



**INDEPENDENT MUSIC PUBLISHERS
INTERNATIONAL FORUM**

IMPF Friends and Supporters Programme (FS&P)

1. What is the Friends & Supporters category?

Friends and Supporters of IMPF is a new engagement category launched in July 2021. It aims to offer non publisher commercial companies or individuals that have requested to join or work with IMPF, but don't meet the statutory criteria, a way to align with IMPF mission, members and aims.

The "Friends and Supporters of IMPF" category is aimed at those non publisher commercial companies whose mission is to have an open and transparent relationship with the independent music publishing community worldwide and is aligned with that of IMPF.

In order to ensure transparency, access and openness to all relevant players, IMPF is accepting companies or individuals to this category where there has been outreach or where there is an existing relationship.

2. Benefits of the Friends & Supporters category

Becoming a friend/supporter of IMPF allows non publishers commercial entities to:

- Become aligned with the largest global network of independent music publishers
- Build relationships with key independent music publishers
- Promote best practices in administration, licensing, and technology
- Participate in fostering a beneficial commercial ecosystem for composers and music publishers
- Educate members via media (webinar, newsletter, etc.) on market conditions (legal, regulatory, economic, etc.)
- Work towards enhancing relations with music publishers

While there are no no-*quid pro quo* benefits envisioned, IMPF will provide access to logo placements and interchanges and will afford the FS&P category to put forth mutually beneficial proposals to members (via meetings and webinars), subject at all times to consulting with the Board. Other joint or common elements that could help ameliorate relations between publishers and these services could manifest during the lifetime of any engagement. It is of course self-evident that there is an inherent value to the association with IMPF and vice versa.

3. Friends & Supporters fees

IMPF currently charges 5000 Euro per annum per entity entering this category. This amount is set so as to ensure parity with fee paying full Members of IMPF and for IMPF to benchmark this amount when welcoming other "supporters".

4. Status of FS&P

The FS&P category is *hors-statuts* and applies to external collaborators, who won't benefit from the privileges of being a Member of IMPF. The approval of engagement with any company or organisation under the category is entirely at the discretion of the Board of Directors of IMPF, as is the duration and termination of any such partnership. The Board of Directors ensures that the activities of this category of organisations and/or companies are consistent with the values of the Forum. The Board will not accept support from companies or individuals whose commercial objectives could conflict with our goals and values, promote inaccurate or misleading messages about our commitment to those goals and values, or compromise the independent status of IMPF. This new category does not grant any membership status nor is it an imprimatur of any kind. (See link [here](#) to formal Engagement policy)

5. IMPF Friends & Supporters vs. Members

Members	Friends & Supporters
Music Publishers	Companies Entities in other relevant fields
Depending on annual revenue rates, fee from 250€/year to 5000€/year	Fee of 5000 €/year (pro-rata)
Have the possibility to influence policy positions at meetings, access to publisher networking events, assistance with issues related to the field	Does not grant membership status; the companies are not considered members but external supporters

6. Current IMPF Friends & Supporters (March 2023)

- **ESMAA** is a subsidiary of Abu Dhabi based PopArabia, the leading independent music company and music publisher in the Middle East for a decade, and a partner of twofour54, Abu Dhabi's media and entertainment hub. ESMAA is a rights management entity working with global stakeholders in music to facilitate and provide music licenses in the Gulf region.
- **ICE** is a purpose-driven organisation, founded by rightsholders, for rightsholders. ICE exists to support songwriters, enabling societies and publishers to accurately compensate them when their work is used internationally.
- **Lyricfind**: LyricFind provides partners with an extensive catalogue of accurate and fully legal lyrics, licensed from more than 10,000 publishers and performing rights organisations around the world. It is trusted by some of the top names in the industry, including Amazon, Google, YouTube, Deezer, Xperi, Soundhound, iHeartRadio and many others. They have been Supporters of IMPF since July 2021.
- **Musixmatch**: Musixmatch provides data, tools and services to enhance the music experience and empower creators. It has a lyrics catalogue with over 8 million songs and 80 supported languages. It supplies a range of platforms including the top global music DSPs, online search engines and social platforms. Alongside lyrics, Musixmatch works to provide creators with tailored tools to help manage, claim, and distribute content. They have been Supporters of IMPF since July 2021.
- Established in 2005 **On Music** is based in the rapidly growing technology hub of Belfast, Northern Ireland. We are a trusted partner in providing complementary back

office support for music and audio-visual copyright metadata processing and our clients are at the core of every decision we make. The skills and knowledge of our team have grown through experience of broadcast media, a passion for music and enthusiasm for technology. Working on a global scale we have the ability to make complex decisions software alone cannot handle.

- **Pex:** Pex is the leader in digital rights technology, enabling the fair and transparent use of copyright online. With Pex's advanced identification technology, platforms can manage and license content at scale, allowing users to upload freely while respecting copyright. In return, rightsholders are able to monitor and capitalize on the content they own. Pex is on a mission to support the creator economy with fair and transparent copyright solutions. joined this category in October 2021.
- **Vistex** solutions help businesses take control of their mission-critical processes. The company's enterprise software provides a high-volume, easily configured solution poised for traditional, current and future music business trends. Contracts, metadata and all royalty activity are captured in a single system, which is used for registration, licensing, sales, royalty reporting, analytics and more. This enables music companies to manage all aspects of their industry in a single solution.

7. IMPF stakeholder relationships

IMPF is an associate member of **CISAC** (International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers) and **ICMP** (International Confederation of Music Publishers) and works closely with the CMO members of CISAC at national level. IMPF also works with **IMPALA**, **ECISA** and **GESAC** on European affairs. IMPF has a memorandum of understanding with **AIMP** (Association of Independent Music Publishers), a charter of cooperation with **IMPEL**, the licensing hub for independent music publishers, and a strategic alliance with **The Ivors Academy** to strengthen ties between music creators and publishers. IMPF also liaises at international level with **CIAM** (International Council of Music Creators) in this regard. IMPF joins the **Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR)** at **WIPO** and is a Member of the Advisory Board of **WIPO for Creators**. IMPF is a stakeholder to the European Observatory on Infringements of Intellectual Property Rights of the **European Union Intellectual Property Office** and is also a member of the **Pro Music international coalition** which promotes the myriad of different ways people can enjoy music safely and legitimately online.

8. IMPF Policy and Advocacy

IMPF carries out a full policy and advocacy programme - See here for all top line positions <http://www.impforum.org/policy/>

9. About IMPF

IMPF is a network and meeting place for independent music publishers globally. IMPF wants its members to be able to take advantage of the incredible opportunities to have their music on every service, licensed easily and without borders. IMPF's purpose is to represent the interests of the independent music publishing community internationally, share experiences and best practices in music publishing, exchange information on the legal framework as it affects the music publishing environment, coordinate and support projects relevant to composers and music publishers and promote a favourable environment for artistic, cultural, linguistic, and commercial diversity for composers and music publishers.

IMPF is based in Brussels, the home of the European Institutions and with the geographically diverse location of our members and given our nimbleness, in terms of size and cohesiveness in terms of Board makeup, we can quickly act on policy and key legislation affecting writers and companies anywhere. Above all, independent publishers want all writers and companies to be rewarded fairly for their work, their creativity, and their investment.

IMPF is a growing organisation, currently representing 136 independent publishing companies worldwide.



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