

Choirs' and event organisers' wishes and challenges



MEMBERSHIP DAY 2023

17 NOVEMBER | VILNIUS, LITHUANIA

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Presented and moderated by
Burak Onur Erdem, Vice-President
and
Sonja Greiner, Secretary General

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What will we do?

- Quickly present the **results of a survey** we did in May
- On Mentimetre ask for the biggest challenges you percieve as **event organisers** or **representatives of choirs/ensembles**
-> take **screenshots** of the results
- Let you discuss challenges, visions and wishes **in two groups**
-> **Choose your hat**, event organisers or choir/ensemble?



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What will we do?

- Each group **shares its results**, the other group can react
- Go back to Mentimetre
 - to share your **suggestions to the European Choral Association**
 - **Vote** on them
 - **Agree or disagree** on three statements



18. Internationaler Kammer-

CHOR

Wettbewerb Marktoberdorf
26. – 30. Mai 2023

ECA

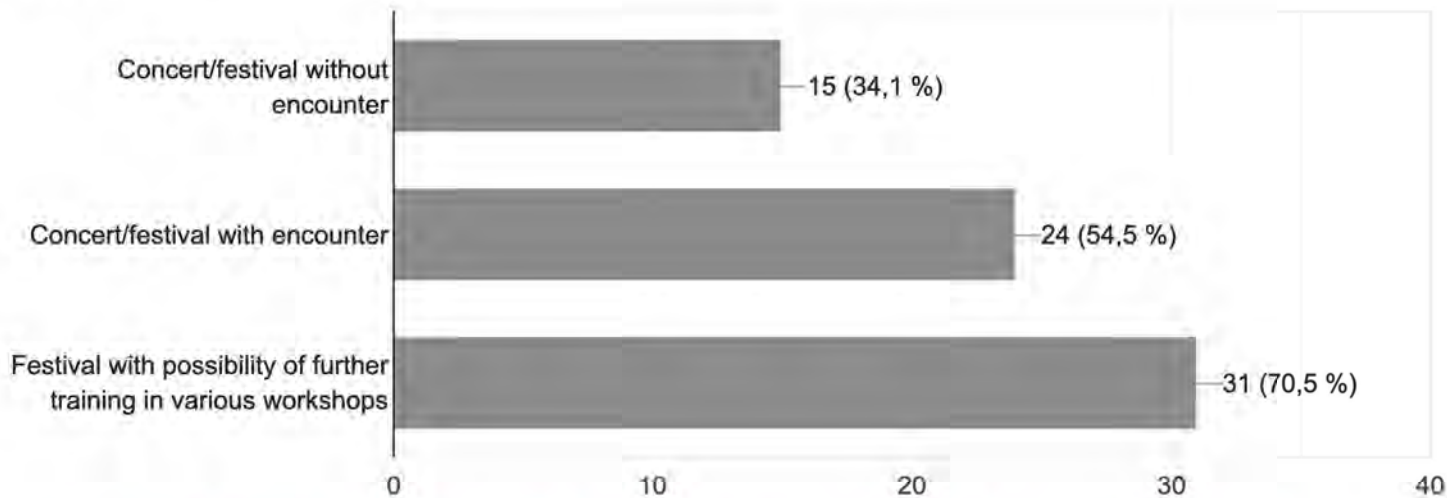
EUROPEAN
CHORAL
ASSOCIATION



What's going on in the Choral World? Survey Choirs / Conductors

What kind of event do you prefer?

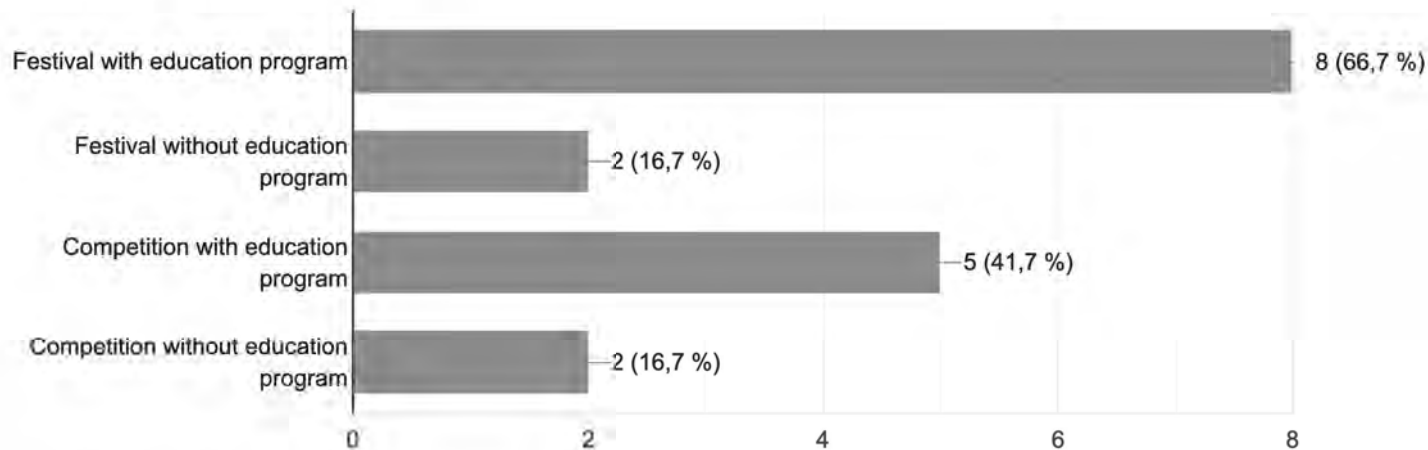
44 Antworten



... what event organisers say:

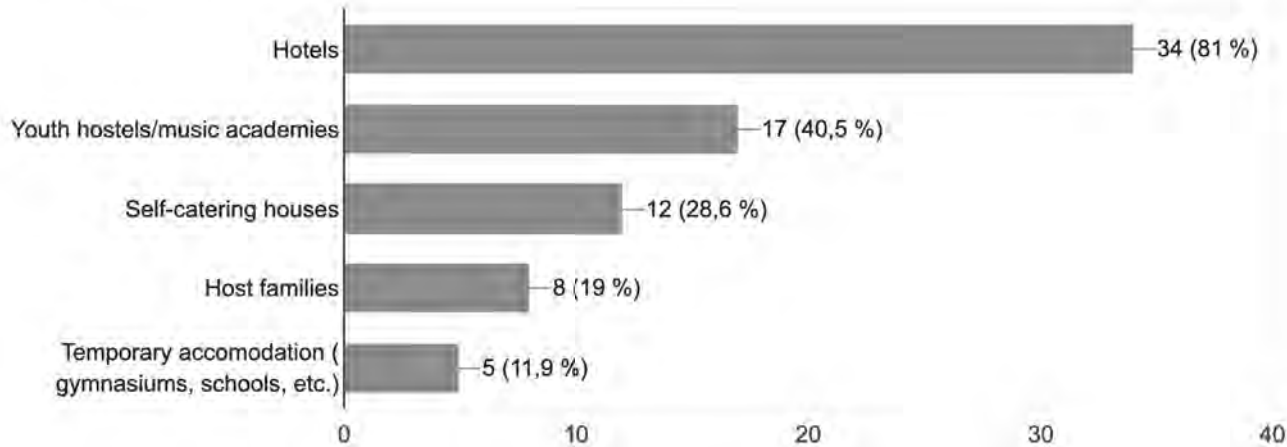
What kind of event do you organise?

12 Antworten



What kind of accommodation do you consider?

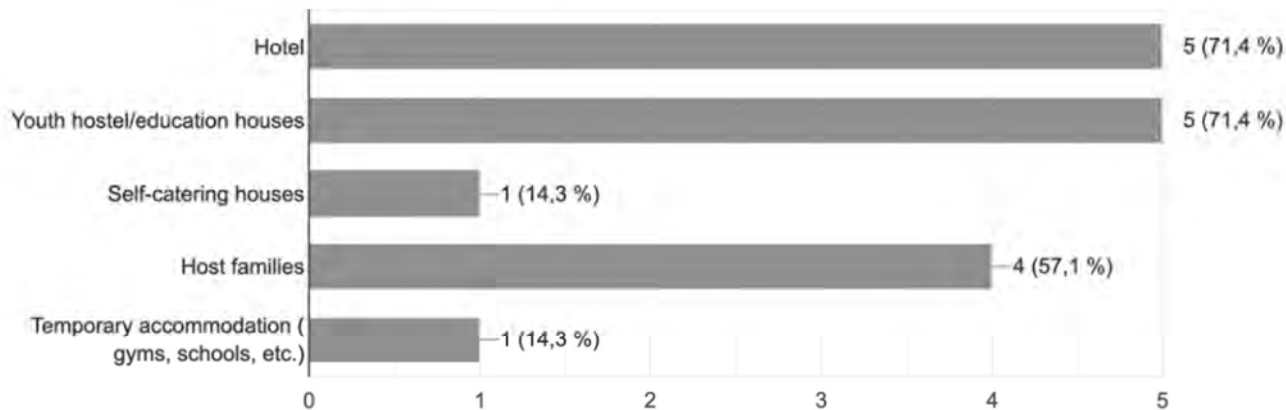
42 Antworten



... what event organisers say:

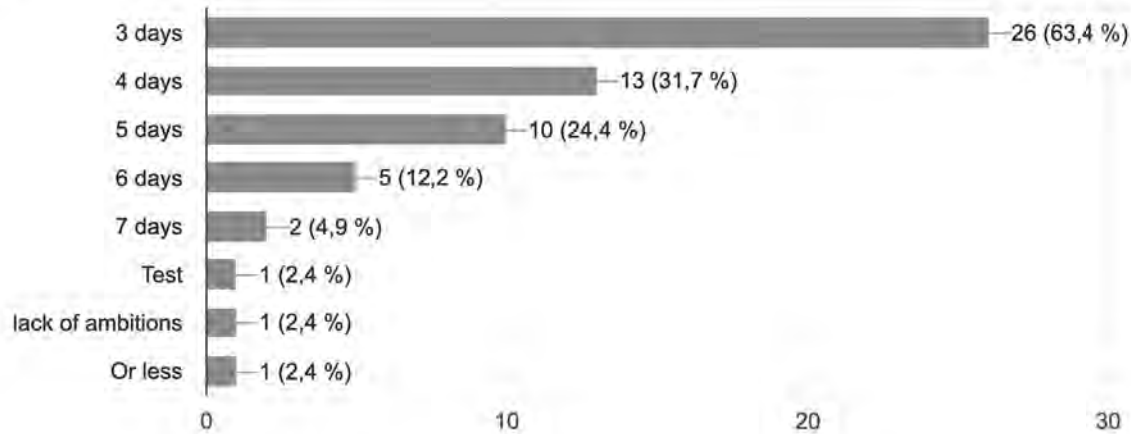
What types of accommodation do you offer?

7 Antworten



How many days should the event last (details without arrival and departure days)?

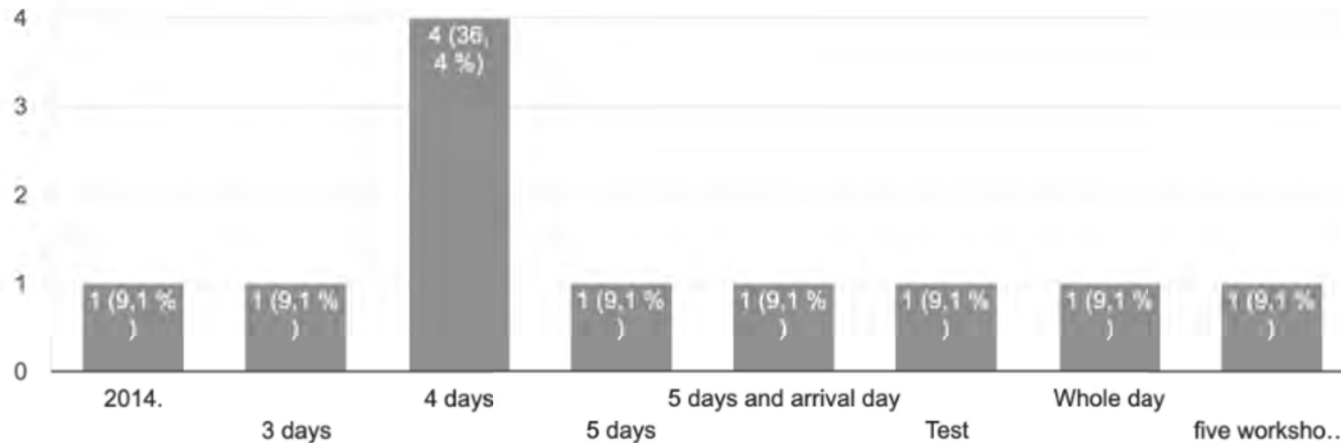
41 Antworten



... what event organisers say:

How long does your event last?

11 Antworten



Best months to travel to events

January
 February I
 March IIIII
 April IIIIIIIII
 May IIIIIIIII
 June IIIIIIIII
 July IIIIIIIIIII
 August IIIIIIIII
 September IIIIIII
 October IIIIIIIIIII
 November IIIII
 December I

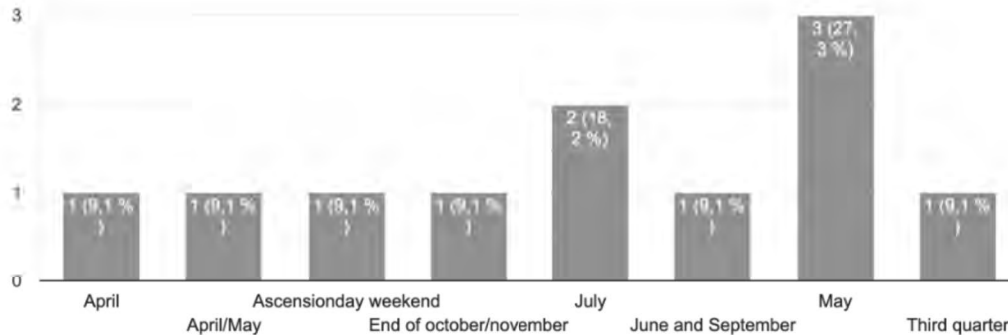
Problematic months to travel to events

January IIIIIII
 February IIIII
 March IIII
 April II
 May IIIII
 June IIIIIII
 July IIIIIIIII
 August IIIIIIIIIII
 September IIIIIII
 October IIII
 November IIIIIIIII
 December IIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII

... what event organisers say:

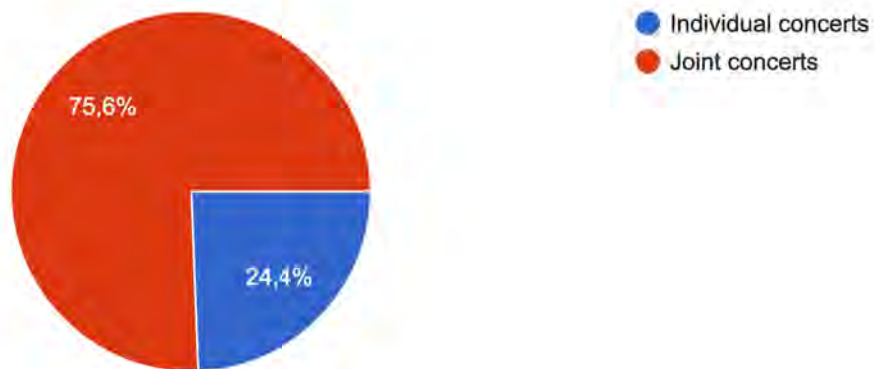
In which month/period does your event take place?

11 Antworten



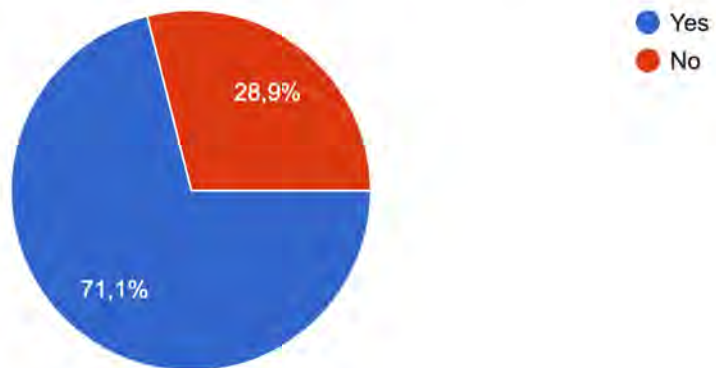
Do you prefer individual concerts or concerts with other participating choirs?

41 Antworten



Are you interested in follow-up concerts organised by the festivals with other promoters?

38 Antworten



What costs (accommodation, food, travel) per participant are acceptable per festival?

Travel, part of any other expense | It belongs to the place, accommodation, meals.
May be 500 €. | Depends on country | 100 € | 1000 € | not applicable |
Depends on the destination | 800 € | 170 € | 500 € | only food | 1000 Euro |
depends on offer, venue etc. | up to 200 € | 300 € | 5000 € | 100/day | 25 €/day |
Accommodation and food | none. We're a young Choir in a developing country.
Choral music is considered a luxury, so getting sponsorship is an insurmountable task. | Up to 350 € | 400 - 600 € per person | 150 - 200 € | 400 € | 380 € | 180 € |
Travel, food, partly accommodation | 150 € | Accommodation

What represents the highest organisational effort, which is why the organisers should support you as a participant?

Accommodation |||||

not applicable

To make good relations

pay for food or accommodation

Travelling ||

Food

Good place for rehearsals

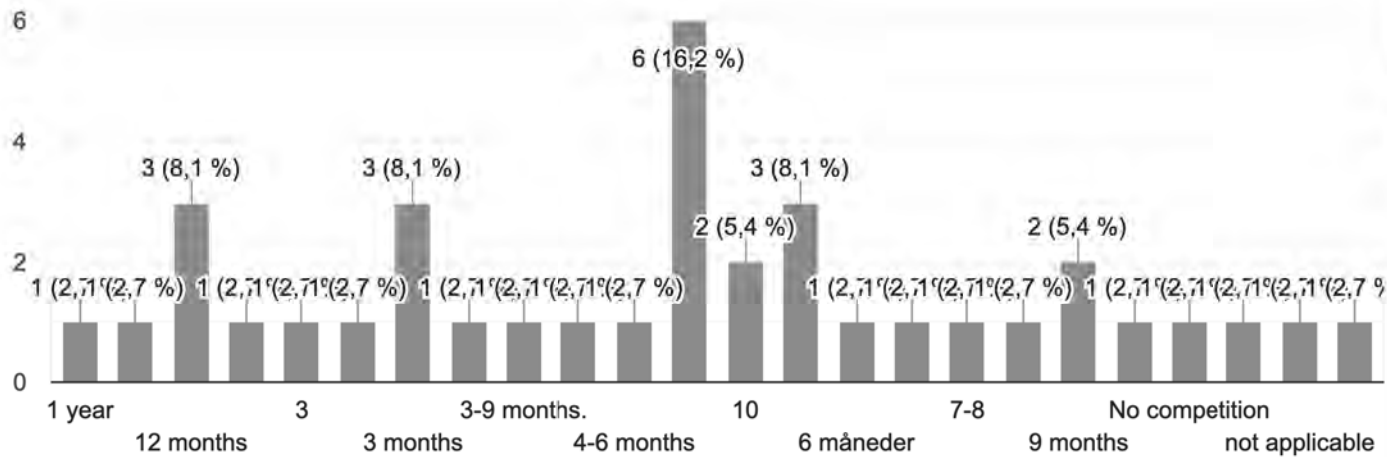
Good timetable

good quality (also for projects of special concerts with 1-2 other choirs, joint concerts)

Willingness to participate and travel

How many months before a national festival/competition would you like to apply?

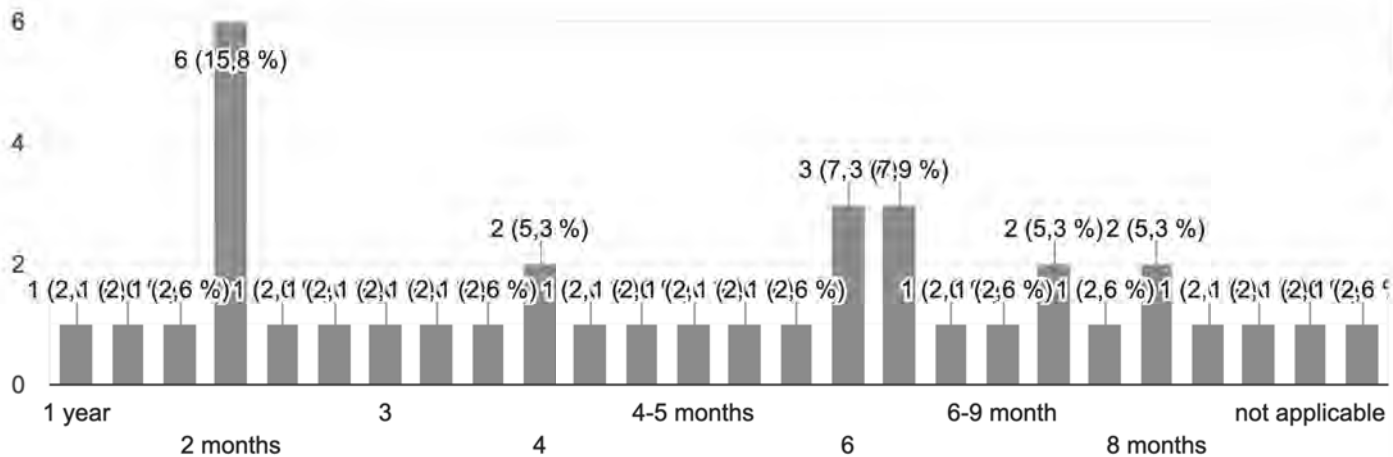
37 Antworten



3-6
months

How many weeks/months before a national festival do you need confirmation of participation?

38 Antworten



2-6
months

What suggestions/ideas/wishes would you have for the festival/competition organisers?

- Possibility to come by train (not by plane)
- to include more professional choirs - but under professional conditions (I know, it's hard)
- Make it as easy as possible to apply/sign up. Payment of participation fee ought to be possible online - without the need of bank transfers.
- more fun
- Make a festival where we can learn
- Competition be held on a different day from concert.
- Awards if possible monetary
- Please advertise more
- Organizers should provide sample itineraries and costs publicly on the application page. This would help avoid duplication of effort. (time of first commitment, time of last commitment, a map showing the likely venues, sample total accommodation and food costs, plus sample travel time & costs from a few European and world capitals)
- participation fee per singer or an entry fee for the whole ensemble, but not both.
- Any subsidy is appreciated. To encourage diverse geographic representation, application/participation fees & any subsidies would ideally be scaled to the distance/cost of travel, and the economic status of the choir's home country.
- A high quality of audio/video recordings of their performances to the participating ensembles.
- Perhaps the ECA could get national bodies to compile guides on accessing national funding for travel to festivals/competitions abroad.
- Not to get more than 3 choirs from the same country

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What's going on in the Choral World? Survey Festivals / Competitions (Organisers)

What effects (direct and indirect) do the price increases have on your festival/event?

- Less choirs travelling to the festival than usual.
- travel costs prevented some choirs from participation
- Travel costs impact the number of participants. We have to charge participants more in order to be able to pay for everything
- None. CantaRode never had accepted the same amount of choirs as in 2023.
- This time no effect (because we saved money in the pandemic), next time we have to shorten the events, I suppose.
- the participants
- Higher hotel rates and increased cost of bussing visiting choirs during the festival week
- Travel costs, snacks and drinks for choristers
- Some groups from overseas already told me that they can not come next year because travelling is too expensive.



SURVEY FOR CHOIRS



NOVEMBER 2023



Instructions

Go to

www.menti.com

Enter the code

5772 4931



Or use QR code

Open question about challenges

For event organisers



For choirs / ensembles



As an event organiser, what do you perceive as biggest challenges for the organisation of future events?

Costs of travel

Budget

Funding

Funding

Funding

Finances

Founding

Lack of funding

As an event organiser, what do you perceive as biggest challenges for the organisation of future events?

Money, participants

Participants

Get enough registrations in time

Difficult to find host town

The age of a participating children

Rental cost

Budget

Money

As an event organiser, what do you perceive as biggest challenges for the organisation of future events?

Fundings

Funding

Finances, time planning

Impact of climate change

Increasing expenses, costs.

Proper facilities (schools, concert halls)

Get enough money

Money

As an event organiser, what do you perceive as biggest challenges for the organisation of future events?

Professional staff



Money, help organization

Marketing

Choirs' reluctance to leave their current space due to financial challenges.

rent of the concert venues, salaries for the conductors and master-class leaders

Travels not only by bus

Accommodation
Musical program
Funding



As an event organiser, what do you perceive as biggest challenges for the organisation of future events?

facility

Marketing

Marketing. Being noticed among too many festivals

Venues

Travelling for the choirs

- financial support to make the participation of the choirs less expensive- to plan financially two years in advance with no public budget known yet

Consistent participation in rehearsals

As representative of a choir / ensemble, what do you perceive as biggest challenges for attending events in future?

Funding :D

availability of the whole choir to spare a week for an event

Signers time.

Money

Making sure that enough choir singers will attend

How to choose between all offers

I wish there were a measure of success, but once again, the biggest issue is money.

Attendance

As representative of a choir / ensemble, what do you perceive as biggest challenges for attending events in future?

Events not planned early enough

Finding the right place to go for my choir (level of difficulty)

Distance Travel expenses

Innovation of the proposal

Funding

The changes of choir singers, funding

Travel expense

The commitment of the parents

As representative of a choir / ensemble, what do you perceive as biggest challenges for attending events in future?

expenses

There is no events that offers opportunity for little (I mean very little) children

Good balance in voices of participants

people don't want to travel far

Travel and accomodation cost

Consistent participation in the rehearsals

Price

Planning ahead for singers, will enough of them be able to participate

As representative of a choir / ensemble, what do you perceive as biggest challenges for attending events in future?

MoneyDisponibility for attending with the complete choir

Difficulty of repertoire

Innovative offers?

Expenses going up up up..!

Find a solution how to gather all choir singers for exact time.

Motivating singers to join

level of singing is not high enough to show-off

Best conductors

As representative of a choir / ensemble, what do you perceive as biggest challenges for attending events in future?

Changing motives for singers as times goes by and o Money

Getting an audience

Changes of singers and not enough time to prepare and organize

maintenance time, money, duration travel,

Working together with other choirs

Find the right kind of event

Interesting program for age group of the choir

Not enough time to prepare because of school year

2 Working Groups

- Choose your hat



- Event organisers

Choirs / ensembles



Choirs' and event organisers' wishes and challenges

Working Group 1
for those wearing the hat of "event organisers"

Questions:

- What do you perceive as biggest challenges at the moment in relation to organising (future) events? (start with the challenges mentioned on mentimeter you agree with the ones you saw, are there challenges missing?)

What are your wishes / visions / dreams?

IGNITE

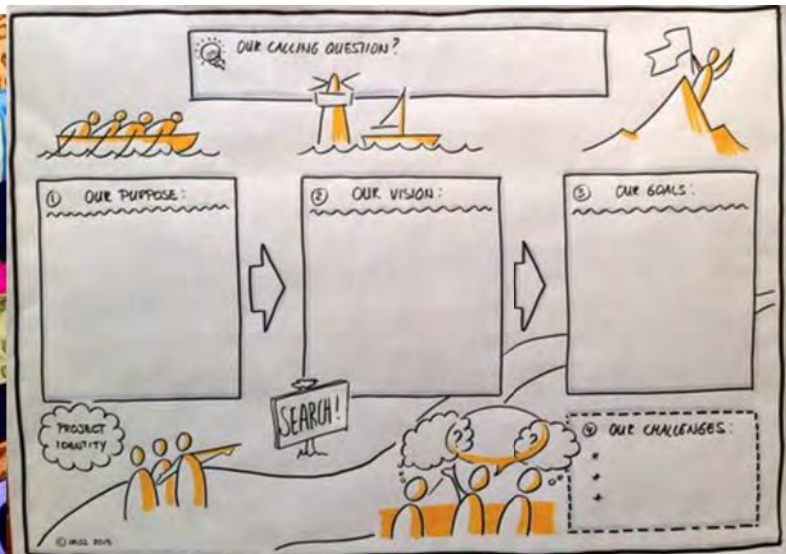
FOR CHOIRS



2 Working Groups – presentation of results



- Event organisers Choirs / ensembles



Organisers 1

- QUALITY OF EVENTS

- ~~FESTIVAL~~

≡
COMPROMISE BETWEEN PARTICIPANTS' WANTS AND ORGANISERS' CAPABILITIES

Organisers 2

1
FUNDING

1
MOTIVATION
(BOTH CONDUCTORS & SINGERS)

PARTIC.

Be open-minded
♡

1
TIME OF THE YEAR

1
RECRUITMENT

WISHES

Finding new formats for festivals, having more non-chore activities, adding new genres

WISHES

More collaboration between choirs in events and more exchange

CHALL.

Finding good venues: what can an organiser do if there is a lack of good venues in their city?

CHALLENGES

Money: there is lack of knowledge about available funding + lack of fundraising professionals

1
DURATION

3
A GOOD COMBINATION OF HARD WORK & HAVING FUN

WISHES

Using third places more for choir events; exciting, new locations

CHALL.

Getting participants: how can we offer them the best conditions?

Choirs 1

1
LACK OF EXPERIENCE
↓
TAKING THE RIGHT DECISION

2 OPPORTUNITY TO WATCH SOME BEST CHOIRS

3 TO FIND CREATIVE WAYS FOR THE CHOIRS' INTERACTIONS

1
SOLUTIONS (WRO PARTS) TO GET GOOD INFO

2 A NICE COMBINATION OF A VERY BIG FESTIVAL & THE SMALL ONES

3 EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

2 COSTS COVERED

1 TO FIND FUNDS TO COVER THE COSTS

3 CONDUCTOR CHANGES OF CHOIRS

3 MENTORING / COACHING SESSIONS BY THE EXPERIENCED CONDUCTORS / ORGANISERS

Choirs 1

1 LACK OF EXPERIENCE
↓
TAKING THE RIGHT DECISION

2 OPPORTUNITY TO WATCH SOME BEST CHOIRS

TO FIND CREATIVE WAYS FOR THE CHOIRS' INTERACTIONS

SOMEWAYS
1 (WHO PERFORMS TO GET GOOD INFO)

2 A NICE COMBINATION OF A VERY BIG FESTIVAL → THE SMALL ONES

3 EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

2 COSTS COVERED

1 TO FIND FUNDS TO COVER THE COSTS

3 CONDUCTOR CHANGES OF CHOIRS

3 MENTORING / COACHING SESSIONS BY THE EXPERIENCED CONDUCTORS / ORGANISERS

Money

Fundraising projects & concerts

Have money from your hosting organisation

Pay membership fee

Beer after rehearsal

Invite a fundraiser

Apply for local culture body's money

Lack of audience in an event concerts

Social media promotion

Chair-to-Chair conc.

Wishes

Co-productors!

Connect amateurs and professionals

Involve local audience and community

Give space for networking (for follow-up concerts)


... and for event organisers:

Unavailability of singers (not loyal any more)



indobly

Join at [menti.com](https://www.menti.com) use code 5772 4931

 Mentimeter

Instructions

Go to

www.menti.com

Enter the code

5772 4931



Or use QR code



Which recommendations would you like to give to ECA concerning their future events?

To do more projects combining professionals and amateurs

5 **Top voted**

Connect people across borders

4

More small events

4

Choose great concert halls

3

Make a travel or participation fund

3

Connect the NYC in specific events every 2 years

3

More professional & amateur interaction

3

An overview of available festivals that makes it possible for choirs to compare the alternatives, an online portal?

3

ASSOCIATION



Which recommendations would you like to give to ECA concerning their future events?

Grands calls for choir conductors/professionals (not only young ones)

3

Encouraging festivals to be different and have their own profile

3

Cooperate with the best local choir specialists and organisations that influence their countries choral scene the most.

3

More networking between festivals

3

Make more events in Lithuania:)

2

More publicly

2

Look for new atelier leaders

2

Give choirs space for networking

2

ASSOCIATION

Which recommendations would you like to give to ECA concerning their future events?

More meeting with choirster and more interact with pro conductor (still living)

2

Atelier leaders/speakers could not necessarily be only from choral world:) and vice versa!

2

Keep up the good work

1

Mix professionals and amateurs (at some point, not all the time)

1

Intergenerational

1

much more events

1

To fulfill the dream of finding a EU funding

1

Courses on advocacy

1

ASSOCIATION



Which recommendations would you like to give to ECA concerning their future events?

Do events for managers

1

Be predictable - easier to plan for «steady» events, staying the same time of the year etc.

1

Networking moments

1

Networking time, new audience

1

Go on like this with inspiring questions

Establish strong connection with the local community

I'm a newbie (this is a very first time when I participate at this assembly) so I wish You good luck!

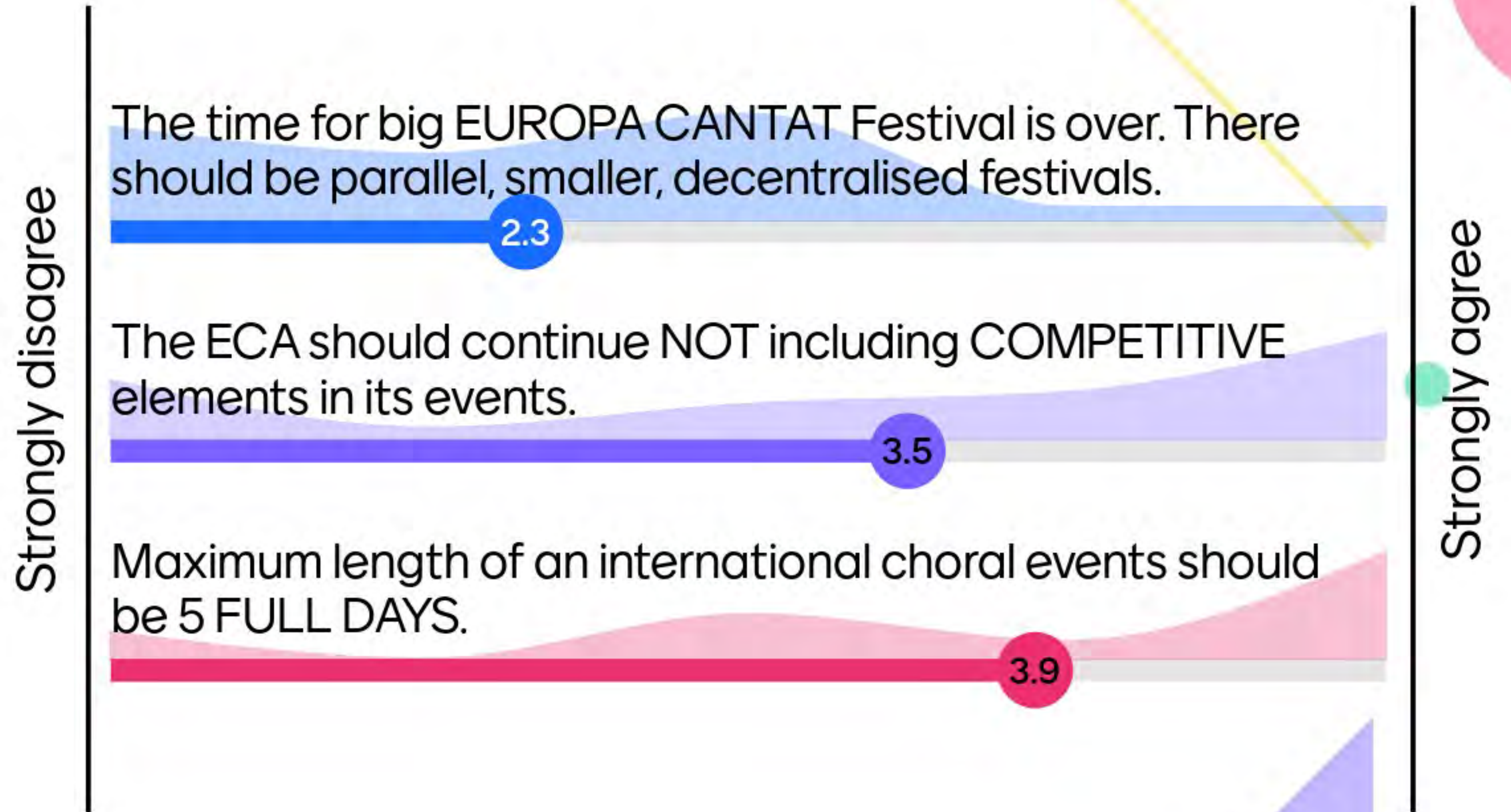
patience, helping amateurism,


ASSOCIATION





Agree or disagree?



A white ceramic coffee cup filled with a latte, topped with a dusting of brown powder. The word "NETWORK" is written in black marker on the surface of the milk foam. The cup sits on a matching white saucer, and the entire scene is set against a background of dark brown coffee beans.

NETWORK