

EB minutes

April 5th 2023, 8:00 pm CEST

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

Excused: Juuso (on a flight)

Minutes: Robin (review Helena)

1. Adoption of draft agenda
2. Adoption of draft minutes (10-12/03 + 22/03)
3. EurHope
4. Secretariat update
5. Advocacy update
6. Burden sharing and structural growth
7. Membership statement
8. Be A Federalist Ally
9. Federalist Academy
10. EB travel budget
11. European Youth Event
12. AOB
 - a. Democracy under Pressure debrief

1. Adoption of draft agenda	Decision: The agenda was adopted.
2. Adoption of draft minutes	Decision: The long EB meeting's minutes will be adopted by Sunday in a written procedure. The last online (22/03) meeting's minutes were adopted.
3. EurHope Antonio highlighted the need to raise more awareness for the EurHope campaign throughout the network. Three urgent points: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The form that was shared by Melanie and aimed at gathering all the events related to May 9 is still quite empty.- The signatures for the Op-ed should be diversified as the whole campaign and its support is very Franco-German so far, thus organising	Decision: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- EB members should reach out to their sections and actively encourage them to spread the word, participate and fill in the Excel sheet and the survey. Basically to recall the emails that were sent out.- EB members are also to actively collect more signatures for the Op-ed.

<p>events and reaching out to people in/from the Central and Eastern European sections is crucial.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The survey sent out with regards to the campaign has not yet been answered by many sections. <p>Discussed about further partners, especially within Central Europe, such as the Czech Youth Council. This latter, for instance, in relation with already existing contacts to the Czech government and television.</p>	
<p>4. Secretariat update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mirjam will be in the Secretariat until the end of April, an addendum has been added to her contract. All open questions and necessary follow-ups should be closed down until the end of the month. - The call for a new project officer is being prepared. - The office work should be finished by April 10. If the status quo situation goes on, there is the option to put more pressure on the landlord via an ombudsman body for tenants. - An EB-Secretariat online meeting shall take place in April in order to coordinate projects in the medium-term (until summer). - FC post-processing (minutes, uploading the political resolutions, etc.) will be taken care of. 	<p>Decision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A list of possible dates for the EB-Secretariat online meeting will be sent around by Michaela. The meeting is set to take place outside of working hours so as to enable everybody to take part in it.
<p>5. Advocacy update</p> <p>Antonio attended a series of events since the last advocacy update and advocacy actions continue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Following a network of organisations on EU governance reform. - Following the EMI PC1 meeting, a position paper on the rule of law 	<p>Decision: -</p>

protection will be written. DuP country background was a welcome input.

- EMI Board Meeting discussing further physical meetings and a position on Ukraine. JEF's call for EU membership and further requests should find their way into the position.
- Czech Representation to the EU, Erasmus event, new contacts to EM Serbia and further think tanks
- Meeting with Philippe Adriaenssens at the European roundtable.
- Dublin University College and their version of EU at Schools.
- EurHope was well received in the European Broadcasting Union (EBU)
- Obama Foundation
- Antonio, Christelle and Judit attended the YFJ call on European elections.
- UEF and Spinelli Group event in the European Parliament, Strasbourg event on May 8-9.
- Civil Society Europe's election campaign is something to be taken into account, even though it was started in two meetings which JEF Europe could not attend.

Further updates:

- Judit participated in the Young European Greens' assembly, occasion to exchange with Green MEPs.
- Judit went to the Follow-up CoFoE working group; "Shadow State of the Union report" to be drafted by Civil Society Europe (CSE).

In the framework of DuP campaign:

- Christelle attended the event "Belarusian Living Apart Together",

<p>organised by the Young European Ambassadors in Warsaw. It was a good occasion for networking and also for supporting the brave Belarusian activists. She also met with Polish participants who are now willing to join JEF Poland.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Event with YFJ on “Defense of Democracy package” postponed to June, will be done with EESC¹ instead. 	
<p>6. Burden sharing and structural growth</p> <p>Discussion around the latest developments in JEF’s organisational growth and the question of sustainability (especially, focusing on human wellbeing of JEF members and Secretariat, and in relation to the workload and sharing of responsibilities that come with growth). The key question at stake is: How to ensure the current growth of JEF Europe is sustainable structurally and personally?</p> <p>Several ideas on how to tackle this challenge have been gathered already but there needs to be a longer dedicated time slot to discuss them. One possibility would be to consult external facilitators who would help us restructure the organisational setup considering JEF Europe’s current strategic priorities. This option should continue to be explored and further discussed.</p> <p>Moreover, the EB acknowledges that this is an issue that needs to be reflected jointly with the FC in order to ensure the smooth running of the organisation, also in the face of the upcoming European Parliament elections and the huge campaign related to it (and the responsibilities that come with</p>	<p>Decision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A list of suggestions to address this topic will be circulated in due time by Judit. - A structured discussion will take place at the next in-person EB meeting in June. Nevertheless, the EB should start the reflection on where JEF stands and where it is heading, how to ensure a fair share of responsibilities and sustainable growth overall, both collectively and individually. - A final procedure shall be started with the new EB-FC mandate in 2024 to update the 4-year strategy to incorporate the sustainable approach to organisational growth.

¹ European Economic and Social Committee.

<p>this work). This especially relates to how the potential of JEF’s network can be better mobilised.</p> <p>Furthermore, the discussion shall be opened for sections to contribute on the basis of their diverse backgrounds and experiences.</p> <p>Different timelines for the reflection process are being discussed with the June EB meeting and the November Congress being landmarks for in-person discussions.</p>	
<p>7. Membership statement</p> <p>The new hard deadline of March 31 has been widely respected among active sections. However, structural problems arose, especially there, where sections rely on UEF/EMI bodies for their membership data. A more detailed overview and an analysis of the membership figures will be presented to the EB once the Membership Statement process is closed.</p>	<p>Decision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Status of membership statements to be followed up case-by-case with Robin and the EB contact person (by Wed 12/04). - Make clear to sections that this does not affect their participation in the 2023 Online Congress. - New exceptional deadline for the missing Membership Statements: Friday 21/04.
<p>8. Be A Federalist Ally</p> <p>The campaign is foreseen for the last week of April (24 - 30 April). Just before the EB meeting, Task Force Empowerment & Diversity had a meeting where the campaign was discussed further and new title proposals were made for the EB to make the final decision. The campaign was previously discussed with the Task Force in March (& workshop in Malta), and brainstorming has taken place in the campaign folder.</p> <p>Based on the ideas presented so far, the next steps will be to prepare the campaign materials (infokit, a dossier of communications materials) and prepare and announce an online event (interactive workshop) that will take place during the week of the campaign. The online event is intended as a capacity-building session, in</p>	<p>Decision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “United in inclusion” was chosen as the new title, replacing “Be a federalist ally”. - The term “federalist” should be used in the different subtitles (e.g., “Rebuilding federalist activism”), to maintain the link between inclusivity and federalist activism. - Awareness should be raised to the underlying power relationships that structure the terms inclusion and diversity.

<p>which sections are invited to gather to view in person, so that they can continue the discussion locally after the online session. This session will also be recorded and available online.</p> <p>Related to the campaign, IMPACT Micro-granting opportunity: 9 applications received so far. Deadline is today.</p>	
<p>9. Federalist Academy</p> <p>a. <u>Seminar, 21 - 24 May</u></p> <p>The “European School on Memories” seminar is going ahead at the Jean Monnet House, 45 km west of Paris. The dates are 21 - 24 May. The seminar is organised by the European Parliament, University of Barcelona and the Spinelli Institute for ca. 30 people, but they’re having trouble getting participants. Therefore, they would like JEF to launch a call for applications, and bring in most of the participants. Juuso and Antonio attended a meeting with the partners on 30 March – see notes on the Federalist Academy folder for more details.</p> <p>This event is an opportunity for our 2023 Federalist Academy in-person seminar. Besides sending participants, we would like to be involved in preparation of the programme, and the partners welcome the idea of JEF sending a couple of speakers/trainers.</p> <p>On 4 April, Martí Grau Segú from the European Parliament confirmed that he will as soon as possible send the details needed for launching the call for participants, and start a Google doc for preparing the programme together between the partners.</p> <p>b. <u>Book Club online sessions</u></p>	<p>Decision:</p> <p>All the dates shall be coordinated and put in the common agenda. Communications and materials to be disseminated to sections.</p>

<p>“JEF Book Club” is foreseen as the format for Federalist Academy online sessions. The announcement and call for book presenters has gone out in the JEF Focus newsletter, and is to be publicised further soon.</p> <p>Depending on the book topics proposed by JEFers, sessions in the series can complement other campaigns, like Be A Federalist Ally and Europe What If. If possible, the first session could take place in late April, potentially in connection with the “Be A Federalist Ally” (“United in Inclusion”) campaign.</p> <p>c. <u>Interviews</u></p> <p>Interviews focusing on the future of Europe and the European elections shall be conducted with leading personalities, also in connection with the Op-ed and its communication. Robin will try to combine the two issues when establishing contacts.</p>	
<p>10. EB travel budget</p> <p>A new system cannot be established until the application of the Commission’s new unit costs scheme is tested in conjunction with other travel expenses.</p>	<p>Decision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An EB travels Excel sheet will help provide a better overview of the expenses. Robin will start this sheet by including his recent visit to Kosovo. - Expenses need to be covered in accordance with related project grants/on an individual basis until a broader scheme is set up.
<p>11. European Youth Event (EYE) 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dates: 9-10 June, Strasbourg (France) - Group of individual JEFers registered to the EYE. - Parliament grant for JEF activities in the context of the EYE. - EB members need to check their availability for the EYE. 	<p>Decision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The relevant information will be forwarded in the corresponding Slack channels. - Discussion on who goes in the EB and the Secretariat to be held at the next meeting.

12. AOB

**a. Democracy under Pressure
debrief**

The evaluation process has started and the debrief will take place in the next online meeting. Feedback form has been shared with sections.

Decision:

- **Evaluation is expected in the next online meeting, after sections have contributed to the survey.**

The EB meeting closes at 10:25pm CEST.