



## Vacancy Manifesta 16 Ruhr Mediation and Communities Coordinator

### What is Manifesta?

Manifesta rethinks the relations between culture and society by investigating and catalysing positive social change in Europe through contemporary culture in dialogue with the social sphere of a specific place. Since 1996, the Manifesta biennial takes place in a different European city every two years. Manifesta 16 Ruhr will take place across a variety of cities in the Ruhr Area and will focus on transforming former churches into space for culture and community. The Manifesta 16 Ruhr headquarters are in Gelsenkirchen-Ückendorf. The Education and Mediation team is looking for a **Mediation and Communities Coordinator** to join the department and to execute the mediation and communities' programme.

### Education and Mediation programme

The Education and Mediation department is an important creative force of the biennial that develops and takes care of the relationships with the host region, alongside the team of Creative Mediators. Having the principle of mediation at the core, it aims at making the biennial programme respond to the interests and needs of non-professional audiences, proposing programmes with a foreseen legacy, that combine research, artistic practice, pedagogy, mediation and community work.

### Job Description

As part of the Manifesta 16 Education and Mediation team, the **Mediation and Communities Coordinator** will support the **Head of Education and Mediation** and the **Education and Mediation Coordinator** in their daily tasks and activities. This role will focus on the development and implementation of the Communities Programme and Mediation Programme inside Manifesta 16 Ruhr. The communities programme aims to promote and activate dialogue with the diverse groups and communities located in the vicinity of the different M16 venues in Essen, Bochum, Gelsenkirchen and Duisburg.

### Core tasks and responsibilities

- Analysis of the environment and the investigations prior to Manifesta 16 Ruhr, M16 Urban Vision and M16 Research on the sociocultural landscape in the Ruhr area and strategic development of a community outreach;
- Together with the Education and Mediation team, co-develop, implement and coordinate the Communities programme during Manifesta 16 Ruhr;
- Assist the Head of Education in setting up and overseeing partnerships with local organisations (such as associations, community centres and collectives) and act as the main local point of contact between

Manifesta 16 Ruhr gGmbH  
Kronprinzenstr. 35  
45128 Essen  
Germany  
TAX Number 112/5978/1340

Initiating Partners



Ministry of Culture and Science  
of the State of  
North Rhine-Westphalia



# MANIFESTA 16 Ruhr

Education team and its partners, collaborators and participants of the Communities Programme;

- Supervise the contracts with suppliers and freelancers of the Education and Mediation Department;
- Together with the Education and Mediation Coordinator and the Head of Education, develop the mediation approaches for Manifesta 16 Ruhr in combination with mobility solutions;
- Together with the other Education and Mediation Coordinator, setting up and overseeing the mediation programme and the process of hiring and training of mediators;
- Together with the other Education and Mediation Coordinator, setting up processes and working tools for smooth and healthy collective work of the Education team, supervising the work of mediators during the biennial with the support of Mediation Assistant;
- Manage the project budgets under the supervision of Head of Education;
- Organise the documentation, reporting and evaluation of the overall Education and Mediation programme;

## Candidate's profile

- At least 3 years of experience in cultural education and/or organizing community programs;
- Understanding and critical attitude towards contemporary art practice and social engagement;
- Experience in the development and implementation of cultural and community mediation programs;
- Experience in participatory projects;
- Comprehensive knowledge of socio-cultural structures in Germany, especially in the Ruhr area; Having worked already with extended and vast network of diverse communities and local associations in Ruhr.
- Strong interpersonal skills, teamwork and leadership qualities as well as strong talent for organization and project management;
- Fluent in spoken and written English and German, other foreign languages are an advantage;
- Willingness to work irregular hours, including evenings and weekends, and willingness to travel within Europe;
- We encourage all suitable candidates to apply, regardless of gender, age, disability, religion/beliefs, ethnic origin or sexual identity.

## Employment conditions

The **Mediation and Communities Coordinator** needs to be based in the Ruhr Area for the full duration of the contract. Occasional travel may be required.

Starting date: 01.09.2025, until the end of November 2026. This is a full-time position which requires occasional work on evenings and weekends.

Manifesta 16 Ruhr gGmbH  
Kronprinzenstr. 35  
45128 Essen  
Germany  
TAX Number 112/5978/1340

Initiating Partners

MANIFESTA

REGIONALVERBAND  
RUHR

Ministry of Culture and Science  
of the State of  
North Rhine-Westphalia





Manifesta 16 Ruhr cannot consider applicants who wish to combine this function with another job or occupation.

Diversity and inclusion are firmly anchored in our corporate culture. Therefore, we welcome all applications, regardless of gender, age, disability, religion/belief, ethnic origin or sexual identity.

You can find our data protection information [here](#).

### Application

Please send your letter of motivation and CV in English by 24.08.2025 to [m16jobs@manifesta.org](mailto:m16jobs@manifesta.org), with **Mediation and Communities Coordinator** in the subject line of the email. Interviews will be conducted by Elena Blesa Cábez, Head of Education and Mediation Department, or a delegate from her department. Interviews will take place in August 2025 in Gelsenkirchen or online.

Manifesta 16 Ruhr gGmbH  
Kronprinzenstr. 35  
45128 Essen  
Germany  
TAX Number 112/5978/1340

Initiating Partners



Ministry of Culture and Science  
of the State of  
North Rhine-Westphalia

