



**EAIPA**

The European Association  
of Independent Performing Arts

# FAIRNESS IN FOCUS

## #2 social insurance systems

January 19th, 14 - 16 h CET



 **Bundesministerium**  
Kunst, Kultur,  
öffentlicher Dienst und Sport



# Housekeeping:

- Recorded event (press mute to avoid noise disturbance, turn off camera if you don't want your video to be recorded)
- Presentation slides will be distributed after the event
- Questions in the chat or by “raising hand” gesture



# SOCIAL SECURITY FUNDS FOR ARTISTS IN AUSTRIA, GERMANY AND SLOVENIA



Esther Baio

Information provided by:



# Definition:

*National systems that fully or partly cover compulsory social insurance costs of artists (and cultural professionals) who generate their income through work in different genres of the arts.*

# Names:



**KSK – Künstlersozialkasse**

*Artists' Social Fund*



**KSVF – Künstlersozialversicherungsfond**

*Artists social insurance fund*



**IG - Netz**

*Interest Group Network*



**Samozaposleni v kulturi s pravico do plačila prispevkov za socialno varnost iz državnega proračuna**

*Self-employed in culture with the right to have their social insurance covered from the state budget*

# Comparison:

	 KSK	 KSVF		
Beneficiaries:	Self-employed artists and writers (music, performing arts, visual art, design)	Self-employed artists (fine arts, performing arts, music, literature, film)	Self-employed artists and cultural professionals	Professional independent performing arts groups and theatres that employ artists and production managers
Insurance cover:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Health insurance</li> <li>- Statutory pension insurance</li> <li>- Statutory nursing care insurance (Pflegeversicherung)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Health insurance</li> <li>- Accident insurance</li> <li>- Pension insurance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Health insurance</li> <li>- Invalidity and pension insurance</li> <li>- Parental leave insurance</li> <li>- Employment insurance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Health insurance</li> <li>- Accident insurance</li> <li>- Pension insurance</li> <li>- Sick leave</li> <li>- Unemployment insurance</li> </ul>
System:	KSK pays 50% of social insurance costs directly to social insurance companies	KSVF pays up to a maximum amount directly to the insurance company of the self-employed (SVS)	Ministry of culture pays minimum basis insurance contributions of self-employed in culture	Twice a year, the IG Netz pays out a partial reimbursement to ipa employers for the social insurance costs of their artistic employees (+ production managers)

# Comparison:

		 KSVF		
Calculation of Contributions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Insurance Premiums are based on the artist's income (36.6 % without children)</li> <li>- KSK pays 50%</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Insurance premiums are based on artist's annual income (about 28%)</li> <li>- KSVF covers max. € 158 /month → € 1,896 /year (January 2023)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reference: 60% of the last known average national income</li> <li>- € 451.41 /Month (value 2022)</li> </ul>	<p>Applicants can get paid out a maximum of 300€ / employee /month</p>
Requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Main source of income from prof. self-employed artistic occupation</li> <li>- Min. income threshold € 3,900/yr</li> <li>- Not more than 1 member of staff</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Professional, self-employed artist creating works of art</li> <li>- Registered with the compulsory insurance company for the self-employed (SVS)</li> <li>- min. income threshold 2023: € 6,010.92/yr (artistic, self-employed)</li> <li>- max. threshold 2023: € 32,559.15/yr (without children; from all sources of income combined)</li> </ul>	<p>Step 1: Artists must register at the Ministry for Culture to receive status of a self-employed in culture</p> <p>Step 2: Artist must simultaneously apply for the rights to get social security benefits covered by the state:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Excellence of work as a contrib. to field of arts and culture</li> <li>- Reapply every 5 years</li> <li>- Must not exceed income census: appr. € 60,153 in three years</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Annual funding from a public body must not exceed € 570,000</li> <li>- The group/theatre must have received funding from either a federal region or state budget within the current- and/or previous 2 years</li> <li>- Groups and theatres need to be recognised as professional entities working in the ipa field</li> </ul>

# Budgets and Numbers:

		 KSVF		
Financing:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Levies paid by companies that utilise artistic and journalistic/written works (e.g. galleries, music schools, theatres, radio stations, advertising agencies, publishing houses) → in 2023 the levy is 5.0%</li> <li>- Federal government subsidies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Funded by levies/charges for devices used for reception of broadcasting via satellite or cable network</li> <li>- Federal government contributions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Funds come from the yearly budget of the Ministry of Culture</li> <li>- The amount of money is adjusted in the yearly budget of the ministry according to the number of self-employed in culture with the right to have their social insurance covered by the state.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2/3 of the fund subsidised from federal state budget (€ 500,000)</li> <li>- 1/3 from federal regions (7 out of 9 regions contribute to the fund since 2020) (€ 112,000)</li> </ul>
Budget:	2019: € 1,147.4 Mil.	In 2021, income from levies under the Arts Subsidies Act 1981 totalled € 8.178 Mil. - In 2020: € 15.56 Mil	Budgeted for 2021: € 11,008,194 Actually spent 2021: € 11,133,723 Budgeted for 2022: € 11,230,994 Budgeted for 2023: € 11,249,194	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Since 2020: € 612,600 / year</li> <li>- 2022: € 712,000</li> </ul>
Beneficiaries:	2021: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- in total: 194,473 artists and writers</li> <li>- 31,194 performing artists</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Since 2001, 12,474 artists have received funds from KSVF</li> <li>- In 2021, 4,286 artists have received funds from KSVF (value: 31.12.2021)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 3198 self-employed registered at the Ministry for Culture</li> <li>- 2263 of those have the rights to have their social security covered by the state (value: 17.01. 2023 )</li> </ul>	2021 in total: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 88 groups/theatres have received subsidies for</li> <li>- 3,274 months of employment;</li> </ul>



# Development Timelines:



  
Germany

**1975** January 13th „artist report“

**1981** July 27th Artist Social Security Act (KSVG)

**1983** KSK established

  
Slovenia

Republic of Slovenia

**1982** Act of Independent Cultural Workers (ZSKD) Yugoslavia

**1991** **1994** Law on the Realisation of the Public Interest in the Field of Culture (ZUJIK)

**2002** Change in definition of ZUJIK: specific register by the Ministry of Culture

  
Austria

**1988** IGFT Founded

**1989** **1990** Study: Robert Harauer

**1991** Social Fund Working Group IG Netz

**1998** Social Law Amendment Act

**2000** **2001** **2002** End of law exemption for artists  
Artist Social Security Act (K-SVG) KSVF Monthly support lowered

**2016** No more support for self-employed artists

**2020** Federal regions start contributing to fund

# Critiques:

	 KSVF		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sick leave benefits after 6 weeks (42 days)</li> <li>- Artists pay percentage share for doctors visits (20%)</li> <li>- No unemployment benefits</li> <li>- Low pensions</li> <li>- definition of artists is narrow</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sick leave benefits after 6 weeks (42 days)</li> <li>- No unemployment benefits</li> <li>- Low pensions (especially women with children)</li> <li>- Artists pay percentage share for doctors visits (20%)</li> <li>- No inclusion of non-artistic professions within the field</li> <li>- Allowed additional income from non-artistic work too low</li> <li>- Definition of "artists" excludes many professionals working in the field</li> <li>- Monthly contributions too low</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Only funding for artists + production managers</li> <li>- Groups have to advance the costs first and need to wait several months until reimbursement</li> <li>- No 100% certainty on the amount of the reimbursement</li> <li>- Two federal regions are still not contributing to the fund</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sick leave benefits only after 31 working days</li> <li>- No cover for work-based injuries</li> <li>- minimal insurance coverage brings pension below poverty threshold: 2022 minimum pension: 653€/month</li> <li>- dependency on the cultural climate</li> </ul>

# Thank you:

- 🔍 Barbara Stüwe-Eßl (IG Freie Theaterarbeit)
- 🔍 Julia Kronenberg (IG Freie Theaterarbeit)
- 🔍 Polona Torkar (Društvo Asociacija)
- 🔍 Miha Satler (Društvo Asociacija)
- 🔍 Elisabeth Roos (BFDK)
- 🔍 Cilgia Gadola (BFDK)





**EAIPA**

The European Association  
of Independent Performing Arts

# FAIRNESS IN FOCUS



A Series of Online Events

10.11.2022: funding structures

19.01.2023: social insurance systems

09.03.2023: minimum fee recommendations & fair pay

11.05.2023: intermittency systems

 Bundesministerium  
Kunst, Kultur,  
öffentlicher Dienst und Sport