



European Support
Centre



The European National Associations of the Club of Rome

Overview 2007/2008

Bucharest Conference Summary

**The European National Associations of the Club of Rome
Overview 2007/2008 - Bucharest Conference Summary**

Description of the Activities of the European National Associations of the Club of Rome based on the European Conference of the National Associations held in Bucharest, Romania, on May 22-24, 2008.

The documentation includes information about 21 of the 22 European National Associations of the Club of Rome. In addition, there exists a National Association in Switzerland which has just been founded. The contact data are available on the ESC Website.

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Preface

The fifth conference of the European National Associations of the Club of Rome was held on May 22-24, 2008, in Bucharest, Romania. It followed events which took place in Vienna (2000 and 2003), Tallinn (2005) and Valencia (2006).

Since 2000, the number of National Associations has increased. Therefore, it has not been surprising that the Bucharest conference has been so far the largest event of this kind. 60 delegates from 20 countries represented approximately 1300 members of the European National Associations. And for the first time, a meeting of the European Associations has also been attended by participants from non-European countries. Delegates from USA and Argentina participated in the conference.

The delegates shaped the programme, they discussed the driving forces of Europe in a global context, reported about their activities and co-ordinated the future plans of their Associations with their partner organisations and with the Club of Rome International, which was represented by Secretary-General Martin Lees.

The conference demonstrated that the mission of the Club of Rome acting as an independent, global catalyst of change is supported in Europe by a vital network of National Associations. Being guided by their Charter (which is added as annex to this publication), they are taking the role to disseminate locally the reports, findings and attitudes of the Club to decision-makers, academics, industrial circles and the public at large. They are prepared to contribute actively to the new work programme of the Club.

The present publication is part of the proceedings. It is largely built on the presentations at the internal meeting during the Bucharest Conference and intends to give an overview on recent activities and projects of the European National Associations of the Club of Rome. The Bucharest conference summary covers the period from April 2006 to 2008. Earlier activities were described in the "Valencia Conference Summary".

The organizers of the Bucharest conference, the Romanian Association for the Club of Rome and the European Support Centre, thank all contributors for making the conference a success, especially the delegates from the National Associations, and the National Bank of Romania which supported the event.

Further information is available on the conference website
<http://www.clubofrome.at/events/2008/bucharest/>

Călin Georgescu

Secretary-General, Romanian Association for the Club of Rome

Thomas Schauer

Director, European Support Centre of the Club of Rome

Austrian Chapter of the Club of Rome



**Austrian
Chapter**

Organisation

Year of Foundation: 1987

Number of Members: 73

Legal Status: Association according to Austrian Law

President: Peter Zöllner

Vice Presidents: Dr. Michaela Moritz, Dkm. Gerhard Randa

Members of the Board: Prof. Rudolf Bretschneider, Prof. Hubert Christian Ehalt, Dkm. Elisabeth Gürtler, Dr. Friedrich Hinterberger, Prof. Ernst Gehmacher, Mag. Anton Kolarik, Prof. Herbert Krejci, Prof. Helga Kromp-Kolb, Dr. Heinz Löber, Dr. Michael Ludwig, Dr. Siegfried Sellitsch, Dr. Hannes Swoboda, Prof. Felix Unger, Dr. Leo Wallner;

Controllers: Prof. Geiserich Tichy, Dr. Reinhard Platzer

Activities and Achievements

Conference: "Life in Cyberspace: the Formation of Social Capital in Virtual Worlds"

The Austrian Chapter has organized the conference in Vienna in co-operation with the European Support Centre and the German EU-Presidency in June 2007. The event focussed on the relation between real life and virtual life. The Internet with its capacity to enhance contacts between humans, will on the one hand have a positive impact on social capital. On the other hand, there are open questions regarding the quality of the contacts, long term effects and ethical issues. According to the principles of the Club of Rome and taking a holistic viewpoint on the World problematique, the Austrian Chapter of the CoR had identified the topic of Social Capital as a challenge for the future. The event in June 2007 was the third one in a series on the topic. It was opened by Peter Zöllner, President of the Austrian Chapter. Ernst Gehmacher, Member of the Board gave a speech and Michaela Moritz, Vice-President of the Chapter, did the moderation.

Conference: "The Future of Europe: Sustainable Development and Economic Growth?"

The symposium was organized in Vienna together with the European Support Centre, the Polish Association for the Club of Rome, and the Polish Academy of Sciences in co-operation with the Portuguese EU-Presidency. What will the future of Europe look like? Will it be a common future or will there be different futures in old member states, new member states and those countries which are left outside the European Union? Will Europe take up the challenge of the limits to growth of resource consumption? Will it be the continent where decoupling of further growth of GDP from resource use can be achieved? Or will there be no future for an ageing continent with a shrinking and less and less innovative population? How can science, how can a new futurology help to overcome

the problems ahead? These are some of the questions which were be discussed at the event. It was opened by Siegfried Sellitsch (Member of the Board of the Austrian Chapter). Friedrich Hinterberger gave a presentation and Paul Lendvai did the moderation.

Conference: "Europe After Lisbon: Intertwining Sustainability and Competitiveness"

The conference was a joint project of the Slovenian, Croatian and Austrian Chapter, the European Support Centre of the Club of Rome and WAAS. It was organized in co-operation with the Slovenian EU Presidency. Competitiveness has been a key concept of the Lisbon Strategy. Efforts to strengthen European competitiveness influence many political decisions, those related to the economy as well as those related to the education system. The conference "Europe after Lisbon" discussed the long-term aspects of competitiveness. How can competition support achieving sustainable development on the European and the global level? The conference discussed successes and challenges of the Lisbon strategy and the concept of competition in promoting innovation for sustainable development of Europe and convert this vision into practical steps, in particular regarding its development paradigm after Lisbon. Ernst Gehmacher (Austrian Chapter) and Marianne Kager (ESC) formed the Austrian team at the event and managed an inspiring workshop on co-operation and competition.

Events on the 30-Year Update of Limits to Growth in Vienna

In autumn 2006 the German language version of the 30-Year Update of "Limits to Growth" (Donnella Meadows, Dennis Meadows and Jorgen Randers) was published. At this occasion Dennis Meadows held presentations for the introduction of the book. The tour started in Austria on 9 November 2006 in Vienna and on 15 November 2006 in Linz and continued then in Germany. The presentation in Vienna was organized by the European Support Centre, the Austrian Chapter of the Club of Rome and SERI in co-operation with the City of Vienna and ORF. Siegfried Sellitsch and Friedrich Hinterberger made statements of behalf of the Austrian Chapter.

Conference "The Future of Work: Shaping of Globalisation as a Key Challenge"

The event was organized in November 2007 by the Austrian Chapter of the Club of Rome in co-operation with the European Support Centre and the City of Vienna (Wiener Vorlesungen). Europe is getting more and more under pressure. As a consequence of globalisation, labour is transferred more and more to other regions of the World. Major forces of this trend are the setup of global networking and communication infrastructures by help of information technology. It is obvious that this trend will further continue. At the same time, the world-wide transfer of capital and knowledge is accelerating. All this is creating not only a threat for working places in the developed countries, the social systems are threatened as well. Cub of Rome member Franz Josef Radermacher was introduced by Siegfried Sellitsch and Hubert Christian Ehalt from the Austrian Chapter. Around 500 participants followed afterwards a lively discussion moderated by Michaela Moritz.

Symposium: Climate Change, Risk or Chance for the Insurance Industry

The symposium was organized in Vienna in co-operation with the Österreichische Gesellschaft für Versicherungsfachwissen and Allianz: "Austria - the country of the lemon trees?" At least in the past years this vision seemed not to be so far away. Extraordinary hot summers gave an impression of the possible impact of climate change on our life.

The conference was introduced by Siegfried Sellitsch. In a keynote speech, Helga Kromp-Kolb presented statistical data which did not leave any doubt: climate change has started. Peter Novak presented a risk study which outlined the possible consequences of climate change for the insurance industry.

European Environmental Education

The European Environmental Education project (EEE <http://www.eeeprojects.net>) has made continuous progress in the past two years. 300 projects are forming today the largest European Network on environmental education. Environmental Education will play a major role in achieving a sustainable development. The ability and readiness of adults to learn and to change their behaviour is often restricted, whereas children learn rapidly and with empathy. The EEE project is carried out in co-operation with the European Support Centre and aims at the increase of awareness for our major environmental problems by promoting online environmental education. Therefore an online database has been created that presents information from almost all European countries. The 300 projects are presented by a short abstract and a project description. The description gives also the link to the project website, which makes it possible to get more comprehensive information on individual projects.

Publications

Leben im Cyberspace, die Bildung von Sozialkapital in virtuellen Welten
ISBN 978-3-929118-66-7 Ed.: Thomas Schauer

The Future of Europe - Sustainable Development and Economic Growth?
ISBN: 978-3-9502472-1-3 Eds.: Andrzej Nadolny, Thomas Schauer

Haben wir 30 Jahre lang geschlafen? Zum Update der Grenzen des Wachstums
ISBN: 978-3-929118-64-3 Eds.: Thomas Schauer, Friedrich Hinterberger

Future Plans and Outlook

- The Austrian Chapter will be acting along the new programme of the Club of Rome entitled "A New Path for World Development", which has been outlined by Martin Lees, Secretary-General of the Club of Rome International, during a visit in Vienna.
- The work on the European Environmental Education topic is being continued and the Austrian Chapter invited all National Associations to get involved.
- Energy supply will be a key issue in public discussion in the years ahead, and possible solutions like biomass might have also problematic effects. At a conference on September 18, 2008, the Austrian Chapter will discuss the impact of fuel production from biomass on the food market.

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Brussels - EU Chapter of the Club of Rome



**Brussels - EU
Chapter**

About the Association

Year of Foundation: 2001

Legal status: Association according to Belgian law

Number of members: 43

President: Raoul Weiler

Vice-President: Peter Johnston

Secretary: Céline Broekaert

Treasurers: Pol Descamps, Ludo Van Oyen

Further Members of the Board: Pierre Chastanet, Erika De Cuyper, Jacques de Selliers, Mark Dubrulle, Pierrick Fillon-Ashida, Carlos Rodriguez Casal, Daniel Schaubacher.

Activities and Achievements

The Aurelio Peccei Lectures

The Aurelio Peccei Lectures are standard activities of the Association. They provide the opportunity for academics, civil servants of intergovernmental organizations and politicians from all over the world to express their views about world problems and new tendencies in society. The lectures take place at the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium and are combined with a social get-together for networking. So far, about 50 lectures have been invited.

The following lectures were held in 2007:

- No 37 B. Stephan Baldin and Klaus Dosch, Germany: Resource Productivity – A Long Term Business Boosting Program -not only- for Germany.
- No 38 Patrick M. Liedtke, Switzerland: The Future of Work and Old-Age Security: Opportunities Squandered.
- No 39 Anne-Rachel Inné, Niger & Giovanni Seppia, Italy: ICANN: achievements and challenges of a multi-stakeholder, bottom up, transparent model.
- No 40 Tapio Kanninen, UN-Finland: Developing an early warning - reaction system for global and regional threats.
- No 41 Florence Devouard, France: Wikipedia and the educational landscape
- No 42 Dean Peterson & Nancy Bertler, New Zealand: Antarctica and Climate Change Research in New Zealand.
- No 43 Jacques de Selliers, Belgium, Guy Reinaud, France, Dr. Jacques de Gerlache, Belgium: Building consensus on health and environment by communicating scientific facts.
- No 44 Franz Josef Radermacher, Germany: The Global Marshall Plan Initiative

- No 45 Jane Roberts, UNFPA, US: Small Change Delivers: Mobilising grassroots dollars to save women's lives
- No 46 Jean Guinet, France & Gang Zhang, China: The OECD Review of China's Innovation Policy

In addition, a book presentation has been held on "Balance or Destruction" by Club of Rome Member Franz Josef Radermacher

Since January 2008, the Aurelio Peccei Lectures are organized in co-operation with the European Support Centre (ESC). The ESC sets up an individual website for each lecture which presents details about the speeches, the speakers, a discussion forum and follow-up information such as texts or presentation slides.

The following lectures were held until May 2008:

- No 47 Martin Lees, CoR Secretary-General: The Mission of the University for Peace of the United Nations; see <http://www.clubofrome.at/events/lectures/47/>
- No 48 Jean Guinet, France: OECD Strategy Review of Innovation Policies; see <http://www.clubofrome.at/events/lectures/48/>
- No 49 Barry Hughes, USA: The Uses of Modeling for Analysing Trends of the Future. see <http://www.clubofrome.at/events/lectures/49/>
- No 50 Spyros Konidaris: Innovation: Concept and Relation with R&D; see <http://www.clubofrome.at/events/lectures/50/>

The Newsletter

The following issues have been published in 2007

Summer 2007: Alexander King obituary; Club of Rome Dossiers; Legacy of Aurelio Peccei. Winter 2007: Annual Meeting Club of Rome in Madrid, Spain; New Honorary Members of the EU-Chapter; The Speech of Hans-Gert Pöttering from the European Parliament.

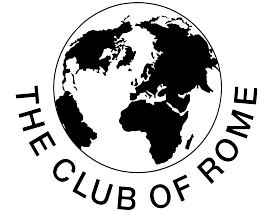
Future Plans and Outlook

The Aurelio Peccei Lectures continue to take place approximately monthly. A dedicated website is set up for each lecture by the European Support Centre. The Newsletter became a Quarterly, two issues have been published in the first half of 2008. Research and reflection projects are looked after.

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Bulgarian Association of the Club of Rome



**Bulgarian
Association**

About the Association

Year of Foundation: 1992

Number of Members 34

President: Prof. Dr. Emil Konstantinov

Vice President: Prof. Dr. Valentin Goev

Activities and Achievements

The Bulgarian Association works on a voluntary basis. The main forms of activities are publications, conferences and discussions. One of the priorities is to involve young people from universities and schools – the next generation. The Association published regularly the magazine "Law without Borders" - four issues per year. It contains topics concerning global problems, the sustainable development, international and national legal issues, international relations etc.

Future Plans and Outlook

The Bulgarian association will establish partnership with the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and with some NGOs. It will try to involve business representatives into the activities of the Association and prepare new projects.

Contact

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Croatian Association of the Club of Rome



**Croatian
Association**

About the Association

Year of Foundation: 1995

Legal Status: registered at the local authorities

Number of Members: 44 regular members and 11 young associate members

President: Dr. Branko Guberina

President-Elect and Vice-President: Prof. Ana Stavljenić-Rukavina

Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer: Mr. Vladimir Pezo

Members of the Board: Prof. Vlatko Silobričić, Prof. Asim Kurjak, Prof. Boris Kamenar, Prof. Krunoslav Pisk and Prof. Ivo Šlaus.

Activities and Achievements

Five meetings were organized together with the South East European Division of the World Academy of Art and Science and the Croatian Pugwash society.

In April 2008, the Association was co-organizer in co-operation with the Slovenian Association, the Austrian Chapter, the European Support Centre of the Club of Rome, WAAS and the EU Presidency, at the Lubljana conference "Europe after Lisbon: Intertwining Sustainability and Competitiveness". A. Kurjak, V. Pezo, J. Lažnjak and I. Šlaus participated and contributed (<http://www.clubofrome.at/events/2008/ljubljana/>)

Members of the Association contributed to the following events:

- Annual Club of Rome conference 2007 in Madrid (Ivo Šlaus: Human quality - the role of education and values)
- Energy, Water and Sustainable Development, Dubrovnik 2007 (A. Zidanšek, R. Blinc, I. Šlaus and D. Najdovski: Energy in Slovenia and Croatia: Challenges and Possibilities)
- UNESCO-ICSU International conference in Chisinau, May 2007 (I. Šlaus: Education – Human and Social Capital)
- The Future of Europe, Vienna 2007, organized by the Austrian Chapter, Polish Association and European Support Centre in co-operation with the EU Presidency (I. Šlaus), <http://www.clubofrome.at/events/2007/future/>
- Policy Changes in the Next Phase of Globalization, Berlin 2007, organized by the Club of Rome and German President Horst Köhler (Ivo Šlaus).

Publications

- The Future of Knowledge – Evolutionary Challenge of the 21st Century, Zagreb 2007, 17 articles, 227 pages, 11 pictures from Croatia-Bosnian painter Mersad Berber.

- Nuclear Disarmament, Nonproliferation and the Responsibility of Intellectuals, in memoriam of Ivan Supek, Zagreb 2008, 19 articles, 274 pages
- Ivo Šlaus contributed a chapter "The box of new tools", published in the honour of Prof. M. Malitza in "Millennium III 15.-16. - Workshop of Ideas and Projects for European Integration and Global Civilization" (2007).

Future Plans and Outlook

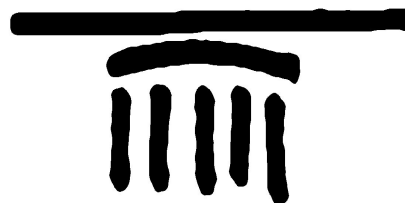
Members of the Association plan to contribute to the meeting of the Club of Rome, conferences of the National Associations and of the World Academy of Art and Science to be held in 2008 and 2009.

The Association plans to continue with regular meetings in association with the SEED-WAAS and Croatian Pugwash, as well as with the Club of Rome National Associations of the neighbouring countries to be devoted to the topics of EU enlargement in South East Europe, to sustainable development and a network on intertwining knowledge, governance and economy.

Contact:

President: Dr. Branko Guberina,
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Czech Association for the Club of Rome



About the Association

Year of Foundation: The Czechoslovak Association for the Club of Rome had been founded in 1991 shortly after the fall of the communist regime. Václav Havel, President of the Czechoslovak Republic, served also as the Honorary President. After division of the country into the Czech and Slovak Republic, the Czech Association for the Club of Rome (Česká Asociace Římského klubu) was established.

Number of Members: 45

President: Assoc. Prof. Pavel Nováček

Secretary General: Michal Paulus

Members of the Board: Jarmila Doubravová, Jiří Drahoš, Jaroslav Kalous, Ivan Klíma, Pavel Nováček

Members of Supervisory Board: Otakar Motejl, Marta Nachtmannová, Roman Řeřicha

Activities and Achievements

The Czech Association for the Club of Rome organized or co-organized in 2007 the following lectures:

George Soros, founder of the Open Society Institute New York and Budapest:
Discussion about his book concerning consequences of war on terrorism;

Prof. Richard Rose, University of Aberdeen, Centre for the Study of Public Policy:
Common People in Public Policy;

Prof. Philippe C. Schmitter, European University Institute in Florence:
Impact of European Integration to Democracy in EU Member States;

Richard M. Scheffler, University of California in Berkeley:
Social Capital, Economics and Health: New Findings.

Future Plans and Outlook

- The Association plans to organize public debates with leading experts
- A cooperation with the WFUNA Millennium Project which publishes each year the State of the Future Report (www.stateofthefuture.org, www.millennium-project.org).

- Preparation and implementation of one semester course for students of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague, on Freedom and Democracy
- Exploring the possibility to launch a study "Future Challenges Percieved by the Heart of Europe" as special report to the Czech and Slovak Associations of the Club or Rome. Some potential topics are: Principle challenges in 21st Century; Life after Peak Oil; Space and time as exhaustible and non-renewable resource; Environment and Sustainable Development; Education without borders; Development Cooperation and Global Marshall Plan, Quality and Sustainability of Life Indicators, Future of Science - What Remains to be Discovered?
- Exploring the possibility to prepare and publish a report "Sustainable Development" with the following tentative structure: Global Issues and Challenges, Perspectives of Global Governance, State of the Environment, Exploring Alternative Futures, Sustainable Development.
- Publish information about Club of Rome activities.
- Build up Club of Rome resource centre and create a website.
- Include representatives from the younger generation in the membership.
- Cooperate with ecological and development NGOs.

Contact Information

President: Assoc. Prof. Pavel Nováček, CSc
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Estonian Association of the Club of Rome



Estonian Association

About the Association

Year of Foundation: 1991, initiated by the Estonian Society for Nature Conservation and established by 43 outstanding scientists, economists, politicians and other personalities.

Number of members: 52

President: Dr. Hardo Aamäe,

Vice President: Prof. Dr. Ülo Vooglaid

Secretary: Mag. Juhan Telgmaa

Members of the Board: Mr. Enn Anupöld; Dr. Hardo Aasmäe, Dr. Jüri Kann, Dr. Juhan Kolk, Mag. Olavi Tammamäe, Mag. Juhan Telgmaa, Prof. Dr. Ülo Vooglaid.

Activities and Achievements

The members gather every month for discussion and deciding about future actions. The scope of discussions is not limited, but the statements, expressions of position of the Association are always kept within the outlines of the principles of the Club of Rome. The President of the Association has every week some minutes in national broadcast, which he uses for the promotion of the ideas of the Estonian Association.

The main activity in 2007 was the publishing of the report of a conference celebrating the 40th anniversary of the ESNC. The conference was devoted to fundamental and philosophical problems forming the basis of the modern environmental protection. Keynote presentations were given by EstCoR Members Prof. Arnold Rüütel (former President of the Republic), Ene Ergmaa (President of the Parliament) and Anto Raukas (leading scientist in geology).

Future Plans and Outlook

- contributing to the conference devoted to the celebration of 80th birthday of Arnold Rüütel, "Vitality of a Little Nation During the Controversial History";
- annual conference of the EstCoR in June: The general circumstances and terms of the future living conditions in the Baltic region";
- In 2008 the monthly meetings will continue.

Contact Information

Secretary-General: Mag. Juhan Telgmaa

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Finnish Association for the Club of Rome



About the Association

Year of Foundation: 1984

Legal status: Association according to Finnish law, re-registered in 2000

President: Matti Penttilä

Vice President: Alekski Neuvonen

Secretary General: Markku Rynänen

Secretary of the Board: Karoliina Jarenko

Further Members of the Board: Tapio S. Linna, Markus Neuvonen, Riitta Nieminen-Sundell

The Finnish members of the Club of Rome International are: Pentti Malaska (member since 1972 and honorary member since 2004) Benjamin Bassin (since 1992), Esko Kalimo (since 1999), Markku Wilenius (since 2002), Tapio O. Kanninen (since 2004) and Sirkka Heinonen (since 2005). President Mauno Koivisto has been a honorary member of CoR since 1984.

Activities and Achievements

- A Meeting with the Estonian Association of the Club of Rome was held in Tallinn in June 2006 on the future of welfare society.
- A symposium "Information Technology, Competitiveness and the Environment" in co-operation with the Finnish EU Presidency was organized together with the European Support Centre. The proceedings have been published in 2007:
Thomas Schauer, Alekski Neuvonen, Matti Penttilä (Eds): Information Technology, Competitiveness and the Environment - Impacts, Policies and Solutions
<http://www.clubofrome.at/archive/archive/helsinki06.html>
- The Association has been promoting the 30-Year Update of Limits to Growth as university textbook.
- The Association has been contributing to the Club of Rome's Task Force on Education, Science, Technology and Knowledge Society in terms of promoting Sustainable Knowledge Society (Global Civil Society as a network of action and knowledge).
- Together with the European Support Centre, the Dossiers (a collection of documents from the early times of the Club of Rome) have been layouted and have been produced as printed edition. Online: [http:// www.clubofrome.at/archive/dossiers.html](http://www.clubofrome.at/archive/dossiers.html)

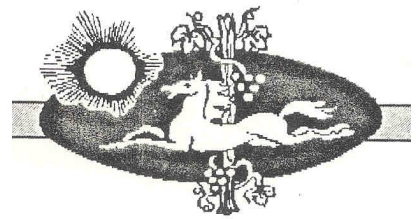
Future Plans and Outlook

- New project addressing the task force of CoR: "Global Civil Society For Mitigating Climate Change Encourageing Participatory Democracy and Utilising ICT", draft by Sirkka Heinonen available, project start in Autumn 2008.
- Events discussing e.g. Global Civil Society, Mental Shift to the Post-Carbon World and the Measures & Indicators of Sustainability: "Ecological Footprint: can the sustainability issues be presented in simpler ways?"
- Initialising the Social Media tools in www.roomanklubi.fi to catalyze the sustainability discussion and activities.
- Networking with other active teams of CoR, especially other Associations to combine forces for the common objectives.

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Georgian Association for the Club of Rome



რომის კლუბის საქართველოს ასოციაცია

About the Association

Year of Foundation: 1991

Legal Status: Association according to Georgian law No 0112

Number of members: 14 Active Members + 2 Honorary Members,
1 Honorary Member of the Club of Rome International

President: Dr. Levan Alexidze

Vice-Presidents: Dr. Eleonora Abashidze, Dr. Shota Chalaganidze, David Iakobidze

Secretary-General: Dr. Medea Abashidze

Activities and Achievements

The Georgian Association for the Club of Rome is a centre for discussion, reflection and analysis on the overall problems of humanity in accordance with the principles of the Club of Rome. The Association focuses on common issues of enhancing action for sustainability in the country. Over the past years the association distributed ideas of the Club of Rome in Georgia. Its visions may inspire the next generations to save the planet Earth from exhaustion.

The activities of GACoR have been special meetings, publications and projects in collaboration with other organizations.

The Association organized the conference: "How Globalization Affects the Nation State". The following questions have been discussed: the impact of globalization on nation-states, society and national economy, how can economic growth be made also environmentally sustainable, contradictions of civilizations and global relationship. Members of the Association presented their activities and their ideas.

The Association initiated the project: "State and Law: a New Model". The project deals with a comprehensive analysis of historical, cultural and statistical data, elaborates a political and legal model for a multireligious state. The project discusses legal guarantees to the separation of the Church from the State and the establishment of cooperative relations between them.

- GACoR continued cooperation with the European Support Centre via Dr Chalaganidze, President of Georgian Academy of Agriculture and Prof. E. Abashidze, department of Ecology of Tbilisi State University (members of GACoR) on the project on agricultural biodiversity. Georgia which is a hot spot for biodiversity is of special interest for work in this area and the project increases the awareness for the related problems. Further information is available on the website <http://www.clubofrome.at/varieties/>

Publications

- R. Metreveli: Nation State in the Globalization context.
- M. Abashidze and G. Lordkipanidze: South Caucasus and Europe - challenges and perspectives.

Future Plans and Outlook

GACoR initiated a meeting with former Ministry of Justice of Georgia. The theme was "Cyberterrorism and Law". It was underlined that cyberterrorism has visible consequences. Therefore simultaneous improvement and unification of legal mechanisms is important to implement the Council of Europe's Convention on Cybercrimes and other international acts to prevent crime, which means full scale standards in Cyberspace. GACoR invites all National Associations to contribute. There is a plan for a conference on this topic in Autumn 2008.

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German Association for the Club of Rome



German Association

About the Association

Year of Foundation: 1978

Legal status: Association according to German law

Number of members: 20

President: Mr. Max Schön

Vice President: Mr. Frithjof Finkbeiner

Members of the Board: Mr. Christian Berg, Mr. Frithjof Finkbeiner, Mr. Bernd Heins, Mr. Uwe Möller, Mr. Max Schön

Activities and Achievements

The Club of Rome Schools - Education for sustainable thinking

Since 2005 Club of Rome schools in the course of formation were established (primary schools to grammar schools/colleges). Those schools are distinguished by an innovative mission and curriculum based on the spirit of the Club of Rome. Meanwhile, 25 schools with about 12,000 pupils were chosen and embedded in an integrated development process culminating in the certification as Club of Rome School.

DESERTEC Concept – Clean Power from the deserts for a balanced climate

Clean Energy from the world's deserts responds to world's energy needs and helps to cope with the challenge of climate change. The project has been initiated and developed mainly by Dr. Gerhard Knies (project manager). The goal of DESERTEC is to exploit the vast and inexhaustible solar energy potential of the desert regions in the Middle-East and Northern Africa (MENA) through solar thermal power, wind energy and other renewable energies, for the benefit of both partners (EU and MENA).

Satellite-based studies by the German Aerospace Center (DLR) have shown that, using less than 0.3% of the entire desert areas of the MENA region, solar thermal power plants can generate enough electricity and desalinated seawater to supply current demands in EU-MENA, and anticipated increases in those demands in the future. Harnessing the winds in Morocco and on land around the Red Sea would generate additional supplies of electricity. Solar and wind power can be distributed in MENA and transmitted via High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) transmission lines to Europe with transmission losses that would be no more than 10-15%. The Club of Rome and TREC are both pursuing this DESERTEC concept: bringing technology and deserts into service for energy, water and climate security. Countries like Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia have already shown an interest in this kind of cooperation.

Global Marshall Plan – for a world in balance

The Global Marshall Plan aims at a "World in Balance". To achieve this, a better design of globalization and the global economic processes is needed – a worldwide Eco-Social Market Economy. This is a matter of an improved global structural framework, sustainable development, the eradication of poverty, environmental protection and equity, altogether resulting in a new global 'economic miracle'. The Global Marshall Plan initiative is supported by several organisations and individuals of which the Global Contract Foundation, the Eco-Social Forum and the German Association for the Club of Rome are only but a few. It has found vivid interest on a national and international level.

The tt30 of the German Association for the Club of Rome

The Think Tank 30 Germany is an independent and non-party network of young leaders, young persons in their twenties and thirties. Its activities are incorporated into the German Association for the Club of Rome. Committed to the spirit and principles of the Club of Rome the TT30 gets involved with an integral, global and long-termed method of resolution for the present challenges.

Seminars, lectures, conferences and media events

The involvement of the German Association in various contexts mirrors the widespread interest in the Club of Rome and its efforts giving answers and finding solutions to the manifold challenges humankind is facing. The members of the board of the German Association are also involved as speakers and moderators in several seminars, conferences and media events constantly. An extract of engagements in 2007 / 2008:

April 2008, Energy Forum 10000 Solar Gigawatts, Hanover fair
February 2008, Energy from the deserts, Heinrich Böll Stiftung, Berlin
January 2008, Climate risks and oil crisis as warning signals, Weilburg
November 2007, Presentation of the White Book Energy, European Parliament, Brussels
November 2007, Education for a world citizenship – the example of the Club of Rome Schools, International Partnership Initiative, Wolfsburg
November 2007, Desertec – clean energy from the deserts, Dresdener Bank, Berlin
November 2007, Annual Conference Globe Germany, Bad Hersfeld
September 2007, Climate Change and Tourism, Bremen
June 2007, Economic Development in the Balkans, Vienna

Contact

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Special information about
Club of Rome schools: Mr. Uwe Möller (moeller@clubofrome.de)
Desertec: Mr. Michael Straub (michael.straub@clubofrome.de; <http://www.desertec.org>)
Global Marshall Plan: (info@globalmarshallplan.org; www.globalmarshallplan.org)
TT30: Mr. Fabian Brandt (kontakt@tt30.de; <http://www.tt30.de>)

Hellenic Chapter of the Club of Rome



Hellenic Chapter

About the Association

Year of Foundation: 2008

Legal Status: Not for profit

Number of Members: 31

President: Prof. Agni Vlavianos Arvanitis

Secretary General: Dr. Evangelia Arvanitakis, Treasurer: Stefanos Costopoulos

Members of the Board: Alexandros Vrachnos, Dr. Spyros Spyrou, Prof. Ioannis Stournaras, Ioannis Tzen

Activities and Achievements

In March 2008, the First General Assembly elected the Board of Directors and the Board of Auditors. Members of the General Assembly discussed future, as well as the publication of a position paper/volume on current problems related to development, unemployment, and environmental protection. In May 2008, a lecture held in Athens by the European Ombudsman, Prof. Nikiforos Diamandouros marked formally the inauguration of the Hellenic Chapter of the Club of Rome. Prof. Diamandouros addressed crucial issues, including the promotion of environmental values in state and nation building, and the relationship between the environment, culture and politics within the European setting. The lecture was attended by the members of the Hellenic Chapter, the Chairman of Transparency International, ambassadors and dignitaries from Bosnia-Herzegovina, Chile, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Greece, Iran, Ireland, Indonesia, Japan, Liberia, Malta, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, and Switzerland.

Future Activities and Outlook

A series of lectures and publications are planned for 2008 and 2009. The concept of "Green Salaries" for the support of employment in environmental protection will be implemented in cooperation with the Biopolitics International Organisation (B.I.O.), an environmental NGO with members in 137 countries promoting international cooperation and education since 1985.

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President: Prof. Agni Vlavianos Arvanitis

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Hungarian Association of the Club of Rome



About the Association

Year of Foundation: 2001

legal status: NGO according to Hungarian law

Number of members: 32

President: Academician Prof. Dr. László Kapolyi

Vice-President: Dr. Erzsébet Novaky

Scientific Coordinator: Ms. Réka Várnagy

The Hungarian Association of the Club of Rome was founded in December 2001, based upon the initiative of László Kapolyi, member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and member of the Club of Rome. As the Association of the Club of Rome, it aimed at founding an academic club where the challenges of the 21st century could be discovered and discussed by experts and professionals from a future-oriented perspective. The mission of the Hungarian Association is to discover the challenges, the Hungarian economy and society is facing due to the economic and social transition, globalization and the recent accession to the European Union. The association aims at exploring the answers and reactions to these challenges and the possible future alternatives deriving from them. The Hungarian Association's commitment towards our future translates to commitment of futures generations and thus through its work it aims at opening a dialogue with younger generations to shape our common future.

Activities and Achievements

During the last years the Hungarian Association of the Club of Rome focused on enlarging its network of cooperation and making itself more visible in the international community. This included developing bilateral relations with other Associations in the region as well as providing widely accessible information about the Association's activities. Of course, the Association also pursued its original objectives of carrying out research projects within the Hungarian academic area and attracting young fellows to the field of future research. Local networks were revived. Erzsébet Nováky, Vice-President of the Hungarian Association of the Club of Rome became President of the Futures Research Committee of the HAS and new opportunities were created in that field: The Hungarian Association of the Club of Rome signed an agreement of cooperation with HAS.

In order to develop closer cooperation with other Club of Rome Associations in the region, the Hungarian Association participated at many events organized by other associations as well as the European Support Center of the Club of Rome. Among these events were the meetings of the European associations in Talinn, in Valencia, and conferences organized by the European Support Centre: A group of young members of the Association attended

in autumn 2006 a workshop on Stratagem simulation with Dennis Meadows in Vienna. Réka Várnagy and Krisztina Ónodi gave presentations at the conference "The Future of Europe" held in co-operation with the Portuguese EU Presidency in Vienna.

The Hungarian Association of the Club of Rome also aimed at increasing its visibility within the country in order to revive its professional networks and links. Thus, the Hungarian Association was presented at the VI. Hungarian (Anniversary) Conference on Futures Research called "Global and National Problems from Yesterday till Tomorrow" organized by the Committee on Futures Research of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Upon the invitation of the Hungarian Association, the European Support Centre of the Club of Rome also participated at the event and supported the Hungarian Association by organizing a booth for presenting the Association's activities and its role today. In order to further strengthen its academic role, the Hungarian Association of the Club of Rome signed a cooperation agreement with the Committee on Futures Research in 2006.

A very successful activity "Futures Forest Camp" has been developed by the Association in cooperation with the Future Studies Department at the Corvinus University of Budapest. The camp has been organized on an annual basis since 2004, thus it reached its 5th anniversary in 2008. The camp is traditionally organized off-site, in a small village called Kétybodony situated in the Cserhát region of Hungary. It offers a unique opportunity to involve younger generations in futures thinking. In the recent years the Association decided to introduce topics that are overlooked in the traditional education as many students showed great interest in widening their scope of futures thinking. Thus the association invited colleagues to talk about what kind of challenges the human race and intelligent life faces in the future; about aggression and global terrorism; about exploring futures seeds in music or transactional analysis in communication; while the association introduced more pragmatic topics such as methods for forecasting bankruptcy as well.

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FONDAZIONE AURELIO PECCEI

(Italian Chapter of the CoR)

Organisation

The Peccei Foundation (Italian Chapter of the CoR) was established in 1984 by the Peccei family to remember Aurelio Peccei, the co-founder of the Club of Rome.

President: Roberto Peccei

Secretary: Gianfranco Bologna

Foundation Board: Roberto Peccei (President), Piero Angela, Gianfranco Bologna, Roland Burger, Fabio Lais, Eleonora Barbieri Masini, Riccardo Peccei, Angelo M. Petroni, Leonello Radi, Gian Tommaso Scarascia Mugnozza

Supervisory Board: Antonio Ciuffa, Giorgio Luciani, Mario Perrone

Activities and Achievements

Annual Aurelio Peccei Lectures

- 2006 by Paul Crutzen: Antropocene: l'impatto della specie umana sulla natura
- 2007 by Norman Myers: La sfida della biodiversità

Website and Publication

- Website has been set up in co-operation with the European Support Centre at the URL <http://www.clubofrome.at/peccei/>
- Booklet "The Legacy of Aurelio Peccei" based on a lecture by Eleonora Barbieri Masini has been published in co-operation with the European Support Centre.

Future Activities and Outlook

- Organisation of the Club of Rome 40 Year Anniversary Conference in Rome, June 2008
- Research project "Paradiso", launched with the support of the European Commission aims at identifying strategic research directions on network and service infrastructures related to global societal developments. Input from CoR Associations is welcome. A workshop is planned in Brussels in June 2008, a conference in January 2009.

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Website: <http://www.clubofrome.at/peccei/>

Dutch Association for the Club of Rome



Organisation

Year of Foundation: The Erasmus Liga was founded in 1972, in 1989 it became the Erasmus Liga / Dutch Association for the Club of Rome.

President: Prof. Dr. Paul Rademaker

Vice President: Dr. J.C. van Noordwijk - van Veen

Secretary General: Dr. E. J. Tuininga

Further members of the Board: Ms. Anne Marijke Geuzebroek, Mr. Bas Jurres, Mr. Gert-Jan M. Vaessen,

The Dutch Association / Erasmus Liga has around 250 donors.

Activities and Achievements

The yearly Erasmus Lecture 2007 was held by Dr. Jaqueline Kramer, Minister for Sustainability, on the perspectives for sustainable development. Many contributions and lectures were given by members of the Board. Initiatives were taken to set up a section for the younger generation and a website was developed. A publication on nuclear energy can be downloaded from the website. Another publication by Ms. van Noordwijk - van Veen on population growth (see website) will have a follow up in a conference. A very active group of youngsters started a public discussion on the World Problematique in the context of the Dutch TT30 programme.

Future Plans and Outlook

The yearly Erasmus Lecture 2008 is given by Dr. Rinnory Kan, Chairman of the Social Economic Council on CSR, good governance and sustainable development. The text of the lecture will be published on the website.

The setup of a working group on this topic is considered and a conference for the younger generation will be in September 2008.

A course on "Sustainable Dynamism" will start in the present academic year at the University of Amsterdam. It was initiated by Prof. Rademaker.

Contact Information

President: Prof. Paul Rademaker, from June 2008: Prof. Gerard Keijzers

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contact TT30: Mr. Bas Jurres, basjurres@home.nl

Polish Association for the Club of Rome



About the Association

Founding year: 1987

Number of members: 117

Legal status: association

President: prof. dr hab. Antoni Kukliński

Vice Presidents: prof. dr hab. Andrzej Herman, Bogusław Skuza

Treasurer: Michał Grocholski

Secretary General: dr Remigiusz Orzechowski

Members of the Board: prof. dr hab. Zbigniew Madej, prof. dr hab. Józef Niżnik, prof. dr hab. Zdzisław Sadowski

Activities and Achievements

A broad discussion on the future of Europe was started. The metaphor of Gordian Knots and Alexandrian Solution were used to describe problems of the modern world, that will have very important consequences for the future state of the global economy, and possible resolutions, which may seem strange, or politically incorrect, but which significantly increase the odds of positive outcomes, i.e. future states of the global economy where Europe is a powerful global player and global innovation leader. Several seminars were organized, involving members of the Polish Association and different groups of Polish scientists, experts, businessmen, politicians and other stakeholders. According to dr. Krzysztof Rybiński and Paweł Opala four Gordian Knots were proposed:

1. Limits to growth: scarce energy and natural disasters: Limited sources of energy may be a significant restriction to the global economy growth in the medium term, but probably human innovation will enable to overcome this limitation in the longer term. More important seems to be the environmental effects of economic activity. Reports to the Club of Rome warn against probable negative effects of increasing the ecological imbalance, but activities taken so far globally are inadequate to tackle the enormous threats.

2. Ageing of the developed world and the 21st century as the age of migration: Two main scenarios seem possible. First, Europe will increase efficiency and employment by innovation. However, it demands creating a long-term vision of Europe and gaining political consensus for changes. The second scenario will appear if no vision for reform were created. Then Europe will face challenges resulting from the enormous inflow of emigrants from regions having much younger societies, such as Africa and Asia.

3. The rise of China and the failure of democracy: The biggest success in increasing GDP in the last decades of the XX century made Asian tigers: South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore. Those countries are (or were on the path of growth) non-democratic. In the

beginning of the XXI century we can see the enormous economic growth of the world's biggest non-democratic country - China. It is highly probable that during few decades it will become the biggest and the most competitive economy. If Europe wants to maintain its strong position on the global market there is needed a radical change in strategy, resulting in a vision of a highly competitive Europe. But still remains the main question, whether European democratic countries, operating in short, four-year political cycles will be able to abandon populist national protectionism and create a common vision.

4. Rising significance of global financial markets and emergence of new global players: The new global financial architecture will be developed in the 21st century. The end of New York and London dominance in world financial markets, the rise of Shanghai/Shenzhen/Hong Kong as the world financial centre. Return of protectionism, triggered by rising assets of Sovereign Wealth Funds in non-democratic societies (China, Russia, Gulf oil exporters). Two scenarios seem likely: "national patriotism and Europe financial marginalization" and "balanced East-West distribution of power".

In September 2007, the Polish Association was among the partners of the conference "The Future of Europe - Sustainable Development and Economic Growth?", hosted by the Vienna Centre of the Polish Academy of Sciences. The event was organized together with the European Support Centre in co-operation with the EU Presidency. More information is available at: <http://www.clubofrome.at/events/2008/future/>

Publications

- Indirectly related to the activities of the Club is "The Individuality of a Scholar and Advancement of Social Science. The Scholarship of Antoni Kukliński", edited by Anna Gašior-Niemiec and Józef Niżnik. This publication is available on the website of the Polish Association. One chapter describes the Gordian Knots concept in more detail.
- "The Future of Europe - Sustainable Development and Economic Growth?" ISBN: 978-3-9502472-1-3 Eds.: Andrzej Nadolny, Thomas Schauer
- "Future Oriented Modelling" by Wladyslaw Richard Switalsky, published in co-operation with the European Support Centre

Future Plans and Outlook

In 2008 the Polish Association plans to start an international discussion on the future of Europe and the World, based the concept of Gordian Knots. All members of the CoR are invited to participate. The Gordian Knots initiative will include an international conference in October 2008, and establishing long-term program of scientific research in this field.

The second main initiative of the Polish Association is the development of a Strategic Thought Forum, which was started in March 2008 in cooperation with the Polish Economic Association. The objective is to create a foundation for complex strategy of economic growth of Poland.

Contact Information

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Romanian Association for the Club of Rome



About the Association

Year of Foundation: 1992

Legal Status: Non-profit

Number of Members: 50

President: Mugur Isarescu

Vice Presidents: Mircea Malitza, Virgiliu N. Constantinescu, Nicolae Danila, Petru Rares, Teodor Melescanu, Sergiu Celac

Secretary General: Calin Georgescu

Executive Director: Mugur Tolici

Activities and Achievements

Activities in 2006

- Joint round table by the Bulgarian, German and Romanian Associations of the Club of Rome covering the following topics: populations' sacrifices after the European integration/ confrontation with the integration realities; financial impact of the European integration upon the population; sustainable development principles in a country with major resources; awareness of integration risks among political and civil society in June 2006. More information is available on the conference website <http://www.clubofrome.at/events/2008/>
- Debate held with Lester R. Brown in Romania, regarding his latest paperwork "Plan B 2.0: Rescuing a Planet Under Stress and a Civilization in Trouble", September 2006.
- IPID launch- The Institute for Innovation and Development Projects - "The professional upgrading of Romania", October 2006.

Joint activities with NCSD/UNDP:

- Public debates of Local Plans for Sustainable Development - organised within the Local Agenda 21 projects implemented in Constanta, Medgidia, Gura Humorului, Brasov County.
- Round table: Sustainable Development from the Perspective of Romanian EU Integration, June 2006.

Activities in 2007

Continuation of the series of debates with the theme: "Romania in the age of knowledge" (project started in 2006, joint project- BSUF, NCSD, IBR, INSOMAR and the National Centre for Education and Sustainable Development

- "Romanian Universities in the Age of Knowledge" , April 26, 2006 "Present trends in the Globalization of Education and in the Financial Banking System", March 14, 2006"
- Debate: "Climate change. Energy. Environmental Protection", February 2007
- Debate regarding the evolution of Romania's population: "The demographic situation in Romania", June 2007

Activities developed in collaboration with The Black Sea University Foundation (BSUF):

- "The use of Unconventional Energy in the region of the Black Sea"; Scientific Round Table; Creation of a new Regional Network, August 2007
- "The History of Cultures in the region of the Black Sea", July 2007
- "The energetic resources of the Black Sea", August 2007

Attendance of the CoR symposium, regarding EU's sustainable development, in Vienna, 12-13 September 2007; the CoR Annual Conference in Madrid, 23-25 September, 2007.

Organizing the conference "Promoting National Interests of Romania within the European Union", October 3rd, 2007

Current activities 2008

Providing support for the revision of Romania's "National Sustainable Development Strategy (NCSD)". The current project represents a joint undertaking of the Romanian Government, through the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) having the Bucharest-based National Centre for Sustainable Development as its execution agent.

- January 22, 2008 - the first meeting of the National Council for Public Debate; official launch of the debate: the NSDS content
- February, 21, 2008 - the second meeting of the National Council for Public Debate; debate on the first version of NSDS
- March 20, 2008 - the third meeting of the National Council for Public Debate; debate on the second version of NSDS
- April 22, 2008 - the fourth meeting of the National Council for Public Debate; debate on the third version of NSDS
- July, 2008 - The fifth meeting of the National Council for Public Debate; the presentation of the final version of NSDS
- May, 22-24th, 2008, Bucharest: The European conference of the National Associations was organized by the Romanian Association for the Club of Rome in collaboration with the European Support Centre of the Club of Rome and was hosted by the Romanian Banking Institute: <http://www.clubofrome.at/events/2008/bucharest/>

Future Activities and Outlook

- The setting up of a Centre of Excellence in Romania - Center of Excellence for Innovation towards Sustainability, in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Germany
- continuation of the series of debates with the theme: "Romania in the age of knowledge" project started in 2006
- investing in research and development
- educational projects

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Russian Association for the Club of Rome



Russian Association

About the Association

Year of Foundation: 1989

Legal Status: non commercial national organisation

Number of Members: 50

President: Mr. Sergey Kamionsky

Vice Presidents: Ms. Yulia Barteneva, Mr. Vladimir Podoprigora

Activities and Achievements

The Russian Association of the Club of Rome opens a youth section, which aims at young people from leading Russian Universities: people with different faiths and ideas who are interested in the mission of the Club of Rome.

In 2007 under the aegis of The Russian Association of the Club of Rome there has been issued a book with name: "Problems of the management and the system analysis". Author is Sergey Kamionsky. The book became very popular among businessmen and scientists. In 2008 the second edition has already been published.

In 2007 the Association started a new activity: Market Research and Analysis. The Association uses international experience, and methods, following the vision of the Club of Rome. Projects are planned in different fields, such as Russian Agriculture, Chemical industries, Education, Metal industries, Social business Activities and others.

About 50 Seminars were held in 2007 for University students, for businessmen and for International and Russian companies.

The Russian Association gathers two times per year for conferences, in which different important and questions of organization are discussed.

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Slovak Association for the Club of Rome



About the Association

Year of Foundation: 1993

Legal Status: Association according to Slovak law

Number of members: 129

President: Prof. Beloslav Riečan

Secretary General: Assoc. Prof. Karol Nemoga

Members of the Board: Juraj Alner, Roman Berger, Mikuláš Huba, Anton Klas, Ivan Klinec, Branislav Liška, Karol Nemoga, Beloslav Riečan, Tatiana Štefanovičová

The Slovak Association was established after splitting of the Czech and Slovak Republic in 1993. The first constituent meeting was attended by Bertrand Schneider, Secretary General of the Club of Rome International, Milan Mareš, Chairman of the Czech Association for the Club of Rome. The Slovak Association is cooperating with the Czech Association very closely.

Activities and Achievements

- education in general, Slovak program and projects in education, quality of university education in Slovakia, PhD. system in Slovakia,
- music, education system in music in Slovakia,
- science as a main entrance point to the future, system of funding in Slovakia,
- sustainable economy,
- ecology, sustainable development of the society,
- problems of culture (series of discussion)

Outlook and Future Plans

The main programme in the near future will deal with the question of sustainable development in all fields of human activities, education, science and technology, prognosis, views to the future and the economy.

Contact

Secretary-General: Assoc. Prof. Karol Nemoga
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Slovenian Association for the Club of Rome



**Slovenian
Association**

About the Association

Year of foundation: 2000

Legal Status: formally registered as a legal entity in Slovenia

Number of members: 15

President: Acad. Prof. Dr. Robert Blinc, President

Secretary General: Prof. Dr. Aleksander Zidanšek

Activities and Achievement

Highlight in 2007 was the Annual Meeting of the Association on December 10 with participation of several foreign guests from Austria, Croatia and Greece. Prof. Ivo Šlaus presented activities of the national associations and the meeting in Berlin. Dr. Thomas Schauer presented activities of the European Support Center in Vienna and the preparations for the April 2008 meeting on Intertwinning of Sustainability and Competitiveness.

Another important activity of the association in 2007 was participation at the Annual Conference of the Club of Rome in Madrid in September. In preparations for the Annual Conference the members of the association were active in the Train to Local Agenda 21 network and at the Dubrovnik Conference on Sustainable Development of Energy, Water, and Environment Systems.

At the Dubrovnik a special session on sustainable development modelling was organised by CoR members Prof. Ivo Šlaus, Prof. Robert Blinc and Prof. Aleksander Zidanšek. Some innovative views of sustainability were discussed at this special session, and results have been used both as an input to the round table at the Annual Conference as well as in the process of preparations for the 2008 meeting on Intertwinning of Sustainability and Competitiveness.

The Train to Local Agenda 21 network was a trans-European network supported by the Leonardo da Vinci program, where the focus was on preparation of training materials for Local Agenda 21 moderators and facilitators. The main result of the project were the OP3 training modules and their presentation in a form which is suitable for strengthening local sustainable development. A special presentation based on experience from Train to Local Agenda 21 network has been prepared for the round table at Annual Conference, and it received warm welcome by the participants of the round table.

In April 2008, the Slovenian Association hosted the conference "Europe after Lisbon: Intertwining Sustainability and Competitiveness", which was organized together with the Croatian and Austrian Chapter, the European Support Centre and WAAS in co-operation with the Slovenian EU Presidency.

Innovative ways were tested how this meeting could serve as an instrument of change, and how Slovenian EU Presidency can be used as a leverage for a broader European impact. The main challenge is that there have been many meetings from the field of sustainability, however none of them significantly shifted the behaviour of the decision makers. Everybody more or less knows what needs to be done, and yet there is a lack of mechanisms to get the job done. It seems like new innovative approaches are necessary, and the focus of the April 2008 meeting was to bring forward some fresh ideas on effective and workable approaches by using the Open Space Method.

More information is available on <http://www.clubofrome.at/events/2008/ljubljana/>

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Spanish Chapter of the Club of Rome



About the Association

Year of Foundation: 1976

Legal Status: Non-Profit Cultural Association

Number of Members: 437

President: Isidro Fainé Casas

Honorary President: Ricardo Díez Hochleitner

Vice Presidents: Teresa M^a Mendizábal Aracama, José Manuel Morán Criado

Further Board Members: Rafael Blasco Castany, Juan Luis Cebrián Echarri, Ricardo Fornesa Ribó, Diego Hidalgo Schnur, José Ramón Lasuén Sancho, Federico Mayor Zaragoza, Emilio Muñoz Ruíz, Saturnino de la Plaza Pérez, Rafael Puyol Antolín, Carlos Robles Piquer, Joan Rosàs Xicota, Pedro Ruiz Aldasoro, Narcís Serra i Serra, Rolf Tarrach Siegel.

Director General: Jesús Moneo Montoya

Secretary General: Fernando Lanzaco Bonilla

The work structure consists of 4 Territorial Groups: Basque, Catalan, Madrid and Valencia, a scientific committee formed by 11 scientists who direct the Chapter debates on science and technology, and the Spanish tt30 group.

Activities and Achievements

Events organized by the Spanish Chapter

- Pension Reform and Future of the Welfare State, by Octavio Granado, State Secretary for Social Security (Madrid).
- Poverty in Spain Today: by Víctor Renes, Director of the CARITAS Research Service
- The Club of Rome, Past, Present and Future: by Ricardo Díez-Hochleitner (La Coruña).
- New Dimensions of Poverty: by D. J. Subirats and D. Víctor Renes, held in Barcelona.
- Exclusion and Immigration: Dinner-colloquium in Barcelona.
- The Future of Education: Dinner-colloquium in Barcelona.
- Inequality, Poverty and Human Development: organized by the Chair of The Club of Rome (Polytechnical University of Madrid). Participation of Teresa Mendizábal, Vice-President of the Spanish Chapter, in the 2007 Summer Courses of the Polytechnical University of Madrid. La Granja de San Ildefonso, Segovia.
- Meeting of the CoR Executive Committee (ExCom) in Madrid, preparation of the document "Human Quality, Equal Opportunities, Human Development and Social Quality" by Ricardo Díez-Hochleitner, Teresa Mendizábal and José Manuel Morán for the ExCom, following its proposal for the holding of the 2007 Annual Conference
- Human Development: Challenges and Opportunities: 2007 Annual Conference of the CoR in Madrid: <http://www.clubofrome.at/events/2007/madrid/>

Events organized by the Catalan Group

- In March 2007, the Catalan group, in cooperation with the European Support Centre, invited members of the tt30 in Spain to a workshop with Dennis Meadows in Barcelona. The programme included a presentation of the update of "Limits to Growth", practical exercises on sustainable development and the presentation of their project on global governance. Also, the Catalan group published work on global governance in 2007.
- Presentation of the 2005-2006 Proceedings Book by Teresa Mendizábal, Vicepresident of the Spanish Chapter and by Manuel Royes, Special Delegate of State in El Consorci de la Zona Franca de Barcelona, sponsor of the edition of the proceedings book (Barcelona).
- Presentation of the Catalan tt30's book "Global Democratic Governance" (Spanish version). Participants: Manuel Manonelles and Antonio Comín (members of the Catalan tt30), Federico Mayor Zaragoza (ex-Director General of UNESCO and honorary member of the CoR, Eugeni Gay (Magistrate of the Spanish Constitutional Court). Closing speech by José Manuel Morán (Vice President of the Spanish Chapter of the CoR) (Barcelona).
- Human Capital and Social Capital: Why the Social Infrastructures so Decisive: by Josep Miró Ardévol, Director of the Educational Research and Documentation Centre (CIDE) and of the Institute for Social Capital Studies (INCAS), University of Abat Oliba CEU, Barcelona.
- Role and Credibility of NGOs: by Ignasi Carreras, Director del Institute for Social Innovation of ESADE Business School. Lunch-colloquium (Barcelona).
- Josep Carnier: a Poet, a Consul and a Chronist: by Tomás Alcoverro, journalist, Middle East press correspondent of Spanish newspaper La Vanguardia since 1970.
- Asia Emergence in the XXI Century: Sociocultural Aspects: by Oscar Pujol, Programme Director of Casa Asia. Lunch-colloquium. Barcelona.
- Dialogues on the Frontier: by Iñigo Moré, analyst specialized on international economy and emergent economies, founder of Remesas.org and Director of a consulting agency specializing in internationalization (Latin America and Africa).
- Mother Cells: at the Crossroads of Medicine: by Natalia López Moratalla, M.D., Professor of the University of Navarra, Doctor of Biologic Sciences and degree in Chemistry (University of Granada).

Publications

- Proceedings book for the conferences-debates during 2005-06 organized by the Catalan Group
- Global Democratic Governance by the Catalan tt30 (in Spanish version)

Events organized by the Valencia Group

- in cooperation with the European Support Centre, the Valencia group of the Chapter hosted in Valencia the European National Associations Conference: Europe and the New Dimensions of Sustainability Multiculturalism and Human Quality:
<http://www.clubofrome.at/events/2006/valencia/>
- Prometheus: From Myth to Technology: Emilio Barberá Guillén, Secretary of the Generalitat Valenciana for University and Science.
- Evolution and Impact of a Transplant Programme: by José Mir Pallardó, M.D., Head of Surgery and Liver Transplants at the Hospital de La Fe (lunch colloquium).
- Advances in Assisted Human Reproduction: by Antonio Pellicer Martínez, Chair of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University of Valencia and President of Equipo IVI.

- Present and Future of Mother Cells: by Carlos Simón Valles, Scientific Director of IVI (Valencian Infertility Institute) and Titular Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Valencia
- From Molecules to Medical Practice Research: by Juan R. Viña, Chair of Molecular Biochemistry of the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Valencia and Director of the Hospital Clínico de Valencia Foundation for Investigation.

Publications

- The European National Associations of the Club of Rome - Valencia Conference Summary: www.clubofrome.at/archive/european-national-associations-2005-2006.html

Events organized by the Basque Group

- Corporate Social Responsibility: The Facts: by Fernando Casado, Doctor of Economics, University of Barcelona and Advisor to several UN Programmes.
- Limits to Growth - The 30-Year Update: with Dennis Meadows.
- Federal Europe, a Project for Political Integration: by Josu Jon Imaz, President of the EBB - Executive Body- of the Basque Nationalist Party (EAJ-PNV) and Vice president of the European Democratic Party.
- An idea of Europe: by Daniel Innerarity, Professor of Philosophy at the Universidad of Zaragoza
- Solutions to the European Constitutional Crisis: by Marcelino Oreja Aguirre, Spain's Former Minister for Foreign Affairs and ex-EU Commissioner. Lunch-colloquium.

Future Plans and Outlook

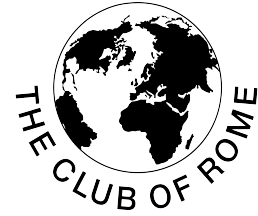
Future themes for the 2008 conferences-debates will be sustainability, climate change and human development, Public and private health systems, the future of the university, security and technology, new treatments in medicine.

Contact Information

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Turkish Chapter of the Club of Rome



**Turkish
Chapter**

About the Association

Year of Foundation: 2004
President: Prof. Orhan Güvenen

Activities and Achievements

The focus of the Turkish Chapter is on Information Communication Technologies (ICT) and nanotechnologies. The relevance of a modern informational infrastructure for economic, social, cultural and environmental aspects of a society cannot be underestimated. The development and evolution of socioeconomic systems requires the use of ICT within a coherent, transparent, multi governance structure. Within an efficient ICT endogenized structure, the concepts that represent a certain convergence in the solution of constraints in dealing with socioeconomic phenomena are; participatory and anticipatory democracy, market economy, transparency, accountability, responsibility for human rights and environmental rights. These concepts produce an initial framework that can be used in dealing with the complexities of socioeconomic phenomena and decision-making structures. The platform provided by the Club of Rome is enabling the necessary transdisciplinary approach to the concepts.

In this context, the Turkish Chapter's main outlook is contributing to the development and effective use of the values of ICT and nanotechnologies. The members of the Chapter think that the importance of the nanotechnology should be realized for further economic and social development, as it will provide an exponential shift in current use of the ICT. Especially the use of nanotechnology in materials, telecommunications, medical, pharmaceutical and genetics will result in constructive results in public welfare.

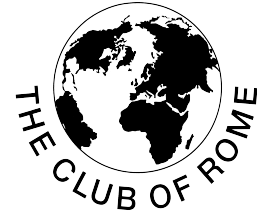
The Turkish Chapter invites further contributions by the other National Associations regarding these main themes. The Chapter will continue its activities in ICT and nanotechnologies and is planning to contribute future related actions and projects within Turkey and in cooperation with other National Associations of the Club of Rome.

Reference: Güvenen, O., M. H. Öztürk, (2006), "An Analysis of Manipulated Information and Respective Alternative Costs in Information Systems and in Decision Making Structures", ISBN 980-6560-80-9, pp149-154, Orlando, USA

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Ukrainian Association of the Club of Rome



**Ukrainian
Association**

About the Association

Year of Foundation: 2005

Number of members 17

Legal status: a non-profit association according to Ukrainian legislation.

President: Dr. Viktor Vovk

Board Members: Oleksandr Mosiyuk, Oleksandr Sugoniako, Mr. Ivan Zayets (Chairman)

Activities and Achievements

The Association was officially founded in 2005 on the initiative of Dr. Viktor Vovk, MP Ivan Zayets and other Ukrainian intellectuals, politicians and businessmen and has started a range of public activities.

The main objectives are:

- inform and educate the general public in Ukraine on the history and role of the Club of Rome as a leading global think-tank calling for attention to strategic and long-range issues;
- increase public awareness on the need to integrate sustainable development into current political, economic and social reforms in Ukraine;
- influence decision-makers and governmental bodies to promote policy strategies that could facilitate a shift towards sustainability in Ukraine.

Among the recent activities were:

- 3 general meetings of the Association held in 2007, the association doubled the number of members;
- launching of the Ukrainian Association's Web-site with more than 50 mass-media articles, analytical reports and materials published by the members of the Association in the recent years, as well as information about the Club of Rome and news from the European national associations;
- lobbying activities to promote the establishment of a National Council on Sustainable Development in Ukraine, including official appeals to President and Prime Minister of Ukraine;

- assisting the Parliamentary Committee on Environmental Policy in organizing public hearings on Nature Reserves Strategy in Ukraine and elaborating the Committee's recommendations for the Parliament, Cabinet of Ministers and other governmental bodies;
- public relations activities in mass-media, including publication of articles in Ukrainian mass-media (newspapers, popular web-sites) and interviews on national TV channels;
- preparatory work to publish Ukrainian editions of recent reports to the Club of Rome.
- Association's representative (Dr. Viktor Vovk) participated in the Club of Rome 2007 Annual Meeting in Madrid, Spain and presented a detailed report on this event at the Association's meeting in October, 2007. The report was also widely distributed via Internet among the Ukrainian NGOs, experts, governmental bodies etc.

Activities and Outlook

The Ukrainian Association plans to continue the analytical, lobbying, public awareness and PR activities, as well as publications.

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Charter for the National Associations of the Club of Rome

as decided on the 1st Conference of the National Associations for the Club of Rome
Warsaw, June 30 - July 4, 1988

Motivations: To think globally, to act locally

Criteria of Acceptance

1. Each national association shall share the basic concern of the Club for the future of humanity.
2. It shall adhere to the three basic concepts of the Club namely the need for global thinking and local action, the importance of the long term perspective and the need to cultivate the holistic approach and understand the interaction with the world problematique.
3. The Associations shall be pluralistic, and not be dominated by any single political or ideological approach.
4. They shall be "not for profit" bodies
5. To be recognized as an association for the Club of Rome, it shall be formally accepted by the Executive Committee of the Club.

Characteristics and Functions of National Associations

1. Each Association shall approach the global problem in terms of the country's own cultural values and thus contributes to the general understanding of the human condition on the planet.
2. It shall also give due attention to the cultural identity and characteristics of particular regional ethnic groupings within its boundaries.
3. It shall have the duty to disseminate locally to decision-makers, academics, industrial circles and the public at large the reports, findings and attitudes of the Club. This can be done through the media, by seminars or other appropriate means.
4. It shall contribute experience, creative ideas and proposals, towards the understanding of the global problems, to the Club of Rome through the international secretariat.
5. It will provide a forum as a focus point in its country for discussion of the global problems.
6. It shall transpose the global thinking of the Club so as to relate the local understanding.
7. It may, from time to time, initiate projects of study or action on behalf of the Club of Rome or as contributions to ongoing projects of the Club, with the agreement of the President or the Executive Committee.
8. It may convene meetings for international dialogue, in agreement with the Club of Rome.
9. It shall interact with other National Associations for the Club, and exchange information and experience, through periodic meetings, by participating in any newsletter which may be created, and by direct correspondence.
10. It shall contribute to the activities of the Club, morally, intellectually, logistically and financially as appropriate.
11. The National Association shall be self-supporting and financed in such a way as to ensure real independence.
12. The Association may be related formally to one or several bodies in its country, which share the objectives of the Club in whole or part and should in any case co-operate with such bodies.
13. The Association should have an easily identifiable leadership and be easy to contact (published telephone number, etc ...)
14. It shall encourage the establishment of educational programmes to identify the problems and stimulate research in the fields of future economic and social development and organization, particularly when different types of problems interact.



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