

ERP Mid-Term Event

Closing words – Vanessa Halhead ERCA and ERP Steering Group

Thank you to our 3 co-presidents of the ERP for their conclusions on the event, and to Piotr for his warm invitation to our next 5th ERP. We are all eagerly looking forward to that.

We are now almost at the end of the proceedings, but not quite.

Whenever I organise an event like this, I'm reminded of the huge effort behind the scenes that goes into it. So, on behalf of the ERP Partners, I want to extend our huge thanks to all those who have given of their time and expertise to make this event so successful:

- The plenary speakers
- The moderators
- The breakout teams
- IRL for their great effort to run the Zoom Platform and registrations
- And not least all of the participants from all parts of Europe.

I feel incredibly proud of our wonderful ERP movement across our 40 countries. What a force for good our partners are, many of them working in extremely difficult situations. I hope we all gain inspiration from our joint platform.

This online event was an experiment, and it enabled more of our partners to attend, without any cost to themselves. It is definitely a great way to keep us all involved and connected.

Now we have taken our first step on the road to our 5th ERP Gathering in Poland, we will all be planning ahead, with the ideas we have gained today.

I am sitting in Scotland – the venue for COP26 – starting next week! In the lead-in to that critical event, I'm sure we have all been thinking a lot about the dangerous situation our wonderful planet is in. I have come to realise that going forward, climate change **MUST** be at the very centre of everything we do and plan to do. Everything must be viewed through the lens of climate change.

On that note, and in recognition of his current work on climate change and his long-term huge contribution to the development of the ERP, I would like to ask Michael Dower to close the event with a few words.