PRIhME Power Relations in Higher Music Education

European Forum on Music 2023

European Music Council

Budapest

9 June 2023

PRIhME Overall Objectives

Recommendations for the Higher Music Education sector

How can we improve the HMEI environment by suggesting ways to deal with power relations within our institutions?

What standards are realistic to set to achieve a safer and more supportive environment for all stakeholders, be they students, teachers, or administrative staff?

4 "Stakeholder" Assemblies

Form of participatory democracy

Students, teachers, staff from 9 HMEI

(Dublin, Malmö, Krakow, Zagreb, Manheim, Rome, San Sebastían, Graz, Kharkiv)

Expertise and documentation

Discussion and debate

Formulation of recommendations

Assembly Topics

Understanding power relations and hierarchies and their role within higher music education

Gender and sexual orientation

Socio-economic backgrounds and disabilities

Artistic standards

What do Assemblies Make Possible?

"Safe Space(s)"

Awareness and understanding

Toolbox (language, concepts)

Language of shared values

For Participants, a Transformative Process

Given agency, become communicators & agents of change

Engage as initiators of similar processes in home institutions

Empowered to stimulate ongoing dialogue

Become advocates for "networks of care"

Final Recommendations Voted for Assembly 1

Create
- networks of care

Foster
- **dialogue through creation of safe spaces**

Develop
- a glossary

Engage
- **conversations on power relations**

Empower
- students, teachers, and staff through information and training
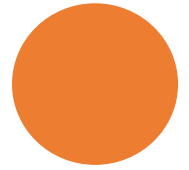
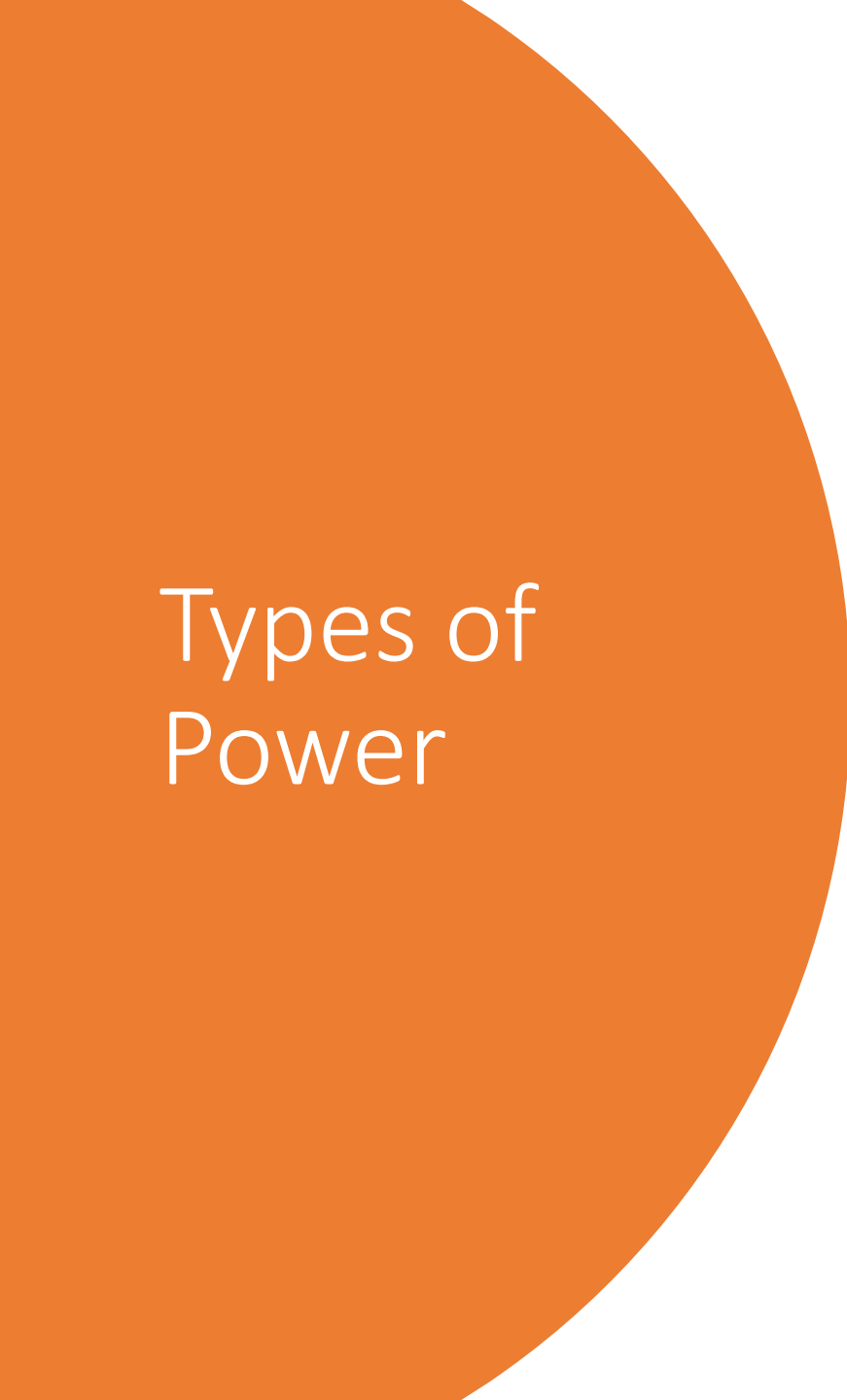# Final Recommendations Voted for Assembly 2

Strive
- gender balance in recruitment

Raise
- awareness & implement training

Create
- safe teaching and learning environments

Develop
- comprehensive policies and procedures

- COMMUNICATE!

Final Recommendations Voted for Assembly 3

Create	• safe spaces for students with disabilities
Make	• **Training on disabilities mandatory**
Consult or Employ	• **Trained diversity officer**
Develop	• **Sustainable financial support for students in need**
Accomodate	• And support staff, prospective/current students with disabilities

Final Recommendations Voted for Assembly 4

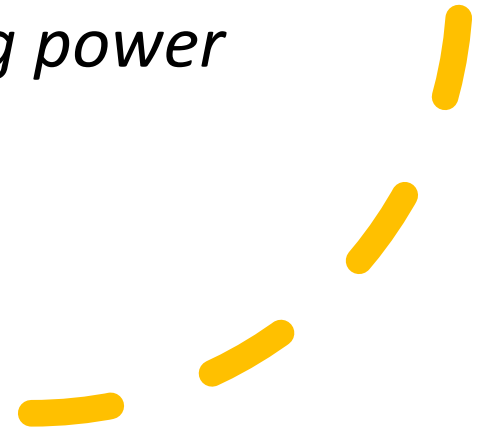| Create	• clear, transparent system of assessment criteria
Implement	• **Systematic examination approach with documented feedback**
Establish	• **Institutional forum dedicated to assessment**
Ensure	• **External examiners are qualified both as performers and pedagogues**
Initiate	• Performance classes to enable cross-faculty feedback

Types of Power

Robert Chambers :
"The Elephant in the Room"

Robert Chambers on Types of Power

- Power over
- Power to, agency (ability to decide what you want to do, then do)
- Power with – collective power
- Power within – feeling within oneself the capacity to do things
- Power to empower, or *convening power*

Thank you!

https://aec-music.eu/project/prihme-2020-2023-erasmus-strategic-partnership/