

European Music School Union Europäische Musikschul-Union Union Européenne des Ecoles de Musique

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To whom it may concern

The Association of Catalan Music Schools (ACEM), one of the regional associations within the Spanish national organization UEMyD (Union de Escuelas de Musica y Danza) informed us about the financial problems that you are currently facing. UEMyD is an active and ancient member of the European Music School Union, having organized the General Assembly in 2003 as well as the European Youth Music Festival in 1998 in Barcelona. HRH Queen Sophia and important politicians honoured these events with their presence.

Even though we understand the critical situation in your region and the need to find solutions, we cannot approve the consequences affecting in such a radical way music and dance schools in your region. These schools accomplish an essentially important educational and societal task, contributing to a harmonious and peaceful development of children and young persons and their families. Serious scientific and social studies have proved the benefits of music education for the human being, from the childhood until a high age. Publicly supported music and dance schools are a cultural and educational platform of wide access to the population, which no European country can afford to put into peril or destroy, even in periods of financial difficulties.

We appeal to you: please continue to support this precious service to the youth and to the future of your region and country!

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Helena Maffl President European Music School Union