



Warsaw, November 22, 2013

Open seminar in Warsaw by the European Millennium Project Nodes Initiative (EuMPI) & the European Regional Foresight College (ERFC) broadens foresight community eastwards

The periodic meeting of ERFC (www.foresight-college.eu) and EuMPI (www.millennium-project.org) members in Warsaw, hosted by the Polish Node of the Millennium Project (<http://tmp.4cf.pl/>) offered the opportunity for the ERFC to promote its mission in new Member-States and for new initiatives in line with the EU 2020 strategy to be undertaken.

The ERFC is working on a program called *Foresight 2.0.*, in order to initiate the search of innovative and creative components in a new generation of foresight. Three reviews of field experiences have been organised in 2009 and 2011, in San Sebastian (Spain) about the Gipuzkoa experience, in Genval (Belgium) about the foresight experience of Wallonia, and in Ljubljana about the foresight in the Danube region. The outcomes of these field studies were published in a book *Regional Foresight 2.0 experiences* that was launched during the Warsaw meeting, and can also be downloaded from the ERFC website: <http://www.foresight-college.eu/spip.php?article83>.

On November 21st 2013, the meeting in Warsaw gathered futurists coming from public and private research centres, companies and universities from the Netherlands, Germany, France, Finland, Spain, Slovenia, Poland, Azerbaijan and Belgium (Wallonia). The members of the Management Board, Ibon Zugasti, president of the European Regional Foresight College, H el ene von Reibnitz as vice-president and Micha el Van Cutsem as secretary presented the ERFC current activities, mainly:

- Dissemination activities carried out by the ERFC leadership during several regional and European-wide events in 2013: Lubljana Forum on the Future of Cities and Baku Futures Forum,
- Potential projects to be carried out by the ERFC members with Horizon 2020 and regional policy funding for the new 2014-2020 period.

Afterwards, the representatives of the different European Millennium Project Nodes presented their current activities. The meeting continued with presentation on the national and territorial foresight projects in Poland by the local host, 4CF strategic foresight company.

On the second day of the meeting, an open workshop was hosted at University of Warsaw on the occasion of the 19th COP climate conference, with contributions from ERFC/EuMPI participants and with attendance of Polish researchers and officials from regional and central institutions. A keynote presentation from United Nations Global Compact national representative offered interesting insights into new UN forward-looking initiatives bridging business and public sectors. Agenda of the workshop comprised i.a. presentations on EU2020 strategy and a roundtable on addressing climate change with appropriate foresight activities with contributions from leading European foresight experts. The discussion that followed revealed enthusiasm of Polish foresight community to further link with European colleagues and foster a culture of quality in foresight in Poland. Experiences were exchanged and potential project partnerships drafted.

The next meeting is planned for the 2nd quarter of 2014 in Brussels and is meant to engage representatives from EU institutions for a broader context of quality foresight culture awareness and promotion.

The European Regional Foresight College was founded on 1st April 2004, thanks to the initiative of the Land Planning and Regional Action Delegation of the French Republic (DATAR). The global objectives of the European Regional Foresight College are to create a community of competencies, concepts, methods and practices in regional foresight, to organise a European network in order to monitor and to discuss foresight practices and developments in European regions, and to contribute to

the collective learning of all regional actors through the development of foresight competencies, by providing all partners with information about high-level European foresight experiences. The first years of the ERFC were dedicated to the drawing up of a foresight glossary. It has, since its foundation, organised a dozen of seminars in Paris, three residential seminars in Etiolles (Evry) and contributed to two Foresight Summer Universities in Lille. Since 2009, the European Regional Foresight College has adopted the legal status of an NGO.

The EuMPI has been created in order to structure networking between European Future Knowledge centres participating as "Nodes" to the Millennium Project. The decision took place during the Millennium Project Planning Committee organised in San Francisco on July 18, 2003 and the European Regional Foresight College was officially launched the 21st November of that year at the European Parliament, Brussels.



Open Workshop at the University of Warsaw, 22nd of November 2013



The ERFC/EuMPI members presenting newly released report Foresight 2.0