

EMNI European Mediation Network Initiative

8th July 2010

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Article of the Third European Conference on Mediation in Paris / Bourg-la-Reine 2010

The 3rd European Conference on Mediation took place on May 27 & 28, 2010, in Bourg-la-Reine – Grand Paris. This event was organized under the aegis of EMNI (the European Mediation Network Initiative) by Gabrielle Planes, President of ANM (Association Nationale des Médiateurs), in partnership with ESSEC IRÉNÉ (the Institute for Research and Education on Negotiation). Its theme was "Mediation and Civil Society in Europe: toward a new mindset."

Following Vienna and Belfast and preceding Bratislava, a francophone country was chosen for this edition. An International scientific committee composed of twenty persons from 12 countries selected - among 130 contributions - the 50 workshops to be delivered during the conference. Selected speakers stemmed from over 20 countries. Nearly 400 participants from all five continents (Europe, North and South America, Asian, Africa, Oceania) attended the event. The conference was a great opportunity for meeting, sharing experiences and stimulating discussions among practitioners and researchers.

All the fields of mediation were represented. As it has been noted, mediation is a powerful tool to accompany transformation of society by instilling meaning. During these two days, thematic meetings and workshops showed the need to work collectively for a recognition and professionalization of mediation that includes rather than excludes and tends to reduce the feeling of injustice. Not only is it about resolving disputes amicably, but more and more about preventing them through synergies and without guilt. The study of the health impact of interpersonal conflict, with the help of neurosciences, showed that the way we handle emotions significantly influences disorders, diseases and addictions. Focusing people on the

co-creation of a solution enables them to enter a new level of dialogue and to reduce suffering at work.

One of mediation's objectives is to give voice but also to master the necessary vocabulary to enable us to understand ourselves, to have others understand us and to understand what we are being told in such a fragmented world. The current crisis, which strikes at various levels and induces fundamental change, offers mediation the potential to strengthen democracy through three channels: personal contact, fair treatment and proper information. Together with transparency, these elements create the conditions for maintaining interpersonal relationships and establish the confidence necessary to fundamentally transform the way we see things so that we can live better together.

Elections of new board

Marianus Mautner and Jose Vasconcelos were nominated to facilitate the election. The names of the 14 candidates of the old board who like to be re-elected due to Article 9 no. 6 were presented. Due to Article 9 no. 1 the board could have a maximum of 20 members; so 6 more candidates could candidate.

Old Board to be re-elected:

- 1) Linda Reijerkerk (Netherlands)
- 2) Cristina Lenz (Germany) (Memorandum)
- 3) Smilja Gavric (Bosnia)
- 4) Gosta Thommesen (Norway) (excused, gave proxy to Cristina)
- 5) Gordana Ristin (Slovenia)
- 6) Jukka Salomaa (Finland)
- 7) Treasa Kenny (Ireland)
- 8) Ursula Caser (Portugal)
- 9) Esra Cuhadar Gurkaynak (Turkey)
- 10) Tsisana Shamlikashivili (Russia)
- 11) Frantisek Kutlik (Slovakia) (excused, gave proxy to Gordana)
- 12) Srdjan Simac (Croatia) (excused, gave proxy to Gordana)
- 13) Jelena Arsic (Serbia) (excused, gave proxy to Gordana)

EMNI thanks Gabrielle Planes, Balazs Furjes Edward Wasievicz Ewald Filler and Valeria Gherardini for their work during the past 2 years.

New candidates:

- 14) Patricia Malbosc (France)
- 15) Erich Platzer (Austria)
- 16) Mario Ermenegildo (Italy)
- 17) Manel Canyameres (Spain)
- 18) Lenka Pavlova (Czech Republic)

Vote: Consensus with all 18 votes.

New Board consists now of following members:

- 1) Linda Reijerkerk (Netherlands)
- 2) Cristina Lenz (Germany) (Memorandum)
- 3) Smilja Gavric (Bosnia)
- 4) Gosta Thommesen (Norway) (excused, gave proxy to Cristina)
- 5) Gordana Ristin (Slovenia)
- 6) Jukka Salomaa (Finland)
- 7) Treasa Kenny (Ireland)
- 8) Ursula Caser (Portugal)
- 9) Esra Cuhadar Gurkaynak (Turkey)
- 10) Tsisana Shamlikashivili (Russia)
- 11) Frantisek Kutlik (Slovakia) (excused, gave proxy to Gordana)
- 12) Srdjan Simac (Croatia) (excused, gave proxy to Gordana)
- 13) Patricia Malbosc (France)
- 14) Erich Platzer (Austria)
- 15) Ermenegildo Mario Appiano (Italy)
- 16) Manel Canyameres (Spain)
- 17) Lenka Pavlova (Czech Republic)
- 18) Paul Randolph (England United Kingdom)
- 19) Philippe Domont (Switzerland)
- 20) Anne-Sophie Delbet-Varlet (Belgium)

Linda Reijerkerk was re-elected as Chair with consensus of 21 votes with one vote abstaining by herself.

Changes in X-com

During Board Meeting which took place on 28th May 2010 significant changes in the Executive Committee were made. Gosta Thommesen was replaced on his position of a Vice Chair by Cristina Lenz. New Secretary was elected and the position is now occupied by Patricia Malbosc. Smilja Gavric holds a position of Treasurer.

New working groups were established during the meeting. They are design to fulfill the aims of EMNI with bigger efficiency.

Country Coordinators: under supervision of Linda Reijerkerk

Quality assurance: under supervision of Patricia Malbosc

EU-directive: under supervision of Linda Reijerkek under supervision of Cristina Lenz

Code of Conduct: under supervision of Smilja Gavric

In the next EMNI newsletter you will read more about the country coordinators and the other working groups.

Other responsibilities were assigned additionally to X-com Members Linda Reijerkerk – Cross boarder mediation, communication, website, benefits Cristina Lenz – Research, communication, website, Smilja Gavric – Next conference, benefits Patricia Malbosc - Statutes

Impressions from Third European Conference on Mediation (Movies)

Here are some fist impressions from Third European Conference on Mediation. Official movie from the conference will be ready soon. French team is working on it. We will inform you as soon as it will be uploaded to YouTube. For now on we invite

you to watch and comment on following movies. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u6GgEGjmKmk http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=elCCjS2Kb6l http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=flQokWTpqGE http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8pd9ofIH2oo http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XNhJxz8acrQ http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YfbczCZaD4w http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QCQYKwqpwkc http://www.youtube.com/watch?v= BKBfLXy82M **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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Thank you for all your support and co-operation!	
Kind regards,	
Linda Reijerkerk	Patricia Malbosc
Cristina Lenz	Smilja Gavric