

# IFCM 2026 Elections

## Application Form for Elections of the Board



**Given names:** Jeroen  
**Family name:** Keymeulen  
**Date of birth (Day/Month/Year):** 25/11/1982

**Residential address (Postal Code & City):** 2340 Beerse  
**Street and number:** Kardinaal Cardijnlaan 131  
**Country of residence:** Belgium

Please note that according to IFCM Bylaws the attribution to the regions of the world depends only on the country of residence, not on possible nationalities of a candidate.

**Region of the world:**

- North America
- Latin America and Caribbean
- Sub-Saharan Africa
- Middle East and North Africa
- Northern & Western Europe and Israel
- Central-Eastern & South-Eastern Europe
- Asia (Central, East and South)
- Oceania (Australia, New Zealand, South Pacific)

**Email:** jeroen.keymeulen@koorenstem.be  
**Phone:** +32478543033 **Website (if applicable):**

**Spoken language(s):** Dutch, English, French  
**Place of employment:** Antwerpen  
**Title at your employment:** General Manager

**For individual members - IFCM membership number:**

**For candidates nominated by member choirs or member organizations:**

**My candidacy is supported by / I am nominated as candidate by:** Koor&Stem vzw  
(name of member choir or member organisation, country in which the choir/organisation is based)

**IFCM membership number of the choir or organisation:** 6990

**Please outline your experience/involvement in the IFCM to date:**

I have been working for almost seven years as General Manager of Koor&Stem, the Flemish amateur arts organization for vocal music. During the initial period, I focused primarily on getting to know the organization and its network thoroughly, in order to subsequently adjust its course and provide new strategic direction. Now that the second policy plan under my leadership has been submitted, I feel that the time has come to take on a role within the international field. Koor&Stem has, of course, been closely involved with ECA, notably through the organization of Europa Cantat Junior in 2023 and the Membership Weekend in 2024. I would now like to broaden that perspective towards a more global outlook. In addition, I have become increasingly active as a conductor and jury member in international contexts. That experience could also be valuable. Having the opportunity to present at WSCM 2026 seemed to me a meaningful step in putting myself forward as a candidate for the board, even though I realize that many people may not know me yet.

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**Please write a short text to present your vision as a Board member (Max 300 words in English):**

International cultural funding is increasingly under pressure. Public subsidies — both structural and project-based — are becoming less stable, more competitive, and often more nationally oriented. In that context, it is not self-evident to build and sustain a global organization such as IFCM with sufficient financial leverage. If we want IFCM to remain relevant and impactful, we must acknowledge this reality and rethink what “strength” means for an international federation. For me, the answer does not lie solely in seeking larger budgets, but in developing a different kind of leverage. IFCM’s true strength can and should be found in its ability to actively build networks, foster connections, and stimulate meaningful collaboration. A global federation is powerful not only because of its financial capacity, but because of its capacity to connect people, organizations, and ideas across borders. This means encouraging stronger contact between national federations, facilitating exchange of expertise, repertoire, and best practices, and creating more structural collaborations beyond national frameworks. Especially in times when cultural budgets are under pressure in many countries, we need to bundle our forces. By sharing knowledge, co-creating projects, and advocating together, we can increase our collective resilience and visibility. I believe IFCM can play a crucial role as a connector and catalyst within this ecosystem. From my position at Koor&Stem, I am eager to contribute actively to building and strengthening this global network, ensuring that choral music continues to thrive through cooperation, solidarity, and shared ambition.



## **Endorsement Jeroen Keymeulen, board of IFCM**

Dear Sir or Madam,

On behalf of the board of Koor&Stem, we are pleased to strongly support the candidacy of Mr. Jeroen Keymeulen for a position on the board of the International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM).

Jeroen has been serving as director of Koor&Stem for nearly seven years. Under his leadership, the organization has grown into a key player in Flanders, actively supporting and inspiring collective singing across multiple sectors, including culture, education, and wellbeing. His vision and commitment have significantly strengthened the visibility and impact of choral singing in our region.

In addition to his leadership role, Jeroen is trained and active as a choir conductor. This dual background gives him a valuable combination of artistic insight and organizational expertise. He understands both the creative and managerial dimensions of choral life, which allows him to contribute thoughtfully and effectively to strategic discussions.

We are confident that Jeroen's experience, dedication, and international outlook will make him a valuable asset to the IFCM board. We wholeheartedly recommend him for this position.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping strokes that form a cursive name.

Marc Van den Borre, chairman

## CURRICULUM JEROEN KEYMEULEN

During intensive years of study, Jeroen earned at the Lemmens Institute three master's degrees in music for classical guitar, chamber music and orchestral conducting. To further qualify himself in choral conducting, Jeroen took several master classes with Prof. Andre de Quadros (USA) and Lone Larsen (Denmark), with Hervé Niquet (France), with Prof. Markus Utz (Geneva), Prof. Denis Rouger (Stuttgart) and Johannes Dewilde (Ghent).

After passages with Camerata Ostendia, Musica Nova and Vivente Voce, Jeroen conducts the Mechelen-based Vokalis and the Chamber Choir Flanders. With this young ensemble he has achieved meritorious prizes at international choral competitions in recent years. At the European Choir Games 2025, the choir finished 3d place in the category “Chamber Choirs”.

Jeroen is often asked as a jury member at choral competitions. Thus, he was a jury member at the World Choir Games 2024 (Auckland, New Zealand) and sat on the jury of the Concorso Corale Giuseppe Savani 2025 (Carpi, Italy).

An active career in education, as a teacher (Oudenaarde) and as a principal (Wilrijk and Borgerhout), he concluded in July 2019 as network director of the Academies of Urban Education. In August 2019, Jeroen took on a new challenge, bringing together several passions, as general director of [Koor&Stem vzw](#), the Flemish amateur arts organization for vocal music.