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Federal Public Service **Justice**



## Invitation to the 15th EPEA conference

**Antwerp, Belgium**

**30/09 – 04/10/2015**

Dear colleagues,

It is our pleasure to officially invite you and your colleagues to attend **the 15<sup>th</sup> Training Conference of the European Prison Education Association (EPEA)**, which will be held in the beautiful city of **Antwerp** in Belgium from **September 30<sup>th</sup> – October 4<sup>th</sup>**. The conference will be hosted by the Belgian Prison Service of the Federal Public Service of Justice in collaboration with Klasbak, the Flemish prison education network. The venue of the conference is the Hilton Antwerp Old Town hotel, located in the centre of the city.

The conference will bring together prison educators, prison governors, justice officials, policy-makers, administrators, researchers and other professionals whose interests lie in promoting and developing education and vocational training in prisons throughout Europe. Its aim is to explore and discuss opportunities and strengths related to the field of education in prison and to tackle current challenges together.



## Conference theme

The theme of the 2015 conference is 'Unlocking innovation in education in prison'. The focus will be on new trends in prison education and on innovative practices that promote the development of education in prison (e.g. use of digital devices, involvement of prison staff in education/motivation, pedagogical or methodological innovation, etc.). The purpose is to connect people involved in the field and to share best practices, experiences and ideas.

## Call for Training Seminars

The EPEA Seminar Committee invites all those interested in holding a Training Seminar (interactive workshop) during the conference to submit ideas for consideration by **filling in the attached 'Abstract submission form' and sending it to [epea2015@just.fgov.be](mailto:epea2015@just.fgov.be) by 15<sup>th</sup> March 2015.**

In selecting proposals, priority will be given to those that are clearly related to the conference theme and thus focus on best practices to 'unlock innovation in education in prison'. Interactivity is another key selection criteria. In order to foster enriching debates, we kindly ask you to conduct your training seminar in an interactive and participative manner and to engage the audience as much as possible. Please keep in mind that each seminar will have a duration of 1 hour and that each training seminar will be repeated once during the conference.

The EPEA Seminar Committee will finalize their selection by the end of March 2015 and notify all who have submitted proposals of the result at that time.

## Registration

Although registration for the conference is not yet possible, we ask you to save the conference dates and keep an eye out for further EPEA mailings that will be sent out in the coming weeks/months. We will notify you as soon as registrations are open. Please keep in mind that the number of participants that can attend is limited, so we encourage you to register as soon as possible.



### Registration fee

You have the choice between 2 conference packages, one with hotel accommodation in the Hilton Antwerp Old Town hotel and one without. Hotel accommodation aside, both packages are all-inclusive and cover conference attendance, prison and cultural visits as well as all dinners, including extras.

	EPEA members	Non EPEA members
<b>Package 1: all-inclusive</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- conference attendance</li><li>- hotel accommodation incl. breakfast in Hilton Antwerp Old Town hotel (4 nights)</li><li>- welcome reception</li><li>- 2 dinners</li><li>- gala dinner</li><li>- prison visit</li><li>- cultural visit</li></ul>	€ 830	€ 890
<b>Package 2: without hotel accommodation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- conference attendance</li><li>- welcome reception</li><li>- 2 dinners</li><li>- gala dinner</li><li>- prison visit</li><li>- cultural visit</li></ul> <p>-&gt; Participants choose and book their hotel themselves.</p>	€ 315	€ 375

Companions of conference attendees are, of course, more than welcome to join. The exciting city of Antwerp with its rich cultural history and artistic heritage is definitely worth a visit. EPEA offers a companion package for € 500.

	Companions
<b>Companion package</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- hotel accommodation incl. breakfast in Hilton Antwerp Old Town hotel (4 nights)</li><li>- welcome reception</li><li>- 2 dinners</li><li>- gala dinner</li><li>- cultural visit</li></ul>	€ 500



## Programme

EPEA is currently finalizing the conference programme. You will receive the final version in the coming months. For your information, we have included the following general information on the conference schedule:

- **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September:** travelling day + welcome reception
  
- **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October – Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October:** EPEA plenary sessions and training seminars
  - > ½ day reserved for prison visits: choice between the new modern prison of Beveren (featuring PrisonCloud, a unique digital service platform for the secure distribution of content and services to inmates ) or the Prison Education Centre of Hoogstraten that focuses on integration by making inmates take educational and vocational training courses or work each day.
  
  - > ½ day reserved for cultural visits: choice between visit of Antwerp Law Court, city walking tour, city tour by bus.
  
  - > gala dinner on Saturday evening
  
- **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October:** travelling day

## EU funding

Funding opportunities from the European Commission are harder to come by than in previous years. It is, however, possible to obtain European funding to attend this exciting training conference, with the support of your employer. This means that only your employer (an education provider) can request funding to send you to the conference through an Erasmus+ Mobility Action.

Please see the annexed document on European funding for EPEA members for more information on this process, or contact Paul Talbot at [p.talbot@dieberater.com](mailto:p.talbot@dieberater.com) for support.

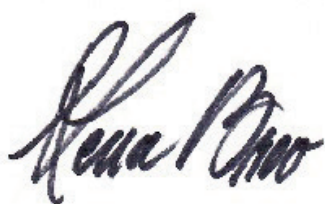


You will receive more specific information (registration, programme, etc.) regarding the EPEA Conference 2015 in the coming weeks and months. If you have any questions, please contact us at [epea2015@just.fgov.be](mailto:epea2015@just.fgov.be) .

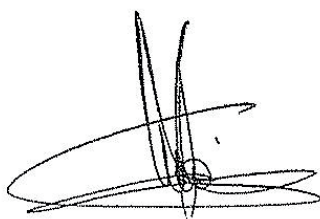
For visa purposes this letter serves as an official invitation to attend the 15th EPEA Conference.

We would be most pleased if you could attend the conference and are looking forward to welcoming you in Antwerp!

Sincerely yours,



**Lena Broo**  
EPEA Chairperson



**Hans Meurisse**  
Director General Belgian Prison Service



**Klasbak Board**

