

BOARD ELECTIONS 2014

**Annual General Meeting
11th of June 2014, Belfast**

The 2014 candidates for the board elections are in alphabetical order:

JUSTAD LARS OTTO
REPRESENTING NATIONAL MEDIATION SERVICE NORWAY

KINNUNEN AARNE

MARIËN KAROLIEN

MORENO ROBERTO
REPRESENTING THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION OF THE BASQUE GOVERNMENT

PRESTON NICOLA
REPRESENTING INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE
FOR RESTORATIVE PRACTICES (IIRP) EUROPE

ZIEDINA DIANA

JUSTAD LARS OTTO, REPRESENTING NATIONAL MEDIATION SERVICE NORWAY

Proposer: Siri Kemény (Norway)

Seconder: Gro Rosland

Lars Otto Justad is working as an advisor at the Norwegian Mediation Service in Buskerud county, near Oslo. He has been at the office since May 2009. In his daily work, Lars Otto keeps a close dialogue with his “restorative justice” colleagues” at his office. He has been involved in the work with more use of conferencing as a method.

He holds a Master Degree in Peace and Conflict studies (University of Oslo), with a background from social psychology and sociology. Lars Otto’s thesis is about peace building in civil society, applying restorative justice.

Lars Otto is known as a dedicated, and reflective colleague. He is a strong practitioner, with a natural interest, curiosity and understanding for RJ theory.

So far he has not contributed to the work of the EFRJ, but has actively participated at the latest EFRJ conferences. He welcomed the proposal for nomination, and is eager to contribute to the development of the EFRJ.

KINNUNEN AARNE (FINLAND)

Proposer: Bruno Caldeira (Portugal)

Seconder: Pia Slögs (Finland)

Dr. Aarne Kinnunen is a Deputy Head of Department in the Ministry of Justice in Finland. He works in the Department of Criminal Policy dealing with issues concerning crime policy, crime prevention, restorative justice and research related issues. He holds a Ph.D. in Social Sciences (University of Helsinki) and he is Adjunct Professor in the University of Eastern Finland.

Previously Aarne has worked as a researcher within criminology and drug policies in the National Research Institute of Legal Policy, in the Police College of Finland and in Statistics Finland.

Aarne has been active in developing the legislation and quality standards of victim-offender mediation in Finland and abroad since 1990’s. He is a vice-chairman of the Advisory Board of Victim Offender Mediation in Finland and a chairman of the Executive Committee and the International Committee of the Board.

Aarne has now served one term (six years) as a board member of the EFRJ. He was one of the key persons responsible for the success of the organization of the EFRJ conference in Helsinki in 2012.

MARIËN KAROLIEN (BELGIUM)

Proposer: Eleonore Lind (Sweden)

Seconder: Katrien Lauwaert (Belgium)

Karolien Mariën is a criminologist (KU Leuven) well acquainted with RJ at the level of practice, research and (national and European) policy. She started working as a RJ consultant in a Belgian prison. In 2009 Karolien was appointed as EO of the EFRJ. During this period (2009-2012) she was widely appreciated for her vision on long term challenges and strengths of the EFRJ. Karolien has clearly developed a wide range of competencies as she was successful in: organising conferences, attracting EC grants, the management of EU-funded projects, bookkeeping, human resources, and the strategic management of the EFRJ.

Currently she works as an advisor for European projects at the Research and Development service of KU Leuven. Her expertise on the management of European projects, as well as her up-to-date knowledge on European policy and research developments would be quite an asset as a board member.

Based in Leuven and being a native Dutch speaker makes her available for the EFRJ Secretariat for consultations, administrative matters (signing grant agreements, mandates, staff contracts...), and for advising on matters which have to be treated in the local language. Last but not least Karolien has the personal qualities of being discrete, diplomatic, and highly efficient.

MORENO ROBERTO, REPRESENTING THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION OF THE BASQUE GOVERNMENT

Proposer: Eleonore Lind (Sweden)

Seconder: Brunilda Pali (Albania/Belgium)

Roberto Moreno is currently the Head of Adults Justice Service at the Ministry of Justice and Public Administration of the Basque Government. He coordinates VOM services at criminal courts and family matters of the Basque Country, the Victim Support Services and the Probation Services. He is responsible for prison matters of the Basque Government.

In the past 10 years Roberto has built up experience defending prisoners' rights in prison, legal advising, visiting at prison and struggling at courts for their rights in different civil movements and NGOs. Roberto holds a Law degree from Deusto University in Bilbao and Master Degree in advocacy and legal advisory.

As to the EFRJ Roberto has been the main local organiser of the EFRJ conference organised in Bilbao in 2010. The conference was a huge success due to Roberto's diligent work and experience as well as large connections in the Basque Justice Department. His leadership was reflected in the good relation he had with his team.

Roberto is very passionate about the field of restorative justice and is a visionary about its development in the Basque Country. We are convinced that Roberto will be a very skilled and useful member of the EFRJ board that can help us develop good relations within the Justice Departments, especially in Southern Europe.

PRESTON NICOLA, REPRESENTING INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR RESTORATIVE PRACTICES (IIRP) EUROPE

Proposer: Martin Wright (UK)

Seconder: Rob Van Pagée (The Netherlands)

Nicola Preston has been a restorative practices trainer, facilitator and researcher since 1996 when as a serving police officer, she was a founding member of the Thames Valley Police Restorative Justice Consultancy.

Nicola has a degree in Psychology and two Masters degrees both of which involved research in restorative practices. She is a qualified teacher and Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo) and now works part time in this role at a school for 4 -11 year olds.

Nicola is currently part time IIRP Europe 'Director of Communications and Research' and adjunct faculty for the IIRP Graduate School. She has been an active member of the Restorative Justice Council since it started, including contributing to the development of Best Practice Guidance, standards and accreditation in the field.

ZIEDINA DIANA (LATVIA)

Proposer: Siri Kemény (Norway)

Seconder: Gro Rossland

Diana Ziedina is the Head of the Mediation Division of the State Probation Service in Latvia since 2005. During these years she has been working hard to develop VOM and Conferencing based on RJ principles. She is the leading professional on building and spreading RJ in her country. She organizes seminars for criminal providers and students, and is active as a trainer for mediators as well. She also contributes in work promoting societal education. In establishing RJ in Latvia, she has successfully organized a bilateral project with Norway.

We know Diana as a dedicated and hardworking RJ person, and the contact between Latvia and Norway is still active, even if the project since long have been finished.

In cooperation with Niall Kearney, the former chair of the European Forum, she launched the idea of organizing Summer School in Riga in 2007. She has been an active participant at conferences organized by the EFRJ.