



## **International network encourages the Swedish Arts Council to continue to treat musical genres equally**

The European non-governmental network, Live DMA, which works to support the conditions of the live music sector, has highlighted the Swedish Arts Council's new policy on the equal treatment of music, regardless of genre.

"We have previously noticed how Sweden has differed from many other countries in Europe by often denying state funding to promoters of popular music. This is something they have now decided to put right.

We welcome this change in position", Live DMA commented in a statement.

"Swedish public funding to popular music promoters has long since deviated negatively from many other countries in Europe. According to information we have received, the subsidy provider, the Swedish Arts Council, has now reviewed its regulations and decided to promote equal treatment of different musical genres. We understand that it will take time to achieve equality of funding, but we encourage the Swedish Arts Council to continue to work towards equal treatment of different musical genres.

From an allocation perspective, this may have consequences unless the total funding from the Swedish state increases. However, if this does not happen, we presume that all those involved recognise the importance of a transparent and legally secure allocation of state funding instead of fighting for the previous unequal funding allocation."

Lisbon the 29<sup>th</sup> of March 2019

The board of Live DMA

*Live DMA is a European network to empower its members and live music professionals, to structure the live music sector and to enhance the recognition of music venues, clubs and festivals all over Europe as important cultural, social and economic actors.*

*Live DMA members represent venues, clubs, festivals and other music organisations. They share the common objective to protect the local music scene and to support the smallest, most fragile live music actors*