

ERIAC

Board Meeting

Abridged Minutes of the 1st Board Meeting in Berlin on January 30th, 2018.

Participants:

Board Members: Zeljko Jovanovic, Nicoleta Bitu, Snezana Samradzic-Markovic;

Observers: Kinga Rethy, Hallvard Gorseth, Thorsten Afflerbach, Lorenz Barth, Michael Becker, Karina Häuslmeier, Hannes Ingwersen, Delegate of Mr. Krings from the Office of Minorities of the Ministry of Interior.

Staff: Timea Junghaus, Anna Mirga-Kruszelnicka

Minutes prepared by: Anna Mirga-Kruszelnicka, Timea Junghaus

1. Opening Remarks and Introduction

Welcome remarks by Mr. Jovanovic as Chairman of the Board – presentation of the rationale of ERIAC, overview of the agenda. Draft of the minutes to be prepared by ERIAC's staff, for review and approval of the Board. Internal code of conduct of the Board to be prepared based on feedback submitted to the Chair of the Board, following the 1st Board Meeting.

Welcome remarks by Ms. Samardzic-Markovic, expressing political support of the Council of Europe in terms of resources and expertise provided by different entities of the Council of Europe. Expresses the satisfaction of what has been accomplished so far.

Welcome remarks on behalf of Mr. Barth, in representation of the Federal Foreign Office of the German Federal Republic. Expresses gratitude for hospitality and excuses Minister Roth absence. Mr. Barth expresses continuous support for ERIAC and looks forward to supporting ERIAC's future activities. Mr. Barth also ensures political support for ERIAC, especially in the context of the Council of Europe.

Welcome statement on behalf of Mr. Krings from the Office of Minorities of the Ministry of Interior. Mr. Krings expresses the importance of supporting visibility of Roma and Sinti arts and culture and underlines the importance of international cooperation. Mr. Krings informs that the Ministry of Interior is preparing a study visit in early 2019 on Roma and Sinti arts and culture and invites ERIAC to contribute.

2. Status Report

Executive Director Ms. Timea Junghaus presents the status report of ERIAC since its creation until the present. The status report includes the overview of the organizational and institutional achievements 2017 (based on the reading materials provided) and presents the International Cultural Outreach Programme.

The Board members express their appreciation of the institutional achievements and the amount of work done so far.

Ms Samardzic-Markovic requests that the language used in ERIAC communications should be in line with the language used in the Statute. She also recalls that the Rules of Procedure need to be prepared as a matter of urgency; furthermore, she informs the Board that the forthcoming GR-SOC meeting will discuss the Memorandum of Understanding on co-operation between the Council of Europe and ERIAC as well as the draft terms of reference for an evaluation of ERIAC's achievements. In preparation for the GR-SOC meeting, the Board suggests developing a Q&A on ERIAC that will answer key questions and clarify ERIAC's mission and scope of activity.

With regards to the International Cultural Outreach Programme, the Board expresses their appreciation of the scope and extent of the events organized so far those coming up. Ms Samardzic-Markovic proposes to prepare detailed media reviews and to make the media coverage of that programme available on the ERIAC web site.

3. Institutional development plan for 2018

The Board discusses the process of completion of the institutional bodies, based on the proposal of the Executive Management. The Board acknowledges the need to stick to the Statute on all matters, and decides to harmonize all existing procedures and documents based on the Statute. This also refers to the language used in the statute, differentiating between "associate members" and "permanent members".

Board decision:

With regards to the membership formation procedure, the Board decides that the Executive management reviews the initial application forms and provides a recommendation on acceptance or rejection of the applicant to the Board. The Board takes an informed decision of the acceptance or rejection of the applicant. The Barvalipe Academy members must only be consulted "in case of doubt".

Board decision:

The Board decides that during the first in-take of members (first round), the time is the only limit and there shall be no limits of the number of applicants.

The nominal minimum annual membership fees should be: 100€ for natural persons; and 500€ for legal persons (disregarding of the type of legal entity it is). The Board agrees that in exceptional cases in-kind contributions can be accepted in substitution of the fee and this decision should be incorporated into the Membership Charter.

Board decision:

The Board acknowledges that "language" could be among one of the thematic sections, however, such change requires consultation with the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers.

Board decision:

In order to detect the possible interest and importance of creating, or not, a thematic section on "language" in the future, the Board decided to put the four sections as agreed and to add a fifth option on "language" on the online application form.

Board decision:

The Board modifies the "Membership Charter"; based on the discussion, the Executive Management is to prepare a revised draft of the Membership Charter by February 7th, 2018.

With regards to the Barvalipe Academy formation procedure, the Board decides that the discussion of the nominations of the first 7 Barvalipe Members as well as approval of the Membership Charter, will be done following an online meeting, by the end of February 2018.

Board decision:

Based on the review of the calendar of institutional development proposed by the Executive Management, the Board agrees that the ERIAC bodies should be completed by September 15th. The Second Board meeting, including the additional 2 Board members, should be set in the second half of September.

4. Plan for cultural activities, alliances and collaborations 2018-2019

Timea Junghaus presents interim strategy and calendar of activities for 2018. Major events as well as fundraising priorities are presented and discussed. Board suggests that Junghaus should provide further feedback regarding the possibilities of Venice office and Biennale, in order to set priorities.

The Board discusses the possibility of ERIAC taking over the RomArchive – Digital. Archive of the Roma. ERIAC has been selected by RomArchive Board as the desirable future host. The Board suggests that Timea Junghaus should prepare a serious assessment of pros and cons for the maintenance of the RomArchive and prepare a 1-page strategy for the possible sustainable take-over of the Archive by ERIAC. A final decision on the RomArchive question is to be taken prior to March 6th, 2018, when the RomArchive Board meeting is taking place. Nicoleta Bitu volunteers to make a proposal for governance and management of the RomArchive at ERIAC.

5. ERIAC Budget

The Board discusses the initial Budget proposal for ERIAC.

Board decision:

The Board agrees with the proposed Budget expenditure and plan 2017-2018.

Approval date of the final Minute-document: May 3, 2018.

Minute-taker: Anna Mirga- Kruszelnicka

Chair of the ERIAC Board: Zeljko Jovanovic

In compliance with para 7 (4) of the ERIAC Statutes this Minutes is brought to the attention of all members and observers of the Board and the Chair of the Academy. An abridged report on the result of the Board meeting shall be published on the web portal of the association.