

INVITATION TO BECOME A CHORAL CONNECTOR OF THE EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION

AND

TO OBTAIN FUNDING TO COVER (PARTS OF) THE COSTS OF A TRIP TO ONE OF THE TARGET COUNTRIES OF OUR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

WHY ARE WE INVITING YOU TO BECOME A CHORAL CONNECTOR OF THE EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION?

One of the objectives of the European Choral Association for the period 2022-2024 is to implement a new regional development strategy, focusing on countries and regions with which the Association has little or no contact, less knowledge of their choral or collective singing landscape, and for which no data on collective singing is available in the Singing Europe study.

The aim of the new regional development strategy and of this invitation is to approach the target countries (Central-Eastern and South-Eastern Europe) through the so-called short-term Choral Connectors of the European Choral Association.

We invite you to help us to learn about the culture and choral landscape, discover examples of good practice, establish new contacts and strengthen the relationship with the existing ones as well as to get to know the challenges and wishes of the sector in the target countries. Our wish is that cooperation between the European Choral Association and the target countries would enable intercultural exchange, knowledge sharing and networking and will bring mutual benefits.

TARGET COUNTRIES OF THE NEW REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus (no trips in the near future, but long-term planning possible), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Georgia, Greece, Kosovo, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Russia (no trips in the near future, but long-term planning possible), Serbia, Slovakia, Ukraine (no trips in the near future, but long-term planning possible).

WHO CAN BE A CONNECTOR OF THE EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION?

Priority will be given to European Choral Association (former) members, friends, advisors and consultants who are planning to travel to countries that are in the focus of the association's regional development strategy 2022-2024, who are familiar with the activities of the European Choral Association and have contacts in one or several of the target countries.

The invitation is also open to others who are familiar with collective singing and the European Choral Association and who know the situation of collective singing in one or several target countries.

The term *Choral Connector of the European Choral Association* will be used for a short-term assignment for a specific trip to a specific country and is not a permanent title.

When submitting the application form please note that applications should be for specific persons travelling and specific trips, not for institutions, even if the persons are attached to a member organisation or another choral institution and this institution may formally be the one submitting the application.

TASKS OF CONNECTORS OF THE EUROPEAN CHORAL ASSOCIATION

- creating links between the local choral world in target country and the European Choral Association,
- presenting the European Choral Association and its activities,
- offering information about other organisations, events, and activities in Europe,
- exploring the sector of collective singing in the country, gathering information about existing organisations, choirs, events, examples of good practice, inspiring examples, repertoire sources
- arranging official meetings with representatives of the collective singing sector in the target country (representatives of choral organisations, conductors' associations or music associations, and/or directly with conductors and/or composers),
- meeting local people involved in collective singing activities and learning about their work challenges and wishes,
- making a live presentation of the European Choral Association and its activities and/or distribute flyers,
- finding out if there are existing data about the number of people practising collective singing in the country,
- if possible, attending events in the target country,
- reporting back to the European Choral Association including putting the Regional Development Assistant in touch with some key persons.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

The European Choral Association will refund as maximum the real costs for the travel, accommodation and meals, up to 500 EUR per trip.

The invitation **won't cover personnel costs or a fee** for the Connector of the European Choral Association.

Normally a Choral Connector of the European Choral Association will buy a ticket for the chosen means of transport with the prior consent of the European Choral Association if costs are above 300 EUR per travel. The European Choral Association will refund costs after receiving a visit report, original invoices / proofs of all costs and a completed and signed travel reimbursement form. In exceptional cases, the European Choral Association can help/book flights for you.

APPLICATION FORM AND DEADLINES

All those interested in participating must fill in the online application form. They will be asked to submit the following information:

- **Personal data** (first name, last name, address, city, state, telephone number, email etc)
- **Details of an organisation that may be co-funding your trip**
- **Details of an already concretely planned travel** (destination country/s, reason for the travel, proposal what could you do as a connector in target county, anticipated date of the trip, means of transportation, estimation of travel, accommodation and meals costs) **or information on proposed travel that is not concretely planned yet** (reason why would you like to be a connector in proposed country).

The online application form can be found at this link: <https://forms.gle/3wX5AvZHPMvXyHDL6>

The invitation is open until the funds are exhausted.

We will co-finance trips carried out from the time of the publication of the invitation **until October 2024**. However, **If you are planning a trip in 2022** and would like co-funding, please send your **application till September 30th, 2022**.

Contact for more information: Joži Vovk, assistant for Regional Development, M: +386 41 784 924, E: jozi.vovk@europeanchoralassociation.org

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www.EuropeanChoralAssociation.org/IGNITE

<https://culture.ec.europa.eu/creative-europe>