



# Monitoring Process JEF Austria

Recommendation report of the Monitoring Committee for the Congress  
Strasbourg, 3 October 2025

The Monitoring Committee recalls that the monitoring process concerning JEF Austria was initiated by decision of the Federal Committee in Tartu (April 2024), on the **basis of irregular and low JEF activity, drastic membership decline, lack of transparency, and concerns the youth-led leadership nature of the JEF Austria section** (Annex 1).

Following the opening of the procedure, **JEF Austria reacted aggressively, issuing an ultimatum that they would withdraw from JEF Europe should the process be pursued** (Annex 2). Nevertheless, the Federal Committee confirmed the continuation of the monitoring, appointing the Monitoring Committee to follow up.

In Budapest (November 2024), the Monitoring Committee reported that local sections (Styria, Upper Austria, Carinthia) had left JEF Austria, no meeting with the section could be organised despite repeated reminders, and **JEF Europe had not been allowed to meet the newly elected president** (Annex 3). The FC decided to continue the monitoring procedure. The **former President of JEF Austria at the time of the Federal Committee of Tartu also confirmed the issues JEF Austria is facing** (Annex 4).

At the Sofia FC (March 2025), the Monitoring Committee, having noted JEF Austria's **continued refusal to cooperate, the loss of all active regional sections, and their aggressive communications, recommended initiating the exclusion procedure**. This included: issuing a formal expulsion letter, granting a right to a hearing, and seeking the opinion of the Arbitration Board (Annex 5).

Subsequently, JEF Austria contested the grounds for exclusion, citing their historical role, past projects, and national recognition (Annex 6, Annex 8). However, these replies did not alter the Committee's assessment of their refusal to engage with JEF Europe structures and procedures.

## Update Since the 2025 Spring Federal Committee of Sofia

JEF Austria has maintained its refusal to engage with the Monitoring Committee and their communications continue to reject the legitimacy of the monitoring procedure.

Since the Sofia meeting, JEF Austria has submitted its membership statement for 2024, unlike for 2023.

While the hearing of JEF Austria finally provided the Monitoring Committee with the opportunity to interact with the leadership of JEF Austria, including the President of JEF Austria, the Monitoring Committee remarks that JEF Austria failed to prove its commitment to find compromises and did not come up with reasonable proposals to mend the relationship, reengage with JEF Europe and solve questions such as the youth led nature of the organisation or the number of members/membership fees.

The structural situation of the section remains deteriorated, and the initial grounds for the opening of the monitoring procedure remain: little to no engagement with JEF Europe and/or with its activities, decrease in membership, doubts about the democratic youth-led nature of the organisation.

### Recommendation

In light of:

- the initial reasons for the monitoring procedure (Annex 1),
- the aggressive and obstructive communications from their leadership (Annex 5, Annex 6),
- **the non-alignment with criteria of membership** (Article 11 of JEF Europe Statutes), that sections must comply with. The Monitoring Committee was not in a position to find those all fulfilled by JEF Austria, in particular
  - Criteria ii “accept the Statutes of JEF Europe”, as a representative of JEF Austria questioned the legitimacy of JEF statutes during the hearing;



- Criteria iii “pay the European membership fee for their members”, with 60,000 non-paying members of JEF Austria claimed, with no internal registry, despite a “lump sum” of a 100 euros paid so 50 members of JEF Europe;
- Criteria iv “ show active commitment in the organisation”, which has been lacking since before this mandate and a continued refusal of JEF Austria to cooperate or engage constructively with JEF Europe,
- Criteria v “ high standards of democracy in their internal workings” with a core board of only 2 people, only one of them of JEF age, supplemented by a Federal Committee of numerous member organisations of JEF Austria that are often member organisations of other networks (AIESEC, ESN etc).

- the loss of active local sections and functional presence in the network,

the Monitoring Committee **recommends to the Federal Committee the exclusion of JEF Austria from JEF Europe membership at the upcoming meeting in Strasbourg**. This decision, while regrettable, is necessary to safeguard the credibility, cohesion, and federalist mission of JEF Europe. The Monitoring Committee will seek a new opinion from the Arbitration Board of JEF Europe.

### **The Monitoring Committee**

Christelle SAVALL (EB)

Robin MUDRY (FC Presidium)

Mirko ONDRAS (Directly elected FC member)

### Annexes:

1. Resolution for the opening of a Monitoring process of JEF Austria, Approved in the Federal Committee in Tartu, Estonia on 14 April 2024
2. JEF Austria email about the resolution
3. Monitoring report update Approved in the Federal Committee in Budapest, Hungary on 17 November 2024
4. Monitoring Process JEF Austria minutes from the 2025 Autumn Federal Committee in Budapest
5. Monitoring report update Approved in the Federal Committee in Sofia, Bulgaria on 30 March 2025



6. Answer of JEF Austria to Monitoring report update in the Federal Committee in Sofia, Bulgaria on 30 March 2025
7. Arbitration Board opinion on the expulsion of JEF Austria
8. Request of JEF Austria for a hearing
9. Link to JEF Austria hearing recording