

PROJECT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES,  
ERASMUS+ MOBILITY AND DIGITISATION:  
PRACTICAL TOOLS FOR THE  
INTERNATIONALISATION OF HIGHER  
MUSIC EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

29 - 31 JANUARY 2026  
CONSERVATORIO DI MUSICA  
LUCA MARENZIO, BRESCIA  
SALONE PIETRO DA CEMMO

# REPORT

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# Introduction

From 29 to 31 January 2026, more than 50 international relations coordinators from all over Europe gathered at the Conservatorio di Musica “Luca Marenzio” in Brescia, Italy, for the three-day international workshop “*Project Funding Opportunities, Erasmus+ Mobility and Digitisation: Practical Tools for the Internationalisation of Higher Music Education Institutions*”. Organised by the AEC within the framework of the [PNRR project IartNET](#), this hands-on event provided international officers with strategic insights and operational skills to be able to handle European funding schemes and (digital) mobility workflows.

The programme offered a rich blend of expert presentations, interactive discussion groups and practical demonstrations. Day 1 focused on European project funding opportunities, including Creative Europe, Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE), Jean Monnet Actions, International Credit Mobility (KA171) and University Alliances. Participants were invited by moderators to reflect and give inputs on how these funding lines can be applied to their institutions’ strategic objectives.

The following two days were dedicated to Erasmus+ mobility and the digitalisation of mobility management, with an extensive hands-on workshop on the AEC’s [EASY MO](#) system for managing mobility applications, learning agreements and short mobilities.

Speakers and facilitators included representatives from AEC members and in particular from the AEC’s IRC and EASY working groups:

- Michelangelo Galeati (Conservatorio di Musica Santa Cecilia, Italy)
- Iveri Kekenadze Gustafsson (Malmö Academy of Music, Sweden) – IRC wg member and former EPASA board member
- Ivana Mijanovic (University of Belgrade, Serbia; IN.TUNE Alliance) – IRC wg member
- Anika Stiawa (KUG Graz, Austria) – IRC wg member
- Riccardo Mascia (Conservatorio A. Boito di Parma, Italy) – IRC wg member
- Ly Tran (Hochschule für Musik Weimar, Germany) – EASY task force member
- Noemi Eden (Anton Bruckner Privatuniversität, Austria) – EASY task force member
- Ruth Graf-Fleet (Conservatorium van Amsterdam, Netherlands) – EASY task force member
- José Luis Fernandez (Conservatorio Superior de Musica de Vigo, Spain) – EASY task force member
- Andrada-Eirka Badiu, (CNSMD Lyon, France) – EASY task force member
- Christiane Brück, (Hochschule für Musik und Theater Hamburg, Germany) – EASY task force member
- Krystian Werner, EASY MO Project Manager at SoP
- Sara Primiterra, AEC Senior Project and Events Manager, Coordinator of the IRC working group and the EASY task force

The workshop enabled participants to exchange best practices, deepen their understanding of EU funding landscapes, and develop practical workflows for Erasmus+ and project applications. Many attendees highlighted the value of the peer-to-peer discussions and the applied sessions on digital tools.

For more on the overarching initiative, visit the [PNRR IartNET project website](#):

<https://www.accademiadibrera.milano.it/en/iartnet> (IartNET – an international platform for artistic practice/research and cultural heritage).

We warmly thank the hosting institution, Conservatorio di Musica “Luca Marenzio” di Brescia, for their excellent organisation and hospitality, which helped make this workshop a truly enriching experience for all participants.

# About IartNET

## IartN

An international platform for artistic practice/research and cultural heritage at Italian higher arts education institutions

**Project Coordinator Conservatorio “L. Marenzio” di Brescia:** Prof. [Marcello Mazzetti](#).

### Lead Institution

[Accademia di Belle Arti di Brera – Milan](#)

### Partner Institutions

[Università degli Studi di Milano](#)

Conservatorio di Musica “Luca Marenzio” di Brescia

Accademia di Belle Arti di Carrara

[Fondazione Accademia d’Arti e Mestieri dello Spettacolo Teatro alla Scala](#)

Accademia di Belle Arti di Catania

### Project Overview

IartNET aims to strengthen the internationalization of Italian Higher Arts and Music Education (AFAM) institutions by fostering transnational cooperation grounded in connectivity, experimentation, innovation, and diversity. Designed as a system-wide project, IartNET operates through collaborative networks to generate shared benefits across the AFAM sector.

### Main Objectives

1. Enhance Digital Access and Visibility
2. To expand the digital accessibility of artistic practice-led research and cultural heritage within AFAM, enabling:
  - broader national and international access to previously limited materials;
  - renewed recognition of AFAM institutions within the long tradition of Italian artistic excellence;
  - interdisciplinary and cross-sector dialogue linking historical heritage with contemporary artistic production to foster community-building and innovation.
3. Strengthen International Attractiveness
4. To develop an international network of higher arts and music education institutions committed to sharing:
  - data and documentation related to artistic research and cultural heritage;
  - knowledge, models, and best practices for internationalization aligned with European policy frameworks.
5. Support the Development of Research Structures
6. To establish an international hub for artistic research in Italy capable of:
  - forming a community of supervisors and experts;
  - designing new third-cycle (doctoral-level) programs consistent with the Bologna Process.

### Key Deliverables

- An Interoperable Database and English-Language Web Portal
- Providing open-access resources on cultural heritage and contemporary artistic and educational projects, developed in accordance with the Italian Digital Library and Europeana standards.
- An International Network for Training and Collaboration
- Supporting professional development, exchanges, and peer-to-peer dialogue to address the current lack of institutional capacity for internationalization in AFAM.
- An International Hub for Artistic Research
- Creating a platform for developing interdisciplinary research projects, postgraduate offerings, and evaluation criteria for artistic research aligned with international standards.

### Impact

These actions respond to structural challenges within AFAM institutions—such as the lack of English-language content, limited English-taught programs, and scarcity of graduate and doctoral offerings. The project will:

- enhance the international visibility of AFAM institutions;
- improve the quality of arts education for domestic and international students;
- strengthen AFAM’s role within global academic and cultural networks;
- contribute to the broader digital transition in the cultural and creative sectors.

# Thursday 29 January

## Welcome Words

- **Patrizia Vastapane**, President of Luca Marenzio Conservatoire, Brescia
- **Massimo Cotroneo**, Director of Luca Marenzio Conservatoire, Brescia
- **Nicoletta Leonardi**, IartNet Academic Coordinator, Accademia di Brera, Milano
- **Marcello Mazzetti**, Research Lead of IartNet Project, leader of WP3 on Internationalisation Conservatorio Luca Marenzio, Brescia
- **Sara Primiterra**, AEC Senior Project and Events Manager



[View the presentation](#)



## Exploring project funding opportunities

This hands-on workshop offered a practical introduction to key EU funding programmes relevant to higher music education and international collaboration. Through a mix of expert presentations and interactive group work, participants explored opportunities under Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education and Jean Monnet Actions, as well as discovered funding possibilities under the Creative Europe programme.

Iveri Kekenadze Gustafsson guided participants through the basics of Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE), Jean Monnet Actions, and International Credit Mobility (KA171), while Michelangelo Galeati presented the potential of Creative Europe for music and cultural projects. IN.TUNE was presented as an example of a University Alliance in the field of music. Throughout the session, participants alternated between presentations and group work, identifying how these funding lines could support their institutions. The workshop was designed to help participants understand the funding landscape and provided practical tools and inspiration for future project development.

Creative Europe with Michelangelo Galeati,  
Conservatorio Santa Cecilia, Rome



[View the presentation](#)



University Alliances, the example of InTune, by **Ivana Mijanovic**, University of Belgrade and member of the IRC working group and IN.TUNE Alliance



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Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE), Jean Monnet Actions, and International Credit Mobility (KA171) with discussion groups with **Iveri Kekenadze Gustafsson**, Malmoe Academy of Music, Sweden, member of the AEC IRC working group



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# Friday 30 January 2026

## Mobility workshop presentation by Anika Stiawa



Getting an overview of the guidelines, which apply to all institutions funding student mobilities (short-term and long-term) and staff mobilities with Erasmus+ KA131

Identification of intersections in cooperation and challenges in the different implementation of Erasmus+ requirements. Discussion groups on issues related to mobility



**Moderators: Anika Stiawa, Sara Primiterra, Riccardo Mascia, Iveri Kekenadze Gustafsson**



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## EASY MO Workshop

- Erasmus Without Paper latest news and EASY MO system logic, by **Sara Primiterra** and **Ly Tran**
- Traditional Semester Mobility Application: practical demonstration in groups led by **Jose Luis Fernandez, Ly Tran, Noemi Eden, Ruth Graf Fleet, Christiane Bruek** and **Andrada Badiu**



[View the presentation](#)

# Saturday 31 January 2026

## EASY MO Workshop

- Digital Learning Agreement in EASY MO - practical demonstration by **Noemi Eden** and **Ruth Graf Fleet**, EASY Task Force
- Short Mobilities and BIPs process in EASY MO - practical demonstration by **Krystian Werner**, SoP



[View the presentation](#)



# Gallery

