



To the members of EUNET

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Dear colleagues/members of EUNET

It is with great pleasure and gratitude that I write this letter to you after the very well organised General Assembly in Wals, Salzburg in the beginning of October. Thank you to Wolfgang Forthofer and his partners for a very good conference in pleasant surroundings – with time also for sightseeing and informal time in beautiful Salzburg.

I and my team – Hanns Christhard Eichhorst and Wico Bunskoek – appreciate the support we had for our election platform and election, and we are ready to continue the work, which has been carried out by the EUNET board of 2004-07 under the presidency of Richard Stock. We were all members of the old board and responsible for the results which have been achieved so far.

Allow me to introduce myself briefly to those of you who were not present and don't know me. My academic background is an MA in English/American Studies and a BA in Nordic Studies from the University of Copenhagen. I have worked as a teacher and internal coordinator in DK and in other European countries before I became the Head of Denmark's only Europe House, IUC-Europe in 2000 and vice-president of the EUNET board in 2004. Also at present I hold the position as administrative coordinator for the Model European Parliament Baltic Sea Region – an association for 8 countries in the region. I have spent much time in the US – teaching, writing and lecturing.

As a board member of EUNET and one of the co-founders I have been responsible for setting up the legal and structural framework of the organisation as well as securing the operational grant from the EU for the organisation from 2007-10. Not a personal doing but in close coopera-

tion with our former president Richard Stock, who with French colleagues have been instrumental in securing the grant for our organisation.

Over the next 3 years primary concerns of the new board will be to expand the organisation, to include more Europe Houses/Academies and other international organisations in our network. Likewise to negotiate with Brussels in order to secure financial means for the organisation and its activities to further consolidate the economic basis. This will be done in close cooperation with our permanent representative Thomas Heckeberg, whose experience and expertise we rely heavily upon.

Also a main concern will be to develop international cross border projects/activities like the **INTI Integration Project** and **Waves of Democracy 2007**. It is our intentions to develop “best practices, work with project development and include the members of EUNET still more actively. The work areas mentioned above will in particular be dealt with and developed in our two standing committees:

The Committee on Content and Methodology

The Committee on Development

The two committees will be reorganised and start/continue their work this autumn/winter.

Also the General Assembly supported the idea of establishing a Youth Committee – a preparatory meeting has already taken place, and we hope to be able to start the work in the committee in the near future. Preparatory discussions/meetings are taking place at the moment.

In conclusion I want to say that I am looking forward to the job with great expectation and enthusiasm, to cooperate with a lot of experienced European colleagues in our network, to visit and discuss with you the future of our organisation.

Best wishes

Nina Nørgaard, President