



**Regional School of Public Administration** (Phase 1)

A Joint Initiative of the European Union  
and the OECD, principally financed by the EU



**RESPA/SC(2007)2/001**

## **Networking ReSPA with other Institutions**

### *Committee action*

- **Take note** of the experiences of regional and international cooperation presented, and
- **Invite** the Secretariat to deepen and widen cooperation with other institutions sharing the same objectives.



The Fourth session of the Steering committee (Brussels 26 April 2007) is devoted to the cooperation with non-governmental providers of training and education for public administration, as well as with public institutions from the region and the EU Member States and other international organisations sharing similar objectives.

Article 17-1 of the ReSPA rules of Procedure stipulates: *"After reviewing<sup>1</sup> the report of activities from the preceding year and before adopting the plan of activities for the following one, and as a rule not later than June, the Steering Committee holds a session devoted to cooperation with non-governmental providers of training and education for public administration, as well as with public institutions from the region and the EU Member States and other international organisations sharing similar objectives."*

Article 17-2 of the ReSPA rules of Procedure stipulates: *"The Chairman of the Steering Committee, after consultation with the Steering Committee members, may decide to invite representatives of such training providers as observers to this Steering Committee meeting".*

In the first day of this meeting, (25<sup>th</sup> April 2007), the Steering Committee Members have the opportunity to meet and work with representatives of the Schools of Public Administration and Civil Service management Units from a variety of EU Member States.

In the second day (26<sup>th</sup> April 2007), at the invitation of the Chair, the secretariat has organised for a selection of renowned learning institutions to introduce themselves to the ReSPA Steering Committee.

A short introduction of each of the three institutions invited by the chair is attached below for reference and in order to help Steering Committee Members prepare for the meeting.

1. College of Europe ;
2. International Labour Organisation, International Training Centre ;
3. European Law Academy.

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<sup>1</sup> The 2006 report of activities has been reviewed at the 3<sup>rd</sup> session (Podgorica, 31 January 2007), see Document RESPA/SC(2007)M1.

## The College of Europe, Bruges & Natolin, Belgium & Poland

Founded in 1948 as the world's first university institute of postgraduate studies and training in European affairs, the College of Europe is a centre of academic excellence preparing individuals to work and live in an international environment and to contribute to the functioning and progress of an increasingly interdependent international society.

To accomplish its mission, the College of Europe has been offering postgraduate studies in European Affairs for over 50 years. The College also provides training programmes and a range of tailor-made seminars courses targeted at lawyers, diplomats, and public sector officials, the private sector and civil society.

In response to the challenge posed by the opening of Central and Eastern Europe, the College founded a second campus in Natolin (Warsaw) in 1994. On the basis of a trilateral agreement signed in 1999 by the College of Europe, the Polish Government and the European Commission, the formula of "one College – two campuses" was implemented.

In March 2000 a co-operation initiative was set up between the College of Europe, the Flemish Authorities and the United Nations University to develop a Research and Training Programme on Comparative Regional Integration Studies (UNU CRIS).

Over the last years the average annual manpower of the College of Europe has grown to 150 employees in 2006, 38 of whom comprise the managerial staff. The working languages of the College are English and French.

The library at the Campus in Bruges can take pride in offering one of the best collections of European documents, with more than 100,000 books, around 2,000 specialised reviews and databases. It hosts a European Documentation Centre, which stores publications of the European Union, the OECD and the Council of Europe as well as official documents of other international organisations. The library is also connected to the EUROLIB network that brings together the bibliographic and documentary resources of all the libraries attached to the Community institutions.

From the outset, the courses offered at the College have followed very closely the evolution of the European integration and the progressive specialisation of those working in this field. The College has concentrated on the more specialized technical problems resulting from the successive European treaties. In this way, the College has reacted to each progressive stage in Europe's integration by adapting its courses and activities, at all times ensuring the same quality and standards, in order for its graduates to be able to meet the challenges of their time.

At the Bruges Campus, five academic programmes are offered, built around three Departments, respectively offering: *European Political and Administrative Studies*, *European Economic Studies*, *European Legal Studies*. The departments for EU law and economics have jointly created a specialisation programme called, European law and Economic Analysis (ELEA). The academic year 2006-2007 will see the launch of a new *EU International Relations and Diplomacy* programme, aimed at a comprehensive understanding of the EU's external relations, bringing together an interdisciplinary analysis of its internal decision-making processes with developments in the broader context of international relations and diplomacy. In addition to reading for the compulsory and optional courses of their own departments, all students are also required to take a course from the European General Programme. The Programme in the Natolin campus focuses on European Advanced Interdisciplinary Studies and deals with European integration and the transformation processes taking place in Central and Eastern European countries. The academic programme of the College of Europe is accessible to students who have completed a university degree. The student body, representing some 47 different nationalities, reflects a real diversity of culture and personal experience. In view of the policy of promoting high levels of interactivity between the students and the teaching staff, and in order to further develop different skills, the academic departments organise - according to the characteristics of their curricula - introductory courses and specialised or interdisciplinary workshops, conferences, and simulation games. Students in each of the academic departments are required to present a thesis at the end of the second semester.

The curriculum of each master's degree is developed by the teaching staff of the College (the Directors of the departments, the lecturers and teaching assistants) and the Academic Council. Overall supervision is done by the Administrative Council, which is composed of representatives of the European Commission, of European governments and of the countries hosting the two campuses in Bruges and Natolin.

The College's faculty regularly publishes works dealing with European cultural, philosophical, political, legal, administrative and economic subjects. Thus, the College's Academic Journal, the *Collegium*, aims to combine academic research with practitioners' insights and to provide an interdisciplinary forum for discussion and debate on all aspects of the European Union.

### **More information:**

<http://www.coleurop.be/default.asp?language=en&switchlang=yes>

## International Labour Office – International Training Centre, Torino, Italy

The International Training Centre of the ILO (*ITC-ILO*) in Turin – Italy is the training arm of the International Labour Organisation (*ILO*), a specialised agency of the United Nations (*UN*) system. It has its own legal status by virtue of the Agreement for its establishment signed in Rome on 24 October 1964 between the Italian Government and the ILO. ITC-ILO is the sole residential training centre in the UN system with its seat in Turin which is composed of 21 pavilions set in 10 hectares of parkland alongside the River Po. This campus is provided by the City of Turin under a Covenant signed between the ILO and the City of Turin on 29 July 1964. Oversight of the Centre's operations and management is provided by its Board, composed of the Director General of the ILO as the Chairperson, a member appointed by the Italian Government, a member appointed by the City of Turin, the Chairperson of the Piedmont Region, the Chairperson of the Unione Industriale Torino, 24 members appointed by the Governing Body of the ILO from among its own members as well as one member appointed by each of the Secretary General of the UN, the Director General of UNESCO, the Executive Director of UNIDO and the Administrator of UNDP. The Director of the Centre is the "secretary" of the Board which meets once annually in order to approve the audited financial statements of the previous year and approve its programme and budget for the current year as well as perspectives for the following year. The Board of the Centre elects, from among its members, three vice-chairpersons two of whom are selected respectively from among the Employers' and Workers' representatives of the Governing Body of the ILO.

The mandate of the Centre is to assist countries in their social and economic development through learning and training. ITC-ILO seeks to deliver the best thinking, practice and experience from the ILO and elsewhere concerning fundamental principles and rights at work; employment and income opportunities for women and men; social protection for all; tripartism and social dialogue; and management of the development process. The main themes of the Centre's activities are: International labour standards and fundamental principles and rights at work; labour market policies; management of labour market institutions, including technical and vocational training institutions and job centres; the informal economy; business creation and enterprise development; micro-finance; socially responsible enterprise restructuring; securing more and better jobs for women; women's entrepreneurship; social protection and the extension of social security, including micro-insurance; migration and trafficking; HIV/AIDS; gender equality; globalization; workers' education; training for employers' organizations; management of the development process; **public procurement management and project management; public sector management**; social dialogue and tripartism; occupational safety and health; combating child labour; information technology and training methodology.

The Centre's training/learning opportunities are demand-driven and delivered through standard courses (including Post-graduate and Master Programmes); tailor-made activities; integrated capacity-building projects (usually secured through competitive bidding or direct negotiations with donors/beneficiaries); expert meetings, special events and individual participant placement.

The above can be delivered on campus in Turin, at country destinations or through distance learning. On annual basis the Centre organises approximately 400 training activities which are attended on the average by approximately 10,000 participants. The training activities are identified through a joint programming effort by the five Regional Programmes and the eleven Technical Programmes of the Centre.

The Centre is a non-profit organisation with core annual subsidies granted by the Government of Italy and the ILO amounting to approx. 30% of its operational budget. The rest is secured through the income earned from the delivery of training activities.

**More Information:** [http://www.itcilo.org/pub/page\\_main.php?VersionID=2&ContentTypeID=13](http://www.itcilo.org/pub/page_main.php?VersionID=2&ContentTypeID=13)

## European Law Academy, Trier, Germany.

The Academy of European Law (ERA) promotes the awareness, understanding and good practice of EU law by providing legal professionals with training and a forum for debate.

ERA enables judges, lawyers in private practice, business and public administration, academics and others who encounter legal issues in their work to gain a wider and deeper knowledge of the diverse aspects of European law. Through conferences, seminars, study visits, language courses, training projects and publications, it serves as an interface between the European legal profession and the decision-making centres of Brussels, Luxembourg and Strasbourg.

The ERA team consists of a dozen lawyers specialising in different areas of EU law, supported by a competent and experienced administrative and technical staff. The speakers at ERA events are drawn from a Europe-wide network of experts, leading professionals and lawmakers.

Founded in 1992 on the initiative of the European Parliament, ERA is a public foundation whose members include the majority of EU member states. It is based in Trier, Germany and supported by the European Union. The Academy of European Law began work in Trier in March 1992.

Its genesis was associated with the rapid pace of European integration during the late 1980s and 1990s. With the Single European Act in 1986 and the Maastricht Treaty in 1992, the scope of European legislation became wider than ever before. It was clear that lawyers, judges and other legal practitioners at all levels and in almost all fields of law would need regular training and a forum for debate in order to keep up-to-date with the latest developments.

In 1990 the European Parliament recommended that the Commission invest in a centre for the continuing education of lawyers in order to improve the application of European law. Meanwhile, Peter Caesar, the Minister of Justice of the German Land of Rhineland-Palatinate, together with Horst Langes and Willi Rothley, Members of the European Parliament from the same region, were drawing up proposals for an Academy of European Law to be established in Trier. In 1991, the European Parliament endorsed these proposals in a report drafted by the Dutch MEP James Janssen van Raay.

An Association for the Promotion of the Academy of European Law was established to turn the idea into reality. The association continues to support the Academy's work and is known as the "Friends of ERA". The Luxembourg Government, led by Prime Minister Jacques Santer and Justice Minister Marc Fischbach, also lent its support, and the European Commission agreed to the Parliament's decision to provide the Academy with regular funding. Trier was chosen as the location of the Academy because of its proximity to the judicial capital of the European Union in Luxembourg.

So it was that on 8-9 November 1991 - one week before the European Court of Justice delivered its "Francovich" decision establishing the liability of member states to implement Community Law and one month before the Treaty on European Union was agreed in Maastricht - the project of an Academy of European Law was formally launched at a ceremony in Trier. The founding patrons were the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, the Land of Rhineland-Palatinate and the City of Trier. In the intervening years, the majority of EU Member States has joined the foundation. Many other leading figures in the field of European law actively supported the launch of the Academy. Notable among these was Ole Due, then President of the European Court of Justice, who together with many of his fellow judges began a tradition of close co-operation between the Court in Luxembourg and the Academy.

The Academy took possession of its purpose-built premises, provided by the Land of Rhineland-Palatinate, in the summer of 1998. The complex was opened by Jacques Santer, José María Gil-Robles Gil-Delgado and Gil Carlos Rodríguez Iglesias, then Presidents of the European Commission, European Parliament and Court of Justice respectively.

The Academy has built up a specialised library that includes publications on all areas of Community law from both the European and national perspectives. Since 1999 it has served as a European Documentation Centre with an up-to-date archive of all official EU publications in English, French and German.

**More information:** <http://www.era.int/web/en/html/index.htm>