

# EFRJ Working Group on Restorative Cities

In 2019, the EFRJ formally established the Working Group on Restorative Cities, composed by EFRJ members involved in the Restorative Cities of Bristol, Como, Leuven, Mentana, Palermo and Tempio Pausania. The group is chaired by Grazia Mannozi (in 2019) and Gian Luigi Lepri (in 2020); on behalf of the EFRJ team, Patrizia Patrizi (Board) and Emanuela Biffi (Secretariat) contribute and participate to its activities.

Below, we share with you a small description of the different Restorative City projects in which the members of this Working Group are involved. If you know other cities or initiatives working in the same directions, please help the EFRJ to make links!

## Bristol (UK)

*Restorative Bristol* builds connections and networks between organisations and individuals who work across the spectrum of restorative justice, restorative interventions and restorative philosophies. It recognises and values the diversity of work on this issue and also recognises the common principles which underpin restorative work. The vision is for all of Bristol's many and varied communities to have advocates and champions who are well informed of the availability and the benefits of engaging with restorative interventions and that they will encourage and support others within their community to have the confidence to request a restorative intervention to a local issue.

For more info visit the website: <http://restorativebristol.co.uk/> or contact Mark Parry from the Bristol City Council ([mark.a.parry@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:mark.a.parry@bristol.gov.uk)) or EFRJ member Marian Liebmann ([marian@liebmann.org.uk](mailto:marian@liebmann.org.uk)).



### EFRJ member

Marian Liebmann has worked at a day centre for ex-offenders, with victim support, and in the probation service. She was director of Mediation UK for 4 years and projects adviser for 3 years, working on restorative justice. She now works as a freelance restorative justice consultant and trainer in the UK and overseas. She has given presentations at UN Crime Commissions and Congresses. She also runs 'Art and Conflict' and 'Art and Anger Management' workshops. She is very involved in helping Bristol to become a restorative city. She has written/ edited 12 books, including "Restorative Justice: How It Works".



# Como (Italy)

*COnTatto* is a project of community and social innovation welfare funded by "Fondazione Cariplo" between 2017-2020 in Como. It aims at improving a restorative and relational community in which conflicts (even those ones originating from or expressed through a crime) are managed in a restorative way, with the support of facilitators and members of the community. It includes several activities: restorative actions & training in schools; restorative oriented groups, targeting offenders, victims and citizens; training in RJ for justice and social workers; intermediate bodies of citizens; restorative actions in neighbourhoods; communication and fundraising; evaluation.

For more info visit the website [www.progettocontatto.com](http://www.progettocontatto.com) (email: [contatto2017.2020@gmail.com](mailto:contatto2017.2020@gmail.com)) or contact the project coordinator Patrizia de Filippi ([patrizia.defilippi@gabbianoonlus.it](mailto:patrizia.defilippi@gabbianoonlus.it)) or EFRJ member Bruna Dighera ([bruna.dighera@alice.it](mailto:bruna.dighera@alice.it)), or the EFRJ organizational member CESGREM, represented by Claudio Fontana and Grazia Mannozi ([fonclever@tin.it](mailto:fonclever@tin.it), [grazia.mannozi@uninsubria.it](mailto:grazia.mannozi@uninsubria.it)).



## EFRJ members

Grazia Mannozi is professor of "Criminal Law" and of "Restorative Justice and Victim-offender Mediation" at the University of Insubria (Como, Italy). She is the Director of the Restorative Justice and Mediation Study Centre (CeSGReM) at the same University. In her research activity, she has mainly focused on sentencing system, economic crimes, corruption, corporate liability, law and language and, mainly, restorative justice. In 2013 and 2017, she was appointed member of Legislative Commissions to reform the Italian sanction system and establish a normative frame for restorative justice.



Bruna Dighera is a psychologist and psychotherapist. Since 1988 she worked in drug addiction and deviant and criminal behaviours for Justice and National Healthcare systems and charities associations. As a trainer and supervisor she has been engaged in social innovation projects, improving citizenship participation in life and development of their communities. She collaborated with Prof. De Leo (Rome University) and now with Prof. Lizzola (Bergamo University) and she is the founder of PsicoIus, the Roman School of Juridical Psychology directed by Prof. Patrizi. In the last years focused on developing restorative communities projects. She coordinates the Lecco working group for restorative justice, supporting its projects and she participates in *COnTatto* welfare RJ oriented project implemented in Como area.



# Leuven (Belgium)

Leuven Restorative City started in Spring 2017 as an action-research project in a partnership between the university, city council, mediation and other restorative justice programmes, and educational and social services. The general aim of the project is to build support for restorative approaches in society and to develop dialogue oriented attitudes and skills in dealing with conflict and tension at the interpersonal, organisational and societal level. Collaboration has been set up with schools, neighbourhoods, work places (both private and public), and sports and youth organisations, as well as on the topic of racism and discrimination. Next to public sensitisation and cooperation between sectors, 'experimental gardens' are being laid out in specific social environments.

For more info contact Lies Van Cleynenbreugel ([lies.vandcleynenbreugel@kuleuven.be](mailto:lies.vandcleynenbreugel@kuleuven.be)). The website is under construction.



## EFRJ members

Ivo Aertsen is a professor of Criminology at KU Leuven. He holds degrees of psychology, law and criminology from the same university. He was the Director of the KU Leuven Institute of Criminology (2012-2016) and co-ordinates the LINC Research Line on "Restorative Justice and Victimology". His main fields of research and teaching are victimology, penology and restorative justice. Ivo has been chair of the EFRJ (2000-2004). He has acted as expert for the U.N., the Council of Europe, the OSCE and the European Union. He was appointed as expert to the Belgian Parliamentary Commission on sexual abuse in the church (2010-2011), followed by membership of the Permanent Arbitration Chamber on sexual abuse (2012-2016). Ivo also acts as Editor-in-Chief of "The International Journal of Restorative Justice".



Lies Van Cleynenbreugel: bio coming soon!

# Mentana (Italy)

Mentana is a town located near Rome and has a population of 23,000. The process of building the Mentana Restorative City project started in 2014 and is still under construction. In partnership with the social private sector, the local team started working on two fronts: responding to emergencies and activating inclusion paths. All the work was based on the concept of "doing with" for which each project was designed to orient the community to a restorative model focused on the relationships. In the past years the team

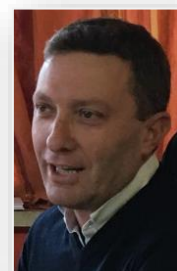
obtained significant results starting from conferences, conflict prevention and a renewed collaboration between public and private social and voluntary associations. The restorative approach has helped this community to "get back on its feet".

For more info visit the websites <https://www.mentana.gov.it/> and <https://www.coopceas.it/> or contact the municipality in Mentana ([servizisociali@mentana.gov.it](mailto:servizisociali@mentana.gov.it)) or the EFRJ organizational member C.E.A.S., represented by Mauro Giardini ([comunica@coopceas.it](mailto:comunica@coopceas.it)).



## EFRJ member

Mauro Giardini is working in the social field since 1993 with "Fraternitas" Association. In the course of his professional and private life he always promoted social actions with the goal of generating well-being and inclusion. He founded the social cooperative C.E.A.S. - Educational Center of Hospitality and Solidarity in 1999 starting from contrasting poverty's projects (still in active duty). Today the cooperative is at the center of various activities born by his social vision, activities connected with each other and in constant synergy. He still cooperate with Fraternitas Association (social and educational services, residential and semi-residential for children and single women with dependent children) and Cooperative Selva Grande (management of a multifunction social farm, employment of disadvantaged groups, start-up project of social inclusion for children and young adults with difficulties).



C.E.A.S. (Educational Center for Hospitality and Solidarity) was founded in 1999 as an operation branch of "Fraternitas" association, dealing with:

- Residential and semi residential service for children and families.
- Viral actions of active citizenship and civic engagement promoted by children in the foster house or in the child protection programs addressed to citizens or to the local community.
- Experimentation and services of semi-autonomy and cohousing with social reintegration for families and young people with medium or mild disabilities.

# Palermo (Italy)

The idea of Palermo as Restorative City come out from an emergent "restorative" network that involve local government, institutions, non-profit actors and inhabitants in the building of a perspective of change within their community. The project "Kintsugi: between damage and integrity" is part of this plan<sup>1</sup>. The project is in line with the prospect of creating a restorative community, spreading the culture of alternative dispute resolution and promote any initiative which might reduce and dissolve prejudice, raise awareness in the population, develop and spread new models of crime prevention and foster a higher sense of security and wellness all over the population. A community that gives back word to the "people" who live on the territory thanks to a process of recognition of the other and of re-construction of relationships.



For more info visit the website <http://associazionesponde.it/wphome/protocollo-di-intesa-per-promuovere-una-comunita-riparatoria/> or contact the EFRJ organisational member Associazione Spondé, represented by Maria Pia Giuffrida ([segreteria@associazionesponde.it](mailto:segreteria@associazionesponde.it)) and Anna Robino ([annarobino@gmail.com](mailto:annarobino@gmail.com)).

## EFRJ member

Anna Robino is a restorative justice operator and penal mediator. As a member of the Spondé Association she operates to promote the culture of restorative justice in Sicily. She has been working in many actions to create a restorative communities in Palermo in order to make citizens active in the improvement of daily life and in the consolidation of positive relationships. She has been involved in several projects to bring in the adults criminal justice system (penitentiary and probation office) new restorative procedure and V.O.M. practices in many provinces of the island (Palermo, Trapani, Agrigento, Messina, Caltanissetta, Catania).

Spondé Association ONLUS was established in 2014 in order to spread the values of restorative justice and victim protection, in line with European directives. The association aims to disseminate a culture of peace and promote practices of peaceful conflict resolution in family and social contexts.

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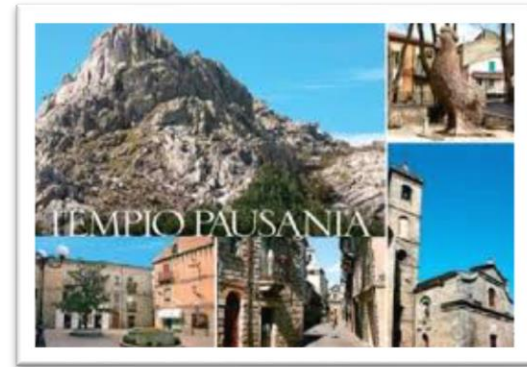
<sup>1</sup> Please note that this is not the Erasmus+ project "KINTSUGI – Exchange of European Good Practices on Restorative Justice", coordinated by WELCOME, Italy, where the EFRJ and Associazione Spondé are partners. More info here: [http://www.euforumrj.org/euforum\\_event/kintsugi-training-restorative-communities/](http://www.euforumrj.org/euforum_event/kintsugi-training-restorative-communities/)

# Tempio Pausania (Italy)

*Tempio Pausania Città Riparativa* is an action research aimed to verifying how restorative practices are able to involve the whole community: schools, families, police, courts, municipalities, associations to solve conflict in peaceful and relational way. The aim is to build a community based on social cohesion, as recommended by Europe 2020 and in the Agenda 2030. The project starting point was the social conflict that the opening of the new Penitentiary of Tempio Pausania-Nuchis generated in 2013. The project's main objective is to raise awareness and engagement towards restorative practices. Restorative conferences build the opportunity to connect the world inside to the world outside, to share strong emotions and do not think anymore about the prison as an isolated island.

For more info visit the website

[http://giustiziariparativa.comune.tempiopausania.ot.it/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=3929&Itemid=276](http://giustiziariparativa.comune.tempiopausania.ot.it/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3929&Itemid=276) (email: [tempioriparativa@gmail.com](mailto:tempioriparativa@gmail.com)) or contact EFRJ members Patrizia Patrizi ([patrizi@uniss.it](mailto:patrizi@uniss.it)), Gian Luigi Lepri ([gll Lepri@uniss.it](mailto:gll Lepri@uniss.it)), Ernesto Lodi ([elodi@uniss.it](mailto:elodi@uniss.it)).



## Other members in this EFRJ Working Group

**Chris Straker** ([strakerchris@me.com](mailto:strakerchris@me.com)) worked with organisations, agencies and local authorities on developing the concept of the restorative city since 2007 in Hull, UK. His work with local authorities in England and Wales has included working with: Hull, Leeds, Cardiff, Liverpool, Southampton, North Lincolnshire and Brighton. The work is designed to create the context in which skills and understanding is shared across agencies (professional and practitioners), but also working to enable local communities (individuals, young people and families) be more central in the decisions made about their lives. He has been the interim CEO of the Restorative Justice Council (RJC -England and Wales) since 2017. The RJC is a not for profit independent charity which has a remit to advocate on behalf of restorative justice and practice on behalf of its members with the government. Chris trains and offers consultancy (alongside his role at the RJC) in restorative practice to schools, children's homes, secure settings, and adult and children's services in England and Wales. I have been a keynote speaker in the UK, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, USA and South Korea.

Representatives of the EFRJ team in this Working Group are:

**Patrizia Patrizi**, EFRJ Board [patrizi@uniss.it](mailto:patrizi@uniss.it)

**Emanuela Biffi**, EFRJ Secretariat [emanuela.biffi@euforumrj.org](mailto:emanuela.biffi@euforumrj.org)