



Annual Report European Association of History Educators



2014
The Hague

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EUROCLIO Annual Report 2014

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 carried out. Its approach is process-oriented and believes in reinforcing professional talents as fundamental resources for innovation and change. Its approach is process-oriented and believes in reinforcing professional talents as fundamental resources for innovation and change.



EUROCLIO Staff in 2014: (left to right) Jonathan Even-Zohar, Judith Geerling, Blandine Smilansky, Aysel Gojayeva, and Steven Stegers.

Executive Summary

In 2014, the EUROCLIO Association was able to realize 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.

2014 was a **year of innovation**. In the first year after the transition of Executive Directorship, the EUROCLIO Board and management have further professionalized, the Secretariat has moved to a new, more representative office, and cooperation among EUROCLIO Member Associations climaxed on new levels, expressed through (offline) participation, dedicated project work and (online) interaction. New European Union funding programmes were launched, and EUROCLIO was able to obtain support from the new Erasmus+ and Europe for Citizens Programmes.

It was the first year of the **2014-2017 Framework Partnership Agreement with the European Commission's Europe for Citizens Programme *European Remembrance***. This grant enabled the Association to focus more of its actions on the thematic EUROCLIO programme *Reflecting Remembrance*. It also enabled the Association to provide a wide array of services to its members and the wider professional community and to be active throughout Europe and beyond.

In order to organize all the actions of the Association, different areas are identified. The levels are framed as our **Eight Areas of Work** and this report will provide a comprehensive account of the achievement in each of these areas.

In 2014, EUROCLIO continued 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 initiated in 2014 an exploration to foster communication on history education on a global level.

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

2014 in Numbers

21st Annual Conference and Professional Development Course in Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia



1 international professional development seminar in London



30 participants from 12 countries

Trainings, professional development workshops for innovative educational tools



13 cross-border (regional and/or thematic) training, professional development, and workshops in Belgium, Estonia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Moldova, The Netherlands, Poland, and United Kingdom



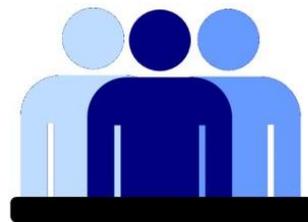
12 peer-learning workshops and/or seminars in Armenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Republic of Macedonia, The Netherlands, Serbia, and Slovenia

EUROCLIO General Assembly in the Republic of Macedonia



Representatives of 24 Member Associations

EUROCLIO Board Meetings



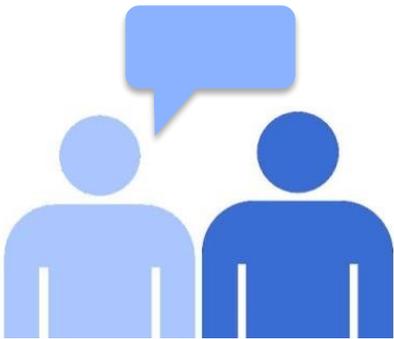
2 Board Meetings held in the Republic of Macedonia and Germany

Work by Board, Members, Ambassadors, and Staff members



Training for 5000+ history, heritage and citizenship education professionals and their peers

Outreach



Face to face outreach to 13,000+ individuals



Combined online outreach to 40,000+ individuals

Eight Areas of Work

1. Providing Training

EUROCLIO works to provide training for history, heritage and citizenship educators in order to (1) support professional capacity building (2) create a cross-border dialogue through peer-learning and (3) contribute to policy-making from a grass-roots view.

In 2014, this took shape through the following activities:

- I. The 21st Annual EUROCLIO Conference and Professional Training and Development Course *History Education across Borders: How can we Share our Cultural Heritage?* including a multi-faceted reflection on remembrance and historical memory in a post-conflict context, took place on 31 March 2014 - 5 April 2014, in Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia. 145 delegates from 38 countries took part. It was organised in close partnership with the EUROCLIO Member Association ANIM (Association of History Educators in Macedonia).
- II. Preparation and promotion for the 22nd Annual EUROCLIO Conference and Professional Training and Development Course *Roads to Democracy. How can History Teachers Pave the Way?* from early 2014 onwards, with more intense preparatory work during the period May to December in collaboration with the EUROCLIO Member Association DHTA (Danish History Teachers Association), and in partnership with EUSTORY - History Network of Young Europeans.
- III. 1 international training course *History beyond Textbooks: How to use digital resources for cross-border history education, new tools and approaches* took place on 12-16 April, in London, United Kingdom. 30 delegates from 12 countries took part. It was organised in close cooperation with the EUROCLIO Member Associations HTEN (History Teachers Education Network) and the Imperial War Museum.
- IV. 2 international **educational resource development seminars** took place within the scope of the EUROCLIO project *Multi-faceted Memory*. The project team included 16 educators from 9 countries:
 - 1-3 March, Buchenwald, Germany
 - 2-4 June, Lamsdorf/Łambinowice, Poland
- V. 2 **national teacher training seminars** took place in Latvia and Slovakia within the scope of the project *Making History Work for Tolerance*, run by EUROCLIO Partner Organisation NEPC (Network of Education Policy Centres). These seminars reached out to 139 educators from different schools, museums and institutes.
- VI. 1 **regional editing workshop**, 7 **national teacher training seminars** and 5 **local teacher training workshops** took place within the scope of the EUROCLIO projects *History that Connects: How to teach sensitive and controversial history*

in the countries of former Yugoslavia, and History that Matters: Supporting the Implementation of the Kosovo Core Curriculum for History. These activities provided training to a core group of 14 developers of educational materials and training to a total of 680 educators, members of History Teachers Associations from Bosnia (EUROCLIO-HIP), Croatia (HUNP), Kosovo (SHMHK), Republic of Macedonia (ANIM), Montenegro (HIPMONT), Serbia (UDI) and Slovenia (SHTA). The meeting took place in The Netherlands in January.

- Editing Workshop: 2-8 January, The Hague, The Netherlands
- National Teacher Training Seminars:
 - 4-6 July, Mavrovo, Republic of Macedonia
 - 12-14 September, Prizren, Kosovo
 - 19 September, Ljubljana, Slovenia
 - 20-21 September, Zagreb, Croatia
 - 26-28 September, Belgrade, Serbia
 - 4-6 October, Podgorica, Montenegro
 - 12-14 October, Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina
- Local Teacher Training Workshops:
 - 24-25 May, Pristina, Kosovo
 - 30 August, Brcko, Bosnia-Herzegovina
 - 31 August, Tuzla, Bosnia-Herzegovina
 - 5-6 September, Mostar, Bosnia-Herzegovina
 - 13 September, Mrkonjic Grad, Bosnia-Herzegovina
 - 27 September, Gorazde, Bosnia-Herzegovina

VII. 906 history, heritage and citizenship educators were able to obtain support for educational mobility through applications for donors and scholarships. While opportunities were offered by third parties, EUROCLIO supported its members through support letters, grant writing advice and liaising. Hosts and grant makers in 2014 were: Organisation for Security and Cooperation (Missions to Bosnia-Herzegovina and Republic of Macedonia), Robert Bosch Foundation, European Union Euro East Programme, Europe for Citizens and Lifelong Learning Programmes, Georg Eckert Institute for International Textbook Research, Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Norway and Sweden, KAICIID Dialogue Centre, DVV International and the Open Society Foundations Education Support Programme.



History, heritage, and citizenship educators discuss methods of handling controversy while maintaining multiperspectivity during a training workshop in the Balkans.

2. Developing Educational Tools

EUROCLIO works to develop innovative and ready-to-use teaching tools for history, heritage and citizenship educators in order to (1) promote open access to quality educational resources, (2) support National and European Digital Learning Policies and (3) increase professional capacity through collaborative development and implementation.

In 2014, this took shape through the following activities:

I. BUILDING HISTORIANA - YOUR PORTAL TO THE PAST:

- An online module *First World War in Wider Perspective* has been under development in 2014, thanks to the financial support of the EU, Evens Foundation and Europeana (in different capacities), including a multi-stranded timeline of events in the war, a thematic overview of topics, ready-to-use learning activities and thousands of curated source galleries. The Historiana editorial team has been able to meet several times in 2014 to set out the development guidelines. At the EUROCLIO Secretariat, history students have been working on much of the development. Due to technical complications the launch is postponed to the first half of 2015.
- An online module *Internment without Trial: examples from the Nazi and Soviet regimes* has been started in 2014 thanks to the new EUROCLIO project *Multi-faceted Memory* and is jointly developed by Historiana editors and educators from the places of remembrance Buchenwald and Lamsdorf/Łambinowice, as well as the Estonian Institute of Historical Memory and EUROCLIO Member Association educators from Croatia, Estonia, Finland and Ukraine.
- **Historiana Learning Activities** have been developed in 2014 and the Learning Section has been launched on <http://la.historiana.eu> including new online tools that support online learning. Input to these Learning Activities has been collected via two partnership projects: (1) *Making History Education Work for Tolerance* (run by the Network of Education Policy Centres) and (2) *Europe 1914/2014 Lost and Found in War* (run by the *Interkulturelles Zentrum*, Vienna, Austria). EUROCLIO Members were involved in both projects and the outputs were made public.

II. PUBLISHING ALTERNATIVE CROSS-BORDER TEACHING RESOURCES:

- *Once Upon A Time ... We Lived Together* was publically launched by Chief Editor Bojana Dujkovic-Blagojevic at the 21st EUROCLIO Annual Conference in Ohrid, The Republic of Macedonia, and is the main outcome of the History that Connects project *How to Teach Sensitive and Controversial History in the Countries of Former Yugoslavia (2011-2014)*. It contains **23 innovative exemplar workshops** focusing on some of the most sensitive and controversial topics of regional history between 1900-1945, with contributions from educators of all seven project countries (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Slovenia). At the national teacher seminars the material was launched

in 7 additional languages: Albanian, Bosnia, Croatian, Macedonian, Montenegrin, Serbian and Slovenian. Since November 2014, all versions are available free-of-charge on the EUROCLIO website.

- Over a dozen working meetings between EUROCLIO Members from the project countries Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine took place, while EUROCLIO Members from Estonia, Latvia, Russia and the United Kingdom also shared their expertise. These meetings concerned the editing and fine-tuning of **innovative educational modules** within the Euro East funded project *Sharing History Cultural Dialogue*, which has a focus on cultural heritage, family, migration and societies in transition. The modules are based on the principles of multi-perspectivity and applied to the cultural history of the Black Sea region since the late 19th century. The material is expected to be launched in 2015.



Members of the Historiana teaching and learning team meet in London to discuss the design and interactive features of Historiana to ensure that it is user-friendly.

3. Researching the learning and teaching of history

EUROCLIO works to base its work on research of needs of history, heritage and citizenship educators in order to (1) better understand challenges and opportunities in the field, (2) contribute to knowledge about the development of a European dimension and (3) enhance communication and cooperation worldwide.

In 2014, this took shape through the following activities:

- I. 900+ students in 30 schools in 7 countries participated in a variety of **piloting activities** within EUROCLIO's projects, as part of quality assurance processes that help the authors and editors teams to self-improve.
- II. 3 MA Students from the Centre for Historical Culture (Erasmus University Rotterdam) aligned their thesis research to the needs and mission of the EUROCLIO Historiana programme.
- III. The role of history education in building tolerant societies was researched within the EUROCLIO/NEPC project *Making History Education work for Tolerance*, and resulted in comprehensive country reports for Denmark, Latvia and Slovakia.

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



Students at a school in Bitola, Macedonia during an interactive activity, where a school visit was held as part of the EUROCLIO Annual Conference in Ohrid.

4. Governing a Democratic Association

EUROCLIO works to sustain itself as an Association where history, heritage and citizenship educators invest in governance that supports (1) evidence-based policy-making, (2) democratic participation in all levels and (3) enhancing the opportunity for members, management and board to implement the mission.

In 2014, this took shape through the following activities:

- I. 24 Member Organisations took part in the 2014 **EUROCLIO General Assembly**, in Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia where they took ownership of the development, dissemination and voting on the Action Report 2013 and Financial Results of 2013 and reflected on the Action Plan and Budget 2014. The Assembly accepted five **new members** from Armenia, Croatia, Lebanon and Poland. **EUROCLIO Board Member** mandates were voted upon, were extended and a new Board Member from Italy approved. Moreover, **member-led discussions** on enhancing member-to-member cooperation, identification important themes for cooperation and mapping of opportunities for global cooperation, took place.
- II. Two **Board meetings** took place (in April in Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia and in November in Speyer, Germany) in which the progress of the annual work plan and the financial consequences were monitored. New policies were developed in association involvement and member services, and the transition of Directors of the EUROCLIO Secretariat was evaluated. European policies were discussed and the General Assembly for 2015 was prepared. Moreover, in 2014, crucial decisions between scheduled Board Meetings were taken by the Board through planned and organised Skype-meetings.
- III. The Board has re-organised its internal working to have three separate **Board Committees (1. Finance, 2. Membership, 3. Policy)** which will allow a better and more detailed preparation of the General Board Meeting.
- IV. **29 EUROCLIO Ambassadors** from 16 countries represented the Association and shared their expertise in 99 meetings and events. This enhances EUROCLIO's ability to be involved in various European initiatives, while building on the commitment and dedication of its members.
- V. The final steps toward the creation of a **EUROCLIO Chair on History, Ethics and Human Rights** at the University of Groningen for Prof. Dr. Antoon de Baets were taken in 2014. The oration is scheduled in 2015.
- VI. A researcher from the Georg Eckert Institute, a long-time EUROCLIO Partner, carried out **External Quality Assurance** using a wide set of indicators via questionnaires, reflection, interviews, pilot schemes to assess the quality of EUROCLIO's *History that Connects* programme.
- VII. One **Steering Committee meeting** took place in Tbilisi in November 2014 within the scope of EUROCLIO's project in the Black Sea Region. This multidisciplinary group of experts advised the management team of the project with validating the quality and helping to achieve the biggest possible positive impact on society. This helped as **external quality assurance** on the policies of EUROCLIO in this programme.



Top, left: Judith Geerling passes around a box for delegates to submit their votes during the General Assembly voting of the Annual Conference held in Ohrid, Macedonia.

Top, right: EUROCLIO Board Meeting in Speyer, Germany, at the Technik Museum.

Bottom: Board Meeting mentioned above in session.

5. Disseminating Information and Engaging the Public

EUROCLIO works to inform history, heritage and citizenship education professionals, peers and partner organisation and aims to (1) increase opportunities for EUROCLIO Members to be able to reach out to a European/international level, (2) sustain a positive and vibrant online community of members, partners and peers and (3) increase awareness of the work of EUROCLIO as wide as possible.

In 2014, this took shape through the following activities:

- I. **356 new articles were shared on www.euroclio.eu** offering information about EUROCLIO (including the General Assembly, Members and EUROCLIO as an expertise centre), its programmes (including international trainings), news, the network of partners and other stakeholders, and providing access to resources (including research and teaching materials). The site received 23,558 unique visitors from 179 countries.
- II. **9 e-Newsletters** were authored, edited and sent to 10,078 readers. These responsive e-mails included a message from the President of the EUROCLIO Board, updates about European policies, news and announcements, information from EUROCLIO programmes, news from EUROCLIO Members and partners and a list of upcoming events.
- III. **19 direct mailings** were sent to Member Associations and other relevant stakeholders (educators/partners/educational authorities) in specific countries or to specific target groups about: project opportunities, training opportunities, consultations, new educational resources, new relevant research or achievements by EUROCLIO.
- IV. **1200+ 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 3000 members from 89 countries by the end of 2014. All news generated on the website of the Association is shared on the group automatically with an enforced code of conduct.
- V. EUROCLIO events and work were featured in **local, regional and national printed press** in Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, France, Greece, Georgia, Germany, Slovakia, The Netherlands, Turkey and Ukraine. Television and Radio features were produced in Kosovo, Japan and the Republic of Macedonia in the context of EUROCLIO activities.

6. Fundraising

EUROCLIO works to raise funding of European, national and local levels with the aim to (1) increase opportunities for EUROCLIO Members to be able to reach out to a European/International level, (2) sustain EUROCLIO's long-term programmes and their impact and (3) increase local ownership and build capacity of EUROCLIO Member Associations to raise funding.

In 2014, this took shape through the following activities:

- I. **22 project proposals** were developed 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. Proposals were approved by the European Commission Erasmus+, Jean Monnet and Europe for Citizens Programmes (5 projects), the Open Society Foundation Education Support Programme (2 projects) and by a variety of donors for different events, including the Robert Bosch Foundation, Yunus Emre Foundation, KAICIID Dialogue Centre and the European Network of Remembrance and Solidarity.
- II. Over **45 Letters of Inquiry** were sent out to foundations, embassies and other potential supporters, mostly in order to obtain support for participation and small local activities, usually leading to positive (Skype) talks and partnerships and usually within the context of exploratory visits, for example to Kyrgyzstan and Berlin.
- III. More emphasis was put in 2014 on constructing **long-term partnerships** as the Association is involved in several applications to the European Union Horizon 2020 Programme, especially the chapter *Reflective Societies*.

7. Networking and Advocating

EUROCLIO works to network with key stakeholders and advocate its principles and mission to policy makers in order to (1) be recognised as a stakeholder in the fields of European education, citizenship, heritage, remembrance, entrepreneurship, digital learning, reconciliation and development cooperation, (2) sustain EUROCLIO's long-term programmes and their impact and (3) create sustainable partnerships with inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations.

In 2014, this took shape through the following activities:

- I. EUROCLIO continued its **active membership in EUCIS-LLL** (European Civic Platform for Lifelong Learning) through participation in the General Assembly, public hearings, workshops and steering committee meetings where EUROCLIO is represented by EUROCLIO Founder and Special Advisor Joke van der Leeuw-Roord. The key focus in 2014 was on collective monitoring of the implementation of new EU 2014-2020 Programmes and advocating for Lifelong Learning. Through cooperation across sectors within EUCIS-LLL, EUROCLIO was able to help secure its aims and establish new relations at different European institutes.
- II. **EUROCLIO maintained operational relations with the Council of Europe and UNESCO** amongst others by holding the Vice Presidency of the Council of Europe iNGO Education and Culture Committee by EUROCLIO Ambassador Yosanne Vella while supporting noteworthy intergovernmental initiatives throughout online and offline contacts with members.
- III. **63 meetings with national/European policy makers and educational authorities** took place throughout the year to advance the recognition of high-quality history, heritage and citizenship education as a valuable contribution to the professional, social and personal development of young people. 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. Also meetings were held with the **European Union** bodies, including the European Parliament where in January 2014 a public hearing was organised on *Teaching History for Democratic Citizenship*, but also delegations of the European External Action Service (EEAS) in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan and the Republic of Macedonia, the Fundamental Rights Agency and the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC). At the **Council of Europe** numerous meetings took place, as EUROCLIO supported the wider promotion of the teaching resource eBook *Shared Histories without Dividing Lines*. **National ministries of education, culture or foreign affairs** of 7 countries were engaged with this project.
- IV. EUROCLIO continued and extended its **strategic partnerships** with relevant civil society actors (e.g. DVV International, European Network for Remembrance and Solidarity and EUSTORY); with foundations (e.g. Anna Lindh Foundation, Open Society Foundations, Heinrich Boll Foundation, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung and the Robert Bosch Stiftung), institutes (e.g. The Hague Institute for Global Justice, Falstad Centre, Institute of National Remembrance in Poland), and dozens of

museums, associations, universities and networks. In 2014, 57 of such organisations were involved in face-to-face partnership development meetings with EUROCLIO, many more were engaged with digitally through tele-conferencing.



EUROCLIO delegates pictured above in Brussels during one of the aforementioned meetings with European policy makers and educational authorities.

8. Providing Professional Expertise

EUROCLIO works to be a connector and provider of professional expertise in order to (1) be recognised as a centre of excellence (2) to contribute to the dissemination and implementation of EUROCLIO's long-term programmes and (3) ensure the organisation remains open to learn and develop through external engagements in a continuous way.

In 2014, this took shape through the following activities:

- I. **14 international Masters level traineeships** were hosted to students from 4 countries. In line with the vision of the European Charter on Apprenticeships, they acquired work experience in an international NGO environment providing new skills for new jobs, including critical thinking, generating ideas, ability to question, decision-taking, practical, social-, civic- and digital competences and were very well able to contribute to the implementation of the action plan.
- II. **53 lectures, workshops and other trainings** in 28 countries were provided by EUROCLIO Board Members, Ambassadors and Staff members. Over 3400 students, educators, policy makers and members of the general public took part in the events where EUROCLIO was actively presented. Amongst many others EUROCLIO representatives served as moderators, chairs, discussion leaders, reporters, speakers and facilitators. The most significant discussion to which EUROCLIO representatives were able to contribute in 2014 were:
 - Teaching and learning about the First World War and multi-perspectivity in the centenary of the outbreak of the war, including major academic and/or educational conferences in Berlin, Brussels, Leeds, London, Maastricht, Prague, Sarajevo, Skopje and Vienna).
 - Innovation in the field of educational approaches and responsible approaches to history and citizenship education in transition and/or post-conflict situations in Europe and beyond, including major conferences such as the Schools History Project (Leeds, UK), World Innovation in Education Summit (WISE, Doha, Qatar) and the International History NGO Forum (Tokyo, Japan).
 - The role of education in the unfolding of regional and European cooperation in the field of heritage education, museums and libraries and digital history, including major events organised by Europeana, the International Federation of Public History and the European University Institute.
- III. EUROCLIO provided its **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, KAICIID Dialogue Centre, International Baccalaureate, House of European History, Anna Lindh Foundation and DVV International. This strengthened the professional profile and capacity of the association.
- IV. EUROCLIO was involved in a variety of **partnership projects** in which professional relations were strengthened with EUROCLIO's Strategic Partners, amongst others in 2014 these were *Interkulturelles Zentrum* (Austria), Concept Learning through

Exchange, Analysis and Reflection (CLEAR), Network of Education Policy Centres (Croatia), DVV International (Germany) and Erciyes University (Turkey).

- V. EUROCLIO offered its management quality to continue the **coordination of the Anna Lindh Network in the Netherlands** (a network of NGOs in the field of intercultural dialogue and Euro- Mediterranean cooperation) including the organisation of network meetings, capacity building workshops and dissemination of information from the Anna Lindh Foundation.



Top, left: As part of the seminar Teaching History beyond the Text, this is a workshop which was held at the Imperial War Museum.

Top, right: EUROCLIO trainers and students participating in a workshop pose for a photo in front of the Neue Wache in Berlin.

Bottom, left: Delegates of the History NGO Forum Conference in Tokyo, Japan during the cultural programme study visit.

Bottom, right: Discussion during the History Matters seminar in Pristina, Kosovo.

EUROCLIO Long Term Programmes Active in 2014

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.

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.

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.

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.

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING is a EUROCLIO programme as much as it is 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 broad European and international education agenda.

INTERNATIONAL HISTORY NETWORK is a new focus area for EUROCLIO as the Association has frequent and profound contacts with organisations outside of Europe. The aim is to create and sustain a global-level dialogue on innovative and responsible approaches to history, heritage and citizenship education from a cross-border, civil society angle.

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

Full List of Running Projects in 2014

- Handbook on Intercultural Citizenship Education (2012-2014)
- NSDS Step 6 (2014)
- Europe Lost and Found in War and Peace (2013-2014)
- CLEAR: Content Learning for Empowerment through Analysis and Reflection (2013-2014)
- Training Primary School Educators in Human Rights Education (2013-2015)
- Sharing History Cultural Dialogues (2011-2014)
- Innovating History Education for All (2014-2017)
- Multi-faceted Memory (2014-2015)

EUROCLIO Board Members 2013-2014 (Outgoing)

- 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 Board Members 2014-2015 (Incoming)

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

EUROCLIO Secretariat Professional Staff in 2014

- Jonathan Even-Zohar (The Netherlands), Director
- Steven Stegers (The Netherlands), Programme Director (& Deputy-Director)
- Blandine Smilansky (France), Senior Manager
- Aysel Gojayeva (Azerbaijan), Project Manager
- Judith Geerling (The Netherlands), Project Manager

EUROCLIO Secretariat Trainees in 2014

Violet Annaert (The Netherlands), Pieter Baeten (Belgium), Callum Cook (United Kingdom), Iris Dijksterhuis (The Netherlands), Jorien van Driel (The Netherlands), Sam van der Eijnden (The Netherlands), Martin George (United Kingdom), Ella Hogg (United Kingdom), Franke Kaljee (The Netherlands), Sila Koster (The Netherlands), Sven Moersdorf (Germany), Dominique Noordhuis (The Netherlands), Thomas Rettig (Germany), Tissie Spiering (The Netherlands), Jaco Stoop (The Netherlands).

Annual Financial Report

SOLVENCY

At the beginning of 2014, it was not clear if EUROCLIO would be able to secure an operating grant from the European Union to carry the bulk of its operational expenses. Budget scenarios for 2014, in which these grants would not be secured, identified how a slimmed-down Secretariat could continue to operate and at what risks. Fortunately EUROCLIO was granted a new Framework Partnership Agreement for three years from the EU Europe for Citizens Programme. In these new EU 2014-2020 programmes, an important change has been implemented in the budget rules for civil society operating grants: organisations receiving operating grants are within these grants allowed to follow national recommendations for the strengthening of their operational reserve, a need which had been identified by the Board in Annual Financial Reports since 2006. The year has results in a positive result of €29,297 which is consequently attributed to the equity of the organisation following the Board's decision in the November 2014 Board Meeting to build an operational reserve. The Board and Management agreed on a multi-annual strategy to build up this reserve in order to create a security buffer. The purpose is to have at least the needed internal resources to allow for an orderly and low-risk downturn, in case such a downturn for whatever reason is deemed to be unavoidable. In generally acceptable governance codes, guidelines are mentioned as for example to have a buffer providing at least for one year the costs of the permanent staff and other legal obligations. The operating reserve also allows the organisation to better face challenges in temporal cash-flow and lack of liquidity.

The projects are in control and the costs of the Secretariat are covered by the EU operating grant of €200,000, the subscription fees of euro 5,196 and non-earmarked donations of euro 2,600. If one looks more closely to the projects, there is an overrun in project expenditures of about euro 90,317, which is about 13% 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. In some cases, these are partially related to higher costs in project activities.

The funding of these overruns is presented as self-financing and 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.

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

PLANNING 2015 AND BEYOND

The Association will continue to carry out its mission, as elaborated in the Policy Plan 2020 Responsible History Education in a Globalising Society: EUROCLIO's Roadmap toward Innovative History Education. In addition, as the Framework Partnership Agreement with the European Union's DG COMM - Europe for Citizens programme is in place in 2014-2017, activities will be mainly carried out within this framework as well as possible new applications which could be approved in 2015.

The Management and Board, in liaison with the General Assembly's Audit Committee have signalled the need for further member involvement. The Assembly in 2014 used a new format, which included member-led discussion groups. These fit in with new internal Board governance measures which installed new Board Committees, to deal in more detail with issues of (1) Finances, (2) Membership and (3) Policy and Governance.

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

The organisation 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 organisation will also continue to widen the scope of the organisation and to increase the opportunities for collaborative work among its members, certainly also addressing colleagues in the Middle East and 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 organisation. It will continue to stimulate the Association to reach out to History Educators Associations, which have not yet become members.

The New Director Jonathan Even-Zohar and Programme Director Steven Stegers will continue the successful directions set by now Founder and Special Advisor Joke van Leeuw-Roord, while taking full ownership of the management of the organisations as new directions are uncovered.

ISSUES OF CONCERN

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. With the present crisis, the opportunity for grants is decreasing and the competition to obtain projects is continuously increasing. Obtaining new projects is thus 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 (5.0 fte) based on the existing project volume. The experienced Senior Manager Blandine Smilansky will depart on 1 April 2015.

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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