INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY

Since the establishment of the educational institution, the Academy effectively developed cultural and artistic cooperation with the embassies of foreign countries. The great improvement was reached in partner relations with France, Great Britain, China, India, the Czech Republic, Poland, Argentina, etc.

The growth of the academy's international prestige also resulted in the increase of foreign students. Back in 1950, the Kyiv Conservatory had already begun to accept musicians from Australia, Canada, Poland, Slovakia, the USA, Croatia, Algeria, Argentina, Bulgaria, Bolivia, Brazil, Venezuela, Vietnam, Greece, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Israel, Iraq, Iran, Ireland, Spain, Yemen, Cyprus, China, Colombia, South Korea, Costa Rica, Cuba, Los, Lebanon, Malagasy, Mexico, Mongolia, Germany, Portugal, Serbia, Syria, Slovenia, Turkey, Hungary, Finland, France, the Czech Republic, Chile, Montenegro, and Japan.

Nowadays, many foreign citizens win various titles of laureates of international competitions while still being students of the Academy. Alumni successfully work as teachers in higher educational institutions, occupy management positions in various art establishments – theatres, ministries of culture, mass media of their countries, etc.

Today, the Ukrainian National Tchaikovsky Academy of Music develops international activity through the processes of internationalization. The Academy is successfully expanding the network of partnerships and successfully realizing its goals – through the Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility Programme, in particular. [https://knmau.com.ua/en/diplomacy/about-international-relations-office/]

<u>Erasmus+ Programme</u> is an international academic mobility programme that promotes cooperation between higher education institutions in Europe and beyond. The programme is financed by the European Union and provides an opportunity for students, teachers and other personnel of higher education institutions to carry out studies, internships and research work in other countries. [https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu]

The Erasmus+ programme provides funding for expenses related to a stay in another country, such as: accommodation, food, travel and other expenses. In addition, programme participants have the opportunity to enrich their experience, develop professional and intercultural skills, acquire knowledge in new areas, and set new academic and scientific goals. Participation in the Erasmus+ programme helps to create international connections in the field of art and music, which opens new perspectives for students and teachers in these fields. Applicants also participate in international master classes, seminars, conferences, and festivals.

Also, the Academy continues to join such global and prestigious associations as Opera Europa.

Opera Europa is an association that unites the leading opera houses of Europe and other countries of the world. Founded in 2003, the organization has more than 160 members from more than 40 countries. Throughout the history of the association, the Ukrainian National Tchaikovsky Academy of Music became the first institution of higher education that joined the partnership in January 2023. [https://opera-europa.org]

The Opera Europa Association is an important international forum for the exchange of experience and knowledge, which promotes the strengthening of professional ties between opera workers, the development of employment in the world's most prestigious opera houses, and provides support and protection of interests in the international community.

The Academy's transnational partners include the Association Européenne des Conservatoires, the Confucius Institute and UNESCO.

Association Européenne des Conservatoires, Académies de Musique et Musikhochschulen, AEC, is a network of 300 members from 57 countries that unites music institutions from all over Europe. [https://aec-music.eu]

Its main goal is to support and develop music education in Europe, to ensure high quality of education, as well as an innovative approach to music teaching. The Ukrainian National Tchaikovsky Academy of Music became a member of the association in 1998. During this time, a strong network of partnerships was established with leading higher education institutions in France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Singapore, Israel, Estonia, Hungary, etc.

The AEC was established in 1953 to increase cooperation between music institutions in Europe and improve their level of training. Network members have the opportunity to exchange experience and develop joint programs and projects. The AEC is a key player in shaping music education in Europe and popularizing music in the world.

The Confucius Institute is an educational and cultural centre that was created to popularize Chinese culture and language, as well as to develop intercultural communication in the field of music. Confucius Institutes are joint projects of international universities and the Chinese government. The Ukrainian National Tchaikovsky Academy of Music began cooperation with the Confucius Institute in 2018. [https://www.cief.org.cn/kzxy/]

The Confucius Institute, based at the Academy, offers courses in Chinese music and instrumental music, as well as organizes concerts, workshops, symposia, and other cultural events. The main goal of the Institute is to attract students to the

study of Chinese music, increase the level of intercultural competence and develop cultural ties between China and other countries of the world.

In addition, the Confucius Institute promotes mutual exchange of experience in the field of music, organizes exchange programs for students, teachers and scientists. The institute also supports the development of international cooperation in the field of music, promoting the exchange of musical ideas, technologies and knowledge between Chinese and foreign musicians and music institutions of higher education.

The UNESCO Chair is an educational and scientific centre created on the basis of the Academy with the aim of expanding knowledge in the field of education, science, culture and other areas that constitute the priority directions of UNESCO's development. This Chair was established in accordance with the Agreement between UNESCO and the Academy for the purpose of raising the level of education, development of science and culture in different countries of the world.

One of the priority activities of UNESCO chairs is ensuring interaction between students, scientists, educational institutions, public organizations, state structures and other interested parties in different countries of the world.

The Academy also participated in the other UN artistic programmes, such as: *Music of All Generations* (1999); the UN High Commissioner for Refugees programme (2000); *March of Peace*, the artistic projects of the President of Ukraine; etc.