



A Regional Group of the
 International
Music Council

E | M | C | European Music Council | Conseil Européen de la Musique | Europäischer Musikrat

Biannual report European Music Council 2006 – 2007

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The EMC in general terms

The European Music Council (EMC) is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to the development and the promotion of all kinds of music in Europe. It is a network for representatives of national music councils and European organisations involved in the field of music education, creation, performance and heritage from European countries. It was founded in 1972 as European regional group of the International Music Council (IMC) and is registered under German law as independent association since March 2003. The EMC contributes to a better mutual understanding amongst people and their different cultures and promotes the right for their musical cultures to coexist. Therefore, it provides exceptional value to its membership by building knowledge, creating networking opportunities, supporting and enhancing the visibility of initiatives that help sustain people's participation in music and cultural life. With its "Working Group Youth (WGY)", The EMC strongly supports youth participation in decision making processes.

The EMC is a membership organisation, acting as stakeholder for the European music sector including all kinds of musical genres on different levels. The 74 members based in 29 European countries can be divided in three different categories:

- 1) National Music Councils in 29 countries (including countries outside the EU as Serbia, Israel, Turkey and Azerbaijan), representing the music sector in their country, combining all different kinds of music organisations on a national and local level.
- 2) 36 international organisations specialised in one specific field of music and representing high knowledge and expertise in their specific field, connecting national and local organisations within the specific field of expertise.
- 3) 6 national music organisations, specialised in one specific field of music and representing high knowledge and expertise in their specific field with a strong link to the country or region where the organisation is based.

The EMC voices the interest of the European music sector towards the European and national political institutions and it passes on information on the development of cultural policy to its members. It promotes all kinds of music by supporting the activities of its members and by coordinating European cooperation projects, such as the EU funded project "**ExTra! Exchange Traditions**", which will be implemented from 2006 to 2009.

Further, the EMC represents the European musical life on an international level and it also represents music at the European cultural scene in general. The EMC is an active member in the European cultural network "EFAH – European Forum for the Arts and Heritage".¹

The members of the EMC, first target group for all EMC activities, are based in 29 different European countries, some of them having themselves members in various countries. Therefore, more than 100 million European citizens can have direct or indirect access to the actions of the EMC. The EMC office is located in Germany and governed by a Board of 8 members from 7 different European countries. The EMC Board: Wouter Turkenburg; Chairperson (NL); Hans-Herwig Geyer; Vice Chair (DE); Sonja Greiner; Treasurer (DE); Harald Huber; Board member (A); Timo Klemettinen; Board member (FI); Petra Mohorcic; Board member (SL); Regina Senften; Board member (CH); Einar Solbu; Board member (NO).

The EMC annual conferences and other meetings and events are carried out in different countries and hosted by different EMC members. They involve music experts from all over Europe.

The EMC publications (newsletters, conference documentations, website) are read in more than 30 European countries and disseminated world wide through the network of the International Music Council.

¹ The EFAH became „Culture Action Europe“ in April 2008.

Work Programme of the EMC 2006 – 2007

1. Members

The EMC is gathering under its roof 74 organisations from 29 European countries. This European dimension is an added value the EMC provides to European society. The members of the EMC represent the European music sector with all different kinds of musical genres and styles, different age groups and different levels of professionalism from amateurs to music students to highly recognised professional musicians. The EMC serves as mouth piece for the European music organisations in order to put forward the interest of the sector with one voice.

All the actions undertaken by the EMC are services for its members. The EMC frequently examines the needs of its members by questionnaires, telephone polls or personal enquiries and thus, the EMC up-dates its work plan accordingly.

The EMC is constantly increasing its membership and welcomes new music organisations in its network. It started to develop a membership recruitment strategy in order to proactively reach out to new members.

In 2006 the following new members were accepted:

- Arbeitsgemeinschaft Europäischer Chorverbände (AGEC), Belgium
- Cité de la Musique, Paris, France
- Gruppo Strumentale da Ciampi, Italy
- Le Parnasse, France

In 2007 the following new members were accepted:

- Catalan Music Council, Catalonia, Spain
- European Association of Amateur Orchestras (EAAO), Switzerland
- Borusan Foundation, Turkey



The EMC has installed a working group "Members" which meets regularly. The members of the working group discuss and formulate strategies how to involve the members of the EMC in EMC activities and how to increase the EMC membership.

Members of the working group:

Einar Solbu (Norway), Wouter Turkenburg (The Netherlands), Regina Senften (Switzerland), Simone Dudt (Germany), Ruth Jakobi (Germany), Hans-Herwig Geyer (Germany)

- On 18 January 2006 the working group met next to the EMC Board meeting in Bonn, Germany. In this meeting it was decided to carry out a telephone poll with the EMC members asking for their strengths and weaknesses. The International Music Council has developed a questionnaire on capacity building which was also sent to the European members. The EMC helped in the evaluation of the questionnaire.
- Meeting of the working group "Members" in the frame of the EMC Annual Conference in April 2006 in Malmö, Sweden: A very striking result of the IMC questionnaire is the differences between national music councils and international organisations. The International Organisations have a very clear idea of their tasks, whereas the roles of the national music councils were not always very clear. A common result of both questionnaires is that the IMC/EMC membership is interested in information exchange, policy work and cooperation. In addition, the answers to the IMC questionnaire also put forth the need for information on research. The results of the questionnaires were integrated in the EMC Action Plan.
- Meeting of the working group members next to the EMC Board meeting in Kranj, Ljubljana: In this meeting the working group decided to increase the number of activities for national music councils in order to make them profit from the core activities of the EMC.
- Meeting next to the EMC Board meeting on 5 January 2007 in Bonn, Germany. In this meeting the working group decided to support the idea of the IMC music development programme which will also promote the work of national music councils. It was decided to present the idea of the development programme to the national music councils at the EMC Annual Meeting in Barcelona 2007.

- Meeting next to the EMC Board meeting on 6 September 2007 in Helsinki, Finland. The working group discussed the proposed new membership structure and membership fees of IMC. It suggested to the EMC Board to put forward amendments to the proposed new membership structures and to endorse the presented fee structure.
On a long-term perspective the EMC membership should increase and a membership recruitment strategy should be developed.

In September 2006 cultural policy researcher Natalija Macura from Serbia was charged to carry out an in-depth study on the situation and structure of the national music councils in Europe. One of the major findings is that the national music councils show a great variety in structure, size and representativity.

2. Cultural policy

The European Music Council serves as facilitator between the European political institutions and the music sector. It informs the political institutions regularly about the needs of the music sector and passes on information on the latest cultural policy development to the sector. It informs about conventions and declarations taken by political institutions (as e.g. the “Bologna Declaration” of the EU or the UNESCO 2005 “Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions”) and supports the implementation of them.

In January 2006 the EMC has installed the working group “music and politics” which follows the task how to implement the needs of the music sector on the level of cultural policy. The working group met in the frame of the EMC annual conference 2006 in April in Malmö, Sweden and next to the EMC Board meeting in September in Kranj, Slovenia.

Members of the working group:

Timo Klemettinen (Finland), Wouter Turkenburg (The Netherlands), Harald Huber (Austria), Ruth Jakobi (Germany), Hans-Herwig Geyer (Germany), Petra Mohorcic (Slovenia)

From 2005 to 2007 the EMC mainly focused the issues of authors’ rights, the UNESCO 2005 Convention, the inclusion of young people with migrant background in the European society and on how to join forces with the music industry to increase the voice of music towards the EU institutions. The following actions were taken:

Authors' Rights:***EMC open letter, advocating for cultural diversity:***

The EMC expressed its concern about initiatives of the EU Commission, i.e. Directorates General 'Internal Market' and 'Competition' which are threatening cultural diversity in Europe. As a result, letters to the commissioners of DG 'Internal Market' and 'DG Competition' as well as 'DG Education and Culture' were formulated expressing the EMC's concern about a possible threat for cultural diversity in Europe if following up these initiatives. This letter requires that the UNESCO 2005 Convention and § 151 in the Amsterdam Treaty shall be taken into consideration when making decisions concerning the handling of authors' rights within the EU.

UNESCO 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions:

As the European Union has voted for the convention with one voice, the ratification process is expected to run rather smoothly. More important are the consequences that follow the ratification. The aim was formulated that the EMC should make these consequences clear to its membership and advocate for implementation of the convention in the legal framework of the countries.

Richard Letts (President of the IMC) has formulated an advocacy letter for National Music Councils to be used for advocating for the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. EMC Secretary General Ruth Jakobi has formulated tools how to use this letter.

MIX IT! Young People with migrant background in music projects:

As a follow-up of the EMC Annual Conference "Turning Points: Music – Youth – Diversity", the symposium MIX IT! took up the issue of respectful integration of migrants in European society and adopted recommendations that were disseminated to politicians on European, national and local level. These recommendations claim in 10 points that the right to cultural education needs to be an integral part of any curriculum, that musical projects in formal as well as in non formal settings should receive appropriate structural and financial support, and that people with different backgrounds and origins should be equally involved in musical projects.

Round Table on Cultural Policy

On 9 May 2007, the European Music Council has invited European stakeholders in music policy in order to foster advocacy activities, to join forces and to increase the efficiency of advocacy work in the music sector. The aims of this round table were:

- to strengthen the cultural sector by sharing experiences and develop measures for cooperation;
- to strengthen the music sector by advocating with one voice to strengthen the music sector by integrating common interest between the creative industries and the not-for-profit sector.

During the "Round Table" two discussion groups were set up which resulted in the creation of two working groups:

- Working group on the implementation of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expression
- Working group on "Networking for Cultural Policy" including the preparation of a conference in 2008 bringing together directors of cultural ministries and cultural operators and including the implementation of the "EU Communication on Culture in a Globalising World"

European Agenda for Culture in a Globalising World

The EMC followed the process of the "Agenda for Culture" by contributing to the online consultation process and commenting on the "Communication on a European Agenda for Culture in a Globalising World" published in May 2007 by the EU Commission and endorsed by the Culture Council in November 2007. The EMC informed its members about the positive sign of the "Agenda for Culture" – bringing culture more into the focus of the policy making in various areas. The EMC published articles in the German newspaper NMZ ("Neue Musikzeitung"), in the EMC magazine and on the Internet.

The EMC will constantly up-date the information on the development of the "Agenda for Culture".

In October 2006 EMC Secretary General Ruth Jakobi was elected to the EFAH Board.

3. EMC meetings and conferences

With its meetings and conferences, the EMC contributes to an increase of mobility and exchange in the cultural sector, as they bring together artists and cultural operators from all over Europe in different places. The participants of the events function as multipliers, bringing back the results of the meetings to their home country or home organisation, where the news on EMC's and on its members' activities will spread from member to member and from mouth to mouth. In this way, the EMC can reach more than 45 Million European citizens.

3.1 Conferences

3.1.1 EMC Annual Conference: Turning Points: Music – Youth – Diversity

20 to 23 April 2006, Malmö, Sweden

More than 100 representatives of the European and international music life met at the end of April in Malmö, Sweden, to attend the EMC Annual Conference. The Swedish Music Council provided a welcoming frame for the event. The following questions were evaluated in the frame of the conference: How can we intensify an intercultural dialogue that equally involves all partners? With what means can we address especially young people with migrant backgrounds and include them into society?

Threats to cultural diversity

Richard Letts started his keynote for the EMC conference with a global overview on the subject of musical diversity. He pointed out that the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), suggesting the liberalisation of service markets, means a big threat to musical diversity worldwide. Letts refers to the 'UNESCO Convention for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expression' as a counterbalance: once in force, the convention would provide tools to signatory parties to protect diverse cultural activities and traditions in their countries.



The European Union voted for the approval of the convention with one voice. Therefore, it is even more astonishing that the EU itself has developed proposals to liberalise the cultural market, which are in contradiction to the UNESCO Convention. Roland Sandberg, director of the Swedish Music Information Centre, explained that the proposals of the Directorates General 'Competition' and 'Internal Market' concerning authors' rights would threaten cultural diversity in Europe.

However, globalisation changes not only markets but also societies through huge migration processes. People with different backgrounds enrich the cultural landscape of different countries with their respective traditions. In the sense of a multicultural approach, it is essential to protect and promote this extremely rich diversity. The EMC conference provided a platform for best practices illustrating the richness of a society with various cultural influences.

School concerts and master classes for intercultural dialogue

The model projects presented by EMC members demonstrated how music projects can involve young people with migrant backgrounds in European society. In the Norwegian 'School Concert Concept' for example, musicians work for one day with school classes in socially deprived areas. The day ends with a public concert, in which musicians and children together present the results of the work in a playful and improvisational way. The children are both audience and performers. Another project 'Roots and Routes', takes place in eight different European cities (Amsterdam, Barcelona, Budapest, Florence, Cologne, Larissa, Lille and Lisbon): talented young people with various 'roots' come together in workshops and master classes to find new 'routes' to stages, internships and training. The power of cultural projects of this kind lies in creating a community and living in it. Many youngsters are often deprived of this essential experience – they are outsiders in the societies in which they are living.



"In the project 'Rhythm is it!' for the first time, I didn't feel strange anymore" tells Dragana Domacinovic from Bosnia-Herzegovina. She lives in Germany and has taken part in dance projects of the Berlin Philharmonics several times, one of which is documented in the film 'Rhythm is it!' Besides the film-show, two concerts formed the appealing framework of the conference.



The young jazz players of the Oscar-Johannsson-Quintet and the presentation of the Norwegian School Concert Concept performed at the inspiring concert on Friday evening. At the second concert, multi-instrumentalist Ale Möller and his musicians from Africa, Mexico, Canada, Greece and Sweden provided an unforgettable evening with traditional music combined in an untraditional way.



3.1.2 MIX IT! Young people with migrant background in music projects

3 to 5 November 2006, Bonn, Germany



About 90 guests from numerous countries such as Romania, Latvia and Tunisia, but also from Germany and the Bonn region accepted the invitation of the European Music Council and the broadcasting station Deutsche Welle to the symposium MIX IT! which focussed on the topic of social inclusion of young people with migrant backgrounds in the European society. Lectures, project presentations, workshops and discussions illustrated how different musical traditions enrich each other and contribute to a European identity.

The participants in MIX IT! have adopted recommendations for a better social inclusion of young people with migrant backgrounds. The suggestions made by the keynote speech and panel discussion are an essential part of the introduction of the recommendations: "The European society consists of people from many different backgrounds and origins. This results in many valuable cultural perspectives and presents a particular challenge for mutual understanding.



To avoid the segregation of people from a migrant background, it is imperative to foster an understanding of cultural diversity in all children at the earliest possible age. Therefore, it is essential not to dilute the divergences between different cultures, but to ensure that each culture is given the opportunity to affirm their own identity and autonomy through a common process of deliberate coexistence.



Music projects can contribute substantially to this process of intercultural learning and understanding." Furthermore, the Recommendations claim in 10 points that the right to cultural education needs to be an integral part of any curriculum, that musical projects in formal as well as in non formal settings should receive appropriate structural and financial support, and that people with different backgrounds and origins have to be equally involved in musical projects.

3.1.3 Changes: Chances and Challenges. Music and the Future

18 to 22 April 2007, Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain
in cooperation with the Catalan Music Council, Moviment Coral Català and Europa Cantat



Over 100 representatives of various international music organisations from over 20 European countries, Australia and Brazil came to Barcelona to exchange their vision of the musical life of the 21st century. The Museum of the History of Catalonia provided an appealing frame for this event, organised by the European Music Council in collaboration with Europa Cantat – the European Federation of Young Choirs, its regional group Moviment Coral Català, and the Catalan Music Council.

Being more valid than ever, Bob Dylan's "The Times, They Are A-Changin'" did serve as a slogan for the conference. In his keynote speech, Finnish composer Henrik Otto Donner highlighted the importance of protecting and promoting cultural diversity in Europe (cf. UNESCO 2005 Convention) by also accepting the importance of artistic creation for cultural industries. "This industry lives from the creation of composers and artists, therefore without good pre-conditions for the creation of music there will be no music industry" – Donner stated.





The changes in music distribution have been in the focus of the discussion – what does the all-time world-wide availability of music on the Internet imply for music education, creation and distribution? Will mass media define musical taste? Or does the Internet provide a richer diversity of musical styles available for download at any time, any place, for anybody? And what about music education? Will music vanish from the curricula or will the importance of arts education rise again? And will life-long learning gain more importance?

A capacity building workshop provided insight into “Music on the Internet”: The digital music market is growing fast: in 2007 the online music business increased by 40%; music is distributed through download platforms, live-streaming and web radios among others, applying different payment models such as “pay per download” or flat rates. Another capacity building workshop provided information on the basics of authors’ rights and copyright.



An open-space session dealt with the issue in greater detail, focussing on the changes in copyright asking if the authors really felt represented by the Collecting societies and how to guarantee that the revenues of the artistic work arrive at the artist. Further capacity-building workshops provided information about how to lobby for culture on the EU level and how to promote successfully European activities in the press and media.

The impact and implementation of the UNESCO 2005 Convention was discussed. The UNESCO 2005 Convention opens the possibility to focus on the diversity of musical expressions – in this respect, access to all musical genres should be enabled in education as well as in media; the issue of radio quota was discussed controversially.



A discussion group on music education stressed the importance to start music education at the earliest possible age and the fact that it should be a life-long process not to end because the individual leaves school or stops instrumental lessons. In this regard formal and non-formal music education still need to be much better connected. One should bear in mind that music lessons in the formal education system seem to be constantly diminishing as they have to give way to overhasty adoptions of OECD inputs such as the PISA study, where language skills, mathematics and sciences are very much in focus.

The EMC conference opened up discussions in which the direction of music education and distribution might develop in the coming years; “Predicting the future is futile, whereas analysing the present may show you some directions where you want to go, or areas that you wish to improve in order to create the kind of future you consider desirable” (Otto Donner) – in this sense the conference participants clearly stated the importance of music education from early childhood to the higher age and the protection and promotion of musical diversity in Europe as future tasks for the music sector.



3.1.4 Round Table on Cultural Policy

9 to 10 May 2007, Bonn, Germany

The European Music Council (EMC) invited European music policy stakeholders in order to foster advocacy activities, join forces and increase the efficiency of advocacy work in the music sector. The participants represented the amateur as well as the professional music sector, the profit and not-for-profit sector, NGOs as well as the political field. The aims of the round table were:

- To strengthen the cultural sector by sharing experiences and develop measures for cooperation;
- To strengthen the music sector by advocating with one voice as well as by integrating common interests between the creative industries and the not-for-profit sector.



The meeting took place in the premises of the broadcasting station "Deutsche Welle" on 10 May 2007 and was opened on the evening of 9 May in the Schumann Haus Bonn by Andreas Bomheuer, head of the cultural department of the city of Bonn.

General issues of cultural policy discussed during the Round Table were the "Communication on a European agenda for culture in a globalizing world" published by the EU Commission on 10 May 2007, the EU "Year of Intercultural Dialogue" 2008 and the UNESCO "Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions".



In the discussion it was stated that cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue are often mentioned in the same contexts but that it is important to make a clear distinction between the underlying concepts of both terms. Respect towards various forms of cultural expression is a prerequisite for intercultural dialogue.

With regard to the UNESCO Convention, it is essential to keep in mind a broader approach, including the aspects of education, migration, equal opportunities and intercultural dialogue, and to avoid the risk to limit cultural diversity to commercial aspects. The participants of the "Round Table" expressed the wish to convince national governments to implement also the UNESCO Convention, which might require legal changes. Here the role of the civil society was said to be crucial to encourage the governments to act in line with the Convention and to use the Convention as a "moral lever" for its work in these fields. Synergies with other intergovernmental agreements such as the UNESCO Road Map for Arts Education were said to be investigated and used where appropriate.



Hannele Koivunen (Finnish Ministry of Culture) presented the concept of “fair culture” meaning the realisation of cultural rights and the inclusion of everyone in cultural signification, irrespective of their age, gender, disability, or ethnic, religious and cultural background. A more pragmatic approach to “fair culture” was presented by Peter Rantasa (Music Information Center Austria) who introduced the “fair music” initiative. “Fair music” is the first global initiative for fairness and justice in the music business; it strives to strengthen the position of both the artist and the listener world wide. The aim is to maintain cultural diversity during the current processes of modernisation.

As a result of the discussions, two working groups were established to develop ideas for concrete actions for the implementation of the UNESCO Convention and for a network for cultural policy bringing together representatives of ministries and the cultural sector.

3.1.5 Second World Forum on Music

11 to 14 October 2007, Beijing, China

Organised by the International Music Council (IMC) in cooperation with the Chinese Musicians' Association



As a regional group of the International Music Council, the European Music Council assisted in the organisation of the Second World Forum on Music and invited the European members to a meeting to discuss issues of European concern.

The Forum dealt with many issues crucial to the music world today – aspects of the new music economy that comes with digitisation, the survival and revitalisation of traditional music, the changing face of music education, the cultural and economic development of music sectors, and music's potential contribution to broader development and the economy. Speakers, coming from all parts of the world, were experts of international stature. Representatives of 36 nations attended the event which was organised by the International Music Council in collaboration with the Chinese Musicians' Association. Beijing, the largest city in a country that finds itself at the highest speed of economical and cultural change, turned out to be a perfect setting for five days of discussion, information and exchange about the world of music at present, in the past and in the future.



Key civil society players and a representative of the UNESCO Beijing office were invited to discuss the UNESCO Convention for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions and in particular its potential role as a useful tool to promote musical diversity nationally and globally. Panellists looked into the threats and opportunities of the convention and how civil society players could position themselves in the debate.

The Second World Forum on Music also seized the opportunity of being held in China to offer a platform for expert presentations on diverse aspects of Chinese music, from an anthropological approach to the transmission of oral traditions, from the role of school arts education in the dissemination of ethnic minority music, to the teaching of Chinese traditional music instruments and music types.

3.2 Meetings

For the governance of the EMC and the further developments of the EMC activities, the EMC Board meets regularly. Additionally, three working groups, meeting next to the Board meetings deal with special topics focused by the EMC:

- **The Working Group Youth (WGY)** advocates for youth participation in decision making processes in cultural organisations.

The WGY prepared a workshop for the EMC annual conference in Malmö in line with the focus of the conference.



In general, the WGY acts on the same Action Plan as the EMC. The EMC Board invites the WGY to bring up own issues, as well. The WGY has decided upon a new membership structure, there will be members of the network and members of the committee. The WGY is preparing an updated publication.

Meetings of the WGY:

- 20 to 23 April 2006, Malmö, Sweden (in the frame of the EMC Annual Conference)
- 16 to 17 September 2006, Bonn, Germany
- 3 to 5 November 2006, Bonn, Germany (in the frame of the symposium MIX IT!)
- 19 to 22 April 2007, Barcelona, Spain
- 9 to 11 November 2007, Kranj, Slovenia



Members of the WGY (prerequisite for membership under 30 years of age): Burak Özgen (Turkey/Belgium/UK), Daphne Wassink (The Netherlands), Martina Jucker (Switzerland), Nele Kemmerich (Germany), Maria Bramer (The Netherlands/ Germany), Petra Mohorcic (Slovenia), Asja Radonic (Serbia)

- The working group **'Music and Politics'** observes the cultural policy in Europe on European and on National level (cf. 2.)

Meetings of the working group:

18 January 2006, Bonn, Germany, in the frame of the EMC Board meeting
 20 to 23 April 2006, Malmö, Sweden, in the frame of the EMC Annual Conference
 6 to 8 September 2006, Kranj, Sweden, in the frame of the EMC Board meeting
 5 January 2007, Bonn, Germany, in the frame of the EMC Board meeting
 6 September 2007, Helsinki, Finland, in the frame of the EMC Board meeting

- The working group **'Members'** concentrating on EMC services to its members and on membership recruitment (cf. 1.)

Meetings of the working group:

18 January 2006, Bonn, Germany, in the frame of the EMC Board meeting
 20 to 23 April 2006, Malmö, Sweden, in the frame of the EMC annual conference
 6 to 8 September 2006, Kranj, Slovenia, in the frame of the EMC Board meeting
 5 January 2007, Bonn, Germany, in the frame of the EMC Board meeting
 6 September 2007, Helsinki, Finland, in the frame of the EMC Board meeting

To facilitate communication between the meetings modern communication technologies were used, e.g. email, Internet forum, telephone and video conferences.



The EMC Board met on the following dates:

- 18 January 2006 in Bonn, Germany
- 20 to 23 April 2006 in Malmö, Sweden (EMC Annual Meeting 2006)
- 6 September 2006, Kranj, Slovenia
- 3 to 5 November 2006, Bonn, Germany
(in the frame of the symposium MIX IT!)
- 4 to 6 January 2007, Bonn, Germany
- 18 to 19 April 2007, Barcelona, Spain
- 5 to 7 September 2007, Helsinki, Finland
- (informal meeting in the frame of the 2nd World Forum on Music and 32nd General Assembly of the International Music Council, 12 to 16 October 2007, Beijing, China)

4. Information, publications

4.1 Newsletter

The EMC newsletter is a tool to inform the interested public in a rather condensed way about the ongoing activities of the EMC and the European music sector in general. The newsletter is published as a 4 pages PDF document three times a year (spring, summer, and autumn) and circulated by email free of charge to EMC members, interested individuals and European cultural organisations and institutions.

The EMC newsletter is also published on the EMC website and by that accessible to everyone.

4.2 Sounds in Europe – European Music Magazine



In the year 2005, the EMC started editing a European Music Magazine – “Sounds in Europe”. The magazine provides detailed background information on European cultural policy and topics of special interest for the music sector. It is published once a year and is free of charge for EMC members. A preliminary issue was published in December 2005. The 2nd issue was published in December 2006 with the focus “Music and the Future”. “Sounds in Europe” will address issues of European interest and therefore be an important contribution to the European public space. For 2007 the 3rd issue will focus on “access to music”.

4.3 Website

The EMC website (www.emc-imc.org) is an important tool for the information exchange between EMC members. Additionally to information on EMC activities and cultural policy development, the EMC offers its members the possibility to publish their news on this web site. Therefore, the EMC website is an important data base for the European music sector, providing contact information and providing visibility to the European music organisations. In 2006 the EMC has installed a forum for discussion for its working groups on the EMC website – this is available at www.emc-imc.org/forum.

The EMC website will be relaunched in 2007 with more layers to provide more detailed insight in the different activities of the EMC.

Furthermore, the EMC hosts the “EFMET” project website, providing the results of the EU-funded EFMET project. The EFMET website offers a long-lasting platform for information exchange and gives the opportunity to easily up-date the EFMET outcomes such as examples of good practices and information of music teacher training in different European countries.

The ExTra! Exchange Traditions project started in July 2006 also provides a website at www.extra-project.eu informing about the activities of the project (cf. 5.1).

4.4 “Newsflashes” to members

The newsflashes are a very short and informal means of information to the EMC membership, published on a monthly basis, informing the membership about internal matters and pointing out to outstanding cultural events in “telegram” style.

4.5 Internal Communication

In order to keep a well functioning working relation with the EMC Board members who are spread over 7 European countries, the EMC staff members produce bimonthly reports about the ongoing activities of the EMC office. In between these reports, frequent email and telephone contacts between the Board members as well as between Board and staff members guarantee a constant flow of information. The EMC also uses new communication technologies (telephone-conferences, net-meetings and Internet forum) for the working groups.

5. Cooperation – Partnership

5.1 ExTra!

‘Cultural diversity’, ‘European cultural identity’ and ‘inclusion of minority cultures’ are nowadays top priorities for many music organisations in Europe. Cultural operators and political decision makers are conducting a significant discussion on European cultural identity and diversity – including influences from outside Europe. How can we bridge the seemingly unbridgeable contradiction between a common European identity and cultural diversity in Europe? With the EU funded project ‘ExTra! – Exchange Traditions’ the European Music Council and its partners take part actively in this debate and offer concrete activities to promote cultural diversity integrating minorities in a sensitive and respectful way.





In many parts of Europe, traditional music belongs to a living, everyday culture. It is a crucial factor for the cultural identity of the individual citizen. The project 'ExTra!' will enhance the understanding of the culture of each other's neighbours. The aim of 'ExTra!' is to stimulate exchanges between different music traditions present in today's multicultural Europe. The project focuses on musical traditions of migrants in Europe and their interaction with cultures already existing in the European countries.

In order to achieve these aims, the EMC has gathered co-operation partners from different European countries for the 'ExTra!' project, focusing on different aspects in the field of music such as education, production, musicology, socio-culture and new media.



The partners are: En Chordais, Greece; Music Information Center Austria (MICA); Fondazione Adkins Chiti: Donne in Musica, Italy; International Yehudi Menuhin Foundation (IYMF), Belgium; Association Nationale Cultures et Traditions (ANCT), France; Cité de la Musique, France.

With this multifaceted consortium of partners, a broad approach from different perspectives can be guaranteed. The project offers a wide range of activities: a research study will identify music traditions that are part of the day-to-day life of people in Europe. The production of traditional music in concerts and recordings will contribute to the promotion of different musical traditions; a download platform will enable worldwide dissemination of sheet music, recordings and relevant publications in the field.



Tools for music education will be developed in order to integrate traditional music in the curricula for amateur musicians as well as in the professional training programmes; workshops and summer academies for musicians on all levels will offer the opportunity to meet with other musicians and to learn (more) about different musical traditions. Encounters for cultural operators will provide possibilities to exchange information, to share knowledge and to develop ongoing cooperation projects. The support of the European Commission to this project in the frame of the Culture 2000 Programme is highly appreciated and an important sign that the issue is of interest in the EU. You may find more information at www.extra-project.eu where you will also find the latest issue of the ExTra! newsletter.

5.2 EMC as partner in other EU projects and organisations

The EMC is associate partner in the following EU funded projects:

- Polifonia (coordinated by AEC – Association Européenne des Conservatoires, Académie de Musique et Musikhochschulen)
- Do-Re-Mi-Fa-Sokrates (coordinated by AEC)
- Gateway to Culture – G2CC (coordinated by ECF – European Cultural Foundation, preliminary project for the lab for culture)

The EMC is a member of EFAH – European Forum for the Arts and Heritage.

During the year 2006, the EMC has intensified its cooperation with the European Music Office (EMO) and set up a cooperation agreement. The two organisations have started to define common interests in the field of cultural policy and will prepare joint actions in future.

6. General Administration

The EMC disposes of a huge database with local, national European and international music organisations, personalities in the field of culture and cultural policy, European cultural organisations as well as press contacts. This database needs to be carefully maintained by frequent up-dates and double checks.

The EMC finance administration is entirely executed at the EMC office. This includes bookkeeping, reporting to the grant providers and formulating grant applications.

The EMC staff reports to and is controlled by the EMC Board.

Achievements 2006-2007

The EMC was able to enhance and strengthen the information exchange of members and the European music sector through its activities, e.g. with the Annual Conferences in Malmö and Barcelona, the Symposium MIX IT! and the Round Table on Cultural Policy both having taken place in Bonn.

One of the main focuses of the EMC lies on cultural diversity in Europe. Therefore, the EMC expressed its concerns towards the EU Commission concerning initiatives of the DGs "Competition" and "Internal Market". Together with IMC the EMC started to act as facilitator for its members providing an advocacy letter and tools how to use it for a quick ratification of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions.

Cultural diversity and the respectful integration of cultural minorities and migrant cultures are closely connected. The EMC major events dealt with the inclusion of migrant cultures in the European society. One important outcome is the recommendations that have been adopted by the participants of the symposium MIX IT! – The recommendations were sent to politicians on local, national and EU level. The EMC has received a lot of positive response to these recommendations which indicates the significance of this issue.

The network of the European Music Council enhances the cultural dialogue by bringing together cultural operators from many different musical fields. The EMC also takes part in the Rainbow Platform initiated by the EFAH and the ECF (European Cultural Foundation). A cooperation agreement with the European Music Office has been set up.

Furthermore, the EMC is part of a network of the European cultural sector, EFAH, the European Forum for the Arts and Heritage: in 2006 EMC Secretary General Ruth Jakobi was elected to the Board of EFAH to further increase the cooperation between the cultural sector in general and the music sector.

With the focus of third issue of its magazine "Sounds in Europe" – "Access to Music" the EMC acts on vital issues also expressed by the European Union through the "European Agenda for Culture in a Globalizing World". "Access to Music" will also be the focus of the 2008 Annual Conference of the EMC – the EMC will follow its path of cultural dialogue, information exchange and the support of cultural diversity also in the coming years.



CONTACT

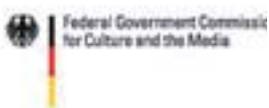
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