



## PRESS RELEASE

### **IRENE, ESSEC's institute for research and education on negotiation receives international recognition as a leading academic centre.**

*Cergy, 24<sup>th</sup> February 2009*

Commissioned by the French Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Foreign & European Affairs and the Ministry of the Budget, an official report on *International Expertise at the Heart of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Diplomacy and Cooperation* has hailed IRENE as a **leading body of international negotiation expertise**. The report was supervised by Mr. Nicolas Tenzer.

Structured around a case-study of IRENE, dubbed "*the success story*", the report highlights the institute's organisational diversity which brings **researchers and practitioners together in a common mission to devise better approaches to negotiation, mediation and conflict resolution**.

The report highlights the fact that IRENE is the **first French organisation to join the European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO) network** citing its post-conflict grassroots activities. Since 2002, IRENE's program, ***Negotiators of the World***, has been promoting mediation interventions and peace-building training in post-conflict areas such as Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The report further notes that numerous organisations (including the European Commission, the ENA, and various UN agencies and international universities) have enlisted IRENE to run negotiation training sessions, a factor that has helped to make IRENE's French academic and technical expertise a presence in **52 countries** thus far.

The Tenzer report is freely available online (in French):

<http://lesrapports.ladocumentationfrancaise.fr/BRP/084000476/0000.pdf>

A book outlining the report's main findings:

Nicolas Tenzer, *Quand la France disparaît du monde*, Grasset.

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