



## The Next Generation of Cultural Spaces (NGOCS)

*The Next Generation of cultural spaces (NGOCS) is a project by Space of Urgency, Tresor Foundation, United We Stream, Act4culture (CCIU Georgia) and Bam-C (Balkan Advanced Music Conference). Throughout the year 2022, the project is supported by the European Cultural Foundation.*

NGOCS reimagines the usage of historical spaces, reviving them through cultural activities to create safe spaces where non-dominant youth culture, queer communities and other marginalised groups in Eastern & Southern Europe can thrive.

Imperialism, authoritarian governments and right-wing extremism are on the rise, evidenced by violent attacks on queer communities with casualties in the Tbilisi, Kiev, and Belgrade Pride events 2021. Besides these aggressive acts, the pandemic has led to closure of our cultural spaces and disruption of creative ecosystems that have served as the last remaining safe spaces for these communities, now posing an existential threat for the underrepresented.

The NGOCS project aims to build a transnational alliance that supports the local positions of the spaces, e.g. by improving collaboration with relevant stakeholders, rethinking business models and increasing international visibility and solidarity. Concretely in 2022, we are highlighting the development of new cultural spaces by Bam-C in Sarajevo and by Bassiani in Tbilisi. In addition to physical conferences in Sarajevo and Tbilisi, we host 3 online community calls throughout the year.

### Conferences

In the second half of 2022, conferences are organized by Bam-C in Sarajevo and Act4Culture in Tbilisi. The conferences will spotlight the situation of independent cultural spaces in both countries, inviting cultural actors, urban changemakers, researchers and local political actors.

### Community calls & end product

The community call aims to ignite a robust, transnational activist alliance between Berlin, Sarajevo, Tbilisi and many other spaces and communities from Southern and Eastern Europe. This alliance will support the shared development of impactful tools for spaces that enhance self-reliance in times of crisis. The community calls contribute to a how-to guide on generating independent, political culture spaces in Southern & Eastern Europe, to be delivered at the end of 2022.

### Topics of community calls

Community call #1	Strengthening the systems of reliance; stakeholder engagement
Community call #2	Socio-economic innovative models for running a space
Community call #3	Trans-national networking / continuation of the project

## **Project partners of NGOCS**

### **The Tresor Foundation Berlin**

The Tresor Foundation aims to appropriate real estate for charitable use and thus to withdraw it from speculation and secure it permanently. Real estate owned by the foundation will remain the property of the foundation but will be used for charitable causes and intersectional, grassroots-powered functions, such as collective work, leisure, community care, commoning, political activation.

### **Act4culture: the Cultural and Creative Industries Union of Georgia/CCIU Georgia**

A non-governmental organization based in Tbilisi, Georgia, dedicated to the development of cultural and creative communities and industries by uniting the pluralistic practices of non-dominant culture and contemporary arts. CCIU Georgia focuses on the development of the night-time economy, advocates electronic music and club culture, seeks and transforms abandoned locations into free, safe communitarian spaces, supporting visual, performative, urban and suburban arts and communities.

### **BAM-C part of The Association for Procreation and Development of Future Ideas - Neocor (NCR, Sarajevo)**

Aims to build and amplify new cultural projects and ideas in the larger area of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

### **United We Stream e.V.**

The successful fundraising campaign for Berlin clubs evolved into a global cultural platform and streaming initiative in the digital space. With its local teams, it will undertake filming, producing and amplifying the content through its network in 114 cities.

### **Space of Urgency & Frei(T)räume/ Envisioning-Free-Space-Conference**

Global platform for the empowerment of self-organized cultural spaces. Will support the overall project via curation, communication, and networking, involving the grassroots communities as well as cross-sectoral stakeholders such as real estate and political agents.

LINK: [The Next Generation of Cultural Spaces @ Frei\(T\)räume/Envisioning Free Space Conference](#)



*Rustavi / outskirts of Tbilisi*



*Tunel 22 / Sarajevo*