

Young European Federalists

Executive Board Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

TIME 17.12.2025 at 7.30pm CET
PLACE Online: meet.google.com/ewi-hdsy-raa

INVITEES **Executive Board Members**
Moritz Hergl, President
Debora Striani, Vice President
Nea-Maria Törmänen, Vice President
Anna van de Moosdijk, Treasurer
Konstantine Gagnidze, Board Member
Sara Rocchetto, Board Member
Christos Papagiannis, Secretary General

Observers

Nea-Bettina Baarman, Federal Committee Presidium
Nikos Chircop, Federal Committee Presidium
Valentin Petri, Federal Committee Presidium

Excused

Achilles Tsirgis, Board Member
Dvir Ezra, Board Member

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MEETING PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1. Opening of the meeting and confirmation of quorum

Proposal: The President opens the meeting and confirms that it is quorate.

2. Approval of the agenda

- **Presenter: Moritz**

Proposal: Approve the agenda for this EB meeting

Decision: *Approved*

3. Minutes of the previous meeting – APPENDIX 1

- **Presenter: Moritz**

Proposal: Postpone the agenda approval until the next EB.

Decision: Postponed

4. Secretary update

- **Presenters: Anna, Christos**
- Update on reporting on the EYF Structural grant 2025
- Update on reporting CERV operating grant 2025
- Update on the reimbursements of Capacity Building Seminar, Congress and other EB expences
- RAISE workplan and Next Gen JEF: What is missing
- Change of website server
- European Movement in Belgium as sub-renters to the new office?
- Last time sheets for 2026 missing (HR)
- Status of the Moniteur Belge registration
- Shared Drive presentation and use (Anna)

Next Meeting: Regarding the Shared Drive there is going to be a discussion during the next EB meeting (evaluation & optimization).

5. Organisational update

- Check in with the EB members on the onboarding situation: Has everyone booked calls with the previous portfolio holders?
 - Moritz is progressing with meetings and discussions with the previous president.
- Check in with EB members on the contact person duties: Where do we stand with reaching out to national sections and TF and PC chairs to set up a first meeting?
 - Konstantine: Progressing with meetings and discussions regarding the Accelerator and people involved in his portfolio.
 - Nea-Maria: (a) Will have meetings with PC2 and TF Empowerment & Diversity. (b) Asked for a meeting with everyone from the board who had a portfolio relevant to hers (almost everyone in the previous EB: some of them will send her written notes).

- Anna: (a) Had already the opportunity to set-up a whatsapp community with the sections that are under her responsibility. (b) Try to find the right contacts from YENB. (c) Needs a meeting with Julian to understand our coalitions etc. regarding MFF. (d) Alexandros sent some written handover notes and they are going to have some meetings together.
- Sara: (a) Prepares a common email for all the sections under her umbrella (January). (b) Got access to all the digital properties. (c) Will soon have a call with TF Civic Education (Thursday)
- Slack has been restructured for the new mandate. Nea is in the process of deactivating the accounts of the previous mandate. Let's make sure that everyone from the EB is now on Slack and knows how to use it.
 - Who has questions? → Everyone (who is participating at the meeting) has already familiarity with Slack
 - People involved in specific projects will continue having access to the slack channel -same access for everyone according their position and relevant needs (EB, FC, Presidium & Secretariat)
- DEFC members have decided to mainly use WhatsApp in their internal communications. The Presidium is invited to Slack. Let's have a conversation on what capacity we are having other DEFC members in Slack and how that affects the structure now established.
- AB's internal organisation is still a work in progress. The EB should reach out to AB and AC to offer help with onboarding and organising themselves.
 - The EB has initiated communication with AB/AC. They have already self-organized. Nea and Konstantine suggest a formal meeting (and/or have a group with them). Moritz agrees regarding a possible meeting and suggests that a group with them could be a less extensive one (with Anna, Nea and Christos).
- The next EB meeting will not be on the 31st of December, but will be postponed. The date will be determined in the meeting.
 - The EB meeting was scheduled for 05/01/2026.
- EB members can ask Secretariat (mainly Simone) to book the travels and accommodation for them for approved costs

- *Update on Federalist academies and Jean Monnet House cooperation*

6. Advocacy update

6.1. Democracy under Pressure

- *Ukraine: peace talks, frozen assets, EUCO decision. One of the ideas on the table is a podcast series.*

6.2. Don't Touch My Schengen

- *Nea will write an email to the Finnish Customs regarding the border controls in Finland.*
- *Anna: Share the card which explains the situation regarding Schengen to our members.*

6.3. MFF advocacy

- *Anna: EUCO first meeting on the MFF on the 18 December (potentially planning a Press release) - still need to check in with Julian on our current advocacy work on the topic.*
- *There is a need for a follow up meeting with Sections. Possible field of cooperation with the TF for Civic Education (& Sara).*
- *Preparations for the awareness needed.*

6.4. Federalist Peace Forum

- *Meeting with WFM European representatives, thinking about an event on March 19, before UEF congress.*
- *Bischoff's office will send an email to Spinelli Group MEPs for support of our event in the EP*
- *Planning for final event*

6.5. Enlargement

- *Konstantine: Chat with the sections and people involved in those areas. Idea for cooperation with TNF and also promote a larger cooperation for a project with events regarding the different dimensions of EU enlargement.*

6.6. Treaty Reform

- *POLITICO article by Christelle, JEF's response*
- *There is a need to prepare a course of action which will promote JEF's view on federalism.*

- *Debora: Suggestion to provide an official answer to this report.*
- *Anna: Need to invest at a counternarrative alongside with new allies (i.e. Euractiv).*
- *Nea-Maria: More coordinated action is needed, especially when it comes with representing JEF Europe's perspective.*

6.7. Fighting nationalism

- *Moritz: A call during the beginning of next year, about creating a safe space which will be an opportunity for exchanging ideas on how to deal with far-right organizations hijacking JEF's agenda and scope of work.*

6.8. Any other advocacy points

- *Recap of the Sakharov Prize Ceremony; An opportunity for networking with CSOs, human rights defenders and also EPC regarding homelessness and health policy. Many people were interested in JEF Georgia.*
- *Recap on TF E&D online event on human rights: Unfortunately the recording isn't functioning, but the event went very well (notable participation, considering the available time. There is a need for better internal coordination in the future.*
- *Attack on the Convention of Human Rights: There is a push to change certain articles (it's under the Council of Europe) leading many organizations to start preparing action on the topic.*
Moritz's suggestion: *he and Nea prepare a statement regarding this development.*
- **Moritz and Debora** *will send out introductory emails to Spinelli Group members and European level Political Party Youth Organisations*
- **Anna's suggestion:** *Create a common folder with contact points after networking events + creating a small memo with contacts and important discussions.*
- **Nea-Maria:** *Will create an excel sheet where all the info can be gathered.*
- *Releasing a statement or post regarding the vote on reproductive rights through the lens of JEF's position on the citizens' initiatives. Nea suggests keeping the human rights perspective at the epicenter of our material. Anna proposed*

to keep everyone involved –especially those active JEF’s feminist initiatives.

7. Section update

- *Things to communicate to sections:*
 - [GCE Funding](#) Fairer Futures funding scheme → Share the opportunity with the sections.
 - *Debora & Konstantine will represent the board to the Georgian General Assembly*
 - *Debora will become the contact person for both UK & Ireland.*
 - *Konstantine will become the contact person for JEF Croatia*

Vote regarding Debora & Konstantine changing as the contacts for the sections mentioned above (Debora: UK/Ireland & Konstantine for Croatia)

Decision: Approved

8. Project update

- *Next Gen JEF update from Konstantine: JEF Europe got an installment back from JEF XXX and LEF XXX will also proceed with returning the installment. The sections implemented their projects and finalised their reporting except XXX and XXX. The Secretariat will review the files. There is going to be one more meeting on 22nd and then the second instalment will be provided. JEF XXX cannot access their bank account and things are a bit slower. They will try to send the installment until Christmas.*

We need to organize a meeting on how we can utilize the remaining budget and also how we proceed when it comes to deliverables/reporting.

Consider adding unforeseen expenses that we had under OG unused budget.

- *RAISE update from Konstantine: Konstantine is waiting from Christos the reporting guidelines.*

- *Ways of Europe update from Konstantine: 23rd of December is the date of implementation and all the sections will be ready around 20th of December. Reporting needs to be done before New Year.*

9. Treasurer update

- *The OG application was sent last week.*
Next tasks: *Summarize everything in one-page & create a handover doc for future EB members.*
- *Update on ClimDM project funding application and the new materials provided to EYF*
- *Presentation of upcoming deadlines of funding calls: AU-EU grant (lead: Dvir)- 12 February, NATO Grant (lead: Moritz Hergl and Debora Striani) - info missing.*

10. Other updates

- *Update on UEF Congress delegation meeting timing*

DECISION ITEMS

11. Key priorities for the mandate - [APPENDIX 2](#)

Presenter: Moritz

- *Proposal: Define the 5 key priorities for the 2-year mandate to guide all actions of JEF Europe.*

Decision: Approved

12. Approval process for political statements

Presenter: Moritz

Proposal: Decide on the process by which our political statements are prepared, commented on, approved, and published.

Decision: Postponed

13. Position towards Ave Europa

Presenter: Moritz

Proposal: Moritz and the TF Fighting Nationalism will organise an internal call with JEF Europe EB and directly elected FC members and section representatives in January.

Decision: Approved

14. Petition on Traineeships for people from outside the EU - [APPENDIX 4](#)

Presenter: Moritz

Proposal: Decide to sign the petition attached to the agenda.

Decision: Approved

15. Representation in umbrella organisations' and partner organisations' working groups and political commissions

Presenter: Moritz

Proposal: Appoint JEF Europe's representatives to the working groups of umbrella organisations and partner organisations. Hold a discussion and make decisions at least regarding the working groups and political commissions of the European Movement International, the Union of European Federalists, and Civil Society Europe.

EMI (4x a year), coordination: Debora

PC1 Democracy, Citizen Participation and Fundamental Values

- proposal: Debora

PC2 A Social, Sustainable, Creative and Prosperous Europe

- proposal: Nea

PC3 Europe in the world

- proposal: Dvir

UEF (PCs will change in March), coordination: Debora

PC1 On Federalist Strategy for a Federal Reform of the EU

- proposal: Debora

PC2 On social justice, culture and education

- proposal: Nea

PC3 On Foreign and Security Policy, Defense and Cybersecurity

- proposal: Debora & Dvir

PC4 On the European Green Deal, Energy union, digital transition, and related economic policies

- proposal: Nea

PC5 On migration, rule of law and justice

- proposal: Moritz

Action Committee for the United States of Europe

- proposal: Moritz

CSE, coordination: Anna

Civil Space and Fundamental Rights

- proposal: Julian & Nea

Civil Society State of the Union

- proposal: Julian & Debora

Financial Issues

- proposal: Julian & Anna & Konstantine

Communication

- proposal: Sara

Decision: Approved

16. Funding Fairer Futures application (GCE)

Presenter: Nea

Proposal: Apply for Funding Fairer Futures funding in the full amount of €38,000 from Generation Climate Europe. Hold a discussion on the project to be funded and authorise Nea, Anna, and Christos to prepare and submit the funding application, Include Moritz and Konstantine in the process.

Decision: Approved

17. National Section Contact Person Guidelines – APPENDIX 3

Presenter: Nea

Proposal: Approve the attached National Section Contact Person Guidelines and adopt them for active use in the work of the Executive Board.

Decision: Postpone

18. Kick-off event of the European Youth Week 2026

Presenter: Moritz

Proposal: Decide on the process for selecting three participants nominated by JEF Europe to the European Commission's Kick-off event of the European Youth Week 2026. Authorise Moritz to coordinate the process and to communicate the selections made in accordance with the process to those involved.

Decision: Approved

19. Organisation Credit Cards

Presenter: Anna

Proposal: Hear a briefing from the Secretary General on increasing the number of organisation credit cards from two to four and the related costs. Decide whether it is financially feasible to issue organisation credit cards to the following persons: Moritz Hergl, Nea-Maria Törmänen, Anna van de Moosdijk, Christos Papagiannis. Authorise the Secretary General to close any other credit cards currently held in the organisation's name.

Decision: Postpone

20. Holiday season social media communication strategy

Presenter: Moritz

Proposal: Develop and adopt a strategy for social media communication during the holiday season to prevent communication crises similar to last year, while remaining sensitive to diverse cultural and religious celebrations and the holiday period.

Decision: Approved

21. Internal communication time expectations

Presenter: Nea

Proposal: Hold a discussion on assumptions regarding communication timelines: when, through which channels, and how quickly Executive Board members are expected to be reachable. Define what types of matters are considered urgent exceptional situations in which these guidelines may be flexibly applied. Based on the discussion, establish a set of guidelines to facilitate internal communication within the Executive Board as well as communication between the Executive Board and the Directly-Elected Federal Committee Members.

Decision: Postpone

22. Principles for event organisation and division of responsibilities between the EB and DEFC

Presenter: Nea

Proposal: Decide on principles for event organisation and the division of responsibilities between the Executive Board and the directly elected members of the Federal Committee when organising events.

Decision: Postpone

23. Preparations for the EBxFC online meeting

Presenter: Nea

Proposal: Authorise Nea and Moritz to prepare the online meeting on 22 December. Hold a discussion on the nature of the meeting and the agenda items required.

Decision: Approved

24. Reimbursements for the EBxFC in-person meeting

Presenter: Anna

Proposal: Hear the Secretary General's and the Treasurer's presentation on the organisation's financial capacity and the

conditions attached to the project funding used for the meeting. Decide the principles for the reimbursement limit for the Directly-Elected Federal Committee Members attending the EBxFC in-person meeting in Brussels. Proposal by Anna & Christos on how we can finance this. Cover this discussion in slack -before Monday.

Decision: *Anna & Christos will have a meeting on how we can finance this. Cover this discussion in slack -before Monday.*

CLOSING OF THE MEETING

25. Any other business

Dvir update: After asking - Basel Peace Office agreed to reimburse travel to Basel. I plan to take the earliest train and go there (so accomodation won't be needed). I'll update if anything changes.

26. Closing of the meeting