

Historical Timeline



1920s

During the French mandate, culture shifted towards western entertainment. Cinema and bourgeoisie theater became prevalent.



1950s

Various schools were erected in rural areas. This gave rise to cultural clubs. Cultural inclusion policies kick started the theatrical movement and boosted the role of performance art in public life.



1975-1990s

During the civil war, official cultural entities crumbled. This period bolstered the role of individuals. The country's artists and intellectuals founded groups and institutions to satirically and creatively mock the war.



2012

A mutual aid fund law for artists was passed that governs an endowment that would be managed by representative of artists unions along with the government.



Human rights

Limits on freedom of artistic expression



- Defamation laws
- Condemning the insult of the president, the flag, and the national emblem
- Use of language that incites sectarian tension
- Non-compliance to moral standards
- Censorship law since 1947
- Legal grey zone regarding LGBTQ content

Types of sanctions

TRAVEL BANS

IMPRISONMENT

THREATS

PERSECUTION

CENSORSHIP

Main violators

Official

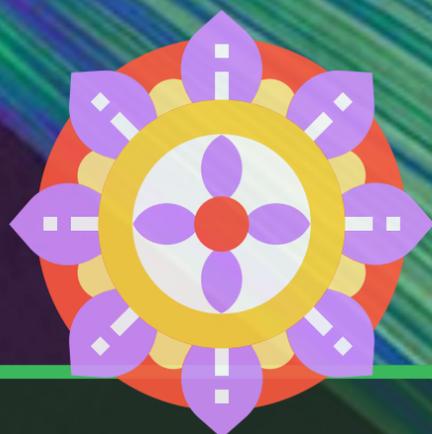
- Cyber-crimes Bureau within the Internal Security Forces
- The censorship committee within the general security Directorate

Unofficial

- Political parties and figures
- Religious figures
- Foreign Embassies
- Dar Al Fatwa
- Catholic Information Center



Cultural Ecosystem 2019/2020



Highlights

- Dominated by the private sector
- Highly centralized: Greater Beirut (2% of Lebanon's area) hosts 60% of the country's cultural spaces
- Absence of state strategy, public theaters, concert halls and opera houses
- 95% of the external cultural attachés have no relations with state policies or structures
- Absence of a clear legal framework that regulates private sponsorship
- Independent cultural sector is funded by private or foreign donors, operate in an unregulated manner and has an independent magazine, L'Agenda Culturel.

As per the latest budget

2020

State funding

111 billion LBP for recreation, culture and religion

Foreign Aid directed towards developing the cultural sector

54 350 860 £ 2021/2022

€48 Thousand in 2020

Fund spent on civil society 2021 = 6 million USD



Foreign funded projects

Supporting Human rights, democracy and the rules based International system: £ 74, 999.77

Organization of the 26th European film festival in Lebanon

Lebanon No Lost Generation Initiative: £ 105, 999, 999

British council: £ 10, 767, 899.84

Local European Union National Institutes for Culture Clusters

- British council
- Danish Cultural Institute
- Goethe-Institut

- Instituto Cervantes
- Institut Français
- Instituto Italiano di Cultura
- Romanian Cultural Institute