

Music Therapy in Europe: Paths of Professional Development



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in partnership with the **emtc**
European Music Therapy Confederation

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In summer 2015, *Approaches* – in collaboration with the EMTC – will publish a special issue on

Music Therapy in Europe: Paths of Professional Development.

Professional development and recognition is an 'old' issue in music therapy but still a relevant, complex and crucial one. Burning questions regarding professionalisation are at the forefront of most music therapy associations' agendas across Europe and beyond, and feed back directly to the work of the EMTC.

Considering the wider political, socio-economic, cultural and disciplinary aspects of professionalisation, different development pathways impact directly on music therapy practice, training, ethics, professional collaboration and employment conditions. Although a number of endeavours have been implemented regarding music therapy's professional development and recognition in different countries, documentation and sharing of such endeavours on international level has been limited and scattered.

Drawing from the EMTC's work since the early '90s, as well as from colleagues' experiences (and struggles) of music therapy's professional pathways in different European countries, this special issue aims:

- to provide an overview of the current 'state of affairs' in Europe by systematically documenting music therapy's paths of professional development across different countries by tracing not only its achievements, but also its failures and problems.
- to offer opportunities to critique and reflect on the interrelationships between *music therapy as a discipline* (with all its requirements to clinical and/or academic training) and *music therapy as a profession* (with its regulations, governmental recognition, and registration, legitimisation/authorisation or licensing issues).

Capturing the diversity of music therapy's professional development across different European countries, this special issue will contribute to the establishment of a shared platform of knowledge upon which further local or international initiatives can be developed.

Individuals who wish to contribute to this special issue by submitting a paper, an interview, or any other relevant material (e.g. photographs or videos) should contact the editors by **6th September 2014**:

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