

**November 2023** 

CMFE reaffirms its dedication to enhancing the visibility, empowerment, and recognition of community media across Europe!



The Community Media Forum Europe (CMFE) successfully conducted its annual general assembly on September 23, 2023, in Budapest, Hungary. This significant event was part of the Display. Voices - European Communities in Media Conference, hosted by the Display. Europe project at The National Association of Hungarian Journalists. The assembly was accessible both in-person and online via Zoom.

The assembly witnessed the participation of 9 CMFE board members: Lina Chawaf, Vladimir Randinović, Nyima Jadama, Fabian Ekstedt, Valentina Rajaković, Rui Monteiro, Harriet Wendel, Larry Macaulay, and Nicolas Horber. We were also honored by the presence of two new board member applicants, Daniel Kameny, and Vera Wolf, alongside representatives from various member organizations such as GFMD (BE), COMMIT (AT), BfR (DE), RadioFRO (AT), Radio Helsinki (AT), Radio Campus (FR), NRO (SE), Community Media Sweden, and RTVC (ES). The online participation and proxy votes brought the total active votes to over 20, marking this year's General Assembly as one of the most engaging in recent years.

The assembly's agenda was comprehensive, adhering to the CMFE's statutes. It included the approval of the agenda, accounts, budgets, the president's report, objectives, and an evaluation of the impact of previous and ongoing projects. A highlight of the assembly was the election of new board members. We are pleased to announce that Daniel Kameny, Founder and Station Manager at Radio X Hungary, and Vera Wolf, Deputy

Director of VFRÖ, have been elected to the board. Additionally, Valentina Rajaković, Larry Macaulay, and Nicolas Horber were reelected for a second term, having completed their first.

We bid farewell to Lina Chawaf, Gabriela Velics, and Isabela Lema, who stepped down from the board. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Lina Chawaf, the outgoing board President, for her dedicated service and leadership from 2021 to 2023.

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## From our own world

For the first time in its history

# **CMFE** elects two presidents





During the October Board meeting the CMFE board had to choose its new new president since Lina Chawaf has left us. The board has unanimously agreed that the new president should be Vladimir Radinović, who has been one of the most active board members in the recent period. However, Vladimir reminded the board that according to CMFE statutes, the organization could elect multiple presidents which could be beneficial in some day-to-day activities. As a second president, the board voted for Harriette Wendel, the current treasurer of the board.

The two presidents have pledged to serve the CMFE and help the organization in its sustainability and realization of its strategic goals.

#### Display. Voices Conference:

# **Shaping the Future of European Media**



In a remarkable gathering in Budapest, Hungary, European Community Media Makers and Independent Journalists, including members from the Community Media Forum Europe (CMFE), convened for the inaugural Display. Voices conference. This two-day event, held from September 22-23, 2023, marked the launch of a groundbreaking media platform rooted in

public values and constructed by independent, not-for-profit media organizations.

The conference offered a rich tapestry of activities, featuring insightful reflections on the current media ecosystem by independent creators, practical workshops on cross-border collaborations and community building, and an engaging introduction to the Display Europe network. Participants, drawn from newsrooms and independent media practitioners across Europe, were presented with the unique opportunity to become the pioneering nodes in the network of Display Europe. This innovative platform is dedicated to providing citizens across the continent with trustworthy information and a fresh perspective on Europe, often overlooked by mainstream or national media outlets. Through translation, syndication, and original content, Display Europe aims to gather and disseminate reliable, community-driven media.

CMFE's Board Members actively contributed to the conference, engaging in panel discussions and workshops. Fabian Ekstedt and Vera Wolf participated in a panel discussion on the governance of the future platform, while Nyima Jadama joined a compelling conversation with visionary black/migrant-led media founders. These women shared their dynamic strategies that are reshaping Europe's narrative landscape. The hour-long panel delved into how these innovative pioneers have leveraged media to amplify diverse voices, bridge cultural divides, and create a lasting impact on the continent's storytelling paradigm.

Display. Voices is a component of the larger Display Europe project, managed by the European Cultural Foundation (ECF) and co-funded by the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union. The project is a collaborative effort involving a consortium of esteemed organizations, including Cultural Broadcasting Archive (CBA), Farikom, Eurozine, Voxeurop, Hostwriter, Krytyka Polityczna, El Dario, Good Conversations, Public Spaces, CMFE, Human, VPRO, Sound & Vision, YEPP Italia, Fanzingo, and Schuman Show.

The conference was meticulously organized by CMFE and Hostwriter and hosted at the Múosz – National Association of Hungarian Journalists. It stands as a testament to the collaborative spirit and forward-thinking vision that characterizes the European media landscape.

### Community Media Forum Europe - cmfe.eu

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