

## The AEC Declaration (1999)

1. The AEC welcomes the principle, laid out in the Bologna Declaration, of establishing a Europe-wide co-ordinated system of higher education based on national individual two main cycles, undergraduate and graduate.
2. The Association strongly affirms the principle, based upon substantial experience from member institutions in many European countries and regions that programmes involving the pursuit of practical instrumental, vocal and compositional study to the highest levels of excellence can and should be regarded as fully appropriate to both of the cycles described above.
3. The Association believes it to be essential to the optimum functioning of musical higher education in Europe that all its member institutions, among whom there is broad recognition of mutual compatibility, should be able to participate fully in exchange, transfer and progression of students within both of these cycles. In this context, the Association particularly urges the rapid recognition by countries such as Spain, Portugal, Italy and Greece that practically-based musical study is applicable in principle to both cycles.
4. The Association would be pleased to place at the disposal of individual countries and their education ministries the considerable expertise held by staff from its member institutions in the evaluation and quality assurance of programmes of study in music at both graduate and undergraduate level.

Declaration adopted by the General Assembly of the AEC on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 1999 – G. Enescu Concert Hall – Universitatea de Muzica Bucuresti – Romania.