

LIVE DMA MEMBERS' MEETING
COVID-19: AND THEN WHAT? #5 – 6th OF JULY, 2020

Representatives of the following organisations were present: Live DMA, Live ME, Music Venue Trust, ASACC, PETZI

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 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.

This was the last member's meeting before the summer break. Happy summer!

Member's meetings shall start again in September.

REGISTER AT THE LIVE DMA ONLINE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (September, 9th 2020 – starting 13:30 CET):

<https://forms.gle/5CD18qmqbXoKnRqG7>

WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO ATTEND A LIVE DMA MEMBERS PHYSICAL MEETING? TELL US!:

<https://forms.gle/owiWCH4YHxYbVthj6>

1) SUMMARY ROUND-TABLE:

Live ME / Estonia - henri.roosipold@gmail.com

- Live ME's work currently focuses on additional state aid. They are still negotiating it with Ministry of Culture → they hope (good) news for July/August, but are not sure
- Negotiations on reducing VAT rates are going on ; they talk to different political parties → political parties showed their support, especially in the capital city who are now starting to negotiate with the ministry of culture
- Restrictions have been removed step by step: crowd limitation: 1000 outdoor, 500 indoor // no strict measures anymore for the promoters
- Ministry of culture announced that there will be a big rally event in September (will attract a lot of tourism) – a weird announcement as there are still restrictions for other event organisers
- Tallinn is running as Music City candidate
- Bigger problem is for +1000 capacity venues: but there are only 6 in Estonia, hopefully the state measures will help

Music Venue Trust / UK - beverley@musicvenue trust.com

- Last night, announcement, 1,57 billion pounds for culture (= €1,38 billion)
- Cultural sector says it's not enough, it came too late. MVT is saying thank you – grassroots music venues and MVT are quoted alongside a lot of prestige cultural institutions
- They still do not know what the money is going to be for exactly.
- Fear: the normal arts founding bodies will handle the money (Arts council), so MVT will have to deal with them
- MVT is cautiously optimistic, they will have to work with 4 different governments (England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland)
- In UK, VAT is 20 %, among the highest in Europe → they are waiting for a reduction to come (reduction in VAT in concert ticketing)

ASACC / Catalonia - lluis.torrents@salarazzmatazz.com

- several new outbreaks in the country, it's the fruit season - immigrant workers (they live in bad conditions – fear of an outbreak)
- Venues can open, not allowed to dance, strict distancing measures, reduced capacity
- ASACC is in a Working Group with government, civil protection & health department → they are trying to achieve 75 % capacity with specific rules (compulsory masks, limited dancefloor, no drinks on the dancefloor...) → They try to bring forward other options to the government that allows activity of venues
- Meeting of health committee that should discuss their proposal soon.

PETZI / Switzerland - office@petzi.ch

- Two campaigns: culture is my job & the night of lights (over 1000 cultural places took part in Switzerland) → seemed to help as the government changed some of its decisions (now: financial help until September for freelance employment, outdoor and indoor events up to 1000 people – this is not quite working yet)
- There were a few outbreaks in venues – the regions make now the decisions again, so this complicates the work of PETZI (different rules in the regions), Zurich seems to close down again.
- There is so much more testing going on now, that may explain the increase of cases.
- They expect a second wave (In Zurich)
- Outside events / festivals are going on – its weird – only 300 people can come, if over 300 people, very difficult circumstances (different zones with own toilets, bar, etc.)
- Version 3 of the PETZI protection plan is in the making – tracing of max 300 people (for venues between 300 and 1500 venues its very difficult).
- Venues do not really know what they can and cannot do. Yet, they need to start booking and elaborating their programmes for fall.
- Now in public transport people need to wear masks
- For the artists it will be difficult – Germany no events until end of October – so no touring for Swiss artists → It is an ecosystem issue
- People are scared that the virus goes up – so they expect that the reopening wont last very long...
- The tracing issue is very difficult – common zones for 300 people max.

2) DISCUSSIONS, THOUGHTS, IDEAS...

There is no ID card system in the UK – tracing is difficult

The Swiss government app on tracing is not working (need to have Bluetooth on at all times) – they have to work on it again → Assumption that people might give wrong information

Ticketing system in Switzerland: you have to give email & phone number – venues will check by calling at the entrance. This seems hard to put into place.

The ID thing is also putting into question the freedom of accessing the cultural event. What about people who do not have ID cards?

Estonia – music events are really popular, infection rate is still very low, everybody has almost forgotten that the virus might spread again – public behaviour is not in accordance with the safety measures.