



EUROPEAN
FORUM FOR
RESTORATIVE
JUSTICE

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

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EUROPEAN FORUM FOR RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

Connecting People to Restore Just Relations

The European Forum for Restorative Justice (EFRJ) was established in 2000. It is a network organisation counting almost 450 members working in the field of victim-offender mediation and other restorative justice practices to ensure the right of access to restorative justice services to every person in Europe at any time and in any case. The EFRJ is a Partner in the Criminal Justice Platform Europe.



The operation of the EFRJ is supported by the European Commission Justice Programme. The sole responsibility of this publication lies with the EFRJ. The European Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained herein.

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Foreword



I feel excited and honoured to introduce the 2022 report, a unique and challenging year in many respects, starting with the **changes within the organisation**. I was elected in September, succeeding Tim Chapman, a Chair whom we all appreciated for his strategic and proactive vision, availability and active presence, and relationality so inherently restorative, and for being a constant source of inspiration. To him, I address my gratitude, and I am convinced I can also do so on behalf of the Board, the Secretariat and the Members of the EFRJ. I am picking up an important legacy, I feel the responsibility, but I know that I am not alone and that I

can count on good travelling companions, in particular my fellow adventurer, Brunilda Pali, who succeeded Annemieke Wolthuis in the role of Vice-Chair.

Since last June, the Board has taken on a **new configuration**, with the end of the mandates of Annemieke Wolthuis, Bart Claes, and Lars Otto Justad. Other EFRJ members joined the Board: Claudia Christen-Schneider (Switzerland), Antonio Buonatesta (Belgium) and Jorge Elías Ollero Perán (Spain), while Brunilda Pali and I were elected for a second term. I would like to thank the new Board members, the new Vice-Chair Brunilda, Secretary Petra and Treasurer Antonio (with whom we compose the Executive Committee, together with Director, Edit Törzs), for how we have worked so far and what we can continue to do together. I thank former Vice-Chair Annemieke Wolthuis for her commitment over the years and careful of relationships, former Treasurer Bart Claes for his attention to detail in a broad view of EFRJ developments and former Board member Lars Otto Justad for his enjoyable company and his contributions to practice development.

Changes within the organisation are certainly a challenge, but also a source of motivation, two elements that can enhance what I believe to be some of the hallmarks of the EFRJ: perspective, courage, and resilience! A pure **expression of resilience** is the work done by the Secretariat. The available budget covers a very limited number of hours compared to the responsibilities of each person, the multiplicity of activities to be followed, and the willingness and commitment to seek out and welcome every new opportunity for the development of the RJ and the EFRJ. To all the Staff, I extend my heartfelt thanks, for all the energy and passion





they put into their work: Bálint Juhász, Emanuela Biffi, Júlia Barjau Dachs, Kris Vanspauwen, Laura Hein, Rik Defrère, Silvia Randazzo, together with Edit Törzs, an extraordinary Director.

2022 will be remembered as a **year of transition**: the Board, the Executive Committee, and the Staff in transition. In transition also the social life: we all remember, I am sure, that our Biennial Conference was realised after no less than 2 postponements due to restrictions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. June 2022 was the first opportunity to meet again, in presence. I have vivid images of those days in Sassari, with so much of the local and EFRJ international communities. That constant admonition to maintain “social” distancing was only translated into “physical” distancing: we have never renounced the connection with one another.

From the **distant relationality and connectedness** of the previous two years, the 2022 EFRJ drew learning, and, while we resumed meeting physically, intense online work continued: between the components of the organisation (Board, Secretariat, Interns), with its members (many involved in the various Committees and Working Groups), with project partners and other relevant stakeholders. Many activities took place in the different areas, also thanks to the contribution of the Committees and Working Groups: events (restorative justice week, celebratory days, webinars); online and face-to-face training in different languages, training for RJ trainers and trainers' network event for members of Register of Qualified Trainers and Consultants; policy work, including participation at EU open consultations and support to the implementation of relevant EU policies; networking; participation in European projects and Restorative Justice Strategies for Change developments; presence as experts at other partners' events; development of instruments for self-assessment of restorative justice services; awareness raising and communication (website, blog, printed or online publications, videos, newsflash, newsletter, social media, listening to members through surveys). But there is **much more you can read in the report**: for this, I thank Director Edit Törzs, for her attention to detail, and her usual extraordinary careful recognition of everyone's work: because every one of the Staff contributed to this result with their periodic and final reports. You will also find pictures of our sharing!

Precisely because of the transition, 2022 required special attention to the **internal reorganisation of work processes** and, thinking that the EFRJ's 25th birthday is just around the corner, celebrations may include also overcoming some key-challenges.





1. Board and Staff in transition

Strengthening the sense of team is a goal we set ourselves from the beginning: Board and Secretariat as one team with different functions looking for the best way to work well together, sharing vision, strategic plan, and operational procedures. To this end, we have started a work on analysing and fine-tuning internal processes, and we are paying specific attention to individual and team well-being.

This can also positively impact all the members active in Committees, Working Groups, the membership as a whole, and the many inspiring activities we do together. Together we can achieve the expected change, in terms of vision and sharing with all our stakeholders.

2. The EFRJ is about to turn 25: what directions for development?

In continuity with the Forum 15 Project and the Strategic Plan 2020-2025, I highlight some, non-exhaustive, lines of development that I define with two words: *Inclusion and expansion*.

Bringing the EFRJ closer and **closer to its membership** in a twofold direction:

- a) developing support and advisory actions of the EFRJ for the challenges that the different countries are facing to increase dissemination and awareness of restorative justice;
- b) fostering the involvement of members in making the EFRJ and the RJ more accessible in their countries: the virtuous experience of training in different languages seems a valuable suggestion, but also the coordination of national groups such as in Restorative Justice Strategies for Change. This is a fundamental aspect, so that the accessibility of restorative justice is effective in all countries, in the different situations they are experiencing.

Pursuing the development of RJ **beyond criminal justice**, in the different fields and for the different needs of civil society, is also an essential step in raising awareness and building social support for restorative justice. In particular, I am thinking about the initiatives of our Working Groups on restorative cities, schools, institutions, and the environment. By being closer to daily life contexts, people may better understand the meaning of RJ, increasing awareness of its effectiveness. I am also thinking of expanding our work on structural discrimination related to gender, ethnicity, class, and language. As the restorative justice community, we must feel committed to finding progressively wider openings for our societies to move away from systemic discrimination and ensure that our field does not simply repeat the same patterns of unfairness and injustice.





For countries where legislative changes introducing RJ into the penal system have been implemented or are underway, **support communicative actions** that clarify *what restorative justice is and what it is not*, to avoid or contain the risk of RJ being used instrumentally to maintain the *status quo*. For this, we must engage in open discussions with other areas relevant to our work (e.g. prison, probation, victim support) and clarify what makes restorative justice unique and different to other programmes meant to assist all those affected by crime and violence.

2022 was also the year to **strengthen existing collaboration** with other international networks and organisations on culturally critical aspects of applying restorative justice: e.g. radicalisation and gender-based violence. This will be a commitment for the EFRJ as it enters its young adulthood.

The same effort will be made to search for new strategies to ensure the **sustainability of the EFRJ**, in case of a lack of financial support from the European Commission. In the past 23 years, we proved the relevance of our organisation to improve the justice experience of European citizens experiencing harm in the aftermath of the crime, or the aftermath of criminal justice responses to such harm; thus, a diversified source of funding can only support the vision we have to make restorative justice accessible to all.

Thank you all, thank you, restorative justice community!





Introduction to the European Forum for Restorative Justice

The European Forum for Restorative Justice (EFRJ) is a non-profit organisation established in 2000. It is based in Leuven (Belgium) and operates according to Belgian law.

Aim

The EFRJ aims to establish and to develop high-quality restorative justice practices throughout Europe. The EFRJ focuses on the application of restorative justice to criminal matters but other areas, such as family, school and community mediation, are not excluded. The EFRJ does not defend any 'best practice' model of restorative justice but recognises that restorative justice is an evolving approach. **Its vision is that every person in Europe has the right to access restorative justice services, at any time and in any case.**

Strategic priorities

1. Inform the public through raising **awareness** on restorative justice
2. Influence **policy** for better implementation of restorative justice
3. Develop high quality **practice** that is led by values and based upon **research** evidence

Objectives

The EFRJ:

- Promotes international information exchange and mutual assistance
- Promotes the development of effective restorative justice policies, services and legislation
- Explores and develops the theoretical basis of restorative justice
- Stimulates research
- Assists in the development of principles, ethics, training and good practice
- Promotes dialogue between practitioners, policymakers and researchers (including students)





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- Supports public education that increases awareness about issues for victims, offenders and the community
- Makes representation to and/or liaises with European and international institutions or organisations, including the Council of Europe, the European Union and relevant non-governmental organisations
- Works to ensure that practice and research inform and support each other, and that these both inform and support policy making, which then informs the work of practitioners

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Organisational Structure

Board

The evaluation and strategic decisions are made by the Board. The Board consists of 9 members representing different regions of Europe. Board members are elected directly by and among the members of the EFRJ on the Annual General Meeting. The Board elects among its members the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, who, together with the Executive Director form the Executive Committee.

The Board of the EFRJ is composed of **nine volunteer Board members**, currently from eight different countries. The Annual General Meeting of 2022 (re)elected five Board members. The composition of the Board in 2022 after the AGM:

Executive Committee Board Members



Board Members



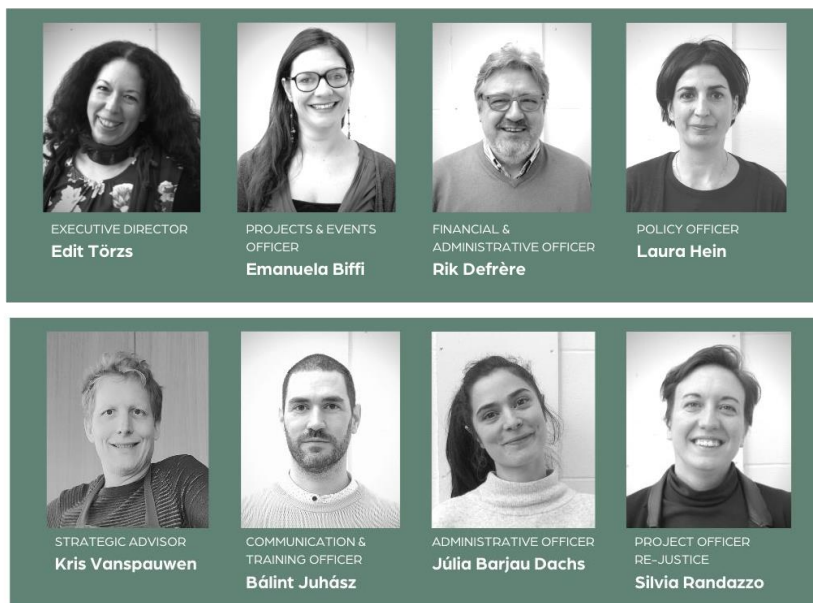


As a new element in this process, newly elected Board members were asked to sign up for the new code of conduct for the EFRJ Board members. This document clarifies the rights, obligations and expectations of members of the Board and how they represent the EFRJ as an organisation.

The Secretariat

The general management of the EFRJ and its network lies with the Secretariat in Leuven. Besides taking care of the organisation's activities, the Secretariat is responsible for the full HR, financial, legal administration of the organisation, the management of membership, organisation of internal meetings, the Annual General Meeting of the members, for planning (annual work plan, timeline) and evaluation (these latter together with the Board). The Secretariat also coordinates the EU framework partnership and operating grant applications and consequent reporting to the EC.

The team of the Secretariat in 2022



In 2022, the Secretariat was composed of nine part-time employees:

- Executive Director, Edit Törzs – 80%,
- Programme Coordinator, Emanuela Biffi – 100%,

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- Policy Officer, Laura Hein – 60%,
- Communication and Training Officer, Bálint Juhász - 80%,
- Financial and Administrative Officer, Rik Defrère – 50%,
- Programme Assistant and project Officer, Júlia Barjau Dachs – 30%,+20%
- Strategic Advisor, Kris Vanspauwen - 10%
- Project Officer (RE-Justice and i-Restore 2.0), Silvia Randazzo – 30%

The Secretariat was supported by two (unpaid) interns in 2022:

- Alma Zizzola (Italy) as training, practice and communication intern until 8 March 2022 under the supervision of Emanuela Biffi and Bálint Juhász. She studied international relations in London and is currently following a master programme in human rights and conflict management in Pisa, Italy. She had a keen interest in gender-based and sexual violence. She assisted our communication activities, was involved in our Working Group on gender-based violence and helped the preparations of our first trainings offered in Italian.
- Kristen Parker (US/Germany) as a remote policy intern from 1 March to 31 August 2022, supervised by Laura Hein. Kristen contributed to our policy related work, advised us in her specific field of expertise, gender-based and sexual violence and drafted research and policy briefs on prisons and restorative justice.

As we are approached regularly by young professionals or students interested in internship opportunities, we developed an **internship programme** and launched a call for interns with a deadline in October. We received 13 applications, most of them from highly relevant candidates. We held interviews with shortlisted candidates in December and selected 3 applicants for a longer term, and 2 applicants for a shorter internship, starting from the end of January 2023. The call for interns remain open with a selection process every 6 months to offer 2 cycles of internship during a year.

Through a vacancy at the end of the year we could select our new Financial and Administrative Officer to start in 2023 to replace Rik Defrère, who retires in 2023.





Membership

The EFRJ is a network organisation offering a common space for a variety of actors engaged or interested in the further development of restorative justice practices and principles. We are proud that our members come from many professional fields and backgrounds and that we create a uniquely diverse platform for researchers, practitioners (mediators, facilitators, trainers), policy makers, lawyers and other criminal justice professionals, as well as for students, artists and activists. Our membership is not only about receiving information and other benefits, but also an opportunity to be involved in making decisions regarding the organisation, to engage in thematic Committees and Working Groups, contribute to our activities, host our events and to connect to many others interested in developing further restorative justice.

The EFRJ membership is divided in two general categories: Individual members and Organisational members (non-profit or governmental). Each member is entitled to decide whether to join the EFRJ as Full Member (with voting rights) or Associate Member (without voting rights).

The membership of the EFRJ is constantly growing. Currently the EFRJ counts around 420 members. At the 2022 Annual General Meeting 63 new membership applications have been approved:

- **55** new individual members
- **8** new organisation members.

The AGM 2022 approved the termination 60 memberships because of the non-payment of the membership fee in the last 3 years, or because of changing membership status between organisational and individual membership. 2 individual members officially resigned.

The EFRJ membership covers currently **55 countries**.

Our organisational members are presented on a dedicated page of the website:

<https://www.euforumrj.org/en/our-organisational-members>





Meetings of the EFRJ in 2022

Annual General Meeting 2022

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is, according to our Constitution, the main decision making forum of the EFRJ members, but it is open to anyone that is interested to know more about the EFRJ and its work. The 2022 AGM was organised the evening before the EFRJ International conference, on 22 June 2022 between 5 and 7pm. Connecting the AGM to our main live event of the year enable higher participation, but it was also possible to follow the AGM online. The AGM was held in the Aula Magna of the Sassari University, Italy.



139 persons registered to the AGM, 90 persons participated to the AGM 2022 in Sassari and 8 participated online. 2 members were represented via a proxy. 62 participants had full voting rights, among them 19 organisational members.

The agenda included formal issues, such as approval of the minutes of previous Annual General Meeting (2021), approval of new membership applications and other membership matters, report of the activities of the Board and the Secretariat in 2021 and approval of the annual report 2021 as well as approval of the annual accounts and budget. In 2022 the membership could (re)elect 5 new Board members. Another important item on the agenda was the proposal on a new Constitution for our organisation, based on the new regulations applicable in Belgium. Finally, the new internal guidelines on Committees and Working Groups were presented.





During the AGM the proposal of the new Constitution was discussed, but voting was not possible, as the required quorum (attendance or representation of 2/3 of all full members) was not reached. The Board communicated about the plan of an online Extraordinary General Meeting during autumn.

Regarding the Board elections, a Selection Committee was set up at the beginning of the year, that coordinated the application process and approved candidates. We had 10 candidates (3 men and 7 women) among our members to the available 5 places in the Board. The candidates introduced themselves on a dedicated page of the EFRJ website. The voting was organised in a safe online system, that could provide individual logins for our members, take into account different vote weights for individual and organisational members and could share the results in an anonymous manner, while we still could check if a member voted or not (but not their actual votes). The voting process was open between 15 June 2022 (10 am CEST) and 22 June (5:30 pm CEST), and this way members who could not be in Sassari for the AGM could also have a say. 126 EFRJ members participated at the voting (26 organisations and 100 individuals). The results were announced shortly after the closure of the voting, during the AGM.

The newly elected Board members are:

Antonio Buonatesta (Belgium), Claudia Christen-Schneider (Switzerland), Jorge Ollero Perán (Spain)

Re-elected Board members for a second 4 years term: Brunilda Pali (Belgium) and Patrizia Patrizi (Italy)

Board members whose mandate was concluded were: Bart Claes, Lars Otto Justad and Annemieke Wolthuis.

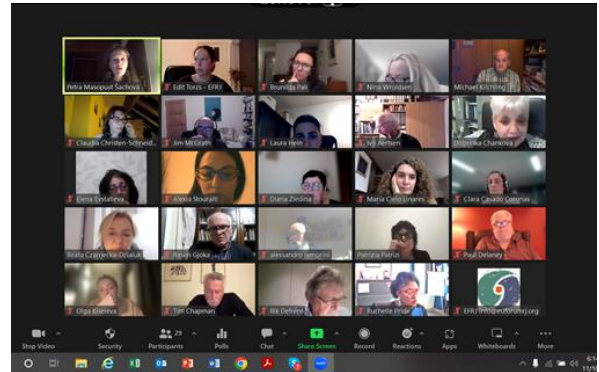
After the AGM we celebrated the European Restorative Justice Award Ceremony (see page 31), followed by a reception.





Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM)

During the last Annual General Meeting of the EFRJ in Sassari on 22 June 2022, the EFRJ presented the amendment to the EFRJ Constitution. In order to approve this new text of the Constitution we needed to have two thirds of all our full members present or represented at the AGM. The AGM 2022 did not comply with this requirement, thus, we organised an online Extraordinary General Meeting on **10 November 2022** to convene our members to discuss and vote for the changes. In an EGM we need a simple majority of the full members present to approve the changes in the constitution, without a minimum requirement for the number of full members present. The online EGM, to which 57 members registered, approved the proposal for the Constitution.



The Secretariat then arranged the official publication of the new Constitution according to the Belgian regulations.

Board and Executive Committee meetings

The Board meets twice a year, but the ED reports more often to the Board and some decisions are taken throughout the year by electronic communication.

In 2022 the EFRJ Board met twice:

20-21 June 2022 in Sassari (Italy), preceding our AGM and international conference; and

13-14 December 2022 in Leuven (Belgium).

As after the AGM 2022 the composition of the Board changed, an informal meeting was held already in Sassari with the new Board members and an online meeting on 16 September for the





new Board to elect the new functions. The new Executive Committee is composed of Patrizia Patrizi as Chair, Brunilda Pali as Vice-Chair, Antonio Buonatesta as Treasurer and Petra Masopust-Sachova as Secretary, together with the ED.

For the Board meeting in December, we invited an external facilitator, Monika Meysmans, expert in collaborative processes for organisations and in conscious contracting, who led our first half day discussions on internal procedures. The new Board expressed its wish to make some internal processes more clear and transparent and identified additional fields of attention during its mandate, among others racial equality as a topic and, as an area of further attention, fundraising strategies.

The **Executive Committee** met 5 times online in 2022:

24 March, 28 April, 2 June, 21 October and 2 December.

The Executive Committee focuses more on operational issues and follows up how the Board decisions and strategy are implemented in the operational work of the organisation.

Regular staff meetings

The Secretariat is responsible for the full HR, financial, legal administration of the organisation, the management of membership, organisation of internal meetings, the Annual General Meeting of the members, for planning (annual work plan, timeline), coordination and delivery of activities and evaluation (these latter together with the Board). The Secretariat prepares the Annual Report, which is formally approved by the AGM as well as the Financial Report and Annual Accounts, which, after approval, also need to be submitted to the Belgian authorities. The administrative work of the Secretariat is supported by an external bookkeeper (De Kleine Prins) and a social secretariat company (Acerta) for payroll services. As the EFRJ team become larger in the past years, we also started a process to review fields of responsibilities and job descriptions, as in some cases we have to make more clear who is the responsible team member for certain tasks, as well as to review if there are domains that are not sufficiently covered.

The staff meets on a weekly basis for coordination, updates and some of the team meetings are dedicated to specific topics, allowing for more in depth discussion and reflection.





In the beginning of the year, we came together for a special meeting to reflect on the past year and to make resolutions for ourselves for the coming year. In 2022 we faced challenges regarding resuming office based work after Covid, as team members had different expectations and needs. We handled this with creating together an internal policy on rules regarding home and office based



work and held two exceptional team meetings using restorative techniques that allowed to put issues on the table, but also to reflect on the values and goals of our individual work and more generally of the organisation.

The Secretariat faced some unexpected challenges towards the end of the year because of the long sick leave of our Programme Coordinator.

On 16 December we organised a team day in Brussels, where we had a special guided tour in the Royal Museum of Fine Arts focusing on art and human rights, followed by a lunch together.

Committees and Working Groups

The Committee's (COMs) and Working Groups (WGs) are important pillars contributing to the EFRJ's work to enable every person in Europe the right of access to high quality restorative justice. Their purpose is to bring together the expertise of the EFRJ members (and other experts) to support the work of the EFRJ and to contribute actively to its mission. Specifically, the COMs are groups of members appointed to work on specific areas that are key in the work plan of the EFRJ, such as practice and training, research, information and communication. WGs also consist of members, but they are working on a certain area of application of restorative justice and for a limited time.





Almost 100 members participated in 2022 in one of our standing Committees or temporary Working Groups (Editorial Committee, Training Committee, Research Committee and the Values and Standards Committee, Working Groups on Restorative Cities, Violent Extremism, Gender-based violence, Environmental restorative justice, Restorative schools and on Institutions).

Each Committee and Working Group has a representative of the Secretariat and one of the Board. They elect their own chairs and develop their workplan and outputs. The chairs report on their groups activity each year on the AGM.

Work within these groups become much more intense during the last years through online meetings. This is clearly an area of our work where online collaboration become extremely beneficial and efficient, therefore we decided to keep this modus operandi even after the pandemic.

Because of the 4-6 weekly meetings and the growing number of Committees and Working Groups the workload on the Secretariat regarding the work of these groups become considerably high. Starting already in the year before, we developed an internal process to create more clear guidelines and a terms of reference for these groups, also to ensure a better flow of information and exchange between the groups themselves. These guidelines were presented on the AGM 2022 and communicated during the call for application for joining Committees and proposing new Working Groups on the autumn of 2022.

On 1 March 2022 we organised an online meeting for all the chairs of Committees and Working Groups.



The **Editorial Committee** met 3 times in 2022. It is responsible for the creation of the EFRJ Newsletter (3 issues per year) and updates in the Restorative Blog.





The **Training Committee** met 5 times in 2022. It advises on our training offer, course development, approves members to join the EFRJ Register of trainers, participates in the selection of trainers for our courses and evaluates the trainings.

The **Values and Standards Committee** met 13 times in 2022. It focuses in general on practice and policy development through recommendations on standards of good practice and is developing tools for the Restorative justice quality review toolkit (3 new tools published in 2022). In 2022 it worked on a paper on the principle of voluntariness in restorative justice, a quality review tool for policy makers, and organised a focus group with probation services that are delivering also restorative justice services.

The **Research Committee** met every 2 months online. It focuses on research in the area of restorative justice and how it is connected to practice and policy. Members had separate meetings to work on specific outcomes. In November 2021 the RECOM organised an online Conference “Measuring, researching, narrating: Discussing the (social) impact of restorative justice. Main findings and topics of this conference were then further discussed during a workshop of the EFRJ international Conference held in Sassari (Italy) in June 2022. The RECOM worked in sub-groups on two edited books. The one, “Widening the Restorative Lens” aims to rediscover those contributions that do not belong to the mainstream literature on RJ. The second one is on RJ research methods. Both books will be published in 2023.

As Committee members have a mandate for 2 years, at the end of July we launched a call for our members to (re)join these Committees. The Secretariat received 50 applications. A temporary Selection Committee was set up for each Committee and selected members were informed in November that they can join a Committee as of January 2023.

In 2022, the Working Groups took the lead in the following activities:

- All Working Groups presented in one of the parallel workshop sessions during the international conference (Sassari, 23-25 June).
- The Working Group on **Restorative Cities** engaged and organised internal meetings with other existing overseas cities (Canberra, Wanganui, Oakland) and with potential news ones to come (in Portugal, Croatia and Italy). It also worked on the publication “A journey around restorative cities in the world: A travel guide” (forthcoming in





2023) and organised webinar on 28 November:
<https://www.euforumrj.org/en/events/journey-around-restorative-cities>

- The Working Group on **Violent Extremism** published a second paper on the topic, this time directed to policymakers “Restorative Justice in cases of violent extremism: A policy paper by the EFRJ Working Group on Violent Extremism” and organised a webinar on 23 November, including the testimony of a survivor:
<https://www.euforumrj.org/en/events/restorative-justice-cases-violent-extremism>
- The Working Group on **Gender-Based Violence** published a position paper to respond to the EC request for feedback on the proposed Directive on violence against women (VAW) and domestic violence:
<https://www.euforumrj.org/en/node11/restorative-justice-proposed-directive-combatting-violence-against-women-and-domestic> ; it also organised a webinar on 7 December: <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/events/restorative-justice-and-gender-based-violence> It also prepared a publication “From Survivors to Survivors: Conversations on restorative justice in cases of sexual violence” that will be launched in 2023.
- The Working Group on **Environmental Restorative Justice** has participated with the European Law Institute (ELI) for the draft of the EU Directive on Ecocide, three of the members of the Working Group published a Palgrave Handbook on Restorative Justice and the whole group has been preparing a practice guide that will be published in 2023.
- The Working Group **Restorative Schools** has published a thematic brief:
<https://www.euforumrj.org/en/restorative-schools>
- The Working Group on **Institutions** has been holding regular internal meetings and will publish a practice guide in 2023.

At the end of 2022, when the mandates of most Working Groups (a part from the Institutions) was coming to an end, the EFRJ membership was invited to propose new topics to establish, or re-launch, these groups, dedicated to specific areas of application for restorative justice.

More information on the composition, activities and aims of the EFRJ Committees (and Working Groups) can be found [here](#).





External cooperation

Catholic University of Leuven – Leuven Institute for Criminology

The EFRJ cooperates closely with the KU Leuven Institute of Criminology (LINC). The EFRJ grew out of a LINC project in the 1990s and the EFRJ Secretariat is still based in the Institute. Being situated in the KU Leuven LINC building, the EFRJ staff has daily contacts with the LINC researchers working on RJ and related topics and participates in the RJ research line meetings and occasionally co-organises seminars, visits or other events with LINC. The EFRJ and LINC also cooperated in research projects, such as the project RE-JUSTICE on judicial training.

The close cooperation with the university enables the EFRJ also to have contacts with students and occasionally have interns among them, and international visiting scholars. Also, it allows the Secretariat to access the main premises of the university for meetings, events and other activities (e.g. auditoriums, seminar rooms, library).

KU LINC is also a key partner in Leuven Restorative City (LRC), a local partnership of municipality, university, restorative justice services and civil society organisations committed to promote restorative values and practices beyond the criminal justice system. Since meetings and activities are led in Flemish, the Secretariat relies on the KU LINC representative to be in touch and cooperate.

Criminal Justice Platform Europe (CJPE)

The EFRJ is part of the Criminal Justice Platform Europe (CJPE), which since 2012 brings together three organisations working in the fields of detention (European Organisation of Prison and Correctional Services, EuroPris), probation (Confederation of European Probation, CEP) and restorative justice (EFRJ). Our joint vision is reducing reoffending and the impact of crime through improved methods of working with victims, communities and offenders throughout Europe. The CJPE is supported by the Ministry of Justice in Catalonia which provides meeting and administration resources in the Centre for Legal Studies (CEJFE) in Barcelona.





In 2022 the CJPE met 3 times for general coordination and for an additional 10 times online to organise and evaluate common activities.

The coordination meetings were in person meetings on:

- 22 March 2022 in The Hague (hosted by EuroPris)
- 4 July 2022 in Barcelona (preceding the summer course, hosted by CEP)
- 8 November 2022 in Leuven (hosted by the EFRJ).



These meetings were dedicated to discuss common (policy) priorities and strategies. We discussed and updated the strategic collaboration between CJPE and the CEJFE (the Centre for Legal Studies in Barcelona) concerning in particular, communication and organisation of events. We also agreed to work on updating the CJPE partnership agreement. We discussed about whether the CJPE should be working more closely with other European organisations working in the criminal justice field and those working in a related topic.

The CJPE organised 3 common events in 2022:

1. A **webinar** on 3 March 2022 on victims' rights with a focus on the role of prison, probation and restorative justice. [Click here](#) for more information.
2. The CJPE **summer course** dedicated to 'Responses to Sexual Violence' that took place in Barcelona from 5 to 8 July 2022. The summer course took place after 2 years of hiatus,





as the event had to be postponed several times because of the pandemic. Most probably because of previous unpredictability, the summer course was attended by a lower number of participants (55% of the full capacity). In this edition the EFRJ organised the workshop on '**Restorative justice and victims for understanding and responding to sexual violence**', which was delivered by senior experts of the topic, Vincent Mercer (UK) and Kristel Buntinx (Belgium). Cleo Clusters (Belgium) supported the workshop as facilitator.



[Click here](#) to find more information on the course.

One of the participants reflected on the course on the EFRJ's Restorative Blog: <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/reflections-restorative-justice-cases-sexual-violence-work>

3. On 29 November the CJPE organised an **online networking meeting** with selected European networks in the field of criminal justice. In this first exchange participating organisations discussed their main areas of interest from the policy perspective, as well as topics/ideas to be addressed in future meetings. 11 European organisations participated at this meeting. After the meeting we sent a survey to the participants, 8 of them replied to the survey and expressed that they were very satisfied (6) or satisfied (2) with the meeting and expressed their interest in similar meeting in the future.





Other cooperation

As a network organisation focusing on restorative justice, we are also keen to develop connections and collaboration with other international networks and organisations to make the link between restorative justice and other sectors.

In 2022 we strengthened our relation with the European network organisation **Victim Support Europe (VSE)**. The aim is to strengthen the cooperation between our two organisations, in particular, and between RJ services and victims support services in the field, in general. We discussed the concerns coming from victim support about certain aspects of restorative justice and a possible common position concerning RJ in the revised Victim's Rights Directive. Several meetings took place during the year, also facilitated by our partnership in a common EU funded project, "PROTECT - Exchanging good practices on restorative justice and promoting the victims' rights protection". We further exchanged information and material through several discussions papers. Finally, by the end of the year we wrote a joint letter EFRJ-VSE that was sent to EC Commissioner of Justice in February 2023.

The EFRJ Policy Officer participated at the EU NGO Round Table Meeting organised by VSE and held online on 15 January 2022. The aim of this meeting was to exchange with the participants on the priorities of the year of each organisation and to discuss possible topics to suggest to the EC for the Victims' Rights Platform.

The EFRJ Executive Director has been invited by the **European Network on Victims' Rights (ENVR)** to give a presentation on *Victims and Restorative Justice* during their first meeting of 2022 held in Strasbourg on 24-25 May.

We established relations with the **Child Friendly Justice European Network**, which is a relatively new network working on strengthening child friendly justice in Europe. We had several meetings and we participated on each other's conferences in 2022.

In the beginning of the year we were contacted by **Fair Trials**, who invited us to participate on the LEAP yearly conference (online) during a roundtable with different civil society representatives on exploring alternatives to criminalization. The Executive Director represented the EFRJ on this event.





Different working groups of the **RAN Network** contacted the EFRJ for its input. The EFRJ coordinated these by inviting members of its Working Group on violent extremism and restorative cities to attend the events in person. The EFRJ was represented on 3 working group meetings and contributed to 2 publications of the RAN Network in 2022.

Also, connected to our expertise on violent extremism and restorative justice, the EFRJ was approached by the **EU-MENA Information Sharing and Analysis Network (EMISA)**, to provide a workshop (online) organized by their Prison and Probation Working Group. The workshop was delivered on 19 October 2022 by EFRJ Executive Director and Programme Coordinator (who was coordinating the work of the EFRJ WG on Violent extremism). Following this meeting we received an invitation to further collaborate with the working group.

We also met with colleagues from the **Netherlands Helsinki Committee**, with whom we explored options for a common training programme on restorative justice for probation and prison services and explored ideas for possible joint projects in the future.

Through our Working Group on Environmental Restorative Justice we were in contact with the **Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature (GARN)** as well as with the **European Law Institute (ELI)**, with the latter to discuss possible inclusion of restorative justice in their Ecocide Model Law.

We were in contact with **Validity**, an organization advocating for the rights of people with mental health disabilities. In 2022 we supported them in the dissemination of the outcomes of their Voices of justice project, in which we had consultation meetings earlier in 2021.

During the year we tried to reach out to European **women's rights organizations** to engage them in a dialogue over their concerns about applying restorative justice in domestic and sexual violence cases. Beyond informal contacts, we could not start a formal dialogue, but the work in this direction will continue in 2023.

After an intense collaboration in 2021, our Programme Coordinator, Emanuela Biffi, together with and thanks to the support of Ivo Aertsen and the organisers, attended the annual





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conference of **NACRJ - National Association for Community and Restorative Justice** in Chicago (USA).

During the first half of the year, we had several contacts with different performing arts groups across Europe thanks to our contacts with the **IETM - International network for contemporary performing arts**. This resulted in the project, "The art of conflict and restorative dialogues", funded within the Perform Europe project (Creative Europe), which put us in touch with an audience beyond our usual field.

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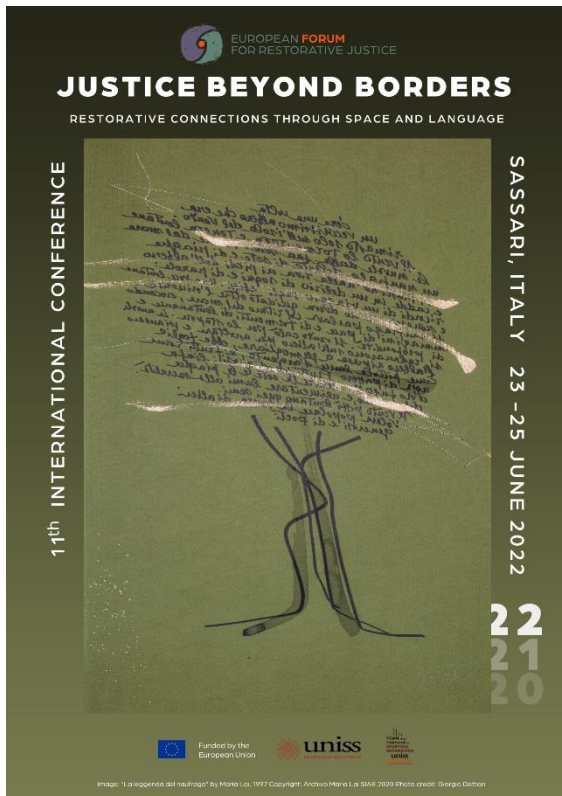
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Activity report 2022

11th international conference of the EFRJ



The EFRJ organises every 2nd year on international conference on restorative justice. The 11th international Conference of the EFRJ was hosted by the Team of Restorative Justice Practices of Sassari University, within the walls of the music conservatory Luigi Canepa in Sassari.

The event brought together **348 participants from 42 countries across the globe**. Many came from Italy (74), United Kingdom (42), The Netherlands (33), Belgium (30), Spain (21), Germany (19) and other European countries. Others travelled a long way to come to Sassari: Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, Brazil (5), Canada (12), Chile, Israel (2), Japan (3), New Zealand, Palestine, Singapore (3), South Africa, and United States (25).

Participants were **professionals, academics, policymakers, practitioners, artists, students and activists** dedicated to further develop restorative justice in their countries. More than half of them were involved as speakers in the **70 parallel workshops**, spread over 6 sessions of 11-12 parallel workshops each. Workshops were dedicated to specific research, policy related work or practice on various areas of application for restorative justice (e.g. schools, communities, environmental justice, institutional abuse, gender-based violence, political violence, terrorism, drug addiction).





Additionally, participants could attend **5 plenary sessions** in the auditorium. Among others, we had the honour to receive a special address by the Italian Minister of Justice, Marta Cartabia, three keynote speeches by Prof. Giovanni Grandi (Italy), survivor Ailbhe Griffith and Prof. Marie

Keenan (Ireland), and practitioner Dominic Barter (Brazil), a roundtable on restorative communities including experiences in cities, prisons and intercultural settings, and an encounter with witnesses of political violence and restorative justice experiences (Basque Country, Italy and Northern Ireland).

Finally, about 200 participants attended the **5 field trips** on the last afternoon, getting to know local experiences in Tempio Pausania, Nuoro and Sassari and meeting with professionals and activists dedicated to the development of restorative justice in community settings, in prisons or in the juvenile justice sector.

The 3 days conference was anticipated by other **side events**, such as the pre-conference training, the European Restorative Justice Award Ceremony and the Annual General Meeting of the EFRJ membership. Also the EFRJ Board met in Sassari the days before the conference.

The event received **financial and in-kind support** from many local organisations and institutions, mostly from Sardinia, but also from other parts of Italy. This served to support participants with little financial resources to attend the conference, and to show Sardinian hospitality and traditions to our participants. Indeed, among the highlights beyond the scientific programme of the conference, participants could enjoy watching 5 different folk dance groups and choirs that joined us in different moments during the week, two offered by the music conservatory and three by the municipalities of Usini and Sennori. Also, all social events were planned to show participants unique initiatives of solidarity and/or community building in the city of Sassari (e.g. the social dinner at the Church San Paolo).

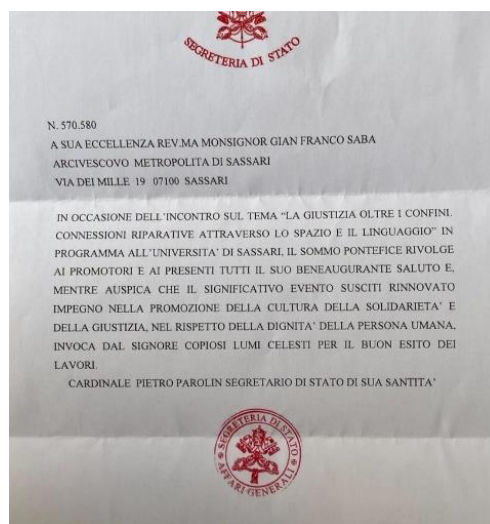
The 11th EFRJ Conference was organised in cooperation with EFRJ members from the *Team delle Pratiche di Giustizia Riparativa* (Sassari University) and it counted on the patronage of:





- the Secretary General of the Council of Europe (Ms Marija Pejčinović Burić),
- the Italian *Ministero della Giustizia* (Ministry of Justice),
- the *Regione Autonoma della Sardegna* (Autonomous Region of Sardinia),
- the *Università degli Studi di Sassari* (Sassari University),
- the *Comune di Sassari* (Sassari Municipality)
- the *Comune di Tempio Pausania* (Tempio Pausania Municipality)
- the *Associazione Italiana di Psicologia* (Italian Psychology Association)

Additionally, we received a supporting message from His Holiness Pope Francis, whom we contacted before as he spoke several times on the potentials of restorative justice.



The event was successful not only to finally bring together the EFRJ community (after 2 years of pandemic) and to map the recent developments in terms of research, policy work and practice from the restorative justice field, but also to create synergies and build connections not only among the professionals present, but with the local realities in Sassari, Sardinia and



Italy. Indeed, compared to previous editions, this conference was **unique in the way it was integrated in the community**, proposing sessions open to the wider public and being present with its social events and activities organised throughout the city. For the EFRJ, this was definitely an inspiring and unique event, challenging the organisation of its future conferences.





More details about the 11th EFRJ Conference and its full programme can be read in the 193-pages booklet, accessible on the EFRJ website and delivered in a printed copy to all participants in Sassari:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_MdQdjovDSE3P4HGpTlYqYpJvA5ZWECi/view

Together with the University of Sassari, we organised a press conference before the conference that was hosted by the Rector of Sassari University, in cooperation with EFRJ Board member Patrizia Patrizi (main local organiser) with guest speakers Edit Törzs (EFRJ Executive Director), Marie Keenan (international scholar on restorative justice and sexual violence, Ireland) and Dominic Barter (internationally known practitioner in community settings, Brazil). The press conference was live streamed, also for those journalists that could not come in presence.



Journalists had the opportunity to make interviews after the press conference. Some of them also attended the opening plenary of the Conference. During the week of the conference at least 25 online and newspaper articles and several video news in Italian news channels had been published.

A unique way to advertise the EFRJ events in Sassari had been proposed by two airports in Sardinia, Alghero (30 km from Sassari) and Olbia (100 km). Two videos of 15 seconds each have been projected in the 27 monitors of each airport during the entire week of 19-26 June 2022. This means that participants to our Conference as well as all tourists passing by these two airports on that week could have seen the videos.

On the last day, the EFRJ published a short video (3 min) on the atmosphere and experience of the Conference, filmed and edited by the filmmakers from the visual lab offi_Cine of Sassari University: <https://vimeo.com/724371966>





The video recordings of the plenary sessions are embedded on the EFRJ website (and available on the EFRJ Vimeo channel): <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/events/european-forum-restorative-justice-conference-2022-sassari>



European Restorative Justice Award

The European Restorative Justice Award is a biannual prize that honours contributions to the restorative justice field by individuals or organisations working on theoretical, practical, empirical or political level. The campaign around the award creates an opportunity to raise awareness about restorative justice in the public eye, and to draw attention to the innovatory work done by pioneers and proponents of restorative justice in the society.

The laureate is chosen by the Board of the EFRJ from the candidates nominated by the membership. The nomination campaign precedes the ceremony, and creates interest and expectations around the award, and helps to build the momentum for the award ceremony. The process also anchors the award in restorative community around the EFRJ, and elevates its prestige.

In 2022 the award was presented for the 6th time, and the laureate was chosen in 2020. The award ceremony is linked to the EFRJ international conference, and because the 11th edition





of the conference was postponed for two years, the presentation of the award was deferred for two years as well. In 2020, artists and restorative justice facilitator, Clair Aldington was commissioned to design a new award object, that reflects restorative justice, is recognisable as the award given by the EFRJ, has aesthetic value, is long-lasting, and can be replicated for several laureates. Aldington developed the design as result of collaborative planning process with members of the EFRJ Board and Secretariat.



Aldington's sketches from the early stage of the collaborative design process of the award (from April 2020).

Finally 4 pieces of award object were created by Aldington to be given to the 6th-9th laureates of the European Restorative Justice Award. The names of the laureates can be graved into the metal supporter of the awards.

The 6th award was given to Siri Kemény, whose contribution to the development of restorative justice in a critical period is outstanding. She has worked with restorative justice for more than three decades in various roles, among others she was the Director of the National Mediation Service in Norway (Konfliktrådet), and the Chair of the European Forum for Restorative Justice's Board.



The ceremony took place in the Grand Hall of the University of Sassari, on the eve of the 11th International Conference (22 June). Clair Aldington presented on the creation process of the award object. The award was delivered by Tim Chapman, Chair of the Board and the laudation speech was held by Annemieke Wolthuis outgoing Vice-Chair of the Board. Her laudation and





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the thanking speech of Siri Kemény are available at the EFRJ's website:
<https://www.euforumrj.org/en/european-restorative-justice-award>



Tim Chapman Chair of the EFRJ Board calls Siri Kemény European Restorative Justice Award Laureate to the stage during the award ceremony on 22 June 2022 in Sassari



Siri Kemény at the University of Sassari on 22 June 2022

Restorative Justice Week

Every year in the third week of November the International Restorative Justice Week takes place all over Europe and beyond. The EFRJ has been participating in the celebrations for many years, and typically contributes to the events in two ways. First, by launching its own materials during the week and offer these for its members for further use. Second, by gathering information on the events organised by its members and partners and sharing this information in the form of an online campaign using its website, social media channels and Newsflashes.



RESTORATIVE JUSTICE WEEK 2022

#RJWEEK 20-26 November

As the key theme for this year's Restorative Justice Week (#RJWeek, 20-26 November 2022) the EFRJ highlighted the significance of 'access to restorative justice', and used the slogan: "Releasing the potential of restorative justice: available, accessible & adaptable!"

The campaign focused on the fact that hundreds of thousands of people affected by harm cannot access the benefits of restorative justice for a number of reasons, and we think this

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should change.

We invited our members to use this week for celebration, raising awareness and to organise their events or campaigns linked to this topic, to help make the message more recognized.

We offered various visual materials, a thematic brief on Access to restorative justice, hashtags for social media communication and to give visibility and include in a shared online calendar of the events that were organized by the EFRJ membership around the RJ Week. The calendar collected 43 various events organized during the week.

As own events, starting from Monday (21 November), a series of 5 free webinars were organised by the EFRJ and its members. Two of them were interesting for anyone searching for creative ways to raise awareness on restorative justice: on 21 November two children's books interpreting restorative justice were presented and on 8 December our Editorial Committee facilitated a dialogue on the use of arts in promoting restorative justice. The other 3 webinars were dedicated to specific topics of some of our Working Groups: violent extremism (23 November), restorative cities (28 November) and gender-based violence (7 December).

More information: <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/restorative-justice-week-2022>

REstART and art-based awareness raising

On the occasion of its 20th anniversary (December 2020), the EFRJ organised REstART, a week long online art festival that aimed at creating a collective reflection on justice, solidarity and repair in today's Europe in the aftermath of personal and societal trauma, conflict, and harm. Ince then we aim to include arts-based events in our agenda every year.

In 2022 we planned screenings of a documentary and a theater-based film, but because of the unforeseen and long sick leave of our colleague responsible for this task, we could not finally hold these screenings. On 8 December we organized a webinar led by members of our Editorial Committee entitled "Arts in Restorative Justice Practices, Theories and Training".





In connection to our international conference we successfully put together a project to the Perform Europe call and could invite the performance **“The Polarity Party”** by the German MichaelDouglas Kollektiv to our event as part of their European tour within the project (in Romania, Italy and Poland). The performance was offered in a bilingual way (English and Italian), as a “field trip” to our conference participants and was accessible for local audience too, upon free registration. This immersive public event used movement, perception (or senses), and dialogue to enable a process of collective thinking dedicated to challenges that are key in our societies such as polarisation. During the event, participants stepped into a field of action where choreography and conflict engagement met. There was no performance and no spectators, instead simple actions such as walking, sitting, and talking became tools for reflection and interaction. Participants were invited to consider the questions: What is polarization? What does it do to us? What do we do with it? Find more information on this performance, including a short film here: <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/polarity-party>



Also connected to our conference and to raise public awareness on restorative justice, we organised a free screening of the Irish film **“The Meeting”** in Sassari, that enacts a restorative justice encounter between the survivor and the offender of a violent sexual crime. The local film screening preceded the conference, during which, also as a public event in the local theater, participants could listen to the testimony of the main protagonist of the film, survivor Ailbhe Griffith, who since her meeting became an activist for restorative justice.

Development of a framework for RJ Standards & Values

The EFRJ Committee on Values and Standards for Restorative Justice developed three new instruments for self-assessment of restorative justice services in 2022:

- Feedback questions for participants of restorative processes;

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- Restorative Justice Quality Review Toolkit. Self-Assessment for Organisations implementing restorative justice within the criminal justice system;
- Restorative Justice Quality Review Toolkit. Self-Assessment for Practitioners.

The 3 tools can be downloaded here: <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/values-restorative-justice>

Additionally, on 6 May 2022 the Values and Standards Committee organised a focus group meeting inviting probation services delivering mediation and other restorative practices to share their experiences and to start to work on developing specific guidelines focusing on victims safeguarding when an offender oriented organisation delivers restorative justice.

Training provision

The EFRJ started to offer its own trainings in the past years to contribute to the professional development of the field and to enable access to trainings on RJ provided by internationally acknowledged trainers in an accessible manner.

The EFRJ further broadened its restorative justice training provision in 2022, by including new subjects in its offer of training courses, and by delivered training in a new language; by offering again an onsite training event (after a 2 years gap), by coordinating the Restorative Trainers' Network and offering a professional development opportunity for registered trainers, and by actively responding to emerging consultancy and training needs. As in previous years, the recommendations of the Training Committee have informed all areas of the different EFRJ training activities.

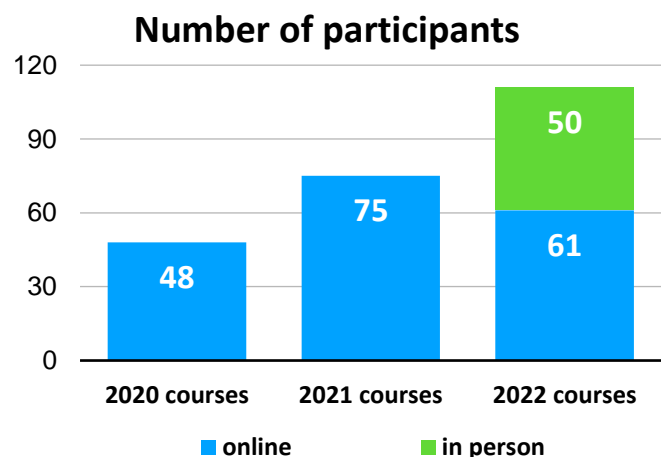
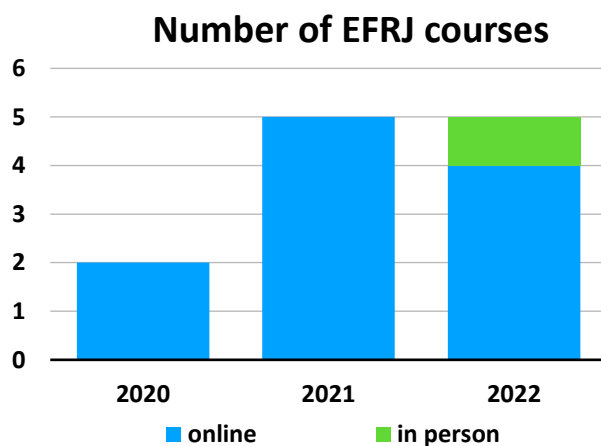




Training events

In 2022, the EFRJ held three online and two onsite training courses. Additionally, the preparations for a fourth online course, Implementation of a 'Whole-School Restorative Approach' took place, yet, due to low number of registrations, the course was postponed for later a moment.

With the courses that took place the EFRJ had a 48% increase in the number of participants compared to the previous year. All the courses (online and onsite) were assisted and observed by Training and Communication Officer of the EFRJ, who after the events also evaluated the courses together with the trainers, except for the CJPE Summer Course, where the evaluation was conducted together with the partners in the partnership platform.



	Attendees	EFRJ Members	Capacity	Attendance
Introduzione alla Giustizia Riparativa	23	1	20	115%
Introduzione alla Giustizia Riparativa in Risposta a Offese Gravi	17	1	20	85%





	Attendees	EFRJ Members	Capacity	Attendance
Implementing a Whole-School Restorative Approach (<i>postponed</i>)	0	0	8	0%
Pre-conference training - Sassari	50	36	50	100%
CJPE - Restorative justice and victims for understanding and responding to sexual violence	11	2	20	55%
Basic Restorative Justice Skills	21	6	20	105%
TOTAL:	122	46	138	88,41%

Two online training courses in Italian

The EFRJ organised its two introductory courses for the first time in Italian: the **Introduction to Restorative Justice** (with trainers Patrizia Patrizi and Ilaria De Vanna, between 7-10

February 2022), and the **Introduction to Restorative Justice Responses to Serious Harm** (with trainers Antonio Buonatesta and Patrizia Patrizi, between 28 February - 3 March 2022). Both courses had a high attendance rate of participants coming from different professional backgrounds (lawyers, academic researchers, psychologists, restorative justice facilitators, students).



In overall, participants were satisfied with the contents of both courses.





Two onsite training courses (Sassari & Barcelona)

The pre-conference training, titled **“Restorative Language Beyond Borders - Principles, Language”**, took place in the 1,5 days preceding the conference (21-22 June 2022). It was delivered by Dominic Barter, a pioneer of restorative circles, a community-based justice mechanism responding to conflicts linked to marginalised groups in the society of Brazil. It had 50 participants from 17 countries, including Australia, Singapore, Japan, Canada, and the USA beyond Europe. Participants were invited to get engaged in activities and discussions in the large group, as well as in smaller groups for particular exercises, just as role play simulations.

The event took place in an elementary school that offers education for children in a socially deprived neighbourhood of Sassari. The event inspired two reflections, partially or fully focusing on the pre-conference training, which were shared on the EFRJ’s Restorative Blog:

- Exploring Restorative Justice Across Language and Culture: Reflections on the EFRJ’s International Conference, by Lucy Jaffé and Sula Blankenberg:

<https://www.euforumrj.org/en/exploring-restorative-justice-across-language-and-culture-reflections-efrjs-international>;



- Reflections on the 2022 Sassari Conference, by Christina De Angelis: <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/reflections-2022-sassari-conference>

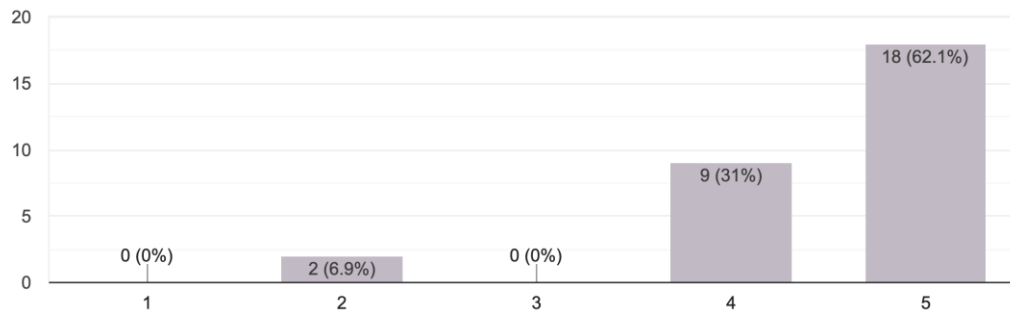
In general the training event received positive feedback:





Contents of the training - Please indicate how satisfied you were with the contents of the event.

29 responses



However, as the event took place in the gym of the school, several attendees remarked they had issues with sound, and hearing well in the large room.

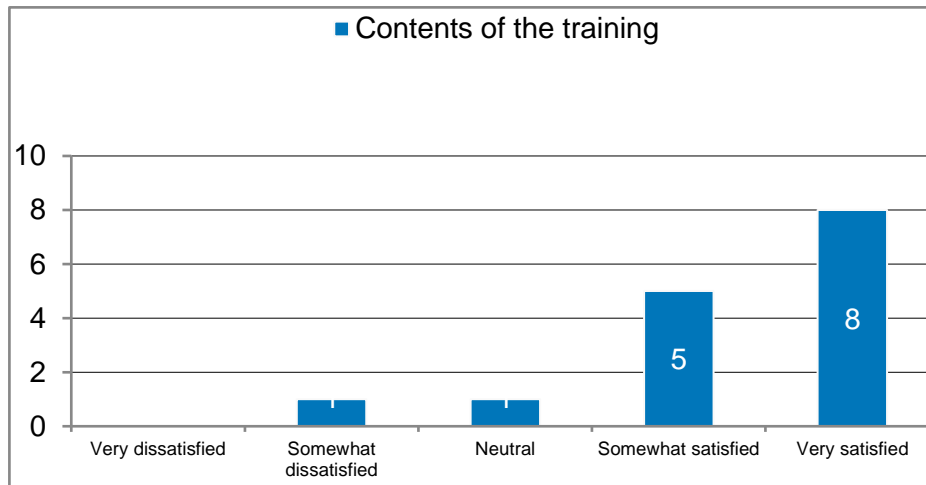
The event applied a pay-what-you can model, enabling the participation of attendees with financially difficult backgrounds.

The second onsite training course was organised together with the **Criminal Justice Platform Europe in Barcelona**, dedicated to sexual violence. See more info on page 22-23.

Online training course in English

Between 25 October and 2 November the EFRJ organised the first edition of its **Basic Restorative Justice Skills** course, based on a manual developed in 2021, and delivered by 2 seasoned Hungarian trainers, Borbála Fellegi and Susanna Z. Papp. The online course was very popular, it was fully booked, and had participants from 12 different countries. In overall, the participants were satisfied with the content of the course.





The trainers of the online courses were selected from the submissions to a call launched within the Trainers 'Network in 2021, and the courses were based on the Manuals developed by the EFRJ Training Committee in 2019 and 2021. The selected trainers submitted detailed training rationales in advance that was evaluated by a member of the Training Committee who gave feedback on the plans.

Workshops for RJ trainers

On 18 February, the EFRJ offered an online workshop for registered trainers based on the Toolkit developed in the Mediarej project, which aimed to develop restorative training for trainers. This was offered for free for all registered trainers as a professional development opportunity.

The workshop used an activity described in the project's Toolkit to discuss a video on the work of trainers developed by Board and Training Committee member

Patrizia Patrizi: <https://vimeo.com/674419489/17b2950f03>





To better respond to trainers' needs, it was decided that further workshops of the series shall be continued in 2023.

Register of Qualified Trainers and Consultants and Trainers' Network

As it was decided by the Training Committee previously, the EFRJ have kept open its call for trainers to register continuously in 2022, and plans to keep it open for applications in the future as well (<https://www.euforumrj.org/en/efrj-register-restorative-trainers-and-consultants>). Throughout the year 2 individual applicants have submitted their application and were accepted to become members of the Register. In 2022 it had 67 registered contact persons on the list.

In 2022, the EFRJ has organised and offered one online trainers' network event for every member of its Register of Qualified Trainers and Consultants on 18 February. As previously mentioned this meeting drew on the outcomes of the Mediarej project (developing restorative training for trainers). The workshop was offered for registered trainers as a professional development opportunity.

The network and the event above was coordinated by Dr Belinda Hopkins, member of the EFRJ Training Committee and Bálint Juhász EFRJ Training and Communication Officer. Additionally, as an information exchange platform a closed Facebook group was used, to which every registered trainer was invited.

Webinars

In 2022, the EFRJ organised and offered the following 6 webinars:

- 3 March 2022: In cooperation with the Criminal Justice Platform Europe (CJPE, composed by CEP-Probation and Europris), the EFRJ hosted a webinar on victims' rights with a focus on the role of prison, probation, and restorative justice services.





More info & video-recordings: <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/cjpe-webinar-victims-rights-prison-and-probation-what-our-role>

- 21 November 2022: To celebrate the World Children’s Day, and the 1st day of the International Restorative Justice Week, the EFRJ hosted the webinar “Inspirational Children’s Books on Restorative Justice” with guest speakers Lindsey Pointer (USA) and Roberta Cifariello (Germany). More info & video-recordings: <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/events/inspirational-childrens-books-restorative-justice>
- 23 November 2022: The EFRJ Working Group on Violent Extremism ended its mandate with a webinar presenting two publications they worked on in the past years, a practice paper and a policy paper focusing on the potential of restorative justice in cases of hate, polarization and violent extremism. More info & video-recordings: <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/events/restorative-justice-cases-violent-extremism>
- 28 November 2022: The EFRJ Working Group on Restorative Cities celebrated the international RJ Week with a webinar introducing the upcoming publication “A journey around restorative cities in the world: A travel guide” (forthcoming in 2023). More info & video-recordings: <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/events/journey-around-restorative-cities>
- 7 December 2022: The EFRJ Working Group on Gender-Based Violence organized an online debate on the challenges and opportunities for using restorative justice in cases of sexual violence, domestic violence and other types of gender-based violence. More info & video-recordings: <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/events/restorative-justice-and-gender-based-violence>
- 8 December 2022: The EFRJ Editorial Committee contributed to celebrating the 23th anniversary of the EFRJ with an interactive talk on the role of arts in restorative justice. This webinar was also part of the REstART movement on arts and justice that the EFRJ is working on since some years. More info & video-recordings: <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/events/arts-restorative-justice-practices-theories-and-training>





The full overview of the EFRJ webinars can be viewed here:
<https://www.euforumrj.org/en/webinars>

Additionally, on 7 June 2022 we organised an online talk, for members only, around the war in Ukraine, mostly on how it affected us, but also on the potential of restorative justice in large scale conflicts and peacebuilding. The Board later decided to waive the membership fee for 2022 for all our Ukrainian members.

Policy oriented work

European Restorative Justice Policy Network (ERJPN)

The ERJPN was launched in November 2018 with the aim to bring together representatives of the ministries dealing with restorative justice in each EU member state (and beyond) in order to share experiences, to create links and a forum for discussion. A further purpose is to make European policy makers aware of new research outcomes, innovative practices and international policy matters regarding restorative justice. It is also an opportunity for the EFRJ to create a more close link with policy makers, to learn more about the needs in their countries in the development of policy, practices and legislation on restorative justice and, consequently, to target its support in a more effective way. As the intention of the network is to create channels for mutual trust and cooperation at a European level, we welcomed representatives of EU accessing countries and other non-EU countries. In these cases we clarified that the EFRJ is not able to cover the costs of participation with the funds of the EU Justice Programme.

As follow up of the annual meeting and seminar of the policy network held online on 15 and 16 November 2021, in January 2022 we sent out a report of the event, with its main outputs, to the participants as well as to those interested country representatives who could not attend the event. This report proved to be very useful as supporting document for our efforts throughout the year to give visibility to the ERJPN, to further disseminate the network beyond its members and to attract new countries to join the network.





We sent to the members of the ERJPN updates regarding new EU/international initiatives related to restorative justice as well as on policy related work of the EFRJ. The aim is to keep ERJPN members informed on a regular basis on what the EFRJ is doing in the policy field, collect their inputs and comments, as well as on relevant policy documents and initiatives at the EU, CoE and UN level. The idea behind is that we would like to promote a closer connection between our policy work at the European and international level with the work of national policy makers at the national level, as mutual support and for cross-fertilisation.

Throughout the year, we supported the communication and exchange of information among the members of the policy network and we continued with the identification and selection process of relevant policy makers, in order to increase the number of countries represented in the network. We sent out invitation letters to policy makers of 7 European countries. In the invitation letter, after presenting shortly the EFRJ, we outlined the aims of the ERJPN and invited the representatives of the Ministries to be part of it. In the same letter we also invited them to register to the annual event of the policy network that took place in Prague on 12 October. Between 2018 and 2021, representatives of 29 countries/jurisdictions replied positively to our invitation to join the ERJPN, welcoming the creation of this policy network: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany (and Schleswig Holstein), Greece, Ireland, Italy, Hungary, Latvia, Luxemburg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain (Catalonia), Sweden and UK (England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland). In 2022 we were able to attract representatives from the Netherlands, Slovakia, and the regional ministries of Navarra and the Basque Country (Spain).





EUROPEAN FORUM FOR RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

Connecting People to Restore Just Relations

The annual meeting of the ERJPN is the main event in the year. Before the meeting a questionnaire was sent out to the ERJPN to collect information concerning restorative justice developments and challenges occurred in the countries/jurisdictions in the last year. The 2022 annual meeting of the ERJPN was held on 12 October in Prague (Czech Republic) in the premises of the Czech Ministry of Justice. The event was attended by 22 representatives coming from 16 European countries/jurisdictions: Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Georgia, Germany (Schleswig Holstein), Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Malta, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain (Basque Country, Catalonia and Navarra).



We were pleased to welcome also Ms. Iлина Taneva, Secretary of the Council for Penological Co-operation (PC-CP) of the Council of Europe.

The ERJPN annual meeting was organised close to the Conference of the Czech Probation and Mediation Service held on the occasion of the Czech Presidency of the Council of the EU (Prague, 13 and 14 October) on “Victims of crime – possibilities of restorative approach in probation and imprisonment”, in order to favor the participation of the ERJPN members to this relevant event.

The annual meeting of this year focused primarily on the Declaration of the Ministers of Justice of the Council of Europe Member States on the role of restorative justice in criminal matters (so called Venice Declaration on RJ) unanimously adopted in December 2021 ([click here](#) for more information and to download the document). In particular we wanted to offer the possibility to discuss together how to put into practice the actions proposed by the Venice Declaration on RJ to the Member States with a focus on developing a national action/policy plan.

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1. EFRJ policy updates. The meeting started with a presentation on policy updates from the EFRJ and its advocacy strategies. The members of the ERJPN received before the meeting the first edition of the Restorative Justice Policy News, a new initiative of the EFRJ to disseminate the latest national and international policy developments and relevant research findings in the field of restorative justice. The presentation was dedicated mainly to the EFRJ advocacy work concerning the EC promoted revision of the Victims' Rights Directive (VRD) and to the concrete recommendations submitted by the EFRJ to the EC for the strengthening of the RJ provisions. During the meeting, we also mentioned the EFRJ recommendations and position paper submitted to the EC about RJ in the proposed Directive on Violence against Women and Domestic Violence.

2. Updates from the participating countries on RJ developments. Differently from the previous annual meetings of the ERJPN, this year we have not included a session on country updates in the programme in order to have enough dedicated time to discussion and interactive sessions. In order to collect information concerning the RJ developments and challenges occurred during the year in the countries/jurisdictions, the EFRJ sent to the members of the ERJPN a questionnaire. A short overview of the information collected was given during the annual meeting and a report with the main findings was sent together with the report of the annual meeting.

3. Thematic session: Presentation of the Venice Declaration on RJ (Council of Europe – Iliana Taneva, Secretary, Council for Penological Co-operation)

We were extremely pleased to welcome the Secretary of the CoE Council for Penological Co-operation (PC_CP), Ms. Iliana Taneva, who gave a presentation on "Restorative justice from a Council of Europe perspective: some key facts". Ms. Taneva highlighted the Council of Europe standard setting work in the area of RJ by focusing in particular on the standards, definitions and principles set out in the CoE Recommendation on Restorative Justice in Criminal Matters. A special attention was given to the Venice Declaration on Restorative Justice adopted by the European Ministers of Justice during the Italian Presidency of the CM on the occasion of the Conference "Crime and Criminal Justice the role of restorative justice in Europe" (13-14 December 2021).





4. Examples of national/regional developments in the spirit of the Venice Declaration on RJ

We invited some members of the ERJPN to share interesting developments at the national/regional level that are in line with the spirit of the Venice Declaration.



We got a first presentation from the colleagues of the Italian Ministry of Justice, Ms Margherita Cardona Albini, Ms Antonella Minunni and Ms Roberta Lugarà about the RJ provisions included in the recent (2022) criminal justice reform in Italy. The reform provides a new legal framework for RJ grounded on European and international standards, it builds upon previous experiences and was developed through intensive stakeholder consultations.

Mr Eduardo Santos, regional Minister of Justice of the Government of Navarra, presented the new law on RJ (and the first law on RJ in Spain) adopted by the Navarra regional Government in September 2022. The law is grounded on the Council of Europe Recommendation CM/ Rec (2018) as well as on the CoE Venice Declaration on RJ.

Mr Eugenio Artetxe Palomar, regional Minister of Justice of the Basque Country, presented the Basque Strategy on Restorative Justice (2022–2025) approved by the Basque government in July 2022. The strategy lists 82 very concrete actions to be carried out in the next 4 years in order to comply with its 18 specific objectives. It envisages the constitution of the Basque Restorative Justice Forum - composed by professionals coming from the judiciary, the university and third sector - in order to provide support and advice.

Ms Petra Masopust Šachová, from the Czech Institute for Restorative Justice and EFRJ Board Secretary as member of the core group presented the European project Restorative Justice Strategies for Change (RJS4C) set up by EFRJ members in 2018 to build on the CoE Recommendation on Restorative Justice. The RJS4C is a collaborative project which aims to encourage the development of RJ in Europe. It involves 40 partners from 10 European jurisdictions.





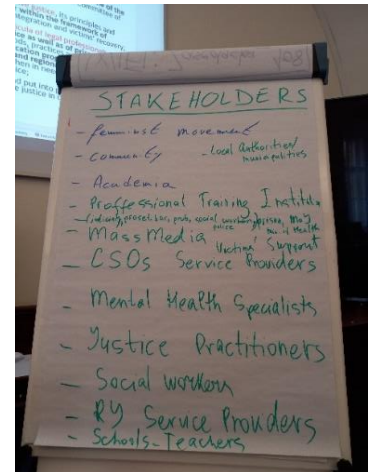
5. Interactive session: discussion on how to put into practice the actions proposed by the Venice Declaration on RJ to the Member States

The afternoon session aimed at opening a discussion among the participants on how to put into practice the actions proposed by the Venice Declaration with a specific focus on developing national/regional action plans. After looking in detail into the actions proposed by the Venice Declaration on RJ, we started by brainstorming about the areas/topics that an action plan should include as well as on the key stakeholders that should be involved in the development and implementation of an action plan. Concerning the areas, several were identified that can be summarised as the following:

- Ensuring adequate legal framework, public funding of services and access to information.
- How to organise RJ services.
- Awareness raising of the society, policy makers, judiciary and media, in particular.
- Support research, the collection and dissemination of empirical data.
- Formalise cooperation between services and agencies.

As important stakeholders to engage with, the following have been identified: Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health, municipalities and other local authorities; RJ service providers, victim support service providers, social workers; justice practitioners (i.e. police, prison, probation, bar associations, judiciary etc.); universities, professional training institutes, schools; (mental) health specialists.

It was further pointed out that an action plan should present RJ as a cultural change as well as the importance to find the balance between the institutionalization (through law and other policy provisions) of RJ and respect its natural and flexible roots. Participants were also invited to narrow down the focus of an action plans.





The participants selected from the above mentioned four areas/topics that were further discussed in working groups:

How RJ relates to the criminal justice system (CJS), in particular, the need to clarify how RJ is applied according to the various stages of the criminal proceeding and the different impact RJ has on the criminal proceeding depending on which stage it takes place.

How to organise RJ services, the discussions raised around, in particular, how to increase the accessibility to RJ services, the training and recruitment of the mediators/facilitators and how to strengthen cooperation with other social/health services.

Monitoring and evaluation of practice and law. The participants discussed who institutions should be involved in the monitoring and evaluation of RJ services (mainly university institutions under the umbrella of a supervising public agency); what kind of data should be collected (quantitative and qualitative data); why an evaluation and monitoring system is needed (for the quality of the practice, to support political decision and to facilitate public financial support; how monitoring and evaluation programmes should be put in place.

Awareness raising. The main target groups have been identified as well as specific awareness raising initiatives and events targeting different stakeholders as well as different arguments and messages that could be used to make effective awareness-raising campaigns.

Active participation at relevant policy meetings, platforms and networks

EU Victims' Rights Platform (VRP). In September 2020, the European Commission invited the EFRJ to become a member of the Victims' Right Platform, an initiative the Commission set up in response to the European Union Strategy on Victims' Rights for 2020-2025. To ensure a more horizontal approach to victims' rights, the Platform brings together the main European actors involved in victims' rights. In 2022, the Executive Director and the Policy Officer of EFRJ actively participated at two (online) plenary meeting of the VRP (on 26 April and 10 May) on the review of the Victims' Rights Directive.





EU Network for Children's Rights. The EFRJ applied to join this network on 7 February 2022. Until the end of the year we did not receive an answer on our application.

FRA. The EFRJ Executive Director attended online the Fundamental Rights Platform's annual meeting on the rule of law, held on 10 November 2022.

Council of Europe (CoE). In June 2021, the Council of Europe granted to the EFRJ the observer status on the Council for Penological Cooperation, the Council of Europe working group that works on the standards and principles in the field of execution of custodial and non-custodial penal sanctions and measures. This status gives us the chance to attend Council for Penological Cooperation plenary and working group meetings, engage in discussions and strengthen our relationships with key stakeholders. In 2022, the EFRJ Policy Officer attended the online working group meeting (23-25 February) mainly dedicated to discuss artificial intelligence and its use by the prison and probation services (the PC-CP is working on a recommendation) and the drafting of a white paper on dealing with offenders with mental health disabilities and disorders in prisons and under probation.

The EFRJ Executive Director and Programme Coordinator attended the working group meeting held in Strasbourg on 20-22 September where the ED presented on restorative justice and the Venice Declaration.

Following up this intervention, the EFRJ Executive Director was invited to make a presentation on restorative justice and the follow up of the CoE Venice Declaration on Restorative Justice during the plenary meeting of the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC) held in Strasbourg on (28-30 November). A round table followed regarding the follow-up to be given to the Venice Declaration. The CDPC decided that a restricted sub-group responsible to the CDPC needs to be mandated with the topic of restorative justice. Questions regarding the budgetary scope for this new activity were raised and a final decision on this regard will be made later.

UNODC. Following up on the Kyoto Declaration, the UNODC started to develop model strategies on reducing reoffending that can serve as useful tools for Member States, taking into consideration relevant provisions in the existing United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, current developments, research and tools and written contributions from Member States and experts. The Executive Director of the EFRJ was invited to take part in an online expert group meeting held from 6 to 8 April 2022 on the subject. As





a next step, following the invitation of the UNODC, in July 2022 the EFRJ submitted a written contribution as a summary of information on relevant promising practices in reducing reoffending, with the focus on restorative justice. The EFRJ promotes restorative justice not only as a diversion tool, but as a practice that could be used at various stages and in various forms to support reintegration and to reduce reoffending.

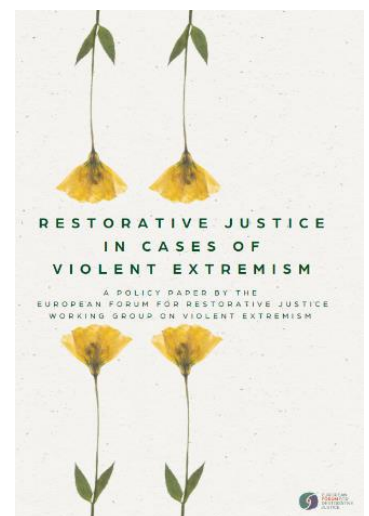
Moreover, after a successful application process, the EFRJ Executive Director could shortly intervene as civil society representative during the CCPCJ (**UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice**) Thematic Discussions on the Implementation of the Kyoto Declaration (5-7 December 2022). [Click here](#) for more information.

Throughout the year the EFRJ Executive Director and Policy Officer attended several other policy related meetings.

Policy briefs and policy papers

Together with the EFRJ Working Group on RJ and Violent Extremisms we drafted a policy paper on Restorative Justice in Cases of Violent Extremism, launched during a dedicated webinar on 24 November 2022. This policy paper is especially directed at European policy-makers, civil servants and network organisations concerned with addressing violent extremism. It complements the practice paper published in 2021. Both these publications call for additional ways to respond to the harms caused by violent extremism, terrorism and, more generally, hate and polarisation.

[Click here](#) to download this policy paper.



Two other policy briefs have been drafted in 2022: one on Restorative Justice and Desistance from Crime and a second one on Restorative Justice in Prison. These will be published in 2023.

Several other policy documents have been drafted for advocacy/policy purposes, not meant for the wider public (i.e. these are not public):





- We started a dialogue with the European organisation Victim Support Europe (VSE) to strengthen the cooperation between our organisations, in particular, and restorative justice services and victims support services in the field, in general; to discuss concerns coming from victim support about restorative justice; to find a common position concerning restorative justice in the revised Victim's Rights Directive. We wrote two discussion papers (one internally for VSE and one for VSE to present to their members) and a joint letter EFRJ-VSE that is going to be sent to the EC at the beginning of 2023.
- Following up on the Kyoto Declaration (2021), the UNODC started to develop model strategies on reducing reoffending that can serve as useful tools for Member States, taking into consideration relevant provisions in the existing United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, current developments, research and tools and written contributions from Member States and experts. Following the invitation of the UNODC, in July 2022 the EFRJ submitted a written contribution as a summary of information on relevant promising practices in reducing reoffending, with the focus on restorative justice. The EFRJ promotes restorative justice in the context of reoffending not only as a diversion tool, but as a practice that could be used at various stages and in various forms to support reintegration and to reduce reoffending.

EFRJ Restorative Justice Policy news

As a new initiative aimed to promote access to restorative justice by influencing policy we designed and published a Policy Newsletter, called Restorative Justice Policy News. Promoting international information exchange is key to stimulate dialogue between practitioners, policy-makers and also researchers. With this in mind, the EFRJ Policy News aims at making accessible the latest national and international policy developments and relevant research findings in the field of restorative justice. By communicating on new developments at the national level, readers can benefit from a knowledge exchange and inspire policy in their home countries. The Policy News will closely follow the activity and contribution of the EFRJ at all policy levels. Moreover, it





serves as an opportunity to promote the talks and contributions coming from our members engaged in policy related work, from national policy makers related to the European Restorative Justice Policy Network (ERJPN) and other experts.

The first edition of the RJ Policy News was published in Autumn 2022 and included the first and the second issue planned for the year 2022.

Participating on EU open consultations and supporting the implementation of relevant EU policies

The EFRJ position paper to the European Union on RJ in the revised EU Victims' Rights Directive

Following the evaluation of the Victim's Rights Directive (Directive 2012/29/EU , VRD) by the European Commission in 2021 - for which the EFRJ contributed by sending its evaluation on the restorative justice provisions - the European Commission has included in its Work Programme for 2022 a proposal for a revision of the VRD. As part of the revision process, the European Commission launched a public consultation (March-May 2022) aimed at identifying possible policy options and ways in which the existing rights of victims could be further strengthened.

Building on the above mentioned EFRJ Position Paper on the Evaluation of the Restorative Justice provisions of the VRD and thanks to the contribution of EFRJ members and inputs of relevant stakeholders, the EFRJ contributed to the 2022 consultation by submitting to the European Commission its position paper. Grounded on evidence-based arguments and supported by relevant international (legal and policy) documents, we present concrete recommendations on how restorative justice could be included in the revised VRD.

Our main argument is that to ensure that the benefits of restorative justice and safeguards for victims are realised, an effective and equal access to restorative justice services should be guaranteed for all victims of crime who freely want to access restorative justice. As presented in our position paper this may take the form of establishing the right of access to restorative justice for victims of crime in the VRD (Policy Option 1) or, following the Council of Europe Recommendation on restorative justice, integrating a rule in the revised VRD that restorative justice should be a generally available service at all stages of the criminal justice process and for all types of crime (Rule 18, 19 and 6 – Policy Option 2).





Beyond the revision of the VRD, we believe that further initiatives promoted by the EU are needed to increase the accessibility and availability of restorative justice services and to ensure a balanced approach between all parties involved. Thus, we submitted further recommendations in these regards:

- to consider a comprehensive EU binding act (such as a Directive) on restorative justice;
- to include restorative justice in other relevant EU policies and legislation on, but also beyond, victims' rights (e.g. rights of offenders to receive information, child-friendly justice, combatting hate crime, cybercrime, violent extremism, sexual and gender-based violence, environmental crime etc.);
- to include restorative justice in the EU awareness campaigns on victims' rights and provide (financial) support to restorative justice services as foreseen by the EU Strategy on Victims' Rights.

[Click here](#) to download the position paper.

[EFRJ position paper to the EC on the EU Proposed Directive on Violence against Women and Domestic Violence](#)

The European Commission solicited public feedback on the proposed Directive on violence against women (VAW) and domestic violence from March to May 2022. The Directive responds to the prevalence and severity of these crimes throughout the EU and aims to provide uniform standards for preventing harm, protecting victims and punishing offenders. However, at the time of the solicitation, the EFRJ felt that the Directive had yet to sufficiently address some important aspects of victims' needs, namely their empowerment and healing through personal agency.

The EFRJ Working Group on Restorative Justice and Gender-Based Violence addressed these issues by submitting a position paper to the European Commission. Drawing upon practical experience, current research findings and relevant international legal and policy documents, the paper offers several recommendations with the following overarching goals in mind:





1. Securing the availability of restorative justice for victims, their right to be informed about the existence of these services, and the opportunity to freely choose to participate or not, within and beyond criminal procedures, taking into account their individual needs.
2. Establishing and guaranteeing provisions related to safeguards and high standards of practice for restorative justice services dealing with cases of VAW.

[Click here](#) to download the position paper.

Restorative Justice Strategies for Change (RJS4C)

Restorative Justice: Strategies for Change (RJS4C) is a collaborative project which aims to encourage the development of restorative justice in Europe. It seeks to achieve this by identifying, connecting and supporting a small group of persons – the ‘Core Members’ – in each participating jurisdiction, whose role it is to develop and implement a co-created strategy with a larger

group of policymakers, practitioners, researchers, activists and other relevant, local parties – the ‘Stakeholder Group’. It involves 40 partners from 10 European jurisdictions: Albania, Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia,



Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Ireland and Scotland. [Click here](#) for more information about RJS4C.

The EFRJ is coordinating this project together with Maynooth University and Restorative Justice Nederland. In 2022 we organised the annual meeting with the members of RJS4C finally in person in Tallinn, Estonia on 19-20 May 2022 (meeting in person that had to be postponed twice due to the Covid-19 pandemic). The EFRJ was represented by its Executive





Director and Policy Officer. The Ministry of Justice of Estonia hosted and funded this meeting. The meeting was dedicated mainly to exploring and establishing our common policy aims and priorities. Moreover, three thematic workshops with Estonian stakeholder groups were organised: on restorative youth justice, on restorative justice and gender-based violence and on restorative practices in probation and prison contexts. The goal of these workshops was to learn from each other by sharing information about good practices, challenges and potential solutions related to restorative justice and restorative practice development and to criminal justice reform more broadly.

Awareness raising and Communication

The communication strategy of the EFRJ aims to engage our membership in various exchange and dissemination activities; to create platforms that enable stronger international relations within Europe and beyond; to enhance collaboration with EFRJ partners in creating better understanding of restorative justice; to create awareness of its policy priorities; to give visibility to the innovative initiatives of its members, and, finally, to inform the wider public about the manifold potential of restorative justice and support associated causes by joining a number international campaigns.

The EFRJ communicates its messages to the broad public through several channels: its website, social media accounts, the Restorative Blog, its Newsflashes, video materials, through targeting media platforms with messages with aim of getting more visibility for these, by organising awareness raising events, developing materials and campaigns and by joining international campaigns that observe causes in align with the EFRJ's messages.

Website

The EFRJ's website is its main platform for communication, and it was used extensively in 2022. The most essential information is shared through the website, and the other communication channels typically direct users to the website with hyperlinks or other indications. We made significant developments to the EFRJ website. By the end of the year it counted around 700 different webpages.





The website and its integrated CRM system was continuously maintained by its service provider, a Belgian company (Calibrate). Several bugs (technical glitches) had been fixed making the running more smooth, and visitors' browsing experience more easy and pleasant. The company has also implemented several developments, including the integration of a new mailing designer plugin (Mosaico) that can be used for designing Newsletters in the future, started the development of an intranet addition that can enable exclusive content for members or event attendees (continued in 2023), and prepared the installation of a new GDPR compliant analytics system (Piwik Pro). The latter will enable the organisation to stop using Google Analytics for its data collection in the future (which soon will not comply with the EU's GDPR).

The number of visitors have increased since 2021 (with 42%), it was 16.868 in 2022. The website had 19.421 page views in total.

	2021	2022
Number of visitors (users)	11873	16868 (42% growth)
New users	11600	16429 (42% growth)
Page views	24752	19421 (22% decrease)
Sessions	14783	17621 (19% growth)





To better understand its membership's experience of its communication, the EFRJ conducted an extensive survey by the end of the year. This applied a mixed-method approach (including qualitative and quantitative questions), and asked members' impressions on the EFRJ communication in general and also specifically about the various platforms and channels it uses. 78 responders filled in the survey, roughly the 12% of the 632 recipients (individual members and staff members of organisational members).

The data remains to be analysed in detail in 2023, yet it was clear that it will be an important resource that can inform the communication strategy of the organisation in the coming period, and how the website and other communication platforms are used to share news.

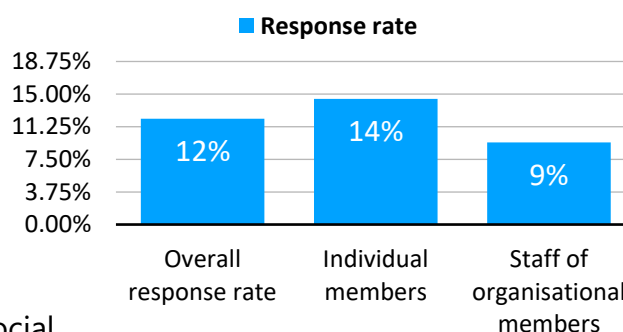
Blog

The Restorative Blog (<https://www.euforumrj.org/en/restorative-blog>) is a section of the EFRJ website dedicated to share articles, interviews and blog pieces, mostly curated by the Editorial Committee

All the Newsletter articles released in the issues were published here as well and The Restorative Blog included other pieces of the text that were released exclusively published there (since they did not fit any of the thematic Newsletter issues.) All together 27 new articles were shared on The Restorative Blog in 2022.

During the months April - June a specific thematic series of articles were launched on the Blog, these were linked to the campaign that prepared the EFRJ's international conference in Sassari. These featured interviews with plenary speakers of the conference and a reflection by Patrizia Patrizi, representing the local organising team of the event. The series was curated by editors Claudia Christen-Schneider and Heidi Jokinen.

The Blog also allowed opportunity to share articles that look back on events of the year, such as a participant's text after the CJPE Summer course on restorative justice and sexual violence or the series looking back at the conference, or articles that followed-up the one day online conference on the social



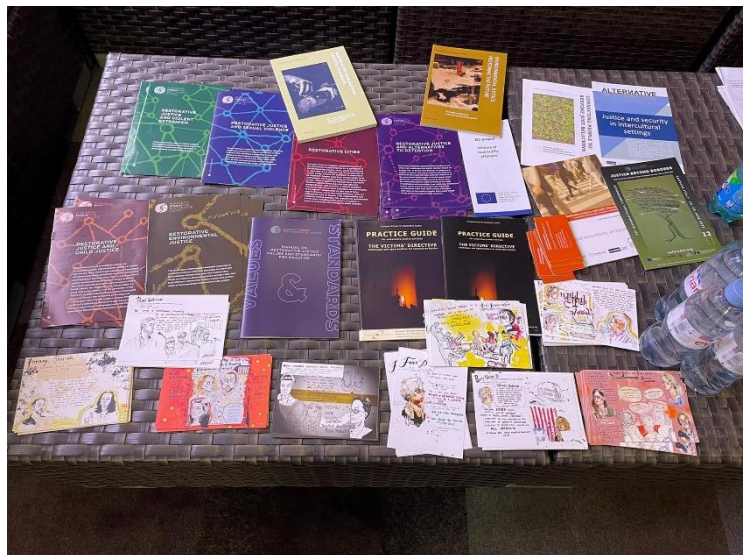


impact of restorative justice, which took place back in November 2021.

Printed or online publications

In the past years we design most of our communication materials for electronic use and try to avoid printing, considering its impact on the environment. In 2022 the EFRJ printed:

- The Justice Beyond Borders programme booklet of the 11th International Conference in Sassari. This allowed participants to have detailed information about the event, such as abstracts, schedule, the organisers' foreword, venues, practical info etc.
- Conference bags, pens for the 11th International Conference in Sassari
- Noteblocks and stickers with EFRJ branding
- EFRJ t-shirts for our volunteers and for sale
- Flyer Winter Academy
- Flyers and Poster of the 11th International Conference in Sassari and two additional posters for the activities open to citizens in Sassari (film screening "The meeting" and plenary with Ailbhe Griffith; artistic event "The Polarity Party")



In 2022 the EFRJ published the following briefs and other reading materials:

- Brief "Access to restorative justice" https://www.euforumrj.org/sites/default/files/2022-02/ACCESSIBILITY_TO_RESTORATIVE_JUSTICE.pdf (written in 2021, designed in 2022)
- Brief "Restorative Schools" https://www.euforumrj.org/sites/default/files/2022-11/Restorative_Schools_Brief_web.pdf





- Policy paper by the EFRJ Working Group on Violent Extremism “Restorative justice in cases of violent extremism”: https://www.euforumrj.org/sites/default/files/2022-11/VE%20policy%20paper%202022_merged.pdf
- The first (double) issue of the Restorative Justice Policy News: <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/node11/first-double-issue-restorative-justice-policy-news>
- Position paper on the EU Directive on violence against women (VAW) and domestic violence: <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/node11/restorative-justice-proposed-directive-combatting-violence-against-women-and-domestic>
- Position paper on the evaluation of the EU Victims Directive <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/node11/restorative-justice-revised-victims-rights-directive>
- Paper “Restorative Justice Responses to Cyber Harm” (by EFRJ intern Alma Zizzola): <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/restorative-justice-responses-cyber-harm>
- Three newsletters: <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/newsletter-archive>
- 27 articles (including interviews) on The Restorative Blog: <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/restorative-blog>
- Overview of the main activities in 2022 – [end of year brochure](#)

As the EFRJ is partner in two Erasmus+ funded projects, additional publications have been published for the MEDIAREJ and PROTECT projects: <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/projects>

Videos

Videos are vital ways to communicate messages to the EFRJ’s target audiences. In 2022 the EFRJ produced 26 videos that were shared publicly or were available to attendees of specific events (e.g. the participating project partners of the Protect project, the members of the Trainers’ Network or the EFRJ’s membership preparing for the Board elections).

The following table shows a selection of the public videos produced in 2022 and the number of views on the different channels:

EUROPEAN FORUM FOR RESTORATIVE JUSTICE VZW

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Videos	Shared	Number of videos	Views on Vimeo	Views on Youtube	Views on Facebook	Views on Twitter	Total views
Excerpts of Marta Cartabia's Speech at the EFRJ' International Conference	July	1	74	32	691		797
Thank you! - 11th international EFRJ conference in Sassari 23-25 June 2022 and European Restorative Justice Award ceremony	June	1	339	40	279		658
EFRJ Conference video 1&2	June	2	30		235	372	637
Victim's Rights in Prison and Probation - What is our role?	May	1	25				25
TOTAL VIDEO VIEWS			468	72	1205	372	2117

Two short videos were produced for the Airports of Alghero and Olbia and were shown there in a loop on flat screens for a period of 8 days around the EFRJ's 11th International Conference on the island of Sardinia. The videos promoted restorative justice in general and the conference as well. Based on the airport traffic statistics these potentially reached around 50,000 people travelling through the two airports during this period.

The next table concentrates on the EFRJ Vimeo channel. Its video statistics show the increase in interest over the years. In this table the numbers of 2022 include the views of videos that were produced in earlier years.

Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Vimeo Impressions	3379	7998	10249	86732	102926	71836





Vimeo plays (Views)	1747	3306	2406	4918	5653	3107
Vimeo finishes	589	612	367	948	973	631

Newsflash

The EFRJ uses the Newsflashes to disseminate information on its activities, updates from the restorative justice field and other related relevant news items in a succinct and easy to read format. It enables to stay in touch with attendees of the organisation's events in the past, or who came across its website or other communication channels.

The Newsflashes include updates on developments related to its members and offers to give visibility to its members relevant activities. Moreover, these communications gather current information from other restorative justice organisations and those whose profile are relevant. In some occasions the EFRJ sends out special editions, for example for the campaign on potential of restorative justice cases of gender based violence connected to the International Women's Day.

Newsflashes are accessible for everyone, interested people can subscribe easily through the EFRJ website, and they receive them in their email inbox. In addition, the Newsflashes are also published through the EFRJ website. <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/newsflashes>.

The open rate (the average percentage of the delivered emails that are opened by the subscribers, and the average click rate (how many times recipients clicked on a url link embedded in the text) slightly increased in 2022 compared to previous years.

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Contacts	1450	1919	2289	2469	2551	2913	2930	2942
Average open rate	-	-	-	-	24,0%	24,77%	27,75%	34,4%
Average click rate	-	-	-	-	6,0%	4,42%	4,75%	7,04%





The EFRJ uses the Mailchimp mailing service to design and send the Newsflashes, and finally, to draw the statistical data. The service has a number of useful features, including easily adaptable design templates, licenses that help to avoid that emails are filtered as spam, statistics and relatively lower fees compared to other providers. Furthermore, the service helps to manage the data of recipients, according to the GDPR regulations. The template facilitates forwarding the Newsflashes to third parties in case of interest, and makes easy to unsubscribe from the service.

Newsletter

The EFRJ has been producing Newsletters since the year of its foundation. These include articles presenting professional reflections, research findings, notes from the field, book reviews, and other relevant pieces of text. The Newsletters are edited by the Editorial Committee, a dedicated body of professionals voluntarily curating interesting, inspiring and challenging publications for the professional community around the EFRJ. In 2022 the Committee had 11 members, including the representative of the EFRJ Board, the representative of the EFRJ Secretariat.

The EFRJ has been using its CRM (Customer relationship management) system to send its Newsletter to its members, and other mailings to other specific segments of contacts. Such emails were sent to registered participants of events (e.g. webinars, training courses, the AGM, the symposium, and to the registered trainers, or to members who haven't paid their membership fee. It is the advantage of the CRM system that it allows to easily create segments of recipients and send specifically targeted and tailored messages to them.

The Editorial Committee has produced three Newsletter issues in 2022. These were edited by various members of the Committee as guest editors, and featured the following topics:





Issue	Guest editor(s)	Date Published	Theme	Delivery information (open & click rate of the mailing)
23 / 1	Diāna Ziediņa and Olga Kiseleva	3 June 2022	Issue with articles on various issues (the Venice Declaration, implementing restorative justice in domestic and intimate partner violence cases, restorative justice is not the privatisation of justice) https://www.euforumrj.org/sites/default/files/2022-06/Vol_23_1.pdf	Total recipients: 452 Opens: 59,1% Click: 42,9%
23 / 2	Kim Magiera and Dr Nicola Preston	18 November 2022	Thematic issue with reflections and follow-up articles after the EFRJ's 11th International Conference in Sassari https://www.euforumrj.org/sites/default/files/2022-11/Vol_23_2.pdf	Total recipients: 423 Opens: 53,2% Click: 27,2%
23 / 3	Emily Molinari and Silvia Randazzo	22 December 2022	Thematical issue on the social impact and effectiveness of restorative justice https://www.euforumrj.org/sites/default/files/2022-12/Vol_23_3.pdf	Total recipients: 644 Opens: 50,3% Click: 84,9%

Social media

The EFRJ uses social media for multiple purposes, for launching its public awareness campaigns, for sharing news about its activities, about important developments, and updates from its members. Social media channels are also platforms for engagement with the followers, and to induce additional reach through the interactions of the followers, such as comments and the sharing of the content.

Throughout 2022 the EFRJ shared information regularly on a range of social media channels. The primary channels used by the EFRJ are among the most popular in Europe: Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, and Instagram. The EFRJ also produces and shares video-materials on its Vimeo channel and occasionally on its Youtube channel too.

In 2022 the key public awareness campaigns launched on social media were the following:

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Campaign	Date / period
<i>Justice Beyond Borders - campaign around the 11th International EFRJ Conference [including call for proposals, registration announcements, updates on the preparations and during the event, follow-up news and reflections].</i>	January — November 2022
<i>The presentation of The Polarity Party in Bucharest, Sardinia, Poznan and online: a campaign on the touring artistic event about polarisation, and resolving conflicts through dialogue. Creating awareness through art, reaching out to new target groups in the EFRJ' communication.</i>	January — 23 July 2022
<i>The Potential of Restorative Justice in Cases of Gender-Based Violence — A campaign linked to the International Women's Day & the UN's campaign: Elimination of Violence Against Women.</i>	8 March 2022 & 6—7 December 2022
<i>European Day of Remembrance of Victims of Terrorism - Joining the European campaign with sharing material on the potential of restorative justice in cases of violent extremism.</i>	11 March 2022
<i>Campaign promoting the screening of 'The Meeting' film (focusing on the use of restorative justice after sexual violence) in Sassari linked to the EFRJ's conference.</i>	
<i>European Restorative Justice Award — Giving prominence for restorative justice proponents, and highlighting the significance of their efforts.</i>	22 — 27 June 2022
<i>Calls for members: Activating EFRJ members and local communities around them. Aims: to explore and gather local restorative capacities & propose their towns as venues for future events of the organisation; to propose topics for Working Groups and to become Committee and Working Group members.</i>	15 July — 30 September 2022 & 30 November - 6 December 2022
<i>International Restorative Justice Week (20–26 November 2022. The EFRJ was announcing the theme, providing, campaign materials, and messages during the actual week).</i>	25 August — 28 November 2022
<i>Campaign promoting the EFRJ Winter Academy, a new platform for learning restorative justice skills and principles. [The Winter Academy was due in 2023, the campaign continued after the end of the year.]</i>	1 September 2022 — 31 December 2022 [and continuing]
<i>International Day of Prison Education - Joining the campaign by highlighting the work done by EFRJ members who work with prisoners.</i>	13 October





<i>Campaign promoting the series of 5 restorative justice webinar organised by the EFRJ (these took place between 21 November — 8 December 2022)</i>	<i>16 October — 8 December 2022</i>
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The core materials of the campaigns were launched on various platforms, on the EFRJ’s website, on the EFRJ’s Vimeo channel, on members’ or other international organisations’ websites. The social media channels helped to spread and amplify the messages of the campaigns. In 4 cases the EFRJ also used paid advertisements on Facebook for events organised in Sassari connected to the EFRJ’s conference: 2 campaigns were launched for the Polarity Party’s presentation (in May and June), and 2 campaigns for the screening of the film *The Meeting* and the talk after it, in English and in Italian. These aimed to involve local residents in the events around the conference.

In 2022, the EFRJ has published regular posts on its Facebook page, Twitter channel, and LinkedIn channel, all together 915 posts throughout the year. Instagram was used periodically as an additional platform to launch key messages.

The audience of the EFRJ social media channels has continued to grow in 2022 (9% increase both in people who like and the followers of the EFRJ Facebook page; 16% more Twitter followers, 106% increase the followers of the EFRJ LinkedIn page, and 31% more followers on Instagram).

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Facebook Page Likes	989	1194 (21% growth)	1552 (30% growth)	1996 (29% growth)	2588 (30% growth)	3263 (26% growth)	3787 (16% growth)	4052 (7% growth)	4420 (9% growth)
Facebook Page Followers	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	2590	3312 (28% growth)	4005 (21% growth)	4433 (11% growth)	4814 (9% growth)
Twitter followers	-	369	509 (38% growth)	741 (46% growth)	991 (34% growth)	1420 (43% growth)	1976 (43% growth)	2357 (19% growth)	2733 (16% growth)





LinkedIn Page followers	-	-	-	-	239	480 (101% growth)	802 (67% growth)	1497 (87% growth)	3088 (106% growth)
Instagram followers	-	-	-	-	-	-	271	413 (52% growth)	540 (31% growth)

Projects

For the past few years the EFRJ has not initiated its own (action) research projects, as we would like to focus on translating research outcomes to policy and practice. Still we find project cooperation a great way to extend our knowledge, our network, to focus on certain unexplored areas or new topics and to support the work of the field by giving access to our European network or expertise and by sharing project outcomes for the benefit of the field. By some of the projects we also try to implement the idea of restorative justice within fields, where it is not a mainstream approach.

In 2022, the EFRJ has been involved in the following projects, with different roles.

Ongoing projects

- **PROTECT** - Exchanging good practices on restorative justice and promoting the victims' rights protection (2020-2023). This Erasmus+ funded project about training in restorative justice and victims' rights is coordinated by Welcome Italy; the EFRJ is one of the partners. The project aims at improving the skills and competences of the trainers/operators of partners' organizations working in the field of the restorative justice and of the support to the victims of crime. In doing so PROTECT wants to build an effective framework for the permanent exchange of European practices between these two systems. In 2022 a guideline was published for assessing victims' needs in restorative processes. More information on the project: <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/protect-2020-2022>
- **MEDIAREJ** - Training in Mediation and Restorative Justice (2020-2023). This Erasmus+ funded project about training methodologies and trainers' profiles in restorative justice is





coordinated by the Jacque Maritain Institute (Italy); as one of the partners, the EFRJ hired a part-time Project Officer for the intellectual outputs (20%).

The goals of the project are:

- Fostering restorative justice competencies in different target groups by disseminating the restorative justice methodology thanks to training courses and multiplier events;
- Developing a standardised competencies framework, a course curriculum for training, original methods and new toolkits.
- Providing training for 28 mediators, trainers and professionals.
- Raising awareness on restorative justice for other target groups at a local level through 4 dissemination events in Italy, Spain, Croatia, Romania, as well as 2 final conferences to be organised in Trieste and in Brussels;
- Empowering staff and strengthening the operational capacity of local restorative justice centres, creating a permanent expert group of trainers at the European level.
- Matching an adequate quality standard to build more expertise of experienced mediators, thus allowing skills recognition, facilitating the mobility at the European level of mediation and restorative justice experts.

You can find more information and the publications from this project on: <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/mediarej-2020-2023>

- **REGUIDE** - A holistic, restorative and gendered approach to guide returnees to their home countries (2021 - 2025). Funded by the Belspo Brain-BE 2.0 and coordinated by Vrije Universiteit Brussel, the EFRJ has an advisory role for the restorative-oriented activities.

Finished projects in 2022

- **RE-JUSTICE**: Sustainable training in a challenging field (2019 – 2022). This EU funded project coordinated by KU Leuven dealt with judicial training on restorative justice; as a partner, the EFRJ hired a part-time Project Officer (30%) and participated in the development of a training manual and other training materials and films, as well as the organisation of the final project conference in Leuven in 2022. Find more information on





this project, as well as the manual in several languages here:
<https://www.euforumrj.org/en/re-justice-2019-2021>

- **The art of conflict and restorative dialogues:** Where choreography and conflict resolution meet (2022). This project, funded within Perform Europe (Creative Europe project) allowed us to coordinate a European tour of and invite German artists MichaelDouglas Kollektiv at the conference in Sassari to deliver a workshop and immersive participative event “The Polarity Party”. <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/art-conflict-and-restorative-dialogues-2022>

Projects initiated in 2022

- **i-RESTORE 2.0** (2022-2024). This EU funded project coordinated by Terre des hommes, building on the i-Restore project, deals with the use of restorative justice with children; the EFRJ hired a part-time Project Officer to work on the outputs (30%).
Based on the results of the previous project, i-RESTORE 2.0 aims to go a step further and create accessible quality restorative justice processes for child victims and children suspected and/or accused of crime in Europe. In line with the EU Victims’ Rights Strategy, the project aims to empower children, including victims, to express their views about restorative justice through digital and child-led creative approaches; increase awareness of families, practitioners, policy makers and the media on restorative justice for children in criminal proceedings and increase the number of practitioners who can provide child-friendly restorative justice services in Romania, Greece, The Netherlands and Estonia. For more information see the page of the project on our website: <https://www.euforumrj.org/en/irestore-2022-2024>
- **JUSTIN** – Justice in Incarceration (2022-2024). This Erasmus+ funded project about restorative justice in prison is coordinated by IRJ - Institut pro restorativní justici, z.s.(Czech Rep.). The project aims at building the capacities of mediators to implement mediations or similar restorative meetings in cases of serious crime in both countries by creation of a methodological manual, by cooperation of representatives of the above-mentioned partner organisations with a foreign partner from Finland (Criminal Sanctions Agency – RISE) and the Flemish restorative justice organisation Moderator, by training mediators facilitating restorative meetings of victims, offenders and other participants, and by





expanding the experience gained in the Czech Republic, Slovakia and other European countries in partnership with the European Forum for Restorative Justice. The EFRJ has a supporting role in the dissemination activities of this project.
<https://www.euforumrj.org/en/justin-2022-2024>

Additionally, in 2022, the EFRJ was contacted to be partner in the following projects (for different reasons, it finally did not engage or the project was not submitted):

- **REJOIN** (previously submitted as ACT JUST), dedicated to racial injustice, coordinated by University of Barcelona (Spain) – on reserve list
- **RE-JUSTICE 2.0**, dedicated to judicial training, previous project coordinated by KU Leuven (Belgium) – not submitted
- **Restorative Cities**, proposed by the Working Group under the Horizon calls – not submitted
- **VR2EVOLVE**: Virtual Reality for gender violence prevention and awareness, coordinated by IDIBAPS (Spain) – we did not engage as partners, but we may be involved later as consultants

Representation at Conferences and other events

In 2022, the EFRJ was represented by Staff or Board members (or appointed Working Group or Committee members) on the following events:

10 January 2022, online, Tallinn (Estonia): Edit Törzs attended the online meeting organised by the Social Insurance Board of Estonia on experiences with mediation in criminal matters in European countries.

15 January 2022, online, Bucharest (Romania): Emanuela Biffi and Edit Törzs attended the online performance of the Polarity Party.

25 January 2022, online, Bratislava (Slovakia): Petra Masopust Šachová spoke about using restorative approaches in criminal matters on the Ministry of Justice, Slovakia and Law





Faculty, Komensky University Bratislava conference on "Application of alternative attitudes in Slovakian justice"

27 January 2022, online/Sassari (Italy): Patrizia Patrizi taught on the topic "Restoring harm, undoing injustice, strengthening relationships: the perspectives of restorative justice", at the Superior School of Sardinia (Scuola Superiore di Sardegna), University of Sassari.

1 February 2022, online (The Netherlands): Bart Claes delivered his annual lecture entitled "Transmural Restorative Justice" at the Academia Social Studies in Avans University.

2 February 2022, online/Olomouc (Czech Republic): Petra Masopust Šachová spoke as one of the main speaker on the role of mediation in criminal proceedings, 6th international conference Mediation 2022, Palacky University, Law Faculty, Olomouc, Czech Republic

23-25 February 2022, online/Strasbourg (France): Laura Hein attended the Council of Europe Council for Penological Co-operation (PC-CP) 28th Working Group Meeting.

21-26 February 2022, online/Padova (Italy): Brunilda Pali was a lecturer at the international Winter School "Transforming 21st Century Conflicts" at the University of Padova.

8 March 2022, online/Friuli Venezia Giulia (Italy): Patrizia Patrizi was an invited speaker at the awareness raising event Restorative justice: Resource for the community, Friuli Venezia Giulia Region and Cassa Ammende Ministry of Justice.

14 March 2022, Milano (Italy): Laura Hein was invited as a speaker at the final national event of the EU-funded project RE-JUSTICE on restorative justice training for the judiciary.

14-18 March 2022, online: Edit Törzs attended the LEAP annual conference organised by Fair trials and took part of the civil society roundtable on 17 March on exploring alternatives to criminalisation and the carceral system.

16 March 2022, Agrigento (Italy): Patrizia Patrizi led a day to raise awareness of restorative justice (high schools in the morning, social service and third sector workers in the afternoon), Caritas.

17 March 2022, online/Tempio Pausania (Italy): Patrizia Patrizi led a community meeting on values and principles of restorative justice in the context of the project "Fili in Comune", part of the national project "Fermenti in Comune" (National Association of Italian Municipalities).





29 March 2022, Brussels (Belgium): Edit Törzs, Brunilda Pali and Silvia Randazzo attended the IGO (Belgian Judicial Training Institute) International Workshop on Restorative Justice.

30-31 March 2022, Leuven (Belgium): Edit Törzs, Tim Chapman, Annemieke Wolthuis, Brunilda Pali and Silvia Randazzo attended as speaker, roundtable moderator and organiser the international seminar "The Role of the Judiciary in the Application of Restorative Justice: Challenges, Lessons Learnt and Ways Forward", organised as the final event of the RE-Justice project.

6-8 April 2022, online: Edit Törzs attended the online international expert meeting organised by the UNODC on designing model strategies to reduce reoffending.

22 April 2022, online/Bari (Italy): Patrizia Patrizi conducted a training intervention on "Authors, victims, communities: towards a model of restorative community" at the Advanced Training Course in restorative justice and penal mediation - CRISI Center.

25-30 April 2022, Cape Town (South Africa): Brunilda Pali travelled to Cape Town to establish collaboration and conduct research with the NGO Endangered Wildlife Trust, University of Cape Town, and Restorative Justice Center, on the pilot project on restorative justice in cases of wildlife crime.

26 April 2022, online: Edit Törzs and Laura Hein attended the plenary meeting of the EC Victims' Rights Platform.

4 May 2022, Tempio Pausania (Italy): Patrizia Patrizi was an invited speaker at the Conference "Restorative justice: a justice that restores and does not separate", National Association "Nessuno tocchi Caino", Bar Association and Criminal Chamber of Tempio Pausania.

5-6 May 2022, online/ Bilbao (Spain): Brunilda Pali and Bart Claes were invited as speakers at the conference on restorative justice in prisons, organised by the Basque Government and the Oñati International Institute for the Sociology of Law in the Basque Country.

9-10 May 2022, online/ Rome (Italy): Brunilda Pali taught a module on restorative justice at the Master of Cultural Diplomacy of the Università Cattolica di Sacro Cuore.

10 May 2022, online: Edit Törzs and Laura Hein attended the second part of the plenary meeting of the EC Victims' Rights Platform.





11 May 2022, Lisbon (Portugal): EFRJ member Marta Sa Rebelo represented the EFRJ at the Prison Insights '22 international conference organised by Rescaled.

12 May 2022, Leuven (Belgium): Edit Törzs and Board member Brunilda Pali attended the launch event of the Leuven Restorative City Association.

16-17 May 2022, Verona (Italy): Patrizia Patrizi carried out three training modules on restorative justice for three different targets (penitentiary staff, social workers of justice and the territory, including the third sector). On the first afternoon, she met with a group of teachers to start an experimental restorative justice project at school. The two days are part of a broader project aimed at spreading restorative justice in Verona and surrounding areas. Caritas.

17 May 2022, online: Edit Törzs, on the invitation of the UNODC contributed to the UN CCPCJ Side Event on developing model strategies to reduce reoffending.

14-19 May 2022, Salzburg (Austria), Maia Chochua participated in the Salzburg Global Seminar program "Global Innovations on Youth Violence, Safety, and Justice" applying restorative justice to achieve more humane, inclusive, and healthier societies.

18-20 May 2022, Tallinn (Estonia): Edit Törzs and Laura Hein participated as co-coordinators to the annual meeting of the project Restorative Justice Strategies for Change (RJS4C) hosted by the Ministry of Justice of Estonia.

23-24 May 2022, Strasbourg (France): Edit Törzs presented at the yearly meeting of the European Network on Victims' Rights.

23-25 May, 2022, Online: Maia Chochua participated in the conference on Building a Europe for and with children - CP4EUROPE CHILD AND YOUTH PARTICIPATION FOR EUROPE Conference organised by the Irish Presidency of the CoE.

25 May 2022, Tempio Pausania (Italy): Patrizia Patrizi led a community conference in the context of the project "Fili in Comune", part of the national project "Fermenti in Comune" (National Association of Italian Municipalities).

26-27 May 2022, Sassari (Italy): Patrizia Patrizi conducted two interventions to raise awareness of restorative justice for secondary school teachers. The intervention was part of the project "GeneriAmo parità" to combat gender discrimination and prevent bullying. Municipality of Sassari and Territorial School Office.





31 May 2022, online/ Amsterdam (The Netherlands): Brunilda Pali was an invited speaker on environmental restorative justice at the lecture series on wildlife crime at the Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement.

1 June 2022, Essex (UK): Brunilda Pali was invited as an external examiner for a PhD thesis on restorative justice in Crete, at the University of Essex.

3 June 2022, webinar (Italy, with simultaneous translation in English and Spanish): Starting from the presentation of the book *La giustizia riparativa. Psicologia e diritto per il benessere di persone e comunità* (ed. Patrizi P.), Patrizia Patrizi carried out an introduction to restorative justice, highlighting its potential benefits.

7 June 2022, San Sebastian (Spain): Brunilda Pali presented on environmental restorative justice (with Julia Barjau and other EFRJ WG Environmental Justice members), and Laura Hein on transitional justice, at the International Symposium of the World Society of Victimology 2022.

8 - 9 June 2022, Agen (France): Tim Chapman (together with members of the EFRJ Working Group on Gender-Based Violence: Estelle Zinsstag, Noémie Micoulet, Anna Halonen, Valentina Bonini) were invited to speak at the conference organised by the French Ministry of Justice on the occasion of the French presidency of the Council of the EU entitled *"Violence against women: what answers does restorative justice offer?"*.

10-11 June 2022, online/ San Marino: Patrizia Patrizia presented on restorative justice in prison and probation during the seminar *"La pena detentiva e le misure alternative"*.

13 June 2022, Brussels (Belgium): Emanuela Biffi and Júlia Barjau Dachs attended the Perform Europe event bringing together representatives of the DG EAC, and the EACEA, MEPs, Brussels-based cultural institutes, media partners, as well as the Perform Europe Consortium, Jury, Advisory Group and representatives of the selected project partnerships.

15 June 2022, online/Leuven (Belgium): Brunilda Pali and Júlia Barjau co-organised and attended the half day seminar on Environmental Restorative Justice *"Turning Up the Restorative Dial in Environmental Regulation"* hosted at the Law Institute of Criminology of the KU Leuven.





23-25 June 2022, Sassari (Italy): Most Board members and Secretariat members presented in several workshops at the Conference of the European Forum for Restorative Justice in Sardinia.

29-30 June 2022, Verbania (Italy): Patrizia Patrizi held the module on restorative justice, with particular reference to the community, as part of the training course for newly hired social workers of justice. Training School of the Department of the Penitentiary Administration, Ministry of Justice.

30 June 2022, Zurich (Switzerland): Claudia Christen-Schneider taught a seminar for the Intervention Unit of the Zurich Cantonal Police on the topic of "Risks and Opportunities of Restorative Justice after Domestic Violence".

1 July 2022, online/Verona (Italy): Patrizia Patrizi was an invited speaker to the webinar cycle on the theme "Restorative justice and juvenile criminal trial". She talked about "The encounter between the promotional and restorative vision in the juvenile criminal trial". Juvenile Chamber of Verona.

4-8 July 2022, Bergamo (Italy): Antonio Buonatesta was one of the speakers/ trainers of the summer school organised by Caritas and Bergamo University.

5-8 July 2022, Barcelona (Spain): Julia Barjau Dachs attended the CJPE summer course on Responses to sexual violence (restorative justice workshop) as a participant. Balint Juhasz and Edit Törzs were present as organisers and EFRJ members Kristel Buntinx, Cleo Custers and Vince Mercer as workshop leaders.

8-10 July 2022, Chicago (USA): Emanuela Biffi participated in the annual conference of NACRJ - National Association for Community and Restorative Justice.

8 July 2022, online/Urbino (Italy): Patrizia Patrizi taught about "Introduction to restorative justice" at the Master in legal, penitentiary and criminological psychology, University of Urbino.

9 July 2022, online/Padova (Italy): Patrizia Patrizi taught about Introduction to restorative justice, at the Master in Critical criminology and social security. Deviance, cities and prevention policies, University of Padova.

16 - 18 August 2022, Maynooth (Ireland): Bálint Juhász - The Maynooth Summer Institute in Restorative Justice and Design Innovation: PUBLIC EDUCATION – COMMUNICATING





RESTORATIVE JUSTICE TO THE PUBLIC organised by the Maynooth University School of Law and Criminology and the Maynooth University Innovation Lab.

19 August 2022, Budapest (Hungary): Edit Törzs had an informal meeting with the vice president of the National Mediation Association of Hungary.

24 August 2022, Interlaken (Switzerland): Claudia Christen was one of the speakers at the Swiss Criminology Congress, speaking about restorative justice in prisons.

24 August 2022, Tallinn (online): Edit Törzs gave a short welcome speech to the participants of the summer school organised for its volunteer mediators by the EFRJ member organisation Estonian Social Insurance Board.

26 August 2022, Grenoble (France): Katerina Soulou intervened in a workshop on restorative justice and citizenship during the "Journées d'été des écologistes (JDE)" at the University of Grenoble Alpes.

29 August-15 September 2022, online/ Vermont (USA): Brunilda Pali taught a master course on environmental restorative justice at the Vermont Law School.

8 September 2022, online: Edit Törzs participated in the "EJTN Exchange Programme 2023 - Information Webinar" to find ways to build further cooperation with EJTN on judicial training (e.g. follow up of the RE-JUSTICE project).

8 September 2022, online: Patrizia Patrizi was invited speaker in the "Congresso Internacional de justiça restaurativa e cultura da paz", UNIVALI University and Lawyers' Order, Campus Balneário Camboriú (Santa Catarina). She took a speech on "Restorative justice to connect people. A bridge between prison and the external community", in a Session with Dominic Barter.

10 September 2022, Milano (Italy): Patrizia Patrizi was an invited speaker at the Conference "La via del Vangelo è la pace". She talked about "Relationships and Restorative Justice". Caritas Ambrosiana.

13 September 2022, Brussels (Belgium): Edit Törzs attended the kick-off meeting organised by the Grant management unit of the EC for action and operating grants JUST21.

14 September 2022, Milan (Italy): Brunilda Pali was an invited trainer at the training programme of the Magistrate School.





16-18 September 2022, Modena (Italy): Brunilda Pali intervened at the “Festival Filosofia Giustizia” with a lecture entitled “Iconografie della giustizia riconciliativa”

19 September 2022, Lisbon (Portugal): Board member Jorge Ollero attended the seminar “Innovate to Humanise the Justice System For Victims” organised by the Portuguese victim support service APAV.

21 September 2022, Bonn (Germany): Laura Hein intervened on European and international perspectives on the further development of restorative justice during the TOA Forum’s 30th anniversary.

21 September 2022, Belgium (online): Claudia Christen taught a 3-hour seminar on trauma-informed practice and its connection to RJ to staff from Médiante and various victim service offices in Belgium.

21-22 September 2022, Strasbourg (France): Edit Törzs and Emanuela Biffi represented the EFRJ’ at the Working Group meeting of the Council of Europe’s Council for Penological Co-operation. Edit presented on the Venice Declaration and called for actions that support the implementation of the CoE Recommendation on restorative justice.

23 September 2022, Aix-en-Provence (France): PhD defence Katerina Soulou, with 3 EFRJ members involved as supervisors or examiners: Daniel Achutti (BR), Claudia Mazzucato (IT)m and Estelle Zinsttag (UK).

27-29 September 2022, online: Silvia Randazzo (Project Officer of the i-Restore 2.0 project) attended the European Forum on the rights of the child.

27-30 September 2022, Padova (Italy): Patrizia Patrizi co-coordinated the Symposium “Legal Psychology among legal and social changes, new methodological approaches and ethical issues” at AIP - Associazione Italiana di Psicologia and talked about “Restorative Justice: new perspective of dialogue with Legal psychology”.

28 Sept/ 2 October 2022, Milan (Italy): Emanuela Biffi, Tim Chapman and Patrizia Patrizi participated in the confidential meeting “The Encounter of the Encounters” with victims and former combatants of armed conflicts.

29-30 September 2022, Nice (France): Emmanuelle Crane (WG Violent Extremism) attended the RAN VoT meeting “Creating a guideline for involving victims/survivors of terrorism in P/CVE” on behalf of the EFRJ.





4-5 October 2022, Stockholm (Sweden): Cristina Vasilescu and Bruna Dighera (WG Restorative Cities) presented at the RAN Families, Communities & Social Care meeting “Preventing polarisation on a community level: how to bring together communities?” on behalf of the EFRJ.

12 October 2022, Prague (Czech Republic): Edit Törzs, Laura Hein, Petra Masopust Šachová and Maia Chochua coordinated and attended the annual meeting and seminar of the European Restorative Justice Policy Network (ERJPN).

13 October 2022, Leuven (Belgium): Emanuela Biffi and Brunilda Pali participated in the international workshop titled ‘Education Behind Bars’ celebrating the International Day of Prison Education at the KU Leuven.

13-14 October 2022, Prague (Czech Republic): Edit Törzs, Laura Hein, Tim Chapman and Petra Masopust Šachová participated as speakers to the Conference of the Czech Probation and Mediation Service on the occasion of the Czech Presidency of the Council of the EU “Victims of crime - Possibilities of restorative approach in probation and imprisonment”.

13-15 October 2022, webinar (Italy with simultaneous translation in different languages): Patrizia Patrizi was an invited speaker at the Online Conference “Child Mind 2022. Juvenile Psychology and Psychotherapy” to talk about “Restorative justice: connecting people to undo injustice” with a focus on RJ in schools and RJ in juvenile deviance.

14 October 2022, Brussels (Belgium): Silvia Randazzo and Emanuela Biffi attended the CFJ-EN Annual Seminar organised by the Child Friendly Justice European Network.

14 October 2022, Brussels (Belgium): Emanuela Biffi attended the photo exhibition and film launch of “Retissons le liens”, the collective of victims and survivors from the recent Brussels and Paris terrorist attacks and the families whose children left to the jihad.

19 October 2022, online: Emanuela Biffi and Edit Törzs presented on restorative justice and violent extremism at the EMISA workshop bringing together experts from the EU and MENA countries working on prison and probation.

19-20 October 2022, Verona (Italy): Patrizia Patrizi held two days of training on community involvement in restorative justice practices. The two days are part of a broader project to spread restorative justice in Verona and surrounding areas. Caritas.





10 November 2022, online: Laura Hein attended the FRP meeting organised by the Fundamental Rights Agency on the rule of law in the EU.

10 November 2022, online: Edit Törzs attended a webinar organised by the Mint House on online harm and restorative justice.

11-12 November 2022, Lugano (Switzerland): Board member Antonio Buonatesta delivered a training on restorative justice and penal mediation at the Università della Svizzera Italiana.

14-16 November 2022, Bucharest (Romania): Silvia Randazzo participated in the kick-off meeting of the EU funded project i-RESTORE 2.0: "Accessible Quality Restorative Justice processes for children in contact with the law in Europe", led by Terre des hommes Romania.

15 November 2022, online: Edit Törzs presented on practice models of restorative justice within the criminal justice system on the 5 days long RJ week event organised by Accords International.

16 November 2022, Brussels (Belgium): EFRJ Policy Officer, Laura Hein attended the event organised by Victim Support Europe (VSE) *Vision for a revised Victims' Rights Directive* at the European Economic and Social Committee with the participation of the EU Commissioner for Justice, MEPs and the EU Coordinator for Victims' Rights.

18 November 2022, Leuven (Belgium): Edit Törzs attended the seminar organised by KU Leuven on restorative justice and therapeutic jurisprudence with Prof. Tali Gal (Israel).

24 November 2022, Havana (Cuba): Laura Hein presented on Restorative Justice in Europe: developments and challenges during the International Congress of Lawyers, organised in Havana on 22-25 November 2022.

25 November, 9 & 23 December, Fribourg (Switzerland): Claudia Christen taught a module on restorative justice and victim services for prison officers at the Swiss Competence Centre for Correction Services.

25 November 2022, online: as part of the RJ week, Edit Törzs had an online interview for the Restorative Justice On The Rise podcast series.

28-30 November 2022, Strasbourg (France): Edit Törzs was an invited speaker to the plenary meeting of the CoE European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC), proposing a





clear mandate to a CoE working group on restorative justice and a follow up to the CoE Venice declaration.

29 November 2022, online: Laura Hein attended the networking meeting organised by the CJPE with European professional networks active in the field of criminal justice.

5-6 December 2022, Berlin (Germany): Lucy Jaffe (WG on Violent Extremism) presented at the RAN event dedicated to "The 'how' and 'why' of hate crime and the implications for mental health practitioners".

5 & 7 December, online: Patrizia Patrizi held three modules of the restorative justice training course for prison teams (directors, educators, prison police officers and commanders, educators, social workers) from all over the country. Ministry of Justice. Department of the Penitentiary Administration - Directorate General for Training.

6 December, Rome (Italy): Patrizia Patrizi spoke as an invited speaker at the Conference 'From bond to bond. Relationships in restorative justice'. She gave the opening speech: Connecting people and communities. To undo injustice and promote well-being. Sapienza University of Rome.

6 December 2022, Vienna (Austria) - online: Edit Törzs gave an online live statement on the thematic discussions on the implementation of the Kyoto Declaration organised by the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.





Annual accounts 2022

EFRJ 2021 – 2022 Financials		
	2021	2022
Profit and loss accounts		
Operational Costs	-63.651	-185.373
Staff Costs	-324.674	-297.963
Financial Costs	-5.267	-3.894
Other costs	-	-
Depreciations	-1.017	-603
Exceptional costs	-	-
Total Costs	-394.609	-487.833
Core Income	62.722	160.803
Various Grants	8.653	7.195
Financial Income	0	85
EC-Operating Grant	248.139	371.775
EC-I-Restore Project	3.701	311
EC-I-Restore Project 2.0	-	26.107
EC- RE-Justice	8.213	-
EC-Let'sGoByTalking	28.087	3.279
Mediarej	19.790	8.035
Protect	9.782	1.663
Polarity Party	-	5.761
Total Income	390.390	585.014
Result of the year	-4.219	97.181
Balance Sheet		
	2021	2022
Fixed Assets	909	1.205
Amounts receivable -1Y	645	610
Liquid Assets	627.206	608.107
Transitory accounts	1.482	79.964
Total Assets	630.242	689.866
Capital and Reserves	232.842	330.023
Amounts Payable -1y	56.097	48.302
Transitory accounts	341.303	311.561
Total Liabilities	630.242	689.886

