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ERACON 2008: NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS ON THE RISE



A view of the audience

More than 350 Erasmus coordinators from all over Europe joined together in Lisbon for the EAEC annual conference, which turned out to be the largest ever. The delegations from Turkey, Poland and, of course, Portugal were the most numerous, each with more than 35 participants. Among the invited speakers were Mr. Filip van Depoele, deputy head, and Patricia De Smet, both from the unit Higher Education, Erasmus, DG Education and Culture, European Commission. A special emphasis was given at the conference to the new mobility modalities (students and staff placement).



Mr. Filip van Depoele addressing his presentation at the conference attentively followed by Dr Gregory Makrides, President of EAEC.

The ERACON 2008 meeting, the fourth in a row, was organized locally by ISCTE (Lisbon University

Institute) and IPP (Portalegre Polytechnics Institute); this was the first time the Conference had two local organizers. The conference took place at ISCTE from May 8 to May 10.

TURKEY WON POSTER COMPETITION

Besides the plenary and parallel sessions and the usual and successful Go-Exchange Educational Fair, during ERACON 2008 a competition was also held to reward the excellent posters that institutions produce for Erasmus purposes. The Istanbul Haliç University was chosen the winner by a jury composed by invited speakers at the conference and an ISCTE local designer.



The winning poster



ERACON 2009 AND 2010 VENUES DEFINED

ERACON 2009 will go back to Cyprus, as a way of celebrating the five year anniversary of the EAEC Association. The idea for founding EAEC started in 2004 in Poland with the official kick-off at the first ERACON conference in 2005 in Cyprus.

On the other hand, Gelsenkirchen, in Germany, will host ERACON 2010 which, it is expected, it will be part of the 2010 European Capital of Culture celebrations.