

EMiL Committee Meeting Minutes – 23rd November 2010

(To be approved by Committee)

Attendees – Petros Fassoulas, Mark Paterson, , Bryony Hoskins, Catja Gaebel, Chris Maddox, John Preston, Richard Wassell, George Barnes, Mercedes Vela, Max Deckers, Estelle Rouhaud.

1.0 Apologies: Aine McGuire, Nick Lowe, Anna Arki, Del Hosain, Hilary Naqvi, Alwyn Williams, Eva Eberhardt.

2.0 Last Meeting's Minutes

Approved

3.0 Past/Future Events

- **Christmas Dinner with Charles Kennedy, 2nd December 2010.**

This year we are extremely fortunate to have the Rt. Hon. Charles Kennedy MP as our Guest Speaker. The dinner will cost £25 per person for which guests will receive a 3 course meal. Menu choices available upon registration. To register RSVP to info@em-il.org.uk

Location: Elysée Restaurant, 13 Percy street, Fitzrovia, London W1T 1DP

PF reported that a delegation of members from the European Movement in Oslo will be in London on 2 and 3 December and they plan to attend the MEP dinner on 2 December.

- **EMiL Dinners with MEPS's:**

An extremely successful event was held with the Labour MEP Mary Honeyball on 18th November. Our thanks to Mary Honeyball for making this event so successful.

We are in touch with baroness Ludford MEP for a February dinner. Conservative MEP's Charles Tannock and Syed Kamall have also expressed interest in being guest speakers.

- **Event with the Estonian Embassy (late January 2011 tbc).**

Discussions are underway with the Estonian Embassy for an event on Estonia's accession to the Eurozone on 1st January 2011. Possible speakers include Willem Buiter, Chief Economist at Citigroup. A date has not been confirmed yet but it will most likely be towards the end of January.

4.0 Recruitment and Fundraising

Work on the analysis of the EMMA membership database will start soon. George Barnes volunteered to help progress this matter. We intend to determine the nature of EMiL's membership so we can make our communication with them more efficient and provide them with better services depending on their age, background and exact location.

PF is working on a number of ideas to obtain sponsorship from various parties.

5.0 Communications and Members' Services - Update

- Website

The committee has appointed Alwyn Williams to act as Website Co-ordinator to deal with the technical aspects of the website. AW presented options for the setting up of domain specific E-mail addresses. The Committee agreed to purchase 5 e-mail addresses from a Microsoft platform. The approximate cost would be £6 per month, for all 5 addresses.

Estelle Rouhaud has been doing great work on the regular updating of the new EMiL website.

- Facebook

Facebook group membership continues to grow and is now nearly 170 members. Information on our events and activities as well as our newsletter is posted there, reaching out to users that are not necessarily members of EMiL or EM. Also event announcements have given us access to tens, even hundreds, of facebook users.

Committee members are encouraged to post articles, views and commentary.

- Twitter

Over 80 organisations, political parties, on-line news publications as well as private users are following EMiL on Twitter.

- **EMiL Newsletter** – November Newsletter has been issued on 19 November. See website for details.

6.0 Education Initiative

EMiL Research Group

The research project is proceeding well. A first draft of the different chapters has been produced and work is continuing with the intention of producing a final draft in the next month. This project is focusing on the benefits of the UK's EU membership for London in the following contexts:

- Structural and cohesion funds
- Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises
- Environmental Policies

The project will produce a 10-15 pages pamphlet to be published on-line this autumn.

The Committee reiterated that considering EMiL now has a research function all research and civil society projects carried out by members of the committee on behalf of EMiL should be co-ordinated by BH and approved by the Committee as a whole.

7.0 International Activities

More discussions were undertaken about the possibility of EMiL hosting the Eurocapitales Event in 2011 or (more likely) 2012. The topic proposed is Food Security. A project group is to be set up to produce a work plan and budget. The Committee has asked PF to oversee the establishment and work of the project group.

8.0 AOB

Next Committee Meeting

Monday 10th January 2010 at 18.30. Venue to be confirmed.