

European Choral Association - Weberstr. 59A - DE 53113 Bonn

To our members, indirect members
and friends

Bonn, 22/7/26

**Invitation to our 2026 Membership Weekend
with Membership Day, BEAT presentation, General Assembly
and a lot of music**

**Thursday 5 (arrival) to Sunday 8 November 2026
Naples, Italy**



Dear members and friends of the European Choral Association,

It is our pleasure to invite you to our annual Membership Weekend in Naples, hosted by our member organisation Feniarco, consisting of

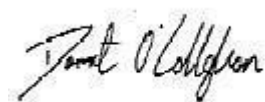
- our Membership Day on Friday 6 November with
 - o a project presentation session
 - o our Membership Day discussion rounds
 - o a session to present the BEAT project dealing with inclusive (youth) choirs
 - o the Friend's fun auction
 - o informal networking time, time to meet your friends and make new contacts
- our formal General Assembly for members and indirect members on Saturday 7 November
- a musical workshop about popular songs from Napoli and a workshop on artificial intelligence
- concerts and performances with the Italian Youth Choir and other choirs and ensembles
- time to discover Naples

For two days you will therefore have a unique chance to interact, learn, sing and meet with your fellow choral enthusiasts. This is also your opportunity to contribute to the future of the European Choral Association.

You will discover the **detailed programme** on pages 2 & 3, and the **practical information** on pages 4 & 5 (**make sure to read it carefully, hotel registration has to be done by you directly!**)

We are looking forward to welcoming you to the beautiful city of Naples!

With best wishes



Dermot O'Callaghan
President of the European Choral Association

Attachments:

Detailed programme (p. 2-3)
Practical information (p. 4-5)
(Including information on registration,
hotel booking, participation fees)
Agenda of General Assembly (p. 6)

Detailed programme (subject to changes!)

Discover Naples on Thursday 5/11/2026

on your arrival day if you have time – also see www.visitnaples.eu/en

The board and youth committee will arrive Wednesday and meet on Thursday.

All those wishing to attend our Membership Day should plan to arrive on Thursday, November 5. On this day you will have time to discover Naples and meet and greet other members. Dinner will not be organised on Thursday though we will offer a meeting point and time for people who would like to go for dinner together with others.

In the evening: Bar-meeting in Hotel Terminus (see page 4).

Membership Day on Friday, 6/11/2026

Hotel Terminus (see p. 4)

09:30 Registration for Membership Day

10:00 – 12:00 Welcome and project presentation session

We're looking for interesting, innovative and inspiring projects, including future projects for which you are looking for partners. Presenters must be members, indirect members (members of member organisations or of the Friends) or coming from a target country of our Regional Development Strategy and they must be present in Naples (no hybrid format in 2026). **Project presentations have to be submitted by 15/09/26** through this google form -> [here](#) or by scanning this QR-Code.



12:00 – 12:30 Speed dating

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch

14:30 – 15:15 Presentation of the BEAT project

"BEAT - Bringing Equality, Accessibility, and Togetherness" is a European cooperation project co-funded by the EU Erasmus+ Youth programme and coordinated by the Cantatutti Inclusive choir. The project aims to assist conductors and music educators in boosting inclusivity, accessibility, and equity through choral activities, while also promoting the well-being of people with disabilities. The aim is to produce and disseminate a toolkit for inclusive (youth) choirs. www.beatproject.eu

15:30 – 16:45 Parallel discussion rounds

Representatives of the member organisations and indirect members of the European Choral Association are invited to learn about different topics (selected after asking our members in a survey which topics they are interested in) and discuss challenges and chances for the future together.

- **Peer-to-Peer learning within our network:** Sharing ideas and discussing topics which interest our member organisation, exchanging challenges and possible solutions with each other
- **Interested in international cooperation projects and EU applications?** Some participants with experience will share information about EU applications: What are the opportunities and practicalities? Which timing is needed for a successful application? What are common pitfalls and useful tips?
- **Encouraging people to sing and keeping singers in choirs:** In this session participants can discuss ideas on:
 - How to get more men and boys to join choirs - how to promote the appreciation of music for lower voices
 - How to encourage more children to join choirs
 - Lifelong Singing: What successful ideas can we find in Europe to not lose singers after 25 when they start a career and/or families?

16.45 Coffee Break

17:15 – 18:00 Join the fun auction of the Friends of the European Choral Association

19:00 Concert in the church Santa Maria Donnaregia Nova (see p. 4) with the Italian Youth Choir

21:00 Dinner

In the evening: Bar-meeting in Hotel Terminus (see page 4).

General Assembly, Keynote and Workshops on Saturday, 7/11/26

Hotel Terminus and Conservatoire (see p. 4)

09:00 Registration for General Assembly

9.30-13:00: General Assembly of the European Choral Association (for members and indirect members)

Hotel Terminus (see p. 4)

As usual, we will look back on the last year, and we will look ahead at our plans for the years 2027 and beyond. (see agenda p. 6)

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch

14:45 – 16:00 Parallel Workshops

Conservatoire (see p. 4)

- How to use artificial intelligence in your daily work (for planning, project applications, communication – chances and pitfalls)
- Popular songs from Napoli

17:00 – 17:45 Keynote speech

Conservatoire (see p. 4)

18:30 Aperitivo

Courtyard of the Conservatoire (see p. 4)

19:00 Concert in Conservatoire with Vincenzo Capezzuto (traditional instruments & voice)

20:30 Dinner

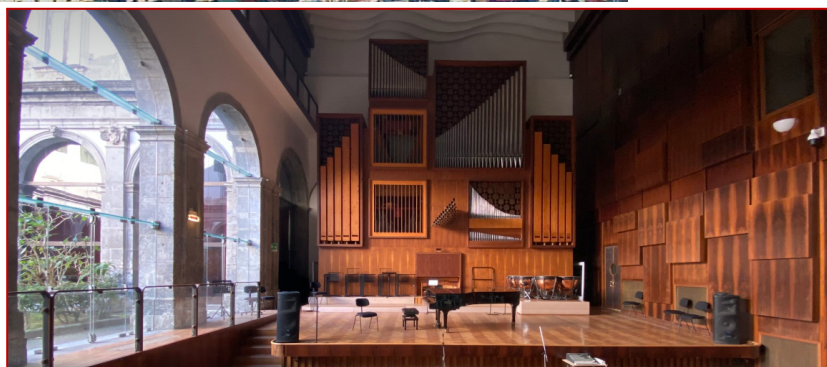
In the evening: Bar-meeting in Hotel Terminus (see page 4).

Departure Day on Sunday, 8/11/26

Departure day, time to discover Naples if you do not have to leave in the morning.

Meeting of the board of the European Choral Association in the morning

Please carefully read the practical information on the following pages!



Important practical information

Registration

The detailed programme, practical information for your stay and necessary documents for the General Assembly will be sent out to registered delegates in October 2026.

Please note that English will be the main working language of the General Assembly, Membership Day and Workshops, but individual support may be provided if needed and possible.

How to register? Deadline 15 September 2026

To attend the event, please fill in this -> **online application form** or scan this QR-Code



Accommodation

In Naples we will again have a “central” conference hotel, **Hotel Terminus** (see central venues for more details). If you want to stay at our conference hotel or in other hotels or apartments nearby at lower rates, please book your rooms through the travel agency NapoliApartments:

1. **Hotel Terminus** [€150 single room incl. breakfast, €185 double room incl. breakfast - plus tax]
book at: booking@napoliapartments.it, whatsapp/telephone: +39 389 619 2070,
with information: exact dates of stay, names of guests, number/type of room required.
2. **Accommodation at special rates** (other hotels, apartments etc. close to conference hotel) with a 20% discount
book at: <http://napoliapartments.it/>
using the promotional code: **FENIARCO20** (the discount will be applied automatically).

For your information: The board, youth committee and team of the European Choral Association will all be staying at the conference hotel this time.

Central venues (also see Google Maps -> [here](#) or scan this QR-Code)



Hotel Terminus (Plaza Giuseppe Garibaldi 91, 80142 Napoli) will be our **main conference venue** for our membership weekend (Membership Day on Friday and General Assembly on Saturday morning) as well as our **main evening meeting point** during our membership weekend (for socializing & networking, singing, drinking at the bar etc.).

Chiesa Santa Maria Donnaregina Nuova (Largo Donnaregina, 80138 Napoli) will be the venue for the concert on Friday evening.

Conservatorio San Pietro (Vico S. Pietro a Maiella 33, 80138 Napoli) will be the main venue for our programme on Saturday afternoon and evening with 2 workshops, keynote speech, aperitivo and concert.

How to reach Naples

Naples is situated in the South of Italy. You can fly directly to the **Naples airport** Capodichino NAP (however, it seems that the airport will be closed for renovations in early November and several airlines have already relocated flights to other airports), or you book a flight to **Rome** or **Salerno** and then take the train to Naples. From both airports high-speed trains such as Frecciarossa and Italo stop at Napoli Centrale station. Our conference hotel is right next to the Naples train station.

Safety instructions for taxis in Naples: In order to avoid being scammed by a taxi driver, it is better to book taxis in advance than to take a taxi waiting at the airport / on the streets.



For the environment, direct flights are better than indirect flights – if you do not have direct flights to Naples, please consider flying to Rome and continuing by train instead. In any case Naples airport may be closed in early November, see above. And if you have no direct flights from home, you could check other airports reachable by bus or train from where there are direct flights or check train and bus connections from home. Within Naples venues will be within walking distance or with a direct metro connection - you will not need a car.

Further practical information will be shared with participants after registration.

Participation fees

The fee includes meals as described below, as well as all coffee breaks, concerts and performances on Friday and Saturday, and participation in the different events. **It does NOT include accommodation (see above).** You will receive an **invoice from the European Choral Association** with payment modalities sometime after your online registration, latest mid-October 2026.

Fee per participant for representatives of member organisations, indirect members and members of the Friends of the European Choral Association (non-members pay 20 € in addition):

- **Full package:** Participation including Membership Day and lunch on Friday
Country Group 1: **150€** Country Group 2: **96€** Country Group 3: **68€**
- **Small package:** Participation without Membership Day and lunch on Friday
Country Group 1: **125€** Country Group 2: **80€** Country Group 3: **56€**
- **One-day package:** Participation only on Friday or only on Sunday
Country Group 1: **60€** (only one price)

Country groups	<u>Country Group 1</u>	<u>Country Group 2</u>	<u>Country Group 3</u>
Countries by country group	AT, BE, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, IE, IL, IS, IT, LI, LU, MT, NL, NO, SE, SI, UK and some overseas countries, see below*	EE, GR, HR, HU, LT, LV, PL, PT, SK and some overseas countries, see below*	AL, AM, BA, BG, BY, GE, MD, ME, MK, RO, RS, RU, TR, UA
* For countries outside Europe the rule is that countries belong to group 1 according to the HDI index used by IFCM (see http://ifcm.net/membership-fees), countries belonging to HDI groups 2 and 3 are in country group 2. Country group 3 is only reserved for European countries. If you are not sure which country group you belong to, write to info@EuropeanChoralAssociation.org			

Cancellation rules: If you cancel your participation after **12th October**, fees will not be reimbursed. **Also, we are not responsible for the cancellation rules of hotels etc., we suggest taking travel insurance.**



For the environment: If you know in advance, even if we can unfortunately not reduce costs for single meals, please let us know if you are planning NOT to attend a meal so that we do not need to waste so much food.

Agenda of the General Assembly 2026 - Subject to changes!

Saturday, 7/11/2026, 9.30 – 13:00

in Hotel Terminus (Naples, Italy)



0. Opening and Welcome
1. Approval of the Agenda (to be approved)
2. Minutes General Assembly 2025 (to be approved)
3. Report of the President
4. Activities' Reports 2026, including Report from the Membership Day
 - 4.1 Artistic vice-president on behalf of artistic strategy group
 - 4.2 Activity report 2026 including a look back on Europa Cantat *junior* in Girona
 - 4.3 Eu-funded cooperation projects
 - 4.4 Report on the Membership Day 2026
 - 4.5 Approval of report 2026
5. Report of the Treasurer:
 - 5.1 Final Accounts 2025 (to be approved)
 - 5.2 Update on 2026 finances (for information)
 - 5.3 Budget for 2027 (to be approved)
 - 5.4 Approval of finances
6. Report by the Financial Auditors
7. Discharge of the Board of Directors
8. Welcome to new members
9. A note from the "Friends of the European Choral Association"
10. A look into the future:
 - 10.1 Activities 2027 – 2030

Our "menu" of cooperation events and events under our label

 - 10.1.1 Europa Cantat festival in Liepaja 2027
 - 10.1.2 Other events 2027
 - 10.1.3 World Youth Choir and European Youth Choir 2028 - 2030
 - 10.1.4 Next edition of Leading Voices 2028
 - 10.1.5 Next edition of Europa Cantat *junior* 2029
 - 10.1.6 Next EUROPA CANTAT Festival 2030
 - 10.1.7 Events under our label 2028 and beyond (Singing Weeks, International Study Tours, festivals, masterclasses, etc.
 - 10.2 Future EU-funded Cooperation Projects
11. Message from the Youth Committee
12. Invitation to Membership Weekend with General Assembly 2027 (election year)

11-14 November 2027 in Katowice, Poland
13. Presenting other European and International networks
 - 13.1 A note on Musica International
 - 13.2 IFCM (International Federation for Choral Music) after the World Symposium (WSCM) in Macau and the board elections 2026.
14. Miscellaneous

We look forward to seeing you in Naples in November 2026!