

EMBODIED TRANSFORMATIONS

The artform of dance is a cultural practice that embodies the movement and transformation of our societies today.

Embodied Transformations is a new project by the European Dance Development Network - EDN. The network connects contemporary dance professionals, organisations, and communities across Europe to foster a stable and interdependent dance ecosystem.

EDN is a proud recipient of the EU's network funding. *Embodied Transformations* is EDN's fourth EU-funded network project, representing the contemporary dance sector in Europe.

From 2025 to 2028, *Embodied Transformations* will empower the contemporary dance sector to exchange ideas, co-research, innovate, enlarge its discourse, and amplify its advocacy efforts.

Project Goals

→ **Fair Working Conditions:** Identify models that support sustainable living and working conditions for artists and other contemporary dance professionals.

→ **Youth & Community Engagement:** Explore innovative approaches to engaging with young audiences and emerging artists, and support youth mental health and wellbeing.

→ **Environmental Sustainability:** Implement actions to promote environmental sustainability within the dance ecosystem.

→ **Global Collaboration:** Foster global partnerships and intercultural exchanges by promoting equitable relationships.

→ **Digital Innovation:** Strengthen cross-sector collaboration to enhance digital innovation in dance creation, production, and distribution.

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Working Groups

EDN's working groups are casual, multi-stakeholder gatherings that bring together different perspectives to exchange ideas, co-research, pilot and innovate. From 2025 to 2028, the network will focus on the following themes:

- **Fair Working Group:** improving working conditions for artists and other professionals.
- **Young Working Group:** community-engaged practices with young audiences and emerging artists.
- **Digital Working Group:** cross-sector collaboration for digital innovation and access.

New Programmes

→ **Local Advocacy Programme** offers mentoring webinars, advocacy toolkits, and microgrants to support EDN members in their local advocacy efforts related to career sustainability, dance infrastructure, education, job creation, and working conditions.

→ **Accessibility Travel Programme** facilitates more equitable access to EDN's onsite activities.

→ **Green Travel Programme** provides slow and low-impact travel incentives to participants attending EDN's onsite events.

→ **Global Partnership Programme** supports the participation of partners and representatives from the global majority.

Sector Dialogues

In partnership with the Performing Arts Coalition, the project will facilitate sector dialogues on Cultural Rights, the Future of EU Funding for Culture, and Working Conditions in CCSs.

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Policy Coordination

The project will facilitate EDN's participation in high-level policy discussions coordinated by Culture Action Europe, focusing on the EU Work Plan for Culture, the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and other international frameworks.

Summary

Embodied Transformations aims to create meaningful synergies across the contemporary dance sector in Europe by addressing fair practices, community engagement, digital innovation, environmental sustainability, and global collaboration. With ongoing support from EU network funding, EDN represents the dance sector in European cultural policy discussions and EU development programmes.

[European Dance Development Network – EDN](#), established in Barcelona as a legal association of dancehouses in 2009, is a network of dance development organisations based in Europe working towards a sustainable, progressive and equitable dance sector. In 2025, EDN counts 56 member organisations in 28 European countries. It advocates for better working conditions in contemporary dance, raises awareness about the relevance of dance for societies, and co-creates occasions for sharing and exchange by and for dance sector professionals.

[European Networks](#) - The European Union cofinances 37 pan-European Networks of culture and creative organisations under the Creative Europe programme (2021-2027). These networks support cultural organisations and professionals who contribute to strengthening the competitiveness and diversity of the European cultural and creative sectors.