

Call for EUROPA CANTAT *junior* 2029

After the successful editions of Europa Cantat junior in Vilnius (2022), Ghent (2023) and the upcoming 2026 festival in Girona, we are now looking for the host city and organisers of Europa Cantat junior 2029.

Europa Cantat *junior* is a 'Cooperation event of the European Choral Association' - these are events designed by the European Choral Association that travel between different countries. They have a typical structure which remains the same with some aspects adapted each time. The European Choral Association is involved in the artistic design and the most important decision-making processes, and the participation fees include reduced fees for indirect members of the European Choral Association as well as for participants from specific country groups (European Choral Association fee system based on a solidarity principle).

Aims

Europa Cantat *junior* is a festival with a focus on children and youth choirs (with singers under 18 or under 20 and mostly equal voice choirs, though there can also be some offers for mixed youth choirs). Like the EUROPA CANTAT festival it offers Ateliers (workshops), open singing, choir-to-choir concerts for participating choirs and special concerts. The schedule is somewhat lighter and there are additional, non-choral offers in the afternoon and the total number of participants is usually no more than 1.000.

Musical contents

- Europa Cantat *junior* 2029 should offer **8 to 10 so-called ateliers for children and youth choirs** where they learn new repertoire with a renowned conductor. The ateliers should aim at different ages and have different level of difficulties
- The atelier programme will be developed by an **international music commission** nominated by the European Choral Association that will include representatives of the host country
- In addition to the ateliers there must be a daily **open singing** where all participants can sing together
- Participating choirs must have the opportunity to sing together in '**choir-to-choir**' concerts
- In addition, there can be concerts with **invited high-quality choirs**
- Usually, there is also a **Study Tour for conductors** (both for conductors of participating choirs and conductors coming alone)
- It is optional but not obligatory to add a small **Young Event Management Programme (YEMP)** for about 5 to 10 young managers.
- For orientation of what is offered at the **2026 edition of Europa Cantat *junior*** you can find the programme here: <https://ecj2026.scic.cat/en>

You can also find videos and pictures of the 2022 and 2023 edition on Facebook (www.facebook.com/europacantatjunior) and the history of Europa Cantat *junior* festivals on www.europeanchoralassociation.org/activities/ec-junior-festival

Location / structure / length / period

- Europa Cantat *junior* can be hosted in **any European country**.
- Since this is the most common holiday season in Europe, Europa Cantat *junior* should take place in **July or August 2029**
- The length of the festival should be **6 to 7 full days** (7 to 8 nights) with the final atelier concerts on the last day or the last two days - optionally it is possible to offer one shorter 4-day atelier.
- **Typically**, there will be atelier rehearsals in the morning, non-choral activities in the afternoon and concerts in the evening (choir-to-choir concerts or concerts with invited choirs - and then on the last days atelier concerts)
- It is important to have a substantial number of **low-cost accommodations**.

Organisational matters / Financial conditions / communication

- The main decisions about the event shall be taken by a **steering committee** with representatives of the local hosts and the European Choral Association
- If the European Choral Association has one or several **member organisations** in the country, at least one of them needs to be involved
- A cooperation agreement fixing the details of the cooperation will be signed by both parties
- The hosts of the event must **cover all expenses** of the event through participation fees and funding - the European Choral Association cannot offer any financial support.
- In addition to the usual costs for a festival (for staff, infrastructure, the music programme, communication, etc), **the budget must include** costs (travel, accommodation and meals) for the following persons who can also support the organisers as volunteers during the event
 - the members of the steering committee and the music commission
 - At least 1 other representatives of the board or team of the European Choral Association
 - At least 1 representative of the Youth Committee of the European Choral Association, preferably more
- For the **fees for the conductors** the fair remuneration guidelines of the European Choral Association shall be used for orientation (see www.EuropeanChoralAssociation.org -> Resources -> Guidelines and Handbooks -> Fair Pay, the exact amounts shall be fixed by the steering committee as part of the budget development.
- The budget of the event must also include a two-part **license fee** to be paid to the European Choral Association according to the following principle
 - a non-refundable lump sum of 6.000 € to be paid in 2027 or 2028 (to cover all communication costs as well as the work done by the European Choral Association)
 - The sum of 2 € per young person under 27 and 4 € per adult (for all paying participants) to be paid in 2029 after the event

In return the European Choral Association will

- communicate about the event in its programme 2029 (published online and on a flyer) as well as on all social media channels
- activate its network for the promotion of the event
- offer support and help of the team and board for the preparation and organisation of the event
- share model documents from earlier similar events

Timing / calendar

- This call is sent out in **February 2026**
- In **March 2026** there will be a specific reminder for this call
- **Until the end of April 2026** candidatures will have to be submitted through this google form - <https://forms.gle/Uiw9u7kkebuHxJeB8>, providing information about the suggested location (country and city), suggested dates, main organisers, expected funding, and existing infrastructure
- In **May 2026** the board of the European Choral Association will review all the proposals submitted
- In **June 2026** the board may ask to visit places the potential host towns, meet local organisers online or live and ask further questions
- The aim is for the board to **decide in June 2026** so that the organisers of the 2029 edition can visit Europa Cantat *junior* in Ghent. Should this not be possible, the candidates will be encouraged to attend at least parts of the event.

For further information see general description of the event with historical development here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CwMakrK4FW3UUKEj1WEDG2hzCpvMes90/view?usp=drive_link

How to submit your proposal

If you want to submit a proposal for an event for Europa Cantat *junior* in 2029, please fill in this google form: <https://forms.gle/Uiw9u7kkebuHxJeB8> by **30 April 2026**.



Europa Cantat junior 2023 Ghent