

EASA Europeanist Network Meeting

within 11th EASA Biennial Conference

National University of Ireland, Maynooth

Arts Classhall C

August 26, 2010, 18.30-19.30

18 people participated in the meeting [List of attendance is attached as a separate document].

The meeting was convened by Anna Horolets in the absence of Andres Barrera-Gonzalez, the Network Chair. The meeting **agenda** prepared by the Network Chair included the following points:

- 1.- Report from the head of the steering committee.
- 2.- Organizational matters and sharing of responsibilities.
- 3.- Updating of the website and administration of the mailing list.
- 4.- Proposals for mid-term meetings of the network in 2011.
- 5.- Proposals for cooperative and collaborative research work.
- 6.- Election of a chair and a new steering or executive committee.
- 7.- Any other business.

Minutes

Ad. 1: in the absence of the Network Chair Andres Barrera-Gonzalez, the participants were informed on the activities of the Network by Anna Horolets (as they are presented in the written report which had been circulated prior to the meeting via the Network [mailing list](#))

Ad.2: since no clear tasks were pre-defined it was also difficult to ask if some people would like to take some responsibilities on; yet, in the following discussions some people decided to take on some responsibilities (e.g. connected to research on grant possibilities) [see below for details].

Ad.3: during the discussion of the Network report it turned out that not all Network members are receiving messages through the mailing list (e.g. Hana Cervinkova does not receive messages) and [the need to register with the mailing list](#) was articulated by the convenor of the meeting. There were several people at the meeting who were new to the Network and they were informed how to register using the links on the Network independent web-site <http://www.ucm.es/info/euroenet/> as well as at <http://lists.easaonline.org/listinfo.cgi/europeanists-easaonline.org>. The basic information will be sent

to these people after the meeting at the mail addresses they indicated on the attendance list). The e-mail addresses of all participants were collected through the attendance list [in the separate document].

The participants were also called and agreed to use the mailing list more often in order to circulate the information of relevance to members.

At the same time some participants of the meeting suggested that web-site is a better place for some more general information first due to the fact it is easier for the search and second for the fact that it is less invasive.

Facebook group that supports the EASA Europeanists Network activities is also a place to put the information on relevant events and calls.

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/group.php?gid=73838888446&v=wall>

Referring to the practice of Society for the Anthropology of Europe within American Anthropological Association (AAA) Alexandra Schwell suggested we could create a space on the Network web-site where we could also share our syllabi on Europeanist subjects (the technical issues of how and who will be responsible for the uploading of these documents were discussed). (compare: <http://www.h-net.org/~sae/sae/Syllabi.html>).

Ullrich Kockel suggested that the newcomers could send short introductory notes through the Network mailing list which would allow members to know each others' interests.

Ad.4: the discussion of mid-term meetings turned around the issue of **funding**. One person commented that s/he came across a possibility of funding from ESF (s/he attended a mid-term conference of EASA Peace and Conflict Studies in Anthropology Network sponsored in this way). Other participants hold a view that this funding is no longer available.

The issues of funding dominated the discussion of mid-term meetings/conferences. Hana Cervinkova suggested the sponsors who address narrow range of issues and/or countries could be also considered, such as Vysehrad Fund (devoted to 4 countries); she also mentioned ERASMUS preparatory grants for the Universities that have signed co-operation agreements. These grants could be the starting points for potential conference organizers. She also mentioned that distinguished scholar could support younger scholar and students' mobility through their research grants.

Alexandra Schwell mentioned that there are also private grant-givers, such as Volkswagen foundation, Bosch Foundation. She also pointed out that the grants are more feasible if they indicate some deliverables – the end product of the grant, which could be e.g. a book or a teaching module.

As a comment on private grant-givers, Agnieszka Pasioka mentioned that VW Foundation has moved its interests to Asia recently.

The possibility of organizing Europeanist Network panels or workshop within larger conferences (e.g. within Societ  Internationale d'Ethnologie et de Folklore (SIEF) conference or other) as a proxy of mid-term conference was postulated.

Ullrich Kockel reminded of a SIEF conference forthcoming April 2011 in Lisbon, there will be some panels relevant to Europeanist Network members' interests, the call for papers is open until October 15. <http://www.nomadit.co.uk/sief/sief2011/>

Jaka Repic reminded that there will be a major conference to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana, entitled "Beyond Essentialisms: Challenges of Anthropology in the 21st Century", it will take place in Ljubljana, Slovenia, 25 to 28 November 2010, and the call for papers is still open. <http://etnologija.etnoinfolab.org>

The university big anniversaries and similar events were seen by participants as appropriate occasions for applying for the funds for the mid-term conference at home institutions.

William Kavanagh informed the participants of the meeting that EASA would have small funds for travel grants for younger scholars that had been designed specifically for the mid-term conferences of networks (the details had already been made available to EASA Network Chairs and would be announced to all EASA members in the nearest EASA Newsletter).

The issue of **potential topic** of the conference that would be of interest to members was discussed. Ullrich Kockel suggested borders as a broad topic that could attract many members. Agnieszka Pasieka had doubts if a very broad topic was attractive, while Alexandra Schwell thought that at this moment of Network functioning the broad topic had a potential of bringing together many members. Paweł Lewicki suggested that Europeanization can be a topic, understood as broad range of practices that are stimulated by the EU policies but not limited to the European area in consequences as well as not totally predictable by the policies rationale. Felix Ringel suggested that the topic of crisis in/of Europe could be of interest to members of the Europeanist Network.

In summary, participants suggested that a call for mid-term conferences suggestions should be circulated though the Network mailing list in order to encourage the Network members to get engaged as organizers of the mid-term conferences.

Ad.5: Grażyna Kubica has pointed out that the 7th Framework Programme of the EU now includes a topic of Anthropology of Europe as one of the subject areas for the collaborative grant applications. She has suggested that the EASA Europeanist Network would make research about the funding possibilities and try to create the consortium and write up a grant application for this topic. Paweł Lewicki volunteered to find out the details about the conditions and deadlines of this grant and would circulate the information through the mailing list later on. Several meeting participants had doubts whether the Network had capacities to work on the 7FP - very time and effort-consuming endeavour.

Ad.6: The elections of the new chair and steering committee were not considered by the participants since the founder and the Chair of the Network was absent. Members also suggested that if elections were to take place, they should be prepared prior to the next Network meeting via mailing list (e.g. through discussion, introduction of candidates etc.).

Ad.7: there were several other points discussed: 1) a valid and always pertinent issue of how the Europeanists Network defines its sphere of research interests was raised by Mairead Nic Craith, to which no ready answer exists; 2) more technical issues on who to talk with if one has a concrete proposal of cooperation etc. was asked e.g. by Insa Koch.