



It is a true honor for our association "EGPE" to sign this partnership memo with EPA. Having participated myself, I know the extent of the tasks EPA has been carrying on to represent the interests of families in education at the European level.

Since my retirement, I have always followed your work, and Arja and I have remained in close contact; I would like to express here my sincere gratitude to her for her trusty, friendly and European support.

I am very grateful that you recognize our vital role as grandparents in supporting families and that, far beyond our retirement, you act that we still behave as active citizens, deeply involved in numerous community and civic responsibilities, thus contributing to the social fabric essential to any society.

I spend my time repeating this to journalists who approach me that no, retiring doesn't mean immediately going straight into a nursing home (you know, they struggle to do the subtraction between 95 and 65 years old...), and that we are very present and supportive of our children and grandchildren.

We are living through challenging times for Europe, but more than ever, we, parents and grandparents, affirm together, for the future of our grandchildren, that choosing to live together is not only a challenge but also an act of resistance that depends on each and every one of us.

I am delighted by all the exciting work that lies ahead for our two associations, starting with today's signing and, on November 28th, at Paris City Hall, the European symposium where we will affirm that grandparents are, now more than ever, keepers and transmitters of European memory, honoring our Italian friends from the Fondazione Archivio Diaristico Nazionale di Pieve Santo Stefano.

So, see you this autumn in Paris ?? I can't wait....

Until then, on behalf of all our volunteers, I thank you again from the bottom of my heart for the trust you place in our association!

Paris, the 25th of April 2026