

History of the Group

This is at the initiative of Alain Juillet in coordination with Clément Paoli and Henri Dou that it was decided to create and finance during three years a group of research in the domain of the Competitive Intelligence in France. One of the main reasons was the necessity to improve the coordination between various groups of research to comfort the discipline (Marne la Vallée, Marseille, Toulouse, Montpellier, Nancy). For various reasons (one of them was administrative) the group was created as an informal group and the CNRS financed it during three years, thank to François Gross (today Advisor of the Director of the CNRS).

The group was articulated with different laboratories (Marne la Vallée, Marseille, Toulon, Montpellier, Toulouse, Nancy). During three years, the experts worked together on a present (meetings in Paris, Marseille, Montpellier, Nancy, Toulouse...) and a virtual basis (platform to create knowledge and emails). The final symposium was held in Beaulieu sur Mer (Villa Kerylos in November 2009).

During these three years, various members participated to different PhD' panels, to the production of various research papers and finally to several books and book's chapters, the global unity of the group was reinforced and a human and competence threshold was reached.

During those three years as it was unfortunately felt by Alain Juillet, Clément Paoli and Henri Dou various laboratories involved in the group disappeared and some of them are today in trouble with their institution. This situation prompted all the recommendations made during the Beaulieu's symposium to avoid the lost of a large pan of the French knowledge in elaborated information (more than 20 years of experience).

Nevertheless, in spite of the difficulties all the research laboratories of the group, coming from different areas (information, communication and competitive intelligence) learn how to work together and how to create a synergy from their various competencies. This should be used to maintain the activities of the group. Several ways are possible, one is the transformation of the Expert's group in a GDR within the framework of the CNRS, the other is to answer together to the call of proposal of the ANR (Agence Nationale de la Recherche):

"La création : processus, acteurs, objets, contextes".