

## EB minutes

22 April 2024, 8:00 pm CEST

Present: Alexandros, Alexiane, Christelle, Judit, Kati, Hanna.

Excused: Xesc, Martin, Nikos

Minutes: Christelle (review Alexiane)

### Agenda

1. Adoption of draft agenda
2. Bank of ideas Operating Grant 2025 planning
3. Online FC and online Congress
4. To do list
5. Section update
6. AOB
  - a. Capacity building training update
  - b. Who is going to MYCOMM

### Minutes

<b>1. Adoption of draft agenda</b>	<b><i>Decision: Adopted</i></b>
<b>2. Bank of ideas: Operating Grant 2025 planning</b> <p>To guide efficiently the Commission's Operating Grant (OG) planning, and application's writing, Judit, first explained what it usually finances in JEF and illustrated with examples (e.g. staff's cost &amp; co-financing project, with another type of grant from different actors). The Executive Board (EB) then discussed their top priorities and a "wish list" for things to be covered by the OG.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Keeping the newly established reimbursement of directly elected FC members &amp; one TNF's member's travel costs for statutory events (reallocation of full-time president budget).</li><li>● Keeping the solidarity fund and potentially increasing the number of</li></ul>	<b><i>Decision:</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Judit to turn those ideas into a budget to prepare the application for the final year of our 4-year operating grant</b></li></ul>

beneficiaries and/or the maximum amount of money.

- Continue capacity building seminars like this year, to keep supporting sections in increasing their membership basis (reallocation of full-time president budget).
- Fun grassroots membership recruitment campaign (see below).
- cover the salary and expenses related to at least 5 secretariat members (including Secretary General, membership officer, communication officer and finance officer)
- Centralised Communication management tool
- Discussing of post-election campaign enlargement/treaty change “ the Europe we want” (EurHope we want?)
- Investing in improving our Membership database
- Restarting and upscaling Europe@School
- Schengen interrail on the ground and social media action
  - Could be financed by current european integration campaign
- Create a project related to climate
  - Potentially covered by subgranting from Generation Climate Europe

The EB is eager and committed to co-construct in detail the projects related to consolidating the capacity building capacities of JEF Europe, with the Taskforce Capacity Building, building on the first capacity building training of this year, financed through the reallocation of the full-time president budget.

Ideas for the recruitment campaigns are

- A “European future” treasure hunt with 1/what the EU does ; 2/ what to change 3/ what is federalism.
  - => Inspired by JEF Belgium Democracy under Pressure, a few years ago.
- Find the EU flag
- Start challenges, based on an “impossible mission” model, with complicated (yet doable tasks to achieve), for sections to join while forming twinings. The points could be doubled if federalism is included and if partnerships with external partners are formed. More points could be granted to sections for putting the accent on civic education & focusing on diversity. A joker card could be added, to make one EB member join in.
- Community building activities
- Awards, not a competition but emulation, also taking into account size of sections, to be inclusive
- Special focus on how to include non-EU sections, besides the funding stream
- To be co-constructed with the taskforce and also with sections at the upcoming capacity building seminar
- Part of Next Generation JEF to be set aside to finance activities related to this in EU sections (as on-granting only available because of funding for EU)

<p><b>3. Online FC and online Congress</b></p> <p>The date of the FC is set on the Sunday to allow for maximum participation from all members, elected or from sections. The agenda of the extraordinary online FC will consist of the presentation of Birgita, candidate for the position of Secretary General put forward by the EB and the vote on her ratification.</p> <p>For the online Congress, Aléxandros and Judit will prepare a video about the financial statements.</p>	<p><b>Decisions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>The Extraordinary Online FC will be taking place on Sunday 26 May at 6pm CEST.</b></li> <li>- <b>Christelle to check with Presidium if one of them is available to chair on 26 May</b></li> <li>- <b>The Online Congress will be taking place on Tuesday 18 June at 7pm CEST.</b></li> <li>- <b>Judit will reach out to sections, FC and EB members by email to inform everyone about these two dates.</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>4. To do list</b></p> <p>EB reviews its to-do list.</p>	<p><b>Decision: -</b></p>
<p><b>5. Section update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Italy/Germany: The EB discusses the draft answer to the letter of JEF Italy and JEF Germany on Ventotene international seminar and post-EurHope advocacy plan.</li> <li>- Ireland – the section organised a Meet debate on February 15<sup>th</sup>, which was an impressive success. The budget was very low compared to the provisional one, thanks to agreements being made with a local university group. There are however issues with reimbursement of the 332 euros, mostly based on miscommunications between JEF Europe and JEF Ireland. The amount corresponds to travel costs reimbursements for 4 UK participants. The grant financing MEET only covers expenses for EU countries, which is mentioned in the signed document by JEF Ireland.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Decision:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Christelle to send the answer to the letter of JEF Italy and JEF Germany on behalf of the EB</b></li> <li>- <b>Aléxandros and Christelle will hold a meeting with JEF Ireland to explain the situation.</b></li> </ul>

The second instalment was sent out to Ireland on the 14 April, minus the participants' travel reimbursement fees (332.5 euros). As those travel costs are from non-EU residents, JEF Europe would have to use its own resources to cover for them if to reimburse JEF Ireland, in a context of a tense financial situation. Nevertheless, JEF Europe made clear that only EU national's travels fees could be covered before the event took place in February.

- Bulgaria – there is an issue with the justifications that they provided to JEF Europe. Some speakers were JEF Bulgaria's volunteers/board members and were paid, contrary to JEF's internal policy and conflict of interest principle. Therefore, the 2<sup>nd</sup> instalment is on hold. **A discussion with Dimitar to get clarification on the issue & topic is scheduled on Tuesday, the 30<sup>th</sup> of April.** Next steps will then be determined, but JEF Europe already offers to give the 2<sup>nd</sup> instalment, minus the contested fee amount and work towards getting correct justifications (contract or invoice) for external speakers.
- Spain – A key point is to move forward with paying JEF Spain the agreed amount by the EB on 22 February, of 800 euros, in the Congress' aftermath. The offer has been made already but JEF Europe needs a payment request from JEF Spain to move with disbursing the amount so it needs to be reminded again to JEF Spain to send it.

- **Alexiane and Christelle to meet with JEF Bulgaria to highlight steps forwards on 30 April.**

- **Alexiane will start an email loop to discuss a way forward for JEF Spain**

<p><b>6. AOB</b></p> <p>a. <b>Capacity building training update</b> Alexiane, Christelle, Judit and Margarita will meet on Friday to discuss with Anna (TF Capacity Building) to discuss the upcoming training.</p> <p>b. <b>MYCOMM<sup>1</sup> event in June</b> Nikos will try, we have two more spots for JEFers.</p>	<p><b>Decision:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Kati to ask Taskforce Empowerment if they would like to join the MYCOMM event. If not, to be shared with FC and JEF France</b></li></ul>
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The EB meeting closes at 22:04 CEST.

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<sup>1</sup> Migrant & Refugee Youth COMMunication and advocacy for equity and inclusion