

Day of European Authors - Conference - 27 March 2023- Sofia (Bulgaria)

DRAFT programme

The **Day of European Authors** is an initiative of the European Commission, led by Commissioner Gabriel, to reconnect younger generations with book reading and to help them discover the diversity of European literature.

In the frame of the first edition of the Day of European Authors, the Commission is organising on 27 March 2023 a one-day conference in Sofia on reading promotion, gathering Member States' representatives of the ministries of Culture or Education, relevant public institutions and national NGOs active in this field as well as organisations representing the book and cultural sectors at European level.

The conference will be an opportunity to share examples and practices on how the education system and the book sector are collaborating to implement reading promotion actions in schools at local, national and European level.

Draft programme:

09.00 – 09.30 **Opening of the conference** by EU Commissioner Gabriel and Bulgarian author Georgi Bardarov

09.30 – 10:45: **Panel 1: Focus on Bulgaria**

Panel discussion on the diversity of initiatives from Bulgaria.

10.45 – 11:30: **Panel 2: reading promotion at national level**

Panel discussion between representatives of 3 European countries on their nation-wide reading promotion plan and actions

12.00 -12.45 **Panel 3: Going across borders in reading promotion**

Panel discussion between organisations with experience of cross border collaboration (Creative Europe and Erasmus projects) in the field of reading promotion and the integration of disadvantaged groups (including refugees) through reading and literature

13:00 – 14.00 *Networking lunch*

14.00 – 16:00 **working group sessions**

Participants will be divided into 3 subgroups :

- What works best depending on the context and national habits: reading aloud, reading in silence, competitions, prizes, debate and meeting with authors...?
- How to use digital technologies (social networks, new book format, streaming platforms of audio books, gamification) to make the action more impactful and durable?
- How to make sure that actions reach out to children with disadvantaged background?

16.30 – 17.30 **Presentation of results of working groups** discussions and recommendations for the next editions of the day of European authors

18.00 -18.30 **Closing of the conference**

18: 30 *Dinner cocktail*