



EMTC NEWSLETTER

December 2016

Dear EMTC Delegates,

First of all, we want to thank you again for your confidence in us. We have big shoes to fill after the excellent work of the last Core Board, and we want to thank Hanne Mette, Adrienne and Ferdinando again for what they have done for the EMTC and also for their support in the transition from them to us. We will try our best to continue this excellent work. We cannot and will not copy what they have achieved, but we think that with your support, we can proceed from the very solid basis that they established, take the ideas and develop them further.

What has been going on “behind the scenes”?

🎵 **Official business in and with Brussels**

After GA in Vienna we have been trying to sort out the bureaucratic regulations of Brussels. We thought we had taken care of everything by the required date with regard to the bank account and registration until we received a notice that we would need to go to Brussels after all.

In Brussels, we took care of the business matters after having all necessary steps for that and future dealings with the accountant explained in detail. We determined how we, the Core Board will cooperate and communicate in the future and discussed our ideas about plans and hopes.



🎵 **Plans and hopes**

We would like to pursue the goals that we stated in our proposal for election:

- To develop a framework for training standards
- To build a professional community founded on the European music therapy associations
- To promote research
- To provide orientation, inspiration, resources, networking and connectivity among European music therapists
- To promote the development of a means of quality assurance for the profession



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Of course, these are not goals that we will achieve very quickly. There is much work needed, not only from the Core Board but also from all member organisations of the EMTC.

What are the starting points for achieving these goals?

- We want to involve the delegates and thus the national organisations more in the processes within the EMTC. This should take place over the Regional Coordinators. It would be important that regular correspondence between the Regional Coordinators and the Country Representatives takes place regarding particular topics. This would mean that topics that come to our attention would be forwarded to the Regional Coordinators with the request for communication within the region that would then be sent to us in order to have the necessary information for supporting further development.

However, this should not just be a one-way-street between the Core Board and the Regional Coordinators. Indeed, the Country Representatives should inform their Regional Coordinators of topics that develop within the countries. After communication within the region, this information should be sent to the Core Board by the Regional Coordinators so that the Core Board is informed at all times about development within music therapy in Europe and can support the work that the CR's, the Regional Coordinators and the national member organizations are doing.

The first deadline for the information from Regional Coordinators is March 1st, 2017.

The information would be summarized in the Newsletters that we are planning to continue on a quarterly basis. In this way we can make progress in finding a common platform that is inclusive instead of exclusive.

- The EMTC has many working groups. We would greatly appreciate having a short summary of the status of every working group for the Newsletters that will be sent at the beginning of March, June, September and December.
The first deadline for the information from these groups is March 1st, 2017.

🎵 EMTR

We have received 3 applications for membership in the EMTR-Commission. We are very pleased that so many people are interested in working together to develop the idea of the European Register further. The meaning of EMTR for countries with legal and professional regulations as well as for those without must be analysed and included in the development of a register that realistically represents high quality music therapy qualifications throughout Europe.

We are happy to announce that Tessa Watson, Albert Berman and Marketa Gerlichova will be joining the other members of the commission to support it in optimizing the EMTR.



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♪ **Collaboration with the World Federation of Music Therapy (www.wfmt.info)**

The Core Board has established new collaborative discussions with the WFMT and its president Dr. Amy Clemens-Cortes (CAN) and European co-ordinator Angela Harrison (UK). Collaboration between the organisations will be further developed and the stances clarified. We are looking forward to future developments and good mutual interaction for the profession of music therapists both on regional and worldwide level.

♪ **New potential members of the EMTC**

We are glad to announce that Ireland has finally applied for membership in the EMTC. Turkey has also expressed interest in becoming a member. We will be contacting their organization soon and will report about the developments in the next newsletter. There is a second professional association in Belgium which has applied for membership. Our opinion is that they should become members of the EMTC so that the entire spectrum of music therapy in Belgium will be represented. We find it a very dynamic and good development!

♪ **Minutes GA Vienna 2016**

We thank Tessa for a wonderful job of writing the minutes! We are enclosing these in a separate file. **Please send corrections or additions** (for example country news) **directly to us by February, 1st, 2017.**

♪ **European Music Therapy Day**

We thank Albert and his team for the huge and nice work that they have done concerning to the European Music Therapy Day! The tradition is created and very much alive – this is a great way for music therapists in all over the Europe feel as a one big family and it also works as a very good promotional tool for music therapy in general.

You can find information about the EMTD on website [HERE](#)

♪ **Proposals for the next GA in 2018**

If your country is willing to host our General Assembly in 2018, we must receive your proposal at the latest **by April 1st, 2017.**

The hosting country must provide 2 nights of accommodations for all country delegates, 3 nights for the board, and 4 nights for the Core Board depending on the travel possibilities to the host country. The proposal should provide a clear provisional budget and describe accommodation and possibilities for travel. At the General Assembly there will be a presentation of the proposals as well as a vote.



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🎵 Website

Ingeborg Nebelung has supplied us with information about the website. The work on the website took more time, and was more difficult than expected. The technical challenges involved several countries, several passwords that didn't work as they should, EU-regulations, platforms and domains... Thanks to Hanne Mette, who was the formal owner of the domain due to her role as the EMTC leader – she had to confirm all the changes made. We worked the technical issues out at last.

The website is now on the same platform as the website of the Norwegian Music Therapy Association, but we were able to keep the name emtc-eu.com. Now we can also have our own EMTC e-mail addresses! **The site will be ready by January 15th.** Before we launch it, Ingeborg will send you all a link to the website. Check that your country's information is correct. If not, send an e-mail to her, and she will correct it immediately. Then you can launch the site through your own channels in your own countries. We think it would be good to have the information updated by February 15th if all goes as planned.

🎵 SWOT analysis of the EMTC

In our last GA in Vienna we reached to many unanswered questions, concerning to the EMTC-s role for our member organisations and music therapists in Europe, and our role on the map of music therapy in general. The time has come to ask where we are and where we should and/or would like to go.

In order to get the important answers to these questions we, the CB, decided to provide a deeper analysis of the EMTC where all the country representatives could contribute. To start the work, the form of SWOT analysis seemed to be most suitable. The SWOT analysis is a tool that identifies the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of an organization. Specifically, SWOT is a basic, straightforward model that assesses where an organization functions well and can be successful and where it has problems that prevent that. Additionally, it makes it possible to identify potential strengths and possibilities that can be developed as well as risks that the organization needs to be aware of. The SWOT analysis will determine what assists the EMTC in accomplishing its objectives, and what obstacles must be overcome or minimized to achieve desired results. When using SWOT analysis, we have to be realistic about assessing the EMTC in every aspect. Analysis needs to examine where the organization really is today, and where it may be positioned in the future.

We will send you the SWOT-questionnaire in January and asking you kindly to list all the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the EMTC with the help of the representatives of the member organisations of your country, and to filter out 2 most important indicators for every subdivision of the SWOT. The questionnaire will be accompanied by additional information about SWOT which would help you to find the answers. After gathering the information we will prepare materials for proceeding with the analysis on the next GA in Ede.



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🎵 GA in Ede, Netherlands

Don't forget to save the dates for the GA 2017 at the National Training Centre for the Arts 'Akoesticum' in Ede in the Netherlands on **May, 27th-28th, 2017**. You can refresh your memory about the coming GA with the proposal from Albert Berman that you have received before the Vienna's GA.

At the same time, the Dutch Music Therapy Association (NVvMT) is presenting a 1 day international symposium and a 2 day intensive workshop "Music therapy and trauma/PTSD treatment" May 26th-28th, 2017 at the same venue. Do advertise this in your countries! For more information see www.akoesticum.org/english

Albert will be sending the registration forms soon.

We hope to see all of you there!

IMPORTANT DATES:

February, 1st, 2017: corrections or additions to the minutes of the Vienna GA

March 1st, 2017: information from Regional Coordinators

March 1st, 2017: information from working groups

April 1st, 2017: proposals for hosting the GA in 2018

May 27th-28th, 2017: GA in Ede, Netherlands

We thank you for your support and look forward to working together to bring music therapy in Europe forward.

We wish you a very happy and successful New Year!

Esa, Alice and Melanie

