

Brussels' nightlife is at risk but solutions exist.

↓ **We urge authorities to** ↓

1 URBAN PLANNING

- Protect the **existing** cultural venues from closure.
- Adopt and implement the «**Agent of Change**» principle to protect future nightlife spaces.
- Create **official nightlife activity zones** in the regional city plan and recognise high-density urban nightlife districts with adjusted strategies.
- Start two nightlife **venues test projects**, publicly supported, in identified areas : European Quarter and Kanal - inviting creatives to try out fresh ideas.
- Grant **tax reductions** to real estate promoters when urban planning permits include the creation of cultural space.

2 ECONOMY

- Lower employer **social contributions** for nightlife venues.
- Lower **VAT** to 6% on soft drinks and ticketing (restoring its original level).
- Allow an **exemption** to a limited number of clubs on the use of **smoking rooms** despite the ban scheduled for 2027.
- Redefine music licensing rules (**SABAM**) to halve **fairer related costs** and better reflect on-the-ground realities.

3 GOVERNANCE

- Officially mandate the Brussels Night Council to coordinate and facilitate the implementation of an official **Regional Nightlife Plan**.
- Recognise **Brussels By Night** as the main sectorial point of contact and advisor for nightlife matters in Brussels.

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4. NIGHTLIFE AS CULTURE

Integrate nightlife activities into **the development of public funding policies:**

- Create a **nightlife fund** based on existing grant mechanisms (calls for projects using objective cultural criteria).
 - **Maintain** the current level of **subsidies** for festivals and related community organisations.
- Create an annual funding program, developed in partnership with Brussels By Night and a public authority, inspired by existing youth initiatives, dedicated to **supporting** the **creative projects** of local young artists and emerging nightlife collectives.
- Structure the support for **Open Air events** in all municipalities: granting authorisations according to clear and objective criteria, favoring Brussels-based active actors & creating new outdoor venues in consultation with local communities.

5. SAFETY & HEALTH

- Strengthen the **structural fundings** of organisations specialised in **harm reduction** and the fight against sexual and discriminatory violence in festive environments, including:
 - Prevention activities (public awareness, training and support for venues and workers and security)
 - Health promotion and harm reduction activities (booths at festive events, psychoactive substance testing, distribution of materials)
 - Interventions in festive environments (care & awareness teams, event staff)
- Legally recognise and clarify the **status of Care & Awareness Team** workers.
- Make the Noctis **night buses** run more often and for longer hours.