



PRESS RELEASE

Groningen, 13 January, 2017

European Commission and music sector working together towards a new EU support strategy for music

Bringing together speakers from the European Commission and of various branches of the European music sector, the ‘Music Moves Europe’ panel kick-started the 2017 edition of the Eurosonic Noorderslag conference. Music Moves Europe is the first ever formal discussion between the European Commission and the European music sector in all its components, for instance festivals, live venues, concert promoters, the record industry, collective rights societies, and music export offices. The latest episode of this discussion took place at the Eurosonic Noorderslag conference on January 12, 2017.

The discussion highlighted the main elements of the dialogue engaged in December 2015 by the European Commission to design the future support policy for the music sector. The panellists stressed the importance of circulation of repertoire, mobility of artists, education, data and innovation as key topics in the discussion.

Common position

Anna Hildur, head of the European Music Export Exchange Network (EMEE), emphasized the ‘important steps that have been taken in the last months to materialise and develop a common position in the view of establishing a proper EU music programme by 2020.’

‘Over the last twelve months, six meetings and workshops involving representatives of the music sector have taken place in Brussels, Cannes, Lyon and Groningen,’ said Fabien Miclet, co-ordinator of Liveurope: ‘These events enabled the commission to better assess the long-term needs of European music.’

‘The European Commission is committed to creating the right conditions for music stakeholders at EU level. We are very happy with the work that has been done so far, and we look forward to a continued dialogue in the coming months and years’, said Barbara Gessler, Head of Unit for the culture programme of Creative Europe at the EC.

Soft power diplomacy

Matthieu Philibert of IMPALA described ‘a favourable political climate and a good momentum for the music sector at EU level’ and a “great working spirit within the sector’. The Commission welcomed the efforts of the sector to work collectively. ‘We have to

continue building on this dynamic' said Barbara Gessler.

Helen Sildna, founder and director of Tallinn Music Week, noted: 'Music is a very important tool of soft power diplomacy, since it brings people together around creativity. In a uncertain world, it's in both the sector's and the EU's interest to unleash the full potential of each of the EU member states through music, but also through innovation and the Digital Single Market.' She added: 'This is about the future of music in Europe, but also about the future of Europe itself.'

A report of the work carried out so far through ["Music Moves Europe"](#) can be found [here](#).

More info:

- **Download:** [Eurosonic Noorderslag 2017 photos](#)
- **Download:** [Eurosonic Noorderslag logo](#)
- **Download:** [Artist press photos](#)
- www.eurosonic-noorderslag.nl

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