Scope of the report
This report is based on the Social Reporting Standard and describes the activities of the European Music Council in the period 01/01/2020 to 31/12/2020. The seat of business is Haus der Kultur, Weberstr. 59a, 53113 Bonn.

The European Music Council is a membership organisation and a registered not for profit organisation under VR8162 at the Amtsgericht Bonn.

Questions about the report can be addressed at info@emc-imc.org.

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»The strength of the EMC continues to lie within its membership, who have so inspired and motivated me through my long association with the EMC.«

The central theme to the EMC 2020 activity report could prove to be survival. The entire music sector at every level has been hit very hard by the pandemic, with the first lockdowns taking place across Europe in March. We remember the terrifying effects of COVID-19 which are global and for many sadly continuing, even after vaccines have been made available. The EMC has, I believe, behaved in an exemplary manner in keeping our members not only informed, but through podcasts and members’ lounges engaged personally, albeit through Zoom to ensure that no-one was left out and everyone could contribute, sharing their experiences of best practice, both willingly and readily shared with colleagues. As I approached the end of my extended term as President of the EMC, I am confident that the new board elected in June 2021 will ensure that the strength of the EMC continues to lie within our membership, who have so inspired and motivated me through my long association with the EMC which I have been honoured to serve. This activity report will, I am sure, clearly outline how hard our team in Bonn has worked, mostly remotely, but with absolute vision, dedication, clarity and professionalism to ensure that the EMC can move forwards, retaining its position as one of Europe’s most significant and well regarded organisations for music and the wider arts sector. I hope that you will all enjoy reading this report and wish you well.

Kindest,

Ian Smith
President of the European Music Council

Who we are

The European Music Council (EMC) is a non-profit organisation dedicated to the development and promotion of all kinds of music in Europe. Music is a powerful driver of personal and societal growth, it can play an important role in society for identity, inclusion and the furthering of democratic principles.

What we do

The EMC serves European music organisations by converging the music sector’s many voices. The members specialise in fields such as education, creation, performance, documentation, management and publishing.

What we believe in

In line with the 5 Music Rights, established by the International Music Council, the EMC’s strategies and actions honour human and cultural rights such as:

- The right for all children and adults to express themselves in full freedom, to learn musical languages and skills and to have access to musical involvement through participation, listening, creation, and information. Furthermore the 5 Music Rights acknowledge the right for all musical artists to develop their artistry and communicate through all media, with proper facilities at their disposal and to obtain just recognition and fair remuneration for their work, creation, performance, documentation, management and publishing.

5 Music Rights

1. To express themselves musically in all freedom
2. To learn musical languages and skills
3. To have access to musical involvement through participation, listening, creation, and information
4. To develop their artistry and communicate through all media, with proper facilities at their disposal
5. To obtain just recognition and fair remuneration for their work
THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

- **15** EMC Members Lounges with **150** participants
- **15** meetings with the European Commission and Parliament
- **120** participants and **3000** streams at the online edition of the European Forum on Music
- **17** meetings with EU political stakeholders
- **13** letters to political stakeholders together with the wider cultural field
- **2** webinars

“To have a European organisation in my back is giving me more leverage in my advocacy work which is a great support!”
Joanna Grotkowska, Polish Music Council
The European Music Council voices the needs and interests of the music sector by bringing together representatives of European music networks and organisations of all fields. It has the necessary expertise and knowledge to act as a consultant and contribute to policy developments relating to music and culture. This has a structuring effect on the music field. The EMC serves as an influential advisory body for political decision makers when it comes to discussing music and its impact on a pan-European level.

The EMC provides exceptional value to European music organisations, as it provides practical knowledge and expertise, strengthens their competences and capacities, enables networking and as such contributes to the professionalisation and competitiveness of the music sector.

The European Music Council enhances communication and supports the exchange of information between stakeholders within the European music sector. It encourages cooperation between players in that sector and beyond by initiating and facilitating joint activities and partnerships. This will contribute to creating synergetic effects and internationalise the music sector.

The European Music Council professionalises the music sector through international exchange and dialogue with experts. The EMC strengthens the capacity of the music sector, e.g. through new business and management models, digital tools, advocacy work, etc. and encourages peer-to-peer learning. Through meetings, conferences and workshops the EMC creates and fosters synergy effects for the music sector. The aim is to provide an accurate overview of the music sector (via membership surveys and data collection) and empower the capacity of young professionals working in the music sector (through the EMC fellowship programme).

Through its initiative the “European Agenda for Music”, the EMC brings together, for the first time, representatives of the not-for-profit and the commercial sectors to speak with one voice. The EMC raises awareness for musical diversity and music as a societal and political factor, including new audiences, intercultural dialogue, music and migration/refugees and their cultural and creative influences. The EMC speaks in debates on the development of cultural policies in Europe and beyond in partnership with members, other cultural networks and partners, creating synergies with others active in cultural policy.

The EMC communicates about members’ activities, and the music and culture sector at large. Additionally the EMC develops and coordinates cooperative projects with different partners or participates in projects coordinated by members and partners. The EMC provides their members with possibilities to exchange with European and international networks from all artistic disciplines and promotes and contributes to the internationalisation of the music sector through participating in programmes and activities of the International Music Council.

### WHERE WE STAND

The European music sector is facing many challenges. Some of them need to be addressed by policy makers, for example through substantial investment or an effective copyright law to ensure fairer revenue streams for artists. However, as the music sector is very diverse, from music education to music business and amateur music, the challenges differ from sector to sector.

Another challenge is the constant need of new competencies and capacities, may it be in marketing, educational methods, project management or digitisation. Connecting beyond one’s national borders is another important aspect to ensure a thriving music sector.

### OUR STRATEGY

#### Activating the music sector

The European Music Council voices the needs and interests of the music sector by bringing together representatives of European music networks and organisations of all fields. It has the necessary expertise and knowledge to act as a consultant and contribute to policy developments relating to music and culture. This has a structuring effect on the music field. The EMC serves as an influential advisory body for political decision makers when it comes to discussing music and its impact on a pan-European level.

#### Strengthening the music sector

The EMC provides exceptional value to European music organisations, as it provides practical knowledge and expertise, strengthens their competences and capacities, enables networking and as such contributes to the professionalisation and competitiveness of the music sector.

#### Connecting with and beyond the music sector

The European Music Council enhances communication and supports the exchange of information between stakeholders within the European music sector. It encourages cooperation between players in that sector and beyond by initiating and facilitating joint activities and partnerships. This will contribute to creating synergetic effects and internationalise the music sector.
**INTENDED RESULTS**

Within the EMC membership, we converge the many voices from music stakeholders all over Europe and beyond. We find common challenges and facilitate exchange. Furthermore, we aim to provide a fertile ground for European cooperation projects.

In order for the music sector to thrive we communicate the boundaries music practitioners and cultural workers encounter to European political stakeholders, but also act towards national stakeholders together with our members.

We understand the European music sector to include all of the people, organisations and companies on the continent of Europe who contribute to or engage in a significant way with music: artist managers, booking agents, creators, conferences, composers, distributors, festivals, industry events, instrument makers, labels, musicians, performers, producers, promoters, publishers, researchers, sound engineers, technicians, teachers, trainers, music venue operators and more. This includes professionals (earning a living through this work) and non-professionals (engaging in music as a free-time activity).

Music has various positive effects on society. Music is more than an art form and, as such, is an important vehicle to a healthy civilisation.

Especially when it comes to transformational change music can be a strong pioneer; this is exceptionally impressive within cultural diplomacy, where music initiatives have the ability to unite even highly divided population groups.

The EMC is supporting its member organisations active in all those topics and furthermore inspires on the issues that concerns all of us.

**IMPACT LOGIC**

**INPUTS**
The EMC facilitates dialogue among members, the wider cultural sector and political stakeholders to discuss and find solutions on common problems. Furthermore the EMC gathers the interest of the music sector’s many voices and communicates those to policymakers. Additionally it gathers information on current important political developments and funding opportunities.

**OUTPUTS**
With the annual European Forum on Music the EMC provides an exceptional place to meet policymakers and possible cooperation partners throughout Europe. Its programme is based on the current challenges and provide inspirational speakers. Based on the exchange with its members the EMC provides tailor-made webinars and workshops with experts to strengthen the music sector. Furthermore, based on the voices of the music stakeholders the EMC provides statements to political decision makers.

**OUTCOMES**
The EMC has successfully built a bridge to EU institutions. As a regular expert in the European Commission’s stakeholder dialogue “Voices of Culture” and through statements to policymakers the EMC makes sure the needs of its members and the sector are being recognised and reflected in new funding schemes.

**IMPACTS**
The work of the EMC has led to a stronger voice of the music sector. A thriving music sector contributes significantly to a healthy society and further intercultural exchange. The societal environment benefits significantly as music is a driving force in many aspects such as personal wellbeing and health, cultural diversity, democratic values and economic growth to name just a few.
2020 was very challenging as the pandemic has especially hit the music sector hard, from the artistic to the venue sector and of course music education. However, it has also shown how important the sector is for our well being and to be able to have interactions.

Such as many other organisations the EMC transformed all activities into online formats.

Important policy developments for the EMC were the negotiations for the Multianual Financial Framework 2021-2027 and the place of music and culture in the future funding programmes, as well as support for the cultural sector during and after COVID-19. For this, the EMC further broadened its collaboration with stakeholders outside its network and even outside the music sector through joint statements, stakeholder online meetings and consultations. To provide special support for its members during the first months of the COVID-19 pandemic, the EMC offered weekly online lounges for its member organisations to exchange on current developments and provide update and expertise. The EMC also started the new Podcast “Music Webs. Weaving connections and untangling cultural policy in Europe”.

Even though the COVID-19 crisis struck the EMC heavily – as all culture networks in Europe worldwide – the EMC managed to change formats of events, increased communication with members and partners for mutual support and quickly adapted to new remote working modes when needed. This was only possible as the EMC has enough staff members which is also the biggest cost unit of its financial cost structure.
Typically an outdoor event in the UK by making simple changes can reduce their fuel bill by 40%.

Chris Johnson, Vision 2025

European Forum on Music

The European Forum on Music scheduled for June 2020 in Bonn, Germany, was transferred to the “EFM Online Series”, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The EMC developed new online formats to address the topic of climate change and the music sector. The intention was not to transfer the entire conference into an online meeting but rather to develop specific formats for certain elements to find the best way to bring the topic to music sector stakeholders, policymakers and the cultural and creative sector in general.

The first event took place on 5 June 2020, World Environmental Day, and was livestreamed on Facebook with 3,274 views. The panel discussion brought together musical artists with an ecological agenda and political decision makers from the EU, such as Mariya Gabriel and Sabine Verheyen, to debate on the framework conditions for artists and their audience. To celebrate and honour Beethoven’s 250th anniversary, the panel was organised in cooperation with BTHVN 2020 and was part of the Beethoven Pastoral Project. We thank both additional funders for the event, the EMC member NAMM and BTHVN, for their financial contribution.

The second part of the “EFM Online Series” was a workshop organised in cooperation with GO Group and the Green Music Initiative. On 18 June 2020, the EMC invited their members and all interested music stakeholders to discover and discuss initiatives and ways of transforming the music sector towards a more environmentally sustainable one. This session was organised in cooperation with GO Group and the Green Music Initiative. 130 participants met online to learn about circular economy, reducing carbon footprint, reducing energy, the digital shift and the SDG’s.

Fiona Pelham from Positive Impact Events, Linnea Svensson from the Greener Events Foundation, Chris Johnson from Powerful Thinking, Chiara Badiali from Julie’s Bicycle and Wolfgang Bergmann from Arte highlighted why music is a driver for change – from United Nations Sustainable Development Goals to creative climate action and insights on the digital learning curve in pandemic times.

Also, the EMC gathered projects of its members and its members’ members dedicated to environmental issues. A summary can be found on the website of the EMC. Furthermore, a Conference Reader was developed and is available online. It provides further reading on the topics discussed.
Webinar on Cultural Policy:
The Multiannual Financial Framework of the EU

The European Music Council (EMC) was happy to organise once more an online training opportunity on 6 February 2020.

This webinar enabled the participants to further understand cultural policy on an EU level. We talked about the negotiations on the next long-term budget of the EU, the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2021-2027: What is the proposal? How are the negotiations going? What does all of this mean for Creative Europe and EU cultural funding in general?

We also took a closer look at the advocacy work of the cultural and creative sector on this issue.

EMC Members Lounges

Since April, the EMC has organised weekly online meetings with its members. These “EMC Lounges” were informal in nature and provided a room for exchange and give members a very direct opportunity to voice their concerns and challenges caused by COVID-19. For the EMC, it provided a better understanding of the needs of the sector – especially those of the EMC members. The International Music Council (IMC) has taken on the example of these Lounges to also offer them to other Regional Groups of the IMC in Africa, the Three Americas and Asia.

As a response to the needs voiced by their members, the EMC offered a lounge with a special focus on online tools. Mary Luehrsen, NAMM, presented music education online tools and NAMM webinars. Sonja Greiner, European Choral Association, presented the tool “Digital Stage”. Till Skoruppa and Philippe Dalarun, European Music School Union, presented the outcomes of a survey they made on online music education tools in Europe and Barbara Revelli, European League of Institutes of the Arts, presented management tools and the feedback process, incl. general remarks on online teaching. The recording can be found on the EMC website.

Another lounge focusing on a special topic was on surveys on the impact of COVID-19 on the music sector. Some EMC members have conducted surveys within their membership. The surveys of Plate-Forme Interrégionale, IMZ International Music + Media Centre and IAML International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres were presented. The EMC together with the International Music Council conducted as well a world-wide survey of which it reported from.

As for the EMC survey, most of the reactions were related to restrictions of work and financial difficulties in the future. The political measures with financial aid were suitable in some countries to mitigate the effects but overall not to ensure a viable future. It is however challenging to collect this information because the sector is very diverse and fragmented. A lot of uncertainties remain with the renewal of performances but also in music education some difficulties and inequalities rose as they shifted to online lessons. Songwriters and composers expect a decrease in income especially in 2021 as their royalties will decrease due to cancelled performances and events this year. Music publishers have also been selling fewer music sheets and international cooperation has been impacted negatively. The recording can be found on the EMC website.
**The European Agenda for Music**

As in most cases (except for German) the EMC has not provided the translations but rather supported its members in providing translations. The response from members has shown that there is a need to translate the EAM to help with dissemination on a national, regional and local level. Having an international definition of long-term strategies gave EMC members more leverage at their national policy work. The translation into German has been finished in February 2020. The EMC is in exchange with additional member organisations to facilitate the translation into other languages.

**Dissemination of the EAM**

The EAM was distributed throughout the music sector across Europe or described at the following events:
- Bundesfachausschuss Musikwirtschaft, January 2020
- Eurosonic, January 2020
- Webinar EU cultural policy, February 2020
- ECSA Creators Conference, February 2020
- Collaboration meeting of Flemish and Wallonian Music Councils and “Kunstenpunt”, February 2020
- REMA members meeting, online, June 2020

National EMC member organisations, e.g. in Poland, Latvia, Belgium & Czech Republic have successfully used the EAM for their advocacy work and as door opener for conversations with policymakers. It shows, that the EAM is an effective tool for policy work.

**New developments of the European Agenda for Music**

A meeting of a new EAM working group initially scheduled for March 2020 in Brussels had to be postponed because of the pandemic and was held online in September 2020. As for the European Agenda for Music it was agreed to add a chapter regarding COVID-19 but not change the current text of the EAM, as it is still valid. The group also discussed to reflect other topics in the EAM: environmental sustainability, gender equality, and especially freedom of expression are important issues currently.

**Structured Dialogue: Voices of Culture**

As laid down in its overall strategy, the EMC proactively seeks dialogue with the bodies of the European Union to present the interest and challenges of the European music sector. As part of its commitment, the EMC continued its involvement in the Structured Dialogue with the European Commission and took part in the consultations held in the frame of “Voices of Culture”.

In 2020, the EMC successfully applied to the structured dialogue “Culture and the Sustainable Development Goals: Challenges and Opportunities” as the EMC has focused on 3 SDG topics in an Erasmus+-funded project as well as during the EFM Online Workshop in June 2020.

**Music Moves Europe**

The EMC has been actively involved in the Music Moves Europe framework for example in advocating for a sector specific funding for the music sector, which was then integrated into the new Creative Europe programme starting in 2021.

The EMC has disseminated the calls for proposals of the Preparatory Action in newsletters and social media and is in regular exchange with Creative Europe Desks in different countries about the opportunities Music Moves Europe (MME) offers. Several EMC members have submitted project proposals in the MME calls, some of them with successful applications.

The EMC website features a special page regarding the European support scheme „Music Moves Europe“. Here all details are explained and developments summarised. In the EMC Members Lounges, the members often turned to the EMC to ask for advice regarding the EU funding measures. At the Bundesfachausschuss Musikwirtschaft organised by the German Music Council the EMC participated as a speaker to inform about the MME calls.

The EU has also launched an innovative support scheme for a sustainable music ecosystem under the Music Moves Europe scheme. In preparation the EMC initiated several online meetings with European and international music networks.

**Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and Next Generation EU**

The EMC was closely following the debate about the next MFF, in particular the future Creative Europe programme and has been very outspoken – along with other organisations from the cultural sector – to increase the budget of the programme to better satisfy the high demand. Together with other cultural networks and organisations the EMC has published eight statements highlighting the importance of an appropriate EU budget for culture. Beyond the cultural sector, the EMC also collaborated on joint statements with networks from the creative industries and the audiovisual sector. This includes collaborating on a joint letter bringing together artists from many cultural fields including Björk, Jean-Michel Jarre, Benny Andersson and 5 Music Rights Champion Dame Evelyn Glennie. The statement featured also artists from the non-musical sector for example the writers Nina George and Sebastian Fitzek and the performance artist Marina Abramovic to name just a few.

In view of the German Presidency in the second half of 2020, the European and the German Music Council issued a joint statement stressing the need for more financial support for the cultural sector on EU level that better reflects the importance of culture for international exchange, strengthening civil society, democracy and peace.

As a result of the many voices advocating for a higher EU budget for culture - including the EMC and its members - the EU adopted the highest Creative Europe budget ever.
EMC in Stakeholder Consultation of the European Parliament

On 5 June 2020, the EMC was one of 16 cultural networks invited to a Stakeholder Consultation of the Culture and Education Committee in the European Parliament on Creative Europe. In the exchange with the Creative Europe rapporteur Massimiliano Smeriglio and the shadow rapporteurs, the EMC highlighted crucial aspects for the future Creative Europe programme. One of the main concerns of the EMC was the overall budget of the programme but also the access of small and micro organisations. The EMC, therefore, highlighted the need to raise the co-funding rate of the EU and to ease rules on the financial capacity, which was implemented in the new Creative Europe programme starting in 2021.

The EMC participated as well in other stakeholder consultations such as for the resolution on Greening Creative Europe and Erasmus+. Silja Fischer, Secretary General of the International Music Council, represented the EMC on how to green the future Creative Europe, Erasmus+ and Solidarity Corps programmes highlighting how they could be used to contribute to the wider environmental objectives and contribute to the European Green Deal.

EU policy work together with EMC members

In 2020 the EMC has provided model letters that members can use to advocate on behalf of the music sector on national level. The main action in this field was the request to national governments to include support to culture in their COVID-19 recovery programmes.

Collaboration with UNESCO

Through the International Music Council (IMC), the voice of EMC was represented at the Summit of Ministers of Culture (April 2020) at UNESCO.

EMC’s commitment towards access to quality music education was echoed in meetings of the IMC with the UNESCO Secretariat, taking into account a renewed intersectoral approach to arts education within the UN agency.

In May 2020, IMC organised an online debate in the framework of the UNESCO ResiliArt movement, featuring the UNESCO Assistant Director General for Culture, Ernesto Ottone, next to the four IMC Music Rights Champions. The debate under the title “Five Music Rights in Action – more than ever!” was moderated by IMC President Alfons Karabuda.

The EMC was represented through the IMC in the 13th session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, which was held at UNESCO headquarters in Paris from 11 to 14 February 2020. It was a key occasion for Parties to the Convention, intergovernmental organisations, non-governmental organisations and UNESCO Chairs to exchange ideas and experiences regarding the implementation of the 2005 Convention and to examine the application of the operational guidelines. The IMC contributed to a series of civil society interventions and made a presentation related to fair remuneration for artists, notably in the digital realm.

The EMC’s voice was represented through IMC’s engagement in the #culture2030goal campaign which issued in April 2020 a statement “Ensuring culture fulfils its potential in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic”. The statement is driven by the campaign’s commitment to the 2030 Agenda and the need to guarantee culture is at the heart of the UN Decade of Action for the SDGs. The IMC co-organised and participated in a side event “Culture – an accelerator under-used? Realising the potential of culture for short-term and long-term sustainable development”, which took place in the context of the UN High Level Political Forum in July 2020. UNESCO was represented by its Assistant Director General for Culture. This event discussed the role of culture in supporting resilience in the face of COVID-19, building back better, and strengthening long-term sustainable development.
Through professionalisation activities such as the webinar on the Multiannual Financial Framework of the EU the EMC aims to increase the capacity of its members. Providing a model letter for national advocacy work for its members but eventually also for anyone interested as it was disseminated via the public newsletter, has proven to be a great facilitator on national advocacy. The current EU matters were explained which also helped to stress what action needs to be done. Since it is up to each Member State if and how they want to make use of the EU instruments, reaching out to national decision makers through EMC members was an important tool.

Due to COVID-19 the 2020 Annual Meeting of Members, scheduled originally to take place in early June in Bonn, Germany, in the frame of the European Forum on Music, was postponed to early September 2020 and transformed into an online format. The EMC organised this members’ meeting to report on the activities in the past year and to allow a huge number of members to e-meet and exchange.

From Staff Exchange Programme to Online Lounges

The Staff Exchange Programme aims to increase professional development within the music sector. It allows the EMC members to get an insight into how similar organisations are run, to exchange on shared problems, to develop new collaborations and more.

The Staff Exchanges scheduled for spring 2020 had to be cancelled due to COVID-19. Instead, the EMC started to offer weekly informal online lounges to the EMC members to provide a different format for them to meet and exchange.

The informal EMC Lounges started by the EMC in early April 2020 and taking place at first on a weekly basis have served as an important new format for member organisations to exchange and learn from each other. This format helped to increase the professional development of the EMC membership.

EMC Fellowship Programme

The EMC Fellowship Programme offers emerging professionals working in the field of music an opportunity to internationalise their careers and develop professionally. The 2nd round of emerging professionals started their Fellowship in June 2018 at the European Forum on Music in Oslo. Their tenure continued until spring 2020.

In a survey they were asked to provide feedback. They stated that it was valuable to get to know how an international organisation is set up and run. Also, the European Forum on Music in 2018 and the World Forum on Music in 2019 were seen as very inspirational and helpful to learn how to network with unknown musical stakeholders. The Fellows were also invited to participate in the online lounges for EMC members and in the EFM online series.

“In total I have gained a great overview of the music sector mostly on the European level, which has empowered my professional confidence and improvement. Through my participation in the fellowship programme I had great networking opportunities. This allowed me to meet very interesting and creative people, some of them I consider as future partners and collaborators.”

Iro Menegou, EMC Fellow 2018-2020

»I have come across new projects and ideas, adopting many new practices«

Showcase European Agenda for Music, Warsaw, 2019

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

EMC Fellows 2020-2021
In June 2020 seven new Fellows out of 34 applications were chosen for the next two years, the 3rd round of the Fellowship Programme. 3 more Fellows were accepted that were sponsored by the Dutch Performing Arts Society. A joined welcome online meeting together with former EMC Fellows was the kick-off. This was a great opportunity to let the new Fellows know how to get best involved and as such make the most out of their Fellowship Programme. The programme offered to take part in the online EMC members lounges, the EFM online sessions and the online Annual Meeting in September 2020.

Additionally, the EMC organised a Winter School on International Cooperations.

The new fellows are:
- Aleksandra Bajde (AT/SI)
- Merel Cuperus (NL)
- Anete Goldmane (LV)
- Christine Halsall (UK)
- Sari Löytynoja (FI)
- Alberto Palacín Fernández (ES)
- Guillermo Rodríguez Rodríguez (DE/ES)
- Daniel de Keizer (NL)
- Ruben Timmer (NL)
- Andrea Voets (NL)

COMMUNICATION

Music World News eBulletin

Launched in 2014, the Music World News eBulletin (MWN) 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; and the Pointy End. MWN resembles a reader’s digest offering the best from the international press. It contains news items in English, French and Spanish.

The Music World News provides an already well-established tool for reaching a large audience. Statistics show that almost half of the subscribers read the newsletter regularly, clicking on the proposed links and forward it to their mailing list.

Videos

Six videos have been produced from EMC activities to better illustrate and document the outputs of the work, they can be found on the EMC website and Youtube:
- A Webinar on EU Cultural Policy & the MFF
- The EMC Members Lounge on Online Tools
- The EMC Members Lounge on Covid-19 & Surveys
- The EFM Online Panel Discussion on Music & Climate Change
- The EFM Online Workshop on Music & Sustainability
- An explainer video on what to expect from the SHIFT project

The EMC Podcast

The EMC has developed a podcast. Each episode features either a specific topic of the European music sector such as gender equality or climate change or it showcases stakeholders from the sector across Europe to share their experiences. The format of the podcast gives the EMC visibility and new distribution channels such as Soundcloud, Deezer, iTunes and Mixcloud, potentially bringing these topics to new audiences.

Episode 1 was on "Corona, solidarity and the digital cage". Together with Silja Fischer (IMC) and Giambattista Tofoni from Europe Jazz Network Simone Dudt (EMC) talked about the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic for the jazz field and Italy in particular, solidarity in Europe, how to endure the crisis with live concerts still being rare and musicians as well as the "invisible" workers of the music sector struggling for survival. The music for the intro and outro was commissioned by the EMC and composed by Moritz Eggert.
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 in and collaborate with music trade fairs and music festivals. The aim is to create stronger links between the for-profit and non-profit music sector.

At Eurosonic, 15-18 January 2020 in Groningen, the Netherlands, the EMC was invited to speak in a panel discussion about Music Moves Europe.

Taking place online on 19 May 2020, the EMC was invited to participate as a mentor in an Online Mentoring session for the Classical Next conference which was extended to a second online session due to the high demand.

As a result of joint initiatives within the music sector such as preparations for Music Moves Europe or the European Agenda for Music have led to several joint policy statements with a wide range of stakeholders. The EMC will continue contributing to these actions. Especially the situation of COVID-19 has accelerated the joined activities with the wider music sector. An extensive list of statements can be found on the EMC website.

Cooperation with European and International Networks

The EMC encourages cultural cooperation among its members and beyond. It is an active member of Culture Action Europe through which it collaborates with organisations from other artistic disciplines as well as with sectors beyond the culture field (research, education, social inclusion).

The joint advocacy work and informal exchange with other European and International Networks has heavily increased during the pandemic crisis. The EMC has worked on several joint statements and letters directed at EU institutions regarding the situation of the cultural and creative sector. This cooperation will only increase as the long-term effects of this situation on the sector become more and more visible.

The EMC is a member of Culture Action Europe (CAE) and is very involved in contributing to CAE’s policy and advocacy work in particular through the participation of three advocacy brainstorming sessions in June/July 2020 on “Culture, Sustainability & the Environment”, “Culture and Working & Living Conditions”, as well as “Culture and Well-being”. Especially for joined European cultural policy work there has been a close collaboration.
The mission of MOST is to boost the music market of the Balkans, by connecting and supporting actors of the world music scene; artists, managers, festivals and institutions.

MOST – Bridge for Balkan Music

MOST is a Creative Europe co-funded large cooperation project, coordinated by Hangvető in which the EMC is a partner together with seven further organisations. The aim of the project is to boost the music market of the Balkans by connecting and supporting actors of the world music scene. The EMC is one of the partners involved in the “urban policies” pillar, in which nine participants from the Balkans were selected in an open call who are looking to transform or bring change to their local or regional community. They participated in a series of training sessions co-organised by the EMC about advocacy and networking. The sessions examined regional and local development policies and what can be learned from the European Agenda for Music for joint advocacy work. Because of the pandemic, the trainings that were foreseen to take place in the framework of several music events in the Balkans, had to take place online.

Creative SHIFT

The project Creative SHIFT is a pilot action coordinated by the Börsenverein des Deutschen Buchhandels and co-funded by the European Union. It brings like-minded people from the creative industries together and paves the way for new innovative ideas that all content sectors can benefit from.

The unique network consists of people from all over the EU with different backgrounds in content creation - from startup founders and game developers, publishers and authors, performing artists, festival organisers, animators and film producers, investors, university professors, accelerators and many more.

The first activity of the project, the kick-off event where all the partners met for the first time, was coordinated by the EMC. This meeting was followed by several further online meetings needed to adapt the whole project to an online format. After having started communicating the project during the summer 2020, a community of mixed representatives from all the creative sectors and several consortium partners was quickly built up and offered first webinars: “The Franco-German co-production market for video games” and “The Gaming Industry” organised by SpielFabrique, “Introduction to the contemporary music business” organised by Music Innovation Hub and “Book industry know-how” organised by the Börsenvereinsgruppe. Throughout October, there were several events taking place in the frame of the Frankfurt Book Fair, where the different challenges were introduced to the public.
What is SHIFT?

SHIFT – Shared Initiatives For Training – is a project co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union from December 2019 to January 2022. The European Music Council (EMC) is the project coordinator and collaborates with eight cultural networks: European Choral Association - Europa Cantat (ECA-EC), European Union of Music Competitions for Youth (EMCY), European League of Institutes of the Arts (ELIA), FACE, International Network for Contemporary Performing Arts (IETM), International Music Council (IMC), on the move and Trans Europe Halles.

These networks recognised the need to join forces to work on the global agenda of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals and its leaders wished to improve their capacity for giving guidance to their teams, organisations and members. It was asked how to tackle the global challenges recognised in the SDGs such as climate change, gender equality and inclusion of minorities. Through the overarching work on cultural leadership, the partners aim to provide information and share various ways of leading and supporting change.

All material produced for the SHIFT project - guidelines, annotated bibliographies and fact sheets - are available on www.shift-culture.eu and in the online database Artsmetric developed by Trans Europe Hall.

The resources gathered provide many different insights. In the following you will find some spot lights on the topics that have been developed in collaboration with the 9 project partners.

Environmental Sustainability

A strong cultural leadership will also aid for environmental mitigation and adaption. The annotated bibliography developed under the lead of ELIA provides key resources, literature, and inspiring examples for the development of environmentally sustainable practices in the arts.

Measuring one’s carbon emissions, for instance, is one of the very first steps. To reduce CO2 emissions and to efficiently keep track of your efforts the partners have developed Fact Sheets that will guide you through the many different carbon calculators and give practical advise.

If you would like to learn more on how to take the environment into account in your daily work, browse through the resources gathered in the knowledge base on the SHIFT website. Here you will find inspiring examples for international organisations, event managers and other cultural players: learn how to engage your audience about green travel, become a green theatre or a waste-free festival!

Gender and Power Relations

SHIFT partner IETM is leading the research on gender and power relations. According to the Policy Brief on Sexual Harassment in the Entertainment Industry, a new study published in November 2020 by the International Labour Organization (ILO), little has changed in the past few years:

«A MORE INTEGRATED APPROACH IS NEEDED, ENCOMPASSING INTERNATIONAL LABOUR STANDARDS ON EMPLOYMENT AND OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH.»

Sexual harassment remains a significant concern in the entertainment industry, which includes performing arts, music and other live performance sectors. Individuals in this sector are particularly exposed to sexual harassment due to the sector’s structure and underlying gender imbalances. Moreover, the study notes that there is a persistent gender pay gap, and that job insecurity is higher for women, especially women of colour.

The partners of the SHIFT project are convinced that for a substantial change the focus needs to move away from victims to structures. A first collection of resources can be found on the SHIFT website. These shall be completed by qualitative interviews and key findings in the course of the project.

Inclusion

The topic of inclusion can be overwhelming at first. Under the leadership of the European Choral Association - Europa Cantat the SHIFT partners have gathered incredible resources, such as easy checklists, to guarantee you are inclusive in your events, manuals on inclusive communication and inspiration on diverse initiatives and organisations.

However, there is no one-size-fits-all for inclusion, whether in the cultural and creative sectors or anywhere else. Fostering inclusion is an active process, not a passive state. It is about consistently paying attention to what we are doing and to how we are behaving. It is about questioning our actions and principles. Most importantly, it is about being open to listening, to changing and to improving.

Cultural Leadership

Under the lead of Trans Europe Halles the partners have developed an annotated bibliography on the topic of cultural leadership. While the term is widely used, yet there is no common understanding of the concept. From mapping the meanings to different approaches to practical toolkits, the partners have gathered resources that allows for applying the right concept to your organisation.

Find out more on how to transform an organisation through diminishing management hierarchy, yet safeguarding clear accountability, authority and agility.

...
The pandemic of COVID-19 will still keep the EMC in its grasp in 2021. The pandemic has shown the systemic challenges of the music sector including a specific working environment with a lot of self-employment, short-term contracts, multiple jobs etc. Despite the fact that the societal relevance of the cultural sector is widely acknowledged, musical activities such as concerts, festivals, collective singing, band or orchestra practice, clubbing and music education in or out of schools, are at risk of being stigmatised as “dangerous” for your health because of the Covid-19 Crisis.

The EMC plans the 2021 edition of the European Forum on Music as full-fledge online conference that shall address these issues and intends to claim a front row seat for music and society. As participants come from different European countries the EMC decided to rather have an online meeting.

In 2021, the EMC plans to have a closer look at the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). At the one hand, the music sector still have a lot to learn to improve its own activities with regards to the SDGs at the other hand, music and culture have a lot to offer to raise awareness for the SDGs and to implement change towards a more sustainable and fair society.

Climate Change

In the coming years the EMC will further look at how to minimise its ecological footprints and provide advice to other cultural organisations. The SHIFT project will give a significant contribution to reducing one’s carbon footprint with guidelines designed for cultural organisations. They will entail environmental sustainability standards regarding travel, accommodation, venue, catering, materials, office use and carbon footprint budgeting, as well as awareness building measures. Adherence to the guidelines would entail a data-driven bi-annual external audit and annual refresher trainings.

Inclusion, diversity and gender equality

Inclusion, diversity, and gender equality will be important topics in the coming years for the EMC. Inclusive processes need to be established in the team, board, membership and audience to serve the very diverse European population and diminish inequalities on the continent and beyond. The foundations of these transforming processes are developed within the SHIFT project (see previous page). The focus is on how to diversify the governance, communications, recruitment processes, policies and projects of cultural organisations, as well as holding more inclusive events. Gender inequality will be tackled by implementing change as proposed in the best practice examples collected by the SHIFT partners on the topic of (sexual) harassment in the workplace. The EMC will also join forces together with Keychange to bring the topic further to attention. Keychange aims to accelerate change and create a better, more inclusive music industry for present and future generations.

Letter to the European Commission and Member States: Culture in the Recovery and Resilience Facility

»Culture has always been a vibrant social resource, able to heal wounds in times of crisis. Culture carries tremendous intrinsic value and contributes significantly to the economy, with 4.2% of the EU GDP and 7.4 million jobs created.«
**OUR NETWORK**

The EMC actively works on expanding its membership and regularly welcomes new music organisations into its network.

In 2020 the EMC welcomed the following new members:

- **TRIB’ART (RO)**
- **BULGARIAN MUSIC ASSOCIATION (BG)**
- **BOZAR (BE)**
- **SOUND DIPLOMACY (ES/UK)**

**“The EMC membership allows me to connect to European organisations in an exceptional way. I co-hosted an EMC workshop which gave me the opportunity to invite many networks to meet for the first time, half of them EMC members and half of them French networks.”**

Stéphane Grosclaud, Plate-Forme interrégionale

**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. All EMC members must demonstrate that they consent to the IMC’s position on the 5 Music Rights. They must be governed democratically and offer services to their members and/or to the community at large.

**National Music Councils**

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.

**National/ Specialised Music Organisations**

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 European music organisation or National Music Council, can be accepted as an organisational member of the IMC/EMC.

**European / International Music Organisations**

European and International Music Organisations are membership organisations focusing on a specific field within the music sector, either on European or on international level. A European music organisation must be mainly operating in Europe and have members or musical activities in a minimum of 20% of the European countries. The number of its voting members outside Europe should not exceed three.

Conducting actions to help their members, these organisations are also gathering important policy positions to advance the welfare of the specific area or musical activity. Each field within the music sector requires special attention and policy work to decision makers and international institutions such as UNESCO or the European Union.
OUR ORGANISATION

Whereas the EMC is governed by an elected Board which defines the broad lines of actions based on the strategies adopted by the membership, the implementation of the work plan and administration is coordinated by the EMC office staff in Bonn, Germany. Tasks of the EMC staff include: Concept and coordination of EMC activities, budget planning, personnel management, internal and external communication, financial administration, reporting to public and private funders (including internal and external audit reports), preparing applications to public and private funding bodies, office management, including database administration and dissemination of information. For particular tasks such as design or translations and proofreading the EMC occasionally hires freelancers. The EMC membership elects an internal auditor who checks the EMC accounts annually with regards to the statutory use of the EMC funds. The EMC bookkeeping is also checked regularly by an external auditor.

EMPLOYED PERSONNEL

In September 2009, the EMC Board implemented a dual leadership scheme with Ruth Jakobi and Simone Dudt as Secretaries General. The two Secretaries General 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. Both are working 65% of a full-time position.

Secretaries General

The Policy Advisor works closely with the Secretaries General and advises them on current policy developments, mainly on EU level. The tasks include drafting policy statements, co-drafting policy statements with members and strategic partners, and contributing to EMC’s internal and external communication in various media channels (Twitter, Facebook, newsletters, website). The position is currently filled by Katharina Weinert.

Policy Advisor

The Project Officer supports the Secretaries General with their tasks, especially concerning the implementation of special projects, events and its communication. Currently the Project Officer is in charge of coordinating the Erasmus+ project SHIFT, which requires both extensive language and administration skills. This position is currently held by Carolyn Auclair.

Project Officer

The Team Administrator supports the Secretaries General with their tasks such as office management and bookkeeping. This position is currently held by Tanja Huthwelker. Tanja is working 60% of a full-time position.

Office Administrator

The Communication Officer supports the Secretaries General in implementing the EMC communication strategy. Tasks include the release of newsletters and members news, design for print material and the EMC website. The Communication Officer also significantly contributes to the external communication for EMC’s coordination projects. This position is currently held by Isabel Jordan on a 50% basis of a full-time position.

Communication Officer

The Communication Officer supports the Secretaries General in implementing the EMC communication strategy. Tasks include the release of newsletters and members news, design for print material and the EMC website. The Communication Officer also significantly contributes to the external communication for EMC’s coordination projects. This position is currently held by Isabel Jordan on a 50% basis of a full-time position.

Communication Trainee

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

The EMC Executive Board consists of the President, Vice President 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.

The EMC Board in 2020 were:

- Ian Smith, President, Live Music Now Scotland
- Victoria Liedbergius, Vice President, European Choral Association - Europa Cantat
- Willem van Moort, Treasurer, European Music School Union
- Eirik Birkeland, Association Européenne des Conservatoires
- Joanna Grotkowski, Polish Music Council
- Audrey Guerre, Live DMA
- Michalis Karakatsanis, International Association of Music Information Centres
- David Zsoldos, Hungarian Music Council

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INTERNAL CONTROL SYSTEM

The EMC has an internal evaluation system for each of its events, using questionnaires to receive feedback from the participants. Regular membership consultation via questionnaires or within the Annual Meeting guarantee that the overall work of the EMC is constantly monitored by others.

The EMC continued to work with MusiQue (Music Quality Enhancement) of the European Association of Conservatoires (AEC) as an external evaluator which stated that it became imminent that especially the EMC members lounges with 15-20 participants each has been found extremely useful to our members. The small number of participants has provided an intimate safe place for members to share their struggles but also their solutions. Regular bilateral email and phone contact with members have been appreciated a lot by the members.

The EMC has laid out its expected results in three activity areas:

- **ACTIVATING THE MUSIC SECTOR**
- **STRENGTHENING THE MUSIC SECTOR**
- **CONNECTING WITH AND BEYOND THE MUSIC SECTOR**

In all three, important achievements have been made. The overall analysis of the work of the EMC was very positive and very constructive advices were given for improvement in the future. The EMC will do its best to implement these advices.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL PROFILE

The EMC developed guidelines and recommendations for offices. These recommendations can be found on the EMC’s website. An important step will also be the shift to green electricity. As the EMC’s work requires a lot of travel within Europe, the EMC has explored green travelling more. While travelling by train has been a usual habit for shorter distances already, the EMC has started to consider travelling by train also for longer distances. Since the EMC is not allowed to donate because of its legal status, off-setting is not an option. In the coming years the EMC will also take a closer look at its digital waste management.

Gender issues have been an important topic at the European Music Council, both as part of their policy work and within their own administration. The European Agenda for Music made it clear, that power positions in the music sector are distributed unequally, which was also the case for the EMC. However, the EMC team and board worked intensively to raise awareness in its organisation, which has led to a significant rise in female board candidacies and ultimately more female board members. The EMC office faces a different challenge: it is since several years now an all-female office. For each job offer the EMC is eager to consider male applicants, but female applications are significantly higher.

As for the wider music sector the EMC has signed the Keychange pledge to promote female artists and music business professionals.

Due to the European political calendar and COVID-19, 2020 was particularly intense in terms of actions and statements.

> »Due to the European political calendar and COVID-19, 2020 was particularly intense in terms of actions and statements.«

> »The reviewed material gives evidence of continuity in the EMC’s contacts with the music industry sector Participation and input of the EMC to relevant events, as well as joint policy statements extend the EMC’s cooperation partners to a wider range of stakeholders. The EMC can be congratulated for having taken up the challenge to bridge the gap between for-profit and non-profit music sectors.«

Helena Mafli, European Association of Conservatoires
INCOME

The main sources of income for EMC’s core activities are public. 45% from the European Union, 21% from the German Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and Media and 1% from the City of Bonn. Further to this, the EMC is involved in different cooperation projects that are co-funded through various EU funding programmes (Creative Europe, Erasmus+, pilot actions). This makes up 23% of the income. Membership fees bring in 8% and income through events cover 2%, including contributions by sponsors.

EXPENDITURES

As the EMC implements many activities “in house”, the biggest portion of expenditures covers staff costs, 65%. In terms of travel expenditures, 2020 was a particular year as due to the pandemic travelling completely stopped with the lockdown starting mid-March 2020 in Germany. Therefore, only 3% were spent for travels. 10% of administration costs include office rent, equipment, software and consumables as well as training for team members. The amount spent on communication (costs for webhosting, design, printing and translations) makes up 3% of the total expenditures. 20% are spent on cooperation projects.

Financial Management and planning

The EMC’s accounting is executed with a professional bookkeeping system by the office manager. The Secretaries General monitor the accounting and are responsible for budget planning, including for projects. The project officer assists the Secretaries General on supervising the costs related to projects. The Board and the internal auditor control the financial management of the EMC.
SNAPSHOTS ON MUSIC AND HERITAGE

What does music have to do with cultural heritage? Antique sites, temples, beautiful churches, bridges, houses, historic city centres, decorated with a heritage label, such as UNESCO world heritage sites, are often the first associations with the term cultural heritage.

When in 2018, the EU celebrated the European Year of Cultural Heritage (EYCH), the European Music Council (EMC) played an active role as advocate for intangible cultural heritage in the debate. As a follow-up to the year, the EMC now presents this book to provide a snapshot on music and heritage in Europe. It includes the policy perspective (EU and UNESCO) as well as concrete examples from medieval Norwegian ballads to Gaelic music to the Hungarian Dance House Movement or the Polonaise. In a dedicated category ‘diverse projects – diverse heritage’ it provides some practical examples how music projects nowadays work with heritage in a contemporary context.

This publication is a non-exhaustive overview on the wide range of musical expressions that exist in Europe and an eye-opener for those who thought cultural heritage is only old rocks.

- Benefit from a staff exchange programme providing financial support to set up exchange between our members
- Enjoy preferential rates at our conferences, events and workshops
- Host our conferences and contribute to events and workshops
- Apply for travel bursaries to our events
- Nominate a young representative for the EMC Fellowship Programme
- Receive support in own advocacy activities
- Guide the direction of IMC & EMC advocacy and activities
- Exercise voting rights and stand for election to the Boards of IMC & EMC
- Receive news exclusively for EMC members and information on the latest developments on European cultural policies
- Nominate projects/initiatives for the IMC Music Rights Awards
- Gain visibility on the EMC website through the “Project of the Month”
- Visibility of your news and activities on our social media channels
MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN MUSIC COUNCIL:
