

Annual Report European Association of History Educators



2017
The Hague

The ghost of the past, the spectre of the present, the hope of the future:

History has had assigned to it the office of judging the past and of instructing the account for the benefit of future ages. To show high offices the present work does not presume; it seeks only to show what actually happened.

Leopold von Ranke, History of the Latin and Teutonic Nations

EUROCLIO - *The European Association of History Educators* works to follow in the spirit of Von Ranke, helping to recognise *what actually happened*, and support History Education within and beyond Europe in continually turbulent times. Our contribution to the historical record reflects championing best practice, balanced multi-perspectival and active engagement with the past and partnerships with member associations working singly and collectively, and with external partners to secure the future of accurate history for the common good.

EUROCLIO: The History Education community of Europe

EUROCLIO, headquartered in The Hague in The Netherlands is a non-profit association under Dutch law, and for twenty-five years has worked with and represented what now numbers seventy-five history educators' organizations, associations and institutes as members from more than forty countries.

We form a network of networks, link to something over forty thousand history and citizenship educators, and connect with something over two thousand plus professionals in face to face contacts and professional development a year.

In 2017 EUROCLIO successfully implemented its mission through a number of projects and activities and created added value for its members, partners and society-at-large. We carried out forward planning for 2018-2020, explored new themes and continued a growing level of engagement with non-European actors, as well as co-operating with the EU for a routine audit of our Black Sea Project which ran for four years to 2015.

This Report aims to:

1. Provide a general introduction to the EUROCLIO mission and approaches to implement this mission.
2. Provides an overview of EUROCLIO's governance and management.
3. Provides an overview of this year's notable activities and their impact on society.
4. Summarise the financial results, continuity planning and operational reserves, key financial policies and challenges.
5. Share plans and challenges for 2018 and beyond.

Introduction

EUROCLIO - The European Association of History Educators:

- Was established in 1992 on request of but entirely independent from the Council of Europe;
- Is a confederation of more than seventy history, heritage, and citizenship educators' associations and other organizations active in this field;
- Has worked for twenty-five years across, in and beyond many European countries, focusing on the full range of issues related to the teaching and learning of history;
- Has brought together thousands of historians, history educators and students to share experiences, to implement innovative learning about the past, discussing also sensitive and controversial issues and therefore creating new and inclusive historical narratives;
- Has taken a special focus on supporting colleagues in countries in political transformation and in particular those with inter-ethnic and inter-religious tensions, for example working with associations in Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Romania, Russia and Ukraine;
- Has worked in regions that have experienced recent violent conflicts, such as the Caucasus, Cyprus, The Lebanon, and Former Yugoslavia;
- Has linked all of our members and shared best practice and widened knowledge, supported skills development and fostered collaborative and co-operative working.

EUROCLIO supports the development of responsible and innovative history, citizenship and heritage education by promoting critical thinking, multi-perspectivity, mutual respect, and the inclusion of controversial issues.

The Association advocates a sound use of history and heritage education towards the building and deepening of democratic societies, connecting professionals across boundaries of communities, 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.

Our members are, and our outreach is to, history, heritage and citizenship education professionals, and includes, but is not limited to: teachers and educators at all levels including those in schools, curriculum developers, authors of teaching tools, teacher trainers and trainee teachers, assessment experts, advisors and inspectors, educational staff in cultural institutions, staff and board members of member associations.

Governance and Management 2017

We are a thriving and engaged democratic community of history education professionals with considerable geographical reach and presence. Our dedicated staff, based in The Hague, frequently travel in partnership projects to work with colleagues and partners. At times we are officially represented by Member Association Leaders, EUROCLIO Ambassadors (selected field leaders who have worked with us, or served in senior roles), current Board Members, Secretariat Staff and Trainees, far more was achieved than expected.

Board

The Board of EUROCLIO acts as a Supervisory Board, tasked with the overall responsibility for governing the organisation and ensure wide and successful implementation of its core mission. Elected individuals act as Board Members support EUROCLIO's Management on issues related to financial policy and governance.

Board roles include:

- Fundraising beyond the “traditional” public, (at present mainly EU,) grants;
- Working with the Secretariat and members to develop and deliver our vision, as envisaged in the recently co-created Strategic Framework 2018-2020;
- A supervisory role overseeing the secretariat in a monitoring and accountability role;
- Maintaining member relations and building individual membership.

The Board holds the Association's Annual General Assembly in April at our annual conference:

In 2017 in Donastia-San Sebastian, in the Basque country of Spain,
In 2018 in Marseille, France.

At this event new members are proposed and accepted, and Elections for Board Membership take place as terms of office end. In 2017 there were no changes to the Board membership. All annual reporting to the Association is presented at this democratic event. See agenda and files at <https://euroclio.eu/general-assembly/>

The composition of the Board in 2017:

- Lóa Steinunn Kristjansdóttir (Iceland), President
- Mire Mladenovski (Republic of Macedonia), Vice-President and Treasurer
- Paolo Ceccoli (Italy), Secretary
- Frank van den Akker (The Netherlands)
- Sinéad Fitzsimons (United Kingdom, Northern Ireland)
- Riitta Mikkola (Finland)



The 2017 Board pictured together during the 24th Annual Conference

Secretariat

The Association's staff is organised at the Secretariat, and is based in The Hague, The Netherlands, and delivered their ambitious Action Plan 2017 successfully.

Managed by an Executive Director and Deputy Director, with others acting as Project Managers and office staff, considerable expertise is shared within the team, a fact recognised by the very high calibre of interns working with the organisation. We therefore see a routine changeover of some grades of staff, and feel it particularly challenging when longer standing colleagues inevitably move on, maximising their experience in gaining other posts or settling in new locations. For example in May Senior Project Manager Aysel Gojayeva departed to pursue her career in Germany. She built up a unique experience in planning complex events and in excellent intercultural communication. Her responsibilities were split between existing staff Jaco Stoop and Judith Geerling as a joint developmental opportunity.

On May 1st 2018 our Director, Jonathan Even-Zohar, stands down to spend more time with his young family after an extended period of incredible commitment, globe-trotting and remarkable success. Having been given six-month's notice we are prepared, but reluctant to lose such an experienced colleague, and recognise the significance of this change, however, we are well positioned to move forwards.



Staff and trainees from the EUROCLIO Secretariat in 2017

Professional Staff in 2017:

- Jonathan Even-Zohar (The Netherlands), Executive Director, 0.9 fte
- Steven Stegers (The Netherlands), Programme Director (& Deputy-Director), 1.0 fte
- Aysel Gojayeva (Azerbaijan), Project Manager, 0.9 fte (until 15 May)
- Judith Geerling (The Netherlands), Project Manager, 1.0 fte
- Jaco Stoop (The Netherlands), Network Coordinator, 1.0 fte

Volunteers, Trainees and Research Trainees in 2017:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| ● Aleksei Rogozin (Russia) | ● Rivka Otten (The Netherlands) |
| ● Cindy Wilhelm (Germany) | ● Roger Tosbotn (Norway) |
| ● Eva Zandonella (Austria) | ● Rosie Anderson (United Kingdom, Scotland) |
| ● Fiona David (United States) | ● Piia Lempiäinen (Finland) |
| ● Geordie Enoch (United States) | ● Shanice de Witte (The Netherlands) |
| ● Henrik Hartmann (Switzerland) | ● Suzanne Tromp (The Netherlands) |
| ● Juliette Montlahuc (France) | ● Vera Ande (Estonia) |
| ● Larissa Wiegelmann (Austria) | ● Will Mason (United Kingdom) |
| ● Rick Hoefsloot (The Netherlands) | |
| ● Rik Mets (The Netherlands) | |

We thank our capable, passionate and highly motivated trainees for their considerable service, and thank Harvard University for their assistance in recruiting two part-time trainees in co-operation with our partner The Institute for Historical Justice and Reconciliation (IHJR).

Activities in 2017

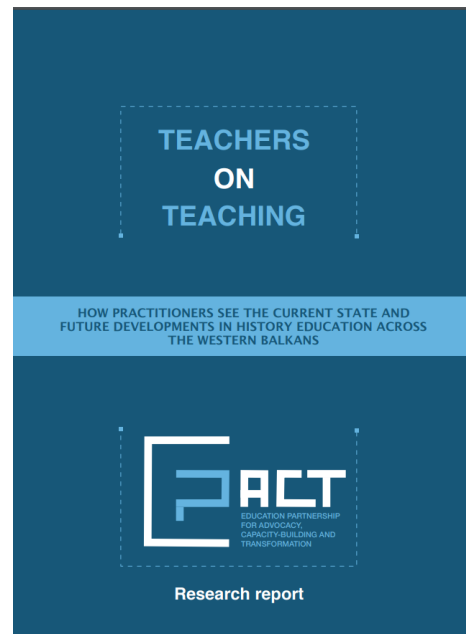
Seven Areas of Work operate cyclically and in an integrated and overlapping manner:

- Research - Mapping the Needs
- Advocacy - The Voice of History Education
- Fundraising - Opportunities for Action
- Educational Resources Development - Collaborative Working and Design
- Training - Professional Development
- Outreach - Informing the World
- Hub - Meeting the Needs

Example Activities Grouped by ‘Work Area’

Research

A collaboratively composed scientific survey in 2016 was rolled out in 2017, analysed and published in December. It was created in part by and targeted history teachers in the Western Balkans and sought their opinions and attitudes, with the resulting report providing a snapshot of the region and a useful advocacy tool for education reforms, and the basis of wider regional strategy.



ePACT research report

Advocacy

EUROCLIO benefits greatly from its membership of the Brussels-based Lifelong Learning Platform. EUROCLIO Ambassador Mare Oja (Estonia) serves on the Steering Committee of the Platform and is an important advocate for History education.

EUROCLIO worked with the Global Centre for Pluralism and the Aka Khan Foundation to support the history education reform in the Kyrgyz Republic.

A variety of inter-governmental organisations were in contact with EUROCLIO to promote responsible history education, including the Council of Europe. A new relationships was developed with the League of Arab States, and interesting discussions took place with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutes and Human Rights.

EUROCLIO engaged with members and policy makers in Lebanon at a crucial moment where new highly sensitive curriculum reform is under way.

We engaged with the European Commission on several occasions and issues in Brussels, in particular in the promotion of an educational exception to copyright and for advocacy meetings with policy makers.



Discussions about copyright in the classroom with the European Commission

Fundraising

The organisation continued to build on its successful track record of EU funding, especially with Erasmus+ in 2017. However it turned down several invitations for partnership in order to be more effective. Several new projects started per 1 September 2017.

Thanks to persistent high quality contact and relationship building, support was granted by the Northeast Asian History Foundation (Republic of Korea) for extending our partnership work, helping to further develop mutual understanding between European and (Northeast) Asian educators around historical dialogues and contested histories.

The Board's priority to secure more non-traditional funding was implemented through a series of exploratory talks with potential donors, the re-strategizing with a clear action plan.

The Dutch Ministry of Education supported the EUROCLIO celebratory event on the occasion of our 25th anniversary, which helped to mobilise a wide network of contacts, former employees and volunteers in The Hague: a powerful reminder of reach and impact over an extended period.



Mire Madenovski speaking during EUROCLIO's 25th anniversary celebration in The Hague

Educational Resources

Historiana, the flagship long-term initiative of EUROCLIO, and operated in close partnership and with great support by Europeana, went through various developments this year:

- Modules on the history of the EU, and on Censorship as a means of repression were added after intensive transnational collaborative processes;
- The interactive eLearning environment was further developed.
- Learning resources on making history and citizenship education more inclusive were developed.



Working on cross-border educational resources in Lebanon

Cross-border teaching materials were developed during a special project__with members and partners from Cyprus, Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey.

Core support from the Open Society Foundations helped us to explore new themes, such as the people's history of football, with talks both at Wembley Stadium with the Football Association (FA) and a seminar in Rotterdam with Dutch enthusiasts.

Professional Development

The large 24th Annual Conference about “Intersection: Global/Local and Past/Present” took place in San Sebastian-Donastia in the Basque country of Spain—a successful collaboration between Spanish and Basque members of EUROCLIO. Over 150 educators from 40 countries took part in the four day training, with additional financial support raised mainly at the local levels of government.



Board Vice President and Treasurer Mire Madenovski speaking about developments in a key EUROCLIO project during the 24th Annual Conference

The 3rd Annual Regional “History that Connects the Balkans” Summer School “Going Beyond Pride and Pain” took place in Vlōra, Albania, in close cooperation with various stakeholders (Anne Frank House, CDRSEE, Institute for Democracy, Media and Culture) and with the EU People-to-People programme. Over 80 educators and policy makers from 12 countries took part. This is a “new” tradition of EUROCLIO,

which is the result of an OSF project (Rethinking History Education in the Western Balkans).



Participants of the Albania Summer School brainstorming in the sunshine

Later in October a thematic seminar was organised in St. Petersburg on the centenary of the Russian Revolution, a first time revisit to Russia since our last joint project in 2005, and reconnecting with the local network we had originally helped create between 1995-2005 over numerous large country-wide projects.



Participants from the thematic seminar in St. Petersburg

In September and December, EUROCLIO, with great support by our experienced Ambassadors and in partnership with the Canada-based Global Centre for Pluralism, we organised teacher training seminars in Kyrgyzstan.



EU-Kyrgyzstan training session

Outreach

2017 and 2018 together form the period in which EUROCLIO celebrates its silver anniversary. Celebrating our joint achievements over twenty-five years of partnerships and service has been an excellent opportunity for outreach. A series of special interviews called “Humans of EUROCLIO” represent recorded testimony of diverse and significant impact. We created a special anniversary logo and printed a new outreach brochure, made strong use of social media, and reached 3800+ members of our Facebook group to create meaningful engagements, for example asking ‘*What is being taught about in the coming week?*’ which led to 120 reactions in a matter of hours. It also fostered more high quality reportage by having some elaborate blog posts from people in the field entitled ‘Voices’.

Hub

EUROCLIO seeks to act as a hub, connecting supply and demand in the world of history, heritage and citizenship education. During 2017, the EUROCLIO Ambassadors represented the organisation in various projects and activities all over Europe- and beyond: a joint conference with the Northeast Asian History Foundation took place in Seoul in late July including ten Ambassadors.

A public event ‘*History: The Elephant in the Room of Intercultural Dialogue?*’ was organised in Rotterdam, broadening our network people to new audience members.



Discussions during the *'History: The Elephant in the Room of Intercultural Dialogue?'* event

More attention was also given to strategic partnerships, such as with Europeana, where EUROCLIO Founder and Special Advisor Joke van der Leeuw-Roord serves as Treasurer on the Europeana Foundation Board, and as Member on the Europeana Network Association Management Board.



Joke, EUROCLIO's founder, sits on the European Foundation's Board (photo credit: Europeana)

Financial Result & Policies

During 2017 we continued to run and acquire projects, supported by a range of donors.

Operating Grant

It was the 4th and final year of implementation of the ***EU Framework Partnership Agreement*** with EUROCLIO. This operating grant, managed at the European Commission 'Europe for Citizens: European Remembrance' programme, enables the Association to focus more of its actions on the more public issue of 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.

Also of key importance was the core support obtained for 2016 from the ***Open Society Foundations - Education Support Programme***. This core support enabled the association to explore other avenues of development to have a larger societal impact.

Financial and Partnership support in 2017 included:

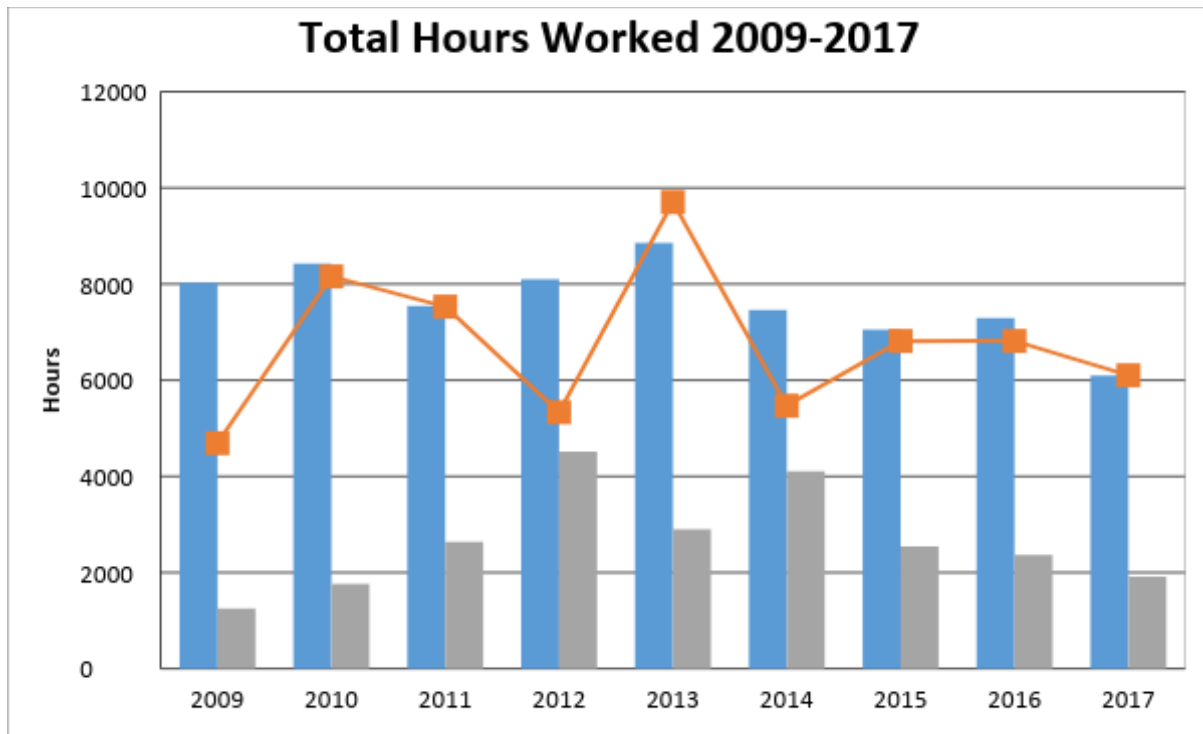
- Anna Lindh Foundation
- Austria, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Austrian Development Agency
- Council of Europe, History Teaching Unit
- European Union, EEAS, Delegation to Kyrgyzstan
- European Union, DG EAC, Erasmus+ Programme
- European Union, DG EAC, Jean Monnet Programme
- European Union, DG Home, Europe for Citizens Programme
- European Union, DG CONNECT, Europeana Digital Service Infrastructure
- European Union, DG NEAR, TACSO People-to-People Programme
- Fare Network, Football Action Week Grants
- Konferentie Nederlandse Religieuzen, Projecten in Nederland
- Northeast Asian History Foundation
- Open Society Foundations, Education Support Programme
- Robert Bosch Stiftung

Financial Result

In 2017, EUROCLIO secured sufficient resources from its EU operational grant, core support from the Open Society Foundations, various project and partnership activities, membership fees and several small donations and consultancy assignments, to close the year with a positive result of € 9.017,00

During the year two interim financial reports were produced which helped to identify potential deviations from budget, and steer the year to the positive end. Good oversight for the Association, alongside the normal external accountancy/audit scrutiny, was ensured by the Board's Financial Committee, and regular Board monitoring and discussion to ensure appropriately close understanding of the situation. Most notably, the culture of prudence helped reduce overspending on

projects and activities to a near zero. This comes from close monitoring by the financial management on all activities and projects, as well as beneficial closing on several projects. Nearly all anticipated hours were delivered by staff, including undesired over-hours, which are at the same level as they were in 2016 at 24%.



The Board is monitoring and encouraging an annual decrease in the over-hours, and challenged management to find workable solutions.

Operating Reserve

The organisation is following a multi-annual strategy (established in November 2017) to build up an operating 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. The organization investment policy is not to invest in shares or other insecure investments. External best practice governance guidelines and codes suggest a buffer providing the costs of the permanent staff and other legal obligations for at least for one year. The operating reserve also allows the organisation to better face challenges in any unexpected cash-flow and lack of liquidity circumstance.

The Board will continue the policy to allocate positive results to an operational reserve aimed to secure the capacity to carry out the mission and secure the continuity of the association. In April 2016 it was agreed to aim to build a stable reserve of €100.000 by 2020.

At the closing of 2017 accounts this reserve now stands at € 48.838

Investment and Delivery in the flagship initiative *Historiana*

In 2016, the Board approved from the general budget an additional investment in *Historiana*, which is EUROCLIO's online learning portal. This portal had been developed over several years in various projects. This led to a situation with multiple site frameworks existing in parallel, without one overall integration. Over time projects have also developed eLearning tools, but not in one environment in which educators could combine and use them. Management therefore proposed to the Board to invest in this flagship initiative to task the web-developers to make the environment cohesive and the site as a whole integrated. It became clear that the April 2017 deadline was not going to be met because of the complexity and extent of data transfer and system modelling, and because project deliverables had grown more complex than anticipated. A new deadline was agreed for September 2017, and later revised to final delivery by April 2018.

External Audit on EU Project

During 2017 an external auditor (Moore & Stephens, UK) was tasked by the European Commission to perform a Residual Error Rate Study on a project implemented by EUROCLIO in the period 2011-2015. The auditor's findings have been submitted to the European Commission, and include the view that some fine details of procedures were not followed in full, or evidence in full. There is no claim of irregularity or impropriety, and the matter relates to paperwork records and required processes. The possibility of funds for this project being partially recovered by the European Commission is included in the Action Plan and Budget for 2018, and extensive discussions and production of evidence to the auditors has been initiated.

Budget 2018

An Action Plan with Budget for 2018 have been approved by the Board in which all expected activities, the related income and expenditures are foreseen at a high level of detail, including:

- The income from approved and expected projects, and the execution of these projects, is to be realised with the available human resources and material capacity;
- The possibility of a Recovery Order by the European Commission;
- No new staff members are to be hired until a final agreement is reached with the European Commission, in case of a recovery order in order to manage costs and balance outgoings.

The Action Plan and Budget 2018 is based on a rigorous identification of minimum time requirements needed from all projects and activities to realise maximum income and a detailed realistic planning and a comprehensive mapping of all commitments.

The Action Plan and Budget 2018 has an expected negative result of € 5.180, which is attributable to the Operating Reserve. The action plan 2018 is accordingly a relatively austere one and prioritises the gravity of commitments already made. The

staffing for 2018 needed to execute this plan is feasible in the time available, but with a significant amount of committed over-hours.

Budget 2018

	2018	
		€
Income		
Project income	728.596	
Subscription fee and other income *)	24.850	
Total income		753.446
Expenditures		
Personnel costs	235.121	
Depreciation	2.000	
Direct project expenditures	358.145	
Other expenditures	163.360	
Total expenditure		758.626
Balance income and expenditures		5.180-
Attributable to:		
Operating reserve		
**)		5.180
Result		-

notes:

*) includes approx. 10.000 subscription fee

**) the organisation has decided to strengthen the capacity of the organisation by building an operating reserve.

Disclaimer

The European Commission support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents which reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.