

## The AEMI meeting in Croatia

The Association of European Migration Institutions (AEMI) held its annual conference and General Assembly on 28.9. – 1.10. 2006 aboard the *Adriatic Paradise* in the harbour of Trogir near Split. The ship also visited Komiza on the island of Viz in the Adriatic Sea. The meeting was organized by the Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies, in Zagreb, Croatia, the key person being Dr. Silva Meznaric, director of this years' host institution.

The main topic of the conference was "Cultural and Economic Links in Diaspora – Comparative Studies." Many interesting presentations were given, and it is hoped that these papers will be published in the AEMI Journal edited by Hans Storhaug in Norway. The topic of my presentation was "Challenges of Present Migrations in Europe and Finland between West and East."

After the conference, the General Assembly of the Association of European Migration Institutions took place at sea along the route between Vis and Trogir. The Chair of the AEMI is Brian Lambkin, Directior of the Center for Migration Studies at The Ulster Mellon Road, Omagh, N. Ireland. Professor Adam Walaszek, of Jagiellonian University, in Poland, was elected to preside over this AEMI business meeting. Some new applicants were accepted as membersrs of the AEMI (see www.aemi.dk). The Chairman's Report, the financial statement and accounts of the previous year, as well as the budget for the year 2006-7, were accepted. The participants were also informed about the projects of member organizations.

It was decided that the next Annual Meeting and conference of the AEMI will take place at the Institute of Migration in Turku, Finland on September 26-30, 2007. The theme of the conference will be confirmed early next year. All proposals from AEMI members are welcome. Information will also be available concerning travel to Turku and accommodation in due course.

Next years' meeting at the Institute of Migration in Turku. The Institute of Migration welcomes the AEMI family to Finland!

> Olavi Koivukangas Director Institute of Migration



Siirtolaisuusinstituutin väkeä syysretkellä Olavi Koivukankaan kotona Kakskerrassa. Vasemmalta: Eero Sappinen, Elli Heikkilä, Sami Kalliosaari, Elisabeth Ushanov, Anna Satterthwaite, Mage Mesihää, Satu Löppönen, Olavi ja Pirjo Koivukangas, Kirsi Sainio, Mari Kattilakoski, Elvira Strömberg, Krister Björklund, Taimi Sainio ja Maria Pikkarainen, Kuva: Jouni Korkiasaari.

