

About CEEMPC

CEEMPC, the Central and Eastern European Music Publishing Conference, is an annual conference organised by and for music publishers from the region which addresses and deals with region-related issues.

History

The first conference was held in Bratislava in 1999 and gathered 14 regional publishers. The initial focus was the relationship with collecting societies and the urge to improve their transparency, distribution and collection systems.

Since 1999, the CEEMPC has been held in various countries, including Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Austria.

Over the past 10 years the number of attendees has greatly increased to include participants from recent EU Member States and ex-Soviet and ex-Yugoslav countries.

Achievements

An important early achievement was clearing the path towards a dialogue between publishers and collecting societies. As a result, members of the societies now regularly attend the conference to discuss and analyse annual reports, identify areas that need improvement and exchange practices with publishers.

The CEEMPC has also become a platform for the exchange of business models that are specific to the region. Publishers from countries that have already undergone and adapted to industry-related changes (such as the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland and Hungary) share their knowledge with countries currently undergoing these developments and help them deal with and anticipate potential emerging challenges.

Future

The CEEMPC platform has contributed to the transformation of music publishing in the region.

While the first 10 years of the CEEMPC laid the foundations of a healthy publishing market, the next period should focus on placing the Central and Eastern European music publishing market on an equal ground with Western Europe and other flourishing regions such as Asia.

The core tasks ahead are:

1. *Making Central and Eastern Europe a priority for the Majors:*

So far, most of the developments have been achieved on a local level. However, the region is increasingly becoming an important stream of revenue for the Majors. If the market is to realise its full potential, further investment in Central and Eastern Europe is vital.

2. *Insisting on greater intersociety cooperation:*

An open dialogue between local and major societies is essential. In addition to a greater share of information, the societies of the region need technical and practical guidance. The growing demands for transparency and fair distribution practices are creating pressure on the regional societies. By organising practical workshops and inviting members of non Central and Eastern European societies to the CEEMPC,

regional publishers will be able to take an active role in speeding up the development process.

3. *Placing the Central and Eastern European region on the publishing map:*

The ability to make drastic improvements in such a short period of time has shown that the Central and Eastern European publishing market has matured into an important member of the international music community. Part of this success lies in the region's ability to change and to incorporate its own models into global trends. Central and Eastern European publishers should stand on an equal ground with their Western colleagues when deciding on and integrating solutions that embrace the technological developments.

The CEEMPC's 10th anniversary

To celebrate its 10th anniversary, the International Confederation of Music Publishers (ICMP) formalised its involvement with the CEEMPC and is co-organising this year's meeting in Croatia together with IDM music publishers and the working group of CEEMPC. Additionally, the CEEMPC's 10th anniversary will take place just prior to the Weekend Media Festival, an event gathering the Central and Eastern European media industry.