



**Ragnar Siil** is an internationally renowned expert in cultural policies and creative industries strategies. Ragnar has conducted projects and trainings, given speeches and advised governments and cultural operators in more than 25 countries in Europe, Asia and Africa.

Ragnar worked at the Estonian Ministry of Culture in 2005-2013 as Undersecretary of State for the Arts and Head of Development Department. Currently he is working as a cultural and creative sectors expert at the EU-Eastern Partnership Culture and Creativity Programme, advising governments, cultural operators and other stakeholders from Ukraine, Georgia, Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Belarus.

Ragnar has extensive experience from European level. He has been chairing the EU expert group on creative industries, a member of the European Creative Industries Alliance's Policy Learning Platform, representing Estonia at UNESCO 2005 Convention, and advising several candidate cities for the European Capital of Culture title.

In addition to culture, Ragnar is passionate about training of debating and public speaking skills. He is Estonian champion in debating and has been coaching the national team and repeatedly adjudicating the finals of the debating world championships. Ragnar is a founder and manager of Estonian Public Speaking Academy.

Ragnar graduated from the University of Tartu with the degree in political science. Currently he is undertaking his doctoral studies in creative industries at Estonian Business School. Ragnar has been conferred with the French honor Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters.

Ragnar is the founder and managing partner at Creativity Lab, an international cultural and creative economy and policy think tank and consultation group.