



European Forum **for** Restorative Justice

ANNUAL REPORT 2009

Editing: Niall Kearney and Karolien Mariën
Glasgow and Leuven, May 2010

European Forum for Restorative Justice v.z.w.

Hooverplein 10

3000 Leuven

Phone: +32 16 32 54 29

Fax: + 32 16 32 54 74

E-mail: info@euforumrj.org

URL: <http://www.euforumrj.org>



Foreword

The past year has seen the Forum continue its activities and respond to the changing world of restorative justice in Europe.

The new Secretariat settled into their roles and continued the important and necessary work of maintaining the output of the Forum, doing the myriad of tasks associated with communicating to members, supporting projects and seminars, managing finances and responding to the many requests from individuals and organisations. I take this opportunity to thank them for their work and commitment.

This year saw the Forum to provide opportunities for discussion and learning on important issues to do with the development and understanding of restorative justice. The Forum held a seminar in June 2009 in response to a proposal at the Forum's 2008 AGM about interpreting restorative justice and increasing the scope of the Forum. The intention is that this seminar will contribute to a deeper understanding of restorative justice within a European context and promote respectful dialogue between our members.

The Forum's Summer School in Barcelona in 2009, led by Prof. Gerry Johnstone, was on the theme "Towards Critical Restorative Justice Practices". Participants were challenged to retrieve the critical message of restorative justice and represent it in a way that enables decision makers and funders to have confidence in it.

A theme that emerged in response to member's needs during the past year was that of the Forum in articulating in a number of quarters the value restorative justice adds to the administration of justice. This theme arises possibly due to the effects of economic recession when decision makers and funders review spending. In the course of the year the Forum has actively supported a number of local and national projects by writing to government ministers and meeting civil servants and other government officials at the request of members.

It is true in many fields but I see it as particularly true in the field of the Forum's activities over the past year: there is so much more that could

be done if we had a larger core of volunteers. I take this opportunity to thank the Board members, the committee members and others who freely contribute their time and expertise to quite a few of the Forum's activities. There are, however, a number of gaps in the Forum's operations that can be filled by more volunteers such as, the role of national promoters. If you are interested in this role or other activities of the Forum, please contact Karolien Mariën, the executive officer, or any member of the Board.

The researchers based in Leuven deserve particular thanks for continuing to produce their high standard of work relating to various aspects of restorative justice. The results of two of the research projects will be presented at the biennial conference in 2010 at Bilbao: "Doing Restorative Justice in Europe. Established Practices and Innovative Programmes".

As a voluntary agency beginning to celebrate its 10th anniversary, the issue of funding remained on our agenda the past year. We are grateful for the donations received from the Norwegian, Finnish and Flemish governments to the work of the Forum. We continued to engage with the European Commission with regard to reviewing our monopoly position and securing an operating grant and other sources of income. Other funding ideas emerged at Board discussions which we may consult you on in the year ahead.

Finally, a word of thanks to all our members whose commitment to restorative justice at local and national level enables the Forum to achieve its aim of establishing and developing restorative justice practices throughout Europe. We welcome your continued support of the work of the Forum and look forward to more active engagement with you as we go forward into our 10th year.

If you have comments on this report, or on the activities or functioning of the Forum, do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat or any member of the Board.

Niall Kearney
Chair

Short information about the Forum

The European Forum for Restorative Justice v.z.w. is a non-governmental not-for-profit organisation established according to Belgian law. It was officially created during the first General Meeting, organised in Leuven (Belgium) on 8 and 9 December 2000. Its statutes were published in the Belgian Official Journal on 19 April 2001.

The general aim of the Forum is to help establish and develop victim-offender mediation and other restorative justice practices throughout Europe. To further this general aim, the Forum pursues, amongst others, following objectives: promoting

international exchange of information; promoting the development of effective restorative justice policies, services and legislation; exploring and developing the theoretical basis of restorative justice; stimulating research; and assisting the development of principles, ethics, training and good practice. The target groups of the Forum are restorative justice practitioners and services, researchers, legal practitioners and policy makers.

The Forum has a permanent Secretariat, located within the Leuven Institute of Criminology (LINC) of the Catholic University of Leuven, Hooverplein 10, 3000 Leuven, Belgium.

The European Forum Board

The Board of the Forum is composed of:

- Niall Kearney (UK) as Chair
- Inge Vanfraechem (Belgium) as Vice-Chair
- Eleonore Lind (Sweden) as Treasurer
- Michael Kilchling (Germany) as Secretary
- Arne Kinnunen (Finland)

- Marta Ferrer Puig (Spain)
- Vira Zemlyanska (Ukraine)
- Siri Kemény (Norway)

Siri Kemény stepped down as chair after the 2009 General Meeting (3 June 2009). She has been replaced by Niall Kearney.



Membership

The European Forum has a mixed membership structure. There are full (with voting rights) and associate (without voting rights) members. Both individuals and organisations (governmental and non-governmental) have the right to become members. At the 2009 General Meeting, 18 new

members were accepted: 14 full members with voting rights and 4 associate members without voting rights. At the same time 5 resignations from membership were acknowledged and 57 memberships expired and were not renewed.

Overview of the activities

General Meeting

The 2009 General Meeting took place in Leuven, Belgium, on 3 June 2009. It was attended by 24 members and 8 non-members. Five members were represented by proxy. The report of the meeting can be found on the website (www.euforumrj.org), under the heading 'Activities'.

In addition to standard agenda items such as the approval of the report of the previous General Meeting, the approval of the accounts and budget and membership matters, the following issues were addressed:

Data management policy

The Board asked the opinion of the members on selling the members' contact details to Routledge Publishing. The members were not in favor of this proposal.

Project activities

The following projects were reported upon:

- Building social support for restorative justice: Brunilda Pali, researcher on the project, referred to the international seminar (3-5 June 2009) in which the preliminary results were presented.
- Restorative Justice vs Juvenile Delinquency: The Baltic states in European dimension: The general aims of the project were highlighted and the role of the Forum as partner was explained.
- Restorative Justice and Crime Prevention: Annik Gielen, researcher on the project, gave a short introduction on this project in which the Italian Juvenile Justice Department is the promoter and the Forum one of the partners.
- Conferencing: Estelle Zinsstag, one of the 2 researchers on the project, gave a short introduction on the project.
- Mediation and RJ in prison settings (MEREPS) Borbala Fellegi, from the Hungarian FORESEE research group, promoter of the project, introduced the project, in which the Forum is a partner, by explaining its aims, its planning

and by introducing the partners.

Fundraising and financial concerns

The strategies to receive funding (letters to national governments) were discussed as well as the acknowledgement of the Forum as a monopoly body.

Policy work and the Forum's relation to international organisations

The Forum responded to the European Commission's review of the Framework Decision on the Standing of Victims in Criminal Proceedings (2001). At the time of writing this annual report, further developments have taken place within the European Commission and a more wide scale review of the impact of the Framework Decision and other related instruments is being undertaken.

Proposals

There were no proposals.

Link with K.U.Leuven

The importance of the link with the K.U.Leuven was stressed during the meeting.

Selection Committee

The three candidates for the selection committee (Keith Simpson, Sonía Sousa Pereira and Borbala Fellegi) were approved by the members.

Board meetings

The Board met twice in 2009: on 1-2 June, and on 3-4 December, both in Leuven

Topics of discussion during these meetings were:

- The progress of the strategic planning team;
- Projects in which the Forum is promoter: "Building Social Support for Restorative Justice", "Conferencing: A way forward for restora-

tive justice in Europe”;

- Projects in which the Forum is a partner: “Restorative Justice and Crime Prevention” (Italy), “Restorative Justice vs Juvenile Delinquency: The Baltic States in European Dimension” (Latvia), “Mediation and Restorative Justice in Prison Settings” (Hungary);
- The 6th international conference;
- Financial concerns;
- Application for an operating grant for 2010 to the European Commission;
- Application for an action grant to the European Commission;
- Structural funding;
- The relationship of the Forum with the University of Leuven;
- The work of the committees and the newsletter;
- The national promoters, i.e. how to involve the members in promoting the work of the Forum;
- Summer school- function and timing;
- The task of the Secretariat, job-sharing and daily work.

Strategic planning meetings

Set up in 2008, the strategic planning team (which aims at moving the strategic development of the Forum forward) met twice in 2009. The meetings took place on 11-12 March and on 28-29 September, twice in Leuven. They consist of four members of the board (i.e. the chair, the vice-chair, the secretary and another board member) and the Executive Officer. The strategic planning team aims at: working out an organisational strategy and structure for the Forum; helping make the Forum a sustainable organisation; and giving support to the Executive Officer in her daily work.

Committees

Five committees have been set up within the Forum.

The information committee gathers and processes information on restorative justice developments in

the different countries.

The communication committee (Chair: Christa Pellikan) provides the mechanisms of dissemination of information to the outside world and within the Forum. The main activity of this committee is to plan and organise the biennial conference of the Forum. The newsletter editorial board is part of this committee.

The practice and training committee (Chair: Niall Kearney) identifies, promotes and supports principles of good practice. The main activity of this committee is to organise the biennial summer school of the Forum.

The research committee (Chair: Borbala Fellegi) promotes and develops research that informs and supports practice and policy developments. The committee functions as a network of interested persons. The main activity of this group is to disseminate information on conferences, research activities etc to members of the committee.

The working group on restorative approaches in education (Chair: Belinda Hopkins) is a networking group for all those interested in, or involved in, developing restorative approaches in educational environments. This is a relatively new committee and its focus of activity is still to emerge.

Seminar on Restorative Justice/Restorative Practices

A proposal about broadening the scope of the Forum and the interpretation of RJ was presented at the 2008 General Meeting. The General Meeting was not ready to make a decision on this matter and the Board decided to organise a seminar on this topic and then put it on the agenda of the 2010 General Meeting. The seminar “Restorative Justice/Restoratives Practices: Are they the same?” took place in Leuven on 3 June. The seminar was attended by 25 participants. Presentations were given by Ivo Aertsen, Inge Vanfraechem and Martin Wright. The report of the seminar can be found on the website (www.euforumrj.org) under the heading ‘seminars’.



Summer School

The 2009 Summer School took place from 20-24 July in Barcelona, Spain on the theme "Towards critical restorative justice practices". The Summer School was led by Professor Gerry Johnstone and was attended by 30 participants. The report of the Summer School can be found on the website (www.euforumrj.org) under 'Summer Schools'.

Newsletter

In 2009 Vira Zemlyanska has been the co-ordinator of the newsletter editorial board.

One issue of the newsletter was published in 2009. The intention to publish 2 more issues was hampered due to practical reasons at editorial and secretarial levels. The calendar, Newsflash and Readers' Corner were regular sections in the newsletter.

The newsletter was sent to all the members as part of their membership benefits. It was also presented at restorative justice and related conferences as promotion material. One organisation is buying the newsletter for its library without being a member of the Forum. With other organisations the Forum has established an exchange of newsletters.

Information provision

The Secretariat dealt with numerous requests under the following categories: information about the Forum and the Forum's activities, contact persons or institutions in other countries, training or educational programmes in restorative justice, and information about specific aspects of restorative justice.

As the Secretariat is hosted by the Catholic University of Leuven, information and literature is provided on a regular basis to students, not only from Leuven but also from abroad.

In 2009 the Secretariat sent regular newsflashes to the members and people who have registered for this newsflash.

Website

In 2009 the Secretariat kept the information on the website as up-to-date as possible within its limited resources. The website is an increasingly important source of information. During the year the Secretariat explored more effective ways of securing current information and began to regularly request specific members for news about events, publications and developments.

Representation of the Forum

In 2009 members of the Board and Secretariat staff attended the annual conference of Victim Support Europe in Lisbon, Portugal and the first International conference on Restorative Juvenile Justice in Lima, Peru.

Financial situation and funding applications

In 2008, the Forum received financial support from the Norwegian Ministry of Justice and the Police, a number of Finnish Government Ministries (including the Ministry of Justice, judicial information, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, and the Ministry of Justice, Criminal Justice Department) and the Flemish Ministry of Social Affairs and Health. This money has been used towards the Forum's own contribution for the application of the 2009 operating grant (which has been awarded by the Commission) and as own contribution for the new project on RJ and victims for which the Forum applied in 2009 with the European Commission.

The principal sources of income for the Forum in 2009 have been membership fees, the operating grant awarded by the European Commission and project funding linked to specific projects also awarded by the European Commission.

Projects

Building social support for restorative justice

The activities within this European Commission funded project in 2009 were, next to the ongoing research, the international seminar and 2 steering group meetings. A new researcher joined the project. She worked on the manual focusing on civil society and citizens. The project runs until March 2010.

amongst others, supervising the research, helping in the preparations of the international conference and by attending the international conference which took place in October 2009 in Riga, Latvia.

Conferencing: A way forward for restorative justice in Europe

The Forum applied to the European Commission for the project "Conferencing: A way forward for restorative justice in Europe". This two year project consists of an explanatory study of conferencing practices and their applicability in Europe. The research will result in a scientific report. The 2 researchers (one full-time, one half-time) started working on the project in 2009 and they will provide a practical guide on setting up conferencing programmes in Europe. The project was awarded in 2008.

Crime Prevention and Restorative Justice

Next to the ongoing research one of the most important events in 2009 in this project, in which the Forum is one of the partners, was the expert seminar which took place in October, Leuven. Experts from as well the restorative justice field as the crime prevention field were invited to debate **on the topic and give feedback on the preliminary research results. The project runs until April 2010.**

Mediation and RJ in prison settings (MEREPS)

The promoter of this project is the Hungarian FORESEE research group. The Forum is one of the partners. In November 2009 the Executive Officer of the Forum took part in the Expert Meeting which took place in London.

Restorative Justice vs Juvenile Delinquency: The Baltic States in European Dimension

The promoter of this European Commission funded project is the Latvian Centre for Public Policy Providus. The Forum is one of the partners. In 2009 the Forum contributed to this project by,

Financial report

Letter from the accountant

ABSNAAMSEVEST 94
3000 LEUVEN
TEL. 016-23 72 19
FAX 016-20 70 06

ACCOUNTANTS

VZW
EUROPEAN FORUM FOR RESTORATIVE JUSTICEACCOUNTANTSVERSLAGOVER HET BOEKJAAR 2009
VAN
1/01/2009 TOT 31/12/2009Mevrouwen,
Mijne Heren,

In onze hoedanigheid van accountant brengen wij u verslag uit over de uitvoering van onze controleopdracht.

Wij zijn overgegaan tot de controle van de jaarrekening over het boekjaar 2009, omvattende de periode van 1 januari 2009 tot 31 december 2009, afgesloten met een balanstotaal van 689.561,(00) euro en waarvan de resultatenrekening afsluit met een winst van het boekjaar van 41.763,(00) euro.

Verklaring over de jaarrekening

Ons onderzoek werd uitgevoerd overeenkomstig de controlenormen van het Instituut der Accountants en Belastingconsulenten. Deze beroepsnormen eisen dat onze controle zo georganiseerd en uitgevoerd wordt dat een redelijke mate van zekerheid wordt verkregen dat de jaarrekening geen onjuistheden van materieel belang bevat, rekening houdend met de Belgische wettelijke en bestuursrechtelijke bepalingen.


Wij hebben op basis van steekproeven de verantwoording onderzocht van de bedragen, opgenomen in de jaarrekening.

Wij maken geen deel uit van het bestuursorgaan van de vzw en hebben ons oordeel dan ook in volledige onafhankelijkheid kunnen vormen.

Naar ons oordeel, rekening houdend met de toepasselijke wettelijke en bestuursrechtelijke voorschriften, geeft de jaarrekening, afgesloten per 31 december 2009, een getrouw beeld van het vermogen, van de financiële toestand en van de resultaten van de vzw European Forum for Restorative Justice.

Het beheersorgaan heeft besloten om het resultaat van het boekjaar toe te wijzen aan het overgedragen resultaat.

Leuven , 10 juni 2010


Dominique Vaes
Accountant

abs@abs-accountant.be

bvba ABS Accountants RPR Leuven I.A.B. 221433-N-96 B.T.W. BE 0459.049.629

BURGERLIJKE
VENNOOTSCHAP
ONDER DE VORM
VAN EEN BESLOTEN
VENNOOTSCHAP
MET BEPERKTE
AANSPRAKELIJKHEID

Cost-incomes 2009 and Budget 2010 (in Euro)

COSTS	Budget 2009	Revised budget 2009	Result 2009	Budget 2010
Postage	4.000,00 EUR	4.200,00 EUR	1.493,24 EUR	1.200,00 EUR
Copies	400,00 EUR	900,00 EUR	77,40 EUR	900,00 EUR
Travel/accommodation	10.000,00 EUR	15.640,00 EUR	6.149,13	8.780,00 EUR
Office Supplies	1.500,00 EUR	2.235,00 EUR	1.579,76 EUR	3960,42 EUR
Documentation	200,00 EUR	1.200,00 EUR	566,77 EUR	800,00 EUR
Computer supplies	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR
Other	250,00 EUR	285,00 EUR	3.508,45 EUR	1.300,80 EUR
Software	200,00 EUR	162,00 EUR	359,7 EUR	162,00 EUR
Website	1.000,00 EUR	900,00 EUR	2020,70 EUR	900,00 EUR
Accountancy	1.500,00 EUR	3.125,00 EUR	2.322,80 EUR	3.122,50 EUR
Newsletter	1.800,00 EUR	2.400,00 EUR	808,37 EUR	5.850,00 EUR
Publications	1.000,00 EUR	3.775,00 EUR	1.296,15 EUR	2.375,00 EUR
Membership	100,00 EUR	100,00 EUR	95,00 EUR	100,00 EUR
Financial	500,00 EUR	840,00 EUR	479,66 EUR	840,00 EUR
Representation	250,00 EUR	250,00 EUR	632,97 EUR	112,41 EUR
Meetings	1.500,00 EUR	7.395,00 EUR	2.098,99 EUR	3.000,00 EUR
Summer School	5.000,00 EUR	7.275,00 EUR	3.809,32 EUR	0,00 EUR
Seminar	0,00 EUR	21.435,00 EUR	122,92 EUR	25.702,00 EUR
Personnel	118.700,00 EUR	67.705,00 EUR	56.776,67 EUR	54.000,00 EUR
Memberships not paid	3.000,00 EUR	0,00 EUR	1.505,00 EUR	0,00 EUR
Overhed KUL	0,00 EUR	1.500,00 EUR	1.162,39 EUR	1.500,00 EUR
Tax	400,00 EUR	400,00 EUR	682,00 EUR	400,00 EUR
Depreciation	1.350,00 EUR	1.767,00 EUR	1.335,42 EUR	1.400,80 EUR
Printing	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR	10.020,00 EUR
Conferencing Staff	0,00 EUR	101.500,00 EUR	111.351,91 EUR	118.000,00 EUR
Conferencing Travel	0,00 EUR	3.440,00 EUR	2.254,68	2.000,00 EUR
Conferencing Equipment	0,00 EUR	780,00 EUR	921,00 EUR	864,00 EUR
Conferencing Consumables	0,00 EUR	80,00 EUR	0,00 EUR	200,00 EUR
Conferencing Conf/Seminars	0,00 EUR	25.440,00 EUR	8.017,24 EUR	50.000,00 EUR
Conferencing Publ/Dissem	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR	1.860,00 EUR
Crime Prevention Staff	0,00 EUR	44.187,52 EUR	44.187,52 EUR	16.300,00 EUR
Crime Prevention Travel	0,00 EUR	574,31 EUR	574,31 EUR	0,00 EUR
Crime Prevention Conf/Sem.	0,00 EUR	7.659,16 EUR	7.659,16 EUR	1.000,00 EUR
BSS Staff	104.500,00 EUR	111.600,00 EUR	71.828,87 EUR	22.000,00 EUR
BSS Travel	12.960,00 EUR	12.500,00 EUR	7.505,78 EUR	0,00 EUR
BSS Consumables	650,00 EUR	850,00 EUR	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR
BSS Equipment	396,00 EUR	432,00 EUR	46,47 EUR	0,00 EUR
BSS Conferences	63.300,00 EUR	27.540,00 EUR	13.197,76 EUR	0,00 EUR
BSS Publications	4.200,00 EUR	1.764,00	0,00 EUR	3.809,00 EUR
TOTALS	338.656,00 EUR	429.415,00	356.375,01 EUR	341.658,13 EUR



INCOME	Budget 2009	Revised Budget 2009	Results 2009	Budget 2010
Summer School	6.000,00 EUR	3.000,00 EUR	5.355,00 EUR	0,00 EUR
Pool of trainers	200,00 EUR	50,00 EUR	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR
Membership	15.000,00 EUR	15.929,00 EUR	24.180,00 EUR	22.000,00 EUR
Registration fees	0,00 EUR	2.375,00 EUR	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR
Books, Newsletter	100,00 EUR	100,00 EUR	320,00 EUR	540,00 EUR
Financial	500,00 EUR	2.000,00 EUR	4.555,63 EUR	1.000,00 EUR
AGIS EC	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR
Terrorism EC	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR
Operating grant EC	106.855,00 EUR	105.035,00 EUR	62.743,71 EUR	86.000,00 EUR
BSS grant	139.206,00 EUR	126.757,00 EUR	90.000,00 EUR	25.000,00 EUR
BSS related income	46.800,00 EUR	12.000 EUR	4.130,00 EUR	0,00 EUR
Conferencing EC	0,00 EUR	129.540,00 EUR	120.000 EUR	115.000,00 EUR
Conferencing related income	0,00 EUR	700,00 EUR	0,00 EUR	50.000,00 EUR
Crime prevention grant	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR	51.855,30 EUR	16.000,00 EUR
Flemish government	0,00 EUR	7.000,00 EUR	0,00 EUR	7.000,00 EUR
Finnish government	0,00 EUR	8.000,00 EUR	8.000,00 EUR	0,00 EUR
Norwegian government	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR	10.058,25 EUR	10.000,00 EUR
Other	23.995,00 EUR	16.929,00 EUR	16.939,68 EUR	9.118,13 EUR
TOTALS	338.656,00 EUR	429.415,00 EUR	398.137,60 EUR	341.658,13 EUR
RESULT	0,00 EUR	0,00 EUR	41.762,59 EUR	0,00 EUR