

## Meeting of the European Organizing Committee

Palermo, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013

### MINUTES

**Charlie Karlsson** opens the meeting and welcomes all the participants to the meeting.

**Item 1. Approval of the meeting agenda and appointment of an EOC member responsible for verification of meeting minutes**

The agenda (attached to the minutes in appendix 1) has been approved. Andre Torre has been chosen as the EOC member responsible for verifying the minutes.

**Item 2a. Long range discussions. Report from the Executive Director (Congress and other events)**

**Richard Kelly** thanks Fabio Mazzola and his team for the work on preparing the Congress. He reports that there are over 850 delegates attending, and even more papers. The attendees are a diverse group, with over 50 participants from Russia, also from Brazil and the Mediterranean countries.

**Fabio Mazzola** assures that preparations are on-time with major problems well controlled. In terms of numbers of participants, there were quite a few rejections which limited the number of papers and participants somewhat.

**Richard Kelly** concludes that a more detailed report on the Palermo Congress will be given in February 2014 in St. Petersburg.

He further reports that this year's Summer School has been a success and thanks Martin Andersson for the work done in preparing this event.

He adds that a visit was organised together with Maciej Turala to St. Petersburg, following the EOC meeting in February 2013 and that there is another meeting scheduled to ensure that the 2014 Congress will be a success.

He thanks Andree Torre for having organised the first ERSA workshop in France.

**Item 2b. Long range discussions. Report from the Executive Director (day-to-day business)**

**Richard Kelly** reports on various issues concerning the day-to-day business:

- further work has been done with Gunther Maier regarding the development of the REGION journal and the project is ready to move forward;
- final issues concerning the Barcelona Congress were settled;
- in terms of increasing ERSA visibility, significant efforts were made – directors of every department in the European Commission have been approached with information on ERSA;
- the by-laws update has been finalised with the lawyers (minor corrections were involved);
- the membership survey had a great response and it is expected that an analysis of results may be available by the time of the next EOC meeting in February 2014;

other day-to-day business activities included meetings, finalising the by-laws, implementing software improvements, visiting conferences across Europe (i.e. AESOP conference in Dublin), working with ESPON for the mini-conference in September.

**Richard Kelly** concludes that obtaining sponsorship for activities remains a major issue, also experienced by LOCs for Congresses and Summer Schools.

**Charlie Karlsson** thanks for the report.

The report is approved.

**Item 2c. Long range discussions. Development of existing and creation of new sections (Nordic Section)**

**Maciej Turala** reports that the President of the Nordic Section, Lars Westin, has informed ERSA that the section has undergone some reorganisation, has a new board and a new set of by-laws. The section looks to develop strongly.

**Item 2d. Long range discussions. Development of existing and creation of new sections (Polish Section)**

**Katarzyna Kopczewska** reports that the court registration of the new association which is to serve as the Polish Section of ERSA was finally concluded in July 2013. An agreement on the handover of both rights and duties of a section has been reached with the Committee for Spatial economy and Regional Planning at the Polish Academy of Sciences (attached to the minutes in appendix 2).

The current plans are to organise the first official meeting of the reformed section in the fall of 2013. There are further plans to organise workshops for students from Poland and Ukraine in between January and March 2014.

**Charlie Karlsson** comments that ERSA is happy to hear the news of these developments.

**Item 2e. Long range discussions. Development of existing and creation of new sections (Russian Section)**

**Richard Kelly** reports that during registration for the congress it appeared that new people cannot join the Russian Section and asks if there are possibilities of changing this situation.

**Alexander Pelyasov** explains that the Russian Academy of Regional Development represents formally the Russian Section while other institutions are involved in activities under the umbrella of the Academy.

**Gunther Maier** comments that whenever a section becomes too closely related to one institution it will find itself in problems. He advises that the Russian section has its own life, independent of one specific institution. Otherwise, the section will face problems.

**Charlie Karlsson** thanks for the report as well as for the comments.

**Item 2f. Long range discussions. Development of existing and creation of new sections (Turkish Section)**

**Maciej Turala** reports that Tuzin Baycan has informed ERSA that a new board was elected in the Turkish Section. He adds that a meeting is planned between the representatives of the Turkish Section and ERSA Executive Director and ERSA Secretary during the Palermo Congress.

**Item 2g. Long range discussions. Development of existing and creation of new sections (Baltic Section)**

**Diana Cibulskiene** reports that the developments aiming at setting up a Lithuanian section of ERSA led to some considerations and a decision to set up a Baltic Section with representatives from Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia instead.

The Baltic Section is already planning some activities for the future, including a workshop in November 2013.

**Maciej Turala** suggests that the EOC should reach a recommendation for the ERSAC with regards to recognising the Baltic Section as a new section of ERSA.

**Gunther Maier** supports this notion and encourages the Baltic Section to work closely with ERSA and other sections.

**Charlie Karlsson** asks if the EOC agrees to recommend the ERSAC to recognise the Baltic Section.

The motion is approved unanimously.

**Item 2h. Long range discussions. Development of existing and creation of new sections (North African associations)**

**Richard Kelly** reports that an issue was raised this year by the French-speaking Section concerning setting up associations in North Africa by representatives of the RSAI.

**Andre Torre** reports that academics from Morocco, Tunisia and Algeria have been members of the French-speaking Section up to now. The section has been surprised by not being involved in the discussions between the RSAI and the Moroccan academics concerning the set-up of a new association there. He concludes that it would be most fair to create a Moroccan section of ERSA in cooperation with the French-speaking Section and ERSA.

**Charlie Karlsson** suggests that Richard Kelly and Andre Torre follow these discussions and ensures that all appropriate sections of ERSA are involved in them.

The proposal is approved by the EOC.

**Item 2i. Long range discussions. Agreement for cooperation between ERSA and its sections**

**Maciej Turala** reports that following the EOC decision made in Palermo in February 2013 the section representatives were approached with a request to sign appropriate agreements on cooperation with

The report is approved.

### **Item 3. ERSA President Search Committee report**

**Gunther Maier** reports that there have been no changes in the Search Committee's recommendation since February 2013. Jouke van Dijk remains a candidate for President and that Andre Torre a candidate for vice-President. Following the report given in February 2013, all the sections have been informed about the status quo and invited to submit alternatives by the end of July. No such alternatives were given.

The motion from the Search Committee is to support the double candidature of Jouke van Dijk and Andre Torre.

**Andres Rodriguez-Pose** supports this proposal. He congratulates and thanks Charlie Karlsson for his work as ERSA President and wishes his successors the best of luck in performing their duties.

**Charlie Karlsson** thanks the Search Committee for the job well done.

The recommendation for ERSAC to elect Jouke van Dijk and Andre Torre is approved unanimously.

### **Item 4. REGION – report on the FWF funding application**

**Gunther Maier** reports that a proposal was submitted to the EOC to start an ERSA journal (REGION) in February 2013. Following the EOC's decision an opportunity came to submit a project for financing a journal. The initial proposal was submitted and accepted. Afterwards a full proposal (application) was submitted in mid-June 2013. The final decision should be made in December 2013.

The application was for funding in the amount of 50,000 EUR for three years. A strong team of editors has been put together. The proposal also includes notions of using the electronic media to the benefit of the journal. Given the international strength of the proposal and the position of ERSA the funding should be awarded. The only thing to be aware of is that funding is only available for new journals – activities can commence but no formal registration should happen prior to the decision.

**Charlie Karlsson** thanks for and asks for comments.

**Alexander Pelyasov** comments that there already exists a journal called REGION in Russia. He suggests that the journals may consider cooperation.

The report is approved.

### **Item 5a. Finances (2012 absolution)**

The report from the Treasurer is attached to the minutes in appendix 3.

**Laura Resmini** reports that concerning the closing of the budget for 2012, it has been already approved in February. There are only two late invoices that followed. After including them in the closing, the surplus remained at the level of 25,000 EUR with reserves of about 110,000 EUR which will cover ERSA running cost for one year.

The report is approved.

#### **Item 5b. Finances (2013 budget update)**

**Laura Resmini** reports that she expects to have a surplus of some 20,000 EUR for 2013.

The report is approved.

#### **Item 5c. Finances (Provisional budget for 2014)**

**Laura Resmini** reports that there will be a new expenses category as of next year. The expenses expected for REGION will be about 5,000 EUR per year for the first three years and about 8,000 EUR per year for further years. This means that ERSA will be able to cover these expenses using its annual surpluses, although some caution is advised.

**Vicente Royuela** asks if precise financial figures will be distributed during the ERSA Council meeting.

**Maciej Turala** confirms that financial figures will be distributed during the ERSAC meeting.

The report is approved.

#### **Item 6a. Congresses. 2014 Congress in St. Petersburg – progress report**

**Alexander Pelyasov** starts the progress report with the scientific programme issues. So far five keynote speakers have been contacted and approved and cooperation with an Arctic Association has been initiated. The LOC also has an idea to organise a round-table of editors of flagship journals in regional science.

He concludes his report by stating that the LOC meets every month to discuss the issues related to congress organisation.

**Asya Gilmanova** (Project Manager, Monomax) reports on the logistics issues of the congress preparations (a detailed presentation is attached to the minutes in appendix 4):

- the main congress venue will be the Smolny Convent – rooms of two faculties (International Relations and Political Science) are going to be used – there are 68 rooms to choose from with a capacity of up to 100 participants and a hall with up to 500 seats; some rooms are now being renovated for the congress;
- the Opening Ceremony and registration will be held in the Tauride Palace, located a 10-minute walk from the main venue;
- the Closing Ceremony will be held in the Smolny Cathedral;
- the Gala Dinner will be held in Manage (a 20-minute drive from the venue);

- the Informal Dinner is to be held in the Tauride Garden;

As far as visa support arrangements are concerned she reports that Monomax has 20 year experience in supporting visa applications. A procedure has been approved and it has been decided that it will be best if delegates apply for a tourist visa supported by documents issued by Monomax.

In terms of sponsorship – St. Petersburg government has already agreed to support the Congress. Commercial companies have also been contacted with answers expected by the end of year.

Accommodation for delegates is to be provided in 19 hotels which have been booked around the venue (nearly 500 rooms). The prices are expected to be set in January 2014.

An official agreement with two tourist agencies from St. Petersburg has been reached regarding technical tours. What is more, Monomax has experience of organising tours and social programme for international visitors.

**Charlie Karlsson** thanks for the reports and asks for questions.

**Richard Kelly** informs the EOC that a meeting with the St. Petersburg LOC has been arranged for August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2013 to discuss issues with organisation of the Congress. He reports that preparatory work is going ahead and promises that a monthly information will be provided to the EOC on the progress. He thanks Alexander Pelyasov for encouraging large Russian participation this year and efficient presentation.

**Nikolay Kaledin** (representative of the St. Petersburg State University) invites the EOC members and all ERSA members to participate in the 2014 ERSA Congress in St. Petersburg.

**Andreyi Zinovyev** reports that the LOC is already working close between the University, Monomax and the Russian Section of ERSA.

**Hans Westlund** comments that the visa application procedure needs to work well to ensure large participation.

**Andre Torre** comments on the round-table of the journal editors – this could be an opportunity to raise awareness of the REGION journal.

**Fabio Mazzola** informs the EOC that the Russian consul in Palermo has been invited to the closing session.

The reports from the LOC members are approved.

#### **Item 6b. Congresses. 2015 Congress in Lisbon, Portugal – progress report**

**Francisco Carballo Cruz** reports that in the last several months it has been decided that the venue will be the centre of Lisbon – the School of Economics and Management (Istituto Superior de Economia e Gestao). Several logistics issues remain to be resolved, yet the Institute has sufficient capacity to hold the Congress.

The LOC is open for suggestions concerning the keynote speakers.

Several firms have been approached for sponsorship and it proved critical to find support for the Congress.

It is planned that on September 16th, 2013 Charlie Karlsson and Richard Kelly will visit Lisbon to discuss fine details of the Congress. Further, Tomaz Dentinho will meet with Richard Kelly and Maciej Turala on August 30th, 2013 to discuss the details of the congress convention.

The report is approved.

**Charlie Karlsson** asks about candidates for organising the congress in 2016.

**Richard Kelly** explains that sections were contacted but no one came back with proposals. For the moment there are no firm candidates and so the sections should be approached regarding possibilities of organising this event.

**Charlie Karlsson** suggests that a small group is formed with the task of finding a location for 2016. He proposes that the team should be composed of Jouke van Dijk, Andre Torre and Richard Kelly.

The proposal is approved unanimously.

#### **Item 7a. Summer schools. Summer School in 2013 in Lund, Sweden – summary report**

**Martin Andersson** reports that the summer school has been successful: there were 30 participants and 7 lecturers. The mornings were devoted to lectures, while the afternoons held student presentations. The lectures were more theoretical, with some focusing on methodology. A prize was arranged for the best paper presented which was a novelty.

An issue to highlight is that there was a very big discrepancy in the quality of the papers and presentations.

**Vicente Royuela** asks about the diversity of participants – should there be a filter to select participants regarding the academic quality?

**Martin Andersson** explains that diversity is actually required by ERSA regulations and that this is not a great problem.

**Gunther Maier** asks about selection process and number of candidates.

**Richard Kelly** explains that around 60 candidates were registered in the system.

**Gunther Maier** emphasises that diversity is fine. He continues that as long as the students themselves are commenting on the other participants' papers it is fine.

**Andres Rodriguez-Pose** comments that irrespective of diversity the students were keen and enthusiastic. The major problems with presentations occurred at the beginning, after that students learnt and the quality of presentations improved.

**Martin Andersson** comments that simple guidelines for presentations could have helped to avoid these problems.

#### **Item 7b. Summer schools. Summer School in 2014 in Poznan, Poland – progress report**

**Tomasz Kossowski** reports that the preparations have faced grave problems. The initial promises of funding from the Ministry of Regional Development and local authorities were cancelled. What is more, the university's funding was cut to just 30% of that of the previous year's.

He concludes that the current conditions do not allow for continuing work on preparing the event.

**Charlie Karlsson** opens the floor for discussion.

**Martin Andersson** asks about the EIB support.

**Richard Kelly** explains that a meeting with the EIB took place over a year ago. The EIB has changed its strategy regarding the sponsorship – the summer school funding was withdrawn whilst the EIB-ERSA prize was increased.

**Gunther Maier** asks whether the withdrawal from organizing the Summer School results just from the financial issues or rather other, organizational issues.

**Tomasz Kossowski** explains that this is a purely financial issue.

**Gunther Maier** explains that the ERES (European Real Estate Society) are particularly interested in working with ERSA and suggests that they could be approached with a proposal to support the organisation of this Summer School.

**Richard Kelly** asks if the Poznan University is willing to organise the event, provided they get funding and, perhaps, organizational support from the ERES or another section of ERSA.

**Tomasz Kossowski** confirms that the university is capable of organizing the event, although the financial situation is indeed difficult. He adds that having ERES or another section involved in the organization would be a welcome development.

**Andre Torre** asks whether this would require a change of the topic.

**Richard Kelly** states that such a change may be required and emphasizes that the financial situation requires that we research our options to cooperate with other associations. A proposal of a solution should be formulated by the time of the ERSAC meeting on August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

**Charlie Karlsson** observes that three out of the last four summer schools have been in Sweden which cannot continue. It may be possible to join the ERSA summer school to section summer schools (like the German sections). He proposes that the committee consisting of Jouke van Dijk, Andre Torre and Richard Kelly starts to work on developing a strategy for dealing with summer schools.

#### **Item 7c. Summer schools. Possibilities of financing future summer schools**

No report is given – it is expected for the ERSAC meeting.

**Item 8a. Other ordinary business. EIB-ERSA Prize, EPAINOS Prize, ERSA Section Fellow Prize**

**Richard Kelly** reports that the EIB prize will be given at the gala dinner. As for the EPAINOS session and prize – it has been ensured that the young scientists have a special place in the congress. As for the ERSA Section Fellow prize: the Italian Section has not put forward any candidates. The future organisers are requested to consider recognising outstanding academics.

**Vicente Royuela** comments that measures need to be taken to make sure that the EPAINOS winners are present when the prizes are given / announced.

**Andre Torre** suggests to link the prize with the REGION journal – to encourage or even force the winners to publish their articles in the REGION journal.

**Richard Kelly** agrees this is a good idea. The same should apply to the winners of the best paper prize for summer school.

**Gunther Maier** states that the journal is not there yet. He also emphasises that there is an editorial team who should decide on papers to be published. The example of PiRS shows that a breakthrough came with a set-up of a peer review process and a break away from publishing the congress papers. The REGION should use the same approach as it is meant to be a journal rather than a newsletter.

**Andre Torre** suggests that the winning papers should be considered for publication.

**Martin Andersson** comments that authors of really outstanding papers will not have sufficient incentives to publish outside the officially listed papers so forcing them is not a proper solution.

**Item 8b. Other ordinary business. Election of an ERSA Representative in the RSAI Council**

**Maciej Turala** reports that the Executive Director of the RSAI (Tomaz Dentinho) has requested that ERSA elects a new representative on the RSAI council as Gunther Maier's second term as councillor is coming to an end in December 2013.

**Andres Rodriguez-Pose** suggests that the incoming vice-President of ERSA should be proposed and nominates Andre Torre.

The motion is approved unanimously.

**Item 8c. Other ordinary business. Cooperation with ESPON**

**Richard Kelly** reports that ESPON is organising a short conference in November 2013. ESPON is trying to move forward with their projects which creates opportunities for ERSA to work with them and to become involved in their events.

Representatives from ERSA are to attend the ESPON conference.

**Item 8d. Other ordinary business. in Regional Science – report**

No report is given – it is expected for the ERSAC meeting.

**Item 9. Venue and provisional date for EOC-meeting in St. Petersburg in February 2014**

**Maciej Turala** suggests that the meeting should take place on February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The venue will be at the St. Petersburg State University.

The proposal is approved.

**Charlie Karlsson** thanks all EOC embers for the last five years for very good and fruitful cooperation.

**Andre Torre** thanks Charlie Karlsson on behalf of the EOC for his hard work and commitment.

The meeting is closed.

# Meeting of the European Organizing Committee

Palermo, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013

## APPENDIX 1 – MEETING AGENDA

### Words of Welcome by the President

1. **Approval of the meeting agenda and appointment of an EOC member responsible for verification of meeting minutes**
2. **Long range discussions**
  - **Report from the Executive Director (Richard Kelly)**
    - i. **2013 Congress update**
    - ii. **Update of the by-laws**
    - iii. **Sponsorship, networking etc.**
    - iv. **Membership survey**
    - v. **Workshops in Spain and France**
  - **Development of existing and creation of new sections (Richard Kelly, Maciej Turala)**
    - i. **Nordic Section**
    - ii. **Polish Section**
    - iii. **Russian Section**
    - iv. **Turkish section**
    - v. **Baltic Section – newly formed**
    - vi. **North African associations**
  - **Agreement for cooperation between ERSA and its sections (Maciej Turala)**
3. **ERSA President Search Committee report (Gunther Maier)  
(discussion and recommendation to ERSAC)**
4. **REGION – report on the FWF funding application (Gunther Maier)**
5. **Finances**
  - **2012 absolution**
  - **2013 budget update (Laura Resmini)**
  - **Provisional budget for 2014 (Laura Resmini, Richard Kelly)**
6. **Congresses**
  - **2014 Congress in St. Petersburg – progress report (Aleksandr Pelyasov)**
  - **2015 Congress in Lisbon, Portugal – progress report (Francisco Carballo Cruz)**
7. **Summer schools**
  - **Summer School in 2013 in Lund, Sweden – summary report (Martin Andersson)**
  - **Summer School in 2014 in Poznan, Poland – progress report (Tomasz Kossowski)**
  - **Possibilities of financing future summer schools (Yannis Psycharis)**
8. **Other ordinary business**
  - **EIB-ERSA Prize, EPAINOS Prize, ERSA Section Fellow Prize**
  - **Election of an ERSA Representative in the RSAI Council  
(discussion and recommendation to ERSAC)**
  - **Cooperation with ESPON (Richard Kelly)**
  - **Papers in Regional Science – report (Roberta Capello)**
9. **Venue and provisional date for EOC-meeting in St. Petersburg in February 2014**

# Meeting of the European Organizing Committee

Palermo, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013

## APPENDIX 2 – STATEMENT FROM THE POLISH SECTION

### STATEMENT

signed in Lodz on August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013 by:

the Committee for Spatial Economy and Regional Planning, Polish Academy of Sciences; address: Palace of Culture and Science, Parade Square 1, room 2308, 00-901 Warsaw, mail box 24, hereinafter referred to as "the Committee", represented by prof. Tadeusz Markowski, President of the Committee

and

the European Regional Science Association - Polish Section; address: Długa Street 44/50, 00-241 Warsaw, entered into the National Court Register under number 0000466948, Tax Identification Number: 5252557874, hereinafter referred to as "the Association", represented by dr. Katarzyna Kopczewska, President of the Association and dr. Mariusz Sokołowicz, Board Member.

The above mentioned parties hereby state that:

#### § 1

1. The Committee, acting as the current Polish Section of the international association European Regional Science Association (ERSA), hereby transfers all its rights and responsibilities related to this function to the Association.
2. The Association accepts all of the above rights and responsibilities related to the function of the Polish Section of international association ERSA.

#### § 2

The Association will immediately clarify the status of the Polish section in concurrence with the authorities of the international association ERSA.

#### § 3

1. The Committee states that all membership fees to the international association ERSA for 2012 and earlier years have been paid, and that there remain no outstanding obligations to the international association ERSA or other entities.
2. The membership fees to the international association ERSA for 2013 will be paid by the Association.

Committee for Spatial  
Economy and Regional  
Planning,  
Polish Academy of Sciences



Prof. Tadeusz Markowski

European Regional Science Association - Polish Section



Dr. Katarzyna Kopczewska



Dr. Mariusz Sokołowicz

## Meeting of the European Organizing Committee Palermo, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013

### APPENDIX 3 – REPORT FROM THE TREASURER OF ERSa

## ERSA FINANCIAL STATUS AND PERSPECTIVES 2012 balance sheet and provisional budgets 2013 and 2014

Laura Resmini  
*ERSA Treasurer*

### 1. 2012 Balance Sheet (final closing)

The 2012 financial year closed with a surplus of about €24,000 net of taxes and other financial expenses, and depreciations (€1,551). Both income and expenses have consistently dropped with respect to previous year, but the relative size of the two categories has remained more or less unchanged and in favour of income.

As expected, 2012 Conference has been smaller than the previous ones, with 655 attendees. This has generated an income flow of about €246,827 (including sponsorship), 30% less than that obtained in 2011. Other income came from Membership services (€11,560), which include Section fees and Summer school fees.

Expenses also fell down by about 41%. Of course, congress organization expenditures depend on the congress size, sponsorships and the cost of living of the host country. As for the other expenses, consistent savings have been realized in many categories. Main changes with respect to previous are as follows:

- Summer school has been totally financed by sponsorship;
- Travel and meeting expenses reduced by about 30% with respect to previous year;
- ERSAC/EOC expenses halved;
- Personnel costs decreased by about 7%;
- Day to day office expenses show a consistent increase due to the inclusion in the IT expenses of some expenditure previously recorded as fees, such as web site hosting and management, purchase and/or updating of software, etc..
- Bank expenses decreased of about 38%, given the increase in the payment of congress fees by credit card.

In 2012 the annual congress generated more than 94% of ERSa revenues and represented 57% of total ERSa expenses. Apart from personnel costs (26% of total expenses) the other main category of expenditure concerned day to day office (8% of total expenses). No other category of expenses exceeded 4% of total expenses. Not considering the annual congress, ERSa expenditures amounted to about €100,000 (same amount as in 2011).

At the beginning of August 2013 (02/08/2013) bank deposits amounted at €220,438. The Italian account has been closed at the end of 2012 since Italian regulations have recently increased

obligations for foreign account holders and it was difficult to negotiate better conditions. A saving account has been opened in Brussels.

Present ERSA reserves amounts to about €100,000; therefore they allow covering one year of activity, not considering the annual conference.

See the Appendix for further details.

In conclusion, the fiscal year 2012 ends up with ERSA in good financial conditions, having weathered the turbulence created by the professionalization of the Association. The conservative management strategy allowed ERSA to get a surplus for the third consecutive year and, consequently, to accumulate some of the financial resources needed to weaken ERSA dependence on the organization of a big annual congress to get income.

## **2. Provisional Balance Sheets (2013 and 2014)**

As for the 2013 fiscal year, the situation does not seem particularly critical. The conference has been a success with about 800 delegates. It has already generated revenues for about €300,000. Therefore, it is likely that this financial year should close with a surplus, too.

2014 fiscal year rises some concerns. The potential number of attendees of the Annual Congress remains uncertain. The difficulties of getting a visa may discourage ERSA members to participate while the expected increase in participation from local scholars and practitioners and from people coming from neighboring countries (low income countries) may not suffice to generate revenues similar to those obtained this year.

Additional expenses are expected in 2014. First of all, in order to ensure a smooth running of the summer school (Poznan), ERSA is prepared to support financially (about €15,000) the Local Organizers, who has had difficulties in finding the necessary funds. Secondly, the new open source journal (REGION) is expected to generate extra costs of about €5,000 per year, for the first three-year period, and about €8,000 for the following years. These additional expenses will hopefully be financed with the 2013 surplus and/or with savings in ERSA running expenditures.

This implies that in 2013 ERSA may not be able to further consolidate its financial situation and the 2014 might not generate any surplus.

As for the future, if ERSA wants to develop new initiative and support the creation of new sections through the organization of specific events, such as summer schools or workshops, it becomes more urgent to develop and implement an effective strategy to find alternative sources of revenues and sponsorships.

## Balance sheets per fiscal year.

|                          | 2011              | 2012              | 2013 <sup>(*)</sup> | 2014 <sup>(*)</sup> |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Income</b>            | <b>444.346,33</b> | <b>262.076,06</b> | <b>301.259,30</b>   | <b>288.774,00</b>   |
| Congress                 | 352.719,47        | 246.827,00        | 288.590,00          | 276.774,00          |
| registration fee         | 361.743,00        | 241.077,00        | 282.690,00          | 270.774,00          |
| sponsor                  | 6.163,32          | 6.250,00          | 5.900,00            | 6.000,00            |
| Past Conferences         | -15.186,85        | -500,00           |                     |                     |
| ERSA membership          | 5.190,00          | 6.560,00          | 6.013,00            | 6.000,00            |
| Summer school            | 20.100,00         | 5.000,00          | 6.000,00            | 6.000,00            |
| registration fee         | 5.100,00          |                   |                     |                     |
| sponsor                  | 15.000,00         |                   |                     |                     |
| Other income             | 66.336,86         | 3.689,06          | 656,30              | -                   |
| <b>Expenses</b>          | <b>384.843,99</b> | <b>232.873,58</b> | <b>287.500,00</b>   | <b>285.295,36</b>   |
| Congress                 | 270.419,84        | 129.738,33        | 190.000,00          | 173.295,36          |
| Summer school            | 3.500,00          |                   |                     | 15000               |
| Day by day office        | 7.092,74          | 19.031,87         | 15.000,00           | 10000               |
| IT expenditures          | 1.981,81          | 8.948,38          |                     |                     |
| furniture & equipment    | 156,66            | 6.019,95          |                     |                     |
| Gift members             | 366,90            | 373,25            |                     |                     |
| publication              | 1.307,11          | 2.815,67          |                     |                     |
| office materials         | 512,97            | 326,96            |                     |                     |
| others                   | 2.767,29          | 547,66            |                     |                     |
| Employees                | 64.075,52         | 59.454,80         | 60.000,00           | 60000               |
| Fees                     | 16.298,06         | 9.244,14          | 8.000,00            | 8000                |
| Accounting fee           | 4.749,26          | 3.114,90          |                     |                     |
| other fees               | 11.548,80         | 6.129,24          |                     |                     |
| travel & meeting         | 15.195,37         | 8.722,54          | 8.000,00            | 8.000,00            |
| staff                    | 9.396,07          | 6.576,51          |                     |                     |
| EOC/ERSAC                | 5.799,30          | 2.146,03          |                     |                     |
| Insurance and premises   | 8.044,84          | 6.365,23          | 6.000,00            | 6000                |
| rent office              | 2.500,00          | 2.500,00          |                     |                     |
| Ogone royalties          | 1.379,85          | 1.124,33          |                     |                     |
| civil liability          | 287,77            | 254,14            |                     |                     |
| fire insurance           | 36,76             | 96,04             |                     |                     |
| securex fees             | 1.970,13          | 1.904,89          |                     |                     |
| work accident            | 366,90            | 485,83            |                     |                     |
| Other expenses           | 217,62            | 316,67            | 500,00              | 5.000,00            |
| <b>Result</b>            | <b>59.502,34</b>  | <b>29.202,48</b>  | <b>13.759,30</b>    | <b>3.478,64</b>     |
| depreciation             | 6.168,32          | 1.550,77          |                     |                     |
| financial income         | 436,19            | 290,09            |                     |                     |
| financial expenses       | 6.192,52          | 3.907,09          | 4.322,97            |                     |
| <b>Result before tax</b> | <b>47.577,69</b>  | <b>24.034,71</b>  | <b>9.436,33</b>     |                     |
| tax                      | 42,33             | 42,76             |                     |                     |
| <b>Result after tax</b>  | <b>47.535,36</b>  | <b>23.991,95</b>  | <b>9.436,33</b>     |                     |

(\*) Estimates

## Financial situation

|  | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 <sup>(*)</sup> |
|--|------|------|---------------------|
|--|------|------|---------------------|

|                      |                   |                   |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Bank accounts</b> | <b>184.146,66</b> | <b>220.437,63</b> | <b>372.457,02</b> |
| Italian account      | 50.241,00         | -                 | -                 |
| Fortis-74            | -                 | 105,96            | 210.342,32        |
| Fortis-82            | 133.762,45        | 220.315,62        | 62.031,56         |
| Saving account       |                   |                   | 100.083,14        |
| Petty cash           | 143,21            | 16,05             | -                 |

(\*) at August, 2<sup>nd</sup> 2013

# Meeting of the European Organizing Committee

Palermo, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013

## APPENDIX 4 – REPORT FROM LOC OF THE 2014 CONGRESS IN ST. PEERSBURG



### Congress sessions: Smolny convent

The Congress sessions will be held in the historical premises of Smolny convent in the rooms of the Faculty of International Relations and Faculty of Political Science.

- 3 floors
- Total capacity of rooms: up to 1350 pers + Assembly hall (up to 300 pers)
- Total number of rooms: 68 rooms
- Number of rooms with capacity up to 40 pers: 59
- Number of rooms with capacity from 40 to 100 pers: 5
- Number of rooms with capacity 400 pers: 1



### Opening ceremony: Tauride Palace

The opening ceremony will be carried out in the Tauride (Tauricheskaya) Palace which is one of the biggest and well-known palaces in St. Petersburg.

Since the 1990s Tauride Palace was the location of inter-parliamentary assembly of Member countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and also serves as one of the main meeting places for the congresses in the city.

- Assembly hall capacity of 1300 pers.
- All modern equipment: screen, TV, projector, sound system
- WiFi



### Registration: Beige hall of the Tauride palace

Up to 10 registration places, WiFi



### Closing ceremony: Smolny cathedral

The magnificent Smolny Cathedral will host the Congress' closing ceremony.

The stunning blue-and-white cathedral of the Resurrection is the heart of the Smolny complex.

Smolny Cathedral was never used for church services. Now it is used primarily as a concert hall.

- Space: 2000 sq.m.
- Capacity: up to 1300 persons



### Gala-dinner: Manege



Situated in the historical part of the city, on the street Nevsky embankment, it's a building of XVIII cent., but newly renovated.



All modern equipment  
Spices total 900 sq.m., main hall 730 sq.m.  
Ceiling height: 7,5 m  
Capacity: up to 1200 persons  
Separate welcome area, kitchen  
Any decoration and seating is possible

### Informal dinner

Confirmed sponsor of the Informal dinner — **Belkha Breweries**, the leader on the Russian beer market, which factory is situated in Tsarskoye Selo, one of the three most valuable brands in Russia and it is the 361 beer in Europe in terms of sales.



Most probably the Informal dinner will take place open air, in the Tsarskoye Garden that is situated behind the Tsarskoye Palace (Opening ceremony Venue), only 10 min walking from the Congress Venue The Tsarskoye Garden is famous for its landscapes. We're going to see wall texts also.

### Visa support

All foreign participants of the Congress should check whether they need visa to enter Russia.



### Sponsorship: Day-to-Day Work

While seeking for potential partners we took into account all ERSA Congress 2014 sites: Garage of Commercial, Media and State partners have been sorted out and all necessary materials have been made.

While working we have submitted the following results:

- 1) Official agreement to support ERSA Congress 2014 from the State and St. Petersburg's government: Ministry of the Economic Development of the Russian Federation, Ministry of the Regional Development of the Russian Federation, Science and High School Committee of St. Petersburg, Investment Committee of St. Petersburg, External Affairs Committee of St. Petersburg.
  - 2) Official Agreement to support ERSA Congress 2014 in an informative way from 3 public organizations: Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Russian Federation, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Moscow, Russian Civil Union. We have general informal support from the Russian Geographic Society.
  - 3) Official Agreement on carrying out technical works from Valdeoklad of St. Petersburg state military enterprise and laboratory public company. We have also reached informal agreement with Administratsiya VnS (Shipbuilding) public company.
- ©) 19 commercial companies have taken our proposal into consideration. We should receive their answers till October/December 2013 - this is exactly the time of writing the budget for the next year.

### Hotel accommodation for participants (486 rooms booked, 19 hotels)

| Name of the hotel                               | Distance from the Venue | Single standard, price per night, EUR | Double standard, price per night, EUR |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Emerald SP, 23 rooms booked                     | 25 min walking          | 211                                   | 282                                   |
| Evolutionary, Markovskiy 4*, 67 rooms booked    | 4 min walking           | 100                                   | 110                                   |
| Eurolines Europa 3*, 30 rooms booked            | 35 min walking          | 181                                   | 201                                   |
| Intonero 3*, 40 rooms booked                    | 35 min walking          | 98                                    | 112                                   |
| Orlandoyskiy 3*, 20 rooms booked                | 35 min walking          | 71                                    | 100                                   |
| Perkinskiy 3*, 10 rooms booked                  | 8-7 min walking         | 89                                    | 132                                   |
| Spetsial, Gruzynskiy dvorik 3*, 10 rooms booked | 20-30 min walking       | 90                                    | 97                                    |
| Orlandoyskiy 3*, 10 rooms booked                | 30 min walking          | 89                                    | 78                                    |
| Ves 3*, 30 rooms booked                         | 25 min walking          | 119                                   | 139                                   |



### Smolninskaya hotel 4\*



The hotel is situated in the historical center of the city, in front of the great masterpiece *Smolny Cathedral*, so it's an ideal place for business and rest.

Smolninskaya hotel is a perfect mix of modern European style and Russian traditions.

In order to reach the Congress venue you will need only 2 minutes!



### Hotel Radisson Sonya 4\*



Radisson Sonya Hotel offers ideal city centre location.

This four star St. Petersburg hotel, ideally located in the heart of the city on the Liberty *Praspny* and close to *Hermitage Museum*, boasts 332 rooms and suites, an on-site restaurant and bar and a wellness centre.

The hotel is located in a beautiful building of historical value.

It takes 30 minutes to reach the Congress venue both on foot and by bus.

### Hotel Oktiabrskaya 4\*

This hotel has a long history which goes from the tsar's times.

The building itself is of historical value and visitors will be pleasantly surprised of a large area, high ceilings and large windows with a perfect view at the heart of the city, city attractions and *Nevsky Praspny* with its numerous nice cafes, restaurants and shops.

The hotel is located very closely to the underground - you will need only 2 minutes to get to the station.

In order to get to the Congress venue on foot you should take 30 minutes. In order to get there by bus you need 20 minutes.



### Hotel Moscow 4\*

Moscow Hotel is located in the historical center of St. Petersburg near *Nevsky Praspny* on the *Three embankment*. *Alexander Nevsky's square* metro station is located just inside the hotel building.

Most of the rooms look out on the *Three street* or *Alexander Nevsky Lane*.

It's possible to reach the Congress venue within 20 minutes by bus and within 30 minutes walking on foot.



### Tavrisheskaya hotel 3\*



The hotel is situated in the historical and business part of the city.

Next to it one can see the Smolny Convent, the Eliza Hall, the building of St. Petersburg's government, the Tavrishsky Palace and the Tavrishsky Garden.



In order to reach the Congress venue you will need only 5 minutes!

### Okhtinskaya hotel 3\*

"Okhtinskaya" is one of the largest 3\* hotels in St. Petersburg.

The hotel is located in the historical center of St. Petersburg on the Peter's embankment. There is a splendid panoramic view on the Neva river, the Smolny Convent and three apartment-houses from observing deck, room windows, hotel halls.

It is located in 10-15 minutes from the center of St. Petersburg, a located on the other side of the Neva river, so you will need 10 minutes to get there on foot and 17 minutes to get there by bus.



### Rinaldi mini-hotels 2\*

Rinaldi is a chain of mini-hotels situated in the historical part of St. Petersburg, in excellent apartment houses, within 25-30 min walking distance to the Congress Venue.



### Technical tours

Tour to the workshop of "Hochschool of St. Petersburg", the municipal water utility of St. Petersburg.



Tour to a state shipyard. As St. Petersburg was built as a seaport and entrance to the Baltic sea, several enterprises of shipbuilding have been working for 300 years.



Tour to the sites, stations and stations of the Saint Petersburg Metro, the underground railway system. Due to the city's unique geology, the Saint Petersburg Metro is one of the deepest metro systems in the world. Unique decorations and artwork make it one of the most attractive and elegant metro in the world.



### Social program: tours for accompanying persons, pre- and post- Congress tours



### Social program

| Tour  | Duration | Price |
|---|----------|-------|
| Pre-Congress bus city tour with the visit to the Peter and Paul Fortress and 3 main Temples | 1 hour   | €10   |
| Bus city tour with the visit to the Peter and Paul Fortress                                 | 1 hour   | €10   |
| Full day tour to Peterhof, Russian capital of Versailles                                    | 1 day    | €75   |
| Full day tour to Tartu via (Finnish Amber road)   | 1 day    | €10   |
| The Jewels of St. Petersburg (Most beautiful Palaces)                                       | 1 hour   | €15   |
| "History of the Hermitage" bus city around the Neva river and canal                         | 1 hour   | €10   |
| The State Hermitage   | 1 hour   | €10   |

### Pre-Congress bus city tour with the visit to the Peter and Paul Fortress and the Temples

**Date:** Monday, 25 August 2014  
**Time:** 10:00-18:30  
**Duration:** 8 hours  
**Preliminary price:** € 38  
**Price includes:** English-speaking guide, all admissions, transportation, lunch.

There is no other way to be impressed about St. Petersburg than to take a short ride by bus with an expert guide. The tour includes picturesque sights, that are most favored by the tourists from all over the world: the Peter and Paul Fortress, St. Isaac's Cathedral and the Church of Our Saviour on the Spilled Blood.



### Bus city tour with the visit to the Peter and Paul Fortress

**Date:** Tuesday, 26 August 2014  
**Time:** 09:00-14:00  
**Duration:** 5 hours  
**Preliminary price:** € 25  
**Price includes:** English-speaking guide, all admissions, transportation.



Founded on May 27, 1703 the Peter and Paul Fortress marked the beginning of the formation of Saint Petersburg, which was expressly built to serve as the capital of the Russian Empire. From that moment St. Petersburg has been the center of attention. It is often described as the most Western city of Russia, as well as its cultural capital.

### Full day tour to Peterhof, Russian capital of fountains

**Date:** Wednesday, 27 August 2014  
**Time:** 9:00-19:00  
**Duration:** 8 hours  
**Preliminary price:** € 72  
**Price includes:** English-speaking guide, all admissions, transportation, lunch.

Peterhof is a world famous summer residence of Russian tsars located on the shore of the Gulf of Finland. Created in the image of Versailles, it is a city of parks, palaces and fountains and an outstanding example of palace and park architecture.



### The Jewels of St. Petersburg (Palaces)

**Date:** Wednesday, 27 August 2014  
**Time:** 10:00-14:00  
**Duration:** 4 hours  
**Preliminary price:** € 31  
**Price includes:** English-speaking guide, all admissions, transportation.

The Shuvalov Palace, which was owned by one of the Russian's most famous families - the Shuvalovs, is one of the best examples of the Russian Baroque architecture.

The Yusupov Palace with its luxurious living apartments, the halls of art gallery and a private cinema was owned by 5 generations of a noble family of princes Yusupovs. The palace got into national history as a place where Gregory Rasputin was assassinated.



### "Venice of the North": boat trip around the Neva river and canals

**Date:** Wednesday, 27 August 2014  
**Time:** 17:30-20:30  
**Duration:** 3 hours  
**Preliminary price:** € 22  
**Price includes:** English-speaking guide, boat trip, transportation.



Some people call Saint Petersburg the Venice of the North because of its numerous rivers and canals. Participants will see the famous architectural monuments of the Petersburg embankments, will pass under the figured bridges, which for a long time stay as the symbol of our city.

### Full day tour to Pushkin

**Date:** Thursday, 28 August 2014  
**Time:** 9:00-19:00  
**Duration:** 6 hours  
**Preliminary price:** € 77  
**Price includes:** English-speaking guide, all admissions, transportation, lunch.

The Tsarskoye Selo palace and park ensemble is a superb architecture and garden-and park design monument. The occupational center of the ensemble is the Catherine Palace, which welcomes the visitors by the magnificent show of the Great Hall and the Golden Hall with its state rooms, that includes the world famous Amber Room now returned to life.



**"St. Petersburg at night":  
boat trip and magnificent view of the drawbridges**

Date: Thursday, 28 August 2014  
Time: 22:30-02:30  
Duration: 4 hours  
Proficiency price: € 41  
Price includes: English-speaking guide,  
boat trip,  
transportation.



There are over 800 bridges in the central part of Saint Petersburg and over 300 on the whole territory of the city.  
The guided excursion gives an opportunity to see the magic of the brightest drawbridges and to learn interesting stories about them.

**The State Hermitage**

Date: Friday, 29 August 2014  
Time: 10:00-14:00  
Duration: 4 hours  
Proficiency price: € 32



Price includes: English-speaking guide,  
admission, lunch, transportation.

The State Hermitage is one of the oldest and largest museums in the world after the Louvre in Paris and the National Gallery in London.  
The Hermitage is famous for its numerous collections: you can find works from politicians since 02 the present day.

**The Temple of Saint Petersburg**

Date: Friday, 29 August 2014  
Time: 12:00-14:30  
Duration: 4,5 hours  
Proficiency price: € 42  
Price includes: English-speaking guide,  
admission, lunch, transportation.



The St. Isaac's Cathedral rises at about 101,5 meters in the air making it the 8th highest cathedral in Europe.  
The Church of Our Saviour on the Spilled Blood was built as a memorial on the spot where Emperor Alexander II was brutally murdered.

**One day tour to Velikiy Novgorod**

Date: Saturday, 30 August 2014  
Time: 08:00-20:00  
Duration: 12 hours  
Proficiency price: € 110



Price includes: English-speaking guide,  
admission, transportation, lunch.

If you want to visit a real Russian city with typical Russian architecture, Russian spirit and traditions, then you definitely have to visit Velikiy Novgorod.

**3-days: Post-Congress tour to Moscow**

Date: Saturday, 30 August 2014  
Time: 07:00-18:00, 09:00-13:30, 10:00-19:00

Duration: 3 days, 2 nights  
Proficiency price: from € 313  
Price includes: accommodation at 4\* hotel,  
train ticket to Moscow, English-speaking guide, admission,  
transportation, lunch.



Moscow is the capital of the Russian Federation, the seat of Russia's President, one of the biggest metropolises in the world with population over 15 million people.

**Welcome to Saint Petersburg!**

Local committee on scientific cooperation  
Gleb G. Ponomarev, Chairman of the Council  
for the Study of Productive Forces,  
Moscow

Igor A. Gorbunov, First Vice-Rector of  
St. Petersburg State University,  
St. Petersburg

General scientific secretary professor  
Alexander N. Polyakov



Moscow: PCO is an official Service  
Agent of ERSA Congress 2014.

Congress manager  
Mrs. Anna Olsennova  
Tel. +7 (812) 305 22 55 ext.301  
mailto:rsa2014@ras.ru