



# Newsletter nr. 3/2011

## SUCCESSFUL CONGRESS HELD IN CZECH REPUBLIC



ECRAF's 9th congress was successfully arranged in Prague, Czech Republic, 13 – 16th September. President Oddvar Haagensen said at the closing that thanks to the host nation's excellent arrangements – including the meeting facilities at DAP Hotell (left picture), the congress dinner at the castle and the travel to Vyskov- it was a success. The main topic "Risk assessment and Simulators" was followed by an interesting discussion. A congress report will come and information will later be given at the web.

### Positive and negative experiences with the use of simulators

#### SERBIA ECRAF MEMBER

Serbia was at the Gen.Ass. unanimously approved as new member of ECRAF.

Information given by the Armed Forces in Czech and other participating countries showed both positive and negative experiences with the use of simulators in the education of military drivers. It was underlined that the benefit of simulators depends on certain conditions/circumstances. Simulators are no substitute for real vehicle, but is a helpful supplement. In the German Armed Forces simulator added training is well established and approved in basic training for F/G.



### SWEDEN AND CZECH NEW IN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Johan Pihlström, Sweden and Jan Sevcik, Czech Republic were both elected as new members of EC for 2011-13.



Johan Pihlström Jan Sevcik

### Next Congress in Spain Sept. 2012



The Spanish delegates Juan Antonio Baena Polo and Francisco Casado Martinez invited to the next congress in Zaragoza in September 2012.

### HAAGENSEN REELECTED

Oddvar Haagensen Norway, was at the GA reelected as President of ECRAF for the next period.

### Diploma of Merit of ECRAF given out for the first time



Stefanie Stettler

At the end of the General Assembly President Oddvar Haagensen handed out the new Diploma of Merit of ECRAF and the ECRAF crest to former secretary Stefanie Stettler, Switzerland and the outgoing EC members Johnny Laurent, Belgium and Flemming Pedersen, Denmark.



Johnny Laurent



Flemming Pedersen





**Dear ECRAF friends,**

Dear ECRAF members

The ECRAF Congress 2011 in Prague has become history, and we have all returned to our home countries. After some beautiful days with sunshine and 25 degrees in Prague, I returned to rain and 8 Celsius degrees at home. The weather reminds me of the fact that I most probably have to change to winter tires by end of October.

The Prague Congress became a great success. The Congress in Vienna last year was a turning point when we changed the programme for the first time to focus on two specific topics. That change was appreciated very much by the Congress members, and in Prague we developed this concept even more by introduce more time for discussions. From my point of view this is the right way to go. The Congress has developed to become that forum for exchange of experience we all have been looking for.

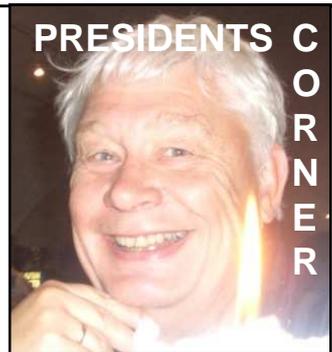
I am honoured to be elected as the ECRAF President for another two years, and I will express my sincere gratitude to all delegates for having belief in me. I am also proud on behalf of the Norwegian Armed Forces for spending money on the European Road safety work by giving me the opportunity to work for ECRAF. For me it is equally important that the Norwegian Armed Forces are willing to let me continue with the Policy Secretariat. I am grateful to Leif Agnar Ellevset for the very important work he is doing.

My first priority for the next two years will be to promote ECRAF as the foremost independent institution recognized across Europe for the best practice within the military environment to prevent road traffic accidents. 17 nations participated at the Congress in Prague. That is good, but we have still work to do, and I would like to see closer to 25 nations at the Congress in Sarajevo in 2013. To achieve that goal, we need to show nations practical results and what they can achieve by being a member of ECRAF. My second priority will be to be available for you all if you need support from ECRAF. The net-work you have established by participating at the annual congress is important for you. However, if you need support from me you should know that I am here for you.

The road safety work we do in ECRAF means a difference, and it is important for the European Armed Forces. I am looking forward to work together with Robert, Ernes, Jan, Johan, Leif and Kevin in the Executive Committee. We will work hard to work together with you belonging to the ECRAF family to develop ECRAF to be even stronger than today.

Drive safe !

**Best regards**



## NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of the ECRAF Newsletter will come in November 2011. Contributions must be received within the last week of October this year.

## THE ECRAF STRATEGY- AND ACTIONPLAN WILL BE ROLLED NEXT YEAR

The ECRAF **Strategy Plan 2009 - 2012** will be rolled next year and in the same connection the second **Action Plan** will be worked out.

## EDITORIAL

The ECRAF Newsletter is produced by ECRAF Policy Secretariat in Norway. Editor Leif Agnar Ellevset can be contacted at e-mail:

[leif@ellevset.no](mailto:leif@ellevset.no) or mobile phone: +47 913 33 000.

This issue was discussed at the last meeting in the Executive Committee in Prague 12. Sept. The process, working methods and time limits will decided upon the Executive Committee in Stocholm in October 2011.

