

Meeting of the European Regional Science Association Council

Palermo, August 30th, 2013

MINUTES

Charlie Karlsson welcomes all those attending the meeting.

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

The agenda (appendix 1) is verified and Riccardo Cappellin is appointed as the ERSAC representative responsible for verifying the minutes.

Item 2. Annual report from the Executive Director

Richard Kelly reports that ERSA has been successful in its cooperation with other associations, in creating a brochure which has been distributed amongst the directors in the EC and in other activities as well.

The Summer School has been successful, the congress has been eventful with a great programme and fantastic facilities. Fabio Mazzola deserves ERSA's thanks for his work. Maristella Angotzi is also to be acknowledged for her work and input into the preparations of the congress.

Other activities that ERSA was involved in involved a workshop in Paris, with another in Germany and Spain coming in the close future and yet another workshop in France in 2014.

It has also been agreed with AESOP that a series of lectures will be organized jointly starting from 2014.

The report is approved.

Item 3a. Long range issues. Approval of the ERSA by-laws update

Maciej Turala reports that only minor changes have been proposed by the lawyers since the last ERSAC meeting and that the updated version has been distributed. He asks the ERSAC to approve the by-laws.

The proposal to approve the update of the by-laws is agreed on unanimously.

Item 3b. Long range issues. ERSA President Search Committee report

Gunther Maier reports that the Search Committee started its work with setting the criteria for selecting candidates: a candidate was to be a well-renowned scientist with organisational capacity and inside knowledge of the association. The committee also discussed the number of candidates and

agreed that there should be at least two candidates. the committee failed in terms of ensuring the gender balance, yet this criterion needs to be kept in mind for the future.

Ultimately, two candidates were found: Jouke van Dijk and Andre Torre. Once the candidates were revealed to one another, they coordinated and came with a proposal that ERSAC elects Jouke van Dijk as President and Andre Torre as vice-President. The statement and information from the candidates was distributed in February 2013 together with information that the sections are free to propose alternative proposals. Further communication followed in May, asking the sections to put forward alternative candidatures by mid-July. No such proposals came until this moment in time.

Charlie Karlsson informs the ERSAC that Andres Rodriguez-Pose has sent in a letter resigning from his post as ERSAC vice-President but agreeing to complete his term as an EOC member.

Item 3c. Long range issues. Election of ERSAC President and ERSAC Vice-President for the term 2014-2018

Charlie Karlsson invites Jouke van Dijk to make a statement.

Jouke van Dijk states that both he and Andre Torre are enthusiastic to serve ERSAC and to improve it, even though it is in a sound situation.

Jouke van Dijk is asked to leave the room and the floor is open for discussion.

Charlie Karlsson puts forward a motion to elect Jouke van Dijk as ERSAC President for the term 2014-2018.

The motion is approved unanimously.

Charlie Karlsson puts forward a motion to elect Andre Torre as ERSAC vice-President for the term 2014-2018.

The motion is approved unanimously.

Jouke van Dijk is invited back into the room and the results are announced.

Jouke van Dijk thanks for the trust put in him and in Andre Torre.

Item 3d. Long range issues. Development of existing and creation of new sections (Nordic Section)

Lars Westin reports that the section has had a series of board meetings aiming at the reorganisation of the section and updating its by-laws. Alongside the reorganisation, the section has been active in organising events: it has coordinated the Jonkoping congress and two summer schools so the scientific level works very well, with the organisational aspect to improve. The section is also pleased to see the move towards clarifying the relationship between ERSAC and its sections.

Charlie Karlsson adds that there were in fact three summer schools which were coordinated by the section.

Item 3e. Long range issues. 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, serving as the Polish section of ERSA to date (appendix 2).

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

Maciej Turala puts forward a motion that the ERSAC approves the formal changes which have occurred in Poland.

Gunther Maier emphasises that this is a very important step for the sustainable future of the section and explains that he is happy to support it.

The report and the motion are approved unanimously.

Item 3f. Long range issues. Development of existing and creation of new sections (Russian Section)

Alexander Pelyasov reports that in 2001 there were just a few Russian participants in the congress, while now there are as many as 50 with the section organising a Congress in 2014.

The system in Russia is organised around several institutes of regional economics and some central institutions responsible for regional development. It is the Russian Academy of Regional Development that represents formally the Russian Section while other institutions are involved in activities under the umbrella of the Academy.

Each year there are various events organised within the section. Significant emphasis is placed on events which generate interest in regional science amongst the young academics in Russia.

The report is approved.

Item 3g. Long range issues. Development of existing and creation of new sections (Turkish Section)

Tuzin Baycan reports that the section is currently in a transition period. The plans for the nearest future include election of a new Board, expansion of the membership and other events to be organised in 2014 and later.

One of the planned events is a Joint Special Symposium of Society for Risk Analysis Europe (SRA-E) and ERSA. She invites ERSA members to contribute to the symposium and invites all those interested to contribute.

The report is approved.

Item 3h. Long range issues. Development of existing and creation of new sections (Baltic Section)

Diana Cibulskiene reports that the Baltic Regional Researchers Association has been formally set up in Lithuania with the objective of working in Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia and formally requests formal recognition.

Maciej Turala informs the ERSAC that the association has sent in an official letter informing ERSA of the fact of registration and requesting formal recognition as an ERSA section.

Charlie Karlsson asks if the ERSAC is ready to formally recognise the Baltic Section of ERSA.

The motion is approved unanimously.

Item 3i. Long range issues. Development of existing and creation of new sections (North African associations)

Richard Kelly reports that some of the sections were upset by the approach that RSAI took when setting up a section in Morocco. He invites representatives of sections to share their views with the ERSAC.

Riccardo Cappellin reports that when the Italian section moved to organise the congress in Palermo one of the major ideas was to emphasise the relationship between Europe and North Africa. Prior to the congress activities were performed to support this objective: i.e. a workshop was organised in mid-April 2013 in Naples in cooperation with the French-speaking association.

He emphasises that it is essential for Europe to develop cooperation with Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia. The relationship with Morocco is well established through the French-speaking section, a relationship with Algeria is more difficult, but the one with Tunisia is developing well with some representatives in the Naples workshop.

What is more, there seems to be interest coming from Egypt. It is ERSA's duty to help the regional scientists to have access to the knowledge which is available in Europe. So the next step will be to organise a workshop in Tunis in the spring of 2014 and then the Moroccan and Egyptian colleagues will prepare their own events. Other sections are invited to cooperate in creating a Mediterranean network.

ERSA should commit to endorsing the development of associations in other parts of the world which may not be in Europe but are certainly part of European history and culture. ERSA should take a more active role in promoting regional science in other parts of the world, starting with North Africa.

Charlie Karlsson emphasises that there needs to be a certain level of care with the approach to this sensitive issue, yet all the attempts aiming at integration of the sections there are welcome.

Lise Bourdeau-Lepage reports that the question of such associations in North Africa is essential for the French-speaking section as it has members from Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia, with the section organising scholarships for participation to its conferences for delegates from these countries. There is need of more cooperation with other sections in the approach to this area. The French-speaking section was very surprised with the creation of a Moroccan section without cooperation or even informing the

representatives of this section. The manner in which things were not satisfactory and require more cooperation.

These developments put the French-speaking section in a difficult position as the section has already planned activities to take place in Morocco in 2014 as well as events focused on Mediterranean development scheduled during the section's annual events in the near future. She asks for better transmission and spread of information.

Roberta Capello reports the discussion of the RSAI long-range planning committee on August 29th, 2013. She states that the enlargement of the association is a permanent item on the agenda and that the statements from Riccardo Cappellin and Lise Bourdeau-Lepage are in line with the discussion. The conclusion is that whoever is taking a lead in organising a section in part of the world where RSAI is not present, they are welcome. Of course, there is need for cooperation between sections and supra-nationals to avoid problems.

RSAI is not a top-down association – all bottom-up activities are welcome. Yet as the association is large, the coordination costs are high. It is a fortunate development that both the new President and vice-President of ERSA are part of the RSAI council.

The RSAI Council is to approve the Moroccan section in its meeting on August 30th, 2013. The handling of this matter has not been successful, yet the message is that the Moroccan section is to be open for accepting any new members willing to join. It will then need to apply to become part of one of the supra-nationals, and they are expected to choose ERSA. This means that this will be a first step towards the African continent. The long-term strategy of the RSAI is to build an African supra-national just like it is to make a South American supra-national.

Charlie Karlsson summarises that the future work shall respect the existing relationships and attempt to improve the coordination of efforts.

Riccardo Cappellin agrees that a discussion can be postponed, yet the relationship between ERSA and RSAI needs to be clarified. Earlier, the Baltic Section was approved by ERSA and RSAI will recognise it. With the Moroccan Section it is the other way around, causing understandable dissatisfaction of the French-speaking association who were left out. He moves to decide who should approve the creation of the new section.

Charlie Karlsson summarises that this is indeed a constitutional issue which may only be reduced through the presence of the President and/or vice-President of ERSA in the RSAI council.

Tomaz Dentinho comments that the issue of double membership (to the Moroccan section and to the French-speaking section) in Morocco is solved insofar as the RSAI is concerned since there is only one payment to RSAI.

Gunther Maier states that there is no doubt whether or not the ERSAC is to make a decision on recognising a new section but further discussion at this point is not plausible.

Charlie Karlsson suggests that a recommendation is made for all those involved in the process of establishing new sections to consider these sensitive issues.

Item 3j. Long range issues. Agreements 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 ERSA. Several sections have already sent in their signed copies, others are expected to complete this process soon after the finish of the congress in Palermo.

Lars Westin reports that he appreciated receiving this agreement as sign of professionalization. However, the Nordic Section board has found it strange that the agreement included a point on the section's obligation to pay a membership fee to the RSAI.

He proposes to organise the process so that the sections would pay all their fees (i.e. a fixed amount of 250 EUR for section membership in ERSA and the 10 EUR per member for individual membership) to ERSA who would in turn transfer the individual membership fees to the RSAI for each section.

Tomaz Dentinho explains that the sections' obligation to pay the individual membership fee for their members comes from the constitution of the RSAI which regulates the issue of the payment.

Lars Westin requests that clear relationships and dependencies ('order lines') are established between sections, ERSA and RSAI with regards to fee payments and reports on membership amongst other issues.

Charlie Karlsson summarises that these constitutional issues are to be considered in the near future.

Item 4a. Congresses. 2014 Congress in St. Petersburg – progress report

Alexander Pelyasov starts the progress report with the scientific programme issues. Five keynote speakers have been contacted and approved. Cooperation with an Arctic Association has been initiated. The LOC also wishes to organise a round-table with editors of journals in regional science. The LOC meets every month to discuss the issues related to congress organisation.

Charlie Karlsson asks about sponsorship.

Alexander Pelyasov reports that dozens of requests have been sent out to authorities and businesses. Some positive responses were already received.

Asya Gilmanova (Project Manager, Monomax) reports on the logistics issues of the congress preparations (appendix 3):

- 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. There will be boat trips on the rivers and canals of St. Petersburg and other excursions.

Charlie Karlsson thanks for the reports.

The reports are approved.

Item 4b. Congresses. 2015 Congress in Lisbon – progress report

Tomaz Dentinho reports that there has been a very good meeting with the Executive Director of ERSA (Richard Kelly), Treasurer of ERSA (Laura Resmini) and the Secretary of ERSA (Maciej Turala) during the Palermo Congress concerning financial arrangements for the 2015 congress. It is assumed that no sponsorship will be secured and that the congress will be organised as a joint-venture between the Portuguese Section and ERSA.

Further discussions will take place in September – a visit of Charlie Karlsson and Richard Kelly to Lisbon is planned for September 16th, 2013.

The report is approved.

Item 4c. 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 chosen from amongst 60 candidates. There were 7 invited lecturers. The mornings were devoted to lectures, while the afternoons held student presentations.

Some financing from the Swedish Entrepreneurship Forum was secured for the prize which was arranged for the best paper presented (1.500 EUR).

In general, the LOC is very happy with the organisation and participants.

Charlie Karlsson comments that the summer school went very well.

The report is approved.

Item 4d. Summer schools. Summer School in 2014 in Poznan, Poland – progress report

Tomasz Kossowski reports that, following discussions with representatives of the ERSA board and with representatives of the Polish Section of ERSA, the LOC has decided to upkeep its commitment to organise the Summer School between July 6th until July 14th, 2014 in Poznan.

The topic for the Summer School shall be “Spatial econometrics and regional analysis”. Some speakers have already agreed to participate. The venue will be organised at the Adam Mickiewicz University. The accommodation will be in the university guest house. There will be about 30 participants, with preference given to candidates from the CEECs. A social programme will be included as well as a workshop on “How to get published” by Danny Griffiths.

The budget will be cut down as far as possible – provided the support from ERSA and other institutions it will be possible to organise the event.

The report is approved.

Item 4d. REGION – report on the FWF funding application

Gunther Maier reports that prior to the ERSAC meeting the sections have been asked for their consent with regards to signing a memorandum of understanding regarding the funding application with the University of Vienna.

Since the feedback of section representatives was positive, the proposal went head to get 50,000 EUR for a period of three years with the aim of establishing a journal in social sciences. The proposal was to establish a flagship journal for ERSA which will be electronic and open-access. A possibility of introducing an author fee for authors who are not members of the RSAI is currently considered. Finally, a strong team of editors has been put together.

The report is approved.

Item 5a. Finances. 2012 absolution

Financial reports from the ERSA Treasurer are attached to the minutes in appendix 4.

Laura Resmini reports that 2012 was the third consecutive year which closed with a surplus. ERSA has consolidated its financial position and is now ready to support various activities such as the journal, summer school or the congress.

The report is approved and the absolution is given.

Item 5b. Finances. 2013 budget update and provisional budget for 2014

Charlie Karlsson reports that the updated figures for 2013 as well as a provisional budget for 2014 have been distributed to the ERSAC members. He asks if the ERSAC is read to approve these budgets.

The budgets for 2013 and the budget for 2014 are approved.

Item 6a. Other ordinary business. EIB-ERSA Prize, EPAINOS Prize, ERSA Section Fellow Prize

Charlie Karlsson reports that arrangements have been made to award the EIB-ERSA prize and the EPAINOS prize during the closing ceremony and the gala dinner. The Italian section has not put forward a candidate for the ERSA Section Fellow Prize however so it will not be given this year.

The report is approved.

Item 6b. Other ordinary business. Election of an ERSA Representative in the RSAI Council

Charlie Karlsson reports that the EOC has reached an agreement to recommend that the ERSAC elects Andre Torre as an ERSA representative in the RSAI Council for the term 2014 – 2016.

The proposal is approved unanimously.

Item 6c. 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 6d. Other ordinary business. Papers in Regional Science – report

Roberta Capello reports that Papers in Regional Science is doing very well. The impact factor went up from 1.4 to 1.55 in 2012. The submissions are now nearly 200 / year. The time between the first submission and the first decision is decreasing. The transition phase resulting from the exchange of the editorial board is nearly over.

The report is approved.

Item 6e. Other ordinary business. Information from sections on membership, past and planned events and activities

Charlie Karlsson asks the section representatives to send in their respective reports to the ERSA Secretary so that they may be attached to the minutes (in appendices 5.1 – 5.6).

Fabio Mazzola thanks the ERSAC members and the ERSA staff for their efforts and assistance in preparing the 2013 Congress in Palermo.

Andres Rodriguez-Pose states that ERSA is not an easy organisation to run, yet Charlie Karlsson has run it in the last 5 years so that this was not noticed.

He continues to say that Charlie Karlsson has created a new team in Louvain-La-Neuve and collaborated closely with the Executive Director of ERSA (Richard Kelly), the Congress Manager (Maristella Angotzi), the Treasurer of ERSA (Laura Resmini) and the Secretary of ERSA (Maciej Turala) to successfully oversee five large congresses and numerous other events.

It needs to be emphasised that he leaves ERSA in a very good state and in very good hands.



Charlie Karlsson thanks for this time as ERSA President and for all the good cooperation with section representatives, Secretary, Treasurer, Executive Director and Congress Manager. He says that it has been a pleasure to serve the ERSA community.

The meeting is closed.

Meeting of the European Regional Science Association Council

Palermo, August 30th, 2013

APPENDIX 1 – AGENDA

Words of Welcome by the President

1. Approval of the meeting agenda and appointment of an ERSAC member responsible for verification of meeting minutes
2. Annual report from the Executive Director (Richard Kelly)
3. Long range issues
 - Approval of the ERSA by-laws update
 - ERSA President Search Committee report (Gunther Maier)
 - Election of ERSA President and ERSA Vice-President for the term 2014-2018
 - 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
 - Agreements for cooperation between ERSA and its sections (Maciej Turala)
4. Congresses and summer schools – summary report (Maciej Turala)
 - 2014 Congress in St. Petersburg, Russia – progress report
 - 2015 Congress in Lisbon, Portugal – progress report
 - 2013 Summer School in Lund, Sweden – summary report
 - 2014 Summer School in Poznan, Poland – progress report
5. REGION – report on the FWF funding application (Gunther Maier)
6. Finances
 - 2012 closing – approval and absolution (Laura Resmini)
 - 2013 budget update (Laura Resmini)
 - Provisional budget for 2014 – approval (Laura Resmini, Richard Kelly)
7. Other ordinary business
 - EIB-ERSA Prize, EPAINOS Prize, ERSA Section Fellow Prize
 - Election of an ERSA Representative in the RSAI Council
 - Cooperation with ESPON (Richard Kelly)
 - Papers in Regional Science – report (Roberta Capello)
 - Information from sections on membership, past and planned events and activities
8. Any Other Business

Please inform the Secretary if you wish to raise an item under any other business.

Meeting of the European Regional Science Association Council

Palermo, August 30th, 2013

APPENDIX 2 – STATEMENT FROM THE POLISH SECTION

STATEMENT

signed in Lodz on August 20th, 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 Regional Science Association Council

Palermo, August 30th, 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 1000 pers. +

Assembly hall (up to 500 pers.)

Total number of rooms: 68 rooms

Number of rooms with capacity up to 40 pers: 58

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 (Tauricheskij) 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.

Dinner hall capacity of 1000 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 striking 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 1500 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 1000 persons.
Separate welcome area, kitchen.
Any decoration and seating is possible.

Informal dinner

Confirmed sponsor of the Informal dinner — **Ballika 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 3d1 beer in Europe in terms of sales.



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

Visa support

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



Sponsorship: Day-to-Day Work

While working for potential partners we took into account all ERSA Congress 2014 sites. Coverage 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:

- Official agreement to support ERSA Congress 2014** from the State and St. Petersburg's governmental 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.
 - 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 Union of Jurists. We have general informal support from the Russian Geographic Society.
 - Official Agreement on marketing and technical skills** from Valokanal of St. Petersburg state military enterprise and laboratory public company. We have also reached informal agreement with Admichestvo VeS (Hospital) public company.
- © If commercial companies have taken our proposal into consideration. We should receive their answers. All 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, 20 rooms booked	25 min walking	211	282
Evolutionary, Morskoy 4*, 67 rooms booked	4 min walking	100	110
Evolution Spon 2*, 30 rooms booked	3 min walking	181	201
Iskova 2*, 10 rooms booked	35 min walking	98	112
Orlando 2*, 50 rooms booked	35 min walking	71	100
Parkside 2*, 20 rooms booked	8.7 min walking	89	132
Spinal, Gruzynyev 2*, 30 rooms booked	25.8 min walking	90	97
Orlando 2*, 40 rooms booked	30 min walking	69	76
Ves 2*, 30 rooms booked	20 min walking	119	139

Hotels: map



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 Promenade 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 10 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 Prospekt 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 10 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 Prospekt on the Nevsky embankment. Alexander Nevsky's square metro station is located just inside the hotel building.

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

It's possible to reach the Congress venue within 20 minutes by bus and within 10 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 Elisei Hall, the building of St. Petersburg's government, the Tavrinsky Palace and the Tavrinsky 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 apartmentages 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 27 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 a quiet 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	6 hours	€75
Full day tour to Yusupov who (Famous Amber room)	6 hours	€10
The Jewels of St. Petersburg (Most beautiful Palaces)	4 hours	€15
"History of the North", bus city around the Neva river and canals	3 hours	€10
The State Heritage	4 hours	€10

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

Date: Monday, 25 August 2014
Time: 10:00-13:00
Duration: 3 hours
Preliminary price: € 36
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 foundation 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: 6 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 Shagshaga Palace, which was owned by one of the Russian's most famous families - the Shagshagas, 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 operational center of the ensemble is the Catherine Palace, which welcomes the visitors by the exceptional 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

Preferential 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 raising of the highest drawbridge and to learn interesting stories about them.



The State Hermitage

Date: Friday, 29 August 2014

Time: 10:00-14:00

Duration: 4 hours

Preferential price: € 32

Price includes: English-speaking guide, admission, tickets, 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 prehistoric times till the present day.



The Temple of Saint Petersburg

Date: Friday, 29 August 2014

Time: 12:00-14:30

Duration: 4.5 hours

Preferential price: € 42

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

The St. Isaac's Cathedral rises at about 101,5 meters to the sky 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

Preferential 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, 09:00-18:30, 10:00-19:00

Duration: 3 days, 2 nights

Preferential price: from € 815

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. Pribludny, 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.201
mailto:rsa2014@rsf.ru

Meeting of the European Regional Science Association Council

Palermo, August 30th, 2013

APPENDIX 4 – 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 ^(*)	2014 ^(*)
Income	444.346,33	262.076,06	301.259,30	288.774,00
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	-
Expenses	384.843,99	232.873,58	287.500,00	285.295,36
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
Result	59.502,34	29.202,48	13.759,30	3.478,64
depreciation	6.168,32	1.550,77		
financial income	436,19	290,09		
financial expenses	6.192,52	3.907,09	4.322,97	
Result before tax	47.577,69	24.034,71	9.436,33	
tax	42,33	42,76		
Result after tax	47.535,36	23.991,95	9.436,33	

(*) Estimates

Financial situation

	2011	2012	2013 ^(*)
Bank accounts	184.146,66	220.437,63	372.457,02

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, 2nd 2013

Meeting of the European Regional Science Association Council

Palermo, August 30th, 2013

APPENDIX 5.1 – SECTION REPORT (GREEK SECTION)

Membership

After the recent updating for 2013 the Greek Section consists of 45 members that have paid the annual fee. They include economists, planners, engineers, environmentalists and geographers with an academic orientation to planning and regional development. The great majority are affiliated to Greek or foreign universities.

Events

➤ 11th Annual conference

The 11th annual conference of the Greek Section was held in Patras, on June 14-15. It was co-organized with the local University of Patras and the Hellenic Open University. The subject of the conference was: ‘*Agriculture, rural space, regional and local development*’.

The scientific programme included 3 plenary presentations and 3 parallel sessions where more than 100 papers were presented.

The proceedings were issued in a CD-ROM and are also available at

<http://grsa.prd.uth.gr/index.php/el/component/content/article/19-ergsageneralgr/83-praktika-conf11>
(in Greek language).

➤ Special Issue

A selection of papers from the annual conference will be published in a special issue of Greek journal *Aeihoros*

➤ Newsletter

The Greek section issues and distributes via email a quarterly newsletter

➤ Website

The Greek Section’s website has been reconstructed. It can be found at:

<http://grsa.prd.uth.gr/index.php/el/>

Future events

- The 12th annual conference is going to be held in Cape Sounion which is about 30 km from Athens at the premises of National Technical University of Athens in 6-7 June 2014. Theme of the conference will be ‘Greek regions in the framework of Europe 2020’. Dates and theme will be fixed in the next Board Meeting.

Future plans

We are working towards closer cooperation with other ERSA sections and we are planning to start a new bilingual (Greek-English) journal.



Meeting of the European Regional Science Association Council

Palermo, August 30th, 2013

APPENDIX 5.2 – SECTION REPORT (ISRAELI SECTION)

Chair: Professor Amnon Frenkel
Faculty of Architecture and Town Planning
Technion, Haifa 32000, Israel
amnonf@tx.technion.ac.il

Secretary/Treasurer: Doctor Miki Malul
Department of Public Policy and Administration
Ben Gurion University of the Negev
Beer-Sheva Israel
Malul@som.bgu.ac.il

Webpage: <http://israelrsa.net.technion.ac.il/>

As of 2012, there are 19 members of the Israeli Section, 2 of them are students.

2012 annual conference

In January 31 the annual conference of the Israeli Section held in the Department of Public Policy & Administration, Bengis Center for Entrepreneurship & Hi-Tech Management, Guilford Glazer Faculty of Business and Management, Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Israel. The conference theme was: "Current challenges in developing regional innovation."

Special award were granted in the 2013 meeting:

- Prof. Raphael Bar-El was granted for his important contribution to regional science and particular to the Israeli section.

Past events

In 2-4 may 2011 a Tripartite Workshop of the Israeli-Dutch and UK regional science associations held in London UK.

In 4-6 Nov 2008 a joint Workshop Israeli-Netherlands regional science associations, held in Jerusalem Israel.

Future events

The annual meeting of 2014 will held in ORT Braude College in Karmiel.

A joint Workshop Israeli-Netherlands regional science associations will held in the Zernike Campus of the University of Groningen in October 2013.

Meeting of the European Regional Science Association Council

Palermo, August 30th, 2013

APPENDIX 5.3 – SECTION REPORT (NORDIC SECTION)

NRSA January 2012 – June 2013

NRSA ACTIVITIES DURING 2012

In March 2012, NRSA together with NorBa/ESPOON organised the second winter conference in Oslo, Norway. The conference attracted around 60 delegates from the Nordic and some European countries. Also this second winter conference thus became a success, in much due to the effective and well appreciated organisation of the conference by the local hosts, the Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research (NIBR). The concept with NRSA Winter conferences hence may be continued and developed further. NRSA also supported the Uddevalla Symposium in Faro, Portugal, in June 2012. The NRSA Chairman was a member of the LOC of the Symposium.

In the summer 2012, The ERSA Summer School was organised in Umeå. NRSA member Ass Prof. Johan Lundberg from dept. of Economics at Umeå University was the chairman of the LOC, while NRSA chairman Westin was member of the LOC.

During this period, the NRSA Board had one informal meeting in Oslo and one ordinary meeting during the ERSA congress in Bratislava.

NRSA ACTIVITIES DURING FIRST HALF OF 2013

During spring 2013 most efforts have been oriented towards a revision of the By-Laws of NRSA and discussions regarding the future of NRSA. A stronger country based organisation and improved as well as stabilised routines have been discussed. Some organisational issues have been discussed with the ERSA secretariat. Among those issues one may especially mention the discussion of how to become member in the regional science community and more formalised agreements between NRSA and ERSA/RSAl regarding obligations, duties and finances.

In the beginning of the summer, NRSA members from Lund and surrounding universities under the LOC lead of Prof. Martin Andersson at CIRCLE and Lund University successfully organised another ERSA summer school within the Nordic area, now in Karlskrona, Sweden. The School was sponsored by the Swedish Entrepreneurship Forum and held at Blekinge Technical University (BTH). The overall theme was “Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Development of Regions of Varying Density”.

NRSA MEMBERS

The number of members in NRSA in June 2013 was around 17. The number of members has over time strongly been dependent on the location of the ERSA congresses and other business meetings. By developing possibilities for congresses, summer schools and business meetings in the Nordic area and strengthening the financing of research within Regional Science, the number of members may be improved.

NRSA ORGANISATION

During 2012/2013 the *Board of NRSA* consisted of:

- Lars Westin, Umeå University (Chairman), Sweden lars.westin@econ.umu.se
- Steinar Johansen, NIBR, Norway steinar.johansen@nibr.no
- Kirsi Mukkala, JYU, Finland (until September 2012) kirsi.mukkala@jyu.fi
- Timo Tohmo, JSBE, Finland (from September 2012) timo.j.tohmo@jyu.fi
- Ingi Runar Edvardsson, University of Iceland, Iceland ire@unak.is
- Nils Karl Sørensen, SDU, Denmark nks@sam.sdu.dk

NRSA Treasurer and Secretary:

- Robert Sörensson, Umeå University, Sweden robert.sorensson@cerum.umu.se

NRSA Audit:

- Marte Bjørnsen, NIBR, Norway marte.bjornsen@nibr.no
- Torben Dall Schmidt, SDU, Denmark tds@sam.sdu.dk

NRSA Nomination committee:

- Folke Snickars, KTH, Sweden
- Lasse Stambøl, Statistics Norway, Norway
- Vacant, Finland
- Vacant, Denmark

Members of the NRSA also are involved in other parts of the regional science structure:

Nordic members at the board of ERSA Council (ERSAC):

- Charlie Karlsson, JIBS, Jönköping University (Chairman)
- Lars Westin, Umeå University (Nordic Section Representative)
- Hans Westlund, Department of Planning and Built Environment, KTH (Co-opted)

Nordic members of ERSA EOC (European Organisation Committee):

- Charlie Karlsson, JIBS, Jönköping University (Chairman ERSA)

Nordic member of WRSA Board:

- Hans Westlund, Department of Planning and Built Environment, KTH (President)

Nordic members of RSAI Board (RSAI Councillors):

- Johan Lundberg, Dept. of Economics, Umeå University
- Charlie Karlsson, JIBS, Jönköping University (Chairman of ERSA)

Meeting of the European Regional Science Association Council

Palermo, August 30th, 2013

APPENDIX 5.4 – SECTION REPORT (ROMANIAN SECTION)

The most important event organised by the Romanian Regional Science Association (RRSA) in 2013 was the 9th International Conference of the Romanian Regional Science Association - “Regional development between recent experiences and future challenges”, which took place on April 26-27 in Galati, in the South-East Region of Romania. More than 65 papers were included in the programme, with over 120 authors representing many important university centres, research institutes, central and local administration institutions from various regions of Romania also from abroad (Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden, Poland, Bulgaria, Greece, France, Albania). In the Plenary Session three excellent papers were presented by Peter Nijkamp – Free University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands, Karima Kourtit – Free University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands and Maciej Turala – University of Lodz, Poland. A Plenary Special Session was also organized by Peter Nijkamp and Karima Kourtit on the – already famous – “New Urban World”, focusing on “The Life and Death and Life of Central and East European Cities”. Contributors were Peter Nijkamp, Karima Kourtit, as well as Daniela Constantin, Maciej Turala and Stela Raleva with three case studies from Romania (Bucharest), Poland (Lodz) and Bulgaria (Sofia). In the second day a Round Table on “Challenges to Romania’s Regionalization” was organized, with Daniela Constantin as convenor and Gabriel Pascariu as key speaker. At the end of the second day the participants enjoyed a wonderful excursion by boat (and lunch) on Danube river. The venue of the next international conference of the Romanian RSA (2015) has been already established, namely “Stefan cel Mare” University of Suceava, located in the wonderful Bucovina area of the North-East region. In the meantime the RRSA will organize other events such as workshops, round tables, etc. The members of the Romanian RSA have been involved in many national and international projects in regional science field and have authored quality books and articles.

The RRSA representatives are members in the Consulting Committee for Territorial Cohesion and the Consulting Committee for Regional Operational Programme set up by the Ministry of Regional Development in the context of the preparations for the 2014-2020 programme period as well as in the Academic Group for Romania’s Regionalisation established by the same ministry at the beginning of 2013.

The Romanian Journal of Regional Science has released in 2013 its 7th volume, with two issues per year. The June 2013 issue has been accompanied by a special issue dedicated to the ESPON project “Services of General Interest (SeGI)”. The journal has a large international participation, more than half of the articles being authored by foreign scholars. It is indexed in many international databases (e.g. RePEc-Ideas, EBSCO, DOAJ, Cabell’s) and the articles have a large number of citations in other journals.

At present the RRSA counts around 100 members. In accordance with the RSAI requirements, starting from January 1st, 2013 the RSAI individual membership fee is paid by each member at the same time with the RRSA individual membership fee. The 250 euro collective membership fee to the ERSA has been already paid by the RRSA at the beginning of August.

On the occasion of the RRSA Conference in Galati the new board of the Romanian RSA has been elected. Daniela Constantin has been re-elected as RRSA President. The Prime-Vicepresident and two Vicepresidents are Romeo V. Ionescu, Dorel Ailenei and Erika Marin. Raluca Petrescu-Grosu has been elected as the new Secretary General and Amalia Cristescu as the new Treasurer. The whole elected board is displayed on the RRSA web page, www.rrsa.ro.

Meeting of the European Regional Science Association Council

Palermo, August 30th, 2013

APPENDIX 5.5 – SECTION REPORT (RUSSIAN SECTION)

Russian section activities

- February 2013 The 2nd Congress of New Economic Association with special section on the Russian regional development (city of Suzdal)
- April 2013 Annual Economic Congress on the Modernization of the Russian economy, special session on the Russian regions (Higher School of Economics, Moscow)
- May 2013 Conference of the Academy of Regional development (ARD), Moscow
- June 2013 Economic-geographical section of the Academy of Regional Development (Saransk)
- September 2013 ARGO - meeting of the Association of Russian economic geographers (Moscow)
- September 2013 - 3rd Congress of Regional Economy (Ekaterinburg)
- LOC meeting in Saint Petersburg on a monthly basis

The majority of these events are held annually

Meeting of the European Regional Science Association Council

Palermo, August 30th, 2013

APPENDIX 5.6 – SECTION REPORT (TURKISH SECTION)

Membership

Turkish Section has 36 members all from Turkey in 2013.

Past Situation and Recent Activities

The Founder and President of the Turkish Section of the Regional Science Association International Prof.Dr. Gündüz ATALIK died in Istanbul on April, 30, 2013. He was the President of the Turkish Section since the very beginning of its establishment in 1989. During his Presidency, Turkish Section organized 1990 ERSA Congress and 2000 Summer Institute in Istanbul and they were both very successful organizations. Prof. ATALIK was the sole authority as the Founder of the Section and although there was a Board of Turkish Section (Turkish National Committee of Regional Science), the role of the Board Members remained limited with assisting him. In recent years, due to health problems of Prof. ATALIK, the formal and institutional representation of the Turkish Section has been problematic. Despite this difficult situation, the members of the Turkish Section have been actively involved in RSAI and ERSA activities and they have represented the Turkish Section with a high level participation at ERSA congresses.

After Prof. ATALIK's death, the Board of Turkish Section that consists of four members: Prof.Dr. Tüzin BAYCAN, Prof.Dr. Gülden ERKUT, Prof.Dr. Ferhan GEZICI KORTEN and Assist.Prof.Dr. Seda KUNDAK organized a meeting in June 2013 and discussed the current situation of the Turkish Section. In that meeting, they evaluated the present and the near future as a transition period and as old members of the Board, they decided to continue to work as members of the Board and to contribute to the institutional restructuring process of the Turkish Section until the first General Assembly to be organized and a new Board to be elected by all members of the Section. Regarding the Regulation of the Turkish National Committee of Regional Science, they decided first to fill the three vacant positions in the Board due to retirement of two members and the death of Prof. ATALIK. They prepared a call for candidacy for Board membership and informed all members of the Turkish Section. In July 2013, the candidates responded the call and an election realized via an electronic voting system. Prof.Dr. Alpay FILIZTEKIN, Prof.Dr. Aysenur OKTEN and Dr. Mete Basar BAYPINAR have been elected by members of the Turkish Section as new Board Members. The new Board consists of seven members have decided that the President, Vice-President and Secretary will be elected by the General Assembly, but given the time limitation and difficulties of organizing a General Assembly in summer and vacation period, this election has not been realized yet.

Future Activities

The New Board Members of Turkish Section are as follows in alphabetical order:

Prof.Dr. Tüzin BAYCAN

Dr. Mete Basar BAYPINAR

Prof.Dr. Gülden ERKUT

Prof.Dr. Alpay FILIZTEKIN

Prof.Dr. Ferhan GEZICI KORTEN

Assist.Prof.Dr. Seda KUNDAK

Prof.Dr. Aysenur OKTEN

The New Board will invite the General Assembly as soon as possible in order to elect the President, Vice-President and Secretary to manage the transition period. The New Board will also establish the infrastructure of institutional restructuring as well as the future aspects and the road map of the Turkish Section and following this transition period, General Assembly will be invited to elect a New Board.

The New Board has many issues in its agenda including the institutionalization and representation of the Section, the necessary regulations, development strategies, criteria for Section membership and Board membership, future events etc. These issues and many others will be discussed first by the Board and then by the General Assembly in the next months.