

## Guidelines

The purpose of the ECPCM is to exchange information, experience and results in the field of music in the Protestant churches. It also hopes to assist in advising on important questions in this field and to contribute to the mutual strengthening of church music activities.

1. The member organisations consider themselves mutually committed to the New Testament understanding of the Church as the body of Christ within which all the members should serve one another with the gifts and strength they have been given. They see as their main task to promote the praise of God and the life of the congregation through music and to serve the general public through church music.
2. The member organisations are completely free to determine their own work and structure and thus contribute their own characteristics to co-operation.
3. To strengthen their contacts and encourage information sharing, the members invite one another to important events. This purpose is also served by an exchange of magazines.
4. The joint conferences of the ECPCM usually take place in conjunction with a major event of one member organisation. The meeting of the assembly of delegates should also be held on this occasion.
5. The ECPCM considers it desirable to have contacts with the Roman Catholic Church and with other church institutions in the field of church music.
6. The Guidelines and Rules of Procedure can, when necessary, be amended at any time by the assembly of delegates.

## Rules of Procedure

1. **Membership.** The ECPCM is a voluntary association of organisations, institutions and associations (member organisations) which serve the promotion of music in the Protestant churches within the European region. Institutions which do not meet this requirement can be accepted by the assembly of delegates as corresponding members. It is possible for individuals to join the ECPCM as members of the group of friends. Applications for membership must be submitted in writing and will be decided on by the presidium. Resignation must also be in written form and is possible at the end of a calendar year following notification by October 1st at the latest.
2. **Assembly of Delegates.** The practical work of the ECPCM is discussed and decided by the assembly of delegates. This is composed of one voting delegate (authorised representative) of each member organisation who represents her/his member organisation at the assembly of delegates. Member organisations can change their representatives at any time. Votes at the assembly can only be cast personally by representatives. It is pos-

sible for additional representatives of member organisations to attend the assembly of delegates without the right to vote.

Individual members and honorary members are entitled to attend the assembly of delegates as consultants without the right to vote.

The assembly of delegates normally meets once a year. It has a quorum regardless of the number of members present. Decisions are taken by simple majority of delegates present.

3. **Election of President and Presidium.** The assembly of delegates elects the presidium by simple majority for a period of four years. The presidium consists of the president, the vice-president and at least three more members. Every delegate of a member organisation is eligible for election.

The president of the assembly of delegates is also the chairperson of the presidium, represents the ECPCM outside and executes the decisions of the assembly of delegates together with the presidium.

The president is supported by a secretariat and an accounts office.

4. **Finances.** As far as possible the work of the ECPCM should be conducted directly by the individual member organisations. In addition, the ECPCM obtains its funds from the voluntary contributions of its members and from allocations from church and other bodies. The annual contribution of the individual members is determined annually by the assembly of delegates.

The ECPCM has a solidarity fund which is fed from voluntary donations and special allocations.

In the context of the assembly of delegates, the presidium annually submits an account on the use of the funds in its care.

5. **ECPCM Conferences and Information about ECPCM.** Activities Member organisations, individual members and honorary members are invited to the national conferences, the “Strasbourg Conversations” and the assemblies of delegates and receive the informations of the ECPCM, as well as the information bulletin of the presidium at least once a year. The seat of the ECPCM is the place of residence of the president. The secretariat and the accounts office can also be set up in some other place.
6. **The dissolution of the ECPCM** can take place by a two thirds majority vote of all members. Any assets will then be assigned to an organisation with a similar aim or, if not available, to a charitable church institution.

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Adopted by the assembly of delegates at Strasbourg, September 2017

The previous guidelines and the rules of procedure of 1996-2016 have thus been superseded.

**The EKEK (ECPCM)** came into being in 1970 – at that time as the MKEK = Central European Contacts for Protestant Church Music. It has proved to be an increasingly important forum as the European house comes closer together; its main tasks comprise mutual information and exchange of experience between the various European countries in the field of worship and church music.

### **Conferences**

Every second year the so-called “Strasbourg Conversations” take place which deal with various subjects which are important for church music and church musicians. They have become an established feature of the ECPCM.

In the intervening years country conferences are held in different countries in turn. In these conferences the member organisations present their church and their church music.

In the internet: [www.ecpcm.eu](http://www.ecpcm.eu) you will find information, national reports and addresses given at the conferences.

**Internet: [www.ecpcm.eu](http://www.ecpcm.eu)**

## **EUROPEAN CONFERENCE FOR PROTESTANT CHURCH MUSIC**

EKEK EUROPÄISCHE KONFERENZ  
FÜR EVANGELISCHE KIRCHENMUSIK

CEMEP CONFERENCE EUROPEENNE  
POUR LA MUSIQUE D'ÉGLISE PROTESTANTE

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