

## **The European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture (ERIANC)**

The European Roma Institute for Arts and Culture (ERIANC) is a joint initiative of the Council of Europe, the Open Society Foundations, and the Alliance for European Roma Institute. ERIAC is an independent association registered in 2017 under German law and based in Berlin.

ERIANC's mission is to increase the self-esteem of Roma and to decrease negative prejudice of the majority population towards the Roma by means of arts, culture, history, and media. ERIAC acts as an international creative hub to support the exchange of creative ideas across borders, cultural domains and Romani identities. ERIAC aims to be the promoter of Romani contributions to European culture and talent, success and achievement, as well as to document the historical experience of Romani people in Europe. ERIAC exists to be a communicator and public educator, to disseminate a positive image and knowledge about Romani people for dialogue and building mutual respect and understanding.

Six founding principles define the Institute's establishment, governance and structure:

- Respect of the dignity of Romani people and Romani identity
- Diversity and plurality of Romani identities and cultures
- Romani leadership with the support and co-operation of non-Roma
- Engagement and contribution of Romani organizations and individuals in the establishment and ongoing activities of the Institute
- Political autonomy and non-partisanship, openness for collaboration with public authorities and political institutions as partners
- Highest quality standards in the domains of arts and culture, as well as its own operational performance.

## **ERIANC Membership and the Barvalipe Academy**

### **Membership**

ERIANC is envisioned as a membership-based organization, bringing together Roma and non-Roma individuals and organizations who are committed to ERIAC's founding values and who have relevant and demonstrated competencies and experience in the field of arts and culture.

Members will have key roles in building the resources of ERIAC, engaging in creative exchange and co-production, taking ownership of ERIAC's initiatives and engaging in its decision-making. Members will have access to ERIAC's information and knowledge resources, collections, archives and database. All members have the right to vote during General Assemblies and can nominate members to the Barvalipe Academy.

ERiac's membership will be organized in four thematic sections, to which members should commit:

- Arts and Culture
- History and Commemoration
- Knowledge production and Publication
- Media and Communication

The Barvalipe Academy

The Barvalipe Academy is the agenda-setting and strategic body of the Institute which has an advisory and inspirational role, in order to fulfil ERiac's objectives. Barvalipe is composed of 15 members - highly regarded, publicly acknowledged individuals, with competencies in the areas covered by ERiac's activities.

**For more information visit:**

**[www.eriac.org](http://www.eriac.org)**

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