

## ECSA concludes “historical” autumn meeting in Reykjavik, as echoed by President Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson



Delegates from composer and songwriter associations all over Europe met on October 7<sup>th</sup> in Reykjavik, Iceland for ECSA’s autumn meeting. The session included a reception by the President of Iceland, his Excellency Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson and was organized in the framework of the Harpa Nordic Film Composer Award handed

over by Björk to Swedish composer *Fredrik Emilson* for his music in the film *Kronjuvelerna*. Other nominees included Timo Hietala (Finland) for “Silence”, Hilmar Örn Hilmarsson (Iceland) for “The Last Days of the Arctic”, Gisle Martens Meyer (Norway) for “Pushwagner” and Nicklas Schmidt (Denmark) for “The Great Bear”. Further information on the Harpa Nordic Film Composer Award can be found under [www.harpafilmmusic.is](http://www.harpafilmmusic.is).



As for the ECSA meetings, Iceland and its’ inspiring atmosphere proved to be the right place to take an historical decision as regards to the restructurization of the association. ECSA came together as an organization comprising three pillars: the Alliance of Popular Music and Composer Organizations in Europe (APCOE), the Federation of Film and Audiovisual Music Composers in Europe (FFACE) and the European Composers Forum (ECF). For reasons of achieving highest efficiency standards and costs effectiveness, ECSA delegates unanimously approved to reform the alliance into a direct membership association, build on three main committee’s named after APCOE, ECF and FFACE.

But the meeting in Iceland was also an excellent occasion to follow-up on key ECSA affairs, such as draft directive on collective rights management organizations, the Global Repertoire Database and



the upcoming Creators Conference, which is scheduled for 19 and 20 February 2013, in Brussels. ECSA delegates were also thoroughly debriefed on the recent intervention of ECSA Chairman Alfons Karabuda in the European Parliament, who stressed the vital economic interest of authors in the collective management of their rights, as well as the importance of music writers, and media music composers in particular, to exclusively assign the performing right to their societies.

The meeting also endorsed the transatlantic collaboration of ECSA with Music Creators North America (Music Creators NA), a new alliance of several independent music writers guilds of Canada and the US. Music Creators NA comprises today SPACQ (Québec), SCGC (Screen composers Canada), SAC (Songwriters’ Association of Canada), SGA (Songwriters’ Guild of America), NSAI (Nashville Songwriters International and SLC tbc. (Society of Lyricists and Composers).