

GEMA BASICS FOR MUSIC CREATORS

Agenda

1. **Basic**
2. **Membership**
3. **Distribution**
4. **Creative GEMA**
5. **Questions & Answers**

BASICS

Basics

What exactly is GEMA?

- **GEMA** stands for: **G**esellschaft für **m**usikalische **A**ufführungs- und mechanische Vervielfältigungsrechte
- **Purpose** = To manage and administer the rights of use assigned to GEMA by its members; to represent them in dealings with music users
- An organisation with over **107,000 members**
- Approx. 35 million documented works worldwide**
- Represents approx. 3 million rights holders worldwide**
- Total distribution for the 2025 financial year: over 1 billion euros*

*As at October 2026

**All figures are rounded. As at October 2026



The sugar water lawsuit

Rights based on the sugar water lawsuit that apply to this day:

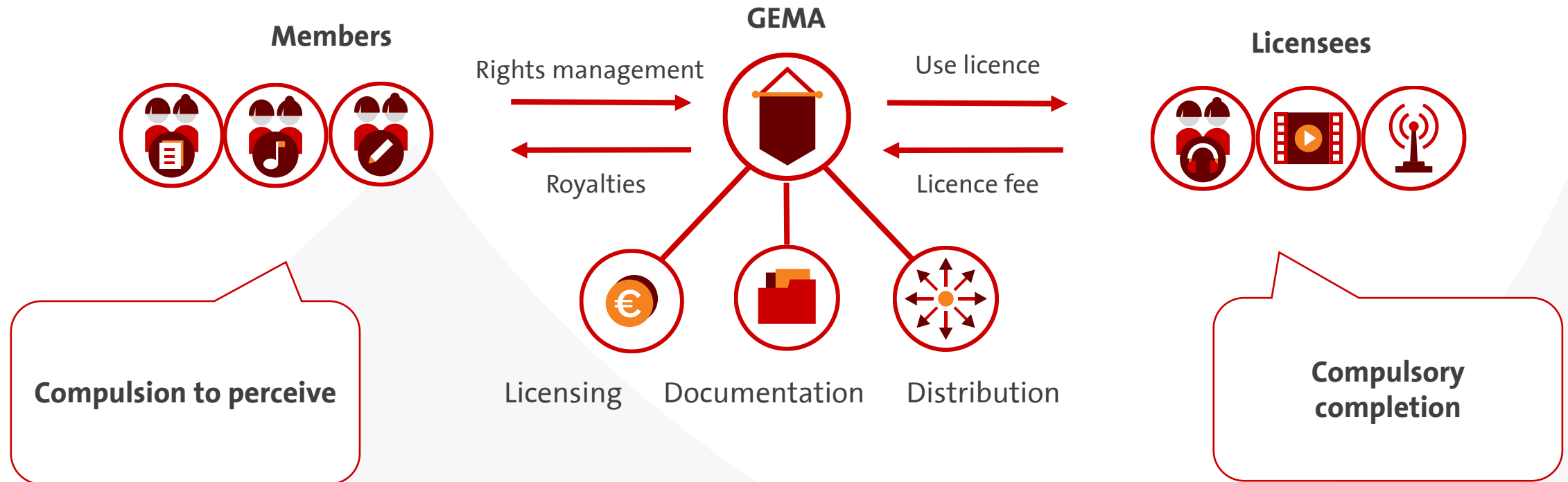
- Creators must be asked for permission prior to each use of their works.
 - **This is simplified through GEMA by offering licences for music users.**
- Creators must be paid/remunerated for the uses of their works.
 - **GEMA takes care of adequate payment and enables straightforward exploitations through licence agreements.**
- Copyright is applicable during the lifetime of the creators plus an additional 70 years after their deaths.
 - **Legal successors are also supported by GEMA in their matters.**



Basics

Rights management

GEMA acts in a fiduciary capacity to manage its members' rights vis-à-vis licensees

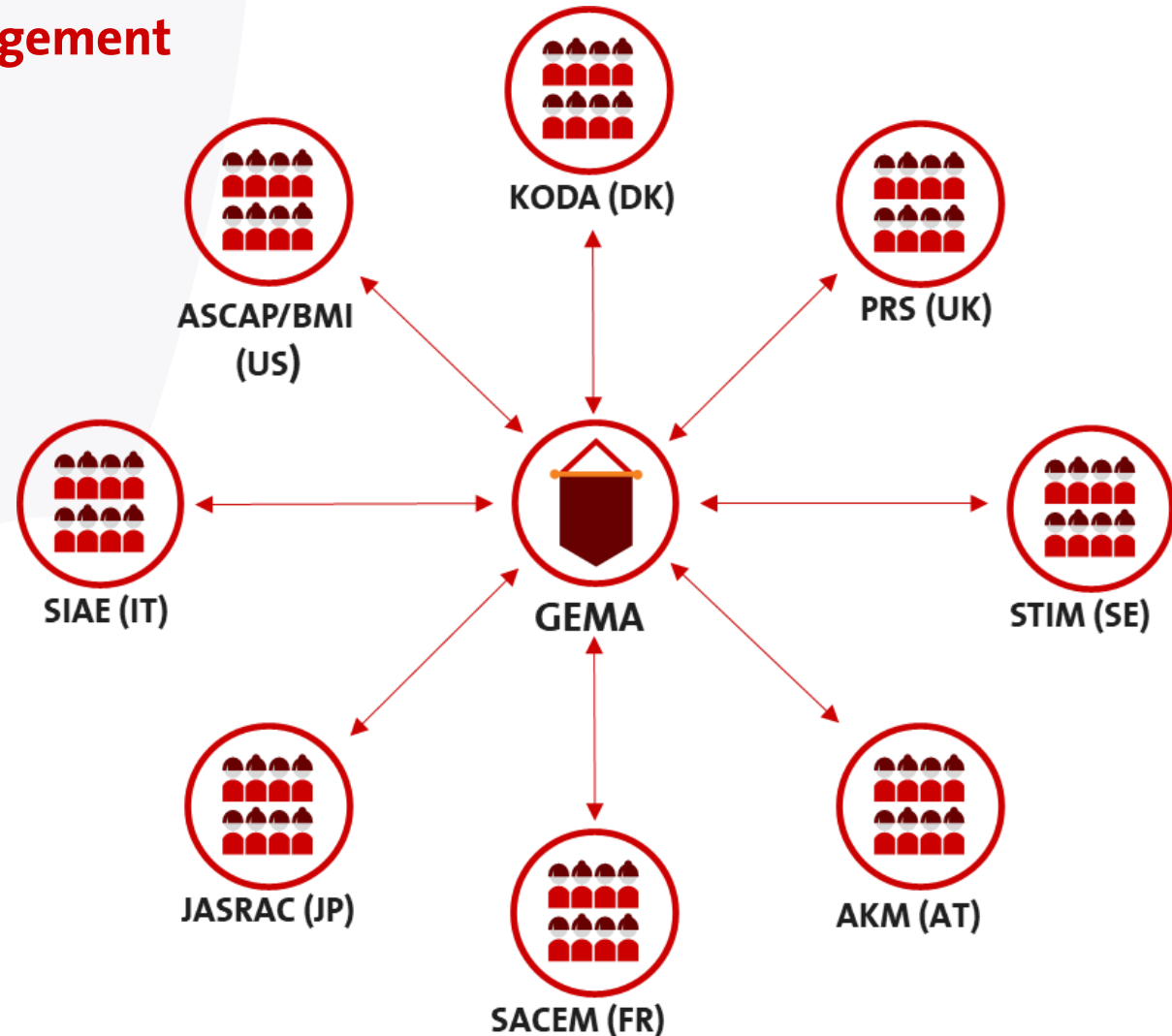


Basics

Reciprocal agreements – global rights management

GEMA is linked to other collecting societies through reciprocal agreements. As a result, GEMA members benefit from worldwide rights management.

Furthermore, GEMA thus represents more than 3 million rights holders worldwide.



MEMBERSHIP

Basics

GEMA's governing bodies

1



General Assembly

- takes place annually
- GEMA's central governing body
- makes decisions on the most important matters

2



Supervisory Board

- GEMA's governing and supervisory body
- consists of members from all three professional groups
- serves on a voluntary basis

3



Executive Board

- responsible for GEMA's operational business
- represents the association in court
- appointed by the Supervisory Board

Structure and organisation of GEMA



GEMA members are:



Composers



Lyricists



Music publishers

Extraordinary membership

- More than **102,000 members*** hold extraordinary membership.
- There are no special requirements. Members simply need to:
 - > Submit an application for membership
 - > Pay the admission fee and membership fee
 - > Sign a rights administration agreement
- A contract with a label or publisher is not required

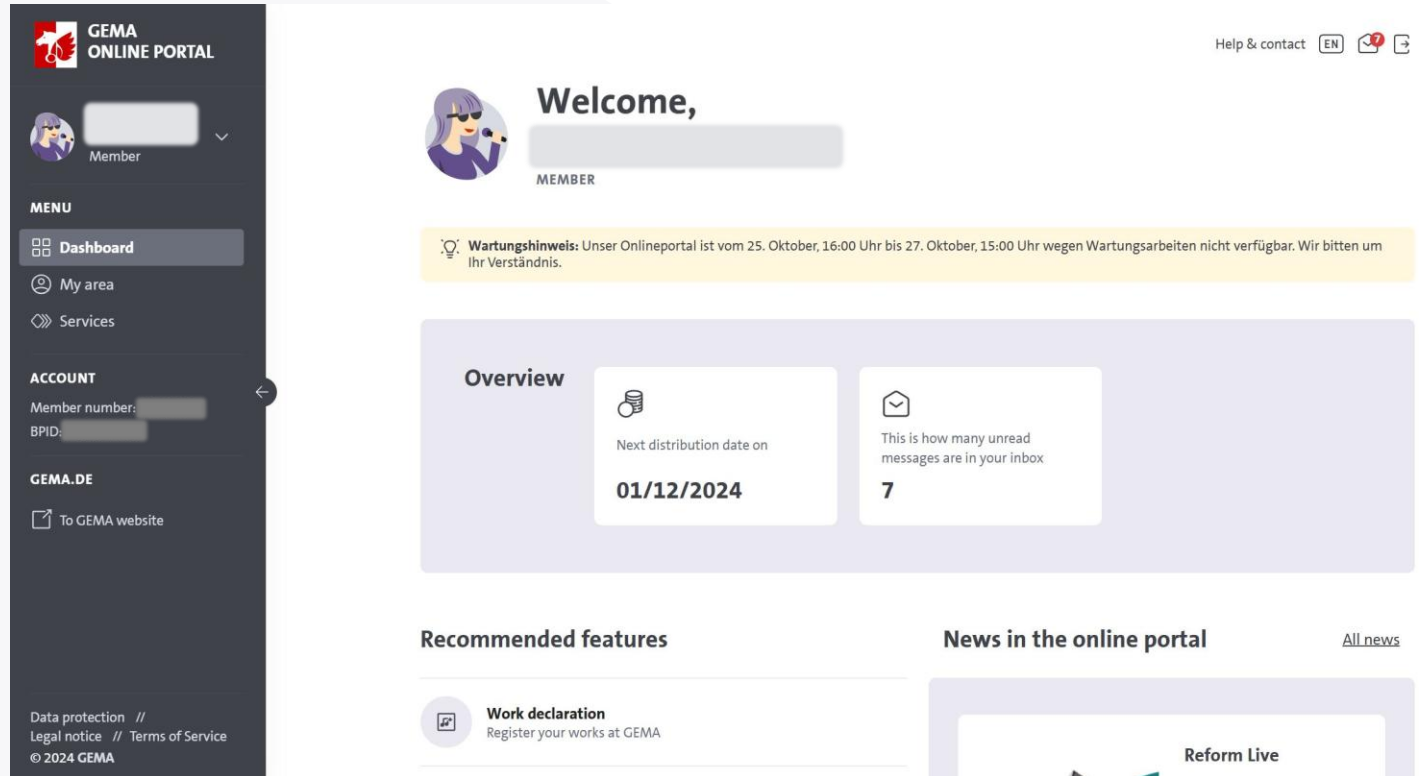
Ordinary membership

- More than **5,000 members*** hold ordinary membership.
- There are various requirements, including requirements relating to the duration of membership, the minimum number of works created and a minimum level of royalties.
- Ordinary members can participate directly in the General Assembly, stand for election to the Supervisory Board and participate in additional old-age provision.

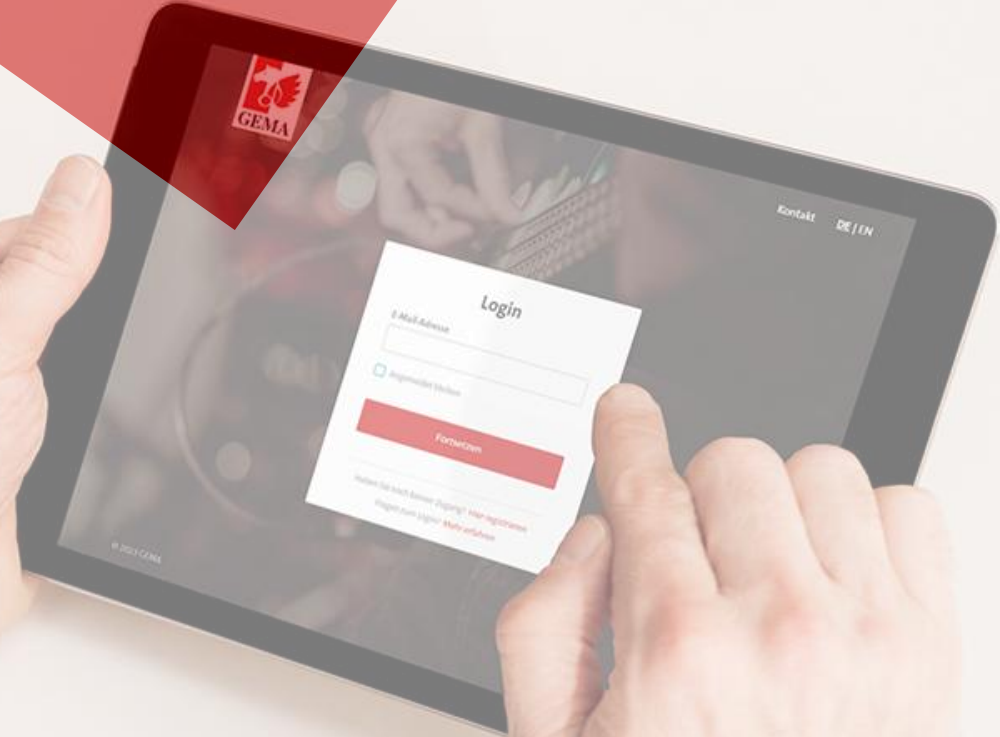
*Figures rounded. As of October 2026

Online portal

- GEMA's Online Services can be accessed via the online portal.
- **A personal portal account is required.**
- The account must be activated.
- Members can view and manage their personal data via the portal.
- Under My Repertoire, members can view their entire registered repertoire.
- Authorisations can be granted via the portal under
- My Portal Permissions.
- Authorised representatives can therefore view and manage GEMA data.
- The online portal is continuously being expanded.

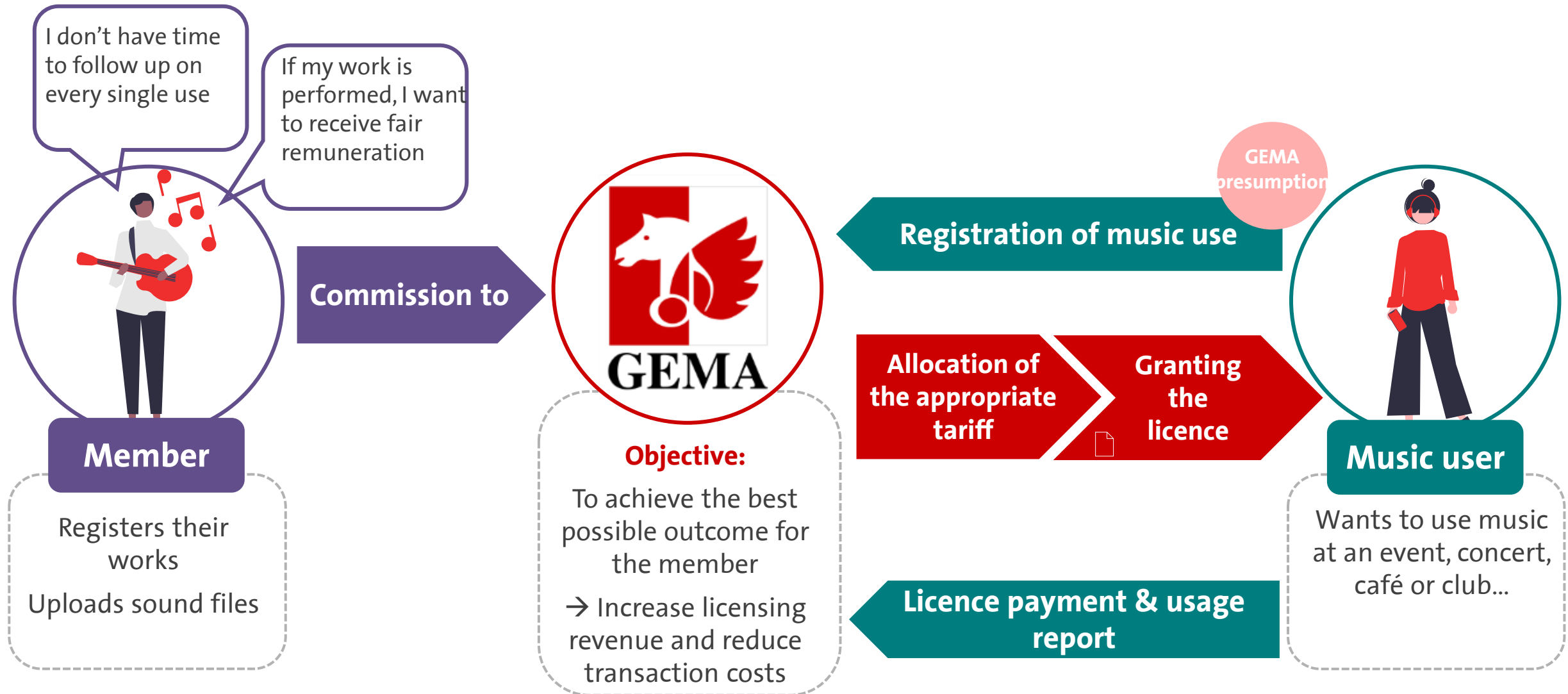


DISTRIBUTION



THE CIRCLE OF DISTRIBUTION

Basis for distribution



GEMApplus and CREATIVE OFFERS



GEMApplus – The bonus programme for members



All benefits at a glance

Benefit from a wide range of extras



Education & Events

Webinars & Workshops, Dates, Specials,
Media Library



Insurances

Benefit from exclusive, industry-relevant
insurance policies customised to you and
your needs.



Partner offers

Take advantage of exclusive offers that
support your everyday life as a musician
and your career

Creative projects @GEMA

- Riverside Studios
- Songwriting camps
- Collaborations
- Showcases
- Education
- Networking



Creative projects @GEMA



creative.gema

Creative GEMA

312 Beiträge · 3.663 Follower · 1.488 Gefolgt

division of @gema

Exclusive insights into the creative and colorful musicworld
Because we love music 🎵🎧
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Gefolgt

Nachricht senden



#BeatCon



#KNOW-HOW



#WEBINARE



#SPEAKERS



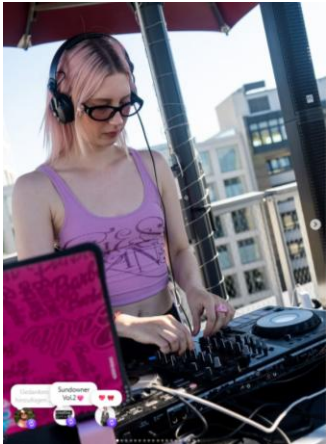
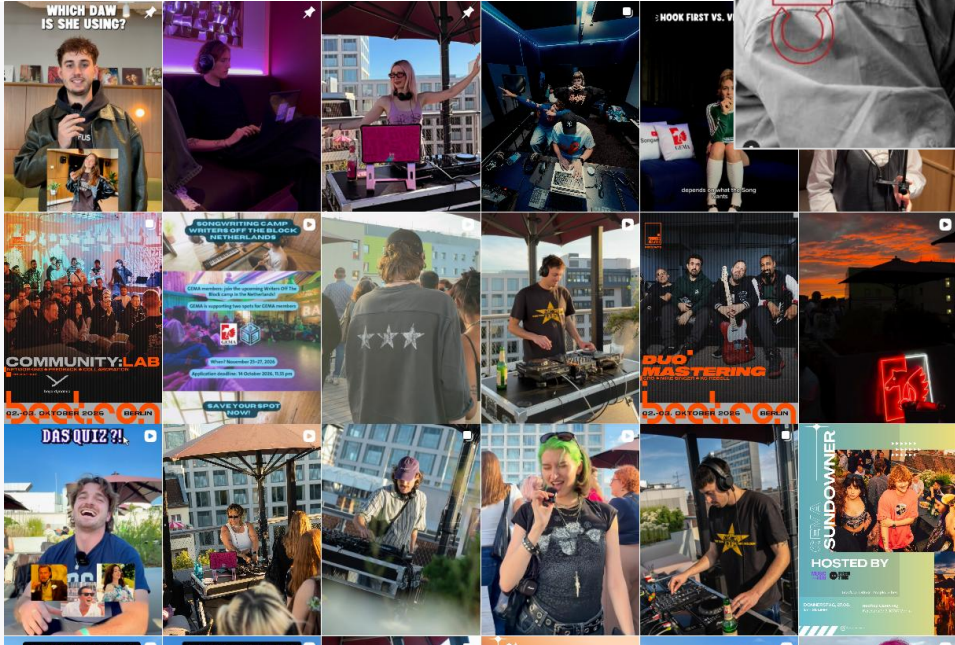
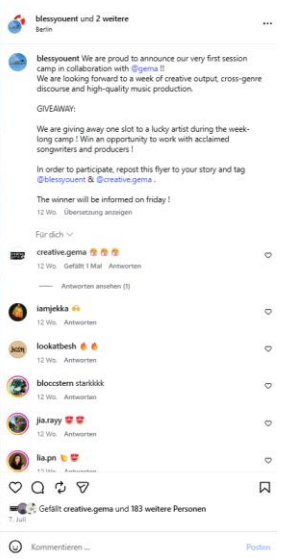
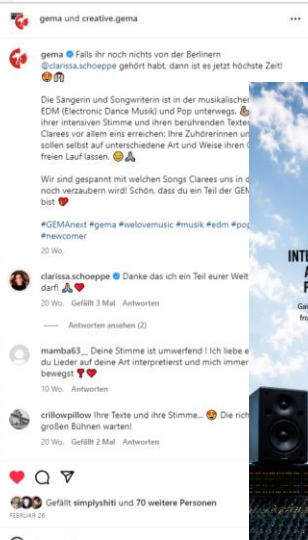
#SOS



#ZWEI



#MEISEL



Insbesondere in der heutigen digitalen Welt ist es für Künstler*innen wie mich wichtig, dass unsere Rechte wahrgenommen werden. Die GEMA gibt mir diese Sicherheit und ist immer für mich da, sodass ich mich auf meine Kreativität konzentrieren kann.

— Ambre Vallet | Songwriterin und Künstlerin

Auf Spotify anhören





QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

**MUSIK
IST
UNS
WAS
WERT**

