

Deutsche Orchestervereinigung e.V.

Der Geschäftsführer



Deutsche
Orchestervereinigung

Musik ist Leben.

Deutsche Orchestervereinigung e. V. - PF 02 12 75 - 10124 Berlin

Republic of Serbia
Ministry of Culture and Information
Vlajkovićeva 3
Beograd
via E-Mail

AZ: FIM Euro

11th of November 2016

11th meeting of FIM European group in Belgrade

Dear Minister,

as CEO of German Orchestra Union, which represents members of more than 150 professional orchestras and radio ensembles in Germany (Berlin Philharmonic, Bavarian State Orchestra, Staatskapelle Dresden etc.) I accompany the development of Serbian musicians union "Sindikata Muzičkih Umetnika" (SMU) since its foundation in 2003. After years of fruitful cooperation and support I am happy to see which great development SMU as well as arts and culture in Serbia have taken recently.

I want to express my deepest thanks to the Serbian Ministry of Culture and Information for its outstanding and generous support of the 11th meeting of the FIM European group which took place from November 2016, 4th to 5th in Belgrade. This meeting has given participants from nearly 30 states a perfect platform for exchanging experiences on the topic developments in arts and culture within Serbia and the European Union. It has been a very good opportunity especially for musicians unions and associations from South Eastern Europe to learn about the fast Serbian development as candidate for the European Union.

The board of SMU and its president, Mr. Boris Postovnik, had prepared this meeting and the schedule with great competence and successful outreach to many partners, associations and fellow unions. It was a good signal, too, to meet Mrs. Dragana Mitrović as official representative of the Ministry in the meeting, sharing views and opinions, taking part in the fruitful discussions.

It would be very encouraging to see the cooperation of the Ministry of Culture and Information and SMU in a further positive development. The regular exchange and close partnership between the national government and NGOs (such as SMU), the dialogue between social partners in the sector of arts and media is an important element to prepare, promote and accompany the full membership of the Republic of Serbia in the European Union.

Yours sincerely,

Gerald Mertens
CEO

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