



SICI NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2024

Message from the President

Dear SICI Members,

I hope this message finds you well and as excited as I am about the progress we've been making together. It's been amazing to see how our community continues to grow stronger through collaboration and shared commitment.

With the upcoming General Assembly in Malta and the updates from the Executive Committee, there's so much to look forward to! From the launch of our new website to our ongoing support for each of you, the work we're doing together truly reflects the heart of SICI.

I encourage everyone to stay connected, keep sharing your experiences, and join us as we embrace the opportunities ahead. Together, we're making a real difference in education inspection.

Janie McManus

Update from the Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee has been actively reviewing our work in preparation for the upcoming business meeting at the General Assembly. A key focus of the EC has been on refining the structure and content for our new SICI website, which we are excited to officially launch at the General Assembly. This new platform will include a secure space for members to access important documents and resources, fostering greater collaboration across our network.

In line with this, we have also discussed and finalised the guidelines for organising SICI workshops. These guidelines will be made available on the new website as well as through the Microsoft Teams platform for national coordinators, ensuring easy access and clarity for all members.

Additionally, we have updated the funding guidelines for organised study visits and job shadowing, making it easier to understand and access the financial support available for these important learning opportunities.

Finally, the EC has reaffirmed its commitment to supporting all members, ensuring that at least one member of the Executive Committee will attend every workshop, underscoring our dedication to fostering a strong and connected community.

Election of the Executive Committee

As usual, elections for the Executive Committee will take place during the upcoming General Assembly in Malta.

- Gordana Capric and Bart Maes will step down from the Executive Committee after the General Assembly.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to both Bart and Gordana for their unwavering commitment and dedication to SICI throughout their time on the Executive Committee. Their contributions have greatly strengthened our community, and we are grateful for their leadership. We will have the opportunity to give them a warm send-off and celebrate their achievements together at the General Assembly.

SICI aims to ensure that the composition of the EC reflects the diversity of our members, considering both the geographical spread across Europe and the length of time inspectorates have existed. To maintain this balance, the EC will suggest candidates prior to the General Assembly.

We encourage all SICI members interested in nominating a candidate to email the SICI Secretariat at sylvia.vanimpe@ond.vlaanderen.be before November 8, 2024. If nominating yourself, please include a letter of motivation explaining why you are suited for the role. If nominating another member, please state your reasons and ensure the nominee is aware and agrees to be put forward as a candidate.

Looking ahead, if any members are interested in serving on the EC in the future, please inform the SICI Secretariat. Your willingness to contribute will help in planning for future vacancies.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to reach out to us.

Workshop Reports

We are also pleased to share that we have developed reports based on the discussions held during our recent workshops. These reports reflect on the key insights gained and showcase the ability of our community to bring together diverse perspectives. While these reports will not be made publicly available on our website, they will be uploaded to the secure members' area once the new website is live. For now, we are sharing the first two reports directly with members.

These reports serve as a reminder of some of the key themes that were discussed, and we believe they may be useful for further reflection within your own organisations. Of course, we would like to note that the reports do not represent the official views of SICI or any one member or presenter but aim to provide a collective snapshot of the conversations and ideas shared.

SICI Theme for 2025

The theme *Inspecting in a Rapidly Changing Educational Environment* has promoted rich discussions throughout the year, offering valuable insights into the challenges inspectors face. As we continue to deal with increasing external pressures, global uncertainty, and the unprecedented challenges confronting schools and inspectorates, the Executive Committee has decided to extend this theme for another year. This will allow us to deepen our understanding and further explore how inspection practices can adapt to better support education systems in these uncertain times.

Dates for your diary: SICI General Assembly 2024

We are looking forward to seeing you at our 29th SICI General Assembly, which will take place in Sliema, Malta, on the 20th, 21st, and 22nd of November 2024. The event will be held at The Palace Hotel, located in the beautiful seaside town of Sliema. Registration details, the draft programme, and accommodation information, including special rates at The Palace and Victoria Hotels, have already been shared with informaiton about how to take advantage of the negotiated rates for accommodation. We look forward to seeing you all there!

SICI contact details

Please let us know if you have any remarks or questions. Always feel free to submit any additional information, which can be used in the following newsletter.

Email SICI secretariat: sici@vlaanderen.be