

- Press release -

## **Up-and-coming artists in danger: financial Imbalanced financial distribution in the german live industry**

LiveKomm appeals for a "Circle of Live" to secure the future of the live music market in Germany.

Hamburg, 15.03.2024 - In view of the current situation, in which a few industry giants from the music industry have recorded considerable excess profits even during the pandemic, while many clubs and festivals are under existential threat, politicians are having to introduce minimum fees for artists and subsidise already funded high-culture institutions with millions, the LiveMusikKommission (LiveKomm for short), as the federal association of music venues in Germany, is calling for a redistribution in the live music market. This measure is necessary not only to preserve existing cultural venues, but also to train new artists for the future and offer them an appropriate platform so that successful artists can continue to be seen on live stages in the future.

### Background

The live music scene is an essential part of our cultural identity and economy. Clubs and festivals act as biotopes in the ecosystem of the music industry. However, due to the consequences of coronavirus and inflation, the majority of these music venues are in financial difficulties. Small promoters in particular are being forced to discontinue their previous basic work and stop high-risk bookings for talented young musicians. This also has long-term consequences for the entire music economy.

### Call for redistribution

While the major live groups are announcing record profits for 2023, LiveKomm sees this development as an urgent need to redistribute financial resources in the live music market. It is time for some of the surpluses generated by large ticketing companies, for example, to be distributed more fairly and equitably across the entire industry and for the players in the live entertainment ecosystem to work together to sustainably secure cultural diversity and jointly drive the economic development of the industry.

Objectives of the redistribution and how the money could be used

#### *1. securing the existence of clubs and festivals*

The redistribution is intended to help support the existence of clubs and festivals and to preserve their important function as a cultural breeding ground

#### *2. promotion of artists*

Part of the income should be invested specifically in the training and promotion of new artists in order to sustainably secure the future of the live music scene.

#### *3. equal opportunities and diversity*

The redistribution should ensure that artists receive equal opportunities regardless of their equal opportunities and that cultural diversity in the music scene is promoted.

#### *4. Long-term investments*

The financial resources from the redistribution are to be invested in long-term projects projects that strengthen the live music industry as a whole, enable investment in sustainability and promote innovation.

#### Appeal to politicians and industry dialogue

The Federal Association of Clubs and Festivals appeals to politicians to recognize this and support this urgent need for redistribution.

The LiveKomm makes two concrete proposals and suggests an industry dialogue:

1. the event industry's commitment to voluntary contributions, e.g. to the Federal Foundation for Live Culture or comparable institutions

or

2. creation of a statutory live ticket levy analogous to the film levy model

Christian Ordon, Managing Director of LiveKomm:

*"In Germany, too, there should finally be a public debate about the future of live culture. The fatal consequences of an increasingly monopolised music market are currently becoming increasingly visible in the UK and the USA are becoming increasingly visible. The corresponding antitrust lawsuits being conducted there are also attracting much more attention in politics. We would like to use our appeal to get the first get the ball rolling here."*

---

Press contact:

Michael Smosarski, kommunikation@livekomm.org,

Tel. 0049 176 - 31 74 91 58

Links:

[www.livemusikkommission.de](http://www.livemusikkommission.de)

[www.clubsareculture.de](http://www.clubsareculture.de)

About LiveKomm:

The Live Musik Kommission e.V. (LiveKomm for short) is the federal association of music venues in Germany and represents more than 730 music clubs and festivals festivals in over 100 cities and municipalities. Its members are among the largest providers of local cultural events, urban tourism and the promotion of German and international talent promotion and is part of the European music venue network music venue network LiveDMA.