



Opinion on the expulsion of JEF Austria

28/10/2025

Dear Monitoring Committee,

At the outset, according to Article 13.c) i) of the Statutes of JEF Europe, national Sections or candidate Sections of JEF can only be expelled for reasons of (a) their non-adherence to the present Statutes and to the objectives of the association, (b) non-payment of membership fees or non-submission of a member section report for at least two consecutive years. In terms of procedure, the section must be notified of the expulsion through recorded delivery at least six months before the next statutory meeting when the expulsion will be voted on. Before it is enacted, the section concerned can ask for a hearing before the Federal Committee and the Arbitration Board to present its defence. Expulsion can only take place with a favourable opinion of the Arbitration Board.

According to the information available to us, the section has been notified of the initiation of the expulsion procedure six months prior to the congress in Strasbourg where it will be voted on. Additionally, upon JEF Austria's request, a hearing was held on 30 September 2025 with presence of the Federal Committee and the Arbitration Board.

Based on the information provided, it is our understanding that JEF Austria cannot be considered to have fulfilled its obligations to submit a membership statement. JEF Austria has failed to provide a membership statement in either 2023 or 2024. We note that although JEF Austria submitted a section member report for 2024, the membership statement does not identify the number of members of JEF Austria, so it cannot be considered that the membership report obligation has been fulfilled. Similarly, paying an amount without properly identifying the number of members which the payment accounts for, cannot be considered as fulfilling the obligation of fee payment.

In addition, we highlight that as per art. 1 of the Statutes, JEF is a youth association and among the criteria sections must comply with it is established that membership must be open to all young people (art.11.c) vi) of the Statutes). As regards the concept of young people, according to article 8 of JEF Statutes, all members must be under the age of 35

to exercise active and passive voting rights. According to the information provided, JEF Austria has members not complying with age criteria and, in particular, we point out that the current Federal Managing.

The director of JEF Austria is over 45 years old. Failure to comply with age criteria means non-adherence to JEF Statutes and the objectives of a youth association. Having said this, we issue a favourable opinion on the expulsion of JEF Austria for the reasons stated above.

Kind regards,

Ignacio

On behalf of the Arbitration Board