



Dear members and friends of ERGOMAS,

It was wonderful to see many of you at the biennial conference hosted by the Open University of Israel in Ra'anana earlier this month. The conference included an ambitious and exciting agenda and provided us with a great opportunity to learn about new and developing areas of research in defence and security, to share our work, and to develop our collaborative networks. Below you will find links to several conference highlights, including the plenary opening and plenary panel.

ERGOMAS 2015 - Plenary Opening and Welcome

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLEMOEwdRMCanZWc-DkGUxM--AS-cnBZa8>

ERGOMAS 2015 - Key Issues Facing the Militaries of the Industrial Democracies: Axis of Conflict and Cooperation

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLEMOEwdRMCan4X6ErxrVEnK5nUHg10Vu1>

On behalf of all participants, I would like to extend our deepest appreciation to the past President of ERGOMAS, Yagil Levy, for his dedication and strong leadership, and of course for hosting a highly successful and enjoyable conference. Further, I would like to take the opportunity to welcome George Kaffes of the Hellenic Army Academy as the new ERGOMAS President – we look forward to George's leadership over the coming term, culminating in the 14th biennial conference in Athens in 2017! A special thank you to James Burk, who delivered a thought-provoking and engaging keynote address entitled *The Defense of Freedom When Justifying War*. Of course, we would also like to thank David Mason and René Moelker for their hard work as Treasurers over the past term, David Kuehn our diligent webmaster, and all the Working Group Coordinators for their significant leadership and contributions. I would also like to thank our awards committee, René Moelker (Chair), Ashu Pasrisha, and Maren Tomforde and to congratulate Lana Obradovic for the best book award and Mika Penttinen for best graduate paper award (please see this newsletter for greater details on both).

The business meeting for all members was held on 10 June 2015. This included the awards ceremony, report from the executive committee, discussion and modification of by-laws (attached) and elections. We reflected on our accomplishments over the previous term, including, but not limited to, building a new website and launching Facebook and Twitter social media; launching our on-line payment system; creation of partnership with *Res Militaris: European Journal of Military Studies* and progress on four ERGOMAS special volumes as well as 6 ERGOMAS board member positions on the *Res Militaris* editorial board; progress on the Defence Series with Springer Publishing in partnership with ISA RC01; the funding of the workshop of The Military Profession WG hosted by Giuseppe Caforio in Torino; and the standing up of our best book and best paper awards.

This newsletter includes some key updates and information, including a farewell letter from our past President Yagil Levy, and introductory letter from our incoming President Georges Kaffes, details on the best book and best graduate paper from the awards committee, updated list and contact information for the Working Group Coordinators, update on our collaboration with Springer Publishing, and our updated bylaws.

Warm regards,

Irina Goldenberg

ERGOMAS Secretary General

Letter from the Past President – Yagil Levy

Dear ERGOMAS members,

I was honored to serve as the President ERGOMAS during the last two years. I was particularly proud to be the first ever to hold this position outside Europe. Together with the Working Group leaders and my partners on the Executive, our main efforts focused on modernizing ERGOMAS and encouraging its publication agenda. For this end, we created a partnership with Res Militaris and 4 special volumes are in different stages of preparation. In addition, in partnership with ISA RC01, we laid the foundation for the creation of a Defence Series under Springer Publishing. On the top of this, it was a pleasure to host you all in The Open University of Israel. Everyone complimented us thanks to your fascinating work.

I was fortunate to have support and advice from our energetic Webmaster David Kuehn, our experienced treasurers David Mason and René Moelker, our gifted Secretary General Irina Goldenberg, and our devoted board members. I thank them all.

I would like to take the opportunity to wish a lot of success to our new President Professor George Kaffes.

Thank you again for your confidence and support!

Yours faithfully,

Yagil Levy

Letter from the New President – George Kaffes

Dear colleagues and friends of ERGOMAS,

I would like to thank you all very much for trusting me for the new presidency of ERGOMAS. I would like to fulfill everyone's expectations since Prof. Yagil Levy, our chairman until now, has set very high standards with the successful Tel-Aviv conference hosted by the Open University of Israel. Most of you know me not only from ERGOMAS activities but also from RC01 where I first participated 20 years ago and the French speaking colleagues from the AISLF military sociology working group. I think that I have already discussed with many of you in the past but I especially remember Giuseppe Caforio who strongly encouraged me to be candidate and to take the high responsibility of the chairman position for the next two years. It is a great challenge for me, and we will try to do our best to organize 2017 conference in the Hellenic Army Academy in Athens on June 12-16. As for me, when I first became an ERGOMAS member 20 years ago it was only a wishful thinking to organize one day to my country a conference. It is now time to bring the next event in Greece where the values of Democracy, Freedom and the basic principles of Philosophy were born thousands of years ago.

There is no doubt that if Philosophy is considered the king of human sciences, Sociology should be the queen. Most of us are teachers of Military Sociology or researchers in very famous Military Institutes, Faculties, Schools and research institutions and we can understand the importance of our charge to promote with our congresses social research in the important area for several reasons: First of all because the soldiers are part of us, of our society so we have the duty to understand their particularities in order to make them more open and useful for us and our security. We must remember that their duty is to guarantee our security. A much more important reason is to help improving the army function because we must not forget that militaries are managing with human factor. Half of the army is guns but the other half is human. As a Sociologist I would even say the second half is superior, and I say this because, in order to convince society to follow up to a war of justice and freedom, a strong and healthy relationship between the soldiers and their leader is essential. A leader must be able to show the right path and prove the point of a war. As Homer wrote about 3 000 years ago in the Odyssey, Ulysses' companions follow him until the end because he was the perfect leader for them and managed to lead them to a justified war.

Sociology is not only theory but can propose actions for making to improve our everyday life on this planet. It is essentially based on the observation of events. These social events among militaries are tools to make theories and then to see if there is something to do about them. Not only us but each and every one has the scientific duty to contribute to something new, which can be useful for a good relationship between army and society. This is the main reason we are here and the main reason that Sociology, the Queen of Social Sciences as I said previously, after about two centuries of existence has been specialized to Military Sociology.

As many past President has underlined, we are entering a new era in the relations between military and the general society, and we must try to conceptualize these changes. I am looking forward to mapping these developments with all of you in our conference in Athens that will be hosted by one of the biggest Army Academies from the point of view of number of cadets (1100 Cadets, 250 officers, 180 teachers), the Hellenic Army Academy on June 2017. Our Academy founded in 1828 by the first governor of the kingdom of Greece John Capodistrias has already about two centuries of glory history and blood of cadets and officers death during past wars for Freedom and Democracy. I think it is time to make there our conference in order to improve in these very difficult crisis years for Greece the willing to study more and more the most unknown thing for sciences until today which is the Human being. I can propose a tentative title for this conference: *Army and Society: A strong relationship in the past, challenges and perspectives for the future; what military sociologists have done for this?*

I have the promise of our General Commander Dimitrios Reskos and our Academy Dean Dr Andreas Dimitriou, my Greek colleagues, my cadets who cannot wait to see it, that they will totally support this effort to host one scientific event, under the Athenian blue sky and the shadow of the Parthenon. Our great expectation is to make this upcoming conference the best ever hosted until one of us in the future makes a better one.

I hope that I have expressed your acceptance to lead for this conference and assume the President's responsibility; I would like to thank you for your attention and say that we are waiting you in Athens nearby the Aegean blue sea and our hot summer sun to enlighten more sociological research among militaries.

Thank you

Georges Kaffes

Assoc. Professor of Military Sociology

Hellenic Army Academy

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Awards Committee – Report from the Jury

Best Book Award

The prize for the best book in the domains of armed forces and civil-military relations, published in the two calendar years since the previous conference (i.e., 2013 & 2014) goes to **Lana Obradovic** for her work on '**Gender Integration in NATO Military Forces**'. The jury was unanimous in its decision favouring the work of Obradovic and the reason lies in the following motivation. The strongest feature of the book is its academic endeavour that builds theoretically on the shoulders of giants like the gender-model by Mady Segal, but that empirically and theoretically arrives at parsimony of the explanatory model. The model by Segal is comparatively all comprehensive, whilst the explanation of gender inclusiveness can well be explained by three main 'causes', 1) the (recruitment) needs of the armed forces, 2) women's movements and other political stakeholders that open windows of opportunity, 3) international agreements on equality and gender mainstreaming. Culture is not unimportant, but the three before mentioned variables suffice for explaining gender inclusiveness. Obradovic's work is well researched. Meticulously she examines the role of military manpower, domestic political and international factors on state policies and practices. Due to her valuable comparative approach, the author draws our attention to structural, institutional and also cultural factors and as such gendered ideological perceptions, which determine gender policies and the way these are enacted to integrate women into the diverse NATO forces. The author uses a method mix of quantitative and qualitative methods and besides the 24 countries in NATO she delves deeper into four case studies that were chosen on the criterion of largest differences between them. Last but not least, the book examines how traditional military masculinity is questioned by the changes in the security environment. '**Gender Integration in NATO Military Forces**' is a well-researched book with a convincing theoretical framework and insightful case studies, which can only be recommended to anyone interested in changing perceptions of women and their roles in armed forces.

Award for the Best Graduate Paper

The award for the best graduate paper is awarded to **Mika Penttinen** for his paper '**The Success of Tomorrow is Based on Actions of Today**.' The paper is well written. The topic, regarding officer selection and education, is relevant not only to Penttinen's home nation, but to all nations. Although some findings are only valid within the particular context of Finland and its specific security environment, the results can often be generalized. The finding that knowledge and quality of cadets are essential is probably supported all over the world. Enhancing the quality of future output, according to the author, strongly depends on the quality of present day input. And to gainsay this argument is near impossible to do.

The Awards Committee - René Moelker (Chair), Ashu Pasrisha, Maren Tomforde

Update on Publications with Springer

As originally proposed by the Member Support and Publication Committee in 2013, we continue to work on the pursue the standing up of a Defence Series through Springer Publishers, in collaboration with our partner organization the International Sociological Associations Research Committee on Armed Forces and Conflict Resolution (RC01). The latest progress on this comes from a teleconference held with Dr. Liesbeth Mol, Editorial Director, on 3 June.

It was confirmed that the requirement to produce approximately 4 books per year in order to create a visible stand alone series. In the interim, ERGOMAS and RC01 titles may be published under an existing series entitled *Advanced Sciences and Technologies for Security Applications*. For information on this series we may visit www.springer.com/series/5540 or consult with the series editor Tony Masys <http://www2.le.ac.uk/departments/lifelong-learning/cssu/people/dr.-tony->

[masys](#). Of note, under this current arrangement, we may **include logos** of either or both ERGOMAS or RC01 organizations on the cover if desired, which is a great communication and marketing opportunity!

As always, over and above these efforts on behalf of the executive committees, it is up to us, the ERGOMAS & RC01 members, to make this initiative a success. We encourage you to actively pursue collaborative initiatives and to choose Springer Publishers so as to create the critical mass required to stand up our own series.

ERGOMAS Board Members and Working Group Leaders

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BYLAWS FOR ERGOMAS

Amended in June 2015, Ra'anana Israel

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this association is the EUROPEAN RESEARCH GROUP ON MILITARY AND SOCIETY, acronymed ERGOMAS.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSES

ERGOMAS is an association of scientists who study and analyze the relationship between the military and society, and related phenomena. It focuses on all parts of the world, but with a special focus on Europe. Joint transnational research and intercultural comparisons in thematically oriented interdisciplinary working groups constitute the core of ERGOMAS. ERGOMAS promotes empirically and theoretically oriented research cooperation and international scientific communication.

ERGOMAS is a public, non-profit, politically and ideologically independent professional organization of scientists. Its purposes shall be pursued by the activity of Working Groups and through the Biennial ERGOMAS Conferences.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Any scientist sharing the purposes of the association and paying the membership fee may be a member of ERGOMAS, regardless of his or her academic discipline, profession, theoretical and ideological orientation, or citizenship.

Scientific organizations may be associate members of ERGOMAS.

Members who have paid their fee are entitled to:

1. attend, participate in, and vote at, the Biennial Business Meeting of ERGOMAS;
2. vote in all membership votes conducted by ERGOMAS;
3. participate in other general activities sponsored by ERGOMAS; and
4. receive copies of ERGOMAS Newsletters.

Only members of ERGOMAS can attend the biennial ERGOMAS conference.

ARTICLE IV: WORKING GROUPS

1. Working Groups shall be constituted of scientists working on thematically related topics. Their purpose is to conduct joint transnational research and intercultural comparisons in a thematically-oriented and preferably interdisciplinary way.

2. New working Groups shall be accepted by the Board of Chairpersons upon request of at least six members who have declared their intention to form a new Working Group.

3. Each Working Group shall have a Coordinator, elected by the group members and confirmed by the Board of Chairpersons.

4. The name of the Working Groups and their respective Coordinators should be published in the ERGOMAS Newsletter and on the ERGOMAS website.

5. If a Working Group Coordinator does not report for two years, the WG is considered inactive and is cancelled. This will be preceded by a 3-month warning by the President to the Working Group Coordinator, and if still inactive, a call for or invitation of another Working Group Coordinator. This cancellation must be published in the ERGOMAS Newsletter and on the ERGOMAS website.

ARTICLE V: MANAGEMENT OF ERGOMAS

The steering body of ERGOMAS shall comprise the Board of Chairpersons, the ERGOMAS members attending the Biennial Business Meeting of members, and ERGOMAS members who vote in mail ballots.

1. The Board of Chairpersons.

1.1 The Board of Chairpersons shall include the following members:

- the President;
- the Coordinators of the active Working Groups;
- the Secretary General;
- the Treasurer; and
- the Webmaster for the website of ERGOMAS.

1.2 The duties of the Working Group Coordinators shall include to:

- cooperate in order to promote the purposes of ERGOMAS;
- support the preparation of the Biennial Conference;
- nominate candidates for the positions of President, Treasurer, Secretary General and Webmaster of ERGOMAS;
- in case of disputes, decide over internal issues of ERGOMAS;
- hold at, at minimum, a Biennial Council Meeting (more frequent council meetings are beneficial);
- fix the amount of membership fees/dues;
- make general decisions on the allocation of funds;
- choose the location and the organizer of the Biennial ERGOMAS conference;
- report their activities to the Biennial Business Meeting of members;
- decide upon membership applications;
- accept the establishment of Working Groups;
- exchange information with the established Working Groups;
- support the preparation of the ERGOMAS Newsletter;
- update the list of Working Groups;
- update the content of their Working Group on the ERGOMAS website;
- actively participate in editorial work flowing from ERGOMAS related publications; and
- to the extent possible, foster collaborative projects, research initiatives, and publications with ERGOMAS members on the topics related to their respective working groups.

2. The President.

2.1 The President is the Executive Officer of ERGOMAS and represents the association in internal and external fora. He or she shall serve for one term of two years. Re-election is possible, but not for two consecutive terms.

2.2 The President's duties include to:

- propose programs and policies designed to promote the purposes of ERGOMAS; and
- convene and to preside over meetings of the Board of Chairpersons and the Biennial Business Meeting of members.

2.3 In case of disability of the President, the most senior Working Group Coordinator takes over the Chairmanship until the next formal elections at the end of the term.

3. The Secretary General's (hereinafter: the "Secretary").

The Secretary's duties shall include:

- The Secretary, in collaboration with the President shall be responsible for the Newsletter.
- The Secretary, in collaboration, with the treasurer shall be responsible for the membership list.
- The Secretary, in collaboration with the President, Treasurer, and Working Group Coordinators (as required) will formulate proposals to the board and/or to the membership for voting and/or communication purposes.
- The Secretary is responsible for communications and organization related to the Biennial ERGOMAS Conference, including Call for Proposals, organization of conference submissions and communication with submitters, and the conference program.

The regular term of office for the Secretary is four years. The Secretary can run for a second (and last) term.

4. The Treasurer.

The Treasurer's duties shall include:

- The Treasurer shall be responsible for collecting the membership fee and the conference fee of the Biennial ERGOMAS conference.
- After the biennial conference and after the financial settlement of the conference the Treasurer reports back to the Board of Chairpersons.

-The regular term of office for the Treasurer is four years. The Treasurer can run for a second (and last) term.

5. The Webmaster.

The Webmaster's duties shall include to:

- run a website for ERGOMAS and other means of social media; and
- update the website/other means in cooperation with the Working Group Coordinators.

6. The Biennial ERGOMAS conference organizer.

The Biennial ERGOMAS conference organizer's duties shall include organizing the Biennial ERGOMAS conference in cooperation with the Board of Chairpersons. This entails arranging the conference facilities, guest accommodation arrangements (e.g., hotel recommendations and block reservations), hospitality, transportation details, printing of pertinent conference materials such as tags and programs, and other local organizational aspects, as required.

7. Elections.

7.1 Thirty days prior to the business meeting, the Secretary will issue a call for candidates. This call will be issued to all ERGOMAS members regarding the positions of the functionaries whose term of office has expired.

7.2 Fourteen days prior to the conference, the Secretary will present the candidates to the Board of Chairpersons in order to nominate candidates for the positions. The Board of Chairpersons will nominate up to 3 candidates for each open position.

7.3 The decision of the Board of Chairpersons will be submitted to the Business Meeting for approval.

7.4 In the case that one of the holders of the positions listed above resigns between conferences, the Board of Chairpersons will nominate a new candidate by use of a) a call for candidates and b) a vote by mail ballot.

7.5 The Board of Chairpersons possesses the authority to remove the above-listed holders of positions from their posts for cause. In this case, the Board of Chairpersons will nominate a new candidate according to the process outlined in article 2.4.

8. The Biennial Business Meetings.

8.1 The Biennial Business Meetings shall consist of all members having paid their dues; only these members are eligible to vote.

8.2. The members' rights at the Business Meeting include to:

- receive and consider the Board of Chairpersons' reports, including discussion and provision of feedback;
- elect the President, Treasurer, Secretary and Webmaster upon nomination of the Board of Chairpersons and the Audit Committee.

9. Auditing Committee.

The Business Meeting will elect an Auditing Committee. The committee will have two ERGOMAS members who do not hold a position on the Board of Chairpersons. The committee will check the financial health of the organization and the integrity of the financial affairs. The committee reports biennially at the Business Meeting.

ARTICLE VI: AMENDMENTS

1. Amendments to the Bylaws shall be declared ratified if approved by two-thirds of the ERGOMAS members voting at the Biennial Business Meetings or email voting.

2. These Bylaws for ERGOMAS were adopted unanimously by 37 voting members at the Plenary Session on March 22nd, 1988, in Vienna functioning as the first Business Meeting of ERGOMAS. These bylaws were changed according to the decisions of 20 voting members at the V Biennial Meeting, October 4, 1996 in Zurich (see the agenda in the Newsletter 1997), according to the decisions of 17 members at the VI Biennial Meeting, September 24, 1998 in Stockholm, and according to the decisions of 20 members at the VII Biennial Meeting, December 9, 2000 in Prague,

and according to the decisions of the Biennial Meeting, June 25, 2009 in Stockholm. Last changes were approved by at the Business Meeting in Ra'anana, Israel, June 10, 2015.