



The Legacy of the European Capitals of Culture

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

The European Capital of Culture is the most ambitious cultural collaborative project performed in Europe. Since its launch in 1985, until 2000, several capitals of the European Union countries and a few of their other more important cities hosted them. Later, less known and less large cities were also selected for hosting this mega-event.

After all those years of implementing the European Capital of Culture, what can be told about its legacy on the cities which have hosted it? Did it succeed attaining the aims envisaged by the hosting cities in what regards urban regeneration, improving image and building new equipment, changing the socioeconomic profile, branding the city, attracting investment and enhancing the tourism industry? What can be said about the legacy in terms of enhancing the cultural life of the cities?

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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