

## EB minutes

May 16th 2023, 8:00 pm CEST

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

Excused: Knut

Minutes: Helena (review Antonio)

1. Adoption of draft agenda
2. Adoption of draft minutes (03/05)
3. Discussion of project proposals with Michela
4. To do list overview
5. Secretariat update
6. EU-kraine
7. Advocacy update
8. EurHope campaign
9. Membership statement and Online Congress
10. Decision on CSE Steering Committee elections
11. AOB
  - a. Short update on Bulgaria political situation

<b>1. Adoption of draft agenda</b>	<b>Decision: The agenda was adopted</b>
<b>2. Adoption of draft minutes 03/05</b>	<b>Decision: The minutes were adopted</b>
<b>3. Discussion of project proposals (Michela)</b>  1) CERV <sup>1</sup> - DG Just. <b>Deadline: 20 June</b> Theme: Anti-discrimination, anti-xenophobia, equality. Duration: 2 years, March 2024-March 2026. Proposal would be about decolonising European policies, going from a colonialist past towards a federalist future. Suggestions for project activities will be included on a draft that EB members are invited to contribute to. A historical revision of European integration and knowledge-sharing would be foreseen. Targeted	<b>Decision:</b>  - <b>Michela/Judit to share the project call link with the EB and check the requirements for partners, activities, and scope of the project actions.</b> - <b>Draft proposal/concept to be shared with EB members, who are invited to actively contribute to building the proposals.</b> - <b>Other projects:</b> - <b>Possibility to partner up with Jean Monnet House for the feminist Federalist Academy follow-up. In particular to work on the Founding Fathers and Mothers of the EU.</b>

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<sup>1</sup> Citizens equality rights and values programme

participants could be activists, racialised and discriminated groups.

Anti-racist networks and partners could be involved among partners. They are yet to be drafted, approached and confirmed.

Proposal requirements should be explored and connections with current and foreseen JEF campaigns should be ensured.

2) Other projects

- CERV Grant: For a COYV<sup>2</sup> follow-up (Deadline: Sept 5). Youth participation in EU Elections (sociopolitical analysis), youth involvement with EU Parliament and institutions, activism. Possibility to connect it with Scandinavian countries and with Europe What If campaign.
- “FedHeralist Academy” - gender equality-specific grant (calls to be further explored). Opportunity to partner up with young feminist/women networks, with a potential focus in Central-Eastern European countries, also beyond the EU.
- “Fraternity” project (French partner/coordinator) - Remembrance call: a meeting just happened today. Deadline: June 6. Project talks are ongoing and the possibilities include creating a digital platform, a documentary on federalism, past and future of European integration. Could be an opportunity to host an event in Brussels to invite JEF sections to debating federalism. Feedback from the board to change the name “Fraternity” in case.
- Another partnership could be developed with a partner in the US in

- **“Fraternity” project is currently a work in progress. The call was shared with the EB, encouraged to contribute with their input for the proposal.**
- **EB decides to approve the opportunity for JEF to explore the partnership with the US partner on EU-US 2024 elections.**

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<sup>2</sup> Co-operation Youth Vote: one of the JEF projects on EU elections

<p>the form of a bilateral exchange to observe the 2024 elections in Europe and the US. No funding is ensured for this so far, currently a work in process. This discussion is connected to the possibilities, advantages and downsides of approaching foundations as possible donors.</p>	
<p><b>4. Overview of the to-do list</b></p> <p>Christelle presents the to-do list created to ensure better task management and follow-up across tasks and responsible EB members.</p>	<p><b>Decision:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Everyone in the EB to cross-check the tasks assigned and follow the to-do's accordingly.</b></li> <li>- <b>To-do list will be checked at every EB meeting.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>5. Secretariat update</b></p> <p>There are still delays in completing the works in the new office. A compensation has been asked to the landlord.</p> <p>Project officer interviews process happening tomorrow, 17 May. Rest of the staff is settled. Exploring the possibility for a new intern in the second half of the year.</p> <p>Closing of the financial year. Negative balance due to the accountant's misallocation between years of part of the membership fees issues, social secretariat corrections and lack of co-funding secured from before.</p> <p>Accounting is moving in-house, with Pierre undertaking this role, with an external focal point maintained for concrete actions.</p> <p>On the internal audit: The internal audit took place in-person in Brussels on Saturday 13 May. Robin, Judit, Pierre were present on behalf of the EB-Secretariat.</p>	<p><b>Decision:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Financial year will still be voted upon in the Online Congress.</b></li> <li>- <b>Financial report to be included in the in-person meeting in Berlin.</b></li> </ul>

An agenda was prepared in advance, calculating the time the discussion would take. However, the meeting went extremely overtime (+ 5h). Need for reflection about the approaches of the internal audit process in JEF, considering the growth of the organisation.

**6. Advocacy update**

- The Europe Day week was a success, yet very intense, full of events.
- Antonio spoke at the Treaty Reform panel in Strasbourg organised by UEF, JEF Strasbourg and European Movement Alsace.
- On Europe day, Antonio and Christelle took part in the street action in front of the European Parliament calling for treaty change, together with federalist movements in Strasbourg. MEPs like Verhofstadt, Benifei, Gozi, Bresso, Keller joined.
- Antonio and Christelle hold a press conference in the European Parliament for the launch of EurHope.
- Antonio joined and facilitated a debate on new narratives on migration where JEF participated. The event was organised by the Istituto Affari Internazionali and co-organised by JEF. It has also been an opportunity to advertise EurHope.
- Antonio joined the event organised by JEF Strasbourg to present EurHope, with the participation of several JEF sections. JEF Albania also talked about Europe What If.
- Antonio gave an interview for a European Parliament campaign, talking about the experiences of crossing borders (Schengen) and

**Decision:**

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<p>managed to talk about Ukraine as well. The interviewer will follow-up with Antonio, they will also be present in the EYE.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Judit and Christelle had a meeting with DG JUST on the Rule of Law report.</li> <li>- Christelle participated in the consultative meeting on rule of law civil society of FRA (Fundamental Rights Agency)</li> <li>- Christelle was interviewed by Civita, a pro-EU Norwegian think tank, she got invited to a followup podcast.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>7. EurHope campaign</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As mentioned above, the Europe Day Week was a success.</li> <li>- Press conference in Strasbourg to present the campaign went well. Outreach was bigger than expected. The video is available, and will be uploaded on YouTube.</li> <li>- EurHope calendar to be finalised with topics. A long list can be currently found on the document. Posts will be prepared</li> <li>- 12 national and European newspapers published the op-ed.</li> <li>- JEF will have to upload its own proposals on the platform through its own official account. There is an open document to contribute to drafting the proposals. They will be shaped on the basis of the JEF proposals advanced for the Conference on the Future of Europe and on the political resolutions.</li> <li>- An analysis will be run on the basis of the input uploaded and voted on the platform.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Decision:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Gergana and Flavia to follow up on the EurHope communication calendar.</b></li> <li>- <b>Task will be added to the to-do's for EB members to contribute with the EurHope Consultation contributions.</b></li> <li>- <b>EB to remind the network to actively use the platform.</b></li> <li>- <b>Everyone should regularly vote on proposals on the platform.</b></li> </ul>

<p><b>8. Membership statement and online Congress</b></p> <p>Problem: late payment by some sections for 2022.</p>	<p><b>Decisions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Robin to create tasks (to-do's) for specific contact people/sections missing.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>9. Decision on Civil Society Europe (CSE) Steering Committee elections</b></p> <p>CSE Steering Committee elections are happening on June 21st. Discussion on the need for a JEF candidate.</p> <p>It makes sense for JEF to appoint someone, but it depends on the human resources available. The most natural candidate would be Judit.</p> <p>JEF would anyway continue to be co-Chair of the WG on Civic Space and Youth engagement and work on European Elections.</p>	<p><b>Decision:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>The reflection is open on the base of the personal availabilities.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>10. EU-Kraine:</b></p> <p>The 23rd of June will mark the 1-year anniversary of Ukraine EU candidate status. Reach out to sections and propose a format of action. By then, the EC should have provided information about the Candidate status progress for Ukraine and Moldova.</p> <p>For the social media, Flavia proposed a solidarity action: it could be a sunflower storm.</p> <p>The main idea is to organise a hybrid debate on Ukraine on the 23rd, involving civil society actors and, if possible, some politicians.</p> <p>Sections who want to be involved, could organise discussions with the future Ukraine-EU, potential street actions, visual action that could create a trend on social media (all sections doing a chain)</p>	<p><b>Decision:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Christelle to follow-up with the EB regarding the EU-Kraine actions for the 23rd of June anniversary. Special focus should be put to finding the relevant speakers.</b></li> <li>- <b>Europe What If plans to be further discussed on Slack, to coordinate with EU-Kraine actions and communicate in advance with sections.</b></li> <li>- <b>To-do's to be added to the task list to share responsibilities across the Board.</b></li> </ul>

<p>Related to this, the 19 July marks the Anniversary of Albania and North Macedonia accession talks and could be a theme of enlargement follow-up for EurHope.</p>	
<p><b>11. AOB</b>  <b>a. Political situation in Bulgaria</b>  Gergana presents her update: The Coalition negotiations have been really chaotic, almost worrying. There is not yet a government formation. The upcoming is going to be a very crucial week, although there is also a lot of uncertainty. New parliamentary elections can be expected for this autumn, when local elections are expected. Uncertainty remains about the new Commissioner.</p>	<p><b>Decision: -</b></p>

The EB meeting closes at 10:50 pm CEST.