

LIVE DMA MEMBERS' MEETING  
**COVID-19: AND THEN WHAT? #4 – 18<sup>th</sup> OF JUNE, 2020**

Representatives of the following organisations were present: Live DMA, ClubCircuit, Music Venue Trust, LiveKomm, Kultura Live, ASACC, IKSU, NKA.

These series of informal meetings allow member to exchange information and the challenges they are facing with the COVID-19 crisis and express their needs at European level. This second meeting consisted in a "round table" where each organization presented their response to the crisis of the live music sector in each country, the different national crisis measures taken by public authorities and the various perspectives for exit strategies. These were followed by spontaneous discussions.

**Next online informal members meeting:** Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> of July at 17:00

*Zoom link will be communicated to Live DMA members a few hours before the meeting.*

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1) SUMMARY ROUND-TABLE:

**LiveKomm / Germany - [mw@clubcommission.de](mailto:mw@clubcommission.de)**

- they have been working intensively
- Government announced 150 million euro with clubculture & festivals included as targets
- But other music organisations are lobbying to get their share -> 120 million separated to other parts of the sector
- Festivals able to apply, coming from ministry of culture. VERY big German corona package infrastructure for corona crisis (from economy ministry: 130 million → Rents, loans, banks...) → Very new, LiveKomm doesn't know the details of this aid package yet.
- Clubs can apply for aid from economics + culture ministries. Programmes can be combined. (10 000 euros for companies)
- Nothing for freelancers / artists / people working on a singulary bill >> they have to apply on ministry for work, will be treated as unemployed. Today huge demonstration in berlin for freelancers.
- Some clubs will survive, some won't. Not clear how much will survive though.

**NKA / Norway - [anders@konsertarrangor.no](mailto:anders@konsertarrangor.no)**

- 15<sup>th</sup> June: concerts in Norway and any type of gathering within sanitary regulations (1m distance, etc), 200 for rest of the year with 1m distance for now.
- Compensation, encouraging businesses in taking people back from layoff: €1500.
- Compensation plan for concert organisers: prolonged until end of august €150 million.
- After September 1<sup>st</sup>: what happens? If compensation stops >> members go bankrupt.
- Venues are encouraged to do something but no money to do it.
- Politicians taking summer break, no news before they come back.

**Music Venue Trust / UK – [beverley@musicvenuetrust.com](mailto:beverley@musicvenuetrust.com)**

- It's a nightmare
- Nobody knows what is happening. Government make announcements but no actions after. Consultations but then they change things. For example: they try to link guidance for pubs & bars (who bear the responsibility for people drinking too much) with guidance for performing arts (who do not bear responsibility for people drunk) & film industry & entertainment. Nonsense.
- Infection rate not reduced as in other countries.

- Potential re-opening : 4<sup>th</sup> of July
- MVT has done its own research among their members, in-depth study based on REVS protocol. Figures: 1 or 2m distancing= lose money so better to stay close.
- Audience research: 30 000 responses >> people do not feel safe returning to music in July/August. Better in September, even more people would be willing to go see a concert in October. Before: they are not confident.
- Sector should remain closed, but for that they need governmental support.
- Save our Venues raised 2 million pounds.
- REVS: Welsh government use it / Wales & Scottish don't know / English government: they follow guidance on REVS, but they are preparing one generic type of guidelines, so it is messy.

**ASACC / Catalonia – [lluis.torrents@salarazzmatazz.com](mailto:lluis.torrents@salarazzmatazz.com)**

- It's a big mess
- Until now: phase 3 : 30% capacity + tables & chairs on dancefloor.
- Catalan government has to decide how they are going to regulate the situation. ASACC is working with other entities for nightlife. They try to make a realistic proposal for sector, taking into account that 30% capacity is not possible >> proposal of 66% capacity. Then, 75% capacity until there is a vaccine.
- Our work is not possible with social distancing. Solution: nominal pre-sale tickets in order to keep track of people in case of a virus outbreak. Written acceptance of audience // inspired by PETZI example.
- Today, new announcement: president of Catalonia has said that from now the rules have changed: can open 50% capacity, without tables or chairs. We have to guarantee the one and a half meter of distance. If not: use masks. Not the same as previous plan (phase 3).
- Possible change on June 25<sup>th</sup> as this is not a written law yet.

**Kultura Live / Basque Country – [arkaitz@musikabulegoa.eus](mailto:arkaitz@musikabulegoa.eus)**

- State of emergency ends today. Tomorrow: "new normal" in Basque Country.
- Restrictions for concerts: 1m50 distance, only 60% capacity. Discotheques: 60% capacity. Dancefloors are closed, seated.
- Kultura Live tries to see with the Basque government how they could work together.
- In July: elections in the Basque Country. This closes dialogue: no changes until September.

**IKSV / Turkey – [asli.yurdanur@iksv.org](mailto:asli.yurdanur@iksv.org)**

- In Turkey, more or less the same as in other countries.
- As of June 1<sup>st</sup> : restaurants, bars & pubs are open.
- As of July 1<sup>st</sup>: concert halls and cinemas open, but not for live music venues (seen as dangerous). Don't know the exact requirements. Salon IKS have cancelled all their shows for 2020 >> go fully digital / live streaming.
- No support mechanisms and grants.

**ClubCircuit / Flanders - [marc@clubcircuit.be](mailto:marc@clubcircuit.be)**

- 2 weeks ago heard about new regulations for events for 1<sup>st</sup> July onwards. Only able to have events up to 200 capacity with 1m50 distance. 4m2 per person, public is seated. Confusion about wearing masks: either social distance, either you wear a mask.
- After 1<sup>st</sup> September: new regulations.

- Can open but with a lot of restrictions, not economically sustainable.
- Like in Norway: government support until 31<sup>st</sup> of august. Afterwards, don't know. Either nothing or economical unemployment but employers still have to contribute to a certain amount to wages.
- Venues are allowed to receive visitors if they ask their phone number and mail address. Not so much a problem cos presales but wondering if we are allowed to do that in terms of DGPR rules?

**Court-Circuit / Wallonia & Brussels – [laura.courtircuit@gmail.com](mailto:laura.courtircuit@gmail.com)**

- Venues are allowed to do activities without an audience (rehearsal, residences, recording, filming...) since June 8th.

- Concerts and other activities involving the audience will be able to start again on **July 1st** with a maximum of 200 people per venue.

Conditions are :

- wear a mask and/or respect the physical distancing between isolated visitors or a group of 10 max.
- visitors must be seated
- capacity of max 200 people per venue
- entrance and exit of the visitors must be organised in order to avoid any concentration of people
- electronic payment for ticketing or booking is recommended

Outside concerts are allowed under the same conditions except that people can be standing and of course crowds have to be avoided using marking, barriers, etc.

Some points can obviously change by July 1st.

**Hanzas Perons / Latvia – [leva.lrbina@hanzasperons.lv](mailto:leva.lrbina@hanzasperons.lv)**

**1. Events and capacities:**

\* until June 30 - indoor 100, outdoor 300

\* July 1st - July 31 - indoor 100 pax if venue size is smaller than 1000m<sup>2</sup>, 500 pax if venue bigger than 1000m<sup>2</sup>, outdoor 1000 pax

\* August 1 - August 31 - indoor 250 pax if venue size is smaller than 1000m<sup>2</sup>, 500 pax if venue bigger than 1000m<sup>2</sup>, outdoor 1000 pax

Conditions for these number are:

- the maximum number of people can be calculated using 4m<sup>2</sup> per person - that means - in case your venue or location is at least 2000m<sup>2</sup> (all public space, including corridors, lobbies), the your max for indoor is 500 pax, if your venue is 1600m<sup>2</sup> - then max for you would be 400 pax
- 2m should be secured between visitors, with the exception of one household
- congestion points should be avoided - f.e. - bars, locker rooms, etc
- all events have time limitations 6:30 am until midnight, with the exeption of car-events which can happen until 2:00 am

**2. Regulations for ticket refunds**

We have agreed on new regulation regarding ticket refunds for canceled and postponed events and those are:

(1) A cultural, entertainment and sports service provider who is unable to provide pre-planned and commercially available services due to assembly restrictions imposed to limit the spread of Covid-19 infection shall have the right to postpone the event to another time appropriate to the event, but not later than six months after the date of lifting of restrictions. The event must take place no later than one year after the date of lifting of the restrictions.

(2) If the consumer is unable to attend the event on the postponed date for justified reasons (eg the consumer cannot be in the country where the event takes place, the consumer is prevented from attending the event by significant health restrictions), the service provider shall reimburse the request within a maximum of six months from the date of lifting the restrictions.

(3) If the service provider is unable to ensure the transfer of the previously planned measure, he or she has the right to offer the consumer another equivalent measure or, if the consumer refuses the offer, the service provider shall repay the money within a period not exceeding six months after the lifting of the relevant restrictions.

In other words - we have time limits on when postponed event should happen and when decision on postponing or canceling should be announced. And we have extended time limit to refund the money.

### **3. Compensations**

Yesterday we agreed the new program will be launched to prevent the effects of covid and ensure the viability of operators in culture sector (venues, promoters) - the details for this are still question of discussion and should be approved next week. Will let you know on what we have, but the main idea is to help with running costs with max expenditure limit per month.

#### 2) DISCUSSIONS, IDEAS...

In the UK, the government argues that "singing emits more droplets than talking" and requires 6m distance between singer and the audience: has any of your governments talked about this? Are they using evidence to prove this? (MVT has seen that it is not true. And adds that it is not logical: didn't they think that the audience would sing? Or other members of the band? What about if you sing "happy birthday" among your private circle? Is that dangerous?

In Belgium: No scientific study but used as an argument: 2m distance between singer and audience. Discussion about choirs. Now not possible to perform, but in the future 4m between choir singers. Idem horn sections.

In Germany: case of Frankfurt large corona outbreak because of choirs in church. Inside rooms = problem. Outside = OK. Demonstrations in Berlin: no evidence of infection.

Norway: open for people on stage, allowed to interact with people on stage. No 1m restriction. Not more restriction from stage to audience, but something in the sanitary guidelines about being cautious. More space between stage and audience. Low containment in Norway.

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Are illegal parties & raves happening in your country?

Spain: yes

Belgium: a terrace closed last week – compass club open door. DJ on terrace. Administrative closure

for the weekend.

Wohlrabe: raves in Germany. Club Commission: call to our members, respect official rules. People not totally respecting the rules. Politicians know that, they don't want to put their hands in the fire. UK: 2 raves in Manchester: 2 deaths, 2 rapes, 17 police injured, 130 arrests. 4 other raves in the UK over the weekend.

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Tracking apps vs DGPR rules?

MVT: meeting with government for guidance.

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Tourist allowed back in London from 4<sup>th</sup> July with no quarantine. Seat together on a plane but not go next to people in a theater.

Argument from UK government: CCS not important. IN UK not true: most growing before confinement.

Arkaitz: difficult for members to put up concerts but there will be big festival by local authorities this summer. Happening anywhere else?

Turkey: if outdoor, no problem. Indoor venues; not possible.

Lluis: agreement with Barcelona city council: organizing together during 2 months (July & August) concerts outdoor for 400 people seated. Big part of the money from city council of Barcelona. ASACC managing the bookings. Can be a help for small venues to get some money. Money shared among Small Music Venues of Barcelona.

Anders: indoor regulation tougher. Question in Norway: what is a meter? Counted from where? The head? The shoulders? What about people of different size?

NKA members do downsize version of festival, both in and outdoors. Most challenging: difference between what a local health authority says vs national health authorities. Where draw line of responsibility (organizer vs local authorities) ex: outside perimeter of festival, who is responsible? Some government say no to concerts, even for 200 or less, because afraid of traffic in public transport.