

Our next committee meeting took place in early November in Athens, Greece. It is the first time we are having two intermediate meetings per year. The thought had been on our minds for a while and after discussing it in the AGM we decided to do it at least on a trial basis. The meeting was very productive, with all members present despite several difficult personal circumstances, and the timing good for the preparations for the Study Day, although it means more time and work for the members of the committee.

In addition, we had a meeting with the “local” or home institute of the hosting delegate (IGA Athens), for the first time after many years. This was a practice proposed by Yannis Tsegos in the beginning years of EGATIN.

The event, which included a presentation of the training program by a senior trainee, discussion and a small reception, was found very interesting and worthwhile by everyone involved.

2010

The new year will start with the committee’s winter intermediate meeting, which will take place in Lisbon this month, hosted by Paula Carvalho. As the meeting with the “local” institute went so well in Athens, we intend to repeat it in Lisbon as well and the committee looks forward to meeting with the Portuguese colleagues and trainees!

Our main event for the year, our Study Days, will take place in Vienna on April 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>, followed by our AGM on the 18<sup>th</sup>. The theme is “Understanding Clinical Material in Group Analytic Training and Practice”. The preparations are well under way and I hope all of you can come!

Enclosed please find (attached) the letter of invitation by the chair of the local organizing committee, Bettina Fink. The program with all the relevant information will be sent to you soon. In this Study Day we are very keen on encouraging the participation of trainees. I would like to ask all of you to distribute the information to the trainees of your institutes and to let them know they are very welcome. We have arranged for lower fees for all trainees (they don’t need to be still in university to obtain them) and the Austrian colleagues will be able to offer hospitality to some of the trainees in their homes! Last but not least, during the Study Day there will be a special meeting for all trainees from Austria and from abroad.

Regarding the AGM, I would like to inform you that as discussed on our last meeting, we will be having **elections** for two new committee members. We would like you to think about it and if you are interested or would like to nominate someone please write to us. The prerequisites are: a) no more than one person from the same country on the committee, b) one year must have elapsed between the time a member from one institute has stepped down from the committee before another person from the same institute can be nominated. Also we must bear in mind that it is important to maintain a relatively balanced regional representation. At the moment, as Piroska Komlosi has stepped down, we don’t have any member from Eastern Europe, so we would very much like to see some nominees from the East. It would be good as well to have people from countries or institutes who have not been represented on the committee for a long time and of course, if possible, it will be good to have a gender balance as well!

There is one more concern, especially as this year we will have elections: we have noticed in the last AGMs that people tend to leave early, before it ends, and miss important issues, or the election is carried out with very few members. I understand that this is probably due to flight arrangements etc, but we would like to ask you to please take it into account and make your plans so that you can stay till the end. May I suggest that Vienna is such a lovely city that, as our host Bettina says, it is worth staying one more day to see more of it!

I will be sending out the invitations for the AGM in early March. If you would like to suggest items for the agenda or for the policy meeting please write to me ([zoevoy@hol.gr](mailto:zoevoy@hol.gr)). One of the issues which were discussed in the Athens Committee Meeting was in regards to our possible involvement with the EAP (European Association of Psychotherapy) and is relevant to matters of certification. Some of our member institutions are interested in it and I would like to ask if there is interest on behalf of more countries. Again please write to my e-mail address.

There are some colleagues for whom we are not sure we have the correct address: Therefore I enclose two forms (one for institutions and one for individual members) which we would like you **to fill out and send in** order to verify our lists. Please return it to our treasurer Heribert Knott. It is most important to be able to reach you!

I look forward to seeing as many as possible of you in Vienna !  
With very best wishes for the New Year!

Zoe Voyatzaki,

Chair of EGATIN