**DIGNITARIES AT THE OPENING OF RIJEKA 2020 EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE**

**INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Ernesto Ottone Ramirez, [Assistant Director-General for Culture, UNESCO](http://www.unesco.org/new/en/culture/about-us/who-we-are/assistant-director-general/)

**EUROPEAN OFFICIALS**

Dubravka Šuica, Vice-President of the European Commission

Predrag Fred Matić, Member of the European Parliament

**CROATIAN OFFICIALS**

Zoran Milanović, President-elect of the Republic of Croatia

Nina Obuljen Koržinek, Minister of Culture

Oleg Butković, Minister of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure

Gari Capelli, Minister of Tourism

Romana Jerković, Member of Parliament

Željko Jovanović, Member of Parliament

Ana Komparić Devčić, Member of Parliament  
Saša Đujić, Member of Parliament

Zvonimir Frka-Petešić, Head of the Prime Minister's office

Andreja Metelko-Zgombić, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs

Krešimir Partl, State Secretary, Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia

**VIJEĆE MINISTARA KULTURE JUGOISTOČNE EUROPE**

Elva Margariti, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Albania

Lina Mendoni, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Greece

Hysni Ismaili, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Northern Macedonia

Zoran Poznič, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Slovenia

Ankica Gudeljević, High Representative of the Ministry of Culture of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Ameliya Gesheva, Deputy Minister of Culture of the Republic of Bulgaria

Ulrike Lunacek, High Representative of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Austria

Milica Nikolić, High Representative of the Ministry of Culture of Montenegro

Andrei Chistol, High Representative of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Moldova

Aleksandar Gajović, High Representative of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia

Özgül Özkan Yavuz, High Representative of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Turkey

**MEMBERS OF THE EXPERT PANEL WHO RATED THE RIJEKA 2020 EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE PROJECT**

Sylvia Amann

Maroje Mrduljaš

Agnieszka Wlazel

Suzana Žilič Fišer

**EUROPEAN CAPITALS OF CULTURE (ECoC)**

Neil Peterson, Director of ECoC Liverpool 2008

Rolf Noras, Director of ECoC Stavanger 2008

Hans-Dietrich Schmidt, Head of International Cooperation of ECoC Ruhr 2010

Vladimir Rukavina, Acting Director of ECoC Maribor 2012

Fredrik Lindegren, Head of Culture Department/Artistic Director of ECoC Umeå 2014

Krzysztof Maj, Director of ECoC Wroclaw 2016

Rabih Azad-Ahmad, Mayor of Culture and Citizens' Services of ECoC Aarhus 2017

Paola Prinzis, Executive Producer of ECoC Valletta 2018

Anita van der Werf, Head of Heritage Programme of the ECoC Leeuwarden 2018

Lieuwe Krol, Head of Marketing and Communication of ECoC Leeuwarden 2018

Paolo Verri, Director of ECoC Matera 2019

Kiril Velchev, Director of ECoC Plovdiv 2019

Arthur Lappin, Chair of the Board of Directors of ECoC Galway 2020

Matti Allam, International Relations Manager of ECoC Galway 2020

Maria Panayides, Director of ECoC Elefsina 2021

Simona Neumann, Director of ECoC Timisoara 2021

Nemanja Milenković Director of ECoC Novi Sad 2021

Nancy Braun, Director of ECoC Esch-sur-Alzette 2022

Virginija Vitkiene, Director of ECoC Kaunas 2022

Zoltán Mészáros, Director of ECoC Veszprem 2023

Arne Vinje, Head of Culture of ECoC Bodo 2024

Marleen Viidul, Head of Culture of ECoC Tartu 2024

Eva Maria Mair, ECoC Bad-Ischl 2024

Stefan Heinisch, ECoC Bad-Ischl 2024

**EU-JAPAN FEST**

Shuji Kogi, Secretary General of the Japanese Committee [EU-Japan Fest](https://www.eu-japanfest.org/n-english/)

**RIJEKA’S SISTER CITIES**

Zoran Janković, Mayor of Ljubljana

Reiner Breuer, Mayor of Neuss

Nikola Naumoski, Chief of Staff of the Mayor of Skopje

Barbara Frydrych, Head of Culture of Gdansk

**AMBASSADORS ACCREDITED TO THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA**Ashot Hovakimian, Ambassador of the Republic of Armenia  
Dijana Grahovac, Ambassador of Australia

Josef Markus Wuketich, Ambassador of the Republic of Austria

Nicolaas Buyck, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Belgium

Aleksandr Ponomarev, Ambassador of Belarus

Genka Vasileva Georgieva, Ambassador of the Republic of Bulgaria

Vladimir Zavazal, Ambassador of the Czech Republic

Christian Thorning, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Denmark

Eva-Maria Liimets, Ambassador of the Republic of Estonia

Guillaume Colin, Representative of the Embassy of the Republic of France

Stavros Tsiepas, Ambassador of the Republic of Greece

Olive Hempenstall, Ambassador of the Republic of Ireland

Ilan Mor, Ambassador of the State of Israel

Misako Kaji, Ambassador of Japan

Alan Bowman, Ambassador of Canada

Tolezhan Barlybayev, Ambassador of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Kim Dong-Chan, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea

Roderick Richter, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Robert Richard the kids, Ambassador of the Republic of Germany

Jorge Silva Lopes, Ambassador of the Republic of Portugal

Peter Susko, Ambassador of the Republic of Slovakia  
Marko, Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia

Miro Nikolic, Ambassador of the Republic of Serbia

Diana Madunic, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Sweden

Mustafa Babur Hizlan, Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey

Andrew Stuart Dalgleish, Ambassador of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland