PART I: YOUR ORGANISATION

1. Name of organisation:
   European Choral Association – Europa Cantat

2. Mission of the organisation:
The European Choral Association - Europa Cantat is a network of organisations, choirs and individuals in the choral field in Europe. It is the result of a merger between Europa Cantat - European Federation of Young Choirs (EFYC), founded in 1960/1963 and the Arbeitsgemeinschaft Europäischer Chorverbände (AGEC), founded in 1955 and it offers activities for choirs, young singers, conductors, composers and managers on all levels from Europe and beyond.

   The General Secretariat offers information and services about the choral world in Europe. Through our membership in the International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM), the International and European Music Council (IMC/EMC), Musica International, the Choral Festival Network and Culture Action Europe we are also connected to the choral world outside Europe and to other music and culture organisations.

   Vision: The vision of the European Choral Association – Europa Cantat is to be the leading pan-European nonprofit organisation dedicated to education and cultural exchange among singers of all ages, especially among children and young people in the field of vocal music.

   Strategy– Benefit from the Singing Community: We invest in capacity building and training, in connecting people from different communities and in raising awareness for the benefits of singing. We therefore help to strengthen the choral network and offer opportunities to people like you who like singing and learning from each other. Through the over 50 national and regional associations in 29 European countries and Israel, which are members of the European Choral Association – Europa Cantat, we reach out to around 2,5 Million people connected to vocal music across Europe. Our recent study (singingeurope.org) has shown that the potential of singing people in the European continent including Russia is around 37 Million. Our intention is to reach out to as many of these singers as possible – as well as to those who do not sing, yet. Sharing the benefits of collective singing we would like to raise the awareness for its possible contribution to the development of the individual, the improvement of social skills and the inclusion of those in danger of exclusion.
3. **Board of Directors/Executive Committee:**

   [name, role within Board, name of organization(s) that the Board member represents or is affiliated with]

**Board elected in November 2012 for 3 years:**

**Executive Board**

Gábor Móczár - President (Hungary – nominated by KÓTA), Carlo Pavese - 1st Vice President (Italy – nominated by Feniarco), Jan Schumacher - 2nd Vice-President and chair of Music Commission (Germany – nominated by several German choir associations), Anneliese Zeh - 3rd Vice President (Austria – nominated by Chorverband Österreich), Koenraad de Meulder – Treasurer (Belgium – nominated by Koor&Stem)

President Gábor Móczár

**Further Board members**

Séverine Delforge (Belgium – nominated by Fédération Chorale Wallonie-Bruxelles - A Coeur Joie Belgique), Martí Ferrer (Spain, nominated by Moviment Choral Català), Guido Helbling (Switzerland – nominated by schweizerische Föderation Europa Cantat), Reijo Kekkonen (Finland – nominated by Sulasol), Victoria Liedbergius (Norway – nominated by the Youth Committee of ECA-EC), Kaie Tanner (Estonia – nominated by the Estonian Choral Association), Jean-Claude Wilkens (France – nominated by A Coeur Joie france) and Daphne Wassink (The Netherlands – supported by kunstfactor, no LKCA).

**Main staff:**

Secretary General: Sonja Greiner
VOICE Project Manager: Côme Ferrand Cooper
Trainee: Giulia Lodi

The next elections will take place on November 14th 2015 with a new Board elected until October/November 2018.

4. **Membership**

   **Total number of members:**

   In November 2014 the membership of the European Choral Association - Europa Cantat included:
   - 52 choral organizations and conductors’ associations in 29 countries (23 EU countries, 5 other European countries & Israel)
   - 2 partners in Germany and Slovakia
   - 234 member choirs in 43 countries
   - 294 individual members in 50 countries
   - 7 families in 5 countries

   Altogether 589 members in 39 European countries (27 EU countries and 12 other European countries) and in 61 countries worldwide.

   **Composition of membership**

   - Number of institutional members: **52**
   - Number of individual members: **294 plus 7 families**
   - Other members (specify): **234 choirs**

   As per your estimation, how many persons does your organisation reach?

   **We claim that through our network of members we reach out to 2,5 million**

   Our recent study “Singing Europe” shows that there are around 37 million choral singers on the European continent.
In which world regions do you have members?

(x) Africa  (x) Americas  (x) Arab World  (x) Asia/Oceania  (X) Europe

Members outside Europe are considered “associate members” and have no voting rights.

5. Activities carried out since the last IMC GA (September 2013)

Please list your activities related to

a) advocacy and policy making

Our Advocacy work is usually not expressed in concrete activities. We support Culture Action Europe and the European Music Council for advocacy work concerning the European Union Culture Programme and concerning Music Education. Our project VOICE (see below) produced the Singing Europe report with statistics about choral life in Europe which we consider a useful tool for our membership to advocate for support for choral music on all levels. At our conferences we share examples of good practice and encourage our membership, partly also with recommendations distributed after the conferences, to advocate for specific issues (e.g. Singing in Music Education, reaching out – audience development / Sharing the benefits of singing etc.).

b) presentation or production

Number of

- conferences – 1 per year organised by us, plus 2-3 organised in partnership with ECA-EC by one of our member associations
- recordings – only within Festivals, training courses etc.
- live performances – live concerts at all events: Festivals (up to 100 or more concerts during one week), Singing Weeks (10 to 15 concerts during one week), Training courses (1-2 concerts), World Youth Choir and Eurochoir (between 2 and 10 concerts during one session)
- festivals – 1 major festival every three years – EUROPA CANTAT Festival, last summer 2015 in Pécs, Hungary, next summer 2018 in Tallinn, Estonia / Plus EUROPA CANTAT junior every three years, last 2014 in Bergen, Norway, next 2017 to be confirmed / Youth Choirs in Movement festival – last 2013, next probably 2017 / “mini-festivals” called International Singing Weeks, 1-5 per year
- competitions – 1 competition for young conductors, roughly every two years (last June 2015 in Turin, Italy), plus composition competitions at specific events and European Award for Composers every three years (last 2014, results presented at festival 2015).
- prizes and awards – see competitions
Please describe the main events.

**Events since November 2013, when the last report was submitted:**

**2014**
The year 2014 was the year of our EUROPA CANTAT junior festival which brought together almost 1,000 participants in Bergen, Norway, continuing the success story of events for children’s and youth choirs which have become very popular these last years. In addition we had the Youth Chamber Choir Week in Usedom (Germany), the International Singing Week in Tarragona (Catalonia, Spain) and Choralp in Briançon (France), while the Alpe Adria Cantat week in Lignano (Italy) unfortunately had to be cancelled due to a lack of applications. Conductors attended the Open Singing Masterclass in Basel (Switzerland), the Masterclass in Vaison-la-Romaine (France), the 11th Oratorio Choir Academy in Pomáz (Hungary) and the Study Tour to EUROPA CANTAT junior as well as the Congress for Conductors in the frame of VOICE in Paris (France). Composers participated in the European Academy for Young Composers in Aosta (Italy) while managers were highly impressed by the Estonian Song Celebration during their Study Tour to Tallinn (Estonia) and were trained at the Choral Arts Management Programme at the Polyfollia festival in Saint Lô (France) and the Eurochoir brought together around 60 individual young singers from across Europe for the 2014 summer session in Saintes (France).

In the frame of our Hearts-in-Harmony series for the inclusion of singers with disabilities, the 4th International Inclusive Choral Workshop and Professors’ Conference in Novi Sad (Serbia) successfully took place and the conference programme included the Symposium on Singing and Music Education in Budapest (Hungary) and the conference “Reaching out” in the frame of the VOICE project in November 2014 in Barcelona (Catalonia, Spain).

The activities in 2014 thus involved a large number of people from all over Europe and beyond. There were over 3,000 people (singers, conductors, teachers, composers and cultural managers as well as invited musicians, atelier conductors and staff members) involved in our activities without recommended events. They came from 51 countries worldwide - 25 EU countries (AT, BE, CY, CZ, DK, EE, FI, FR, DE, HR, HU, IR, IT, LT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SI, ES, SE, UK), 5 further European countries participating in the EU Culture programme (MK, ME, NO, RS, TR), 3 other European countries (BY, RU, CH) and 18 countries outside Europe (Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China including Hong Kong, Columbia, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Nigeria, Philippines, Senegal, South Africa, South Korea, Uruguay, USA) at the events of the European Choral Association - Europa Cantat.

At these events, which took place in 9 European countries, participants rehearsed and performed and listened to around music from 24 different countries (15 EU countries, 4 other European countries and 5 countries outside Europe), Classical music from across Europe and beyond, Traditional Music from different parts of the world, Musicals, Opera, Vocal Jazz, Vocal Pop, Gospel, Spirituals, Contemporary Music.
They were conducted, as well as taught in lectures and seminars, by over **100 conductors and experts** from **24 countries worldwide** (16 EU countries, 2 other European country and 6 countries outside Europe) plus a number of lecturers and guest artists included in the total figure of participants above. The events were organised by **around 90 staff members and volunteers** coming from **10 European countries** and 3 countries outside Europe.

In addition recommended events and activities in the frame of VOICE were offered in France, Italy, The Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, (and South Korea), attracting further participants from across Europe and beyond.

2014 was also the 3rd year of our multiannual European cooperation project **VOICE – Vision On Innovation for Choral Music in Europe.** The programme included concrete activities of ECA-EC (Masterclass in Vaison, Eurochoir in Saintes, Symposium on Singing and Music Education in Budapest) and others recommended by ECA-EC (Congress for conductors in Paris). In addition the Data-collection “Singing Europe” was continued with first conclusions drawn at the end of the year, and the research projects were continued throughout the year. Further details are published in the separate report above and on www.thevoiceproject.eu.

2015:
The main activity in 2015 was the **EUROPA CANTAT festival in Pécs, Hungary, July 24th to August 2nd 2015.** 6000 guests came to the festival from all over the world, from more than 50 countries, and turned Pécs into the capital of the choral world for several days. There were more than 130 concerts in 20 concert venues in Pécs and 16 venues in the surrounding region, a daily public Open Singing, 40 workshops for singers lasting 4 to 8 days, and numerous one-day discovery workshops as well as an intense programme for conductors and composers. The festival was run by a staff of around 70 Hungarian and international staff members and volunteers, including 25 young managers in the Youth Event Management Training, with the support of around 200 local volunteers.

Other activities 2015 included a **Singing Week in France**, as well as an **International Competition for Young Conductors** and a **European Academy for Young Conductors in Italy**. The year of activities will end in November 2015 with a conference on “Sharing the Benefits of Singing” in Helsinki, Finland, connected to the General Assembly of the association.

The VOICE project ended in May 2015, a final report was published as well as the “Singing Europe” report with statistics on choral life in Europe.

c) Research
The research carried out during the last year was all done in the frame of the project VOICE – Vision on Innovation for Choral Music in Europe. There was research done under the title “A Voice for Vocal Training”, gathering information and examples of good practice about singing and music education in school. There was a research programme called “The Singing Sofa” analysing the psychological effects of collective singing on young people, and there was a research on the vocal health of amateur singers.

Last but not least, the VOICE project included the data-collection “Singing Europe” which gathered statistical information on collective singing in Europe and brought as a result that 37 million people sing in Europe.
d) information services

- printed periodicals (number of issues)
  
  **European Choral magazine – Ecmagazine, 3 issues a year**
  
  (in 2014 1 issue only distributed digitally with 100 digital copies printed, in 2015 1 issue printed as special issue of the festival newspaper in Pécs)
  
  Plus an annual copy of the **brochure with the programme of activities** for the coming year and a calendar flyer.
  
  Separate publications are printed at the different events.

- electronic newsletters / newsflashes (number of issues)
  
  About 10 issues of the electronic newsletter, 1 per month with a double issue in summer and a double issue in December/January

- books (title, number of copies printed)
  
  The "Singing Europe“ report was published – 1.000 paper copies published, plus wide distribution digitally.
  
  Also we published a songbook in the frame of the EUROPA CANTAT festival and are regularly publishing and co-publishing song collections.

- audio-visual material (title)
  
  Video and audio recordings of the different events, none done by ECA-EC directly.

- studies, surveys, etc.(title)
  
  See above, the "Singing Europe“ report gathering statistics on choral life in Europe, plus digital publication of research results of other research in the VOICE project, see www.thevoiceproject.eu and www.singingeurope.org

e) events organised in cooperation with IMC and/or Regional Music Councils

  none – though we participated in all EMC events in 2014 and 2015, we made presentations and our Secretary General chaired a round table discussion at the European Forum on Music in Riga in 2014.

f) other

  Website, Social Media (Youtube, Twitter, Facebook, Google Plus)

Please elaborate on your programme choices.


Please list your activities related to

a) advocacy and policy making

  We are planning to make use of the Singing Europe results to support advocacy work of our members. At our conference in Helsinki in November 2015 we will collect ideas on how these results can be used.

b) presentation or production (conferences, recordings, live performances, festivals, competitions, prizes and awards, etc.)

  We are planning several festivals with numerous live performances (concerts), in 2016 and 2017, including a EUROPA CANTAT junior and Youth Choirs in Movement festival 2017, training courses for conductors, composers and managers, several conferences. For the details of the 2016 programme see below.
c) information services

It is not clear, yet, how many printed publications we can produce, but we are planning to continue publishing ECmagazine and an annual brochure of activities, to send out monthly newsletters and special E-mails and to use Social Media.

d) Research

We have submitted an application for EU funding for a project called “Choral Upgrade in Europe” which should start in June 2016. In the frame of this project the Singing Europe research should be continued (updating the data) and we plan to collect further research in connection with (collective) singing.

e) events organised in cooperation with IMC and/or Regional Music Councils

There are no concrete plans for this at the moment, though we are in general always closely cooperating with the European Music Council, and are considering to participate in a major project coordinated by them.

f) other

Please elaborate on your programme choices.

Our 2016 programme, also looking ahead:
7. **Relationship with UNESCO**
   
a) How are your relations with the National Commission for UNESCO in your country?
   
   We have no special relation, though we usually invite the representative of the German UNESCO Commission, Frau Merkel, to our events in Bonn.
   
b) Do you have contact with one or more UNESCO offices in the field (outside Paris)? If yes, please describe your relations. If not, please explain the reasons.
   
   No, though we have sometimes informed our partners and asked them to get in touch.

8. **Please elaborate on the important collaborations you have had with other organisations (national and international). Which ones?**

   **International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM)** – we are a member, our President is on their Board, we are patrons for the World Youth Choir together and we cooperate on many levels, we regularly attend their World Symposium

   **European Music Council (EMC) and International Music Council (IMC)** – we are a member, one of our Board members is on the Board of the European Music Council, another Board member is on the Executive Board of the International Music Council until November 2015 and is standing for elections again, and the current chair of our Youth Committee is member of IMC Youth and has been appointed to the IMC Executive Committee. We actively participate in many of their activities and projects

   **Culture Action Europe** – we are a member, we participate in their activities and we support their advocacy work

   **Jeunesses Musicales Internationales** – we are patrons of the World Youth Choir and members of the World Youth Choir Foundation together (also with IFCM), we have Board members in the Foundation and a member in the Artistic Committee. One of our staff members is planning a staff exchange with JMI in November ’15.

   **Musica International** – we are a member and are attending their General Assemblies and cooperating in other ways

   **Choral Festival Network** – we are a member and are attending their General Assemblies and cooperating in other ways

   **América Cantat, Choralies and Zimriya** – three “sister festivals” with a similar structure to our EUROPA CANTAT festival with which we actively cooperate, especially in the case of América Cantat.

   **African Choral Association - Africa Cantat**

   We also advise choral partners in Africa and helping with the preparations for an “Africa Cantat” in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo in August 2017.

   **AEC** – European Association of Conservatoires – we cooperated with them in the frame of VOICE for a database on conducting and vocal studies and are cooperating in general about music education matters, planning a more close cooperation in future – in the new project planned we are planning to cooperate with a number of member universities of AEC.

   **EMU** – European Music School Union – we cooperated with them in the frame of VOICE for a conference on singing and music education and are cooperating in general about music education matters, planning a more close cooperation in future.

   **TENSO** – Network of professional choirs – we are associate partners in one of their EU projects, they are associate partners in VOICE and participating in our General Assembly and conference 2013 and we cooperate on different issues

   **EVTA** – European Voice Teacher’s Association – we were associate partners in one of their EU projects and cooperated with them for our General Assembly and conference 2012.
Singing Cities Network – we are supporting them and keeping informed about their activities, attending their meetings when possible. Also they are partners in the project “Choral Upgrade in Europe” for which we are applying for EU funding.

European Broadcasting Union - we have cooperated with them on the Let the Peoples Sing choir competition

Further music associations – we cooperate with further music associations under the roof of the European Music Council

Research Institutes – in the frame of the VOICE project we cooperated with Research institutes in Belgium and the UK.

Social institutions – in the frame of our new project, Choral Upgrade in Europe, we are also planning to cooperate with institutions in the social field, for example those dealing with people with disabilities or people with dementia. We already included them in another project application under the “Europe for Citizens” programme which was not successful.

In Germany we have several member organisations in the choral field with whom we regularly cooperate. We have also participated in meetings of all German members of Culture Action Europe and have contacts with the German Music Council, especially the organisers of the German Choir Competition. We also cooperate with a festival and different schools and cultural operators in Bonn, the seat of our association.

9. What was the total budget of your organisation last year (in EUR)? Please also distinguish between operational and project budget.

Our annual budget 2014 was of roughly 320,000 EUR. The Operational budget was a bit over 180,000 EUR, the remaining amount was our project budget which included the major European cooperation project VOICE where a part of the budget had to be forwarded to the project partners.

10. Sources of funding

Please indicate the percentage of your annual budget coming from the following sources: Percentages are on the total budget, not the operational budget

- Membership fees 19 %
- Individual contributions 2 % (through “Friends of Choral Music“)
- Grants 0 %
- Contracts 0 %
- Government support 11% (national and local support)
- Corporate sponsorship 0 %
- Earned income 15 % (license fees, sale of adverts etc.)
- Other (please specify) 53 % (Project income, mostly for VOICE)

11. Please share your further comments and experiences!
PART II: YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN ACTIVITIES OF IMC AND ITS REGIONAL MUSIC COUNCILS

12. Did (will) your organisation send a representative to participate in events and conferences organised by IMC and its regional music councils?

- 5th IMC World Forum on Music (Brisbane, 2013)
- Share & Learn: Audience Development Capacity building exchange workshop (Warsaw, 2015)
- 4th session of the AMC General Assembly (Brazzaville, 2014)
- Feux de Brazza Festival symposium on « The African music instrument and its role in the world music » (Brazzaville, 2014)
- African Music Rostrum (Brazzaville, 2014)
- 8th session of the AMC Executive Committee (Brazzaville, 2015)
- Other (please specify):

13. Did you disseminate information coming from IMC and Regional Music Council’s to your constituency? If yes, please specify how many times.

- Newsflashes from IMC
- IMC MUSIC WORLD NEWS (disseminating information about their existence and encouraging our members to directly sign up for them)
- Letter from the President of the African Music Council
- Newsflashes from the European Music Council (including news in our newsletter)
- Newsletters from the European Music Council (including news in our newsletter)
- EMCMagazine Sounds in Europe (only to our Board)
- Reports of the IMC President (though I have the feeling it has been a while since I received the last report)
- Other information (from meetings, seminars, appointments)

We forward invitations to events which are public
14. Have you participated in projects coordinated by the IMC or a regional music council? Please specify.
   Examples:
   - AMDP (African Music Development Programme)
   - Rostrum+
   - "The future we want includes culture" campaign
   I think we shared this campaign on Facebook

   We were partners in the youth project "Make Music, Be Heard!" coordinated by the European Music Council

15. Have you cooperated (as project leader or partner) in projects with other IMC members?
   Please specify, both the projects and the partners.
   Example:
   - World Youth Choir: a cooperation project between the European Choir Association- Europa Cantat, the International Federation for Choral Music and Jeunesses Musicales International
   YES, since this is our example ;-)

   Symposium on Singing and Music Education “Singing belongs to everyone” in Budapest in cooperation with the European Music School Union and with the support of EMC.
   We were partners in the project “Leo Sings!” coordinated by the Platforme Interrégionale, our member, but also member of EMC/IMC.

   Also see point 8 above – in the frame of European cooperation projects we also cooperated with AEC, for example, and with Koor&Stem and Moviment Coral Català, who are our members but also members of EMC/IMC.

16. Have you invited the IMC, or a regional music council, for cooperation?
   Please specify.
   When preparing the first application for the project “Choral Upgrade in Europe” we invited both EMC and IMC to check if they could be partners in these projects.

17. Are you interested in hosting an event of the IMC or a regional music council? (On conditions to be agreed upon.)

   - [ ] IMC World Forum on Music
   - [ ] European Forum on Music
   - [ ] meeting of the African Music Council
   - [ ] meeting of the Arab Academy of Music
   - [ ] meeting of the Music Council of Asia/Oceania
   - [ ] meeting of COMTA
   - [ ] meeting of IMC Youth
   - [ ] meeting of the EMC Youth Committee
   - [ ] any other meeting, please specify:

   There are no concrete plans at the moment, though I could imagine hosting a meeting of IMC Youth or the EMC Youth Committee for example in the frame of our next EUROPA CANTAT Festival in Tallinn in summer 2018.

   Thank you very much for taking the time to complete the report form and for your efforts!