AMICE was founded on 6 December 2007 and can now look back on five years of successful work. Please join us in celebrating this anniversary and the following five key achievements and feel free to share your comments with us.

- Having transferred most of the members of its two predecessor organisations ACME and AISAM in 1998 and having added a sizable number of new members since then, AMICE has today more than 100 direct members from 18 European countries and represents more than 1,600 more insurers indirectly. It thus serves as sole, independent representative organisation for mutual and cooperative insurers in Europe and speaks for a significant part of the insurance sector.

- AMICE is being recognised as discussion and negotiation partner at the European level, providing input to the legislative and regulatory discussions on behalf of the mutual and cooperative insurance sector and, in particular, on behalf of small and medium-sized undertakings. In Solvency II, the strengthening of the proportionality principle, the recognition of non-proportional reinsurance, the structure of the health module, the recognition of mutual groups and of supplementary calls are key examples carrying the signature of AMICE. In the global discussions on the governance of insurance undertakings, the particularities of our business model are recognised and appreciated.

- Mutuality and cooperative principles as the alternative form of providing financial services is on everybody’s lips. The European Parliament, the European Commission, think tanks and researchers as well as conference organisers are focussing their attention on our sector and attribute it a growing role in the provision of fundamental services to citizens. AMICE is the hub for providing and channelling information about mutual insurers in Europe.

- AMICE’s task forces, working groups and platforms to exchange experience and foster joint learning have received ever-growing interest. The number of person-days that members’ representatives spent in seminars, workshops and meetings has increased from some 280 in 2008 to 411 in 2012. The landmark AMICE Congresses in 2008 (Helsinki), 2010 (Genoa) and 2012 (Gdansk) have drawn a constant participation of some 200 delegates.

- The tradition of AISAM to issue quality publications has been continued and expanded. The quarterly AMICE Newsletter, produced in four languages, informs the wider community about developments in the association and the sector. The highlight of the publications programme was the 200-page documentation “Facts and Figures – Mutual and cooperative insurance in Europe” (2012). In a recent “Value of Membership” brochure, eleven member representatives lay out what in their view makes AMICE special and makes membership in the association so valuable.