European Music Council
Weberstr. 59a
53113 Bonn
Germany

Tel.: +49-228-96699664
Fax: +49-228-96699665
www.emc-imc.org
info@emc-imc.org

Chairman
Ian Smith

Vice-Chair
Stefano Kunz

Treasurer
Kaie Tanner

Board Members
Nenad Bogdanovic, Krzysztof Knittel,
Willem van Moort, Kostas Moschos,
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Secretary General
Simone Dudt

Executive Director
Julia Osada

Programme Manager
Till Skoruppa

Team Administrator
Marita Schaaser

Volunteer (German Voluntary Year in Culture)
Laura Mettke

Print:
Messner Medien GmbH
Von-Wrangell-Straße 6
53359 Rheinbach

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# 2014 Annual Report of the European Music Council

The EMC in General Terms ........................................ 4
Members .................................................................. 6
Cultural Policy ......................................................... 10
EMC Conferences/ Events ......................................... 16
EMC Youth Committee ............................................ 20
Information and Publications .................................... 23
Cooperation and Networking ..................................... 25
General Administration ........................................... 30
Personnel .................................................................. 32
The EMC in general terms

The European Music Council (EMC) is a non-profit organisation dedicated to the development and promotion of all kinds of music in Europe. It is a network for representatives of both national music councils and European networks involved in the fields of music education, creation, performance and heritage. It was founded in 1972 as the European regional group of the International Music Council (IMC), and has been registered under German law as an 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 members through knowledge building, creating networking opportunities and supporting and enhancing the visibility of initiatives that help sustain people’s participation in music and cultural life. With its Youth Committee the EMC strongly supports youth participation in its decision making processes. The EMC is a membership organisation, acting as a stakeholder for the European music sector including all kinds of musical genres on different levels.
Members

The EMC is an umbrella organisation made up of 74 organisations in 30 European countries. The members of the EMC represent the diverse musical genres and styles which prevail in Europe, as well as the different age groups active in musical activities at all levels of professionalism – from amateurs to music students to recognised professional musicians. The members specialise in fields such as education, creation, performance, documentation, management and publishing.

The EMC serves European music organisations by putting the interest of the sector forward with one voice. As a membership organisation, in the first instance the activities of the EMC are a service to the members. The EMC office and Board (which is comprised of representatives of the EMC members) regularly consult the membership and its feedback directly influences the decisions made. Furthermore, the members are regularly asked to contribute directly to the EMC’s activities – such as providing content for the EMC newsletters, the *Sounds in Europe* magazine, and presentations during the EMC annual conference – as well as to host EMC events.
Membership structure

The EMC is the regional group for Europe of the International Music Council (IMC) and as such is responsible for the European members of the IMC. The IMC/EMC membership is divided into four categories: National Music Councils, International Music Organisations, European Music Organisations and National and Specialised Organisations.

National Music Council
A National Music Council must be broadly representative of the musical life in its country, develop policy positions to advance the musical life of the country and advocate these policy positions to decision-makers – including the government.

International Music Organisation
Being a member of the EMC an International Music Organisation must be based in Europe and have members or musical activities in a minimum of ten countries with more than three voting members outside Europe. The organisation develops policy positions to advance the welfare of its area or musical activity and advocate these policy positions to decision-makers – including governments.

European Music Organisation
A European Music Organisation must operate mainly in Europe and have members or musical activities in a minimum of 20% of European countries. The number of its voting members outside Europe should not exceed three. The organisation develops policy positions to advance the welfare of its area or musical activity and advocate these policy positions to decision-makers – including governments.

National or Specialised Music Organisation
Any legally constituted organisation, association, society, company, foundation, corporation or NGO working in the field of music and culture, which does not fulfil the requirements of an international or regional (European) music organisation or National Music Council, can be accepted as an organisational member of the IMC/EMC. In order to be admitted as a member, the organisation must support the mission and objectives of the EMC and commit to fulfil the duties of a member.

All EMC members must demonstrate that they subscribe to the IMC’s position on cultural rights. They must be governed according to democratic principles and offer services to their members and/or to the community at large.
Membership recruitment

The EMC actively works on expanding its membership and regularly welcomes new music organisations into its network. In 2014 the EMC welcomed the following new members:

Category national/specialised organisation

» The National Centre of Expertise for Cultural Education and Amateur Arts (LKCA), The Netherlands
» Cyprus Symphony Orchestra Foundation, Cyprus

The following Members withdrew from the membership:

» Scottish Jazz Federation, UK
» National Music Council of Monaco
» National Music Council of Luxembourg (Conseil superior de la musique)
Our members

Cultural Policy

As the umbrella organisation for music in Europe, the European Music Council unites the sector in one voice, bringing the needs and interests of all those involved in all aspects of music to the attention of decision makers in the field of cultural policy at all levels – in particular, the EU Commission and Parliament, the German Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and Media, and the City of Bonn. Furthermore, the EMC maintains relations with UNESCO through its umbrella, the International Music Council, as well as with the German UNESCO Commission in Bonn directly.

UN/UNESCO, in close collaboration with IMC

In May 2014, the International Music Council partnered with other significant international networks to launch a campaign *The Future we Want Includes Culture*, calling on governments and policy makers defining the post-2015 UN Development Agenda to ensure that targets and indicators on culture be included as part of the Sustainable Development Goals. The EMC endorsed and actively promoted this campaign: www.culture2015goal.net

The Seoul Agenda: *Goals for the Development of Arts Education*, which formed the basis of the EMC’s own policy document: *The Bonn Declaration on Music Education in Europe* was again prominent in the EMC’s work in 2014. In April 2014, the EMC took an active role in the European Choral Association — Europa Cantat's *How can singing belong to everyone?* Symposium in Budapest, Hungary. Simone Dudt chaired a panel session on the Bonn Declaration which brought attention to the document, and was a chance to discover the impact the document has had in Europe already. During the event, reference was made to the seminar on music education organised by the EMC and the European Music Schools Union (EMU) in 2012, and the wish was raised to have a reoccurant event every 2 years, bringing together as many music education organisations as possible. To this means, the EMC is planning a European Forum on Music Education in 2016.
As a reaction to the news that the European Commission was planning on reducing the number of cultural networks it was going to fund with its new Creative Europe programme, the EMC issued a statement emphasising that music is an essential form of cultural expression and tool for communication that transcends boundaries, bringing people together and facilitating exchange and understanding.

Further to bringing attention to the EMC’s new initiative, the European Agenda for Music, the Music for Europe, Europe for Music called upon those involved in the selection of projects to receive funding from the Creative Europe programme to acknowledge the significant role that music plays in the key process of European integration. The music sector is comprised of a diverse range of creative participants, all of whom are interconnected, collaborating through a broad range of networks, partnerships and projects. This significant diversity is an added value that nurtures a thriving cultural life in Europe. With regard to the “Creative Europe” funding strand “Support to European networks” it called for successful grant recipients to be selected according to the quality of their network rather than simply allocating the funds equally across all cultural disciplines.

The statement was endorsed by the following: ECA-EC, ESTA, EMMEN, EAS, EOFED, JMI, REMA, ECPM, FONDAZIONE ADKINS CHITI:DONNE IN MUSICA, EFNYO, EMCY.

Following a long wait, the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA), finally announced the results of the...
first round of calls of the Creative Europe Programme, and the EMC learned that it was amongst the 22 networks (of 58 that applied) successful networks selected for funding under the ‘support to European networks’ strand. This was extremely encouraging as it confirmed the strength of the EMC network and the need for its work. The stark reduction in the number of networks funded compared to the predecessor Culture Programme resulted in reduced support being awarded to music networks than in previous years, with a number of EMC members being directly affected.

In 2014 the EMC closely followed key political developments at European level and kept its members updated on these issues.

CAE’s political Manifesto and 2014 election toolkit
In January, the EMC endorsed a political manifesto for the European elections (22–25 May 2014) issued by Culture Action Europe. In it CAE presented its vision for the European project and a set of demands for the European Parliament. The document was sent to European political parties, political groups in the EP and all MEPs, and the European Music Council assisted in disseminating this document to national political parties and candidates, through the promotion of an advocacy toolkit, designed to support actions at national level, by giving useful background information on the elections, providing key arguments, examples of actions according to the systems in place in different countries, a political calendar and useful links and contacts.

Go vote! Bring a friend
Ahead of the European elections, a group of European cultural networks and organisations including the European Music Council, launched a campaign encouraging European citizens to take advantage of their right to vote and have their say on how the EU should be governed for the next five years at the upcoming European Elections which were held on 22–25 May 2014. With this campaign the networks sought to defend democratic values and put an end to the increasing rates of abstention during European elections. Following the EU elections, copies of the Sounds in Europe magazine and a letter introducing the EMC to all members of the newly elected CULT Committee of the European Parliament were distributed. Once the then President-elect of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker’s presentation of his new team of commissioners, the EMC closely followed the debate surrounding the proposed candidate for the Commissioner of Education, Culture and Youth, Tibor Navracsics.

Dialogue with the EU institutions
As the voice of music in Europe, it is of upmost importance for the European Music Council to maintain regular dialogue with the key personalities within the European institutions. Continuing the established tradition, in 2014 the EMC invited Creative Europe, Head of Culture, Karel Bartak to join a panel discussion on Music
and politics: a shared responsibility at the European Forum on Music in Bern. Of all the art forms, music in particular has proven itself as a successful tool for nurturing social cohesion, facilitating peace and instigating change. In times where faith in the European project is wavering, what role can music play in restoring trust and enthusiasm for Europe? Mr Bartak shared his views on whether music and politics can work together to achieve mutual goals and reach common solutions for problems.

Work Plan for Culture
On 25 November 2014 the EU Ministers of Culture agreed on a new Work Plan for Culture which sets out the priorities for European cooperation in cultural policy-making for the years 2015-2018. Building upon the 2008 European Agenda for Culture it addresses the key challenges faced by cultural organisations and SMEs in the creative sector at national and European level in the context of globalisation and digitisation, whilst setting out priorities for promoting access to culture and audience development. Furthermore, it focuses on how to raise the profile of culture in EU’s external relations, foster creativity and innovation in the cultural and creative sectors, and how to best manage Europe’s cultural heritage. Implementation of the Work Plan will focus around 20 concrete actions pursued along 4 priorities: accessible and inclusive culture; cultural heritage; cultural and creative sectors: creative economy and innovation; promotion of cultural diversity, culture in EU external relations and mobility.

The main working method for cooperation between the Member states in the field of culture will remain the Open Method of Coordination (OMC), with new working groups organised along the themes mentioned above. Civil society will be able to feed into the dialogue of these OMC groups, with official structured dialogue due to be restored in January 2015. The call for tender launched for renewed structured dialogue in the field of culture was awarded to The Goethe Institute, and the European Music Council is awaiting information on how to become involved in this dialogue.

European Agenda for Music
In 2013, the EMC launched a new initiative, the “European Agenda for Music”. The EMC invited its members as well as other significant non-member organisations to join the debate on what actions need to be taken to secure a musically thriving Europe in the future. The Agenda will therefore have a horizontal approach as it will bring together the music industry and the civil society organisations for music.

Initiated by the European Music Council, coordination will remain with the EMC, however the Agenda itself shall be a document owned by everyone involved. All involved must also subscribe to each section of the document. The IMC’s 5 Musical Rights will form the basis of the document, and form the long term goals of the project.
The aim of the document is not to develop separate policies for music, but for the sector to put forward its own priorities which will improve the situation of music in Europe.

The following topics have been defined which will be addressed by working groups:

» creation (composers, song writers, author and copyrights)
» production (musicians, conductors, record companies, publishers, instruments, music publishers, music fairs)
» presentation, live music (festivals, managers, agents, musicians, conductors, music export)
» information, documentation, research, heritage (music archives, music information centres, observatories)
» communication & audience development (e.g. media, internet, radio, TV)
» education (formal, non-formal, informal) and career development (competitions and prizes)
» participation (e.g. amateur music making – vocal & instrumental)
» social and legal status of musical artists and their works (taxation, labour relations, intellectual property, mobility)

Representatives of these ‘sections’ will be included in the development of the Agenda. Participants are invited to assign themselves to one or more sections which will form the basis of the working groups.

The 4th European Forum on Music was an opportunity for a first meeting of four working groups in the frame. Due to the financial constraints with which the EMC was faced in 2014 further physical meetings were not possible. Nevertheless, the demand of the sector for such an initiative is very obvious, and therefore the discussions will resume properly in 2015.

EMC Chair Stef Coninx and Secretary General Simone Dudt held a session on the European Agenda at the 2014 Frankfurt Music Fair.
Federal Commissioner for Culture and the Media

Meetings with the Federal Commissioner for Culture and the Media

Following the appointment of the new Federal Commissioner for Culture and the Media in early 2014, the European Music Council contacted Ms Monika Grütters, congratulating her on her appointment, and introducing the work of the European Music Council. EMC Secretary General, Simone Dudt, was then invited to meet with the Commissioner in Berlin, in the form of a round table for the music sector in Germany. On 10 June 2014, EMC Secretary General, Simone Dudt, was amongst the participants of a meeting between cultural organisations based in the Haus der Kultur in Bonn, and the Federal Commissioner for Culture and the Media, Monika Grütters. The aim of the meeting was for these organisations to present themselves and their projects, and to discuss current cultural political themes. In her opening speech, the Commissioner stressed the importance of culture and cultural institutions, like the Haus der Kultur.

Europe Day, City of Bonn

On 3 May 2014, the European Music Council had its own stand at the City of Bonn's Europe Day. The annual event is an opportunity for Bonn-based European organisations and associations to present themselves and inform visitors about their work. Participation in this event serves at raising the European Music Council’s profile and visibility at the local level.

Reception for delegates from the City of Bonn

In the frame of the first meeting of the newly elected EMC Board in Bonn, Germany, the European Music Council hosted a reception for local VIPs on 28 October 2014. Co-hosted by the Verein Schumannhaus Bonn, guests were invited to a piano concert and a presentation of the European Music Council and its work. Among the invited guests were the members of the committee for culture of the city of Bonn, representatives of cultural life in Bonn, such as the artistic directors of the Beethoven Orchestra, the Beethovenfest, the Schumannfest, the Bonn Classic Philharmonic, the German Music Council and others, representatives of the administration of the city of Bonn such as the mayor of the city of Bonn, the head of the municipal cultural office and the commissioner for pop and rock music as well as representatives of the International Music Council.
EMC Conferences/Events

With its 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 of the EMC’s and of its members’ activities will be spread further.
4th European Forum on Music – Music and Politics: a shared responsibility

From 19-22 June 2014 more than 100 representatives of the music sector from over 20 countries came to Bern, Switzerland, to discuss the commonalities and differences of music and politics from diverse angles. The local partners Yehudi Menuhin Forum Bern and the Swiss Music Council provided the perfect setting which included a rich musical programme.

The opening keynote speech of the Forum was given by Ivo Josipović, President of the Republic of Croatia who, following a performance of his piece Samba Brevis by the Chamber Orchestra of Bern, addressed the audience with a presentation that was as informative as it was entertaining. He referred to the long tradition of musicians who went into politics and politicians who were or wanted to be musicians. He also presented various political contexts in which music has been misused by totalitarian regimes, and the role of musicians and composers therein. He made reference to Luigi Nono’s social and political engagement which he expressed in his musical work, to Daniel Barenboim’s West-Eastern Divan Orchestra and its contribution to reconciliation, as well as to diverse protest songs from different musical genres.

According to Jopsipović there are common skills that both a musician/composer and politician need to have in order to be successful: listening, creativity & vision, communication with the audience, balance between freedom and discipline, understanding complex situations, high level of memory and concentration and organisational capacities. “Composers and politicians need to have spirit of adventure, and need to be patient and persistent”.

Enrique Baron Crespo, former President of the European Parliament and President of the International Yehudi Menuhin Foundation, highlighted the importance of music education as a fundamental part of humanistic education. On a personal note, he expressed his discontent with the latest developments in Switzerland, namely the federal popular initiative against mass immigration. Although
not part of the European Union, Switzerland is in the middle of Europe and shares many of its democratic values – which makes this vote all the more disappointing for Baron Crespo. He drew a comparison with the latest European elections, which saw a rise in the populist and separatist vote, though which he is convinced was rather a call for change than to leave the European Union. He also reminded the audience that despite the disastrous gains for populist parties, 70% of voters were still in favour of the European Union.

In the speech that followed, Christa Markwalder, Vice President of the Swiss National Council, shared her view on the importance of music for education, as culture, arts and music help foster mutual understanding and respect. She took on Baron Crespo’s remarks by agreeing that Switzerland is very European being a “Europe en miniature”. Although she herself is not at all content with the outcome of the Swiss vote on mass immigration, she is still proud of the system of direct democracy which also brought about the Swiss Federal popular initiative on music education – in which more than 70% of votes were in favour of including music education in the Swiss constitution.

The session on “Freedom of Musical Expression” provided an insight into the situation of musicians in Belarus – the last dictatorship in the heart of Europe which is often forgotten about. Belarusian punk rock musician Lavon Volski shared his music and provided an insight into the realities of living as a musician who is banned from performing in his own country. To the question on whether he had ever considered giving up music he clearly said, “never, because I need to express myself through music”. A more general overview on the Belarusian situation was given by Ingo Petz, whilst Ole Reitov, interim director of Freemuse, introduced how his organisation works with music and censorship across the globe.

The 4th European Forum on Music provided diverse sessions such as a panel discussion with representatives from the European Commission, the Swiss Parliament and a Swiss singer/songwriter/comedian. It looked at the power of the amateurs, and provided diverse interactive sessions including a workshop on successful advocacy work, the European Agenda for Music, the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), as well as diverse music projects that reflect the overall theme of “music and politics”.

The supporting programme of the conference was rich and diverse: it was opened by Alphorns, Yodelling and Bulgarian folk songs, it included the celebrations of the Swiss Music Council’s 50th Anniversary and a performance of Le Sacre du Printemps in the alternative cultural centre Reithalle – and not to forget the musical welcomes and intermissions throughout the days of the Forum.

The Forum was proceeded by the EMC Annual Meeting which included elections to the EMC
Board 2014 – 2016. The new board consists of

» Ian Smith (UK), Chairman, Portfolio Manager Music & IP Development at Creative Scotland
» Stefano Kunz (CH), Vice Chairman, Managing Director Swiss Music Council
» Kaire Tanner (EE), Treasurer, General Secretary Estonian Choral Association, Board member

European Choral Association – Europa Cantat
» Nenad Bogdanovic (CY), Executive Director Cyprus Symphony Orchestra Foundation
» Krzysztof Knittel (PL), President Polish Music Council, Composer
» Willem van Moort (NL), Director BplusC, Board member of the European Music School Union (EMU)
» Kostas Moschos (GR), Director Institute for Research on Music & Acoustics, Treasurer International Association of Music Information Centres (IAMIC)

The Board co-opted Cathy Al-Ghabra (UK), chair of the EMC Youth Committee.
The EMC Youth Committee is a group of young adults (aged 18-30) active in different professional fields and genres in European music life. It is the voice of youth in the EMC and its membership network. Its central aim is to enhance youth participation within the EMC’s network and throughout European music life.

The 2013 – 2015 Youth Committee is made up of 7 representatives of EMC members:

» Cathy Al-Ghabra, Chair, European Choral Association - Europa Cantat
» Christopher Glasgow, Vice Chair, Scottish Music Centre
» Manon Fenard, CHROMA/Zebrock
» Maiju Kopra, Finnish Music Council
» Jaroslava Lojdová, European Association for Music in Schools
» Jamie Munn, Live Music Now Scotland
» Klára Nováková, Jeunesses Musicales International
Make Music! Be Heard!

2014 saw the continuation of the EU Youth in Action funded "Make Music! Be Heard!" which was initiated by the Youth Committee in late 2012. A number of activities took place:

Work Placement Scheme
Seven young people were given the opportunity to undertake work experience placements at the offices of the project partner organisations. The scheme, which was advertised widely throughout the partner networks, was aimed at students, young professionals, as well as young people with a love for music but without much experience. The selected individuals were given a chance to gain an insight into the reality of working in the music sector, with opportunities at the host organisations including PR and communication, music education, event management, office administration, cultural policy, project management etc. The focus of these placements was 'learning by doing'.

7 Placements took place in total:

» European Choral Association – Europa Cantat hosted Kirsty Robertson (Scotland)
» Scottish Music Centre hosted Rachel Deloughry (Netherlands/Ireland)
» Jeunesses Musicales International hosted Jasna Ahmetovic (Croatia/Bosnia)
» Zebrock hosted Marisia Louta (Greece)
» International Music Council hosted Marita Schaaser (Austria)
» Superact hosted Maiju Kopro (Finland)
» European Music Council hosted Maryana Golovchenko (Netherlands/Ukraine)

Feedback from all participants and partners was overwhelmingly positive. Reports from the placements were posted online and shared throughout the partner networks. The reports can be viewed under: www.emc-imc.org/youth/make-music-be-heard/work-placement-participants

Events
The project also allowed young people from within the partners' networks to attend/present at the following events across Europe:

» May 2014 European Youth Event, European Parliament, Strasbourg
» March 2014 Meeting of the JMI Committees and Youth Event, World Meeting Centre of Jeunesses Musicales International, Weikersheim
» June 2014 The goNORTH conference, Inverness
» September 2014 The third International Forum of NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO, on the theme “The role of youth in the safeguarding of tangible and intangible cultural heritage”, Sofia and Sozopol, Bulgaria
Promotion of the Manifesto
As a continuation of the 2010 Access! project, the dissemination of the *Manifesto for Youth and Music in Europe* was central to the MM!BH! project, and the following opportunities to present the Manifesto arose in 2014:

- Visegrád Conference ‘Theory and Practice of Music Education III’, Czech Republic
- 22nd EAS conference ‘Every Learner Counts’, Cyprus
- Sound Connections, UK
- Voices Now Festival, UK
- British Council, London, UK
- Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, UK
- Scottish Music Centre Composition Marathon, UK
- Glasgow New Music Expedition, UK

**Youth Guide**
The Youth Guide is the main tangible outcome of the MM!BH! project. Hosted on the EMC website, it is a search engine for jobs, work placements, internships, funding, courses etc. [www.emc-imc.org/youth/youth-guide](http://www.emc-imc.org/youth/youth-guide)

**Meeting between EMC Youth Committee and EMC Board/Wrap up session**
In order to guarantee the voice of young people in all of the EMC’s activities, the chair of the youth committee is a co-opted member of the EMC Board, attending all Board meetings throughout. Despite the Board and Youth Committee meeting often at EMC events, this was the first time that members of both the Board and Committee sat down to discuss Youth participation within the EMC network and how it can be improved in detail. The meeting also served as a wrap-up meeting of the MM!BH! project with most of the partner organisations represented. The meeting took place in the frame of the European Festival for Young People in Neerpelt, the event at which the Youth Committee originally launched the *Manifesto for Youth and Music in Europe* in 2011. This annual event welcomes thousands of young musicians from across Europe and beyond.

**EMC Youth Committee at EFM Bern**
In the frame of the 4th European Forum on Music, the Youth Committee hosted a session, entitled: *Chime for change: the power of musical protest*. The session examined the impact of recent, high-profile protest songs and the well-known controversy surrounding many modern day musical activists including Russia’s *Pussy Riot*. Are their actions purely a publicity stunt or do they serve a higher political purpose in promoting and facilitating positive and lasting change?
Information & publications

The EMC’s quarterly newsletter informs approximately 5000 subscribers about the activities of the EMC, the IMC and that of the members. It also provides information on important cultural policy developments at European and international levels, as well as significant developments. The EMC newsletter can be subscribed via the EMC website, and is circulated free of charge. In 2014, four editions of the newsletter were published.

Sounds in Europe
European Music Magazine

The EMC has been editing its Sounds in Europe magazine since 2005. This publication provides news on cultural policy developments at European level, and topics of special interest for the music sector, and is an opportunity for EMC members to share their best practice projects with a wide readership across Europe. As a result of the change in EU funding in 2014, no magazine was published in that year. The next edition of Sounds will be published in 2015, addressing the topic of ‘Music and Sustainable Impacts’.

Website

The EMC online presence is guaranteed by the www.emc-imc.org. It is an important tool for information exchange between EMC members. In addition to information on EMC activities and cultural policy development, the EMC offers its members the possibility to publish their news on this website. The EMC website is therefore an important reference point for the European music sector, providing contact information and visibility to European music organisations. The EMC further continues to host the dedicated websites of former projects.

Music World News

Launched in 2014, the Music World News eBulletin presents global music news collected by the IMC in cooperation with its regional groups. The fortnightly e-bulletin has six sections: Music, the art form and the artist; Music Education; Technology and Media; Music Industry; Policy; Research and Politics.
EMC Newsflashes

The EMC newsflash is a communication tool with which the EMC team updates the EMC members on internal matters and brings to their attention important political developments and cultural events at European level. It is a service exclusive to the EMC members and special contacts.

Social Media

The EMC makes regular use of its social media channels to promote its activities and that of its members. Its Facebook account (launched in 2010) is predominantly used to promote European events, whereas the Twitter feed (launched 2013) allows for interaction with participants at European events and involvement in current debates. Both the Facebook page and Twitter Feed saw a significant rise in likes/followers in 2014. The EMC Youth Committee also has its own Facebook and Twitter accounts.
Cooperation and Networking

IMC Board meetings

The Board of the International Music Council (IMC) meets on a regular basis to implement the strategies decided by the General Assembly and to define new scopes of activities for the International Music Council.

The IMC is the world’s largest network of organisations and institutions working in the field of music, the European Music Council is its regional group for Europe. In order to remain informed of developments on the international level, and maintain regular contact with the other regional groups of the IMC, the EMC Chair and Secretary General participate in the Board meetings of the International Music Council, the former as an ex-officio Board member, and the latter as an invited guest.

In 2014, the IMC Board met on the following occasions:

- 20 – 22 February 2014, Brussels, Belgium
- 1 – 3 October 2014, Paris, France

The EMC is a partner in the IMC’s African Music Development Programme and the Rostrum+ project.

Culture Action Europe

CAE Board Meetings

As Vice-Chair of Culture Action Europe, EMC Secretary General, Simone Dudt contributed to the defining of CAE’s strategies, which from 2014 onwards included the implementation of an operational participatory model in order to foster synergies and create opportunities for broader partnerships, including other civil society actors. Using a metaphor, CAE will also function as a ‘public transport network’ to facilitate interconnections between organisations and with individuals, to foster convergence around common messages, to provide support in conveying them, to maximize the global impact of our messages and demands on public opinion and decision-making.

In 2014, the CAE Board met on the following occasions:

- 14 – 15 January 2013, Paix-Dieux, Belgium

Upon going on maternity-leave, Simone Dudt stepped down from the CAE Board.
CAE General Assembly
9-11 October 2014, Newcastle, UK

EMC Chair Ian Smith and Executive Director Julia Osada attended the 2014 CAE general assembly and annual conference titled *Beyond the Obvious: From Producing Things to Nurturing Social Capital*. The cities of Gateshead and Newcastle, united in their beliefs on the role culture can play in the regeneration of urban environments. Over three days, 180 participants, consisting of arts practitioners from across Europe and beyond, explored how culture develops social capital, and in particular the benefits of social exchange for the productivity of individuals and groups. Delegates addressed the critical questions:

How can the cultural sector in Europe:
» measure the impact of cultural activity?
» enable the cultural transformation of cities?
» devise new economic models for culture?

and also explored the role of networks in not only supporting but also shaping the arguments for arts and culture today. It is important for the EMC to be represented at such meetings of the European culture sector and engage in these debates.
High Level Coordination Group

In order to structure the European culture sector and to benefit from cross-arts perspectives and pooling of expertise and resources, the EMC joined forces with a number of European cultural networks, to merge plans, operations and communication in the short and long run; share/transfer existing and new knowledge; and advance common thematic initiatives. The following domains have been identified as areas for coordination: Culture in shaping sustainable societies, measuring the impact of the arts on society, new business and economic models & professional development, rights, arts and heritage education.

In 2014, the HLCG met on the following occasions:

» 26 February 2014, Brussels
» 7 July 2014, Brussels
» 10 September 2014, Paris

Due to many of the networks partaking in the initiative were not successful in securing Creative Europe network funding, many networks had to reprioritise their work-plans to the disadvantage of the group as a whole. Nevertheless, cooperation, meeting and exchange between members of the group started, and the planned comparative analysis of the network’s communication strategies commissioned, which paves the way for possible joint communication strategies between the networks from 2015 onwards.

Arts, Rights and Justice

In November 2014, the EMC was represented at the first meeting of the newly reformed ‘Arts, Rights and Justice’ working group (originally part of the Access to Culture platform, now hosted by Culture Action Europe) which aims at increasing the capacity of the culture sector to know and protect their rights, but also to encourage the arts and culture sector to engage with wider society in knowing, exercising, defending and protecting basic human rights. The first meeting was an opportunity to get to know the other organisations involved and learn some more about the theme of human rights abuse. A capacity building seminar and toolkit are planned for 2015.
Committee on European and international affairs, German Culture Council

Following a nomination from the German Music Council in 2013, EMC Secretary General Simone Dudt, joined the committee on European and international affairs of the German Culture Council (Deutscher Kulturrat) in 2013. The Committee explores European and international policies that have had an impact on culture. It prepares statements and proposes strategic guidelines, defining strategies on European and international issues for the German Culture Council. Through the involvement in this committee, EMC provides a voice for European matters in the German context.

Collaboration with the Music Industry

The EMC aims to reach out to all fields of the music sector, including the for-profit and music industries. For this it aims to participate and collaborate with music trade fairs and music festivals that normally reach out to the music industries. The aim is to create stronger links between the for-profit and non-profit music sector and to find commonalities for further actions, as well as increase representation of the music industry amongst the EMC membership.

In September 2014, EMC Executive Director Julia Osada was invited to present the European Music Council as a beneficiary of the Creative Europe programme at the Reeperbahn Festival in Hamburg, Germany.
Other conferences/ events

In order to stay informed about current developments in the European culture and music sector, the EMC participates in diverse meetings, conferences and seminars, to function as multiplier and to disseminate the information that was collected at these events. In 2014 the EMC had to scale back its presence at European events, however the EMC participated in the following meetings/events:

» Meeting of Secretaries General of European Networks
  5 – 7 February 2014, Valetta, Malta

» Reeperbahn Festival
  15 – 18 September 2014, Hamburg, Germany

» Green Events Europe
  3 November 2014, Bonn, Germany

» Creative Europe Kick-Off meeting
  10 November 2014, Brussels, Belgium

» Creativity and Innovation as Motors for Economic Growth:
  The Role of Culture and Territories
  19 November 2014, Brussels, Belgium
General Administration

The EMC Board meets regularly to provide governance to the EMC and development of EMC activities.

The EMC Executive Board consists of the Chairperson, Vice Chair and the Treasurer. In separate meetings they prepare the discussions and decisions for the overall Board. These meetings usually take place ahead of the general Board meetings.

EMC Board members 2012 – 2014:

» Stef Coninx, Chair,
  International Association of Music Information Centres (IAMIC), Belgium
» Christian Höppner, Vice Chair,
  German Music Council, Germany
» Ian Smith, Treasurer,
  Creative Scotland, Scotland
» Erling Aksdal,
  Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim, Norway
» Nenad Bogdanovic,
  Cultural Movement of Limassol Epilogi, Serbia/Cyprus
» Claire Goddard,
  European Union of Music Competitions for Youth (EMCY), UK/Germany
» Cathy Al-Ghabra,
  EMC Youth Committee, UK
» Helena Maffli-Nissinen,
  European Music School Union (EMU), Finnland/Switzerland
» Kaie Tanner,
  Estonian Choral Association, Estonia

Ex officio Board members:

» Silja Fischer,
  IMC Secretary General, Germany/France
» Paul Dujardin,
  IMC President, Belgium

Elections to the EMC Board were held at the Annual Meeting of Members in Bern, Switzerland in June 2014.

EMC Board 2014 – 2016:

» Ian Smith, Chair,
  Head of Music at Creative Scotland
» Stefano Kunz, Vice Chair,
  Managing Director Swiss Music Council
» Kaie Tanner, Treasurer,
  General Secretary Estonian Choral Association,
  Board member European Choral Association – Europa Cantat
» Nenad Bogdanovic,
  Executive Director Cyprus Symphony Orchestra Foundation
» Krzysztof Knittel,
  President Polish Music Council, Composer,
  Professor at Fryderyk Chopin Music University
» Willem van Moort,
  Director BplusC, Board member of the European Music School Union (EMU)
» Kostas Moschos,
  Director Institute for Research on Music & Acoustics, Treasurer International Association of Music Information Centres (IAMIC)
In 2014, the EMC Board met on the following occasions:

» 18 February 2014, Bonn, Germany (Executive Board Meeting)
» 1 – 3 May 2014, Neerpelt, Belgium
» 19 June 2014, Bern, Switzerland
» 27 – 29 October 2014, Bonn, Germany

Whereas the EMC is governed by an elected Board which defines the broad lines of actions and how to implement the strategies adopted by the membership, the implementation of the workplan and administration is coordinated by the EMC office staff in Bonn, Germany. Tasks of the EMC staff include: Reporting to public and private funders (including internal and external audit reports, preparing applications to public and private funding bodies, coordination of EMC activities, personnel management, office management, incl. database administration, dissemination of information, general communication.
Personnel

Personnel structure
until July 2014

Secretary General
In September 2009, the EMC Board decided that Ruth Jakobi and Simone Dudt should both be given the title of Secretary General. The two Secretary Generals are responsible for the management of the EMC and coordination of its activities, and all related tasks. In particular they are responsible for the important cultural political activity of the EMC as well as the representation of the EMC to external parties. Simone Dudt was made responsible for communication and cultural policy work, Ruth Jakobi was made responsible for development and finances. Ruth Jakobi has been on childcare leave since October 2010. Her current childcare leave end on 15 November 2015. In her absence, Simone Dudt leads the organisation as the sole Secretary General. Simone Dudt went on maternity leave on 31 July 2014.

Executive Officer
The Executive Officer supports the Secretary General in all her work, and this includes tasks which fall into the maternity-leave cover of the Secretary General Development and Finances. A university degree is required for this position as the role includes work on content. Furthermore, languages and administration skills are also desired. This full-time position was filled until July 2014 by Julia Osada.

Voluntary Social Year (FSJ Politik/Kultur)
The EMC has participated in this German national scheme since 2010. This one year programme offers a young school-leaver the opportunity to gain first hand experience working in a cultural and political organisation. This position was filled until June 2014 by Alexej Hutter. As of October 2014 the EMC volunteer is Laura Mettke.
Personnel Structure as of August 2014

Executive Director
Upon consultation with the EMC Board, the Executive Director is responsible for the running of the organisation. This includes: financial management, staff management, the preparation of content for Board meetings and EMC Annual Meetings of Members, external relations with the EU, UNESCO, other European networks i.e. HLCG, exchange with the International Music Council and its regional groups, as well as work on events and the Sounds in Europe magazine together with the Programme Manager. The position requires a high level of responsibility and experience in the mentioned areas. The position is currently filled by Julia Osada. The contract began in August 2014 and is limited to the length of Simone Dudt’s maternity leave (11 September 2015).

Programme Manager
The Programme Manager works closely with the Executive Director and is responsible for the following areas of work: members, communication and PR, the publication of Sounds in Europe, organisation of EMC events and conferences, the EMC Youth Committee, cultural policy, and representative duties. This position requires responsibility and experience in the mentioned areas. The programme manager is responsible for the implementation of the EMC activities. The position is currently filled by Till Skoruppa. The contract began in August 2014 and is limited to the length of Simone Dudt’s maternity leave (11 September 2015).
(NB. Contract since extended to September 2016).

Team Administrator
The Team Administrator supports the Executive Director with her tasks, such as office management and bookkeeping. A university degree is required for this position as the role includes work on content. Furthermore, languages and administration skills are also desired. This position is currently held by Marita Schaaser, and is limited to Simone Dudt’s maternity leave (31 October 2015).

In December 2014, Ruth Jakobi began working with the EMC team on projects on a ‘mini job’ contract.
Achievements 2014

The political work of the EMC in 2014 was strongly concerned with the elections to the European Parliament. The EMC played an active role in the implementation of the “Go Vote! Bring a Friend!” campaign aimed at lowering the abstention rate to the elections and reaching out to as many people as possible through the many European networks involved. The EMC also contributed to and disseminated an election toolkit, providing the broad public with useful information on the elections and endorsed a joint manifesto, coordinated by Culture Action Europe, to political decision-makers at EU-level. Following the elections to the EU Parliament, the EMC closely followed the debate surrounding the proposed candidate for the Commissioner of Education, Culture and Youth, Tibor Navracsics, and kept its members updated on all developments and discussions.

In June 2014 the EMC welcomed over 100 music practitioners from across Europe at the 4th European Forum on Music in Bern focusing on Music and Politics: a shared responsibility. The EMC invited Karel Bartak, Head of Culture, European Commission to the conference to take part in a panel discussion and to exchange on the specific needs of the music sector with the EMC members, board and staff.

The online communication, newsletter and social media targets were met with a significant number of new subscribers and followers on all channels.

The Youth in Action-funded Make Music! Be Heard! project ended in 2014. The project allowed the EMC to strengthen youth participation in its network. The experiences gained during the project have started a discussion and a process aimed at continuing the enhanced involvement of young professionals in the work of the EMC. Some changes and alterations of the youth strategy made in 2015 are direct reflections of some of the successes of the project.
The EMC has continued its interdisciplinary collaboration, taking part in events hosted by Culture Action Europe, and actively contributed to the *Working Group on Arts, Rights and Social Justice* and promoted the *Bonn Declaration*, which reemphasised the EMC’s ongoing commitment to the implementation of the 2005 UNESCO convention, and the UNESCO Seoul Agenda respectively.

The EMC has fulfilled its commitments to international partners, contributing to the *International Rostrum of Composers* and becoming a project partner in the new *Rostrum+* project, participation in meetings of the IMC Board, and fulfilling its commitments as a partner in the *African Music Development Programme*. In 2014, the EMC has also paved the way for strengthened dialogue and collaboration with the music industry, with a presentation of the European Agenda for Music in Europe at the *Frankfurt Music Fair* and of the EMC at the *Reeperbahn Festival* in Hamburg, Germany, identifying and establishing good contacts for more concrete actions in 2015.

The EMC’s difficult financial situation in 2014, resulting from the delayed receipt of the Creative Europe network grant (received in the first week of December), meant that a number of activities planned for 2014, particularly those involving travel, had to be scaled back, or moved to early 2015. Despite these challenges, the EMC team has been able to proceed with the work programme and the majority of activities planned have been delivered/are currently being delivered successfully. As 2014 has also seen significant changes in its personnel structure as well as the election of a new board, the time was effectively used to start discussions on future strategies for the EMC and to prepare some of the actions and initiatives for 2015 that directly reflect the visions of the new board and team.