

Minutes of the EERA Council Meeting in Porto Saturday 6 September 2014

Attendees:

Herbert Altrichter, EERA Treasurer; Branislava Baranovic, Institute for Social Research Zagreb (cand memb); Lucian Ion Ciolan, University of Bukarest (cand memb); Yunus Eryaman, Turkish Educational Research Association (EAB); Maria Pacheco Figueiredo, EERA Network Representative on Council; Eduardo García-Jiménez, Asociación Interuniversitaria de Investigación Pedagógica (AIDIPE); George Head, Scottish Educational Research Association (SERA); Gunilla Holm, Finnish Educational Research Association (FERA); Marit Honerod Hoveid, EERA Secretary General; Gonzalo Jover Olmeda, Sociedad Espanola de Pedagogía (SEP); Edwin Keiner, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Erziehungswissenschaft (DGfE); Paulina Korsnakova, Slovak Educational Research Society (SERS); Helen Lassea, Hellenic Educational Society (HES); Milosh M. Raykov, University of Malta (cand memb); Joanna Madalinska-Michalak, Polskie Towarzystwo Pedagogiczne (PTP); Eric Mangez, Association des chercheurs belges francophones en éducation (ABCéduc) & EERJ; Sofia Marques da Silva, Sociedade Portuguesa de Ciências da Educação (SPCE) & LOC; Lejf Moos, EERA outgoing president; Petr Novotny, Czech Educational Research Association (CERA); Lynne Parmenter, Kazakhstan Educational Research Association (KERA); Gyöngyvér Pataki, Hungarian Educational Research Association (HERA); Helen Phtiaka, - Cyprus Pedagogical Association (CPA); Daniela Preis, EERA Office; Roland Reichenbach, Swiss Society for Research in Education (SSRE); José Tavares, Centro de Investigação, Difusão e Intervenção Educacional (CIDInE); Karmen Trasberg, Estonian Academic Research Association (EAPS); Jani Ursin, EERA Network Representative on Council Elect; Huseyin Uzunboylu, Cyprus Educational Sciences Association (KEB-DER); Roeland van der Rijst, Vereniging voor Onderwijs Research (VOR); Angelika Wegscheider, EERA Office; Felicity Wikeley, British Educational Research Association (BERA); Theo Wubbels, EERA President elect; Iouri Zagoumenov, Belarus National Association "Innovation in Education" (BNA "IE").

1 Welcome, apologies agenda, minutes

Lejf Moos welcomed Council, especially the new members/new representatives and informed Council that Ana Cabral, Pavel Zgaga, Kairat Kurakbayev, Patricia Fidalgo, Mariagrazia Riva, Ahmet Aypay, Andre Mottart and Angelika Paseka had sent their excuses for not being able to attend.

The agenda was accepted without further changes.

Eric Mangez asked for changes of the wording of two parts concerning EERJ in the minutes June 2014. He has sent suggestions to the text and it was agreed that the minutes are amended as follows when speaking about the EERJ Round Table /Moot. "There is an agreement that the EERJ roundtable will be conceived of as a Moot. A moot is a place where the research community can reflect on itself, on its working conditions, its challenges, its future, its problems."

2 Presidents report and exculpation

Lejf Moos presented the presidential report on the last 12 months and then asked for being exculpated by Council. For full report see annotated agenda.

Lejf Moos was exculpated by Council unanimously.

Leif Moos thanked Council for the cooperation. He started being a council member in 2003, and attended about 34 Council Meetings. He thinks Council is an inclusive and open minded place. His hopes for the future of Council are that there may be more discussion and less dialogue. Theo Wubbels thanked Leif Moos for his work, especially for restructuring EERA to successfully cope with the growing number of members, keeping council in charge of EERA and for creating new external contacts with other associations in social sciences specifically in working on influencing the EC on Horizon 2020. He pointed out that the work of Council had successfully changed from procedural discussions to discussions on strategies.

Leif Moos was then bidden farewell by Council.

Theo Wubbels took over leading the meeting. He informed Council that the mentoring scheme for new council members has been started and that each new member was now assisted by a mentor from Council.

3 Conference reports

3.1 2014 Porto: ECER 2014

First stats, Report LOC, evaluation convenors, anniversary, session quality, etc. Sofia Marques da Silva, LOC member, summed up that the atmosphere during the conference had been great and that the feedback had been consistently positive. Sofia pointed out that the communication between LOC and the EERA Office has always been excellent: efficient and friendly.

Theo Wubbels had heard from many participants that they highly appreciated the smooth organisation and the venue.

Angelika Wegscheider reported that 2.515 participants arrived at the conference. 150 registered (expected) participants had not arrived, some of them based on a late minute withdrawal. Only 44 presenting authors had not registered as participants beforehand. This low number may be due to the fact that for the first time, authors were forced to register or have their paper withdrawn. After evaluation of session return slips Office will know if these efforts resulted in a reduced number of no-shows and / or last minute withdrawals. (First statistics in annotated agenda.)

Maria Figueiredo reported on the Link Convenors' Meeting and their feedback on ECER 2014. For the first time, they were asked to evaluate the conference before the Friday meeting in writing. All link convenors found the organisation very good, they appreciated that the conference took place in one building only, and the green space for the coffee breaks was well used as a central meeting space. They were impressed by the friendliness and efficiency of volunteers and IT helpers. The keynotes were well received, and generally, the sessions were well attended this year. Joint sessions were inspiring. NWs saw problems with the poster session, due to a lack of attention during the lunch break. Another issue was that there was not enough time for discussion of the presentations in many sessions. The link convenors also expressed their willingness to work with the Emerging Researchers' Conference.

Marit Hoveid summed up the Anniversary. The Visual History Website that was officially launched during the Opening Ceremony gives tale visually on EERA organisations and cooperations. The Anniversary Social at Casa da Música was a big event which put EERA in the focus of the ECER participants. The feedback was very positive and people were very pleased. As due to the anniversary EERA was in the centre of discussion, this kind of visible EERA sessions should be continued.

Then Council Members commented ECER 2014:

Generally the organisation was praised and highly appreciated. The atmosphere was academically as well as emotionally intense.

- **Remarks on Symposia:**
Discussion time is too limited. The limits need to be made very clear to submitters!
Also, Symposia should not be “just” a set of papers.
- **Posters:**
Council needs to discuss the role of posters/the poster session in order to improve it.
The posters could be allocated according to their topics in rooms and with a discussant.
- **ERC:**
Some participants of the main conference only found out about ERC during the conference and had the feeling of having missed something. Can the relationship be better explained on the website?
- **Venue:**
The central space/courtyard for coffee/lunch time was appreciated a lot and should be taken as good example for future venues.
- **Other issues:**
Some members criticised less good presentations, however EERA should acknowledge the different presentation cultures. The EERJ Moot was well attended and the format seemingly accepted. Maybe EERA should start to think about introducing a new format, more debate oriented format throughout the conference?

Emerging Researchers' Conference

Yunus Eryaman reported on the ERC. He reflected on good paper sessions and interesting Network Workshops. The only real issue were the Tuesday afternoon sessions overlapping with ECER and therefore quite empty (Workshops Mock Viva / Publishing). He suggested to think about either separating the two conferences or to completely integrate the ERC in the Main conference.

Council briefly discussed the situation. Some felt that the young researchers did not really know what ERC and ECER meant. In general there is seemingly more esteem in presenting at ECER than at ERC. The added value of getting more feedback and learning more when presenting at the “safe environment of ERC” was not always seen, as it seems. Council found that EERA would need to provide some space for Emerging Researchers outside ECER (Main ECER).

When ERC was created, there were no Season Schools so the “Pre conference” of those days was the only arena for research-capacity building. It was suggested that perhaps today, this function could be substituted by the Season School and either a merging or complete separation of ERC from ECER main could be a new way of addressing Emerging Researchers. This was cautioned, and it was mentioned that ERC became this big because of the link with ECER, the mentoring by and the cooperation with EERA networks link convenors and the possibility to attend both conferences with only one travel budget etc. For the EERA staff and the local organisers, the ERC means a good training of the local conditions before ECER starts. As it is part of the Conftool structure of ECER, there is not a lot of extra work necessary for doing it.

It was acknowledged that there are problems with the overlapping and the expected higher esteem of presenting at ECER, therefore Theo Wubbels postponed the discussion of possible solutions to the January meeting.

He asked that Yunus Eryaman, Patricia Fidalgo and Angelika Wegscheider would develop a problem description plus some ideas for possible solutions for January.

3.2 2015 Budapest: confirmation of theme and update of keynotes, WERA focal meeting

Theme and keynotes had been confirmed in the last meeting. Gyöngyver Pataki, LOC 2015, reported that the contracts for venue and accommodation are signed. Different options are discussed for the Social Event: Market, Museum etc. Unfortunately the Castle

Balcony is not possible, as the way up the hill for 2000 people couldn't be organised. Printer and designer are contracted as well.

Theo Wubbels briefly introduced the WERA Focal meeting, running from Tuesday to Thursday and followed by a WERA Council Meeting on Friday. About 200 extra participants could be expected thanks to the WERA Focal. The higher number of participants could be difficult, but manageable, as the venue can host up to 3000 participants. Gonzalo pointed out that it would be really important to integrate the event in the conference in order to avoid having the feeling of two conferences in parallel.

One Council Member asked for hotel for all council members to be organised in advance. Office confirmed that this is envisaged.

3.3 2016 Dublin: LOC, venue, theme

The conference would take place from 29 August to 2 September, in three buildings on the campus of University College Dublin. Most hotels are in the city centre, but the venue can be reached within 15 minutes by public transport. There are a few hotels close to the venue, though. The discussion with Ciaran Sugrue was very positive and promising, now the approval of UCD is the next step. Also a sign of support from ESAI is still needed.

3.4 2017

EERA has received a letter of intent from University College Copenhagen. Council is welcoming other suggestions.

3.5 2018: different options

Edwin Keiner will be working at the University of Bolzano from October, and already sounded out on their willingness to host an ECER. But SIPED's support has yet to be checked. Joanna Magalinska Michalak announced that Poland would also be interested. One option could be Krakow. In addition Milosh Raykow suggested Malta as well.

3.6 2019 - Glasgow

Glasgow is still interested, and 2019 would be a good option due to the 45th anniversary of SERA, but they would also be ready to go for a different year. George hopes to have a formal application ready by end of 2014.

Joanna Michalak, Edwin Keiner, Milosh Raykow and George Head will receive the info package for prospective organisers.

4 Reports

4.1 Secretary General report 2014, Exculpation

Marit Honerød Hoveid pointed out that the president's report also gave an overview of the activities the SG had been involved in – thus she did not further elaborate on those. .

In addition she had been especially involved in:

- Overview and monitoring of office. Have had several meetings with Office manager. This year has been a year of transition since both Angelika and Daniela have come back from maternity leave.
- Chairing the anniversary activities, which has included the EERJ special issue as editor and author, advising in the process of developing EERA visual History – online exhibition, responsible Ian Grosvenor and Brigitte Winsor, Social event at Casa da Musica, with Theo Wubbels and Sofia Marques Silva, chairing Roundtable at ECER 2014 with former SG and Presidents.
- Being in charge of EERA summer school at NTNU June, 10 -14.

Marit H. Hoveid was exculpated by Council unanimously.

4.2 Treasurer, Exculpation

Herbert Altrichter presented the Balance Sheet for 2013 and informed Council that the real loss in 2013 has turned out to be considerably lower than expected. He also reported on the formal audit 2013 conducted by Andreas Vollmer which confirmed the correctness of accounting and the adherence to internal regulations. (see annotated agenda,)

He asked council for exculpation and was exculpated unanimously.

4.3 Networks' Representative on Council

Maria Pacheco Figueiredo reported on the Inaugural Symposium for the new network 32, Organizational Education. The symposium was well attended and it promises to be a good new network.

NW 30 (Environmental and Sustainability Education Research) and 31 (Language and education) both had their first real programme during ECER, including joint sessions, and were satisfied. NW 29 (Arts Education) had more presentations in their first year 2013 than this year, but they had many withdrawals because of lack of funding. The network was satisfied with the quality of presentations and involvement in the network by those who attended.

The networks 28 (Sociology) and 18 (Sports Pedagogy) had their 3rd programme this year. They are functioning well and will therefore no longer be monitored.

There were 29 Joint Sessions in total, and they were evaluated as being very valuable. Four networks will have new link convenors (NW11, NW 20, NW 22 and NW24).

For ECER 2015, she carried on, there will be slight changes in the submission form for symposia, and for roundtables. This was one of the results of the discussion in April's Convenors' Seminar. More details about the discussions and decisions about conference quality were presented in the June meeting.

Although there was no NW funding called for in 2014, some earlier funded projects ended in 2014 and Maria briefly reported on them: VETNET had started an online journal (open access), NW 17, Histories of Education, had issued an e-book on education throughout Europe and also ran the Summer School, which is organisationally supported by EERA office. NW 22, Research in Higher Education, ran a Pre-Conference Seminar in parallel and partly in cooperation with the emerging researchers conference. It was considered a success.

Maria reported that there were no applications for new networks.

She then reported on plans for the April Seminar which would focus on how to do Network Reviews (Self Evaluations) and how to elect link convenors. She also informed council that three Networks already informed about being interested in running season schools.

Council had in June - for the time being – asked to further develop ways to support link convenors in their tasks during ECER, since accommodation throughout the conference proved to be too expensive in the current situation. Maria had informed Link Convenors accordingly and they now ask Office to send out a reference hotel to all link convenors and Council members. Someone suggested that an extra night on Friday could be paid by EERA, so that Council and Convenors can meet on Friday night. The issue will be further discussed in the next meeting.

4.4 ERG report

Yunus Eryaman as Senior Mentor gave the report for the Emerging Researchers' Group. ERC 2014 was a successful conference, with 340 participants. Double reviewing (first time applied for 2014) obviously raised the quality of presentations, he said. One of the tasks for the future would be to find a good balance between workshops/keynotes and presentation-sessions.

Thanks to the volunteers who kept reminding chairs most Session Return Slips were returned. The Social event was very good. Sadly, once again there was a late change in keynotes, as the invited speaker was not able to come due to family issues.

Theo Wubbels suggested that in future, the invitation of ERC keynote could be handled in the same way as the ECER ones. Maria Figueiredo suggested that Council would not decide on a person, but rather on a type of contribution (methodology, research program, etc.). Once this is decided, ERC and LOC could decide on the person. Eric Mangez offered the possibility to also publish the ERC keynote in EERJ.

One Council Member raised the issue of fake journals and the need to also introduce the emerging researchers to the organisational part of academic life. This could also be addressed at the future Season Schools in Linz, after three years of methodology; it could go back to writing, publishing etc.

Yunus finished with reporting that the Emerging Researchers' Group would now work on building up a virtual space.

Council thanked Fiona Hallet and Yunus for their efforts while taking over tasks of Patricia Fidalgo, the Link Convenor of the ERG, who had not been able to attend this conference due to a new position she took over. Council also thanked Patricia for preparing the conference and a road map for her absence.

4.5 EERJ report

Eric Mangez started with reminding Council that EERJ has switched to 6 issues per year. The EERA Anniversary issue came out just before ECER 2014.

Currently a Call for a special issue on "Comprehensive Schools – Reinterpretation" is open. He then presented download figures and usage statistics, which underlined the success of the Journal.

Eric pointed out that the editorial board wants to publish review essays on important publications (also non English language, about 10 pages per publication). As it is not easy to find relevant publications Council members are invited to report to EERJ on important publications in their home countries. EERJ could then serve as a platform to make important non-English research known to a wider platform beyond language borders. He also stated that an online platform for submissions is planned via which reviewing and all interaction between author and journal will be organised.

Eric then expressed his hopes that the keynote speakers will indeed submit their papers to EERJ. The office confirmed that all keynotes are always asked in advance to send their full paper to EERJ, and are also reminded after the conference. It was suggested that they could receive the information on how to submit to EERJ earlier in the process i.e. when the titles/abstracts of the contributions are known.

Eric then reflected on the Moot, which is meant to be a place to reflect on the Research Community. He felt there was a good balance between presenters and comments from the audience. An extension would be appreciated, as it only lasts 1 hour. Theo Wubbels pointed out that he had especially liked to have young people presenting at the Moot. He asked Eric to convey EERA's thanks to the editorial board.

4.6 EERA office (full report see annotated agenda)

Theo Wubbels and Angelika Wegscheider informed Council on a growing work load for office – or on accumulation of tasks especially in Summer. Up until now, much of the growing work load could be coped with by changes in the software applied and by developing more efficient working procedures. This would now no longer be possible and EXEC and office will look into strategies to shift parts of the workload from May/June/July to other times in the year (Council Meeting, Summer School).

Council members commented on these by questioning the need of a third Council Meeting, as small associations would also have difficulties to fund this. Perhaps the other meetings could be extended, and perhaps Skype or the like could also be used. One answer was that generally, the definition of Council could be discussed. Should it be decision making, governing? Or a group of scholars discussing challenges in an intellectual way? In the first

case, two meetings would be enough, if more is wanted, the meetings should be expanded with new formats. It was also claimed that regular meetings would help to get to know each other.

Theo Wubbels said that both the workload of the Office and the number of meetings should be addressed again in January Council.

5 Budget 2015

5.1 Low GDP Countries 2015

Herbert Altrichter informed Council that based on the General Regulation Council needs each September to decide on the list of Low GDP countries and the ECER fees.

He pointed out that he felt it was important to not accept exceptions to the procedures suggested below and asked Council to agree on the procedure and its wording for inclusion on the EERA website.

“Low GDP Countries

Please note that the crucial factor for the reduced low-GDP fee is not the country of origin, but the country of residence.

The threshold for low-GDP (Gross Domestic Product) country status is an annual per capita income of less than 26.000 \$. EERA uses the World Bank data for 2013, GDP per capita, to determine low-GDP status.

Link: <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.CD>

Countries eligible for the low-GDP reduction are:

- African countries
- Asian countries (with following exceptions: Brunei Darussalam, Hong Kong SAR, Israel, Japan, Kuwait, Macao SAR, Qatar, Singapore, UAE, Taiwan)
- Latin American countries
- and the following countries in wider Europe:
- Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, FYR of Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey and Ukraine.

Delegates from all other countries need to register as Delegates from high GDP Countries.

The suggestion was approved by Council. Office will put it online.

5.2 Support for LOW GDP Associations – for decision

Herbert Altrichter presented the statement below and asked Council for acceptance.

“Regulation for Needy Associations Support (Needs new wording: Regulations for Support for LOW GDP Assocoations)

EERA Council decided in September 2014 that representatives of Member Associations from low GDP countries are entitled to the reimbursement of travel expenses for one person if they participate in Council meetings.

Costs will be reimbursed to a maximum of 300 € per meeting. This can include costs for economy class flights, taxi and public transport as well as costs for up to two nights' accommodation although these must not exceed accommodation costs of the hotel reserved by EERA Office. Costs will be reimbursed on presentation of original receipts/invoices and an EERA reimbursement form.

Member Associations eligible for this support are:

- Belarus National Association "Innovations in Education" (IE)
- Czech Educational Research Association (CERA)
- Centro de Investigação, Difusão e Intervenção Educacional (CIDInE)
- Estonian Academic Research Association (EAPS)
- Hellenic Educational Society (HES)
- Hungarian Educational Research Association (HERA)
- Lithuanian Academic Educational Association (LERA)
- Polskie Towarzystwo Pedagogiczne (PTP)
- Sociedade Portuguesa de Ciências da Educação Portugal (SPCE)
- Slovak Educational Research Society (SERS)
- Slovenian Educational Research Association (SLODRE)
- Turkish Educational Research Association (EAB)
- Educational Administration Research and Development Association (EARDA), Turkey
- Kazach Educational Research Association (KERA)

Candidate Members eligible for the support are:

- Albania
- Armenia
- Croatia
- Malta
- Romania”

Council approved the procedure but asked for renaming it to Support for Low GDP associations.

5.3 Outlook on Budget

Herbert Altrichter presented first numbers, but also explained that he would not yet present a final budget proposal for 2015 as the timeline for drawing up a budget proposal had been too narrow as data only was available during summer. Also, he first wanted to have an agreement on what the general reserve for EERA should be.

He then explained that the German tax office allows EERA to have an all time reserve of 260.000 Euro (“starting donation of EERA Scotland to EERA Germany towards the stock of the organization”). He reminded council that EERA’s policy has been to have this amount of reserve and said that the last budgets aimed at reducing EERA’s savings to a point where the initial donation would be the final reserves for EERA. He now pointed out that he wanted in his budget-plans to augment this reserve, as not only the conference grew but also the general activities of the Association.

Council agreed to augment the long-term reserve for EERA in agreement with the tax consultant who would advise how much the tax offices will accept as reserve.

He then pointed out that he intends to prepare a budget proposal for the January meeting that would also include a budget for Network activities and asked Council to agree a preliminary January Budget of 1/12 of the 2014 Budget. Also, the conference fees would be finally decided on in January. He suggested to not augment the Early bird fees for 2015 and to already publish them with the beginning of the submission time, while stating that standard fees are “under revision”. Standard fees could then be included after the final decision in January.

He would also develop new timelines for book keeping and budget planning that will allow a more profound preparation and presentation in the September meeting.

Council agreed to this procedure.

6 Mission statements and constitution

6.1 EERA and Conference

Theo Wubbels suggested postponing the discussion on the Mission Statements to January, as statement for the Season Schools would still be missing and time was running short in this meeting.

6.2 Change of constitution for affiliate membership

Council discussed the suggested wording that would open up EERA for some sort of membership beyond Europe. It was generally agreed that "affiliate members" should have a right to speak in Council, but there was discussion on giving them the rights to vote. Also it was stated that if members of affiliated associations would be granted reduced ECER fees, this should also hold true the other way round (EERA members being offered reduced registration fees to affiliated member associations conferences) as well.

While it had already been decided in June that this was a promising way to go, Council now also discussed possible outcomes, like becoming a second WERA. In addition Council could become too big and group work would no longer be possible.

All in all it seemed difficult to agree on a real definition of rights for affiliate membership, so it was suggested to keep the definition as open as possible within the Constitution, but refer to the General regulations.

The Lawyer will be contacted in order to find a proper wording.

7 Season schools

Marit Hoveid briefly presented the (very positive) evaluation of the Summer School 2014. (For evaluation report, see annotated agenda)

She reminded Council that the upcoming school would only take place for 1 year in Sheffield, but that for 2016 and 2017 Linz has now arranged funding.

As there seems to be interest from many institutions to take over the summer school, EERA could consider doing it on annual contracts.

8 Networks

Maria announced she would soon start working groups on the rework of ECER Guidelines (submission, reviewing, chairing) and invited Council members to join them by answering the email message.

9 Strategies

9.1 Report working group cooperation member associations

Not given.

9.2 Update working group 4 New members and engagement less active members - oral report Theo Wubbels

There were no new developments after the June Council meeting. But Theo Wubbels updated Council on the "Prospective Members Session", which may result in some further applications. One of them will be of special interest for the "affiliation membership" as it will come from an international private school which also has a research department.

9.3 Wg 5 and 6 publications – oral report Herbert Altrichter

Herbert Altrichter gave an oral overview of what has happened up until September 2014 in the working group and pointed to possible further steps. The Working group will further develop the ideas in order to have a paper for discussion/decision in January.

Full report of Working Group in Annex.

9.4 Agreement for pilot with Studia Paedagogica

Following the discussion in June Council a cooperation agreement between Studia Paedagogica and EERA/Emerging Researchers Group has been arranged.

10 New members

Branislava Baranovic from the Zagreb Institute for Social Research (ZISR) briefly introduced herself, her institute and the attempts to build up an association in Croatia. She also volunteered for doing a member report in January.

11 Member reports

Roland Reichenbach and Eric Mangez both reported on their associations' work in highly fragmented countries – both culturally and language wise. They were invited to briefly summarise their presentations and make them available for upload on the EERA website.

12 Next meetings and AOB

16 – 17 January 2015 Council Meeting Budapest
19 – 20 June 2015 Council Meeting Berlin
12 September 2015 Council Meeting Budapest

Appendix

Re 9.3 Ad Wg 5 and 6 publications – oral report Herbert Altrichter

WG_Publication – What has happened so far and possible next steps 03.09.2014

1. Step: Working group during January '14 Council session in Porto (Excerpt from the minutes)

Members: Maria (NW, minutes), Roland (CH), Maria (IT), Herbert (Tr),

Reasons for establishing a working group on the topic:

- EERJ is the flagship journal but it does not cover all fields which are relevant to EERA-networks
- NWs suggest that publications could enhance the conference and overall activities
- Invitations from publishing houses are being proposed to EERA

Aims that publications could contribute to:

1. Raise quality of ECER and ECER presentations papers through asking for full papers in advance or setting up a procedure of selection of best presentations for publication
2. Answer needs of some participants: getting travel finance for conference participation is dependent on minutes/publications from the conference
3. Make EERA more visible in network activities through EERA-sponsored publications for networks
4. Support publications for networks or presentations not easily aligned with the EERJ
5. Enhance visibility of EERA
6. Communicate EERA identity: "is EERA identity reflected in the publication?" would be a criterion
7. Provide for publishing high quality international/European research in areas where there is no satisfactory publication situation
8. Capacity building

Participants of the working group thought that all aims (with the exception of #2 for which other instruments seem more appropriate) are relevant in some respect, however, not all of them can be achieved by one measure or one set of measures. Thus, it would need different strategies, the priority of which must be further discussed.

Brainstorming ideas:

(1) EERA Series of books

- facilitate contacts between publisher and networks
- guidelines for publishing books:
- networks (or collaboration between networks) apply
- supra-national European focus
- peer-reviewing

(2) EERA sponsored journals:

These are not to be in competition to EERJ, but in fields which are not covered by EERJ.

Possible steps to identify potential research areas for such journals:

- invite relevant journal editors to a special NW session,
- invite NW and council proposals for new journals in fields where there is no relevant supra-national European focus journal
- EERA gives some support for initial phase
- write general framework for the editing of EERA journals: double-blind peer reviewing,
- cross-national representation
- EERA negotiate with publishers

- editors are selected by EERA council and NW convenors
- encourage NW to publish list of relevant journals on the network homepage

Content ideas:

- European Debates (EERD): about not only policies, but also about traditions
- Review of Educational Research in Europe

(3) Short papers on research methods (such as BERA) = Text books divided into small papers

(4) European Yearbook on Education

2. Step: Discussion during June '14 Council session in Berlin

2.1 ERG and Publishing (Excerpt from the council minutes)

Patricia Fidalgo underlined the cooperation between ERG and EERJ regarding the best paper award. Since a couple of years the winning paper is published in EERJ. This year 4 short listed papers will be published. She asked if that could be developed into a standard procedure. Eric Mangez was principally positive in principle towards this idea but said that he would need to consult with the EERJ board for a final answer.

Petr Novotny reported that they would like to engage in a partnership with the Emerging Researchers Group. The Czech Association runs a Journal (Studia Paedagogica) which is published once a year in English. This journal is interested in a partnership with the Emerging Researchers Group. ERG papers could be published there. A model for a cooperation agreement will be set up. [In the meantime a collaboration contract is in place which provides for the publication of two ERG papers per year after double blind peer review].

2.2 Recommendation to continue WG work:

Members: Maria (NW), Roland (CH), Maria (IT), Eric (BE, EERJ), Petr (CZ), Herbert (Tr)

(1) Develop quality criteria for "EERA sponsored journals"

(2) Invite interested publishers to discuss ideas and market

(3) Develop a format by which EERA can ask for and support "Network feasibility studies on NW-related publications"

- NW may apply for support of such a feasibility study: € 1000,- for 6-9 months, council decides

- Study includes:

- overview of existing high quality journals and book series in the field of the network, commentary on their focus, quality and scope and possible relationship with NW activities
- report about communication with a selection of relevant journal editors to explore possible formats of collaboration (e.g. special issues, NW representatives in editorial board etc.)
- proposal for further steps
- (4) Develop a format for an "European Yearbook on Education", e.g.

- "European Yearbook on Education" is a series of books which focus on specific topics considered relevant for the further development of education and educational research. They collect papers which reflect the state of art of European educational research. They have been specifically written for the respective volume and have undergone a rigorous process of peer reviewing. Every second year a new volume.

- Networks may submit proposals which include at least the following information:

- Title of the book project, content overview, justification of relevance
- Editors and their way of operation
- Possible contributors

- Process of editing and reviewing
- Suggested time line
- Council decides which proposal to support on the basis of two international reviews which have been solicited by exec
- Editing process is supported by EERA (€ 1000).

To be included: EERJ Report