



Country News GA 2018

Please use the following form to send us information from your country for the GA. This will help us all to prepare for the GA, and it will also enable those countries whose representatives cannot attend to let us know what is happening there in the field of music therapy. Your answers do not have to be long, but just to the point.

We would ask you to send the completed form to the core board by April 23, 2018.

Thanks in advance for your support!

Esa, Alice and Melanie

Name of Country: Turkey

Name of Delegate: Özgür Salur

Topic	News
1. Professional development:	<p>After the recognition of MT profession in 2014 and the release of the official training standards in 2016, we recently found out that there is a legislative process about offering MT in state hospitals for free (covered by national social security system).</p> <p>In December 2017, we've organized a 3-day long music therapy symposium with international music therapists connecting through Skype. These therapists were Melissa Mercadal Brotons from Spain, Ania Bukowska from Poland, Hans Petter Solli from Norway, Annie Heidersheit, Cheryl Dileo, Joanne Loewy, and Joy Allen from US, Alison Short from Australia, Hyun Ju Chong from South Korea. We also had workshops and panel discussions with Turkish music therapists and legislators. This basic symposium had following subjects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Music therapy from the perspective of music - brain interactions,-What is music therapy and what is not?-Evidence for Music and Music Therapy in Medical Treatment from the Cochrane Library-Music Therapy in Family Counseling-World agenda from five continents-Turkey's current agenda in music therapy-Music Therapy discussions from our culture-Short examples from group and individual sessions-What does a music therapy session look like?-Music in medicine-Where to proceed? <p>In April 2018, first International Traditional and Complementary Medicine has been organized by the government and Ranka Radulovic from Serbia and Annie Heidersheit from US are invited for this event.</p> <p>First official music therapy unit has been established by one of our members, Şükrü Torun.</p> <p>In 2018, we've organized a level 1 GIM training where Evangelia Papanikolau came to Turkey. We're arranging another training with her in April as well.</p>

2. Training:

First certification programs started in two universities in 2018. However, despite the rapid growth, our training standards are quite poor. Around 200 hours of training is needed to receive an official "music therapy applier" certificate. We are part of one of these trainings and we declare our aim as "not training music therapists, but teaching students what music therapy is and giving them an introduction to MT". Other training that we are not part of is in bad condition. Teachers are not music therapists, they did not participate in any lectures, workshops, seminars or the symposium we organized and they are "producing" many "music therapists" in that facility. One more bad news is that the university who has this program is supported by the government and probably in near future we will be outnumbered by these certified "music therapists".

3. Research:

No research has been published but Marmara University started giving a bachelor's course in MT, which became the 3rd MT course in the country. Also, at the moment, our members have applied in two universities in Istanbul and Ankara to start MT master's level & PhD programs.

4. Role of music therapy in society/health care etc.

We recently found out that there is a legislative process about offering MT in state hospitals for free (covered by national social security system).

Our association's members have given several seminars, workshops, radio interviews and lectures about music therapy.

5. Questions/Requests for Core Board or GA:

We have our bylaw translated into English and prepared other documentation to become a full member. These documents are forwarded to you except the ethical code. We started working on it and we need some more time to finalize it, but considering the rapid and unrestrained growth of our field in Turkey, we kindly request that we obtain the status of a full member as soon as possible. I believe that this might make it easier for us to speak in public to mention the universal standards of the profession for practice and training.