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ECSA WORLD-NEWS

ISSUE 39 NOVEMBER 2015

ECSA World

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Dear Presidents, dear colleagues, dear friends,

This issue of the newsletter is exclusively devoted to the General Assembly and connected activities, also in order to inform all our colleagues who were unable to come to Brussels in those days. I would be happy if also colleagues being present in the different events could read attentively the articles and contact us if they think that some corrections or additions are needed.

But let me come back to another issue. We started some weeks ago a small e-mail action asking for sending back a small questionnaire with data about the last and the next activity of the single ECSAs. I wanted to thank our colleagues from Australia, Switzerland, Denmark, New Zealand, Moldova, Ukraine and Lithuania and Asia & Pacific for having fulfilled the duty – but I have to recognise that this is only a small percentage of the existing associations, so that I would like to remind all the others to be so kind to send us the questionnaire, so that we have a full panorama of the activities all around the world.

Moreover, in some questionnaires past activities were mentioned that were unknown to us. Please, do not forget to inform us always when you start planning an event. We depend on your good will and efficiency for realising a good communication policy!

Thanking you in advance for this effort,

*Kind regards,
Enrique Banús*

9th November 2015, Brussels

ECSA General Assembly 2015

Last 9th November 2015, ECSA presidents and representatives from all around the world attended the ECSA Annual General Assembly, held this year at the Management Centre Europe (MCE) in Brussels.

The encounter, that for many reasons started later than expected, was opened by the head of ECSA World Enrique Banús who asked for the approval of skipping some of the minor points of the agenda, due to the delay in the beginning. The "compte rendu" of the 2014 Assembly was sent in advance to all presidents and accepted without comments or modifications.

In his activity report, Prof. Banús put a special accent in the meeting he maintained with Prof. José María Gil-Robles, President of the European University Council, and Martine Reicherts, the new appointed General Director of the Directorate General for Education and Culture (DG EAC), as well as Claire Morel, Head of Unit responsible, among others, for the Jean Monnet Programme

and ECSA. Reicherts showed a very positive attitude towards a reinforcement of the co-operation with the European University Council and ECSA, that also is considered more or less as *porte-parole* of the Jean Monnet professors. During the meeting, held at the seat of the DG EAC, proposals made by Gil-Robles and Banús were discussed, such as the participation of ECSA in preparing the Jean Monnet and ECSA Conferences, the participation of the University Council as advisor to the Jean Monnet call for applications (not in the evaluation itself but in advance, for example in the debate about the priorities); and the recovering of the Jean Monnet Prize. All these proposals were accepted by Martine Reicherts who promised to set them in practice.

Management Centre Europe (MCE): Conference Centre in Brussels



Regarding possible new associations, together with the reminder on on-going negotiations, Professor Banús underlined a new chance in Indonesia via a contact by the President of the Dutch ECSA Prof. Nico Groenendijk; in fact, a visit of a delegation from Indonesia and a meeting with the member of the ECSA World Board Prof. Léonce Bekemans are appointed.

In the next point of the agenda, the Assembly accepted unanimously the request by newly established association for European studies Bosnia and Herzegovina to become a new member of ECSA World.

In relation with the Financial Report, Prof. Banús exposed the projects funded with grants from the Jean Monnet Programme. Previous to the Assembly, a

report about the expenses till October 2015 was sent to the Presidents. The representative of ECSA Italy (AUSE), Dott. Francesco Velo expressed –in the name of President Marco Mascia and the Board- the gratitude for this step on the way to transparency and asked for doing other steps, for example the attribution of the expenses to the different projects.

Furthermore, ECSA World chairman informed about the “History of the ECSA World Project”, a research focused on the work done by some personalities in the beginnings and the further history of ECSA. The two civil servants who were for a long time responsible in the Commission, Jacqueline Lastenouse and Belén Bernaldo de Quirós, already have been interviewed, and an appointment is made with first president of ECSA World Professor Malcolm Anderson. The project also includes former presidents of ECSA World such as Rudolf Hrbek (president 1998-2000), Marc Maresceau (2000-2002), Antonio Papisca (2002-2004) and Luciano di Fonzo from the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency.

Finally, in an exchange about the evaluation procedure for the Jean Monnet Programme it became clear that not all the ECSAs are aware about the relevant changes in the last few years. Professor Bekemans, an experienced evaluator, agreed to prepare a report that should be sent to all the ECSAs.



Profesor Enrique Banús

ECSA World Board Meeting

Taking advantage of the ECSA General Assembly in Brussels, the ECSA Board met during the lunch time of Tuesday, the 10th of November 2015. The encounter was attended by Prof. Enrique Banús, Prof. Ewa Latoszek, Prof. Léonce Bekemans and Prof. Martin Holland. Prof. Marco Mascia excused the attendance.

The meeting contained an open and sincere exchange of points of view. One of the key issues was the economic situation of the association. On this point, the president presented the general data from which is possible to deduce that there is a remnant that allows ECSA World to continue operating even without having received the pre-financing of the Operational Grant.

What is more, Prof. Banús explained in detail the actual reimbursement to the Agency of a part of a previous Operational Grant: in August an extensive document was presented aimed to reduce the amount to be returned. Banús exposed that the devolution is due to the

fact that some foreseen measures were not developed and in other cases the expenses were assumed by national ECSAs. Despite the return, the grant enabled the development of the projects

Besides, the priorities to have in mind for this last year of the Board were commented, focused on the improvement of the relations between ECSA and the European Commission, the revitalization of some existing ECSAs and the creation of new ones. Regarding the Commission, it becomes important an early proposal concerning the University Council.

A new start for the creation of ECSA Indonesia

As we informed in the last issue of the newsletter, there are real possibilities for the creation of an ECSA in Indonesia.

The initiative has been formally discussed last November 2015 during a meeting in Bruges between Léonce Bekemans (member of ECSA World board) and two professors who are the representatives of the European Studies at the University of Gadjah Mada (Jakarta, Indonesia).

Prof. Bekemans sent us details of the encounter through a brief report:

On the 17th of November 2015, Prof. Prof. Muhadi Sugiono (Department of International Relations, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, University Gadjah Mada), head of the European Studies

together with Mr. Gigih Pramono (Programme Officer, Programme on European Studies - EUROS, Institute of International Studies) visited "Ryckvelde", the seat of ECSA World.

They represented the European Studies at the University Gadjah Mada which is the initiator and coordinator for the Indonesian Community for European Studies (ICES). They are active in European studies teaching and research, publish the proceedings of their yearly conventions on ES, etc. The Faculty of Social and Political Sciences UGM has signed in 2012 a MOU with the EU delegation in Jakarta.

The meeting was meant as a first exchange of information on "Ryckvelde" and ECSA-World activities. They have expressed a keen interest in collaboration and being part of the ECSA-World network. Their first aim is a formal consolidation of the ES community in Indonesia in view of a request for associated membership. To be soon followed up.

ECSA Bosnia and Herzegovina is appointed as ECSA World member

In the last ECSA General Assembly, the admission of “European Community Studies Association in Bosnia and Herzegovina” was approved unanimously so that from now the association is part of ECSA World.

The new member of ECSA, registered in October 2014, is formally located at the Faculty of Economics of the University of Mostar (Bosnia and Herzegovina).

The person presiding over the ECSA in BiH is Professor Vinko Kandzija (born 5th of April 1944 in Bristivica, Trogir). Prof. Kandzija has a consolidated career path focused mainly in the field of Economics and Economic issues related to the European Union. In 1971 he graduated from the Faculty of Economics in Rijeka, university that awarded him the PhD in 1990 and where he worked from 1973 to 1983, first as Assistant and then as Documentalist in the Faculty library. In 1979, he obtained his master's degree at the Faculty of Economics in Ljubljana in Slovenia.

Prof. Kandzija also worked (from 1986 to 1990) as Advisor for Economic Relations with Foreign Countries at the Institute for Social Planning of the Republic of Croatia, Zagreb. During the six following years, he held a number of public functions: Advisor in the Office of the President of the Republic of Croatia, Assistant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia to the Maghreb countries in Algeria.

From 1996 until now he works at the Faculty of Economics of the University of Rijeka as a professor, as Tenure Full Professor and also as the Dean of the Faculty. He also has taught at the Faculties of Economics of University of Split, Mostar and Dubrovnik.

His publications range from 184 scientific and professional papers in the country and abroad.

From the documents sent by the board of ECSA BiH, it can be deduced which are the main objectives of the association. Some of these purposes are: the encourage and development of all forms of education and research activities in the field of the European integration process and the development of its institutions; the promotion of an interdisciplinary approach to the study of legal, economic, political, social, historical, cultural and linguistic aspects of European integration and the encouragement of international cooperation with similar associations and experts in other countries, both in the member states of the European Union and in other countries.

Our newsletter gives the warmest welcome to the new association and hopes to receive regular information from all its activities!

Professor Vinko Kandzija

