

EB minutes

10-12 March 2023, Brussels

Present: Christelle, Flavia, Gergana, Helena, Judit, Robin, Juuso, Antonio, Knut

Excused:

Minutes: Helena, Knut, Gergana, Christelle

Friday 10th March 2023	
15:30 - 16:00	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Opening2. Code of Conduct (contact persons Christelle and Knut)3. Adoption of agenda4. Adoption of minutes (08/03)
16:00 - 17:15	<ol style="list-style-type: none">5. Joint session with the Secretariat (project updates with contact people, sections updates with Andrew...) + video for European chain of democracy
17:15 - 18:30	<ol style="list-style-type: none">6. JEF and Federalism - training session (Antonio)
18:30 - 18:45	Break
18:45 - 20:00	<ol style="list-style-type: none">7. Networks updates: UEF, WFM/YWF, YFJ, EMI, GCE
20:00	Dinner with Secretariat
Saturday, 11th March 2023	
09:00 - 12:00	<ol style="list-style-type: none">8. Round of personal updates9. Code of Conduct (contact persons (Christelle & Knut)10. Federalist inspirations (Knut)11. Upcoming activities 2023
12:15 - 13:15	<ol style="list-style-type: none">12. <i>Be a federalist ally</i> campaign13. Federalist Academy 2023
13:15-14:30	Lunch
15:00-15:30	<ol style="list-style-type: none">14. Training on Amendments plug in and website (Christelle)
15:30 - 17:30	<ol style="list-style-type: none">15. European elections 2024
17:30 - 20:00	<ol style="list-style-type: none">16. Financial Update17. Europe <i>What if?</i>18. Operating grant 2024
20:00 -	Dinner
Sunday, 12th March 2023	

09:00 - 10:00	19. Federal Committee Malta (finalisation of EB report, last checks of resolutions and other important documents, logistical details...)
10:00-11:30	20. <i>Democracy under Pressure</i> and <i>EUkraine</i> (twitter chat preparation)
11:30-13:00	21. Database (update from responsible EB people and needed actions) 22. Action Plan 2023 23. EB feedback round and a gaze to the future (discussion about next EB and actions needed) 24. AoB and Conclusions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. EB Video b. Who is doing federalist inspiration next time? (Helena) c. Membership submissions d. Pool of Trainers (PoT) e. New intern joining - Alex - Project Assistant
	Departure

Minutes:

Friday 10th March 2023	
1. Opening 2. Code of Conduct: - Christelle presents it and her and Knut will be the contact persons for the meeting. 3. Adoption of agenda 4. Adoption of minutes (08/03)	Decision: - Agenda is approved unanimously. - Adoption of minutes is postponed to next online EB
5. Joint session with the Secretariat Teambuilding	Decision: -
6. JEF and Federalism - training session	Decision: -
7. Networks updates: UEF, WFM/YWF, YFJ, EMI, GCE a. <u>World Federalist Movement (WFM)/ Young World Federalists (YWF)</u> Relevant for JEF to keep contact with WFM, especially because the Spinelli Institute (linked to WFM) is organising the Ventotene seminar and we are official partners in the organising committee for the first time (which means a significant role in Ventotene).	Decisions: a. WFM/YWF - Maintain relations with the network; - Regarding the Ventotene organisation: contact in advance (e.g., Amy) and insist on reaching out to participants to gather people from different

We could foresee activities together, for example arranging the world federalism session together. We should also ask WFM how many non-European participants they will sponsor for Ventotene this year, and see if JEF can participate in this process. Juuso will get in touch with Amy Oloo to learn more about the sponsorship scheme.

Some WFM Board members are located in Brussels. There does not seem to be much activity for now. Despite several regular discussions (usually coordinated by Daphne), nothing really significant has come out of them.

TNF asked us for WFM contact to connect with them.

YWF: They are happy with receiving opportunities from JEF.

- b. Generation Climate Europe (GCE)
 - Optimisation of their project/funding tasks due to more structured (new) Board;
 - Focusing on specific legal developments (e.g. natural restoration law);
 - Guidelines for 2023 detailing what the different sections are doing: most people's focus was on EP¹ elections.

- c. European Youth Forum (YFJ)
 - Extraordinary General Assembly online next Wednesday, new statutes will be voted and the new Secretary General (Milosh Ristovski) confirmed;
 - 21-22 of April COMEM² meeting, Xesc is running on behalf of JEF for a position at the AC³;

- d. European Movement International (EMI)
 - Not much activity has happened recently;
 - Contact people for PC⁴s should be attending the PC meetings and provide the respective updates (we have resolutions on most topics);

countries.

- b. GCE
 - Pitch them the European elections campaign to assess if we can get their support;

- c. YFJ
 - Judit will go with Xesc to the YFJ Council of Members of April

¹ European Parliament

² Council of Members

³ Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe participation;

⁴ Political Commission

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Date not determined for the FA⁵ (in principle, in June); - Board and VP elections at the end of the year (date not confirmed, yet). - EMI shared the Democracy under Pressure campaign <p>e. <u>Union of European Federalist (UEF)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finally, an in-person FC⁶ took place; - Financial issues due to a large sum to be returned to the Commission following a grant audit; - PC meetings were held - discussion about an initiative in Strasbourg (8-9 May) to support the Treaty reform and fulfil the citizens' CoFoE⁷ requests; - The Resolution Committee overturned the results of the PCs, but Christelle managed to get her amendment on parallel enlargement and treaty reform ; - Leonie has been asked to resign from chairing PC2, while we would still like to appoint another JEFer; - Next FC in early summer - We must prepare a defined collective position and strategy, approaching the UEF Congress in autumn (probably October) - Need to be more strategic, especially towards voting procedures (ensuring we have votes available); - EB discuss a list of candidates for the delegates to the Congress and the FC drafted including Antonio Argenziano, Christelle Savall, Madalin Blidaru, Kati Systä, Alexandros Apostolidis, Clara Föller, Robin Mudry, Diletta Alese, Antoine Chabal, Ance Mälkalna, Martin Penov, Flavia Sandu, Juuso Järviniemi, Benedetta Veneruso, Tobias von Gostomski, Sofia Viviani, Knut André Sande and Helena Robert i Campos. 	<p>d. EMI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EB to reflect about our possibilities of a JEF member running for the elections. <p>e. UEF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coordinate with JEF France-Strasbourg for the 8-9 May initiative; - Reflection on having a JEFer run for the UEF board; - Need to build a safe space for political discussions ahead of PCs without burning out and hitting unmotivation; - Antonio to start contacting the list for confirmation of delegates to the FC and Congress; - “The FC entrusts the EB to democratically elect among themselves additional representatives, should those selected be unavailable” to be added at the end of the list
<p>Saturday 11th March 2023</p>	

⁵ Federal Assembly

⁶ Federal Committee

⁷ Conference on the Future of Europe

<p>8. Round of personal updates</p> <p>9. Code of Conduct (contact persons (Christelle & Knut)) EB members reminded about the CofC.</p> <p>10. Federalist inspirations (Knut)</p> <p>Knut held his federalist inspirations. Touched upon why we do what we do, and reminded us about how European integration (and federalism) is about peace and freedom and security in our everyday lives.</p>	<p>Decision:-</p>
<p>11. Upcoming activities 2023</p> <p>- Online Congress EB brainstorms names for the 5 Presidium members, including Sonja Afanasjeva, Valentin Dupouey, Magali Huebers, Lauren Mason and Chris Powers</p> <p>i. Next generation JEF EB brainstorms names for the Next Generation panel to choose the recipient of the microgranting: Chris Powers, Leonie Martin, Chris Glück, Milosh Ristovski.</p> <p>ii. Operating grant deliverables</p> <p>Deadline: 31 December 2023 (internal deadline: by end mandate whenever possible)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Democracy under Pressure: booklet & at least 3 online events (08/03, Malta FC session, online events by sections) - Christelle; - Advocacy report (policy engagement) Antonio, Christelle with the help of the new policy officer; - Education activities on civic space: covered by the Work Plan 2023; - Federalist Academy: online seminar series - Juuso and all; - TikTok: needs to be launched (past deadline)- Flavia with Erica; - Database: onboarding sections Robin and Helena; - Multimedia for the 50y anniversary: contact people for video interviews (in their language) - Gergana and Knut; - Event with Friends of JEF: summer reception to be organised in the JEF office; - Ventotene seminar 	<p>Decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Online Congress to take place on 31/05/23; - Listed people for Presidium to be contacted by Judit, gender diversity to be ensured to the extent possible; - Judit to contact list for the Next Generation JEF panel; - EB and Secretariat to follow up on deliverables as listed.

<p>12. Be a Federalist Ally</p> <p>Mostly online & social media campaign, following IMPACT's focus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TF E&D updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brainstorming and engagement with sections in the Malta FC; - Enough preparation time to allow for sections' - Last full week of April as proposed dates for the campaign; - Currently preparing - Working document for the campaign was discussed <p>Work to be coordinated with the TF E&D:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Check sources of policy documents & what were the proposals at the CoFoE, - What are JEF Europe's PC resolutions (inclusion), - Provide social media materials with clear posting schedule, <p>Microgranting for IMPACT (Ines to prepare the draft)</p> <p>Online event for sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Booklet of how to... inclusive campaigns (building on TF E&D workshop in Malta) <p>Recommendations (drafted by TF E&D)</p>	<p>Decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Be a Federalist Ally to have the last week of April as the Campaign action week. - What was the work on the CoFoE on people with disabilities (Helena, Juuso)
<p>13. Federalist Academy 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Moving the focus from lectures (by university professors) to open discussions actively involving JEFers (and possible youth activists in the respective sectors); - Video interviews with guest professors (logistics to be detailed); - Collaborating with other youth networks (YFJ, GCE); - Reach out to "big names", to have them speak about federalism; - Possible partnership with Jean Monnet House would like to collaborate with us, ideally an in-person seminar in Paris -we would collaborate with the launch - Participants who already joined in Prague. - Idea of a Federalist Academy Book club 	<p>Decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Calendar of dates including tasks assigned; - Difference between concrete events and running series; - Book club: could go ahead with one book chapter, one of us chairing and commenting (trying to get in touch with the author)

<p>(regular meetings in parallel with online lecture series)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Academic interviews (prepare plan for questions) - In-person seminar (possibly Jean-Monet collab. Or Pre-congress in Spain) - Book club (prepare calendar & open call) - Visual identity set 	
<p>14. Training on Amendments plug in and website</p> <p>EB expresses its gratitude to Christelle for the preparation of this session and resolving all questions with clarity.</p>	<p>Decision:</p>
<p>15. European elections 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EB discusses the current developments with the campaign, where we are with make.org. There is a discussion about the resolution submitted late for the FC in Malta and how it will have to be voted on to be on the agenda. - Antonio tells us we'll have shirts for Malta 	<p>Decision:</p>
<p>16. Financial Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stable cash flow, grants are incoming resulting in more than 300,000 EUR on the bank account (these are earmarked for specific projects or to pay staff); - Expected payments to be made (Make.org), yet also expected incoming payments; - Conversations ongoing for the preparation of the Auditors' report; - Human resources costs are already foreseen and planned within the current budget; 	<p>Decision:</p>
<p>17. Europe <i>What if?</i></p> <p>The best way to do it is to give sections ideas and opportunities about possible activities and initiatives about possible benefits of joining the EU, but also about things that need to improve in the country to be part of the EU. It's important to give not only rational topics, but also to make people dream.</p> <p>The funding could be possible through Erasmus+ having at least some countries on board. DG Near could also be a partner, but it would be better to have a partner on the ground. A nice way could be</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EB to prepare for the next meeting of the European Political Community early June

to be in touch with established partners already present in the region.
We are applying for a framework partnership for 4 years to work in the area of youth and education. This is linked to DG INTPA and could be the way to have resources for Western Balkans and Eastern Partnership.

A Kick-off moment is important to raise awareness about the Campaign among sections.

Before the European Political Community (EPC) meeting in June we shall plan a debate about it first in the EB, then open debate and a public statement right before the meeting in Moldova.
-> "the EPC Summit is coming up. What if we pursued enlargement instead?"

Important to connect with established organisations in the countries interested in the campaign.

18. Operating grant 2024

Need to decide what we would like to work on in the advocacy section.

- #DontTouchMySchengen in the second part of 2024 given that the debate will be open again about Bulgaria and Romania and Schengen is not respected anyway in many states. Frontex, sustainability are other very relevant points that can be connected with a Schengen campaign.
- Political initiatives to connect with the new Parliament and Commission. Treaty Change, Electoral law will be at a crucial moment so we'll need to be ready to boost the proposals.
- Activities on Ukraine to be connected to Enlargement.
- Direct funding for Democracy under Pressure (DuP); DuP activities to be foreseen also for the Hungarian semester (2nd of 2024)
- new edition of the Federalist Academy (can take topic focus, possibly maintaining at least one physical seminar and a bi-annual

Decision:

- **Judit to prepare with the Secretariat the operating grant application based on the discussion.**

<p>structure); If there are funds, and being also still involved in the Ventotene seminar.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - From the operating grant 2023, maintain section-specific capacity-building (e.g. regional cooperation-training; onboarding new boards/growing sections) - Twinning to be supported through micro-granting. Supporting existing JEF euroregions and support for cross-border JEF sections/exchanges and the formation of JEF-Euroregions in the future; - More solidarity fund for statutory events. Keeping the participation fee while reimbursing more travels. - Communication: collaboration with TNF⁸ maintained (especially regarding the European elections) & their website update (but that might take place before 2024), also for supporting the continuation of <i>Europe What if?</i>; Potentially funding for some nice initiatives that the web magazines can take. However the point is not to give money to TNF, but to find other means of funding. - Reboost Europe at School both connected to the Elections and after them. Focus on first-time voters (high schools) in the first half of the year and revive the initiative in sections that used to work on it and possibly support the onboarding of new sections; - It would be nice to have a project about “non-European” regions of the EU (outermost regions). 	
<p>Sunday 12th March 2023</p>	
<p>19. Federal Committee Malta (17-19 March 2023)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finalisation of EB report - Last checks of resolutions and other important documents - Review of logistical details 	<p>Decision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EB to check all resolutions to make amendments

⁸ The New Federalist

<p>20. Democracy under Pressure and EUkraine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Press release ready (EB to comment); - European chain of democracy - Still uncertain: which sections will take part and how - Continue to reach out and encourage them to take action; - Still pending preparation of the Twitter chat; - Preparation of event questions (format ready); - Democracy under Pressure activity report: links to events that have taken place, news from the network...; - Article for TNF to be completed by Tuesday evening, translations by Wednesday; 	<p>Decision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PR to be posted on social media & shared via email by Thursday; - EB contact people to confirm with their sections if/how they are joining; - EB to prepare Twitter chat answers; - EB to participate in the drafting of activity report.
<p>21. Database (update from EB contact people and actions)</p> <p>Christelle has shown the database platform to Helena and Robin. The database enables for collecting information about members' positions in JEF, and other data. However, the data is largely incomplete.</p> <p>If members sign up through the JEF-Europe customer relationship management, their information is recorded in the database.</p> <p>There's a need for funding for new updates on the database. The next fixing of the database should include fixing the emailing tools.</p> <p>Robin has discussed with JEF Czech Republic, who will be onboarded to the database. JEF Sweden's onboarding is still blocked due to lack of data sharing agreement signature and missing bank details.</p>	<p>Decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EB to encourage sections to onboard; - Continue testing for mailing.
<p>22. Action Plan 2023</p> <p>Pool of Trainers(PoT) overview, other action plan points postponed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pool of trainers renewal. The current mandate ends at the end of the year. There is the need to have new people already from the next few months because most of the members are not really active anymore. - Internal resolution can only be reformed for 	<p>Decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PoT list to be checked for opening positions - At least 2 positions to be replaced due to conflict of interests (Sonja & Judit) - Call to be launched to get new profiles for the remaining of the mandate

<p>Spring 2024. The resolution doesn't foresee priority of PoT over externals for calls for trainers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A POT meeting is required too, but not necessarily in person. <p>Important to have money for POT activities in 2024.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create master doc for trainers of projects/ trainings (incl. Participation, evaluation/comments, etc.) - to be tracked & filled accordingly by project coordinators
<p>23. EB feedback round and a gaze to the future</p> <p>EB members discuss their learnings, what motivate them and what doesn't.</p>	
<p>24. AoB and Conclusions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Membership statements <p>Reminders to all the sections to be sent, also beyond the mailing list, because for now only one section gave all the relevant info.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. New intern <p>Alex Gomez (BA Global Studies, Spain) starting on Monday 13 March. Will start working on projects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Knut and Gergana will do the EB Video - Helena will do the federalist inspiration in June