



Copenhagen, 17-10-24

Honorable ministers of culture and/or education in the EU,

On behalf of our board, I wish to convey to you how words can hardly explain how happy we all are to – after a decade of work – present to you the EU Songbook; the first of its kind since the founding of the EU and made with assistance from 103 music organisations and conservatories and more than 87.000 citizens. Thanks to your support, the verse translation work was completed – and thanks to your endorsements more than 400 media covered the public EU Songbook votes.

We passionately hope that you will feel personally represented by most of the songs chosen in your member state and will enjoy both the introductions and singable translations! We, the 67 editors, we have become enriched by this song exchange: we now know each other better via sharing song treasures. East, West, North, South – all 27 member state cultures are equal in cultural wealth.

All 164 songs – six from each member state - are aligned, in symmetry, in both original mother tongues and in singable *European* English translation (English spoken as 2nd language on our continent, 'a vehicle language', coloured by all those who use it).

As a minor non-profit pan-European NGO (with five members), exhausted both economically and mentally by the hard work, we present this gift to you: as representatives of your populations, in the hope that the organisations organized in your music councils, and the institutions in your education systems will get access to this work via your support: the EU Songbook is eligible for interdisciplinary education: music, language, history.

In order to make the EU Songbook accessible not only to the economically strong member states, we've made an app for all to download for free – with all song titles, introductions and video-links (without copyrighted notes and verses): We humbly hope that you will approve of the EU Songbook and allocate resources for institutions and organisations to be able to afford print copies along with the app. Our distributor for the EU, Hal Leonard Europe, is at your service for volume discounts.

The EU Songbook is not financed by the EU and is 100% a civil society project, however, it received support from ministers in 17 member states (see below), as well as from the European Parliament who granted our initiative European Citizen's Prize 2023.

Song can open our hearts – they let energy flow from our roots. In this unifying choir of diversity and this diverse choir of unification we send a message to populations in the accession states – and to those states, on the edge of our sphere, currently hostile: Future

European unification is possible if we experience our common history and acknowledges our differences, together.

We hope the EU Songbook will become a symbol which can turn Europe Day into 'Day of song' where the European Anthem can be heard across boarder and SoMe. Whereas the Americans have Independence Day, we, Europeans seem to have the opposite, a sort of (inter) Dependence Day: We hope that both the honourable Parliament, Council and the Commission will support our efforts to assist with providing lyrics for the European anthem, which since 1986 has been solely a melody. We do not wish that eventual lyrics should in any way replace, but complement the instrumental version: on Europe Day, the day for citizens' Europe.

With sincerest gratitude for economic support and endorsements (see our site or the last page of the EU Songbook in order to read the many spirited examples) from:

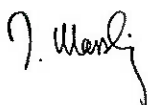
Minister of Arts, Culture, Civil Service & Sport, State Sec. Andrea Mayer, Austria (2020) Minister of Science and Culture, Annika Saarikko, Finland (2020)  
Minister of Education, Culture and Science, Ingrid van Engelshoven, Holland (2020)  
Minister of Art, Ministry of Culture, Tõnis Lukas, Estonia (2020)  
Minister of Culture, Sam Tanson, Luxembourg (2020)  
Minister president of Flanders, Jan Jambon, Belgium (2020)  
Minister for Culture and National Heritage, Piotr Gliński, Poland (2021)  
Minister of Culture and Media, Nina Obuljen Koržinek, Croatia (2021)  
Minister of Culture, dr. Vasko Simoniti, Slovenia (2020)  
Secretary of State, Péter Fekete, Hungary (2021)  
Minister for National Heritage, Arts & Local Government, Dr. Owen Bonnici, Malta (2022)  
Minister of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth, Prodromos Prodromou, Cyprus (2020)

With sincerest gratitude for endorsements from:

Minister of Culture, Graça Fonseca, Portugal (2021)  
Minister of Culture and Sport of the Hellenic Rep., Dr. Lina G. Mendoni, Greece (2020) Minister of Culture, Boil Banov, Bulgaria (2021)  
Minister of Culture, PhDr. Lubomir Zaorálek, Czech Republic (2020)  
Minister of Culture, Marianne Jelved, Denmark (2015)  
Minister of Education and Research, Sofie Carsten Nielsen (2015)  
Minister of culture, Joy Mogensen, Denmark (2020)  
Minister for Justice, Culture & European Affairs., Anke Spoorendonk, Schleswig-Holstein (2016)  
Deputy State Secretary for Cultural Policy, Uldis Zariņš, Latvia (2020)

With hope that you will all enjoy the EU Songbook in life's many situations, diplomatically or privately,

Respectfully

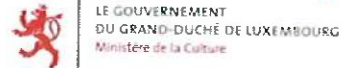
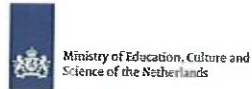


Jeppe Marsling, Founder / chairman

**The EU Songbook Association – a European non-profit NGO without financial support from EU - is endorsed by:**



(in the shape of the *European Citizen's Prize '23*)



The European Union Songbook Association

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