

6th November 2009, Brussels

ESNtrain
platform GmbH
Neuhofstrasse 30
CH-8708 Männedorf
Switzerland

Open letter: To the attention of the CEO of platform GmbH, Mr. Bernhard Jaeggli

Dear Mr. Jaeggli,

Herewith I am requesting on behalf of the Erasmus Student Network (ESN) that the platform GmbH provides ESN and all its members with a full view of the contracts it entered into and of its accounting related to the ESNtrain project, which the Austrian Railways ÖBB cancelled at the very last moment at the end of March 2009.

Despite ESN having no contract with platform GmbH, there are several reasons that allow me to make this kind of request towards you.

At first, ESN trusted you with the organization of the ESNtrain – by allowing the usage of ESN name and design and supporting the project (promotion within and outside the network and involvement of ESN sections in organizing the events alongside the route of the ESNtrain). Thus, we now claim our right to know all the background information and all the reasons leading to the cancellation.

Secondly, opening up the books and contracts would restore the confidence of ESN and its members towards platform GmbH. So far, participants of the ESNtrain (many of those being members of ESN) were not only deprived of the travel they bought and of the reimbursement of their money, but most of them are also angry and frustrated by the lack of communication and information on the part of the project organizer.

Thirdly, the vision of the ESNtrain was to bring people together throughout Europe to establish intercultural communication platform. It was one of the main reasons why ESN supported the project in the first place. At the moment, however, it seems to us that the current communication policy of platform GmbH seeds mistrust among the interested public against such well-meaning projects and against the ideals we share.

My open request is coming now, more than 7 months after the cancellation. We have provided platform GmbH with time and possibility to act in silence, as requested after the first demand for information. However, it is now up to platform GmbH to show your will to the cooperation. I would like you to open books and contracts to ESN, its members and all the ESNtrain participants, to help us all understand the situation.

I sincerely hope that your sense of fairness, honesty and your responsibility towards the hundreds of ESN members who volunteered for the ESNtrain project will allow you to positively answer our request.

Marketa Tokova

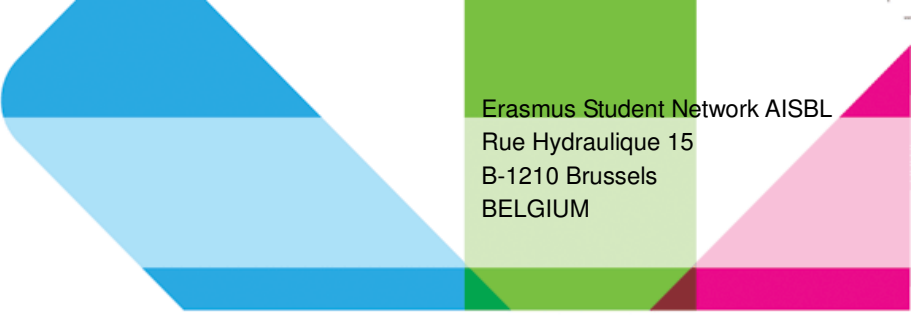
Sincerely,

Marketa Tokova

President of ESN AISBL

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No Enterprise (BE): 876.728.263



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CC:

All ESN sections through the mailing list

Council of National Representatives

Care team of Erasmus Student Network

Website of Erasmus Student Network

(http://www.esn.org/esns_communication_after_the_esntrain_cancellation), published on 6 November 2009

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