



Annual Report 2011



Airport Regions Conference
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Motivated members lead the way

One of the more memorable outcomes in 2011 was the much longed-for release of the airport package, which sets the agenda for all the aviation industry and administrations including our own organisation. Even though there is much work left to be done on this package, we are proud to see that the ARC has been heard, and even quoted, in the regulations.

2011 was also a year of economic downturn in the world, for both the aviation industry and local authorities. The ARC members have been affected and are still facing difficulties. To maximize the economic impact of the airport whilst minimizing its environmental effect is now more crucial than ever.

However, as the new president of the ARC, I am confident that we will be able to handle all forthcoming challenges together. The ARC is fortunate enough to have a wide range of motivated members; from the biggest airport regions, to the smallest, from East to West, and from North to South.

During the past year our members have achieved several goals, such as obtaining leading roles in aviation debates, carrying out projects, acquiring and mediating knowledge, and participating in collaborations within the organisation and at European level. With all the achievements made in 2011, I am convinced we have another successful year in front of us. And I look forward to this new period with you.



Sergi Alegre Calero
ARC President

The ARC works for the common good

To serve as the ARC Secretary General is both a pleasure and an honour. It is a pleasure, because of the quality of the people involved within each member region, and it is an honour, owing to the obvious legitimacy of the concerns borne by these airport regions.

I have been in the aviation world for more than a decade, but few of these years have been as rewarding as this first year as Secretary General for the ARC. We are a full time Brussels-based organisation, which allows me to see how appreciated the input of regional and local authorities is in aviation debates. It gives a true sense of working for the common good.

The uniqueness of our organisation is a fantastic asset. When people from other continents ask me about the secret to our success, it is not hard to respond. I sincerely believe that the answer is our members, who constantly overcome linguistic, cultural and competitive borders. This has been demonstrated in many ways during the past year, which is proven in this report.



*Léa Bodossian
ARC Secretary General*

ARC members 2011



Akershus County Council
 Ayuntamiento de Barcelona
 Ayuntamiento de Madrid
 Bavarian Ministry of economic affairs
 Budapest 18
 City of Amsterdam
 City of El Prat de Llobregat
 City of Haarlemmermeer
 City of Oulu
 City of Rotterdam
 City of Vantaa
 Fingal County Council

Flanders Region
 Généralitat de Catalunya
 Gobierno de Canarias
 Gothenburg Region
 IAU Ile-de-France
 London Borough of Hounslow
 Mures City Council
 Over Romerike Utvikling
 Pôle d'Orly (Essonne & Val-de-Marne)
 Prague Airport Region
 Prefecture of Eastern Attica

Province of Mazovia
 Province of Noord Holland
 Regional Authority FrankfurtRheinMain
 Société wallonne des aéroports (SOWAER)
 State of Berlin and State of Brandenburg
 Stockholm (County Council & Sigtuna)
 Transport Malta
 Uusimaa Regional Council
 Val d'Oise
 Vienna
 Viladecans

Lobbying

The ARC members constitute more than 70 million citizens living nearby an airport in Europe. As such, the ARC is recognised as the voice of regional and local authorities in aviation related debates.

A legitimate and well-established partner

The Secretariat in Brussels reflects the natural ambition of airport regions to be heard on an international level, notably by the European Institutions, which the secretariat works on a daily basis with. The Secretariat focuses on establishing long-term relationships with external partners and stakeholders, such as the European Commission and Eurocontrol.

Reflecting on the airport package legislative process

The 2011 agenda of the Institutions put emphasis on elaborating an airport package, and the ARC took an active part in advising the European Commission on the topics of noise, regional connectivity, and economic impact of airports for regions.

Intermodality at airports

The ARC also has a leading role in the discussion on air-ground intermodality, and is active in animating the reflection on intermodality at airports, within the European Commission Observatory of Airport Capacity.

The noise issue

Noise issues, including ground noise, are core preoccupations for the ARC members, who have developed a unique expertise in handling these issues. A common ground has been found amongst the members, and is defended within various fora that aim at the improvement of the legislative framework on noise.

Recognition of airports' role for regions

The ARC advises the European Institutions on a more general basis on the airport's role as drivers for the regions, in terms of economic development, regional connectivity and employment. The Secretariat is regularly speaking at conferences in order to promote and forward the views of the members.

Developing knowledge

One of the many strengths of the ARC is the ability to detect and reflect on long-term challenges encountered by airport regions. This has allowed the organisation to take the lead in a number of fields.

Project development has always been an important part of the ARC strategy. Projects contribute to the creation and dissemination of knowledge amongst members, to the intellectual legitimacy of the ARC, and to its recognition by external stakeholders. The work is done through a number of working groups, led by the regions themselves, whose priorities are defined by the member regions.

Projects carried out, continued or finalised

- Finalisation of an in depth reflection on the definition of quality of life standards (QLAIR).
- Reflection on the means available for members to fight air pollution through improving the surface access to airports, and elaboration of a model thereof.
- Reflection on the linkage between air traffic management and spatial planning.
- Definition and elaboration of common criteria and standards for a noise policy at airports.
- Reflection on the changes concerning the evolution of economics in the aviation industry.

Groups in 2011

Air Traffic Management and Spatial Planning

Lead members: Vienna and Vantaa

Project managers: Franz Joechlinger
Gilbert Koskela

Economic Development

Lead member: Val D'Oise

Project manager: Jean-François Benon

Noise and Environment

Lead member: Frankfurt Metropolitan Region

Project manager: Joachim Wempe

Surface Access and Climate Change

Lead members: Stockholm and Gothenburg

Project managers: Hans Brattström
Per Kristersson

Quality of Life in Airport Regions

Lead members: Haarlemmermeer and Noord Holland

Project managers: Jan Jaap Kolpa
Ine Kuipers

Communication

Disseminating information is a key feature in order to promote the ARC news, present the ARC members actions to the outer world, and provide information to the ARC members about aviation and EU matters. This work is done through various tools.

Website

The website has been entirely restructured in order to facilitate the navigation on the current site, as well as preparing for an upgrade of functionalities and design in 2012.

Newsletter

A newsletter is produced every two months. It features the members' agendas, actively promotes their activities and spreads information to them. The newsletter has been given a complete revamp both aesthetically and content-wise, and has now a structured and recurrent appearance.

Guestcolumn

Guest writers are occasionally invited to introduce themselves to the ARC members, through the revamped publication called Guest Columnist. Two editions were published during the year.

Customized e-mails

When news of a specific content or with a more individual value for a certain member has passed the gateway of the ARC, the Secretariat has personally sent them directly to the member in question.



Publications

The ARC has produced several publications during 2011. The ARC archive, which is accessible for all members, consist of about 50 studies and papers. Some of them are also available for the public through our website.

The QLAIR strategic guidelines consists of conclusions and recommendations borne from the project. The object of the QLAIR project is to create competitive airport regions, in which economic development and improvement of quality of life are equally balanced.

The FAIR guide is compiled to exclusively help the ARC members to find funding, and it functions as a tool in the application process. The guide presents various sources of funding and gives concrete tips and examples as well as contact details of EU experts.

The Middle Eastern Carriers provides guidance to the members on the current and future role and impact of the Middle Eastern hub carriers. The paper, which gives an aviation strategy perspective on the matter, focusses specially on Emirates of Dubai, Etihad of Abu Dhabi and Qatar Airways of Qatar.



Events

Apart from general internal meetings of the Executive Committee, Annual General meeting, Half Year meeting and project meetings, the ARC has arranged two larger-scaled conferences during the past year.

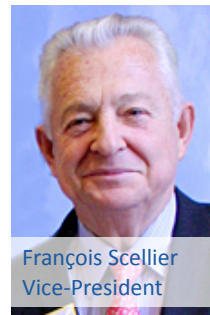
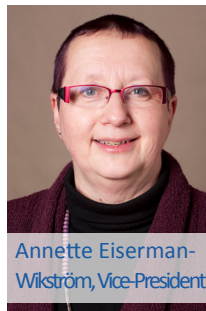
On 5th July the ARC organized a conference in Brussels called “A challenge for Europe – Quality of Life in Airport Regions”. The fruitful conference consisted of four workshops concerning the matters of economic impacts, peripherality and insularity, capacity, and spatial planning. The conference, which gathered some 100 participants, opened up for several interesting dialogues. One essential conclusion made during the day was the importance of cooperation.



On 2nd December the ARC Annual Conference was held in Malahide, Dublin. The conference was co-organized with the Fingal County Council, and this years theme was “Collaborative Planning in Airport Regions”. The successful day was comprised by a great number of interesting speakers who affected areas such as land use, economic vision, business development, community partnership, communication and air traffic management. Once again, the focus was on the essence of collaboration.



Executive Committee



Airport Regions Conference is an association of regional and local authorities across Europe with an international airport situated within or near their territory. The ARC functions as the voice of regions and municipalities in aviation related debates. Its members have a population of 70 million people, and two thirds of the European traffic goes via an ARC region.



www.airportregions.org