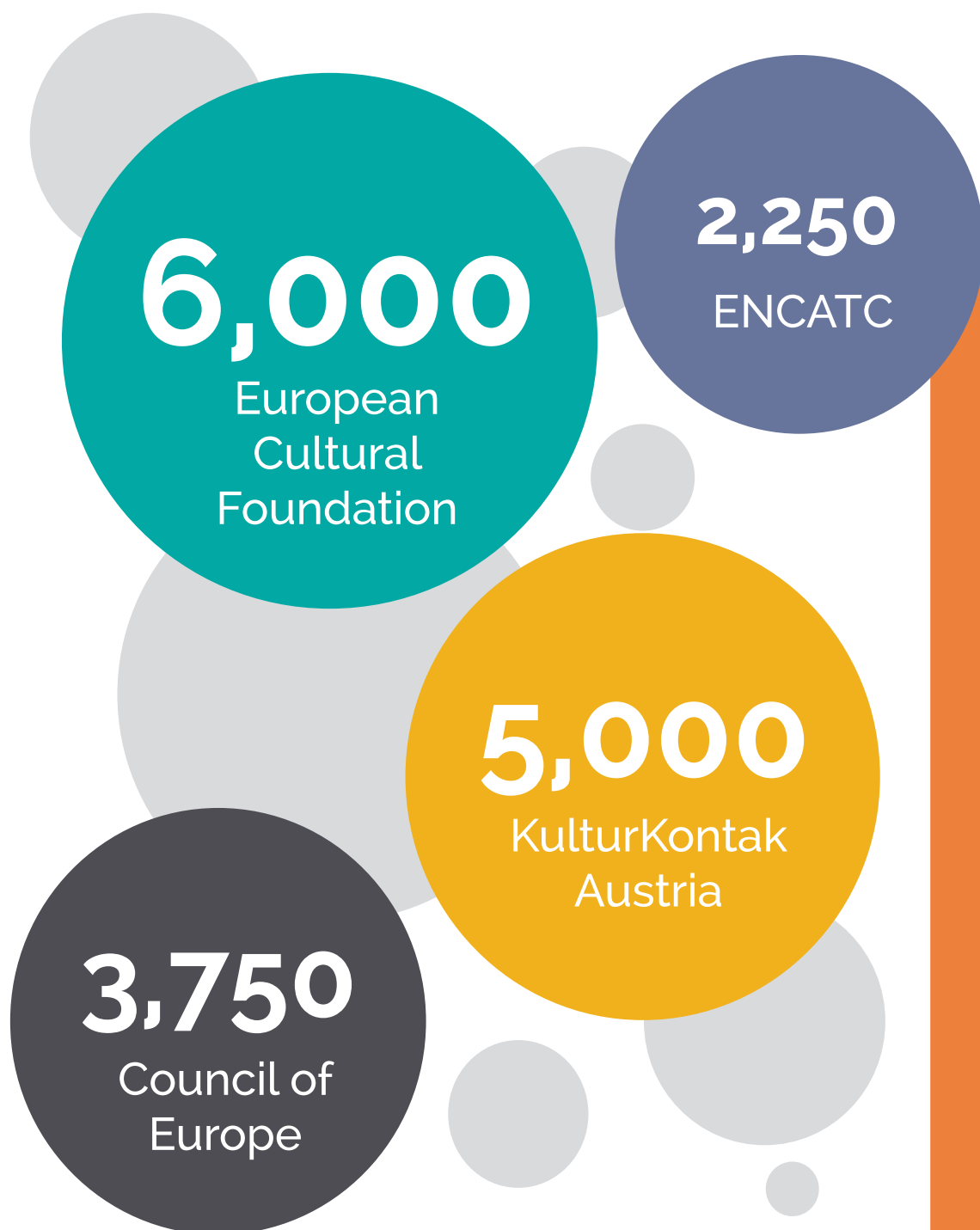
1. Moscow School of Social Science, Russian Federation
2. Art Profi Institute, Russian Federation
3. Institute of Cultural Programs, Russian Federation
4. New Bulgarian University, Bulgaria
5. Ökom, Bulgaria
6. Lajos Kossuth University, Hungary
7. Belgrade Faculty of Arts, Yugoslavia
8. Jagiellonian University, Poland.

In 1999, a total of 13 people had had the chance to meet colleagues thanks to the Thomassen Fund.

NUMBER OF MATCHING AND TRAVEL GRANTS IN 1999



FUNDING INSTITUTIONS IN 1999 Grants in Euros





FACTS & FIGURES 2000

In 2000, the Thomassen Fund had a total expenditure of 12,767 EURO. KulturKontakt Austria contributed with a grant for the year of 5,000 EURO, while the Council of Europe contributed 3,658 EURO, the European Cultural Foundation 4,000 EURO and ENCATC 1,500 EURO. In 2000, 10 people traveled from Russia, Lithuania, Poland, the Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary and Yugoslavia to ENCATC's General Assembly in Turku, Finland with travel grants and 3 people went to Board and other ENCATC Meetings.

The Thomassen Fund made 12 matching grants to:

1. New Bulgarian University, Bulgaria
2. Institute of Management OKOM, Bulgaria
3. Janacek Academy of Music and Performing Arts, Czech Republic
4. Lajos Kossuth University, Hungary
5. ELTE University, Hungary
6. Lithuanian Cultural Administration Training Centre, Lithuania
7. Jagiellonian University, Poland
8. Moscow School of Social & Economic Science, Russian Federation
9. Institute for Cultural Programs, St. Petersburg, Russian Federation
10. ArtProfi Centre, Moscow, Russian Federation
11. St. Petersburg State Theatre Academy, Russian Federation
12. Faculty of Drama Arts, Belgrade, Serbia (Yugoslavia).

In 2000, a total of 13 people had had the chance to meet colleagues thanks to the Thomassen Fund.

NUMBER OF MATCHING AND TRAVEL GRANTS IN 2000



FUNDING INSTITUTIONS IN 2000 Grants in Euros





FACTS & FIGURES 2001

In 2001, the Thomassen Fund had a total expenditure of 16,540 EURO. KulturKontakt Austria contributed with a grant for the year of 5,000 EURO, while the Council of Europe contributed 3,048 EURO, the Open Society Institute 4,688 EURO and ENCATC 3,804 EURO. In 2001, 6 people with travel grants traveled from the Czech Republic, Ukraine, Lithuania, Slovakia, Poland and Romania to attend ENCATC's General Assembly in St. Petersburg, Russia; 11 people coming from Hungary, Czech Republic, Ukraine, Russia, Bulgaria, Poland, Latvia, Lithuania, Georgia and Yugoslavia attended the European Training Academy in December 2001, Vienna, Austria; and 4 people with travel grants attended Board and other training meetings.

The Thomassen Fund made 10 matching grants to:

1. University of Debrecen, Department of Cultural Studies, Hungary
2. Janacek Academy of Music and Performing Arts, Czech Republic
3. Jagiellonian University, School of Cultural Management, Poland
4. Producers Centre ArtProfi, Russian Federation
5. Russian Academy of Theatre Arts (GITIS), Russian Federation
6. Latvian Academy of Culture, Latvia
7. University of Arts, Belgrade, Yugoslavia
8. Stichting Caucasus Foundation, Georgia
9. Moscow School of Social Sciences, Faculty of Cultural Management, Russian Federation
10. St. Petersburg State Theatre Academy, Russian Federation

In 2001, a total of 21 people had had the chance to meet colleagues thanks to the Thomassen Fund.

NUMBER OF MATCHING AND TRAVEL GRANTS IN 2001



10

2001

21



FUNDING INSTITUTIONS IN 2001 Grants in Euros

5,000

KulturKontak
Austria

3,048

Council of
Europe

4,688

Open Society
Institute

3,804

ENCATC





FACTS & FIGURES 2002

In 2002, the Thomassen Fund had a total expenditure of 13,817 EURO. KulturKontakt Austria contributed to the Thomassen Fund with a grant for the year of 6,500 EURO, the Open Society Institute contributed 4,688 EURO and ENCATC 2,629 EURO. In 2002, 12 people with travel grants traveled from Russia, Lithuania, Yugoslavia, the Czech Republic, Macedonia, Estonia, Slovakia, Ukraine, Poland and Latvia to attend ENCATC's General Assembly in May 2002, Darlington, United Kingdom; and 2 people with travel grants attended Board meetings.

The Thomassen Fund granted 5 matching grants to:

1. Latvian Academy of Culture, Latvia
2. Faculty of Drama Arts, Belgrade, Yugoslavia
3. Institute for Cultural Programs, Russian Federation
4. Debrecen University, Dep. of Cultural Studies and Education, Hungary
5. Center for Continuing Professional Development, Yugoslavia

In 2002, a total of 14 people had had the chance to meet colleagues thanks to the Thomassen Fund.

NUMBER OF MATCHING AND TRAVEL GRANTS IN 2002



FUNDING INSTITUTIONS IN 2002 Grants in Euros

6,500

KulturKontak
Austria

4,688

Open Society
Institute

2,629

ENCATC





FACTS & FIGURES 2003

The 2003 the Thomassen Fund allocated a sum of 10,457 EURO of which the Open Society Institute financed 7,516 EURO and ENCATC 2,941 EURO. In 2003, 15 people with travel grants traveled from Armenia, Serbia & Montenegro, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Georgia, Russia, the Slovak Republic, Estonia, Ukraine, Moldova, the Czech Republic and Poland to attend ENCATC's General Assembly in June 2003, in Turin and Serralunga, Italy.

The Thomassen Fund granted 7 matching grants to:

1. Stichting Caucasus Foundation, Georgia
2. Mongolian University of Culture, Mongolia
3. Institute for Cultural Programs, Russian Federation
4. Moscow School of Social and Economic Sciences, Russian Federation
5. St. Petersburg State Theatre Academy, Russian Federation
6. New Alternative Association, Moldova
7. Art Management Club, Mongolia

In 2003, a total of 15 people had had the chance to meet colleagues thanks to the Thomassen Fund.

NUMBER OF MATCHING AND TRAVEL GRANTS IN 2003



FUNDING INSTITUTIONS IN 2003 Grants in Euros

7,516

Open Society
Institute

2,941
ENCATC





FACTS & FIGURES 2004

In 2004 the Thomassen Fund allocated a total sum of 9.874 EURO towards travels grants and matching grants. This sum was entirely financed by ENCATC.

In 2004, 17 people received a travel grants: 8 of them traveled from the Russia Federation, Armenia, Lithuania, Estonia, to attend the ENCATC's General Assembly organized in May 2004, in Krakow, Poland; 4 of them traveled from Serbia and Montenegro, Bulgaria, Russia Federation, Ukraine to London to attend the ENCATC Workshop on "e-learning"; 3 of them traveled from Serbia and Montenegro, Bulgaria and Ukraine to attend the ENCATC Workshop on "Designing simulation games to cultural management training"; 1 of them traveled from Bulgaria to France to attend the ENCATC Academy on "Culture and tourism". 1 of them traveled from Poland to Spain to attend one of the year 2004 Board meetings.

In the same year the Thomassen Fund granted 5 Matching grants to:

1. ECUMEST, Romania
2. Institute for Cultural Programs, Russian Federation
3. Moscow School of Social and Economic Sciences, Russian Federation
4. St. Petersburg State Theatre Academy, Russian Federation
5. INTERSTUDIO, Russian Federation

Thanks to the support of the Thomassen Fund, in 2004, a total of 17 people had had the chance to meet colleagues and actively networking and 5 institutions had the opportunity to actively participate to the network activities.

NUMBER OF MATCHING AND TRAVEL GRANTS IN 2004



5



2004



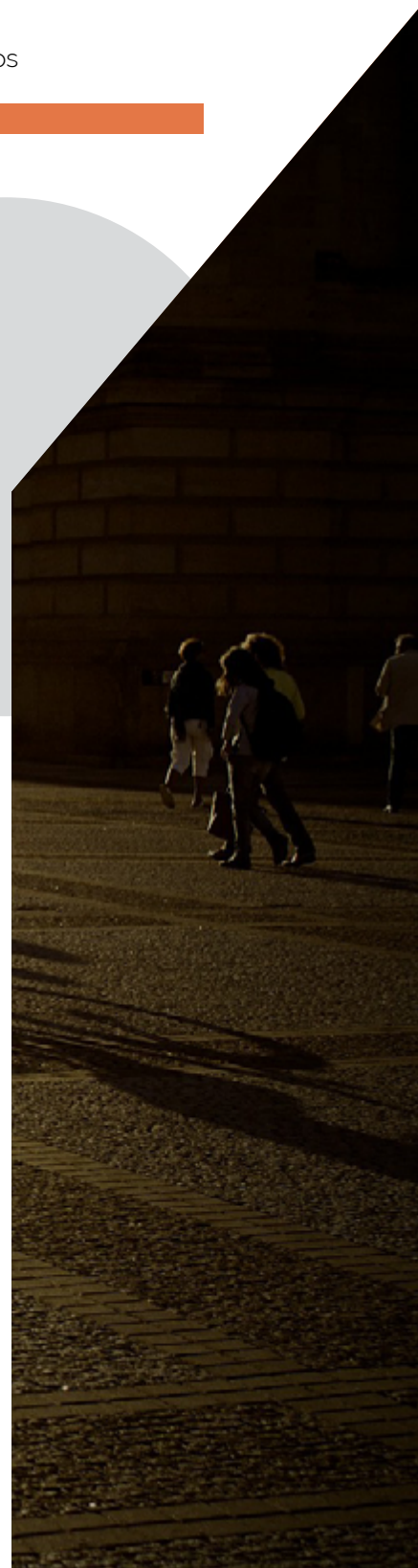
17



FUNDING INSTITUTIONS IN 2004 Grants in Euros

9,874

ENCATC





FACTS & FIGURES 2006

In 2006 the Thomassen Fund allocated a total sum of 5.861 EURO towards travels grants and matching grants. This sum was entirely financed by ENCATC.

In 2006, 10 people received a travel grants: 4 of them traveled from Serbia & Montenegro, the and Bulgaria to attend the ENCATC's Annual Conference and General Assembly on "Competence in Diversity – Diversity in Competence" organized in May 2006, in Bratislava, Slovakia; 4 of them traveled from Slovakia, Poland, Bulgaria and Estonia to Bilbao to attend the ENCATC Workshop on "Analysis of Methodologies used by Cultural Observatories and Statistical Centres. Guidelines for trainers and researchers"; 2 of them traveled from Poland or Slovakia to Brussels in order to attend the year 2006 Board meeting.

In the same year the Thomassen Fund granted 4 Matching grants to:

1. Center for professional development & consulting, Belgrade (Serbia & Montenegro)
2. Institute for Cultural Programs, Russian Federation
3. St. Petersburg State Theatre Academy, Russian Federation
4. INTERSTUDIO, Russian Federation

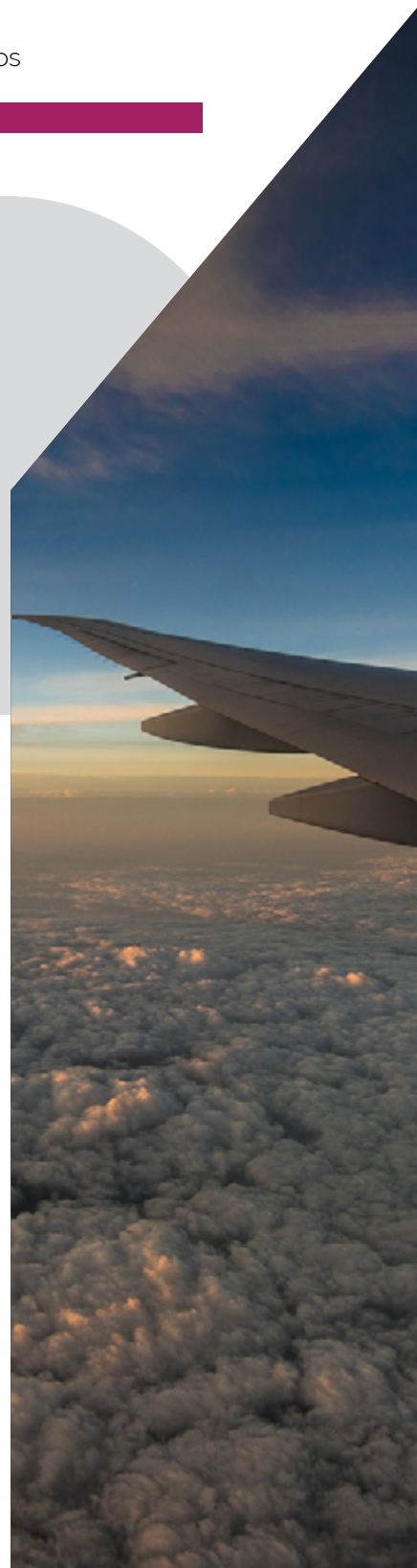
Thanks to the support of the Thomassen Fund, in 2006, a total of 10 people had had the chance to meet colleagues and actively networking and 4 institutions had the opportunity to actively participate to the network activities thanks to the Matching grants.

NUMBER OF MATCHING AND TRAVEL GRANTS IN 2006



FUNDING INSTITUTIONS IN 2006 Grants in Euros

5,861
ENCATC





FACTS & FIGURES 2007

In 2007 the Thomassen Fund allocated a total sum of 4.685 EURO towards travels grants and matching grants. This sum was entirely financed by ENCATC.

In 2007, 5 people received a travel grants: 3 of them traveled from the Russian Federation to attend the ENCATC's Annual Conference and General Assembly on "Entrepreneurship and Education in Cultural Life" organized in May 2007, in Goteborg, Sweden and 2 of them traveled from Poland or Slovakia to Brussels in order to attend the year 2007 Board meeting.

In the same year the Thomassen Fund granted 4 Matching grants to:

1. ASESOR, Poland
2. Institute for Cultural Programs, Russian Federation
3. St. Petersburg State Theatre Academy, Russian Federation
4. INTERSTUDIO, Russian Federation

Thanks to the support of the Thomassen Fund, in 2007, a total of 5 people had had the chance to meet colleagues and actively networking and 4 institutions had the opportunity to actively participate to the network activities thanks to the Matching grants.

NUMBER OF MATCHING AND TRAVEL GRANTS IN 2007



FUNDING INSTITUTIONS IN 2007 Grants in Euros

4,685
ENCATC





FACTS & FIGURES 2008

In 2008 the Thomassen Fund allocated a total sum of 3.548 EURO towards travels grants and matching grants. This sum was entirely financed by ENCATC.

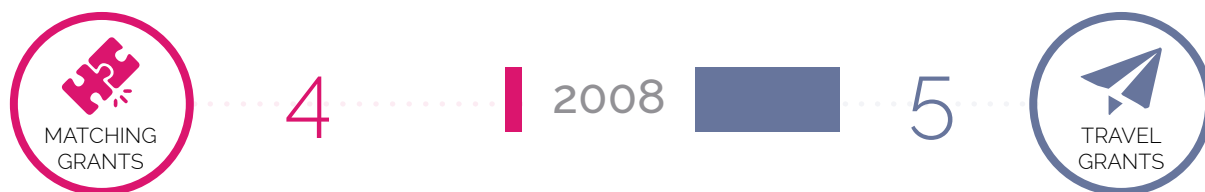
In 2008, 6 people received a travel grants: 4 of them traveled from the Russian Federation and Serbia to attend the ENCATC's Annual Conference and General Assembly on "Intercultural Dialogue and Project Management: new training programmes in a context of major challenges" organized in October 2008, in Lyon, France and 2 of them traveled from Slovakia and the Russian Federation to Bratislava in order to attend the Working Group Mediation/Heritage meeting.-
title of meeting

In the same year the Thomassen Fund granted 1 Matching grant to:

1. St. Petersburg State Theatre Academy, Russian Federation

Thanks to the support of the Thomassen Fund, in 2008, a total of 6 people had had the chance to meet colleagues and actively networking and 1 institution had the opportunity to actively participate to the network activities thanks to the Matching grant.

NUMBER OF MATCHING AND TRAVEL GRANTS IN 2008



FUNDING INSTITUTIONS IN 2008 Grants in Euros

3,548
ENCATC



FACTS & FIGURES 2009

Entirely funded by ENCATC, in 2009 a total of 6 travel grants were awarded, for participants from Russia (3), Serbia (1) and Ukraine (2) to travel to the 17th Annual Congress "Creativity and Innovation through Education and Culture", celebrated in Barcelona, Spain.

NUMBER OF MATCHING AND TRAVEL GRANTS IN 2009



FACTS & FIGURES 2010

In 2010, 3 people, from Russia, Bulgaria and Ukraine, were granted to attend the 18th ENCATC Annual Congress "Can I Google it? Knowledge, competence and skills in the cultural field in 2020", in Brussels, Belgium. Furthermore, a matching grant was awarded to:

1. University of Arts in Belgrade, Serbia

Its Faculty of Drama Arts is still an ENCATC member today, in 2019.

That year's grants were also entirely funded by ENCATC.

NUMBER OF MATCHING AND TRAVEL GRANTS IN 2002



QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT: THE FUND'S IMPACT ON GRANTEES

In the following pages, the qualitative impact of the Thomassen Fund for the grantees is explored. In order to do so, a double approach has been followed.

Firstly, the testimonials collected from the grantees are analysed. This is understood as a qualitative assessment of the impact of the grants in the short-term, insofar these testimonials were collected in the report form that grantees were requested to complete right after they enjoyed the awarded grant.

Secondly, this is completed by the information gathered through a survey launched in 2018 and distributed among Thomassen Fund beneficiaries. The analysis of these, more recent opinions allows us to reflect on the impact of the Fund in the longer term.

TEN YEARS OF A SUCCESS STORY

The testimonials collected along the years very clearly show some of the most valued effects and opportunities offered to them by the Thomassen Fund grant. The most recurrent ones are summarized here.

Establishment of cooperation mechanisms and initiatives.

This is by far the most important benefit of the Thomassen Fund as expressed by its beneficiaries. From invitations to scholars to lecture in Eastern Europe university programmes, to joint projects or co-authored articles, among many others. The collaborative actions that had an ENCATC event as the starting point – where one of the parties was able to attend thanks to a Thomassen Fund travel grant – are many and varied.

Staying updated about latest developments and trends.

For Thomassen Fund beneficiaries, ENCATC events provided a space where to gain first-hand knowledge about the latest development and trends in the European cultural management and policy field. Acknowledging that having acquired this knowledge in a different way would have been probably more difficult – because of the power of personal exchanges, grantees valued these inputs as appreciated resources to be taken and applied back home.

Access to top leading scholars and expert professionals

Linked to the possibility of staying updated, grantees very positively value the possibility of meeting people that is really paving the way in the European cultural management and policy field.

Improvement of local educational programmes on cultural management and policy.

Connected to some of the most valued benefits (such as the access to top leading scholars and expert professionals), this specifically refers to how the knowledge gain about older and more developed arts and culture management, and cultural policy, translate into further development of educational programmes in the grantees' home countries.

Development of a European cultural field.

As much as the idea of a single European cultural space might be questioned nowadays, for grantees it is indubitable that the mobility made possible by the Thomassen Fund brings Western and Eastern Europe closer, thus fostering the development of a European cultural field among cultural managers and researchers across the continent to exchange and learn from each other.

First (personal) contact with European institutions.

Much aware of the benefits of playing a role at a European level, Thomassen Fund beneficiaries highlighted as a major value the fact of being put in contact with representatives of European institutions such as the European Commission or the Council of Europe.

Access to tangible materials.

Whether it is books, project reports, databases or online platforms, among others, grantees pointed out that, through the people they met at the ENCATC events, they learned about and sometimes even gained access to resources that they did not know before and which were useful for their daily work.

Problem sharing.

As the saying goes, a problem shared is a problem halved. Along these lines, Thomassen Fund beneficiaries very much valued the opportunity to discuss on common problems and potential solutions in the framework of ENCATC events.

Opportunity to get to know the hosting city.

This is not merely about tourism, but about the possibility of getting a different arts and culture scene, vibrant cultural destinations, ruled by different cultural policies, with distinct working cultures and with diverse historical backgrounds, all to learn from.

Strengthening relations with key stakeholders back home.

In a few cases, the attendance to these ENCATC events empowered grantees to contact institutions and other key stakeholders in their home countries for enhanced cooperation and internationalization of their activities.



Egge Kulbok

UNESCO Chair of Cultural Management, Estonia

In 2000 the General Assembly of ENCATC was held in Turku and I was happy to attend it thanks to the support of the Thomassen Fund. For me personally, as well as for our team, the knowledge we obtained at the assembly in Turku was interesting and useful.

I made contacts with future colleagues representing institutions, which were already active in the field. I learned different teaching approaches and models of cultural management training, exchanged ideas and shared problems with other participants. It was an important experience both for me and for our team and I am very grateful to the Thomassen Fund for this opportunity.

While two years ago, there were no arts management postgraduate courses in Estonia, today we have 3 Master degree programmes.

Margarita Dorovska

InterSpace Association,
Bulgaria

I appreciate the contacts I made during the ENCATC Conference and I envisage a future project in cooperation with some of the colleagues whose organizations have interest in working in SEE. I am also developing a project for a portal for cultural policy/practice and cooperation, so the seminar on mobility that preceded the conference will be of great use to me.

This visit presented me with the opportunity to have a closer look at the life and culture in Helsinki and to learn more about the creative industries in the area of the capital city.

I highly value the experience and opportunities this conference presented me with and would like to express my gratitude to the Thomassen Fund for the financial support granted.



Ihor Savchak

Centre for the Humanities,
Lviv National University,
Ukraine

Thanks to a Thomassen Fund travel grant I was able to attend ENCATC's General Assembly 2002 in Dartington. It was a nice occasion to meet members of the network and speak with them. "The network is its people" and I have made sure of that there. Those lovely days were full of experience sharing, exchange of ideas, learning from each other.

There were no borders, no prejudices, no burden of histories that could determine a way of our communication with each other. Everybody has been aware that different cultures are no more a thing to quarrel about, it is a thing to unite us and a thing that is worth developing. And we have tried to find ways to develop it together.

Irina Khizhinskaya

INTERSTUDIO, Russia

I was awarded a travel grant to attend the ENCATC Conference and General Assembly in Lyon. The different meetings are valuable and important for our daily work. It is always useful to "look around" and to collect new information from the world around, especially from specialists, solving the same problems, to discuss the results of researches with them, the ways of development and improving curriculums. On the results of the last meetings we plan to hold a number of meetings on different territories to get to know with the state of work in the area interesting for us and that are directed to development of cooperation between representatives of educational centers of different countries.

On the whole, the event in Lyon left me only good emotions. I would like to thank the organizers!

Andrei Zonin

Institute for Cultural Programs,
Russia

The Institute for Cultural Programs strives for its main activities' development. To facilitate the development of successful up-to-date models of management in the sphere of culture and education, the Institute explores, analyzes and summarizes the international experience. Therefore, it is a crucial point for the Institute for Cultural Programs to maintain the information about current trends in culture and education to use it for St. Petersburg development.

Networking with our ENCATC colleagues helped me to present the ICP's achievements and in the same time analyze the results of our work, set up the new strategy and attract partnership support.

The events of the 17th ENCATC Annual Conference were very interesting and useful for me. I met with experts in the fields of culture and education, who shared their ideas and plans with the audience. I also received very important materials regarding to various issues of culture and education, which are the sphere of interest of the Institute for Cultural Programs.



Biljana Tanurovska

PAC Multimedia, Macedonia

The Thomassen Fund provides travel grants to foster the integration of professionals from our field of interest and expertise in Central and Eastern Europe into European dynamics. It allows colleagues to work together, to learn from each other and to improve our respective skills and competences...

In Macedonia, it is really difficult to finance professional development abroad, but through this grant, I had the enviable opportunity to participate in the Summer School Academy for Art, Culture and Media Management in Salzburg (2001). It was well organized and gave me an excellent foundation to further develop PAC Multimedia's pilot project – the New Media Space department. After having learned from arts professionals from the US and Europe about new developments, I am really excited to return home and use these skills.

Svetlana Litvinenkova

The St. Petersburg Art & Culture
Foundation "Pro Arte Institute",
Russia

Thanks to the Thomassen Fund I had a chance to participate in the "Managing cultural dynamics session" within the renewed European Conference as part of ENCATC General Assembly 2004 in Krakow. This is the second international conference I took part in and this kind of experience is very valuable and important for me. A chance to meet and talk with specialists in art management, new skills, obtained at the conference – all these I try to apply in the programme that I have been coordinating for 4 years already.

I would also like to mention the friendly atmosphere of this conference. A possibility to share opinions with leading Western professors, different workshops, update on students works made this conference very informative and useful.

There are a lot of art-management programmes but for Russia this field is still new. Western experience and methods are very important at becoming fully familiar with cultural management for CEE countries and Russia especially. As for St. Petersburg, our arts management programme is unique as it combines western experience, local knowledge and aimed to be used by managers of different cultural institutions – theatres, museums, libraries, etc. It is also free of charge for participants. Art professionals from ENCATC are already taking part in our programme, share their experience with us and it is very important.

Thanks to my participation in this conference I have met new colleagues and hope some of them could give lectures as part of our course. Among others, I met Egge Kulbok (Tallinn Pedagogical University) and we have already discussed the opportunity of her participation in our course.

Maya Ivanova

InterSpace Media Art Center

The workshop "Rethinking the interaction between culture, art and city and the process of implementing urban policies" held in Brussels in March 2005, offered me two days of exciting debates and sharing of ideas, models and practices in the sphere of Arts and Cultural management.

The grant gave me the incredible chance to be part of a multi-national, multi-lingual environment and to learn more about the tendencies in Arts and Cultural policies in concern of the Urban context. As a result of attending the event I work closer with the Sofia Municipality and plan to start cultural training initiatives with their support



Maria Naimark

INTERSTUDIO - Institute
for the Professional
Development in
Culture

Thank you very much to the Thomassen Fund and ENCATC for the constant support of our common activities, that allows us not just attend, but be active members of this powerful network.. Thank you for this unique opportunity not just to participate in a conference, but to stay being involved into the intensive ENCATC life.

Nataliya Volchenko

"Youth Unit of Artists" at NGO
"KATKA", Russia

On the one hand, there is clear need to maintain constant contacts with colleagues from different cities/countries through the participation in various events. On the other hand, financial possibility is limited. The "Youth Unit of Artists", as an independent formation, has no possibility to reimburse travel expenses. Members of NGOs are full-time employees at the State institutions. Activity within the NGOs is realized on the voluntary bases.

Thus, I'm very thankful to Thomassen Fund, which made this visit possible and gave me a chance to represent result of the team work as well as to maintain professional contacts with colleagues from different countries. I'd like to participate more actively in ENCATC and its events as a speaker, as a moderator, as a local organizer, as an "agent for changes".



Magdalena Kopczynska

National Centre for Culture,
Poland

Due to my participation in the ENCATC workshop "Designing simulation games to cultural management training" held in Barcelona in October 2004, I had the opportunity to see the pedagogical aims, set for programs for cultural managers at Spanish University, and the practical tools, which are designed to achieve these goals. They are of high value to me, because present situation in Poland, in many ways, is similar to that in Spain after 1986, when the country entered the EU.

That is why I find the content of presented simulation games even more inspiring. For example, I could analyze how students may be prepared to future use of EU structural funds for cultural monuments renovation. Analyzing the content of this game I realized how complex is the formula of exercises designed for students, e.g. combination of planning and negotiations, which helped me to think in this way during my exercises preparation.

Thanks to my participation in the Barcelona Workshop I extend my knowledge on simulation games. Definitely, during the workshop I could observe interesting teaching techniques which should be applied to the National Centre for Culture teaching standards. I deeply appreciate that thanks to Thomassen Grant I could participate in the workshop which I found extremely important and interesting.

Dejana Prnjat

Arts Academy in Belgrade,
Serbia

I am very grateful to the Thomassen Fund Board who helped me to join the ENCATC Annual Conference and General Assembly in Barcelona 2009. That was a rare opportunity for me to meet professors from the whole Europe who are interested in the same field as I am. I met many friendly people who were willing to help me in many different ways – from sending me results of their researches in the field of cultural policy or sending important materials about EU cultural policy. Both help me improving curricula of cultural policy for my students.

Also, many were willing to cooperate, from working on mutual projects to publishing joint articles. I already get few invitations for mutual projects and I am going to make few myself. Thank you again, thank you very much.



Anna Dymnikova

Saint-Petersburg State
Theatre Arts Academy,
Russia

Attendance to the Potsdam Assembly, as the participation in many other ENCATC events enlarges the understanding borders of educative problems in the field of cultural management, to which I'm devoted for 30 years already. Russia is not yet enough involved in Bologna Process, is insufficiently integrated in European educative context. Participation in the assembly of arts management will contribute to intense this process.

Participation in the assembly in Krakow one year ago enriched me by new knowledge and skills and, I hope, influenced on my professional development. The Potsdam assembly gave me the opportunity of meeting and experience exchange with colleagues from other countries, participations in interactive sessions, which I'll use in practice working with students, aspirants and colleagues.

As leading pedagogue of the department, I'm directing lessons on four courses of curriculum. The participation in the assembly let me improve the lessons quality, transfer it in playing manner, which is in Russia is not developed yet. Enriching by new knowledge and skills, let exchange it with young pedagogues – candidates, which scientific leader I'm working. As the result the quality of theatre managers preparing in the Academy will be improved.

The conference justified my expectations and gave me the possibility once more time to think over the problems of education of managers in culture by enlarging knowledge about this complicate process in the context of European conception, to understand the experience of colleagues. Invaluable is provision for me of meeting with scientists, lectures from different countries, to discuss with them common problems for all of us, to feel myself as the person of world, as a part of common European space. And of course close acquaintance with Germany, and with wonderful city Potsdam, with its historical and cultural values enriched me as a specialist, who is involved in art science.

Ekaterina Kondrashova

Institute for Cultural Programs,
Russia

Participating in the 17th ENCATC Annual Conference gave me a great opportunity for self-development as a young cultural manager. I have met the colleagues and exchanged information in various issues of current methodologies in culture and education. Attending the events of the ENCATC Annual Conference was very interesting and useful experience that helped me to broaden my knowledge in the key points of current methodology in culture and education. All information, I have received at the ENCATC Annual Conference, I intend to contribute into my everyday work in the Institute for Cultural Programs, and these data gives, undoubtedly, an impulse for projects in the sphere of culture the Institute for Cultural Programs will organize and conduct.



Aleksandar Brkic

University of Arts, Belgrade

I participated in the work of 2nd Young Cultural Policy Researchers Forum, organized by ECF and ENCATC, 15-17th of October 2008, and also represented University of Arts at the 16th Annual Conference of ENCATC. Event focused on the topic of Cultural Diversity.

As a PhD student at the University of Arts in Belgrade, experience gained at the Young Cultural Policy Researchers Forum was extremely usefull, with the sharing of experiences and information with colleagues from all around Europe.

Also, connecting us with the people from Council of Europe and European and European Commision was a great reflection experience for us. Annual Conference helped me to meet some of the most distinguished professors from European context, and also witnessing some fruitfull debates concerning the topics of diversity and intercultural dialogue.

Grant helped me a lot. I am not sure I would be able to attend if it was not for Thomassen Fund.

Irina Kizilova

Institute for Cultural
Programs, Russia

Thanks to ENCATC conference in Potsdam in June 2005 I got the access to international platform for exchange the ideas, information and experience in the field of arts management training and continuing education. I have received some new ideas and tips for the organization of the international projects. The meetings and takings with the colleagues were both productive and encouraging.

This year we started new joint program with Sibelius Academy (Finland), the active ENCATC member, dedicated to the Music Festival Management for Russian festivals directors.

The aim of the program is to share knowledge on central issues related to music festival management. Subjects covered include marketing, production, financing, project planning, fundraising, sponsorship, contracts and international music business. Furthermore the program is built so that it advances concrete networking, international co-operation and joint-projects especially between Russian and Finnish festivals. The participants will also realize a personal or group project that is closely related to ones own organization or work and will apply the learnt things in a concrete and practical way. Tutoring and personal guidance for this will also be offered. The program started in October 2005 and consists of 3 international seminars, project tutoring and a study trip. The Module 1 took place in October and was a very successful event. Many ideas of ENCATC have been used during training. Using the shared knowledge of ENCATC network , We have selected following issues of art management for the preparation of the program: building a festival network for the Russian festivals, marketing, sponsorship and cultural production at my own organization, cultural tourism as a tool in festival management, a joint-project with a Finnish festival.

Students were studying subjects: introduction to festival management, international music business and contracts, international and cross-cultural collaboration. They have presented networking and personal and group projects.

Lecturers for the 2005 modules include Finnish and international managers, many of them are ENCATC members, and other experts that have kindly agreed to share their expertise and knowledge on the subjects at hand.

LOOKING BACK A DECADE AFTER

After the analysis of the quantitative information about the Thomassen Fund and the analytical re-reading of the testimonials gathered when grants were awarded, it was considered important to assess the long-term impact of the grants, now that almost a decade has passed since the last Thomassen Fund grant was awarded. In order to do so, a survey was designed and disseminated among the Fund's grantees, and its results are presented in this section.

Before that, the difficulty of reaching people after almost 20 years in some cases – first grant was awarded in 1999, must be acknowledged. In some cases, contact e-mails were not working anymore, and it was not always easy to find new ones online; in some other cases, people just did not reply despite the several reminders sent, which is understandable in the present always busy times. Therefore, while this study is certainly limited due to the low response rate, some interesting remarks can still be made when looking at the few responses gathered.

Firstly, when asked about the motivations they had back then when they applied for the Thomassen Fund, responses were much aligned with the most valued benefits as described in the previous section. Networking, gaining knowledge, experiences exchange and bridging Western and Eastern Europe were some of the most common reasons to attend ENCATC events with the Thomassen Fund support.

With regard to the grant's impact on the grantees professional development, they generally consider that the event had an impact on their professional career development, that the gained knowledge influenced their educational and training path, research and future activities, and, to a lesser extent, that the event had an impact on the internalization of their organization and/or programmes.

Grantees were also asked about if and how they shared the gained knowledge inside and/or outside their organization. New partnerships and new projects are the most common outcomes resulting from the relations made at ENCATC events, followed by the development of new curricula and joint publications (articles, books, reports).

It must be mentioned that, while the Thomassen Fund might be seen as very punctual in the grantees' generally long professional career, they still value it as a remarkable event, in some cases even as a turning point allowing them to connect beyond their regional borders and gain knowledge and experience that translated into significant developments in their home countries.

“I deeply value this opportunity and cannot stress enough how valuable it was for my professional development and for strengthening the network of the organization. I believe that the investment the Thomassen Fund made through the grant I was awarded has paid off manifold beyond my personal development, in terms of collateral impact on the local environment as well”

Margarita Dorovska,
Bulgaria



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We will be very glad to assist you.

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ENCATC IS THE LEADING EUROPEAN NETWORK ON CULTURAL MANAGEMENT AND POLICY.

It is an independent membership organisation gathering over 100 higher education institutions and cultural organisations in over 40 countries. ENCATC was founded in 1992 to represent, advocate and promote cultural management and cultural policy education, professionalise the cultural sector to make it sustainable, and to create a platform of discussion and exchange at the European and international level.

ENCATC holds the status of an NGO in official partnership with UNESCO, of observer to the Steering Committee for Culture of the Council of Europe, and is co-funded by the Creative Europe programme of the European Union.

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