

★ EURA The EuRApean

*“Servus Wien...” **

Helmut Berg, EuRA President, CEO RSB Deutschland

Proud Holders of the EuRA Quality Seal



You did it again. You, the members. You made the 11th conference in Vienna an unforgettable one. It was your enthusiasm and your vibrant participation that made this conference a marvellous success. Thank you for taking part in such an engaged way in all that we had prepared for you.

We have left behind some good habits – it is often not advisable to copy a success.

We have continued to evolve the event.

We had 1000 new ideas – but have only incorporated some of them. The programme with the Triptych was one, the Theatre Group another, and the extended networking time between the sessions, a further innovation. Other “firsts” have been introduced, such as the photo wall. We experimented but we did it on solid ground. I am proud that the council was courageous to think outside the box and find its own way. We took the risk that not everything would be perfect, but did what we did with the aim of improving the event for our delegates.

We are equally grateful for your high praise and constructive criticism. Both will help us to plan our future conferences.

EuRA was proud host of more than 460 delegates from 41 countries, 16 of them Non-European. 110 participated for the first time. And we will continue to strive to grow.

I would like to extend special thanks to four groups of individuals:

First to the speakers, the trainers, the performers and Frances Edmonds. You can hardly imagine how much these individuals coped with the situation of the members and the current status of the industry. They all did not just do “their thing”. They were prepared to integrate relocation matters and EuRA matters into their contributions. Those who listened heard it.

Secondly I would like to thank all the Austrian members who had been involved in the preparation. Their engagement and ideas have been instrumental for our success.

Thirdly: Thanks to Martina Scharwey and Sybil D’Oria. It was great to have them promoting the EuRA Quality Seal, our most important pillar for our further development.

Finally: The office. Tad and Dom, Maria and Linda, and I include Christian and – not to forget – Susan and Gary from Assemblage for recording the event, as well as Missing Link who handled all of our technical needs.

And now we are looking forward to next year. Only approx. 340 days to go – and then we will see each other again in Palma de Mallorca.

We will further face challenging times for the next 12 months. Hopefully you can use some of the tools EuRA has prepared and will continue to prepare. One of the major topics for EuRA to cope with will be the “real estate question”. I promised at the AGM that we will address this now. I am not giving a date, but we will try to have that sorted until the end of this year, the latest until next conference.

If you ask me what I took away from Vienna as the most important impression, my answer would be: smiling faces and people confident of what they are doing. Stay that way.

Thank you all for your contribution – actively and passively. You were just great.

Best regards
Helmut

*** In Austria you can say „Servus“ when you greet someone as well as when you say goodbye.**