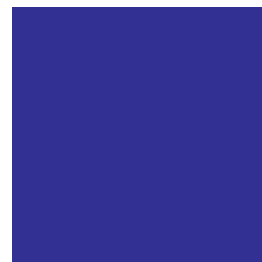
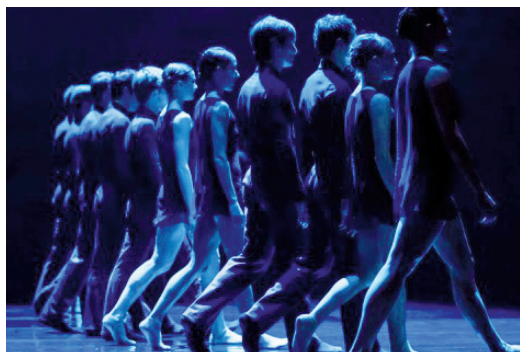


# Activities – Project Groups (Committees)

## Action Committee for Artists Rights



### Meetings

- Ann Mari Engel, President ACAR visited the world conference on artistic freedom of expression "All that is banned is desired," organised by FREEMUSE and FRITTO RD in Oslo, Norway (25-26 October 2012) and met activists from the worldwide human and artists rights movements.
- Common areas of activities were marked and discussed. Information was shared, each other's network have been used to foster the exchange between artists' networks and activities in the human rights field.
- ACAR/ITI will follow the midterm goal to enter violation of artists' rights into the official UNESCO reaction scheme, according to the UNESCO practice for journalists.
- Thomas Engel, Secretary ACAR, attended a workshop of the European Network for Artists Mobility ON THE MOVE, 16-17 November 2012 in Brussels about Visa problems for artists travelling to and working within the Schengen area. Representatives from the EU commission General Departments Home Affairs and Culture were present.
- Board meeting hosted by ITI Germany in Berlin, 20 April 2013 on the occasion of the international symposium on artists mobility and opening of the online info platform [www.touring-artists.info](http://www.touring-artists.info)
- Several skype meetings between president and secretary.

### Activities

- The ACAR website was created and is maintained by the Secretary and features about 55 articles on artists rights activities, statistics, online polls, political and economic censorship, and personal cases (20 articles) from all over the world. News and links to other networks are regularly added.
- A professional newsletter system was implemented in 2013 and a newsletter has been sent out every 2-3 months since then.
- Successful protest campaign in July 2012 to release the director Bolat Atabayev (Kazakhstan) from jail. The Secretary met activists from the campaign in front of the residency of the Kazakhstan

ambassador in Berlin together with other members from the German ITI as well as the Vice-President of the German Centre, Roberto Ciulli. The Secretary described the case of Atabayev on the entry article of August issue of "theatre heute" the leading German theatre magazine.

- September 2012: ITI Germany hosted together with the International Research Centre "Interweaving Performance Cultures" from the Free University Berlin a panel discussion and symposium entitled "Blackface-whiteness and power of definition in German contemporary theatre".
- 2013: ACAR official protest letters against dismissal of Valery N. Raykov, general manager of the Youth Theatre Saratov (Russia) and against the withdrawal of the publishing license for the Belarus independent publisher Ihar Lohvinau.
- November 2013: ITI Sweden and ITI Germany supported partners of the presentation event of the UN special report "The Right to Freedom of Artistic Expression and Creation" at the EU parliament in Brussels, organized by the "Access to Culture" network.

### Board

President:	Ann Mari Engel, Sweden
Secretary:	Thomas Engel, Germany
Members:	Sara Zaker (Bangladesh) Gad Kaynar (Israel) Hamadou Mande (Burkina Faso), Teresa Eyring (USA) Tatjana Ažman (Slovenia)

### Corresponding Members

Ambroise Mbia (Cameroon)  
Raija Sinikka Rantala (Finland)  
Richard Crane and Faynia Williams (UK),  
Yoko Odagiri (Japan)  
Kazuhiko Matsuda (Japan)  
Il Soo Shin (Korea)  
Kevin Bitterman (USA)  
Lydia Fort (USA),  
Peter Jordan (China).

Submitted by Thomas Engel

Slovenian Association of Dramatic Artists (SADA)