

The logo for ECCE Link features the acronym 'ECCE' in a large, stylized, blue font with a modern, geometric feel. To its right, the word 'Link' is written in a clean, blue, sans-serif font.

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Hasenöhrlstraße 12, 1100 Vienna, Austria  
tel. +31 6 5020 4989; [info@ecce.eu](mailto:info@ecce.eu); [www.ecce.eu](http://www.ecce.eu)

Editors: Renate Chwatal, Bernard Heldt

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**Dear members and friends of ECCE**

**We are very glad to send you the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the ECCE Link**

Dear members, it is a great pleasure for me to announce that ECCE will have a new president as of the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2015. Béatrice Cussac de Verteuil, a member of the Committee for many years, accepted to take over the task of the presidency from me. She retires the 31<sup>st</sup> of December from her work at the Crédit Agricole, an important bank in France. At the last General Meeting in Emerson College in England she chaired part of the sessions together with Bernard Heldt and Thomas Kraus. I wanted to hand over the chair of ECCE to another parent already quite a few years ago. But parents with a disabled child are busy bodies. Often they have more children, a full time job and are not available for other activities. Béatrice has in that case, a family, a job.....

I just want to say here that I personally, and I think I can say this in the name of the whole of the Committee, enjoyed to work with Béatrice. She always draws the attention of the professionals to the importance of the fact that parents are often not interested in Anthroposophy. They are only interested in the results of curative education and social therapy for their children. Some parents do want to know more about Anthroposophy but it is difficult for professionals to find a language that they can understand.

Please read her article about her life, her daughter, how the French parent association was founded by ECCE, its problems and so on.

Once again, thank you Béatrice and I wish you and ECCE good luck.

Adrienne Thier, former president

**1. New president ECCE from January 1<sup>st</sup>2015 Mrs Béatrice Cussac de Verteuil** well known to most of you, will present herself hereafter



My link to ECCE is my daughter Anne-Charlotte, very recently 33 years old.

Anne-Charlotte was born nearly two years after her brother Charles-Henri. She did not develop mentally and physically like other children and it became clear, when she was 6 or 7 years old, that an ordinary school was not appropriate for her. After many researches I discovered Les Fontenottes, 130 Km south of Paris. As soon as I arrived there and had a meeting with the director, it was evident to me, in spite of the distance, that it was the right place for her... and it was an institution with curative education. By chance Les Fontenottes admitted her. She stayed there from the age of 8 to 14 (age limit) and then,

in 1995, she went to Les Allagouttes, another curative education institution where children can stay until they are 20-25 years old. She improved so much in many ways when she was in Les Fontenottes and Les Allagouttes that I decided to know more about that pedagogy.

After Anne-Charlotte left Les Fontenottes, my husband and I became board members of this initiative (he is now the president). In 1999, a board meeting of ECCE was organised in Les Fontenottes. Some me parents were invited to come and meet and we were told that a French parents association was required. We decided to thank and support the professionals by foundation of a parents association. I became the president and I still am of this very small association, Les Ravis, who tries to survive with many difficulties (no parents interested...).

More recently, another initiative practicing curative education very near Paris (IPC de Chatou) asked me to become the president in a difficult moment. I accepted this new task for the same reason that I accepted the others: this education gave so much to my daughter that I want other children and people to experience it. Now we are about to merge IPC, Les Fontenottes and an initiative for adults (Ruzière). My husband is the president of this new structure (in spite of the fact that he is a very busy lawyer and not interested in retiring), and I am a board member.

Les Ravis became a member of ECCE in 2000. A few years later I became a member of the board of ECCE. I now agree to take the succession of Adrienne as a president for several reasons: because I consider that it is important for ECCE to have a parent as a president; because I will retire from my job (I am responsible for the website, magazine... in a bank) in 2015 and I will have more time to give to ECCE; because I like to meet people from different countries and environments... With a great challenge: the English language.

Life is going on. I am 61 years old. Our son is married to a Korean girl and they have two marvellous children 8 and 6 years old (a third one is coming). There are very few places experiencing social therapy in France and my daughter could not have a place in one of them so she is in another facility where she lives and works. She is happy there, she has a boyfriend... but I am missing the very special environment of places inspired by Rudolf Steiner. I know very little about him, his philosophy and his work, but I like to know more about it and I will do my best so the pedagogy inspired by him can still (and more and more if possible) be proposed to disabled children and adults in Europe.

**Béatrice Cussac de Verteuil**

**The French version of this introduction can be read on the ECCE website.**

**2. "Creating social art", Living in the encounter Congress, Brussels (BE), 6 - 9 May 2015.** 6<sup>th</sup> European Congress for People with Disabilities

**Venue: The conference will take place in the beautiful Palace of Fine Arts, BOZAR, in the heart of Brussels.**

**When: from the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup> of May 2015.**

**Program:** artistic workshops with music, painting, modeling; discussion groups, dance studios; excursions, exploring the beauty of architecture, street theater; Visiting museums of fine arts and musical instruments; excursions to the Atomium, Mini Europe; cultural evening with contributions from the participants; folk dance ball with live music; concert; enjoying delicious chocolates, waffles or French fries.

At the registration desk one can choose the workshop one wants to participate in. The fee is € 500. This includes all activities of the conference, meals and lodging.

6th European  
Congress  
for People  
with special needs  
and extra talents

6 - 9 May 2015

Brussels - Belgium



We can welcome 650 participants from all over the world. The sooner one registers and pays the better.

The participants will be housed in youth hostels in the Brussels area. They can be reached by foot or public transport and are wheelchair accessible.

Breakfast is to be taken in the youth hostels. The other meals in the BOZAR. Vegetarian dishes will be served but no alcoholic beverages.

The congress languages are: Dutch, English, German and French.

The congress is organized by a team of volunteers from Belgium, Holland and Germany, legally carried by "Michaëlis", the association of curative education and social therapy in Flanders in collaboration with the European Cooperation in Anthroposophical Curative Education and Social Therapy, ECCE.

A congress of this kind costs a lot of money. The participants can help and ask family and friends for financial support. More practical information can be found on our website! Participants from financially poorer countries can ask for a 50% discount. We are looking for sponsors to make this possible.

For registration use the form on the website: [www.ontmoetenisleven.be](http://www.ontmoetenisleven.be)

Conference Office: [info@ontmoetenisleven.be](mailto:info@ontmoetenisleven.be) - phone: +32 494 511 925

More information: [www.ontmoetenisleven.be](http://www.ontmoetenisleven.be) and [www.in-der-begegnung-leben.eu](http://www.in-der-begegnung-leben.eu)

### **3. The next ECCE General Meeting, will be held on 10<sup>th</sup>, May 2015 from 9.30 am to 12.30 am in Brussels, Belgium**

For ECCE members the Congress '**Creating social art', Living in the encounter** is considered as the **content part** of the annual General Meeting. For family members with a disability, who will be guided by an ECCE member, ECCE will be organising an interesting activity during the **organisational part of the General Meeting** on Sunday morning May 10<sup>th</sup> 2015.

We would be glad to receive your early information about your participation.

### **4. Training course in Curative Education and Social Therapy in Spain recognized**

**The Tajina Training** in Tenerife (Canarian Islands, Spain) has been officially recognized by the government as "expert in Curative Education and Social Therapy".



ECCE contributed to this recognition by a letter to the Spanish government concerning the official state recognition of the other European training courses in Curative Education and Social Therapy.

threefold approach in which practical experience, the acquisition of general and specific knowledge and artistic processes are intertwined in a methodological unity that enable

awareness, creative problem solving and goal setting thorough knowledge of the required task. Within this formation the art will have a unique role for generating individual and group processes.

Bernard Heldt has congratulated Fidèl Ortega (director Asociación San Juan, Tenerife, photo) and did express the hope that the training will become a valued part of the Spanish vocational training courses.

### **5. New president Disability Intergroup**

The Disability Intergroup of the European Parliament is an informal grouping of Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) from all nationalities and most political groups who are interested in promoting the disability policy in their work at the European Parliament as well as in the national contexts. The Disability Intergroup was established in 1980. The European Parliament did re-establish the Disability Intergroup. The election of the new Bureau took place on 16 December at the European Parliament in Strasbourg. MEP Mr. Ádám Kósa (Hungary, EPP) was elected as the new President of the Disability Intergroup by acclamation.

The rest of the Bureau is now composed of:

- Dieter-Lebrecht Koch (Germany, EPP)
- Kinga Goncz (Hungary, S&D)
- Richard Howitt (United Kingdom, S&D)
- Cecilia Wikstrom (Sweden, ALDE)
- Marian Harkin (Ireland, ALDE)
- Elisabeth Schroedter (Germany, Greens)
- Claudio Morganti (Italy, EFD)
- Inês Cristina Zuber (portugal, GUE)

**MEP Mr. Ádám Kósa  
(Hungary, EPP)**



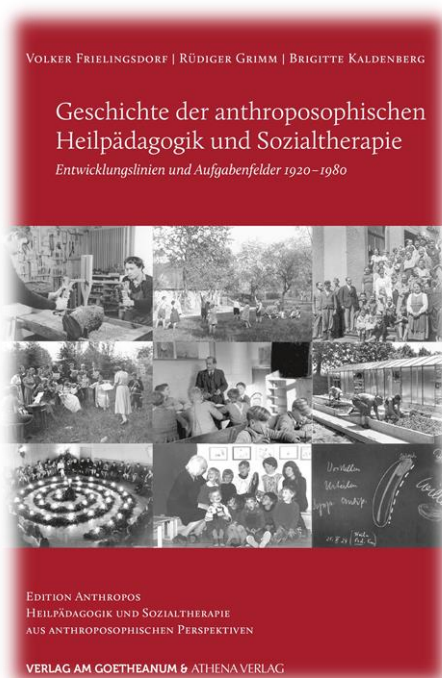
EASPD announces in her press release, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>:

*"The years to come will be crucial for the disability sector as the EU will exchange with the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities the progress made throughout Europe to implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.*

*This year might also be important if the European Commission finally launches the Accessibility Act and the European Council moves forward on concluding the much-awaited for EU antidiscrimination Directive."*

Intergroups are informal working groups bringing together MEPs from different political groups that are interested to develop joint activities around a specific subject. Even though intergroups are rather considered 'platforms of exchange', their activities have often led to concrete political initiatives/legislation. Only a limited number of intergroups can be established. The topics are voted and negotiated in and between the political groups in the beginning of each legislative term."

## **6. History of Curative Education and Social Therapy published „Geschichte der anthroposophischen Heilpädagogik und Sozialtherapie“ (in German language)**



von  
Volker Frielingsdorf  
Rüdiger Grimm,  
Brigitte Kalenberg

Verlag am Goetheanum

Anthroposophical curative education and social therapy is not only an impulse to develop from the spiritual scientific anthroposophical image of man a holistic method of monitoring and support of children, adolescents and adults.

It is also part of the subject of history in their difficult journey of the 20th century and beyond that an initiative movement to which entails the development of anthroposophy reflected in its eventful history.'

Let's hope that an English translation will follow soon!

## 7. News from the Karl König Archive (Richard Steel)

The **first audio-book** with **3 Michaeli-speeches** from Karl König is available (unfortunately only in German language)

Nachdem einige Menschen nach Hörbüchern gefragt hatten ist es gelungen, das erste Hörbuch im Karl König Institut herauszugeben!



Über die webseite

<http://www.kultradio.eu/2014/11/11/hoerbuch2-spirituelle-aspekte-des-sozialen/>  
[www.kultradio.eu](http://www.kultradio.eu) (aber auch bei Amazon, itunes etc) wird man es auch als Download kaufen können. Die Doppel-CD, mit Hülle im schönen Design € 19,90.

## 8. ELIANT needs your support

Dear Friends of ELIANT!

We would like to express our warmest thanks to you all for your dedication to and financial support of ELIANT. It is so vital that we carry our own administrative costs. We are delighted that the numerous small gifts we have received have already enabled us to raise 55,000 of 70,000 Euros budgeted for our work in Brussels. A further 15,000 Euros is all we need in order to meet the running costs budgeted for this financial year. Therefore, we would like to ask you to consider making a further donation before the end of the year. You might even know someone who would like to join Supporting Members and Friends of ELIANT?'



Warm greetings from the core members of the alliance and the founders of the Alliance ELIANT

**Directly after this ECCE Link we will send you a letter in 4 languages, English, German, French and Dutch with a serious request of ELIANT, of which a summary was presented above**

**The Committee of ECCE wishes you all a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous year 2015**

