

ENSA General Assembly 2025–2026 – Afternoon Session

Minutes

Chair: Annalisa Bisson, Director of International Relations, Veneto Region, Legal Representative of the ENSA Network

Date: December 2, 2025

Time: 14:30 – 16:00

Venue: Delegation of Regione Lombardia, Place du Champ de Mars 2

After welcoming the participants to the afternoon session, the Chair reconvened the Assembly following the morning discussions to continue the important work of sharing experiences, identifying priorities, and fostering collaboration across the network.

She extended a warm welcome to all participants, especially the new members, who bring fresh perspectives and innovative approaches to social inclusion, disability support, and poverty reduction. Their presence strengthens the network and enriches collective knowledge.

Membership Proposals Submitted for Approval

- Lombardy Region, Italy
- University of Applied Sciences of Rotterdam, Netherlands – Research Centre Innovation in Care
- Castilla y León Social Services, Spain
- Municipality of Belluno, Italy
- CBM Italy
- UPIPA – Provincial Union of Institutions for Assistance, Italy
- Association of Friends, Caregivers, and People with Dementia and Neurodegenerative Brain Diseases of Cyclades – Embrace Memory, South Aegean, Cyclades
- Cooperativa Sociale Namastè ETS, Caltagirone, Sicily

Decision 1: *Following a unanimous vote, all the above-mentioned candidatures are approved within the ENSA network.*

Report of Activities

Since the last Assembly on March 4, 2025, ENSA has been actively engaged in numerous initiatives, including the final conference of the HOPE Project and meetings of the ENSA thematic working groups on Older Adults & Disabilities, Youth and Families, Minors, and Social and Emotional Learning.

Project Proposals

Regarding Erasmus+ 2025, ENSA has participated in six project proposals: four led by ISRAA Treviso (Italy) and two by Odisee University (Flanders).

Projects selected for funding include:

- **Lead: ISRAA Treviso** – *Bridging Paradigms: Improving Digital Literacy Among Older Adults*, promoting lifelong learning, psychological well-being, and bridging the generational digital divide.
- **Lead: Odisee University** – *Learning Communities for Foster Parents: Working Together for the Wellbeing of Unaccompanied Minors*, creating collaborative support networks among foster parents, professionals, and migrant youth.
- **Additional Erasmus+ Proposal:** Submitted by the Veneto Region with several ENSA partners – *E-Motion: AI for Emotional Balance – Empowering Youth Through Intelligent Regulation*, exploring the ethical use of generative AI to support emotional well-being and self-regulation. Silvia Faggian from the Veneto Social Services (Organizational Unit for Addictions, Third Sector, New Marginalities, and Social Inclusion) will provide an update.

Other Key Events

- Organised by Fondazione Elisabetta Germani (Lombardy): successful meetings of the ENSA Older Adults and Disabilities Working Groups during World Alzheimer's Day (September 15–21, 2025, Cremona); a scientific conference and a study visit to the first Italian Alzheimer Village in Monza with Cooperativa Sociale La Meridiana.
- On July 7, 2025, the final event of the Erasmus+ project *Mind Inclusion 3.0* was held in Venice, organised by Cooperativa Sociale Margherita and hosted by the Veneto Region, focusing on social inclusion for people with cognitive disabilities.

Financial Report Update

The FORM Erasmus+ project funded by the EU, led by Odisee University on therapeutic foster care for unaccompanied minors, successfully concluded, with a final payment of €20,842.

Decision 2: *The report of activities and the financial report are unanimously approved.*

Interventions from New Members

Following these updates, the floor was given to the new members to share their priorities (Lombardy Region, RUAS, Castilla y León, Municipality of Belluno, CBM Italy, UPIPA, the Association of Friends, Caregivers, and People with Dementia and Neurodegenerative Brain Diseases of Cyclades, and Cooperativa Sociale Namastè Sicily).

Collaboration Proposals Presented

- **Region of Veneto – Silvia Faggian**, Directorate of Social Services, Organizational Unit for Addictions, Third Sector, New Marginalization, and Social Inclusion: Update on the *E-MOTION Erasmus-Edu-2025-Pi-Forward-Digital-AI* project proposal, *AI for Emotional Balance: Empowering Youth Through Intelligent Regulation*.
- **Barbara Maculan**, President, Social Cooperative Equality (Padua): Project *LACE – Learning Communities for Empowering Foster Parents*.
- **Dr. Ivan Scaratti**, General Director, Fondazione Elisabetta Germani: Sharing care and assistance pathways and innovations.
- **Dr. Julie Vanderlinden, PhD**, Odisee University of Applied Sciences: Proposals on active neighbourhoods and lifestyle interventions.
- **Prof. Giorgio Perilongo**, Professor of Pediatrics and Technical–Scientific Coordinator, Regional Coordination for Rare Diseases, Veneto Region and Padua University Hospital:

Sharing his experience with the ENSA network, in collaboration with Dr. Giulia Volpato, President of Associazione P63, Rare Diseases.

Farewell

A farewell was extended to **Jos Sterckx**, Researcher at Odisee University of Applied Sciences, who was praised for more than 15 years of dedicated work with the ENSA Network.

Discussion and Concluding Remarks

A dialogue with Q&A followed, including contributions from the Belgian-Italian Chamber of Commerce, students, and the Municipality of Belluno.

Concluding remarks were delivered by the organisers—Lombardy Region, Agostina Corinne Montemezzani, Michele Dolcetti (CBM), and ENSA—expressing gratitude for participants' engagement and contributions, and confidence that the day's discussions will be productive, inspiring, and contribute significantly to shaping the network's priorities and strategies.

Date 10/12/2025

Signature: Annalisa Bisson- Legal Representative of ENSA network



The image shows a handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be 'Annalisa Bisson'. To the right of the signature is a blue circular official stamp. The text within the stamp is partially legible and includes 'REGIONE LOMBARDIA' and 'BELLUNO'.