

ECTP Bulletin

25 November 2004

ECTP NEWS

Attached to this bulletin is a note about the Prague General Assembly which you may like to use in your own reports about the meeting.

The Spring General Assembly will be held on **Thursday 12 and Friday 13 May 2005**, with the kind assistance of the Chambre des Urbanistes de Belgique.

The **News area** on the ECTP website is now working and we would welcome items of news from members which can be included in it. It will work together with this Bulletin: short notes can be included here, with more detail in the News Area.

AESOP

Andreas Faludi (a former delegate to ECTP from the Dutch planners' association) and two colleagues will be co-chairing two parallel tracks at next year's AESOP conference in Vienna from 13 to 17 July 2005. They relate to Transnational planning and to Territorial Cohesion. Statements from the co-chairs are on the Congress Website: <http://aesop2005.tuwien.ac.at/cong3.html>. Abstracts can be submitted up to 20 February 2005.

ESPO

Monika Wiebusch has written an excellent article about ESPON which is now on the ECTP website at www.ceu-ectp.org/e/disdocs.htm, from where it can be downloaded in PDF. It can be freely used – and translated - by other ECTP members in their own newsletters and communication with their members, as long as they attribute it to the author, and inform her via the secretariat whenever it is published elsewhere or a translation is made.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

The Commission has produced a new guide called "Reclaiming City Streets for People: Chaos or Quality of Life?", with examples of cases where cities have reduced the space available for cars and used the space to provide new public squares, priority lanes for public transport and other uses. For further details and the chance to download the full illustrated text in English in PDF - see <http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/pubs/urban.htm>

CALENDAR

2005

15 January	ECTP ExCo in London
22-25 February	CORP Seminar on Information & Communication Technology in Urban & Spatial Planning, Vienna*
13-15 March	American Planning Association international seminar "How Great Communities Happen", Riverside, California*
12 - 13 May	ECTP Spring General Assembly, Brussels (date now confirmed)
9-11 June	6 th Biennial in Denmark & Sweden*; possible ECTP ExCo
9 July	ExCo in London (if not held at Biennial)
13-18 July	AESOP Congress "The Dream of a Greater Europe", Vienna*
23-5 Sept	ECTP-ESPO Seminar, Luxembourg
17-20 October	ISoCaRP Congress "Sexy Cities", Bilbao*
4 or 11 Nov	CEMAT meeting, Ljubljana with ECTP Autumn GA

*For more detail on these events go to the Forthcoming Events area of the ECTP website www.ceu-ectp.org/e/events.html

COMMUNIQUÉ AFTER THE ECTP GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Prague 21-22 October 2004

The European Council of Town Planners held its Autumn General Assembly in Prague in October. The event was combined with a Conference on "Transformation of Central Europe" and the presentation ceremony for the 5th European Urban and Regional Planning Awards.

All these events were superbly organised in exceptionally fine locations by AUUP CR, the Czech association for city and regional planning, which joined ECTP in 1999.

What is "a planning association"?

The Assembly continued its long-running discussion on the criteria for membership of ECTP, which is of particular importance now that nearly all associations and institutes which meet the present criteria for membership are in membership. Applications for membership are now being received from European associations with strong interests in the planning field but which do not meet the strict ECTP requirement that their principal objective should be the promotion of planning as a distinct profession. This discussion was echoed when the Assembly took stock of the EU approach to recognition and regulation of the professions. Briefly, many EU planning associations would like the European Commission to include explicit mention of planning in its Directive. The Assembly expressed concern that it has chosen not to add to the list of regulated professions (medicine, hairdressing, architecture, the law, football); as a consequence, planning will be assigned to a large group of "other services". The ECTP President has been invited to arrange a meeting in the relevant part of the European Commission to press the case for planning to be treated as a distinct profession.

Expanding Membership

Following a concerted effort by the Executive Committee of ECTP led by Vice-president Bogdan Wyporek of Poland to attract new member organisations, two national planning associations were admitted to full membership of ECTP: the Forum of Municipal Planners of Norway (FKP), and the National Chamber of Planners (KIU) in Poland. This brings the number of member organisations of ECTP to 24 in 21 countries. ECTP hopes that interest from associations in Austria, Sweden and Finland will be translated into firm applications shortly.

6th European Biennial of Towns & Town Planners

Ole Damsgaard, Chair of the Permanent International Working Party for the 6th Biennial, brought with him the first announcement of the event to be held in Copenhagen on 9-11 June 2005 with the title "City Living; Living City". The brochure is available from the ECTP secretariat. The host for the 7th Biennial in 2007 will be Hungary.

Follow-up to the ECTP's "New Charter of Athens" (2003 revision)

ECTP has appointed a working group to formulate a new statement on planning education in Europe reflecting changes in planning and in educational practice, and giving expression to the commitments of planners set out in ECTP's New Charter of Athens. This group will report to the autumn Assembly next year. ECTP is also developing a set of "Tales of the City", creating perspectives on urban planning that draw upon the ideas and opinions of a variety of citizens. Subject to sponsorship this would result in a publication in Autumn 2005.

Communication with member organisations (and their members)

Following work by a small group, a news area is being set up with a brief section on the ECTP website leading to a sign-up area for a regular bulletin.

Finances

ECTP finances have been placed on a more systematic basis after much hard work by the Treasurer, but delegates rejected a proposal for revised subscriptions using "bands" based on number of members in each association and the relative wealth of the country it is based in.

5th European Urban and Regional Planning Awards

Four Awards and five honourable mentions were announced at a ceremony during the Assembly. There were 186 entries in the first (national) round of selection, from which 26 were shortlisted and sent to the international jury. The winners were:

Award for Local Plans, Re-development:

Abandoibarra regeneration project and new southern railway line (OAVS), Bilbao, Spain

Urban Restructuring: Workshop for the City's Future, Leinefelde, Germany

Award for Local Plans, New Development:

Master Plan Steigereiland, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Award for Urban & Neighbourhood Management:

Child-Friendly Urban Renewal in Prenzlauer Berg, Berlin, Germany

European Spatial Planning Observatory Network (ESPON)

Arrangements have been made to hold a conference on the outcomes of the ESPON project in September 2005 in Luxembourg. There are also moves towards a follow up to the successful ESDP conference in London.