

EB minutes

25 January 2024, 7:30 pm CET

Present: Christelle, Xesc, Martin, Aléxandros, Kati, Hanna

Excused: Judit, Nikos, Alexiane

Minutes: Martin (review Kati)

Agenda

1. Adoption of draft agenda
2. Adoption of the draft minutes ([11/01](#))
3. Secretariat Update
4. Advocacy Update
5. To do list
6. Bank of ideas
7. Democracy under Pressure
8. EurHope
9. International Officer meeting
10. Action plan 2024
11. Federal Committee
12. AOB
 - a. EB FC logistics
 - b. Tartu Spring FC logistics for future FC presentations

Minutes

1. Adoption of draft agenda	Decision: adopted.
2. Adoption of the draft minutes (11/01)	Decision: Adopted
3. Secretariat Update <p>Judit, Christelle and Aléxandros met with the Multitudes foundation. JEF application had been rejected and the aim of the meeting was to understand the reasons for the decision better. We received useful feedback on the selection criteria. The focus for funding is supporting 'leaders of tomorrow' who are involved in politics. JEF perspective is possibly too long-term than what they are looking for. Funding is available for micro, medium and large projects. They also offer up to 100,000</p>	Decision: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Secretary General will receive Purchasing Power Benefit and complementary salary increases (if possible from January)

euros grants for upscaling projects/campaigns.

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New Membership Officer is hired. The challenge was a low number of candidates fulfilling the criteria and AI generated applications. All together five people were interviewed for the role.

The salary level of the Secretary General has been impacted by the changes in Belgian legislation regarding per diem payments. The level of per diem is e.g. impacted if food is offered at an event. This has led to the level of per diems paid by JEF being below the average standard in Brussels. Some of the 2023 per diems, which are also impacted by this, are still unpaid. The secretary general must receive her compensation.

4. Advocacy Update

Christelle has met with the EESC¹ rapporteurs on the Defence of Democracy Package and youth rapporteur with the European Commission on the Defence of Democracy Package as youth rapporteur to the EESC.

Christelle also met with the ALDE party to discuss EurHope. The meeting went well and ALDE EP candidates will join MEET debates. They would also be interested in supporting us in hosting a European elections debate and they would be willing to discuss this with other European parties.

Christelle also met with UEF, EMI and Association Jean Monnet to discuss the revival of the US of Europe action committee. The EMI was not keen on the historic name. Christelle spoke at the UEF

Decision:

- **Hanna and Nikos will create webinars for February and March with Resilient 40 organisation.**
- **Christelle will continue having meetings with the European parties about EurHope.**

¹ European Economic and Social Committee

commemoration of the US of Europe action committee.

Christelle has also participated in the CSE Rule of Law working group, the CSE Treaty Change working group and the GCE working group on European elections.

Christelle also met with Democratic Odyssey. They have 3,8M EUR to create a citizen assembly and numerous stakeholders interested. This is relevant to treaty change and we could promote Ukraine to discuss cooperation.

Christelle and Judit attended the first collaboration event organised together with Forefront where Markus Winkler, deputy SG of the EP was the key speaker,

Christelle and Xesc met with the Jean Monnet house to organise the next Federalist Academy.

Christelle and Kati met with Vilnius Debating Society to organise a EurHope Horizon debate.

Hanna attended the GCE COP unpacking meeting

Hanna and Nikos met Resilient40, an African network of youth NGOs affiliated with AU to discuss collaboration.

- Potential webinar series (migration, EU policies, comparing elections)
 - Could tie to Democracy under Pressure & EurHope
- No timeline yet

5. To do list

The EB discussed the future discussion about raising the membership fees that could take place at the online Congress and when would the raise, if voted, be put in

Decision:

- Christelle, Judit and Martin to select FC participants
- Aléxandros to send membership statement and fee request

<p>place in connection to the sending of requests for membership statements.</p>	
<p>6. Bank of ideas Xesc introduces the latest situation on Schengen and the EB brainstormed advocacy actions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Main focus right now on BG and RO - Internal issues applying the Schengen Agreement due to temporary border controls 	<p>Decision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Xesc to follow up on Schengen advocacy ideas - Kati to present the next bank of ideas on inclusion - Kati to look with Inês into writing and oped for IWD with another organisation - Kati to organise meeting on International Womens Day w/ Erica & Inês
<p>7. Democracy under Pressure Martin shares the results of the brainstorming call with sections, the timeline and potential partners. Campaign focus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 10 years of change of name to DuP, 2 years of war in Ukraine, Belarusian and Russian "elections", 20 years since 2004 enlargement - New focus on artists and journalists <p>To-dos</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Country profiles, infokit, political background, visuals 	<p>Decision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Martin, Kati & Erica to have meeting on visuals, will involve TF Coms - Martin to invite sections for the next meeting on 12/02
<p>8. EurHope One-pagers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Currently there are Inconsistencies with format. - Need to work around proposals we disagree with which does not work well with bullet point or list format despite this being faster to read format. They need to be framed through a common European solution. - Summary not included in word count and this should be added to the one pagers which are still missing one. - When writing similar texts in future projects, writing would be more 	<p>Decision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Font: Proxima Nova 12 - Use phrasing "citizens want" - Martin to send full proposal 11 to European Council on Foreign Relations for review - Contact Persons can discuss actions on EurHope

<p>efficient if there is an agreed upon template.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alexandros point on use of sources <p>TF elections meeting faced challenges with engagement and participation. Right now there is unclarity on the purpose of the meetings until the toolkit is finished. Meetings could be used to allow for sections to present their activities in a more structures manner to make the meetings more impactful and allow for sharing of examples especially for sections that are still unclear on their activities.</p>	
<p>9. International Officer meeting</p> <p>The agenda will cover Next Generation JEF grants, Demcracy under Pressure and EUkraine, EurHope, open calls, TNF, PC and TF engagement, and updates section activities.</p>	<p>Decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The next International officer meeting will take place on Thursday 22 February at 6:30pm CET - Martin to prepare agenda and send the invitation
<p>10. Action plan 2024</p> <p>The EB discussed the additions of the secretariat.</p>	<p>Decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Action plan 2024 adopted with secretariat additions - EB to brainstorm participation in international events such as EuroPride in a future meeting
<p>11. Federal Committee</p> <p>EB discussed the state of registrations.</p> <p>Aléxandros, Judit and Kati selected the 10 recipients for Solidarity Fund for the FC and 3 runners-up in case of cancellation. Some selected recipients had not submitted their paperwork for the Madrid Congress, it was communicated to them that should it happen again they could not be selected for Budapest. EB to follow up with missing sections.</p> <p>PC§ sent invitations to its first meeting.</p>	<p>Decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hanna & Kati to approach PC2 about their first meeting - Xesc to remind PC1 to send invitation

<p>12. AOB</p> <p>a. EB FC logistics</p> <p>Budget is tight so to the extent possible we should find hosts in Brussels.</p> <p>b. Tartu Spring FC logistics for future FC presentations</p>	<p>Decision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- EB to find a host in Brussels for the EB/FC meeting. - Spring FC host presentations to take place on Saturday of the FC due to travel plans of applicants
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The EB meeting closes at 22:30 CET.