

Conferencing: A Way Forward for Restorative Justice in Europe

Expert Seminar
Draft Programme
K. U. Leuven, Belgium – 14-16 September 2010

Experts

Ivo Aertsen (KU Leuven, Belgium), Levent Altan (EU Commission), District Judge Mervyn Bates (Youth Courts, Northern Ireland, UK), Daniela Bolivar (KU Leuven, Belgium), Antonio Buonatesta (Médiateur, Belgium), Peter Csonka (EU Commission), Kathleen Daly (Griffith University, Australia), Kelvin Doherty (Youth Justice Agency, Northern Ireland, UK), Anna Eriksson (Monash University, Australia), Ethel Fjellbakk (Mediation Service in Østfold County, Norway), Otmar Hagemann (Fachhochschule Kiel, Germany), Vince Mercer (Aim Project, UK), Joanna Shapland (University of Sheffield, UK), Inge Vanfraechem (National Institute of Criminal Sciences and Criminology, Belgium), Dan Van Ness (Prison Fellowship International, USA), Rob Van Pagée (Eigen Kracht Centrale, the Netherlands), Bie Vanseveren (ALBA, Belgium), Bas Van Stokkom (Radboud University Nijmegen/Free University Amsterdam, The Netherlands), Lode Walgrave (Emeritus Professor, KU Leuven, Belgium), Estelle Zinsstag (European Forum for Restorative Justice)

Programme

Day 1: Tuesday 14 September

12h30-13h: Arrival, registration and refreshments

13h-13h30: **Welcome addresses** by:
Ivo Aertsen (KU Leuven)
Estelle Zinsstag (European Forum for Restorative Justice)



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Peter Csonka (Head of the Criminal Justice Unit, European Commission, DG JLS)

13h30-15h: **1st session** – The Project of the European Forum for Restorative Justice

Chaired by Ivo Aertsen

Presentation

→ *Preliminary Research Results for the Project 'Conferencing: a Way Forward for Restorative Justice in Europe'* by Estelle Zinsstag

Discussion

15h-15h30: coffee/refreshment break

15h30h-17h: **2nd Session** – Conferencing: Theoretical reflections and international developments

Chaired by Inge Vanfraechem

Presentations

→ *Need for Clarity about Restorative Justice Conferences* by Lode Walgrave (Belgium)

→ *Conferencing in Relation to Criminal Offences: Evaluation Results Internationally* by Joanna Shapland (UK)

Discussion

Day 2: Wednesday 15 September

8h30-9h: arrival and coffee

9h-10h30: **3rd session** – Conferencing in Australia and Northern Ireland

Chaired by Joanna Shapland

Presentations

→ *Conferencing in Australia and New Zealand: Continuity and Change* by Kathleen Daly (Australia)

→ *Outcomes and Challenges for Youth Conferencing in Northern Ireland* by Kelvin Doherty (UK)

Discussion



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10h30-11h: coffee/refreshment break

11h-13h: **4th session** – Conferencing in North America, the Netherlands and Scandinavia
Chaired by Kelvin Doherty

Presentations

- *Conferencing in North America* by Dan Van Ness (USA)
- *Conferencing Represents Civil Society* by Rob Van Pagée and John Blad (tbc) (the Netherlands)
- *Conferencing in Scandinavia* by Anna Eriksson (Sweden/Australia)

Discussion

13h-14h: sandwich lunch

14h-16h: **5th session** – Conferencing in Norway and Belgium
Chaired by Rob Van Pagée

Presentations

- *Conferencing in Norway* by Ethel Fjellbakk (Norway)
- *Developments Concerning Conferencing in Flanders: a Special Focus on Sexual Assault Cases* by Bie Vanseveren (Belgium)
- *Conferencing in the French Speaking Community: Flexible Use of a Multipurpose Tool* by Antonio Buonatesta (Belgium)

Discussion

16h-16h30: coffee/refreshment break

16h30-18h: **6th session** – Conferencing in Latin America and Germany
Chaired by Ivo Aertsen

Presentations:

- *Restorative Justice in Latin America? Reflections from Three Countries* by Daniela Bolivar (Chile/Belgium)
- *Restorative Justice in Schleswig-Holstein and Other Federal States of Germany - Status Report and Perspectives for the Near Future* by Otmar Hagemann (Germany)

Discussion

19h30: dinner



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Day 3: Thursday 16 September

8h30-9h: arrival and coffee

9h-10h30: **7th session** – Conferencing: the police, the courts and the facilitator
Chaired by Inge Vanfraechem

Presentations

- *Restorative Justice and the Police. Tensions in Theory and Practice* by Bas Van Stokkom (the Netherlands)
- *“Some Experiences of an Irish R.M”: a Judge’s View of the Benefits of Restorative Practices Especially for Young People in Northern Ireland* by District Judge Mervyn Bates (UK)
- *The Application of Restorative Justice to Cases of Sexually Harmful Behaviour* by Vince Mercer (UK)

10.30h-11h: coffee/refreshment break

11h-12h30: **8th Session** – Chaired by Levent Altan (EU Commission)
Presentation of policy ideas and **discussion** on the future of conferencing

12h30-13h30: **Conclusions and Goodbyes**

