

**AEC Annual Meeting for  
International Relations  
Coordinators,  
25-27 September 2015**

**Introductory session for  
first time delegates**



**AEC**

*Association Européenne des  
Conservatoires, Académies de  
Musique et Musikhochschulen  
(AEC)*

*AEC: the leading voice for  
Higher Music Education  
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Corfu, 25-27 September  
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# Outline

- Presentation of the AEC and its activities
- Round tables with experienced IR coordinators



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# The AEC

- Vision, Mission and Aims
- Events and projects
- Organisational structure
- What can AEC do for you?



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## AEC Vision and Mission

- to be the **leading voice for European Higher Music Education** and a powerful advocate for all that is best in it throughout the world
- **working for the advancement of European Higher Music Education** and, more generally, of music, the arts and culture in contemporary society and for future generations



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Discipline of higher music education combining a quest for excellence in three areas:

- artistic practice (the doing and making of music);
- learning and teaching (the transmission of knowledge and understanding of music)
- and research and innovation (the exploration of new musical knowledge and understanding and of new ways of applying it).

AEC seeks to foster all of these elements and to encourage the diversity and dynamism with which they are pursued in different institutions, countries and regions.

## AEC Aims and Objectives

- Support and Information for Members
- Events and Networking
- External Links
- Advocacy




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AEC does this through:

**Providing Support and Information for Members:** addressing the needs, wishes and priorities of its member institutions while providing informed advice that helps to shape those priorities in the direction of advancing European Higher Music Education as a whole

For example: projects, data collection, counselling visits

Providing a range of platforms for the exchange of experiences and ideas between member institutions and for the identification and sharing of best practice in European Higher Music Education (**Events and Networking**)

In addition to this event: Specific thematic platforms (EMP, PJP, EPARM) and seminars, + AEC Annual Congress

Connecting member institutions with other organisations and individuals in Europe and internationally who are active in areas relevant to the advancement of European Higher Music Education (**External Links**)

Representing and advancing the interests of the Higher Music Education sector at national, European and international levels (**Advocacy**)

# AEC Events

- **Annual Congress**
- **Annual Meeting for International Relations Coordinators**

Workshops, seminars and platforms on specific subjects:

- **Pop & Jazz Platform**
- **Early Music Platform**
- **European Platform for Artistic Research in Music (EPARM)**



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Some more about AEC events:

**Annual Congress:** representatives of all member institutions meet to discuss specific themes, to exchange information and to broaden their professional and personal networks> The congress includes a meeting of the general assembly of the association.

## Annual Meeting for International Relations

**Coordinators:** forum for conservatoire staff dealing with student and teacher exchanges

## AEC Projects

- AEC coordinates FULL SCORE (2014-2017)
- Involvement as partner:
  - PHEXcel
  - EUBO Mobile Baroque Academy
  - Ne@xt Accelerator (ELIA)
  - KA2 Strategic partnerships coordinated by AEC member institutions



### FULL SCORE

***F**U**l**l**i**l**l**ing the **S**kills, **C**ompetences and know-how **R**equirements of cultural and creative players in the **E**uropean music sector*

- Supported by the European Commission through the scheme “European Networks” of the Creative Europe programme
- Aimed at supporting AEC to maintain and further develop some of its core activities

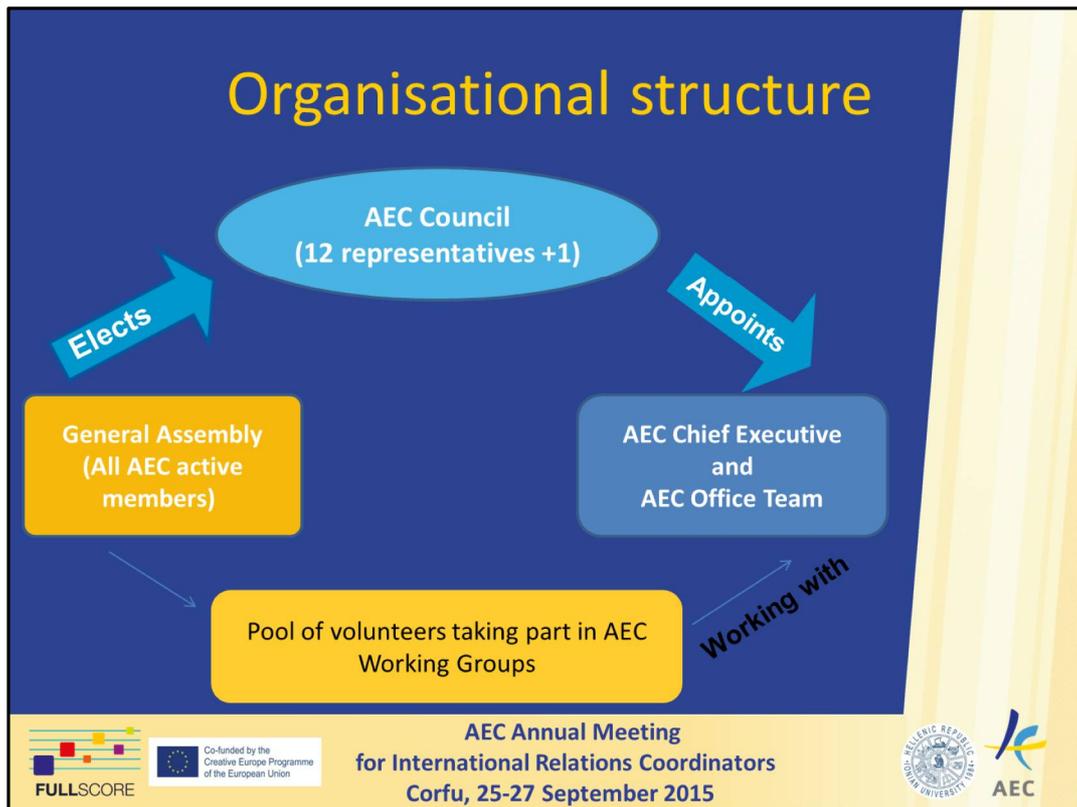
FULL SCORE has 6 strands:

- To strengthen the music education sector through cooperation with other European organisations in the field of music (so it becomes a key and united voice for music within the cultural debate).
- To enhance the quality of all levels of music education (also in cooperation with 2 other European organisations)
- To engage conservatoires in the development of a European Agenda for Music (that seeks: to stimulate musical creation; the mobility of European artists; to support musical diversity and ensure music education for all; to strengthen the recognition of the societal value of music; and to reach out to new audiences and develop new publics.)
- To contribute to the internationalization of musicians’ careers by further developing the AEC annual meeting for International Relations Coordinators,

collecting employment data, and developing online tools.

E. To promote audience engagement through a focus of the AEC Pop and Jazz Platform meetings on this topic.

F. To increase students voice within the AEC.



Importance of the involvement of representatives from member institutions in AEC activities => we would never be able to achieve the work we do without all these volunteers who are doing a fantastic job

# AEC Council

- President:** Pascale de Groote, Antwerpen, Belgium
- Vice-Presidents:** Eirik Birkeland, Oslo, Norway  
Georg Schulz, Graz, Austria
- Secretary General:** Jörg Linowitzki, Lübeck, Germany
- Council Members:** Kaarlo Hilden, Helsinki, Finland  
Deborah Kelleher, Dublin, Ireland  
Grzegorz Kurzyński, Wrocław, Poland  
Claire Mera-Nelson, London, UK  
Jacques Moreau, Lyon, France  
Antonio Narejos Bernabéu, Murcia, Spain  
Evis Sammoutis, Nicosia, Cyprus  
Harrie Van Den Elsen, Groningen, Netherlands
- Co-opted:** Don McLean, Toronto, Canada



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# AEC Office Team

Stefan Gies  
Chief Executive



Sara Primiterra  
Events Manager



Nerea López de Vicuña  
Office Manager



Linda Messas  
General Manager



Ángela Domínguez  
Project and  
Communication Manager



Jef Cox  
Project Coordinator



Andrea Marengo  
Student Intern



Cecilia Cotero Torrecillas  
Student Intern



# AEC Working Groups & Committees

- Congress Committee (members of Council)
- International Relations Coordinators developmental WG
- Pop and Jazz Platform WG
- Early Music Platform WG
- Artistic Research in Music WG
- AEC U-Multirank WG



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Here is where the volunteers from various AEC member institutions get involved

# Project-based Working Groups:

Within AEC project FULL SCORE

- Steering Committee for the Harmonisation of European Music Education (SCHEME)
- WG on the revision of AEC Learning Outcomes
- WG on the quality enhancement of music education
- Student WG

Past WGs

- Mobility and recognition
- Quality Enhancement, Accreditation and Benchmarking
- Bologna, Tuning, Curriculum
- Profession and Entrepreneurship
- Artistic Research



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## What can AEC do for you?

- **Strength in Numbers:** nearly 300 members
- **Information sharing:** [AEC Website and database](#)
- **Getting together**
- **Breaking new ground**
- **Publications**
- **Counselling and advice**
- **Quality Enhancement and Accreditation:**
- **Reaping the benefits**



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A key benefit of AEC membership is the connection it offers to nearly 300 similar institutions working with similar ambitions, challenges and concerns. Conservatoires are often small institutions within their own national higher education landscapes and their voice as individuals can sometimes be overlooked. Being within the AEC membership network means sharing a platform from which the interests and concerns of higher music education can be broadcast loudly and clearly.

Getting together. The core activity of the AEC from its foundation has been helping those who work in conservatoires to meet each other, away from the busy demands of their normal routines and in environments designed to stimulate reflection, discussion and, fresh ideas. Congress, meetings, platforms

**Breaking new ground:** engaging pro-actively with HE reforms, especially through projects

**Publications:** handbooks for member institutions and the staff working in them (see detailed list afterwards)

**Counselling and advice:** harnessing the specialist knowledge now held amongst its members

**Quality Enhancement and Accreditation:**

    specially rates for quality enhancement procedures with the new review body for music MusiQuE

– Music Quality Enhancement

**Reaping the benefits:** special members rates and an exclusive members' domain on the AEC website

## Specialised publications:

- Handbook for Work Placements in Higher Music Education Studies in Europe (2010 - EN, FR, DE)
- Step by Step – Guidelines for Erasmus+ Mobility Actions (2014 – EN, FR, DE)
- Handbook on Joint Study Programme (2015)



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Publications: AEC now has a significant catalogue of published handbooks and other documents designed specifically to be of use to member institutions and staff working in them. The authors are generally from precisely this background themselves and know from their own situations what is relevant and what is not. This catalogue is being added to all the time and, wherever possible, versions in English, German and French – and sometimes other European languages as well – are produced. When new publications appear, they are distributed in relevant languages to members, and a selection of all publications is on display at every AEC event.

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**Thank you!  
Enjoy the meeting.**

Visit [www.aec-music.eu](http://www.aec-music.eu)



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