

EUI Alumni Executive Committee
Meeting with EUI President Mény, Brussels, 28 January 2003

The EC met in Brussels, Hotel Renaissance, at the occasion of President Prodi's address to the EUI Alumni at a dinner organized by local EUI Alumni. The meeting started at 11.00 p.m. and ended at 11.40 p.m.

Present: Yves Mény (EUI President), and for the EC, Francisco Torres (EC president), Henk Voskamp (EC Treasurer), Carlo Spagnolo (EC Secretary).

Justified absence: Annette Bongardt had declined participating in order to avoid excessive burdens for the Alumni budget; Julian Lindley French, present at the dinner with Prodi, had to leave Brussels in the night. He had met briefly Torres and Mény before the dinner. Topics dealt with:

1) EUI Online Community: President Mény informed that he had officially created an EUI Online Community (EOC) that will feature an even wider membership than just the EUI Alumni.

2) Accountability: Voskamp expressed his reservations about taking on his duty as a Treasurer, saying that the budget of the previous year was still unknown to the EC and that this made it impossible to plan and take on responsibilities of any kind. President Mény's suggestion about setting up an external Auditing Council to check the accounts before the AA Assembly was then considered. The issue will be discussed further within the EC.

3) Current receipts: President Mény restated that future profits of the EUI Alumni shop would increase the annual contribution of the EUI. The annual contribution will probably remain the same as in the past, yet he would check to see if there were margins for an increase. Moreover, the EUI could provide additional indirect assistance by offering Alumni a certain number of low-cost housing opportunities at Villa Finaly.

4) Co-Treasurer: the need of a co-treasurer in Florence was mentioned, with a view to facilitate the Treasurer's task and to avoid any administrative burden with respect to the AA's financial needs. The EC should find somebody competent and available.

5) E-mail contacts: the EC agreed on increasing e-mail exchange in order to reduce EC meetings and travel costs. Some discussion followed on the experienced difficulties to have prompt communication among all EC members via e-mail.

At 11.30 p.m. President Mény left. The EC discussed for another five minutes.

6) Travel expenses: A short discussion took place on the criteria established on 6 January. The Treasurer promised to send a memo to the EC.