

# The Blueprint Reimagined: Knowledge-Exchange and Advocacy

On Spaces,  
Residency  
Networks, and  
the Future of  
the Independent  
Scene

9.-10. listopada 2025.  
Društveni centar Rojc, Pula

# The Blueprint Reimagined: Knowledge-Exchange and Advocacy

9 – 10, October, 2025  
Pula (Croatia)

## Abstract

*The Blueprint Reimagined: Knowledge-Exchange and Advocacy* is a two-day regional conference held in Pula (Rojc), Croatia, that brings together cultural workers, researchers, policymakers, and independent scene representatives from Slovenia, Croatia, Kosovo, and other countries.

The event aims to contextualize and reimagine the role of independent cultural spaces as vital socio-cultural infrastructure. Through panels, workshops, and participatory formats, the conference explores current challenges, shares best practices in participatory governance, and co-designs future models for sustainable cultural infrastructure.

Emphasizing regional collaboration and advocacy, the conference seeks to spark long-term alliances and actionable strategies for empowering the independent cultural sector in Southeast Europe.

## About the Project

This conference is part of the project *Operation Nova: Re-imagining Cultural Spaces in a New European Context*, which brings together a consortium of three pioneering cultural organisations from Southeast Europe (Croatia, Slovenia, Kosovo). The project stems from a shared concern over the lack of adapted support systems for independent cultural actors—especially regarding public infrastructure that enables the incubation, production, and mediation of artistic and cultural content for diverse urban communities. As leading independent cultural platforms in their countries, the partner organisations have long been at the forefront of introducing empowered participatory governance of cultural spaces and mobilising large numbers of cultural workers and artists.

The ambition of Operation Nova is to lay the groundwork for a more responsive support system for independent cultural spaces and to deepen the relationships of artists and cultural workers with local communities and decision makers. By gathering diverse actors to exchange knowledge and practices, the project aims to inspire systemic transformation through innovation, fresh perspectives, and long-term collaboration.

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**FIRST DAY**  
**9<sup>th</sup> October, 2025**

**Contextualization Reflecting and  
Grounding – “Where are we and how did  
we get here?”**

MC: Sven Janovski

**SCHEDULE**

9 – 9.30AM	Registration & Morning Coffee
9.30 – 10.00AM	Conference Opening & Welcome Speeches
10.00 – 11.30AM	<b>PANEL 1</b> <b>The State of the Independent Cultural Scene in Slovenia, Croatia, and Kosovo – Spaces as Resource and Challenge</b> <b>Karolina Babič (SLO) &amp; Leda Sutlović (CRO)</b>  Moderator: Katarina Pavić
11.30 – 12.00AM	Coffee Break
12.00 – 13.30PM	<b>INTERACTIVE SESSION</b> <b>Mapping the Needs – What Do Spaces Mean to Us Today?</b> <b>Tonči Batalić Kranjčević (CRO), Mistral Majer (SLO), Rozafa Maliqi (KOS)</b>  Moderator: Marija Krnić
13.30 – 15.00PM	Lunch & Informal Networking
15.00 – 16.30PM	<b>PANEL 2</b> <b>Hosting as Practice: Residential Networks and Spaces</b> <b>Bojana Panevska (On the Move, TransArtist), Danilo Milovanović (Društvo Asociacija), Ares Shporta (Lumbardhi Foundation)</b>  Moderator: Matija Mrakovčić
16.30 – 17.00PM	Day 1 Wrap-Up & Refrections
18.00 – 20.00PM	Dinner
20.00 –	<b>Evening Cultural Program</b> <b>JAM SESSION: House band + Grapevine Babies</b>

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**SECOND DAY**  
**10<sup>th</sup> October, 2025**

**Imagining and Designing – "What's next and how do we get there together?"**

MC: Ares Shporta

**SCHEDULE**

9.30 – 10.00AM	Morning Coffee & Networking
10.00 – 11.30AM	<b>WORKSHOP</b> <b>Visions for the Future – Do we even need spaces today?</b>  Facilitated group work led by facilitators <b>Milica Ilić</b> and <b>Chiara Mignani</b>
11.30 – 12.15AM	Coffee Break & Guided Visit to <b>Radiona Re-Geppetto</b>
12.30 – 13.30PM	<b>WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS</b> <b>Prototypes for Future Spaces</b>
13.30 – 15.00PM	Lunch & Informal Networking
15.00 – 16.30PM	<b>PANEL 3</b> <b>What's Next? Shared Strategies and Advocacy Toward Policymakers</b>  <b>Gordan Bosanac</b> (Croatian MEP), <b>Anera Stopfer</b> (Creative Desk, Croatian Ministry of Culture and Media), <b>Uros Veber</b> (president of Društvo Asociacija), <b>Vullnet Sanaja</b> (director of Anibar / Kosovo)  Moderator: Milica Ilić
16.30 – 17.00PM	Conference Closing: Final Reflections & Next Steps
18.00 – 20.00PM	Dinner
20.00 –	<b>Exhibition &amp; Informal gathering with music</b>