

2015

**The Western Balkans Hearing Voices Network** launched in the summer of 2015, covering Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia, and Slovenia. The first hearing voices groups were also formed in the Czech Republic, Malta, and Brazil.

In Spain, **Entrevoces** was launched following the celebration of the seventh international congress in Madrid.

2002

**Norway Hearing Voices** developed out of a congress held in Molde and initiated by Geir Fredriksen, seminars, and a self-help group in Tromsø facilitated by psychiatric nurses Heidi Susann Emsus and Anne Marthe Kolbovde.

2014

**Reseau des Entendeurs de Voix de Belgique** was established in Belgium following the example of the French, Swiss and Quebecois networks. The network brings together people who hear voices and supporting health professionals, with self-help groups in Brussels, Liège, Namur, and Mons. Ariane De Meester is the network's principal contact.

2007

**Le Parole** is a mental health organisation based in Quebec, Canada, whose work on hearing voices was initiated by Brigitte Soucy in 2007. The organisation provides training and support, as well as carrying out research and evaluation projects.

Work began in **Malaysia** in 2007, supported by Dr Abdul Kadir Abu Bakar.

**The Hearing Voices Network Aotearoa New Zealand** was officially incorporated on World Hearing Voices Day, 2007. It is chaired by Adrienne Glason who works with Ariane Pearson, a voice-hearer, on the development of groups through New Zealand.

2016

Preparations are being made, by an informal group based in Coimbra, for the establishment of a **Portuguese Hearing Voices Network**.

Work is also underway in **Poland** and **Romania**.

2010

**The Hellenic Hearing Voices Network** in Greece works to provide support to people who hear voices and to promote alternative approaches to voice hearing.

**The Hearing Voices Network USA** represents a partnership between people who hear voices or have other unusual experiences, professionals, and allies in the wider community. Its development has been driven by individuals including Beira Binz, Dany Cohen, Lisa Forestal, Gill Horstman, and Will Hall. Together, these people are working to change assumptions, give support, and provide learning opportunities.

2011

A four-day event – **Trevallar de parlar amb les veus** – organised by Yann Bercebot, led to the establishment of the **French** network.

2005

**The Danish Hearing Voices Network** was established in 2005, developing from conferences organised by John Eriksen from 2000 onwards. The network has played a key role in highlighting stories of recovery and challenging misconceptions about the voice-hearing experience.

**The Richmond Fellowship of Western Australia**, now known as **Richmond Wellbeing**, established the **Hearing Voices Network Australia**, with support from Ron Coleman and Karen Taylor. There are now regional networks in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria.

Open meetings for voice-hearers began in the north of **Sweden** in 2005. Ami Rönitz, Siv Westberg, and Anneli Westberg are Co-chairs of a Stockholm-based organization representing voice-hearers, professionals, and family members and working to start new groups across the country.

**The London Hearing Voices Project** began work to increase the number of groups in Greater London through awareness raising and training, building a network of over 40 groups by 2009.

1997

**InterVoice** – the international hearing voices network – was formally established to provide administrative and co-ordinating support to the many and varied networks, groups, and initiatives across the world.

1996

**Suomen Moniammet Ry** was formed in Finland. The network brings together hearing voices groups from across Finland, publishes quarterly newsletters, and offers a peer support telephone service.

The development of a network in **Japan** was led by Wakko Sato, a psychologist who became interested in voice hearing whilst working in the UK. A series of public meetings in 1996 grew from eight attendees in June, to 400 in December.

1992

**InterVoice Upper Austria** was formed through links with voice-hearers, researchers, and therapists in the Netherlands and UK. The initiative was led by Chuck Schneider, a psychotherapist, and psychologist Marlene Wetterschan.

1988

A hearing voices group was formed in Manchester by activist and voice-hearer Louise Pambroke and Paul Baker, a community development worker. Following national press coverage of a 1990 conference, the group grew into a national network of voice-hearers and individuals with an interest in the experience of hearing voices. Ron Coleman became the first national coordinator.

1987

The first national Hearing Voices Network was established in the Netherlands. **Stichting Weerklank** continues to be very active with over 200 members, a periodical, and regular meetings. The group was created following a national meeting of voice-hearers organised by Sandra Escher and Marius Romm.

2009

**Normal Difference** is a community-based, mental health self-help group formed in Kisumu, Kenya, in 2009. The group hosts part of **InterVoice** in October of that year.

2006

**Voice Collective** began to work across Greater London to support children and young people who hear voices, see visions or have other unusual sensory experiences.

1998

**Melanie Stimmann-Holten**, the German network, has 130 members and an office in Berlin. The network grew out of the work of Thomas Bock, Irene Stratenwerth, Günther Rieger, and Hannelore Klafki.

Hearing voices groups have been active in **Italy** since 1998, after an initial meeting set up by psychiatrist Pino Pini and self-help group organiser Donatella Molinari. A national network was formalised in 2012, after a series of national and international conferences.

**Hearing Voices in Scotland** developed out of a local group in Dundee, driven by Pat Webster, a psychiatric nurse and mother of a voice-hearer.

2012

The first group was launched in **Uganda**, arranged by Jim Taylor, an occupational therapist and psychosocial intervention worker, and Dora Baluku, a psychiatrist, through a link between an East London mental health trust and Butabika Hospital in Kampala.

2006

The first hearing voices groups in **Ireland** began to meet, organised by Brian Harneft.

1999

Theresa Kummeracher founded **Mouvement Les Sans-Voix** in Switzerland in 1999. She also set up a group based in Geneva and wrote a translation of the self-help guide 'The Voice Inside'.

2013

With the aim of building support for the Hearing Voices Approach within the mental health system, voice-hearers from Australia, the UK and other European nations, developed **The Melbourne Hearing Voices Declaration**. The Declaration was launched at the World Hearing Voices Congress in Melbourne on Thursday 21st November 2013 and signed by 56 organisations.

2001

Voice-hearing groups have been running at the hospital in Bethlehem, **Palestine**, since 2001.

**Hearing Voices Network Cymru** works to raise awareness of voice-hearing from a number of perspectives and supports locally-based groups across Wales. It was founded by voice-hearer Hywel Davies with the support of John Stacey, a psychiatric nurse.

This 'family tree' of the Hearing Voices Movement shows some of the key moments and individuals in its growth. It is not possible here to tell the full story of all the courageous people who have been involved.

To find out more please visit [www.intervoiceonline.org](http://www.intervoiceonline.org)