

35 years of EIPA - EU Forum

Written by Wolfgang Koeth, Frank Lavadoux and Dr Simon Duke (UK)

The 25th anniversary of the European Summit in Maastricht. The Treaty of Maastricht was signed here on 7 February 1992. For more than 35 years, our institute has been helping the EU institutions and Member States to tackle the practical challenges of European integration. In light of this, there was ample reason to organise a European Forum that gathered some of the key players in Europe and sought to discuss new ways of ensuring that the EU's ambitious objectives are implemented successfully.

Consequently, on 10 November, policymakers and practitioners from the EU institutions and

Member States gathered in our headquarters in Maastricht, the cradle of the Treaty on the European Union, to listen to some truly fascinating speakers in three consecutive panel sessions. The key topics were the quality and effectiveness of public administrations in Europe, innovative ways to strengthen the interaction between the EU institutions and national administrations as well as how to improve policy implementation.

The participants came from all over Europe. Of course, many of our stakeholders such as members of our Board of Governors, the European Commission, national governments, the Province of Limburg and City of Maastricht attended this special event, but also other European training schools, contractual partners and finally yet importantly, former colleagues were drawn to the Forum.

In summary, the EU Forum was an enriching and celebratory day for all!