

European Association for History Educators



## Transition and new directions



Annual Report 2013

The Hague

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## EUROCLIO ANNUAL REPORT 2013

EUROCLIO - European Association of History Educators, established in 1992, supports the development of responsible and innovative history, citizenship and heritage education as a way to promote critical thinking, mutual respect, peace, stability and democracy. The Association advocates a sound use of history and heritage education towards the building and deepening of democratic societies, connecting professionals across boundaries of countries, ethnicities and religions. It seeks to enhance the quality of history and citizenship education through capacity building for educators and producing and implementing innovative teaching tools. EUROCLIO has been able to define and pragmatically refine a methodology building on the practical work it carries out. Its approach is process-oriented and believes in reinforcing professional talents as fundamental resources for innovation and change.



In 2013, EUROCLIO represented history educators and their interest by contributing to events such as the *Learning Europe @ School* public hearing, organised by the European Commission.

## Executive summary

In 2013 the EUROCLIO Association was able to realise its action plan in full as a thriving and engaged democratic community of history education professionals. Moreover, due to the dedication and commitment of many individuals, including the EUROCLIO Member Association leaders, distinguished EUROCLIO Ambassadors, Board Members, Secretariat staff and trainees, far more was achieved than expected.

2013 was a **year of transition**. EUROCLIO Founder and long-time Executive-Director Joke van der Leeuw-Roord stepped down from their position in October 2013 and retired on 1 January 2014. The Board published the vacancy and EUROCLIO Senior Managers Jonathan Even-Zohar and Steven Stegers were appointed to lead the organisation as Director and Deputy-Director.

It was the final year of the 2011-2013 Framework Partnership Agreement with the European Commission's Jean Monet Programme for associations active in the field of education and training on a European level. This grant enabled the EUROCLIO Association to provide a wide array of services to its members and the wider professional community and to be active throughout Europe and beyond.

To organise all the actions of the Association, different areas are identified. These levels are framed as our **eight areas of work** and this report will provide a comprehensive account of the achievements in each of these areas.

EUROCLIO continued in 2013 to invest in its long-term programmes, which include regional approaches on the Western Balkans, the Black Sea region and the Mediterranean shores, but also open international programmes seeking to provide online educational resources, as well as high-quality training courses for history, heritage and citizenship educators. Moreover, EUROCLIO matured its long-term programme on remembrance by putting it as a central theme in its 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and professional development course *Reflecting Remembrance: Towards a common culture of remembrance?* held in April in Erfurt, Germany.

All of the work of EUROCLIO is made possible thanks to the support of various donors, which include inter-governmental, governmental and private bodies.

## 2013 in Numbers

- 20th Annual Conference and professional development course with 266 delegates from 50 countries in Erfurt, Germany.
- 1 international professional development seminar in Spain with 32 participants from 12 countries.
- 19 regional professional development events for the collaborative design of educational tools in Austria, Croatia, Germany, Georgia, The Netherlands, Macedonia and Turkey.
- 10 national peer-learning seminars in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Macedonia, Moldova, Ukraine and Serbia.
- 2 international surveys with feedback from more than 40 countries.
- EUROCLIO General Assembly in Germany with representatives of 41 member associations.
- 3 Board meetings held in Germany, The Netherlands, and virtually.
- 83 lectures, workshops and consultancies by Board, Members, Ambassadors and Staff members in 23 countries.
- Provided training for 4000+ history, heritage and citizenship education professionals.
- Face to face outreach to 18,000+ individuals.
- Combined online outreach to 40,000+ individuals.



EUROCLIO Director Joke van der Leeuw-Roord during an expert meeting organised by the British Council in the context of the *Our Shared Past* project.

## Eight areas of work

### 1. Providing training

The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual EUROCLIO Conference and professional training and development course *Reflecting Remembrance: Teaching history for a common culture of remembrance?* focusing on German history in a European perspective, remembrance, Jewish history and the Cold War took place on 7-12 April 2013, in Erfurt, Germany. 266 delegates from 51 countries took part. It was organised in close partnership with the EUROCLIO member association VGD (association of history teachers in Germany) and the European Commission Active Remembrance Network (DG Communication, Unit Citizenship).

Preparation and promotion took place for the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual EUROCLIO Conference and the professional training and development course *History Education beyond Borders: How can we share our cultural heritage?* started in early 2013, involving more intense preparatory work from May to December together with the EUROCLIO member association ANIM (Association of History Educators in Macedonia).

One international training course *Traces of the Past as Resources for Living Together. Teaching intercultural citizenship through historical memory and heritage* took place on 11-17 November 2013, in San Sebastian, Spain. 32 delegates from 12 countries took part. It was organised in close cooperation with the EUROCLIO associated member *Ikastola Elkartea* (Basque Schools Association).

Two regional capacity building seminars took place within the scope of the EUROCLIO project *Sharing History: Cultural dialogues innovating history education in the Black Sea region*:

- 20-22 April in Tbilisi with 74 history educators from 10 countries
- 22-27 August in Istanbul with 65 history educators from 12 countries

15 national capacity building workshops took place in Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine within the scope of the EUROCLIO project *Sharing History: Cultural dialogues innovating history education in the Black Sea region*. The workshops in total reached out to 766 educators from different schools, museums and institutes.

Five editing workshops took place within the scope of the EUROCLIO project *History that Connects: How to teach sensitive and controversial history in the countries of former Yugoslavia*. These workshops provided training to a core group of developers of educational materials representing the history teachers associations from Bosnia

(EUROCLIO-HIP), Croatia (HUNP), Kosovo (SHMHK), Macedonia (ANIM), Montenegro (HIPMONT), Serbia (UDI), Slovenia (SHTA). The meetings took place in The Netherlands (January), Austria (March), Croatia (April) and Macedonia (June and July).

This year EUROCLIO was once more able to support educational mobility through applications for donor and scholarship schemes. 923 history, heritage and citizenship educators were able to follow international training using opportunities offered by the EU Comenius and Grundvig Catalogues, EU EuropeanaCreative, EU Euro East Culture Programme, The European Network of Remembrance and Solidarity, the Foundation EVZ, the Foreign Ministries of The Netherlands and Norway and the Open Society Foundations.



In June 2013, the Lebanese Association of History organised a seminar on *Teaching Civil War* together with the Finnish History Teachers Association. Here a participant looks at material made during a workshop on the causes of the Lebanese Civil War.

## 2. Developing Educational Tools

23 multi-perspective lesson modules were further developed to be published as an alternative teaching tool by a regional team of editors within the scope of the EUROCLIO project *History that Connects: How to teach sensitive and controversial history in the countries of former Yugoslavia*. These modules are developed to accompany history teachers in the countries of former Yugoslavia and the wider region who seek to deal in a multi-perspective way with the sensitive history of the period 1900-1945. Due to the complex nature of the subject matter, the innovative educational material is set for release in eight languages in 2014.

Four piloting seminars took place within the *History that Connects* programme, allowing nearly 80 history educators to provide their peer review constructively.

Over a dozen working meetings took place for the development and drafting of innovative educational modules within the Black Sea programme with focus on cultural heritage, family, migration and societies in transition based on the principles of multi-perspectivity, applied to the cultural history of the Black Sea region since the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Four innovative interactive applications have been conceptualised, tested and developed to serve as eLearning elements within EUROCLIO's Historiana programme using new technologies for teaching and learning about history of Europe to help students to acquire key competences and become creative and effective learners, while promoting multi-perspectivity and critical thinking.

The development, testing and quality assurance of at least 10 online educational modules for the EUROCLIO programme *Historiana - Your portal to the past*, offering open educational quality resources that stimulate learning about Europe as a result of professional volunteering, was achieved.

### 3. Researching the learning and teaching of history

The results of the 2012 **EUROCLIO Members Survey** were processed and presented to the EUROCLIO Board and General Assembly and led to further implementation of evidence-based policies in anticipation of its Members' needs, including the need for support in obtaining cross-border projects, support in advocacy for curriculum reform and the need for deeper exchanges among practitioners. Most noteworthy is the high-level of member satisfaction of the quality of communication and services.

**An international questionnaire** on memory, culture and remembrance in history education was developed, processed, analysed and presented to the EUROCLIO Members at the Annual Conference in April in Germany as well as online. The survey identified challenges and opportunities created by addressing remembrance and commemoration in Europe.

900+ students in 50 schools in 8 countries participated in a variety of **piloting activities** within EUROCLIO's projects, forming a part of quality assurance processes that help the authors and editors to self-improve.

See *Area of Work 8: Professional Expertise Provider* for an overview of EUROCLIO process-oriented practical work which has been **presented to academic gatherings**.



## 4. Governing a Democratic Association

36 Member Organisations took part in the 2013 **EUROCLIO General Assembly**, in Erfurt, Germany, where they took ownership of the development, dissemination and voting on the Action Report 2012, Result 2012, Action Plan 2013 and Budget 2013. The Assembly also accepted three **new EUROCLIO Full Member organisations** from Armenia, Israel and Poland and six new EUROCLIO Associated Members from Azerbaijan, France, Italy, The Netherlands, Spain and the USA. Additionally, the Assembly voted upon and extended EUROCLIO Board Member Mandates as well as approved a new Board Member from Macedonia.

**3 Board Meetings** took place (in April in Erfurt, Germany, in October in The Hague, The Netherlands, and one Skype meeting in August) where the progress of the annual work plan and the financial consequences were monitored. During these meetings, new policies were developed in the field of association involvement and member services, and the transition of directors of the EUROCLIO Secretariat took place. European policies were discussed and the General Assemblies for 2014 were prepared. Furthermore, the Board took crucial decisions in 2014 in between the scheduled Board Meetings by means of planned and organised Skype-meetings.

**4 Board Finance Committee meetings** took place in Utrecht, The Netherlands, to monitor and support the EUROCLIO staff on the financial reportage and project acquisition, to discuss finance and governance issues, to prepare the Board meetings and general assemblies, and to work together on sustainability.

The Board and staff coordinated a smooth **retirement of the Executive-Director by the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014**, including sound measures to ensure the continuity of EUROCLIO as a professional expertise provider, by means of transferring knowledge, skills and responsibility, as well as creating the position of Special Advisors to the incoming Directors.

**25 EUROCLIO Ambassadors** from 17 countries represented the Association and shared their expertise in 61 events. This enhanced EUROCLIO's ability to be involved in various European initiatives, while building on the commitment and dedication of its members.

**5 eminent individuals** accepted an invitation to join the **EUROCLIO Honorary Board**. These notable scholars and individuals who are prominent in public life and academic circles hereby endorsed the Association and its mission. One pleasant surprise was the creation of a **EUROCLIO Chair** at an Honorary Board Member's university.

A **EUROCLIO Board Member** from Iceland and a **EUROCLIO Ambassador** from Portugal carried out **internal quality assurance** using a wide set of indicators via

questionnaires, reflection, interviews, and pilot schemes to assess the quality of EUROCLIO's *Black Sea Programme* and *International Training Programme*.

A visiting international business administration researcher from Tilburg University successfully undertook a study into the **effective management and intercultural communication** of the Board and the appeal of commercial sponsorship. His results were presented to the Board Meeting in October and helped in shaping new policy.

One **Steering Committee meeting** took place in Istanbul in December 2013 within the scope of EUROCLIO's project in the Black Sea Region. This multidisciplinary group of experts advised the management team of the project about validating the quality and helping to achieve the biggest possible positive impact on society. This helped as an **external quality assurance** on the policies of EUROCLIO in this programme.

Over 200 new pages were developed on EUROCLIO's internal reference website [wiki.euroclio.eu](http://wiki.euroclio.eu), ensuring optimal access to information, knowledge transfer and cooperation of people professionally involved with EUROCLIO.

A **competencies profile of EUROCLIO staff members** was developed as an insightful tool about working in an NGO. These profiles are meant as an internal evaluation system, aimed to contribute to the professional development of staff members by stimulating self-improvement and lifelong learning within EUROCLIO.

## 5. Disseminating Information and Engaging the Public

**512 new articles** were shared on [www.euroclio.eu](http://www.euroclio.eu), offering information about EUROCLIO (including the General Assembly, members, and EUROCLIO as Expertise Center), its programmes (including international trainings), and the network of partners and other stakeholders, as well as featuring new developments (news and announcements) and providing access to resources (including research and teaching Materials). The site received 28,000 unique visitors from 175 countries.

**9 e-Newsletters** were authored, edited and sent to 9500 readers. These responsive e-mails included a message from the President of the EUROCLIO Board, updates about European policies, announcements, information from EUROCLIO programmes, news from EUROCLIO members and partners, and a list of upcoming events.

**50 direct mailings** were sent to member associations and other relevant stakeholders (educators/partners/educational authorities) in specific countries or friends of EUROCLIO programmes. The mailings concerned project opportunities, training opportunities, consultations, (new) educational resources, (new) relevant research or achievements by EUROCLIO.

1000+ posts on the EUROCLIO Facebook group were shared, leading to discussions, sharing of expertise and further social binding across borders of Association members. This group had nearly 2000 members from 79 countries by the end of 2013. All news generated on the website of the Association is shared in the group automatically.

1500 copies were printed and disseminated of the **EUROCLIO Annual Report 2012**, which included highlights from the EUROCLIO programmes, a list of members, a calendar of events, a list of sponsors, a list of partners, and the Financial Report of 2012. These booklets were distributed at nearly all conferences, seminars, workshops and meetings.

EUROCLIO events and work were featured in local, regional and national printed press in Azerbaijan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Georgia, Germany, Italy, Spain, The Netherlands, Russia, Ukraine and the United Kingdom. Television and radio features were produced in Germany, in the context of the Annual Conference.



EUROCLIO is the Head of the Anna Lindh Network in the Netherlands. In the picture project manager Judith Geerling participated in a network event of the Belgium Anna Lindh Network to share experiences.

## 6. Acquiring Projects

22 project proposals were developed in cooperation with EUROCLIO member and partner organisations, aimed at creating new opportunities for cross-border capacity building, educational tools and cooperation with strategic partners to further innovate and promote quality education in the fields of history, heritage and citizenship. 7 of these were approved.

Over **40 letters of inquiry** were sent out to foundations, embassies and other potential supporters, mostly in order to obtain support for small local activities.

Anticipating the potential discontinuation of the EU Operating Core Funding, special effort was made to seek an alternative operational funding. The Open Society Foundations had launched a new grant **funding new executives** in the non-profit sector. This grant was applied for and in the end of 2013 approved for the incoming director Jonathan Even-Zohar.

## 7. Networking and Advocating

EUROCLIO continued its **active membership of EUCIS-LLL** (European Civic Platform for Lifelong Learning) through participation in the General Assembly, public hearings, workshops, committee meetings, a Board meeting, and the candidacy of Joke van der Leeuw-Roord (EUROCLIO E.D.) as president of the Steering Committee. The key focus in 2013 was on advocating for education, mobility and simplification of EU budget rules considering the new EU 2014-2020 programmes. By means of cooperation across a number of sectors within EUCIS-LLL, EUROCLIO was able to help secure its aims.

**EUROCLIO maintained operational relations with amongst others the Council of Europe and UNESCO** as EUROCLIO Ambassador Yosanna Vella holds the Vice Presidency of the Council of Europe iNGO Education and Culture Committee. This led to supporting noteworthy inter-governmental initiatives throughout online and offline contacts with members.

**73 meetings with national/European policy makers and educational authorities** took place throughout the year to raise awareness for access to lifelong learning, mobility of educational staff and recognition and valorisation of the teaching profession, and to show the relevance of good history education for democracy, employability and active participation in society. With regards to the **European Commission**, meetings were held with different departments at DG Education and Culture, DG Connect, DG Communication/Citizenship, DG Development and Cooperation, DG Enlargement and DG Enterprise. Meetings were also held with the **European Union** bodies, including various delegations of the External Action Service (EEAS), the Fundamental Rights Agency and the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC). At the **Council of Europe** numerous meetings took place. The **national ministries of education** of 8 countries were engaged with this project. The most noteworthy achievement was EUROCLIO's active advocacy for amending the **European Parliament** resolution on Historical Memory. 15 MEPs met in person, our amendments were discussed in a lengthy debate and the European Parliament policy research office analysed the situation, stressing the need for more reflection on the nature of history and history education, fully in line with EUROCLIO's views.

EUROCLIO continued and extended its **strategic partnerships** with relevant civil society actors, including foundations, institutions, associations, universities and networks. In 2013, 47 of such organisations were engaged in face-to-face partnership development meetings with EUROCLIO.

## 8. Providing Professional Expertise

**19 international Masters level traineeships** were hosted to students from 7 countries. In line with the vision of the European Charter on Apprenticeships, they acquired work experience in an international NGO environment, which provided them with new skills for new jobs. This includes critical thinking, generating new ideas, ability to question, decision-taking, and practical, social-, civic- and digital competences.

**111 lectures, workshops and other trainings** in 34 countries were provided by EUROCLIO Board members, ambassadors and staff members. Over 3100 students, educators, policy makers and members of the general public took part in the events where EUROCLIO was actively presented. EUROCLIO representatives functioned amongst others as moderators, chairs, discussion leaders, reporters, speakers and facilitators.

EUROCLIO provided **consultancy** services in history, citizenship and heritage education; project acquisition, management and implementation; and European education policy, amongst others for the *Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung*, Erasmus University Rotterdam, International Baccalaureate, House of European History, Anna Lindh Foundation and George Mason University (US). This strengthened the professional profile and capacity of the Association.

EUROCLIO also shared its **expertise** on lobby and network, European policies, management, governance, quality assurance, and responsible and innovative history, citizenship and heritage education in the **advisory bodies** of the Europeana Foundation and the Georg Eckert Institute. EUROCLIO assisted the newly-founded KAICIID Dialogue Centre by sharing EUROCLIO's network and insights in the field of intercultural education during KAICIID's yearlong global mapping on the *Image of the Other*. This enabled many members to exchange views and make new connections.

Publication and dissemination of **Special Reports** related to responsible and innovative history, citizenship and heritage education, including publication about the current state of and challenges for cultural education in Armenia and Moldova. In 2013 EUROCLIO was involved in a variety of **partnership projects** in which professional relations were strengthened with EUROCLIO's Strategic Partners, which were amongst others *Interkulturelles Zentrum* (Austria), Network of Education Policy Centres (Croatia), DVV International (Germany) and the University of Vienna (Austria).

EUROCLIO offered its management quality to continue the **coordination of the Anna Lindh Network in the Netherlands** (a network of NGO's in the field of intercultural dialogue and Euro-Mediterranean cooperation) including the organisation of network meetings, capacity building, and dissemination of information from Anna Lindh Foundation. A rich and diverse consortium was formed in 2013 to set up a common action in The Netherlands on the occasion of the UN Day of Cultural Diversity on the 21 May 2013.



In May 2013, EUROCLIO helped KAICIID Dialogue Centre to bring together 130 specialists in education from the Euro-Mediterranean to start a global consultation on *Image of the Other*.

## EUROCLIO Long Term Programmes Active in 2013

HISTORIANA - YOUR PORTAL TO THE PAST is an online educational multimedia tool that offers students multi-perspective, cross-border, and comparative historical sources to supplement their national history textbooks. Historiana offers a framework for comparing and contrasting the impact on and responses by nations to a range of different events and developments which have shaped the world from the distant past to modern times.

In 2013, this programme has been further developed through joining the **EuropeanaCreative** consortium, which seeks to develop innovative methods to promote the re-use of digitised content of Europeana. The Historiana portal is being developed within this project to have a large **World War One module** as well as new interactive apps for learning. These are set to be ready in mid-2014. In addition, the Historiana programme continues to attract volunteers and contributors from the EUROCLIO Association, with new ideas and concepts, proving to be a highly regarded and inclusive programme.

HISTORY THAT CONNECTS IN THE WESTERN BALKANS restores the professional relations between history, heritage and citizenship educators and explores opportunities for a collaborative approach to teaching history in the region, including sensitive and controversial issues.

In 2013, within the scope of the project *How to teach sensitive and controversial history of the countries of former Yugoslavia*, a cross-border team of editors has been finalising the new educational material on the period **1900-1945**, while also involving their peers during piloting sessions in classrooms. The material is set to be released early 2014. In addition, EUROCLIO Project Managers have been able to raise awareness for this development through sharing of information at many meetings with civil society, educators and policy makers, as well as **exploring new partnerships**, for example with the Center for Democracy and Reconciliation in South East Europe, the Institute for Historical Justice and Reconciliation and Documenta.

MEDITERRANEAN DIALOGUES enables educators across the Euro-Mediterranean region to open a common dialogue, to share experiences and to develop cross-community and cross-border cooperation and networks.

In 2013, following the successfully networking in 2012's Annual Conference, EUROCLIO developed stronger links in this region. In **Lebanon a new association** was formed, the Lebanese Association for History (LAH), and seed funding was obtained from the Open Society Foundations to explore a possible further implementation of EUROCLIO methodology for capacity building and cross-border peer-learning in Lebanon. Such links have been explored further in Morocco and, thanks to the **Anna Lindh**

**Foundation**, opportunities have been found. Moreover, as the Head of the Dutch Network, EUROCLIO helped to organise a Common Action in The Netherlands in May 2013.

**INNOVATING HISTORY EDUCATION IN THE BLACK SEA REGION** raises awareness in this region for approaches in history, heritage and citizenship education, which enhance democracy and intercultural dialogue and is creating sustainable national and cross-border networks.

In 2013, within the scope of the project *Sharing History - Cultural Dialogues*, a lot of **activities** took place, including 3 management meetings on the regional level, 2 management meetings with the partner from Azerbaijan-PUAHE, Public Union of Azerbaijani History Educators, 1 exploratory visit to Armenia, 12 national workgroups in 5 project countries, 2 regional meetings in Tbilisi and Istanbul, 10 training and seminars on the international level in Israel, Germany, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Georgia, Russia and Ukraine, 1 pre-editing/kick off editing meeting in Tbilisi and one editing meeting in The Hague, and a series of lobby meetings with stakeholders.

**+INTERNATIONAL TRAINING** is not simply a EUROCLIO programme, but rather the initial work area of the Association since its inception. History, citizenship and heritage educators are offered the possibility of cross-border professional development on a wide array of themes and issues. International training courses are often 3 days at minimum and connect local themes to the broad European and international education agenda.

In 2013 the 21<sup>st</sup> EUROCLIO Annual Conference and Professional Development Course in Erfurt, Germany, and the International Training Seminar in San Sebastian, Spain, were the main activities.

**+REFLECTING REMEMBRANCE** is the way each generation (re)interprets key moments in its nation's or region's past, in accordance with contemporary attitudes and perceptions of how that past fits into the narrative of the nation's (or region's) history. As such, remembrance has been an area of attention and action since the beginning of the EUROCLIO Association.

In 2013, following the thematic achievement of the 21<sup>st</sup> EUROCLIO Annual Conference entitled *Reflecting Remembrance*, EUROCLIO decided to pursue a more defined course. Thanks to the excellent cooperation with various stakeholders, such as heritage and memory sites, a **project concerning internment camps in Europe** was proposed in the end of 2013 and will be implemented in 2014.



## Full List of Partner Projects in 2013

- CLEAR: Content Learning for Empowerment through Analysis and Reflection (2013-2014)
- Different Nations Shared Experiences (2011-2013)
- Digital-Earth.eu - Use of Geo-Information in Schools (2010-2014)
- Europe Lost and Found in War and Peace (2013-2014)
- Handbook on Intercultural Citizenship Education (2012-2014)
- Heritage Education, Plurality of Narratives and Shared Historical Knowledge (2009-2014)
- Making History Work for Tolerance (2013-2014)
- Our Shared Past in the Mediterranean (2012-2013)
- Training Primary School Teachers in Human Rights Education and Citizenship (2013-2015)
- On the Routes of Europe (2013-2014)

## EUROCLIO Board Members 2012-2013 (Outgoing)

- Sylvia Semmet (Germany), President
- Semih Aktekin (Turkey), Secretary
- Marjan de Groot-Reuvekamp (The Netherlands), Treasurer
- Erwin Capitain (The Netherlands), Financial Advisor
- Peder Wiben (Denmark)
- Lóa Steinunn Kristjánsdóttir (Iceland)

## EUROCLIO Board Members 2013-14 (Incoming)

- Marjan de Groot-Reuvekamp (The Netherlands), President
- Semih Aktekin (Turkey), Secretary
- Erwin Capitain (The Netherlands), Financial Advisor
- Mire Mladenovski (Macedonia)
- Peder Wiben (Denmark)
- Lóa Steinunn Kristjánsdóttir (Iceland)

## EUROCLIO Secretariat Professional Staff in 2013

- Joke van der Leeuw-Roord (Netherlands), Executive-Director
- Jonathan Even-Zohar (Netherlands), Senior Manager
- Steven Stegers (Netherlands), Senior Manager
- Blandine Smilansky (France), Senior Manager
- Geert Kessels (Netherlands), Junior Project Manager (January)
- Aysel Gojayeva (Azerbaijan), Junior Project Manager
- Mirjam Zeilmaker (Netherlands) Office Manager (January-July)
- Judith Geerling (Netherlands), Project Manager (August-)



## EUROCLIO Secretariat Trainees in 2013

Violet Annaert (Netherlands), Jopke van der Burgt (Netherlands), Celina Cramer (France), Guy Counet (Netherlands), Iris Dijksterhuis (Netherlands), Judith Geerling (Netherlands), Kudrat Kahlon (India), Sila Koster (Netherlands), Nina Kraus (Germany), Sven Moersdorf (Germany), Joska Ottjes (Netherlands), Jochem Rietvelt (Netherlands), Sarah Ritschel (Germany), Francesco Scatigna (Italy), Marco Toschi (Italy), Luca Vignardi (Italy).

## Annual Financial Report

### SOLVENCY

The net income for the year is € 28. This is in line with the budget and with the previous year. The projects are in control and the costs of the Secretariat are covered by the EU operating grant of € 150,000 and the subscriptions fees of € 9,520. If one looks more closely to the projects (see also note 13 to the financial statements), there is an overrun in project expenditures of about € 48,104, which is about 7% of total project budgets. The overruns are mainly due to extra hours spent by EUROCLIO staff members, since EUROCLIO sets its quality and performance standards very high. This is how EUROCLIO delivers the outstanding quality, which we want to be known for.

The funding of these overruns is presented as self-financing. Basically, this could have been accomplished by withdrawing from the operating reserve. Since this reserve is almost nil, EUROCLIO staff members decided, as they did also in previous years, to waive their overtime rights, by which they are really supporting the financial health and continuity of EUROCLIO. The Board is grateful for this gesture.

We perceive prudent financial management a solvency policy where the fixed component of the expenditures for the period of an undesired liquidation process is covered by the Association's equity. Currently this is not the case.

The Association EUROCLIO follows the requirements of the *Herkströter Committee* regarding the use of the operating reserve of Charity organizations. The Board therefore strives to create a reserve covering at least for one year the costs of the permanent staff and other legal obligations of the Foundation. The Association would like to strive to the extension of its operating reserve, but due to European Union Non-Profit regulations we have not been able to do so, since the EU-regulations do not allow us to retain realised operational profits.

The Organization investment policy is not to invest in shares or other insecure investments.

### PLANNING 2014 AND BEYOND

The Association will continue to carry out its mission, as elaborated in the Policy Plan of 2020, *Responsible History Education in a Globalising Society: EUROCLIO's Roadmap toward Innovative History Education*. However, as the Framework Partnership Agreement with the European Union's DG EAC - *Jean Monnet Program* is finalised in 2013, new applications are made to obtain core support in 2014.

EUROCLIO has been actively involved on the European and national levels amongst decision-makers in the field of Education, since 2013 was a crucial year in which the EU finalized the Education Programmes for 2014-2020. EUROCLIO succeeded with the help of many others to salvage the EU's Education, Mobility and Operating Grant Possibilities.

Management and Board, in liaison with the General Assembly's Audit Committee have signalled the risk of not obtaining a new operating grant already in early 2014, and over a range of meetings have agreed on a 'worst case scenario' budget for 2014, in which no operational grant is obtained. Measures would involve roll-back of staffing and reduction of operational expenditures (i.e. Board Meetings, office rent, etc).

The EUROCLIO Board asked the Director in 2013 to map opportunities and strategies for the longer term with respect to the operational support challenge. Should the organisation not be able to secure operational support, then it may approach likeminded institutes and organisations to share costs and potentially seek shelter in terms of housing.

As per 1 January 2014, there is no absolute guarantee that the new operating grants will be obtained. For this purpose, the Annual Financial Accounts show two budget prognoses for 2014: one with and one without operational support from the European Commission.

The organization will continue to implement its current projects in a strategic, programmatic and member-oriented way.

The organization will continue to take active part in the international discourse about history, citizenship and heritage education, by participating in many related events in Europe and beyond.

The organization will also continue to widen the scope of the organization and to increase the opportunities for collaborative work among its members, certainly also addressing colleagues in the Middle East, North Africa and beyond. It continues to explore the opportunities for a scientific assessment of the long-term sustainable impact of the work of the organization. It will continue to stimulate the Association to reach out to the History Educators Associations which have not yet become members.

New Director Jonathan Even-Zohar and Deputy-Director Steven Stegers will continue the successful directions set by Founder and Special Advisor Joke van der Leeuw-Roord, while taking full ownership of the management of the organisation and uncovering new directions.

#### ISSUES OF CONCERN

The equity of the association EUROCLIO is € 1,624 positive. EUROCLIO's business environment is changing: we experience that donors apply a stricter policy on awarding grants, and competition between NGO's gets tighter.

The new European mobility programme called Erasmus+ has shifted the responsibility from individual teachers to their schools' management - challenging both the teacher and the schools to adjust.

The EUROCLIO staff is asked to do its utmost to keep strengthening the position of the Association. Considering the present crisis, the opportunity for grants is decreasing and the competition in obtaining projects is continuously increasing. Thus, obtaining new projects is more challenging than ever before. In 2014, the labour force is at the core maintained with the Directors, one senior manager and two project managers part-time (4.0 Fte) based on the existing project volume.

2014 is declared the European Year of Reconciling Work and Family life. As the EUROCLIO Secretariat staff has waived on average nearly 100 earned leave days, it is a challenge for the management to ensure that work under such high risk and pressure remains challenging and rewarding enough for the career-perspectives of young people.

## Disclaimer

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