



European Network on Religion & Belief

ENORB NETWORK LAUNCH MEETING (with SEMINAR 2)

ROUNDTABLE & NETWORKING

November 13-14 2012 – Brussels, Belgium

Europe's Economic Crisis: What Ways Forward? What Type of Growth?

Date & Time **Session 1 + 2** **November 13th 2.00-5.30pm, 7.00 - 9.00pm**
 Session 3 **November 14th 9.30am – 1.00pm**

Location **Centre 'Espaces', Avenue de la Renaissance, 40, B-1000 Bruxelles**

Topics & Workshops

Seminar topics for the initial round-table are listed below and will be completed in the Day 2 workshops. The aim will be to move towards a set of conclusions and recommendations to be sent to the annual EU Equalities Summit (to be held in Cyprus on November 22nd). Because of the short time between the Seminar and the Summit a template and draft will be prepared in advance, into which the conclusions and recommendations from each group will be incorporated during the evening, for discussion at the Plenary at 11.15am Day 2. At the final plenary these will be discussed and approved, and a final set of general conclusions and recommendations, specifically oriented towards the EU's policy priorities, will be agreed.

DAY 1 – SESSION 1: Roundtable

2.00pm **Introduction – Yolande Iliano, Vice-President**
 Progress since May – Alan Murray, President
 Funding – Martin Gurvich, Treasurer

3.00pm **Roundtable Topics**

1. The Economic Crisis: Which Way Forward? Austerity - where, who? Growth – on what sort of principles? (eg Solidarity? Redistribution? Ecology?)
2. What sort of Discourse about Growth? Financial/Economic? Ethical/Ecological? Political? (Indignados/Occupy)
3. How does promoting equality and preventing discrimination contribute to growth? (Efficiency and Justice; Marginalisation of Religion/Belief Groups)
4. How to protect Fundamental Rights at a time of crisis? Action at Grassroots Level; Pressure on Governments and EU (ENAR and other Equalities Networks; Local Groups; Activists etc)

Introductory speakers include:

Fr Ignace Berten - European Dominican Centre, Brussels

Mohammed Abdul Aziz - University of Cambridge, Woolf Institute, UK

Gerard Delfau - President, EGALE (Egalite, Laicite, Europe) tbc

There will be also be examples from several countries of practical action by Religious and Non-Religious groups (eg Responding to the Riots (UK), Responding to Hate-Crime (Fr), Anti-Discrimination Action (It, Be), Women and Unemployment (Sp), Responding to Poverty (Food Banks, Soup Kitchens etc (Ne, UK), Buddhist Groups (Hu).

DAY 1 – Evening

6.30pm Informal Meal followed by

7.30pm **SESSION 2: Networking and Exchange Session**

Chairs: Catriona Robertson & Dr Karim Chemlal, ENORB Executive

Including groupwork by area of interest eg:

North/East Europe/Scandinavia

North West Europe

South Europe

East Europe

For Discussion:

What sort of local/regional actions? Eg Launch seminars; regional surveys; city exchanges.

What sort of transitional actions? Eg Leonardo/Grundtvig-funded exchanges of visits.

For Decision:

National ENORB representatives for each country?

Regional Link representatives for each European Region?

DAY 2 – Morning Session

9.15am Workshops

1. The Economic Crisis: which way forward?

2. What sort of Discourse about Growth?

3. Equality and preventing discrimination – what contribute to growth?

4. Fundamental Rights - how to protect at a time of crisis?

11.00am Coffee

11.15am Final Plenary Agreeing a Common Position (The pre-seminar draft will have been modified after the Day1 discussions)

12.30pm ENORB Brief Business Meeting

Next Steps – A Draft Work Programme for 2013

Future Funding Possibilities

1.00pm LUNCH

2.00pm Afternoon free for more networking.

(NB. A SEMINAR AT THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT IS BEING PLANNED BY THE PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT – PROBABLY STARTING AT 2.30PM. INVITATIONS WILL BE SENT BY THE PRESIDENCY. Please let us know at enorb@enorb.eu if you are interested, and we will circulate details as soon as they are available.)

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