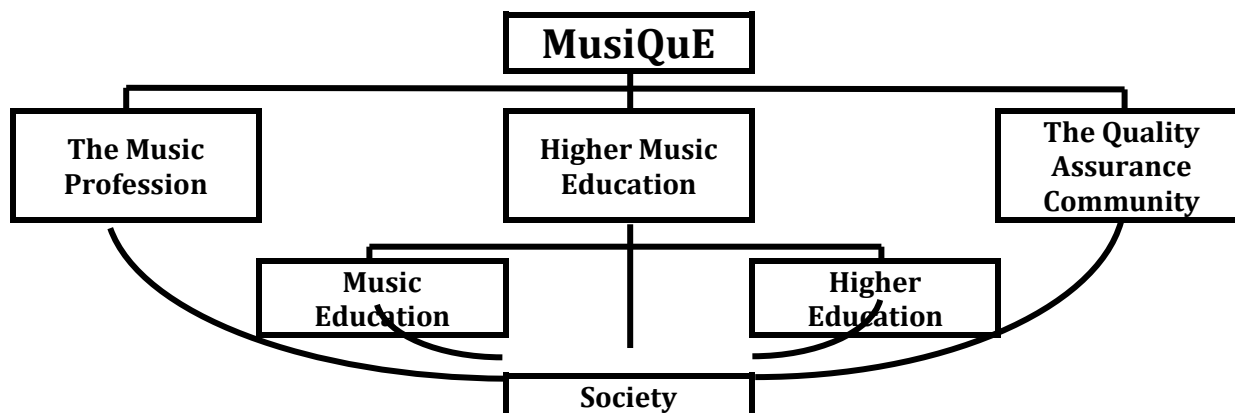


## 15 Public interaction

MusiQuE is an organisation closely embedded in the higher education sector which it serves, namely that for music. However, it also connects to a range of other constituencies, educational, professional and those relating to quality assurance. Finally, as an organisation dedicated to quality and its enhancement, it has a relationship to the project of continuous improvement in society as a whole. The diagram below outlines these relationships:



MusiQuE's public interaction seeks to reflect these relationships. It enacts this interaction through ways that relate both to content and to communication. The chief interaction in terms of content is through the period analysis of trends carried out by MusiQuE. This trend analysis is just one of the many elements that are put into the public domain through the use of the MusiQuE website, newsletters and other modes of communication.

### 15.1 Trend analysis

Every two years an individual well experienced in higher music education, and in quality assurance activities within this sector, is commissioned to produce a trend analysis. This analysis uses the feedback material from MusiQuE reviews, External Evaluator reports and the MusiQuE Board's own annual reports as its primary sources but also places these in a wider context (e.g. the proportion of European quality assurance activities in higher music education that use sectoral, as opposed to national, agencies and procedures).

A first trend analysis was produced in 2013 by the 'Polifonia' Working Group on Quality Enhancement, Accreditation and Benchmarking, who studied all reports produced between 2008 and 2012. In 2014, the MusiQuE Board commissioned a second trend analysis focusing on ten reports produced between 2010 and 2013. Successive trend analyses will be able to add a longitudinal dimension, evaluating key areas of change from one analysis to the next.

### 15.2 Communication

#### 15.2.1 Website

A MusiQuE website has been created with the domain name [www.musique-qe.eu](http://www.musique-qe.eu). Information about MusiQuE and its activities is being progressively uploaded to this site.

Over time, documents such as the annual report will be uploaded to this site and therefore openly available to any visitor to the site.

The MusiQuE website is organised as follows:

- The Section *About MusiQuE* provides information on MusiQuE, its vision and mission, its partner organisations, and its structure
- The Section *News* is meant to update the reader about the latest developments and activities of MusiQuE
- The Section *Types of reviews* provides detailed information on MusiQuE services, their objectives, process and outcome
- The Section *Peer-Reviewers* addressed the criteria and procedure for admission on the Peer-Reviewers' Register and presents how Review Teams are composed and how Review Team members are appointed
- The Section *Completed Reviews* lists all review procedures undertaken since 2008, and provides access to all review reports
- Finally, the Section *Documents* includes MusiQuE Standards for Institutional, Programme and Joint Programme Review (also downloadable separately), MusiQuE framework document *Background, mission and regulations* (each chapter being downloadable separately), MusiQuE templates, articles published and presentations delivered, as well as any other relevant documents.

Overall, this resource is developed as a comprehensive portal through which the activities of MusiQuE can be made accessible to a wide public.

### **15.2.2 Newsletter**

As a complement to the MusiQuE website, a newsletter is produced at regular intervals and is distributed through a MusiQuE mailing list which will be augmented over successive years of the organisation's operation.

Once a year, a key component of the newsletter will be the announcement, together with an electronic link to the document, of the publication of the Annual Report of the MusiQuE Board. Through the mailing list, this report is made available to all AEC, EMU and PEARLE\* members, to ENQA members, to national governments, to EQAR and worldwide.

### **15.2.3 Annual call for peer-reviewers, Board members, and suggestions for the revision of standards and procedures**

An email is sent annually in Spring to AEC, EMU and PEARLE\* members to encourage representatives of these three organisations to put themselves forward as peer-reviewers (see 4.1.1), usually by the deadline of 1st June, as well as to suggest changes to MusiQuE standards and procedures (see 6.1) by the deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> January the following year.

In years where a process of renewal of a Board member's term takes place or in which a new representative shall be selected and nominated, the e-mail above will also include a call for Board members candidacy, which will be addressed to representatives of AEC, EMU or Pearle\*, depending on the organisation responsible to nominate a new candidate.

#### **15.2.4 Information sessions, presentations and publication of articles**

The MusiQuE Board is responsible to ensure that the Boards and General Assemblies of each of the partner organisations are informed about the work of MusiQuE. Information session during AEC, EMU and PEARLE\*'s Board meetings and presentation during their General Assemblies are therefore regularly delivered.

The MusiQuE Board is also in charge of contributing to the communication and dissemination of information about MusiQuE activities, including representing MusiQuE - individually and, where appropriate, collectively - at quality assurance and accreditation-related events.

A general power-point presentation on MusiQuE has been designed to facilitate presentations about MusiQuE, and the MusiQuE Board and staff are actively exploring opportunities to present MusiQuE to a wide audience: national/regional networks of higher music education institutions, individual meetings with interested institutions, European conferences on Quality Assurance, etc.

Several articles have been presented at the European Quality Assurance Forum EQAF, and some of them selected for publications. See <http://www.musique-qe.eu/documents/articles>.

#### **15.2.5 Keeping up-to-date with the latest developments in quality assurance**

In order to inform themselves about latest developments in quality assurance, representatives of the Board and staff regularly attend meetings organised by the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) – including the European Quality Assurance Forum (EQAF) -, the European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education (EQAR) and the Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE). MusiQuE is a member of the European Alliance of Subject-Specific and Professional Accreditation and Quality Assurance EASPA and an affiliate of ENQA.