



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 19 April 2012

8380/12

CULT 49

NOTE

from : General Secretariat of the Council
to : Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1) / Council

No. Cion prop. : 8379/12 CULT 48

Subject : Draft Council Decision designating the European Capital of Culture for the year 2016 in Spain and Poland
– *Adoption*

1. In accordance with Article 8 of Decision No 1622/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 2006 establishing a Community action for the European Capital of Culture event for the years 2007 to 2019¹, the selection panel recommended in its report of June 2011 that Donostia-San Sebastián (Spain) and Wrocław (Poland) host the event in 2016. In line with Article 9 of the above-mentioned Decision, Both Member States notified these nominations to the European Parliament, the Council, the Commission and the Committee of the Regions by Autumn 2011.
2. Under Article 9 (2) of the above-mentioned Decision, the European Parliament may forward an opinion to the Commission on the nomination. The European Parliament forwarded its positive opinion to the Commission in late December 2011.

¹ OJ L 304, 3.11.2006, p. 1.

3. On 29 March 2012, the Commission submitted its recommendation for a Council Decision on the designation of Donostia-San Sebastián and Wrocław as "European Capital of Culture 2016", in accordance with Article 9(3) of Decision No 1622/2006/EC. This recommendation was drawn up in the light of the positive opinion of the European Parliament and the justifications based on the report of the selection panel.

4. In view of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee could invite the Council to adopt the Decision annexed hereto, and consequently designate officially Donostia-San Sebastián (Spain) and Wrocław (Poland) as European Capitals of Culture for 2016.

COUNCIL DECISION

designating the European Capital of Culture for the year 2016 in Spain and Poland

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Decision No 1622/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 2006 establishing a Community action for the European Capital of Culture event for the years 2007 to 2019¹, and in particular Article 9(3) thereof,

Having regard to the recommendation from the European Commission,

Having regard to the Selection Panel report of June 2011 regarding the selection process of the European Capitals of Culture in Spain and Poland respectively,

Whereas:

Considering that the criteria referred to in Article 4 of Decision No 1622/2006/EC are entirely fulfilled,

¹ OJ L 304, 3.11.2006, p. 1.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Donostia-San Sebastián and Wrocław are designated as “European Capitals of Culture 2016” in Spain and Poland.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at [...],

*For the Council
The President*
