



Minutes of NCs Meeting

Rostock, Germany, March 25, 2015
14.00 - 17.00 at the Musikhochschule Rostock (room 01 01)

Countries represented (23): Austria AT, Belgium BE, Croatia HR, Cyprus CY, Czech Republic CZ, Estonia EE, Finland FL, France FR, , Ireland IR, Italy IT, Kosovo KS, Latvia LV, Lithuania LT, Netherlands NL, Norway NO, Poland PL, Portugal PT, Slovakia SK, Slovenia SI, Spain ES, Sweden SE, Switzerland CH, United Kingdom UK

Countries not represented/apologies: Turkey TR, Germany DE, Greece GR, Italy IT,

1. **Welcome** by Adri de Vugt, Ene Kangron, Gerhard Sammer
2. Introduction to Lee Higgins – ISME president elect and Margre van Gestel – ISME Board member
3. **Welcome to new NC:**

Belgium – **Jeroen Vanesser**
Hungary – **Naomi Maczelka**
Ireland - **Lorraine O`Connell**
Kosovo – **Kastriot Sada**

4. Short Country -Reports:

- tendencies and news;
- the role of the EAS in -supporting the development of the music education in different European countries (possible expectations)

Portugal: In Spain music has been taken away from general school curriculum. Music teachers in Portugal are very worried that politicians in Portugal will follow the same example. EAS will be addressed to support Portugal proving that music is important part of the curriculum and should not be removed from curriculum.

France: 1 music lesson per week, generalist teachers teach music in primary schools. Music teachers get paid by the city. The outcome of this system is a variety of teachers, skills, knowledge and talents of teachers influencing teaching in schools.

Norway: A new committee established by the Ministry of Education working on a new curriculum which is very cognitive based. Final report will be published in June; music teachers look forward to it.



Sweden: In 2011 a new Education law, new curriculum and new teacher training program was developed. Now teachers can see the result of these new curriculums. Education field has also felt the political instability.

The Netherlands: New system *The Body of Knowledge* has been developed. Music as subject in schools is getting more and more prestige. Level of music in primary schools is very low.

EAS could support The Netherland by creating exchange programmes in music education.

Lithuania: The situation is stabile, financial support for music in school has been as before, new criteria for music teachers have been developed. Since 2011 only teachers with pedagogy degree can work in schools. Big event: 3rd International Music Olympiad 2016 will be organized in Lithuania.

Spain: Since 2013 music in schools is no longer part of the curriculum. In order to protest, NC's are asked to sign the Granada Declaration document that will be sent to Ministry of Education of Spain.

Hungary: New education law will be published in June 2015.

Croatia: The curriculum that was developed in 2006 is active, focus on Listening to Music. Music in schools has 1 lesson per week. Extra curriculum – 2-6 extra music lessons per week. Specialist teachers teach music in school. In May 2015 symposium is planned to discuss the current and past curriculum.

Finland: New curriculum will be published 2016 with focus on practical musicianship. It used to have Extra curriculum music classes for last 40 years; that will be removed from the curriculum.

Cyprus: Currently Cyprus is trying to reduce music in secondary schools. Ministry of Education is using examples from around Europe where music is no longer part of secondary education.

In general situation with music in schools has improved, although teachers still prefer set curriculum instead of open curriculum.

Kosovo: Music system has been changed. The music curriculum was originally developed from Slovenia example. In schools Year 1-5 generalist teachers are teaching music and often the teachers are even teaching other subjects instead. Kosovo would like to implement Kodaly method. This is still to be discussed.



England: no specialists in primary schools. In secondary school the focus is on math and language instead of arts. The Arts Teacher training - .At the moment assessment from curriculum has been removed

Poland: There is no music in Years 1-3. In year 4 and 5 there are 2 music lessons per week, in Years 6-8 there is 1 lesson per week; no music in secondary schools. In extra curriculum music lessons Creating music is used as base.

Ireland: In secondary school music is not compulsory, but more and more student chose music. The focus is more on performing. Music is thought by generalist teachers until age 12. 1995. Ireland was described as the worse music education system. Now the situation has changed a lot. Ireland is trying to move away exam's based assessment.

Slovenia: Music was chosen as a state exam in 2014. As these exams are based on written tasks, it is a conflict about how to assess creativity. It raises a lot of things to discuss for the future. Primary school (up to age 14) students have 2 music lessons per week; in general secondary school level of knowledge is lower. This is seen in Music Olympiads.

Switzerland: 1 music lesson per week in secondary school is compulsory. MTT * happens both in Music Universities and Pedagogy high schools. Music teachers from Music Universities are better trained. Now curriculum points our music as one of 6 top important subjects! Current political situation has effected to student exchange program – Erasmus program has stooped.

*MTT – music Teacher Training

Belgium: No music education in primary school (just like in The Netherlands). Secondary school Age 12, age 13 - 1 lesson a week, Age 14, 15 – no music. Age 18 - depends of the administration if there is music or not.

Austria: 2 lessons per week in school. Situation is stable. New challenge is the new TT system.

Latvia:

As this is the IV Latvian Music Olympiad in 2015, music as a subject gets the recognition of being relevant subject to other subject areas. In July 2015 Youth Song and Dance festival will take place.

Estonia: music education is in a safe "faze". Music is compulsory. Year 1- 4 there are 2 lessons per week, Year 5 and up to the end of Gymnasium (18 years) – 1 lesson per



week. So far music was part of preschool and kindergarten curriculum and was taught by specialist teachers.

5. Roles and tasks of the National Coordinators and Contact Persons:

- position, role and local activities in the NC's country;
- presentation of the country on the EAS website;
- new signed agreements for the period 2015-2017

New agreements / contracts will be signed in 2017. An electronic copy will be sent to all NCs.

EAS board has discussed the opportunity to involve leaders of national associations in EAS in the future. NC representatives find this as great idea and share ideas on how to attract new participants.

Countries section on EAS website is still very important. All NCs have been asked to update the national page, contact persons and institutions and to reply to Ene Kangron by April 3, 2015.

NC suggest to become members with Erasmus and to make Music Teachers exchange more effective.

6. EAS conference 2016/Lithuania and the 3rd IMuO - Ruta Girdzijauskiene

- 1) EAS conference 2016 under the name Creativity and will take place in Vilnius.
- 2) 3rd International Music Olympiad (See the website <http://www.music-olympiad2016.lt/>) will take place April 28 – 30, 2016 in Klaipeda, Lithuania
- 3) Hanne O represents the next International Youth Choir Meeting in Lithuania in 2016

7. EAS Special Focus Groups (SFG) – Isolde Malmberg

What is SFG?

Groups of people that have the same interest; EAs could be the platform of sharing ideas; “coordinate” with open borders. (See more on: <http://www.eas-music.org/activities/special-focus-groups-sfg/>)

Who should be the members?

EAS members; MTT, Videos of music lessons, ect.

How will it work?

Gather with colleagues, communicate

What For?

Symposia, idea exchange, publications, projects.



2 Special Focus Groups that have been formed already are:

DiTiME – Practitioner Research in Music Education

PRiME – Digital in Music Education

NCs are asked to share this opportunity in their countries.

NCs suggest more space for debate and sharing ideas in EAS conferences.

- SFG in music technology - Marina Gall, Manfred Scheid

8. Planning the next EAS Newsletters (contributions)

The newsletter up to now has been organized in the way that it is electronic copy with links in it. NCs agree to keep it in the same format. Mary Stakelum is in charge of the EAS Newsletter.

9. Preparation for the next NC-meeting

Next NC meeting will take place in Vilnius, Lithuania during the EAS Conference 2016.

The suggestion is to prepare the short overview of the situation in music field in every country and to send it in 3 weeks ahead of time so NCs would be already informed and could use the time for debate and sharing.

The suggestion was made to spend the whole day for NC's meeting. The feeling was there was not enough time.

10. AOB, Open questions.

No AOBs nor questions were raised.

11. Preparation for the NC-Symposium at the conference

Groups for symposium:

4 Groups

- A) Anna Houmann (SE) / Jon Helge Saertre (NO) / Hanne Orrenmaa (FI)
- B) Andreas Bernhofer (AT) / Ruth Frischknecht (CH) / Jeroen Vanesser (BE) / Marinus Verkuil / (NL)
- C) Natassa Economidou Stavrou (CY) / Ana Veloso (PT) / Sabina Vidulin (CR)
- D) Ruta Girdzijauskiene (LT) / Ene Kangron (EE) / Ruta Kanteruka (LV) / Gabriela Konkol (PL), Miloš Kodejška (CZ)

Minutes taken by Ruta Kanteruka.