

Young European Federalists

Executive Board Meeting Meeting Minutes

TIME 5.1.2026 at 7pm 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
Achilles Tsirgis, Board Member
Dvir Ezra, Board Member
Sara Rocchetto, Board Member
Christos Papagiannis, Secretary General

Observers

Nea-Bettina Baarman, Federal Committee Presidium

Excused

Konstantine Gagnidze, 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

Proposal: The agenda is approved.

Decision: *Approved*

3. Minutes of the previous meetings – [APPENDIX 1](#) & [APPENDIX 2](#)

Proposal: The minutes of the previous meetings are approved.

- **Presenter: Moritz**

Proposal: Approve the minutes of [APPENDIX 1](#) & [APPENDIX 2](#) via Slack after incorporating the comments until 06.01.2026 (12:00 PM).

Decision: Approved

4. Secretary update

- Update of transparency register done today
- Time sheets by all staff were also submitted. The time sheets for 2026 have been created and will be circulated in the upcoming days to the Secretariat.
 - Jan-Gert and Christos have some days missing as it was not possible to take recup days in Dec (they will take it in the beginning of Jan).
 - Christos will share the internal staff calendar
- Christos will share a list of urgent tasks (with a proposal on splitting the work) tomorrow (mainly reporting of projects of the previous years)
- Moniteur Belge: We need to collect the missing documents, in order to finalize everything.
- Server transfer: some issues with the CRM of jef.eu (but only a temporary fix)
 - In 2021, we asked them to keep no support, but we have many websites that need updates
- Closing of the financial year: In the upcoming days Simone & Christos will update the financial monitoring.
- UEF lease: everything is according to the previous discussions.
- In the upcoming days it will be a priority to examine the status regarding the reporting of the SG of EYF 2025?

Next Steps: Christos will write a draft email, so Moritz can circulate and ask for a volunteer software developer to take care of JEF's website hosting.

5. Organisational update

- EBxFC meeting before Christmas: difficult situation but shared goals and will to move forward together
- EBxFC meeting from 30th of January to 1st of February is now moved to be an online meeting, Nea and Nea-Bettina are responsible for the organisation of it. Let's go through any wishes for the meeting.
 - Hearing the DEFC opinion on Democracy under Pressure
 - Advocacy
 - Session with all PC chairs
 - Session on fundraising
- Update on PCs and TFs by their contact persons

- Moritz: Fighting nationalism: constitutive meeting on January 13th
- Anna: CB & PA: Very organised, Capacity building session in EB & FC meeting, twinning session and master classes planned. They are preparing many proposals –among them they aim at proposing possible activities for funding.
 - More details requested on the study session of the EYF
- Achilles: PC1 created a plan to vote on 3 resolutions in Belgrade (federal police will lapse and is already integrated), working on the multi-speed Europe, revisit the resolutions for Athens already in Belgrade
- Dvir: Constitutive meeting with 10 people, focus on operational business, alumni community of international participants of the Ventotene seminar, allocation of roles for a number of volunteers
 - PC3: meeting to be done in January
- Nea-Maria: PC2 handover done, Empowerment & Diversity: planning for women's day, 2 resolutions are lapsing in Belgrade
- Sara: meeting set for January
- UEF Congress BCN overlapping JEF Spain Congress BCN:
 - Debora: Suggest a common mobilization under the umbrella of Democracy Under Pressure. There isn't so much agenda overlapping.
 - Moritz: Suggests a meeting with UEF and JEF Spain on Wednesday.
- Nea-Maria: Highlights the importance of communication and info-exchange with old EB members, in order to understand more deeply the way of operating regarding important portfolios etc..

6. Advocacy update

6.1. Democracy under Pressure

6.2. Don'tTouchMySchengen

6.3. MFF advocacy

6.4. Federalist Peace Forum

Beit Jala event in Palestine – around 40 participants, Dvir represented JEF Europe. Now – around 1,000 Euros left in total for local actions, next challenge – acquiring funding to keep the international component running.

6.5. Enlargement

- *Emails are sent to non EU sections and joint meeting will be organised with them, I want to involve them in work and bring their national and local perspectives to European level. more updates will be after meeting with them.*

6.6. Treaty Reform

6.7. Fighting nationalism

6.8. Any other advocacy points

- Short feedback round on the content of the statement on US intervention in Venezuela.
- The engagement of JEF's post was remarkable. Nevertheless, the people opposing this statement in the comments sections should be taken into account –without forgetting the huge support this statement had.
- The quick reaction of the organization was also important.
- Achilles: Maybe it should be important for the EB to have a common stance when it comes to public commenting/answering. In the cases of major events it's important to consider how we manage to include all viewpoints –it might be important to wait until we incorporate as many views as possible.
- Dvir: Highlights the importance of the EB collaborating successfully on occasions like this.
- Nea-Maria: Revisit in the future the possibility of adopting a common approach on whether commenting or not to public comments.
- Sara: We should create a safe space –exclude personal attacks and vicious comments. Nevertheless, it's important to answer constructive negative feedback/comments.

- Moritz: Have a discussion with FC on how to approach SoMe comments as elected members.

7. Section update

- International Officer network: 16th of January (19:30 CET) a meeting with all the IOs. An introduction by the President will be made.
 - Nea Maria: Suggests to ask their opinion regarding their participation at JEF Europe level.
 - Sara: Suggests to think of some engaging forms of communication (split into smaller groups etc.).
 - Moritz: Will discuss with Nea-Maria a plan on how to approach this conversation.
- To communicate to sections:
 - Request to sign CSE's open letter calling the Commission not to withdraw the European Cross-Border Associations (ECBA) Directive
 - Nea Maria: Suggests that the EB lists in the minutes everything important for the sections or find another mechanism on updating the national sections (through the contact people possibly).
 - Nea-Maria will send a WhatsApp message in the IO chat
- YENB's Kalmar Seminar
 - It will be discussed privately between Nea-Maria and Anna.
 - Moritz: It is important to have EB representation.
 - Nea-Maria: Will offer to support the team there and participate.
- Contact persons for sections
 - Remind them about the deadline for [Erasmus+](#)
- Treasurer informal networking chat invitation: It's a matter of cultivating a proactive approach and not overlapping with the contacts of the EB members.

8. Project update

- Max 10 applications per organisation, Dvir proposes to take 1 FPF related application (diaspora focused seminar)
- Checking in to the grant writing:
 - EU & AU grant (Dvir)
 - Still looking for potential partners
 - NATO grant (not started, Moritz & Deb)
 - Moritz: Follow up with Lithuania

- GCE grant (Nea)
- European Endowment of Democracy: Peace Forum grant (Federico) - submitted
- [Erasmus+ application](#) for the internationalisation of federalist academies and summercamps
 - Moritz, Deb, Sara and Kote
- For private foundations: Serbia project on disinformation (Moritz)
- For the Athens FC: more tailored application
- QueerUp project application for a seminar on queer rights and activism in Croatia with JEF Berlin, JEF Steiermark and Udruga ZUM (draft here), Lisa & TF diversity and empowerment
 - Project to fund capacity building by TF CB&PA
- CompletEU: reimbursements by Böll → Moritz will discuss with Jan-Gert, Teresa & Christos.
- Project masterfile: where do we stand with reporting the projects (ongoing projects) → Next EB Meeting
- Project Applications & network inclusion:
 - Utilize the network's ideas and include them in writing applications → It's important to foresee expectations and involvement (the fact that a person wrote a project or provided an idea that was materialized later isn't necessarily the person leading the whole project).
 - Moritz: Anna-Moritz-Christos could provide suggestions and monitoring wherever needed (there is an upcoming call). Organize an open call to our members for ideas/suggestions and then evaluate. Streamline the process through slack.
 - The EB should be clear regarding division of roles and expectations.

9. Treasurer update

An effort was made to spend money remaining from the operating grant. To that end:

- Merch situation: we ordered merch with the feminist federalist initiative. This merch will be utilized as a gift for donations.
- Collaboration with Young Folks organisation: Considering JEF Latvia's inability to implement the grant agreement we collaborated with Young Folks.

- Preparations on the call with sections about the financial situation: a presentation will be made on the situation (it's important to keep the information concise).
- Membership statements and membership fees - communication with sections: Anna is making efforts to understand how the process was done in the previous years (with Alexandros). This will be a key priority over the weekend 10/01-11/01/2026.
- Rent situation: Will be discussed during the decision-making point (number 13).
- Methodology for fundraising set-up: Have an ad-hoc meeting on the matter (ideally next week).

10. Other updates

- No more updates

DECISION ITEMS

11. Approval process for political statements

Presenter: Moritz

Proposal: Political statements are prepared by the person in the EB responsible for the respective portfolio in close coordination with all EB members, and in consultation with the PC or TF chairs in question. For urgent statements, there is a minimum publication time frame of 8h from proposal to publication. If considered necessary by the EB member in charge, DEFC members and sections can be given ad hoc the opportunity to comment and give feedback. When drafting a political statement one should be informed on and try to balance the varying opinions between JEF sections. At the end of a political statement, the Internal Resolution granting legitimacy to the statement must be included.

Decision: Approved

12. National Section Contact Person Guidelines

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: Approved

13. Review & approval of sublease contract

Presenter: *Christos*

- **Term & Termination:** Starts 16 Feb 2026; runs until the original lease ends, unless Subtenant gives 5 months' written notice.
- Early Exit / Takeover Right: If Tenant leaves early, **Subtenant may take over** the original lease (subject to landlord approval).
- Space & Shared Areas: Exclusive use of 2nd-floor office room; shared use of bathroom, kitchen, garden.
- Rent: **50% of total rent**, paid to Tenant by 5th of each month (current net rent: €1,463.69/month as of Dec 2025; landlord may adjust with notice).
- **Utilities/maintenance:** 50% of internet + external cleaning (monthly), and 50% of electricity/water/gas (annual).
- Consumables: 50% of office supplies/consumables, reimbursed upon receipts/invoices.
- **Condition / Rules / Liability:** *Subtenant must follow the original lease provisions on property condition, rules, and liability.*
- **Signing logistics:** *Contract foresees signing **in Brussels on 15 Jan 2026**, in **three originals** (confirm feasibility/any updates needed).*

Proposal: Approve the offer and move on with signing the agreement.

Decision: Approved

14. **Organisation Credit Cards**

Presenter: Nea

Proposal: The presidency will prepare a proposal further with the Secretary General and bring this matter back to an EB meeting in a later time.

Decision: Approved

15. **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: Postponed for the next EB meeting

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

Presenter: Nea

Proposal: Events organized or co-organized by JEF Europe have to be approved by the majority of EB members during an EB meeting. For urgent topics that fall outside the window frame of EB meetings, a “lazy consensus” method is applied, wherein the topic is presented and automatically accepted unless there is an objection, in which case the objection is attempted to be addressed and if impossible is referred to in the next EB meeting. DEFC members can propose and help in carrying out events, but are asked to submit the idea for an event at least 3 weeks in advance. Then, together with the EB member responsible, the following responsibilities must be divided: speaker & content management, moderation, invitation, budget, reporting, and aim of the event.

Decision: Approved

17. Democracy under Pressure

Presenter: Debora

Proposal: Set up a brainstorm call with the sections, prepare the info kit about the campaign and gather information from the sections about the current situation about democracy in their country.

Decision: Approved

18. Discussion on the FC in Belgrade

Presenter: Moritz

Proposal: Anna and Moritz are in charge of presenting a way to fund the FC in Belgrade. Achilles is kept in the loop and is ready to assist as the contact person for JEF Serbia.

Decision: Approved

19. Merch and Fundraising campaign

Presenter: Moritz

Proposal: Decide on the establishment of an operative team extending beyond the Executive Board, including directly elected Federal Committee members and representatives of national sections, and agree on its composition and mandate. Anna and Moritz will organise.

Decision: Approved (An ad hoc meeting will be conducted)

20. Vote on PC1

Presenter: Achilles

Context: To avoid end-of-cycle bottlenecks, PC1 proposes having the ability to move lapsing resolutions to earlier FC sessions to distribute the workload throughout the mandate better for the duration of their mandate. PC1 clarifies that they expect this to lead to temporary discrepancies in the mid-term (e.g. Athens having no resolutions), which will be fixed accordingly to distribute the weight equally. This flexibility will allow PC1 to a) consider whether certain issues (Banking Union – Fiscal Union – Capital Markets Union – Eurozone) might be merged in one or updated synchronously, b) have a chance to revisit issues on the rule of law and/or the structure of the European parliament resolutions, given important changes in the external operating environment.

Proposal: Acknowledging the uneven distribution of lapsing resolutions, and in the spirit of facilitating the work of PC1, the EB encourages PC1 to review the legal procedures and statutes and, subject to their judgement, give themselves the ability to move lapsing resolutions to earlier FC sessions. The EB strongly supports PC1 seeking legitimacy for this retrospectively during the Belgrade FC.

Decision: Approved

21. QueerUp project application

Presenter: Moritz

Proposal: We will support an application for a seminar on queer rights and activism in Croatia with JEF Berlin, JEF Steiermark and Udruga ZUM as a partner.

Decision: Approved

CLOSING OF THE MEETING

Any other business

22. Closing of the meeting

