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13th European Forum on Music Celebrates Musical Diversity

The European Forum on Music (EFM) is back with its 13th edition 'Celebrating Musical Diversity'. The event taking place in June in Brussels promotes musical and cultural diversity with a variety of sessions focusing on artistic expression, AI and fair remuneration.

Event Dates: 11-12 June 2025

Organiser: [European Music Council](#)

Where: Brussels, Belgium

About EFM 2025

The EFM 2025 will celebrate 20 years of the [2005 UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions](#). The 2005 Convention is viewed as a significant step toward establishing standards for cultural policy so that art and culture can flourish in their diversity. It also promotes equal and fair international exchange of art and culture and is regarded as a counterbalance to international trade agreements that favour the liberalisation of trade in all areas. A key element of the Convention is the recognition of the dual nature of cultural expressions having an intrinsic and societal value as well as an economic impact.

During this EFM the discussions will be around the importance of protecting and promoting musical and cultural diversity and how it can be enshrined in EU policies for culture making use of music's great potential as a driver for change also in light of the

increasing emphasis on competitiveness in EU policies. The EU has ratified the Convention – what does this mean for music organisations in Europe, and for the new Culture Compass and the next long-term EU budget (Multiannual Financial Framework, MFF 2028 – 2034)?



The EFM proposes different session formats (e.g. keynote, panels, interactive break-out groups, info-session), focusing on the following themes:

- Freedom under pressure: artistic expression in diverse contexts
- Just recognition and fair remuneration for artists
- AI and musical diversity: opportunity or threat?

The opening of the EFM on 11 June will highlight "Music as a Cornerstone for EU Cultural Policies" with a high level panel including MEP Emma Rafowicz and Christoph Degen, Secretary of State of the Hessian Ministry for Science, Research, Arts and Culture and other invited speakers from the European Commission and UNESCO. This panel at the Permanent Representation of Hessen to the EU (Rue Montoyer 21) will be followed by a reception. Please [register here](#) for the EFM opening.

The EFM sessions on 12 June will take place at the R2 spaces of [Reset](#) (Rue de Ligne 2). Prior to the EFM Opening on 11 June, EMC members are invited to the [EMC Lab](#) at Reset.

The European Forum on Music will foster personal exchanges and strengthen relationships between organisations, projects and individuals. At the EFM, you will be able to meet key actors, and to participate in a variety of sessions, including keynote speeches, panel discussions, interactive workshops, and networking sessions.

View the [EFM 2025 programme](#). Read more in EFM's [official website](#).

Main image: [Parizan Studio](#) on Unsplash