

EMTC NEWSLETTER

June 2020

Dear EMTC-Delegates,

It was so good to see everyone at our virtual GA at the beginning of May! Although we all missed being able to see each other in person, our work together was very productive and also very intense. At the same time, it was spiced with humour and personal anecdotes and also with attempts to sing during the breaks. Please find the Minutes from the GA in the Appendix.

In most places now, the lockdowns are being “unlocked” at different speeds. Let’s hope that they do not have to be tightened up again.

Music Connects Us

The use of music and the role of music therapy during a pandemic crisis situation



The use of music during this time, both in therapeutic and everyday situations has certainly been helpful for all. The Board of the EMTC once again wants to thank the PR-Group for the excellent work that resulted in the flyer that was distributed!

Several of you had asked about the possibility of translating the flyer. To repeat the information that has already been sent to you, we welcome the translation of the flyer. Katie Roth has agreed to put the translation into the layout of the EMTC flyer. The logo and contact data from your organisation may be added. However, because the origin is the EMTC, the translation should be placed in the EMTC-layout.

🎵 News from the EMTC

There have been several developments since our last newsletter in March, 2020. We would now like to inform you about these.

🎵 Applications for membership

There have been two applications from additional associations from countries that are already members of the EMTC (Greece, Czech Republic), as well as two applications from countries that would be new to the EMTC (Romania, Slovenia – presently observing member). We are waiting for the translations of the documents so that the eligibility for membership in the EMTC can be confirmed. If these associations are eligible for membership, they will be accepted by the board. After these associations and countries have been informed of their membership status, we will send an official letter of information to all EMTC-Delegates.

🎵 **EMTC-Board:**

The **Core Board** met 5 times since the last newsletter in March. Our topics included the following:

- *Planning the GA*
- *Reflections on the GA and lessons learned*
- *EMTS: Discussing further steps necessary for the process of establishing minimal standards for training for clinical practice.*
- *Applications for membership*
- *Further work on the Registration of Statutes in Belgium (see extra point below). This question has unfortunately not yet been solved.*

We have also met with the **Board** 4 times since March. Among others, topics here were

- *Preparing for the GA*
- *Applications for membership*
- *Corona flyer and translations*
- *Improvement of operating procedures*
- *Improvement of the Website*
- *Motivation of Action Teams and Delegates*

The board works well together, discusses topics (also topics that are controversial) openly and constructively and strives to reach conclusions and solutions that have a positive effect on the EMTC and its work.

🎵 **Congratulations to Serbian music therapy!**

A very important recognition was made by the government of Serbia to Hatorum, the centre of music therapy in Serbia.

Hatorum participated in the government initiative “Be a Hero”, providing knowledge, resources and innovative ideas for the use of music and music therapy during the Covid-19 crisis. Among other things, online-support using music/music therapy was provided for health-care workers as well as support groups and supervision for music therapists. Bereaved persons who were not able to attend funerals also received online music therapy support. Also, online music therapy sessions were offered. Ranka Radulovic, who has been the CR of Serbia to the EMTC for 16 years, coordinated and directed these services

We express again our congratulations to Ranka and her team, who have definitely made a great music therapy contribution to Serbian society in a very difficult time!



Ranka Radulovic with Serbian dignitary



Ranka Radulovic with the certificate honouring Hatorum

🎵 Statutes

The problems that arose within the process necessary for registering the revised statutes have, unfortunately, not yet been solved completely. Because we have no possibility to go to Brussels ourselves at this time, we asked Nele Fiers, the EMTC-Delegate from Belgium, to speak to the accountants, asking questions that we felt we had no answer for. Nele has been a great help to us because she speaks Dutch so that nothing gets “lost in translation”. Whereas at first, we thought we were making very good progress, there has been reference now to regulations in the original statutes (that we do not find in the English version, but that are apparently in the official original version) that have again increased the difficulties in doing what is necessary. We are now waiting to receive these documents in which these regulations are noted so that we understand what is being required. We will keep you informed here. A big “Thank you!” to Nele, who has spent quite a bit of time trying to clear the fog around the necessary procedures for registration!

🎵 Action Teams

The reports from the Action Teams (AT) at the GA were very inspiring! There has been a lot of work done here.

One Action Team that has received many tasks from all of us in the EMTC is the AT-PR. Besides Music Therapy Day, they have completed the task of composing the Corona-flyer. A further very important task regards the Website. At the suggestion of

those who had been responsible for different aspects here, the board has decided that there will be a “Leadership Trio” for this AT. This trio is made up of Katie Roth (Latvia), Cathy Schmartz (Luxembourg) and Ingeborg Nebelung (Norway). If you have suggestions or questions about PR-topics, please contact these people directly. This will get the process of discussion and decision-making underway.

We have been discussing various possible tasks directly related to the major work of other Action Teams as well. When an AT has a task, it also has the responsibility to carry out this task and come to a conclusion. We are now working on a way to keep things going so that the work of the EMTC gains speed and effectiveness.

🎵 GA 2021

Please remember that the date for sending in bids for holding the next GA (2021) is August 31! We decided in the GA that these bids should be sent in, well knowing that Corona might make it necessary to meet online again next year as well. We really hope that we can meet in person, though! Speak to your associations about hosting the GA!

🎵 EMTS:

Shortly after the EMTC-GA, we received the copy of the Thesis written by Fiona Fuchs in Austria. She received the highest grade available for a thesis. We have expressed our congratulations to her and want to do it again here as well. We are still waiting for information regarding the regulations in Austria about publishing such works or making them available online.

At the EMTS meeting before the GA, we agreed that we will be needing to formulate competencies, and that we should consult sources that can serve as a model for this. However, we also need to know exactly what levels of competencies have been reported in the answers of the survey so that we know as exactly as possible where training standards are today. Because of the great variety of training levels (Bachelor, Master, private certificate etc.), we will be using a framework to look at what was reported, independent of the level that was reported by the training course. The Core Board has been experimenting with this and will be contacting the members of EMTS during the summer months about this.

Formulating standards that are more bottom-up instead of top-down takes longer, but will, in our opinion, be most likely to result in standards that are realistic and relevant.

🎵 EMTC and communication

External communication

The major task is still the renewal of the website. There has been quite a bit of collaboration within the Action Team – PR and others regarding this topic. We hope that we will soon be able to let you know what this group has planned.



As we wrote in the last newsletter, Ingeborg has sent a reminder to each of you, asking you to please check the information about your country and the training courses there to be sure it is complete, correct and up to date. If you have not yet done this, we ask you to do it as soon as possible. If your country has a national register, we would ask you to send the link to Ingeborg so that people who are interested in finding qualified music therapists in your country can do this directly from our website.

Our communication with other external parties is still in planning. We will let you know what we are planning to do as soon as possible.

Internal Communication:

We had informed you that we wanted to send newsletters every three months. This newsletter is the follow-up from the newsletter sent in March. However, communication is not a one-way street. The EMTC not only consists of a Core Board and a Board, but of 31 countries and their music therapy associations. We are dependent upon the flow of information from you to us, and from us to your associations via the country representatives. Your Regional Coordinators can be very helpful for you here as well.

The EMTC can only function well if the Board knows what interests and problems you have in your own associations so that we are informed about issues that are relevant for you and your colleagues.

After the next Core Board and Board meetings, you will receive a short summary of our meetings and will ask you to send this information on to your associations. We will also at the same time send you the template we had written about in our last newsletter. In this template, you may send us information that you feel should be communicated outside of the usual country report that comes from you once a year.

🎵 Care Guidelines:

To those of you who were able to send Care Guidelines to us – a hearty “Thank You!” These official guidelines provide us with important information regarding the recommendation of music therapy that can be used for treatment with specific diagnoses. Also, guidelines that officially report that little or no evidence is available are important because they show us where we can improve

🎵 EMTC and other events:

WFMT:

The World Congress of Music Therapy, originally planned to be held in South Africa, will now be held online on July 7-8, 2020. We had forwarded this information to you as soon as it was received. If you have not yet looked into this interesting program, you can use the following link.

<https://www.up.ac.za/music-therapy-2020> Perhaps this will make it possible for more people to attend this year.

ECarTE:

A Meeting will be held with the WHO at the beginning of July (02.07). 4 or 5 people from WHO will speak about arts therapies in Europe and research about arts therapies. It seems to be a step in the right direction. They are willing to write a report about the status of arts therapies internationally. For this meeting and part of the group *The State of Arts Therapies Training in Europe (SATTIE)*, the European level has been asked to make a presentation about the organization. Also, evidence-based medicine research with regard to arts therapies has been requested (see Care Guidelines above). We have collected this information and Esa will be presenting it.

Save the Dates 2021:

In **Helsinki**, there will be an International Music Therapy Week with 3 conferences for music therapy that will be held during the same week. These are the Music Therapy Consortium, the 1st Children's Music Therapy Conference and the 10th Nordic Conference of Music therapy. The dates are **June 13-19, 2021**. Please see the flyer attached in Appendix 1. More information concerning the events will be published in August.

Wishing you a wonderful summer, with time for yourselves, your loved ones and the beauties of nature!



Esa, Alice, Melanie, Ingeborg, Elisabeth & Elide

Appendix 1



Finnish Society for Music Therapy

We are happy to announce:

INTERNATIONAL MUSIC THERAPY WEEK

HELSINKI, FINLAND

JUNE 13-19, 2021

JUNE 13 - 14, 2021	MUSIC THERAPY CONSORTIUM
JUNE 14 - 16, 2021	THE 1ST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CHILDREN'S MUSIC THERAPY - Music Therapy in Pediatric Hospitals and Music Therapy in Child Psychiatry
JUNE 16 - 19, 2021	THE 10TH NORDIC MUSIC THERAPY CONFERENCE

Venue:

The Helsinki Conservatory of Music
Ruoholahdentori 6, Helsinki <https://www.konservatorio.fi/in-english/>

Organised by:

University of Jyväskylä
HUS Helsinki University Hospital, Child Psychiatry, University of Helsinki
Finnish Society for Music Therapy

More information:

MUSIC THERAPY CONSORTIUM

For invited international consortium representatives.

THE 1ST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CHILDREN'S MUSIC THERAPY

Health for Children with Music

https://www.hus.fi/en/professionals/Child_music_therapy/Pages/default.aspx

Contact: Dr Hanna Hakomäki

Email: hfcwm2021@hus.fi

THE 10TH NORDIC MUSIC THERAPY CONFERENCE

Music Therapy – Adapting Approaches for Health

Contact: Dr Esa Ala-Ruona or Mikaela Leandertz

Email: nmtc2021@gmail.com

You are warmly welcome!