

Strategic plan of the European Forum of Psychomotricity (EFP) 2021-2024

Preamble

This strategic plan will serve to guide the activities of the European Forum of Psychomotricity (EFP) strategically towards the goals as decided by the General Assembly (GA).

The plan was developed through a process initiated by the GA in Lisbon, Portugal, in 2017. The task was to develop a response to an expressed wish of finding a way for the EFP to work in a way, which is responsive to the different, immediate, and individual needs and wishes from the member associations.

The wishes and needs of the member associations, were mapped by a questionnaire to the associations and analysed by the Board of the EFP.

It was concluded that the needs and wishes the member countries are diverse, in character, content and scope. They are reflections of the differences between the countries, as regards the situation of Psychomotricity and of the professional and political development in each country.

It was also clear that the member countries look to the EFP for information, help, cooperation and support from colleagues and fellow associations to further their own development of the field of Psychomotricity and/or for the development of the profession.

The General Assembly and the annual meeting of commissions were held together in Zürich in September 2018. National delegates and commission members joined in talks, discussion groups and workshops, in a joint effort to bring forth ideas for development, projects and areas of interest within and for Psychomotricity in Europe.

On the basis of this work, the former three permanent commissions of the EFP have been replaced with five working groups, who initiated their work in September 2019.

This present Strategic Plan is a product of the joint effort of delegates at the General Assemblies of 2018 and 2019, of the discussions and analysis by the Board, and of the practical experiences of the working groups.

Strategic plan 2021-2024 of the European Forum of Psychomotricity (EFP) “Meet, share & create”

The Strategic Plan of the EFP follows the main goals of the EFP, as written in the statutes, §3:

The main goal of the “European Forum of Psychomotricity” is the support of psychomotricity in Europe, in the educational, preventive and therapeutic practice, in the initial formation or continuing education, in the professionalization and the scientific research.

The “European Forum of Psychomotricity” defines the main goals as:

- *Promotion of the cooperation between psychomotricians coming from different countries and regions of Europe, (mutual exchanges, congresses, development of projects, formations, research.)*
- *Support of countries or regions where psychomotricity is not yet well developed: logistical or financial help, support of the initial formation and the continuing education.*
- *Coordination of the initial formation and the continuing education by: harmonisation of the contents, the general guidelines, the exams, promotion of the harmonisation of the professional education concerning the recognition by government.*
- *Mutual acceptance*
- *Representation of the common interests concerning the professional politics, acceptance by social insurance, level of income, protection of the initial formation.*

This strategic plan describes how the General Assembly has agreed on working for the goals of the EFP from 2021-2024.

Goals for this strategic plan:

The main goal of this plan is to develop, adjust and implement a working structure for the EFP, which is flexible, suitable, and fitting to the needs of the diversity of the member associations.

The members of the EFP share a common interest: the development of Psychomotricity. The specific needs are within different dimensions of the field of Psychomotricity: Political, educational, professional, scientific, organizational and others.

The EFP works from this common platform:

EFP as a place for cooperation:

The European Forum of Psychomotricity is a place, where professionals, associations and experts find common ground, common interests and common goals, and work together to achieve and share results. The aim of this present plan is to develop a framework, in which the work of the EFP will take place, in our common effort to make the EFP a relevant and vibrant place for cooperation, exchange and sharing, in an open structure, named "EFP for all". The structure assigns key roles to each part of the working structure for the exchange of ideas, communication, wishes and needs.

Mutual acceptance and common interests:

The EFP – GA recognizes that the different associations are in different situations and thus have different needs and expectations to their participation in the EFP.

In some countries the field of psychomotricity:

- is a nascent area in practise, research and professional development;
- is a basic education exists on bachelor level, in some, a master level and/ or Ph.d. programme is available;
- being a psychomotrician or psychomotor therapist is a recognized profession, in some it is not;
- continues to be a field and practise, in which professionals work with psychomotricity, but without having a basic education within the field.

In order to serve the diversity of interests, the aim of this plan is to work "bottom-up" in an open structure, which recognises and gives room to the differences between member associations – "EFP for all".

Working Structure - Keywords:

The aim is to work within a framework, where member countries can

- **Meet** – in the framework of the Working Groups (see below), the regular activities of the Forum (see below), as well as through contacts and networks, which will be a bi-product of the regular activities
- **Share** – knowledge, research, practise and experience within the field of psychomotricity itself, as well as in the field of professional development. Sharing means sharing among members as well as sharing externally through communication in various forms.
- **Create** – projects, collaboration, mutual support as well as products/research/collections of knowledge, et cetera, as products of working groups, network and contacts in general.

The structure aims to provide a setting for working in an open, “bottom-up” fashion, determined by the wishes of the associations of the member countries:

The aim is to make it possible for professionals and associations, through the delegate from each country, to express their professional needs and interests.

This framework is intended to make it possible to find likeminded collaborators with whom to develop projects for collecting and sharing knowledge, research, practises and organisational/political experience and knowledge. The aim of this is to further develop psychomotricity as a profession and/or a field of knowledge and practise, as it conforms with the goals and statutes of the EFP.

This we call “EFP for all” – where the aim is to provide a working structure for the European Forum of Psychomotricity, which can serve the interests of all member countries, regardless of their current situation and needs. And the structure aims to provide an “EFP from all”, where contributions, participation and input from associations, delegates, and group members are key factors on the working structure and processes.

The structure of working is made up of:

The General Assembly (GA)

- which convenes once a year to perform its formal duties in accordance with the statutes.
- The GA/delegates may decide to have meetings online during the time between the formal GA in September.
- The GA and the Board are in contact with the working groups (WG’s – see below), and makes decisions regarding the results and products of the WG’s: communication, publication and budget.
- Results and products from the WG’s are presented to the GA. Any decision or action of a political nature, or having to do with external relations of the EFP is decided by the GA.

The Board

- The Board acts as the executive body of the GA/EFP in between GA’s, carrying out tasks assigned by the GA, which are not assigned to others.
- The Board takes care of communication, coordination and planning in between the meetings of the GA, delegates and WG’s.

The National associations

- who provide the input, the ideas and suggestions to the work of the working groups as well as the GA. They distribute relevant questions or information from the EFP to the professionals in their country. The national associations decide who will be represented in the EFP as national delegate or working group member.

National delegates

- are key persons as they are closely related to the national association(s) and provide access to experts from their countries. They relate the situation of Psychomotricity in their country, they communicate their needs to the GA, and they facilitate contact to the 'experts on content', who make up the working groups. Input and ideas from national associations and experts are the subject of the work of the WG's as well for the organizational and strategic development of Psychomotricity in Europe.

The working groups (WG's)

- are 'experts on content' who work together on tasks/missions. The exact format, definition and product is decided by the group itself, as the members are recruited experts/professionals with knowledge of the field and task in question. The GA of the EFP is responsible for maintaining the consistency and coherence of the different tasks/missions and its relation to the strategic plan of the EFP.
- The WG's are formed by a joint effort of delegates/GA and professionals from member countries.
- The procedure for creation of WG's is decided by the GA/delegates. The procedure will be adjusted when needed in order to serve the Goals of the Strategic Plan (see above), and will be a topic in the Evaluation of the Plan (see below).
- The WG's communicate with the GA and Board on the progress of the work. Results, products and further steps are put to the GA for decisions regarding: actions, budget and publication/communication.
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Regular activities:

Outside the work of GA, Board and working groups, the EFP supports and promotes regular activities:

- EFP Students' Academy – once a year, students from different countries meet, share nice moments and exchange knowledge about (the diversity of) Psychomotricity in Europe.
- European Day of Psychomotricity – on September 19th every year we promote Psychomotricity on a national and European level.
- European Congress of Psychomotricity – every 4th year there is a congress for professional exchange and presentation of scientific developments related to Psychomotricity

These activities also serve to promote, support, and communicate about Psychomotricity, and the exchange, sharing and connecting/networking between professionals of Psychomotricity and interested professionals and students from other fields.

Results:

The Strategic Plan is made with the aim of providing and reinforcing a framework, where the result of the common effort is that the member associations:

Meet: Through connecting and knowing each other, as set in motion by the delegates and in the working groups and regular activities.

Share: Through the exchanges of knowledge, practise, achievements, political and organizational work, et cetera.

Create: Through the making of projects – on content, on specific tasks, networking, et cetera

Evaluation:

The results of the Strategic Plan will be evaluated in terms of how well the activities have been able to fulfil the aim of providing a framework and structure, in which member countries/associations:

Meet

Share

Create

Related to the main goals of the EFP, as well as to the needs and wishes of the stakeholders, i.e. the members, delegates, associations and experts on content.

The plan will be evaluated in terms of how it serves the goals of the plan (see above) and in terms of how the working structure has functioned. The procedure for the creation of groups will be adjusted along the way, and will be a subject of the concluding evaluation.

The General Assembly agreed and voted on this document in Rome, September 2021