Background information on the European Forum for Restorative Justice and its 11th international conference - Sassari 25-27 June 2020

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EUROPEAN FORUM FOR RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

The European Forum for Restorative Justice (EFRJ), founded in 2000, is located within the walls of the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium. It is a non-profit organization contributing to the development of restorative justice in Europe. It is a European (and international) platform with more than 500 members including practitioners, researchers and policy makers working in the field of restorative justice and related areas. Its vision is that every person in Europe has the right of access to good quality restorative justice services. The EFRJ focuses on the application of restorative justice to criminal matters but also to other areas, such as family, school, social and community mediation are also included.

The EFRJ contributes to the development of restorative justice with a wide range of activities. It conducts research and produces reports and practice guidelines, organizes biennial international conferences, summer schools and workshops, operates an information network and shares knowledge in many communication channels, publishes a quarterly newsletter. On the policy level, among others, it cooperates with other large European networks, it forms the Criminal Justice Platform Europe (together with CEP on probation and EuroPris on prisons), it has established a European Restorative Justice Policy Network with representatives of ministries, it advises the Council of Europe and it is in contact with DG Justice of the European Commission. The EFRJ also founded the European Restorative Justice Award, which recognises and celebrates outstanding contributions to the development of restorative justice within Europe.

EFRJ CONFERENCE – SASSARI 2020

The 11th international conference of the EFRJ, following previous editions in Leuven, Budapest, Oostende, Verona, Barcelona, Bilbao, Helsinki, Belfast, Leiden and Tirana, will be organized in Sassari, Italy on 25-27 June 2020. The title of the conference is Justice beyond borders: Restoring connections trough space and language. The two main topics highlighted are: 1. Space and time; and 2. Language and narratives. The focus is on justice practices overcoming natural, social, relational, political, economic, cultural borders, transforming conflict and connecting people. The EFRJ conferences are unique because they bring together practitioners, researchers, academics and policy makers. The programme consists of plenary sessions and a wide range of workshops, including paper presentations, training sessions, films, testimonials, panels and dialogue sessions. The EFRJ conferences are usually attended by 300-350 participants from mostly European countries but also beyond.
ORGANIZERS AND SPONSORS

The EFRJ traditionally co-organizes its conferences with its local members. In Italy, it will cooperate with its members from the Sassary University - Uniss Team delle Pratiche di Giustizia Riparativa, Tempio Pausania Città Riparativa and Psicolus Scuola romana di psicologia giuridica. The core team is composed by Prof. Patrizia Patrizi (EFRJ Board), Ernesto Lodi and Gian Luigi Lepri, and it actively cooperates with several other active EFRJ members in Italy. The conference will be mostly hosted in the Conservatorio di Musica Luigi Canepa (Piazza Cappuccini 1). The conference is financially supported by the Justice Programme of the European Commission and it counts on additional financial or in kind support, or bursaries for experts to attend the conference. Among others: Ministero della Giustizia, Università degli Studi di Sassari Dipartimento di Scienze Umanistiche e Sociali, Ersu Sassari Ente Regionale per lo Studio Universitario, UNINT Università degli Studi Internazionali di Roma, Regione Autonoma della Sardegna, Comune di Sassari and Turismo Sassari, Comune di Tempio Pausania, Carcere di Nuchis, Centro per la Giustizia Minorile Sassari, Alta Scuola Federico Stella in Milan.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

The programme includes a series of pre-conference initiatives:

— Pre-conference training “Restorative language beyond borders” (Sassari, 23-24 June) for about 25 practitioners willing to learn about innovative practices for engaging into a dialogue parties with verbal impairments. More info here: www.euforumrj.org/en/restorative-language-beyond-borders
— Pre-conference seminar “Kintsugi” (Sassari, 24 June) presenting the results of a Erasmus+ project on training for justice professionals interested in restorative justice and victims' rights.
— Pre-conference Annual General Meeting of the EFRJ membership (Sassari, 24 June).

The conference programme (see the detailed schedule below) includes:

— 8 keynote speakers – see biographies below.
— 12 parallel workshop sessions presenting a wide range of expertise and knowledge from the field (e.g. on juvenile justice, radicalisation, terrorism, political violence, serious and complex crime cases such as sexual crimes, elderly abuse, child abuse, domestic violence, family violence, forced marriages and honor based violence, schools and education, arts and activism).
— 8 parallel field trips for showing participants local initiatives in restorative cities, transition houses for detainees, restorative conferences in prisons, and much more.
— The European Restorative Justice Award ceremony (25 June) announcing the winner of this prestigious restorative justice prize.
— Social moments, like two receptions (in the main square of Sassari and in the cluster of the university) and the social dinner.
DRAFT SCHEDULE

Wednesday 24 June
15.00-17.00 Seminar of the Erasmus+ project KINTSUGI
18.00-20.00 Annual General Meeting of the EFRJ membership
20.00-21.00 Reception in the main square of Sassari - Birroteca Benevà, Piazza Tola 36

Thursday 25 June
8.30 Registrations
09.00 Welcome from the EFRJ and Sassari University
   — EFRJ – Patrizia Patrizi and Edit Torzs
   — Sassari University – Rector TBC
   — Music Conservatory Luigi Canepa - Director
Institutional welcome - facilitated by Bart Claes
   — Representative of the European Commission - TBC
   — Mayor of Sassari - TBC
   — Mayor of Tempio Pausania Restorative City
   — Ministry of Justice – TBC
09.45 Plenary I - Keynote speeches
   — Dominic Barter & Giovanni Grandi
11.00 Break
11.30 Parallel workshops I
13.00 Lunch
14.00 Plenary II - Keynote speeches
   — Marta Buesa Rodríguez & Marie Keenan & Ailbhe Griffith
15.30 Break
16.00-17.45 Parallel workshops II (long)
18.30- 20.00 European Restorative Justice Award ceremony and reception - Sassari University's cluster, Piazza Università
Friday 26 June
9.00 Parallel workshops III
10.30 Break
11.00 **Plenary III – Beyond the borders of separation created by political violence**
  — Testimonies from Italy, Basque Country and Northern Ireland
12.30 Lunch
13.30 Parallel workshops IV
15.00 Break
15.30 Parallel workshops V
17.00-18.00 **Plenary IV - Annual Lecture of The International Journal of Restorative Justice**
  — Fergus McNeil & Jo Collison Scott
20.00 Meeting to go to the restaurant
20.30 Social dinner – Venue TBC

Saturday 27 June
9.30 Parallel workshops VI
11.00 Break
11.30 **Plenary IV - Keynote speeches**
  — Albert Dzur & Wendy Drewery
12.45 Closing remarks
13.15 Lunch
14.00-14.30 Departure for the parallel field trips (see page 9)
  *Distance: 1-1,5 hour bus drive*
  1. Tempio Pausania: restorative conference in Nuchis’ prison (14.00-20.30) – 25 people
  2. Tempio Pausania Restorative City: walk and testimonies (14.00-20.30) – 25 people
  3. Alghero: former penal colony Casa Gioiosa in Tramariglio (14.00-19.00) – 50 people
  4. Nuoro: restorative justice team and community building (14.00-20.30) - 50 people
  7. Sassari: thematic visit “Rete Tamus” (14.15-17.30) – 30 people
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

For the EFRJ Conference in Sassari, we invited internationally renowned keynote speakers:

1. **Dominic Barter - International consultant on Nonviolent Communication and Restorative Practices, Brazil**

   Dominic Barter plays with dialogue and partnership, focusing primarily in the fields of education, justice, culture and social change. In the mid-90s he collaborated in the development of Restorative Circles, a community-based and -owned practice for dynamic engagement with conflict that grew from conversations with residents in gang-controlled shantytown favelas in Rio de Janeiro. He adapted the practice for the Brazilian Ministry of Justice's award-winning national projects in Restorative Justice and supports its application in a further 25 countries. In recent years he has supervised the mediation program for the Police Pacification Units in Rio, served as invited professor at the Standing Group for Consensual Methods of Conflict Resolution, at the High Court of Rio, with a focus on school mediation and bullying, and focused on the development of restorative community. Currently Dominic directs the Dialogue Restoration project for the State Education Department of Rio de Janeiro and partners with the Centre for the Study of Public Security and Citizenship at Candido Mendes University.

2. **Albert Dzur - Distinguished Research Professor at Bowling Green State University, USA**

   Albert W. Dzur studies citizen participation and power-sharing in criminal justice, health care, public administration, and education. His work on democratic professionalism focuses on innovators who welcome citizen agency in these domains, the barriers they face, and the resources available to link small-scale efforts to broad democratic renewal. Dzur's research has been recognized by the McCourtney Institute of Democracy at Penn State University, which awarded it the 2017 Brown Democracy Medal for contributions to democratic theory, by the Ohio House of Representatives, which issued a special research commendation in 2018, and by the BGSU Board of Trustees, which designated him a Distinguished Research Professor in 2019. He has been a visiting scholar at the University of Canberra, the University of Edinburgh, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, the Kettering Foundation, the University of Oslo, and the University of Tromsø. He writes regularly for the Boston Review and the National Civic Review, where he is a contributing editor. He is on the editorial board of the Howard Journal of Crime and Justice and on the editorial team of the International Journal of Restorative Justice.
3. **Wendy Drewery – Co-Director of the PB4L-RP programme at University of Waikato, New Zealand**

Wendy Drewery is the Co-Director of a five year project at the University of Waikato, funded by the New Zealand Ministry of Education, to introduce restorative practices to a broad range of secondary schools in New Zealand under the Positive Behaviour for Learning Restorative Practices workstream (PB4L RP). Previously, she was Associate Professor and Associate Dean Academic in the School of Education, where she taught in the developmental and counselling programs. She has spent a good part of her academic life working on integrating critical and constructionist ideas with respectful practice in professional and intercultural settings. In her research, she used a philosophical psychology disciplinary framework to study the conceptual underpinnings of restorative justice practice. She also supports the continuing development of the intersectoral potentials for restorative justice practice, in education, law, social work, and social development generally. Within this work she is particularly interested in the relational outcomes of intentional conversations and the productive use of language and forms of conversation to create meaning, specifically in how ways of speaking produce and maintain democratic relationships and preserve the agency of persons.

4. **Giovanni Grandi – Associate Professor at the University of Padua, Italy**

Giovanni Grandi is associate professor of moral philosophy at the Department of Philosophy, Sociology, Education and Applied Psychology of the University of Padua. He teaches theoretical and historical foundations of philosophical anthropology and analysis of conflict, forms of justice and restorative practices in the bachelor courses on innovation and social service at the same University. He was president of the Jacques Maritain Study Center (Portogruaro) and the Jacques Maritain Institute (Trieste). He is a member of the scientific council of the Jacques Maritain International Institute, of the scientific council of the SOUQ - Study Center on Urban Suffering in Milan, and of the board of directors of CIRFIM - Interdepartmental Research Center of Medieval Philosophy of the University of Padua. He is one of the founders of the initiative "Parole O_Stili" for the promotion of non-violent online communication styles. He is the author of numerous scientific studies and popular essays in anthropology and moral philosophy. On YouTube it is possible to follow his reflections based on his academic studies. Since 1996 Giovani takes part in the national alpine and speleological rescue corps in the region Friuli-Venezia Giulia.
5. **Marta Buesa Rodríguez** – Lawyer, Fundación Fernando Buesa Fundazioa, Basque Country, Spain

Marta Buesa Rodríguez is a lawyer since 1995. She currently works as an advisor on victims of terrorism in the Government Delegation in the Basque Country. She has been a member of the Euskadi Collaborative Law Association since 2013, member of the working Group on Remembrance of Victims of Terrorism of the Radicalisation Awareness Network and has been a member of the Board of Trustees of the Fernando Buesa Blanco Foundation since its establishment in 2000. She is the daughter of Fernando Buesa Blanco, killed by ETA with her escort, the Ertzaina Jorge Díez Elorza, in 2000.

6. **Fergus McNeill** – Professor of Criminology and Social Work, University of Glasgow, Scotland, UK

Fergus McNeill is Professor of Criminology and Social Work at the University of Glasgow where he works in the Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research and in Sociology. Prior to becoming an academic in 1998, Fergus worked for a number of years in residential drug rehabilitation and as a criminal justice social worker. His many research projects and publications have examined institutions, cultures and practices of punishment and rehabilitation and questions about their reform. As well as researching, teaching and writing, Fergus has been involved in providing consultancy advice and support to governments and criminal justice organizations in many jurisdictions around the world. Fergus has co-written or co-edited several books; the most recent are ‘Reimagining Rehabilitation: Beyond the Individual’ (2018) and ‘Pervasive Punishment: Making sense of mass supervision’ (2018). Currently Fergus is leading ‘Distant Voices: Coming Home’, a major 3-year ESRC/AHRC (Economic and Social Research Council/Arts and Humanities Research Council) research project exploring reintegration after punishment.

7. **Jo Collinson Scott** – Reader in Music, University of the West of Scotland, Scotland, UK

Jo Collinson Scott is a Reader in music at the University of the West of Scotland and an internationally recognised songwriter and multi-instrumentalist working under the name Jo Mango. Her research focuses on the use of songwriting as practice-led-research in collaborative, participatory and community contexts, focusing on areas where cultural, social and/or political intervention is required. She is currently co-investigator and practice-led-research lead on a major 3-year ESRC/AHRC (Economic and Social Research Council/Arts and Humanities Research Council) funded project: ‘Distant Voices: Coming Home’, stimulating deeper deliberation on issues of punishment and reintegration through art-based collaborative dialogue. Her previous research includes the AHRC funded projects ‘Fields of Green’ - focused on the role of songwriters in exploring environmental sustainability and the climate crisis - and the British Academy funded short album ‘System Hold’, which was developed to address issues around the experience of mass supervision as explored in Prof. Fergus McNeill's book, ‘Pervasive Punishment’ (Emerald, 2018).
8. **Marie Keenan – Associate Professor, University College Dublin, Ireland**

Marie Keenan is an Associate Professor at the School of Social Policy, Social Work and Social Justice at the University College Dublin (since 2000) and a member of the Advisory Board of UCD’s Criminology Institute. She was involved with the Australian Royal Commission into the abuse of children in an advisory capacity and an academic board member for reviews of the literature. Previously she worked as a social worker and forensic psychotherapist in child protection, mental health, probation service and addiction treatment. She was instrumental in establishing the Granada Institute in Dublin for the treatment of men who had perpetrated sexual crime against minors where she was one of three people to design the treatment programme and was the co-ordinator of the programme for five years (1995-2000). She has served on several statutory boards and professional bodies in Ireland and internationally in relation to policy responses to sexual violence and abuse, and best practice interventions. She is internationally recognized as one of the main leading international scholars in two main streams of Comparative Social Policy research and scholarship: 1. Child Sexual Abuse and the Catholic Church and 2. Restorative Justice and Sexual Violence. Her scholarship is multi-disciplinary and international with a current focus on social, therapeutic and legal responses to sexual crime. She is an accredited psychotherapist, a restorative justice practitioner and a registered social worker.

9. **Ailbhe Griffith – Restorative Justice Advocate, The Meeting Film, Ireland**

Ailbhe Griffith is an advocate for restorative justice in cases of serious violence, including sexual violence, following her own experience of a restorative meeting with the man who offended against her in 2014. She has spoken publicly about her experience, travelling domestically and internationally, accompanying Associate Professor Marie Keenan to various restorative conferences and criminal justice events. Marie and Ailbhe have worked closely together in promoting restorative justice as an additional mechanism of justice for victims of violence, since Marie assisted Ailbhe through her own restorative journey. Ailbhe is passionate about raising awareness about the benefits these meetings can offer victims of crime. Her drive to promote it as an option for victims of violence culminated in her participation in a film depiction of her real-life meeting, directed by Irish Director Alan Gilsenan, entitled ‘The Meeting’. By using the film as an advocacy tool, to bring the reality of these meetings to the wider public, she has engaged in multiple T.V., radio and other media interviews to ‘spread the word’. Her belief in the transformative nature of restorative justice is something she will hold forever and feels it should be made available for all victims of crime, regardless of the type of crime, should they choose it. Ailbhe is currently living in County Wicklow, Ireland, with her young family and works full time in the FinTech sector.
FIELD TRIPS

Saturday 27 June afternoon

14.00-14.30 Departure from the music conservatory for the parallel field trips

**Distance: 1-1.5 hour bus drive**

1. Tempio Pausania: restorative conference in Nuchis’ prison (14.00-20.30) – 25 people
2. Tempio Pausania Restorative City: walk and testimonies (14.00-20.30) – 25 people
3. Alghero: former penal colony Casa Gioiosa in Tramariglio (14.00-19.00) – 50 people
4. Nuoro: restorative justice team (14.00-20.30) - 50 people

**Walking distance from the music conservatory in Sassari**

7. Sassari: thematic visit “Rete Tamus” (14.15-17.30) – 30 people

1. **Prison of Tempio Pausania - Nuchis**
   More details will come soon! ID cards and passports are needed to enter the prison. This field trip will be bilingual, with consecutive translation in Italian and English, for about 25 participants.

   14:00 Departure by bus from the Music Conservatory in Sassari (1h15mdrive)
   15:45 Restorative conference in prison
   18:45 Departure by bus
   20:30 Arrival at the Music Conservatory in Sassari

2. **Tempio Pausania Restorative City**
   Tempio Pausania Città Riparativa is an action research project initiated in 2013 with the aim see how restorative practices can be used to involve the whole community, such as schools, families, police, courts, municipalities, associations, to prevent and solve conflicts in peaceful and relational way. The project originated from a social conflict within the community, because of the opening of the new high security prison of Tempio Pausania - Nuchis in 2013. The final goal is to build a community based on social cohesion, as recommended by Europe 2020 and in the Agenda 2030, and to raise awareness and engagement towards restorative practices. Restorative conferences in prison create the opportunity to connect the worlds inside and outside the prison, to share emotions and to stop looking at the prison and its inhabitants as an isolated island. For more info visit the website: [http://giustiziariparativa.comune.tempiopausania.ot.it](http://giustiziariparativa.comune.tempiopausania.ot.it)

   This field trip will be divided in two parts: 1) a meeting in the town hall with the mayor, officers from the municipality, students from the high school, volunteers from local associations, and citizens who
will introduce the project, and 2) a cultural visit of the city, guided by the volunteers of the Italian Civil Service, including testimonies from some active citizens. In this way, in different angles of the city, you will meet Massimo the librarian; Maria Luisa the volunteer; Lina Rosa and Paola the volunteers from the prison; Riccardo the magistrate; Sara the high school teacher; Carla the former prison director; Fedua the student. This field trip will be bilingual, with consecutive translation in Italian and English, for about 25 participants.

14:00 Departure by bus from the Music Conservatory in Sassari (1h15m drive)
15:30 Meeting in the town hall of Tempio Pausania
16:30 Walk in the historical centre of Tempio Pausania, including testimonies
19:00 Departure by bus
20:30 Arrival at the Music Conservatory in Sassari

3. Casa Gioiosa in Tramariglio, Alghero
Casa Gioiosa (joyful home) is the name given to the former agricultural penal colony of Tramariglio, near Alghero, active between 1941-1962. The visit includes the multimedia museum of the old prison, an exhibition of videos, interviews, touch-screen and real old objects of the time showing the life and working activity of prisoners who lived there. After this visit of about one hour, participants will be able to visit other parts of Casa Gioiosa, such as 1) the multimedia show “The Little Prince” with an interactive and innovative show to increase awareness on eco-sustainability issues, accompanied by the art exhibition by Sassari’s artist Elio Pulli; 2) the botanic garden with the main species of the Mediterranean bush, the didactic rooms “Bees’ Life” and “Mines and minerals”, and the immersive exhibition “Teleia” on the waters and species of the protected sea area nearby.

14:00 Departure by bus from the Music Conservatory in Sassari (1h drive)
15:00 Guided tour (with App) of Casa Gioiosa
18:00 Departure by bus
19:00 Arrival at the Music Conservatory in Sassari

4. Restorative justice team in Nuoro
This field trip will be divided in two parts: 1) a meeting in the Centro di Accoglienza, a hospitality centre for family members visiting their relatives in prison and a transitional housing for ex-prisoners reintegrating in society, 2) a meeting with members of the social cooperative “UT UNUM SINT”, which promotes the social and working reintegration of people who entered in contact with the criminal justice system, located in the social centre of the parish of Beata Maria Gabriella in Nuoro, and 3) a social moment in the main square of Nuoro, where all citizens are invited to the launch of the aerostatic balloons with restorative justice words created by prisoners, students and family members.
This field trip is also the occasion to get to know the project “Riannodare i fili della giustizia riparativa tra reo – vittima – comunita” (knotting again the wires of restorative justice between author, victim and community) which brings together detainees in the prison Badu ‘e Carros in Nuoro and their families, people sentenced to alternative measures to detention, indirect victims, students from the high school and community members. In the months prior to the conference, these volunteers, with totally different backgrounds and stories, worked together to sew the 350 textile bags of our conference.

14:00 Departure by bus from the Music Conservatory in Sassari (1h15mdrive)
15:30 Meeting in the Centro di Accoglienza of Nuoro
17:30 Departure by bus to the main square of Nuoro
18:00 Social moment with all citizens of Nuoro: Launch of the aerostatic balloons
19:00 Departure by bus
20:30 Arrival at the Music Conservatory in Sassari

5. **Juvenile justice centre (Centro di Giustizia Minorile)**
   This visit includes a meeting with social workers and magistrates from the Centro di Giustizia Minorile (CGM, centre of juvenile justice) of Sardinia, the administrative decentralization organ of the Ministry of Justice, which has the same region as its jurisdiction. In the fulfillment of its institutional mandate, the CGM performs technical and economic programming functions, coordination, direction, control and verification of the activity of the juvenile services (social service offices for minors, criminal institute for minors, first reception centers). It is the structure that coordinates and provides the implementation of specialist work on the treatment of juvenile crime, promotes design actions and coordination with local authorities, associations of the private social sector, voluntary, and with local, national and international institutions. Another objective of the CGM is to carry out permanent monitoring and analysis of the phenomenon of juvenile deviance.

   14.00 Departure by foot from the Music Conservatory
   17.30 End of the visit

6. **Theatre performances in Sassari**
   This walk in the city of Sassari will be accompanied by the theater company Centro Xylo-La Volpe Bianca, a group of amatorial actors using innovative methods with an experimental and experiential character. The Art Director of this company, Andrea Dessi, trained in S. Francisco (U.S.), combines different theatrical approaches in his works, including the “Poor Theater” by Grotowski and the philosophy of “Teatro de los Sentidos”, directed by Colombian anthropologist Enrique Vargas. This theater company, through suggestions created by bodies harmony and the imagination power, investigates the dramaturgy of sensory language by strengthening the relationship between the artist,
the artwork and the public, breaking the spatial barriers that may separate them. During this field trip about 25 participants will walk across Sassari, accompanied in different squares or streets where the theatre group will improvise a show or a static image or a game of an idea or experience, related to the main theme of the conference, “Justice beyond borders”.

14.00 Departure by foot from the Music Conservatory
17.30 End of the visit in Piazza Duomo

7. **Thematic visit of Sassari “Rete Tamus”**

This cultural and thematic visit of Sassari is offered by the municipality and tourist office (Comune di Sassari - Turismo Sassari). A guided tour is planned to visit some historical places of detention and punishment in Sassari, dating back to a period between the XIII century and XIX century. The itinerary includes a visit to historical prison sites and places in which convictions were carried out. Among these,

— the old prison of San Sebastiano, built in the mid-1800 following the classical canons of Savoy architecture (thick walls, solid foundation and different rows to divide and control the prisoners), famous for the numerous revolts, repression and violence committed by the prisoners;
— the museum of memory, part of the prison of San Sebastiano, dedicated to the hard living conditions of prisoners;
— the medieval prison of San Leonardo in Piazza Tola in use from 1300 to mid-1800;
— the prisons of the *Castello Aragonese* (castle) with the inquisition court from 1563 to 1707;
— the *Palazzo di Città* (city palace) outside of which the pillory was located;
— the *Casa del Boia* (house of the executioner) in Piazza Quadrato Frasso;
— the *Confraternita dell’Orazione e Morte* (confraternity of prayer and death) at the Church of San Giacomo, founded in Sassari by a pious association of Knights and Dames and affiliated to the *Confraternita* in 1568 which had the purpose to accompany the death sentenced prisoners at the gallows and burial and to assist their families;
— the seats of the gallows in Piazza San Paolo and Via Pasquale Paoli, used for executions and to place publicly the heads of the death sentences prisoners.

14.00 Departure by foot from the Music Conservatory
17.30 End of the visit