

## **IOI European Region Quarterly Newsletter**

July 2025 – September 2025

*The IOI European Regional Board wants to be transparent about its activities and therefore sends you this quarterly newsletter. Feel free to share it with whomever is interested.*

### **The IOI European Regional Board**

The IOI European Regional Board came together one time in this period. In attendance were: Reinier van Zutphen, Joseph Zammit McKeon, Maria Stylianou and their staff. Joseph Zammit McKeon was elected Vice President of the IOI European Region.

### ***ENNHRI***

The working relation with ENNHRI was discussed and a meeting is foreseen between the ENNHRI board and the IOI European Regional Board during the European Network conference in November in Brussels. The Regional President has had contact with ENNHRI to finalise this plan and set the agenda.

### ***Update on the IOI European Regional Elections***

The European Regional Board also looked into the elections for two European IOI board members. According to the IOI European Regional By-laws the IOI European Regional board has seven members (article 8, paragraph b, of the IOI European Regional By-laws). Five of these are also members of the IOI World Board in accordance with the IOI By-laws (article 11, under 1, paragraph c). The procedure as followed by the IOI European Secretariat and in cooperation with the IOI Secretariat in Vienna, for the election of two European board members did not provide any candidates. The IOI European Regional Board will further discuss the situation during their next meeting during the Malta conference in October.

### ***Ombuds Academy***

The Regional Board is looking for a topic for the next Ombuds Academy. Thoughts are now on Outreach as this is something all members will find interesting. At this moment the Regional Board is looking for a hosting institute where the meeting can take place. The set up is quite plain as participants pay for their own travel and hotels. If you are interested to be part of this next Ombuds Academy, please contact: [s.sjouke@nationaleombudsman.nl](mailto:s.sjouke@nationaleombudsman.nl)

### ***Biennial meeting IOI European Regional members***

The Regional President has put out a call for the organisation for the biennial meeting of the IOI European Regional members. Article 6 of the European Regional Bylaws, states that the Regional Directors shall arrange such a meeting. The IOI world conference took place in The Hague, in 2024, which means that in 2026 a meeting for the IOI European Regional members will have to be organised. Such a meeting can also be held in conjunction with any meeting or conference where all members of the IOI have the opportunity to attend. The

European secretariat received questions from members about the organisation of the event. You will receive more information shortly.

### **Follow up on Poldershop Migration Pact**

There was an online follow up of the Poldershop on the Migration Pact that was organised earlier this year at the office of the Federal Ombudsmen of Belgium. This meeting will be followed up by a Poldershop on the Migration Pact for the countries bordering on Belarus and Russia. The aim is to have a bigger meeting about the Migration Pact, in the spring of next year, where the status quo of the implementation, and its consequences for ombuds institutions will be more broadly discussed.

### **Coming up**

On 15 and 16 October, the ombudsman of Malta organises an international conference: Upholding Good Governance in Challenging Times. The Role of the Ombudsman.

On 20 and 21 November, the European Ombudsman organises a meeting of the European Network of Ombudsmen, with several break out sessions on different topics.