YOUNG
EUROPEAN
FEDERALISTS

JEF Europe
European Congress 2021

Liège, 19-21 November 2021

Minutes

Outgoing FC - Friday, 19 November

1. Official opening of the Federal Committee

FC session opened at 9:21 by **Sonja Afanasjeva** (Presidium Chair).

Leonie Martin (President):

- Welcomed JEFers.
- It has been one of the hardest mandates in JEF's history due to COVID-19.
- We have managed to serve this mandate without the full social experience, which is an important part of JEF.
- Reminded about the importance of keeping the COVID restrictions in mind.
- Political developments - it has been an interesting period.

1.1. Code of Conduct

Miosh Ristovski (Secretary-General):

- A new Code of Conduct was approved at the last FC.
- It's a set of rules about the behaviour and treatment of people during JEF events to ensure safe and empowered space.
- It applies to everyone at JEF online and offline. By registering for the event, you agree to follow it.
- We need 2 Code of Conduct safety persons for the outgoing FC: this will be Milosh Ristovski and Christelle Savall (EB Member). After lunch, new safe persons will be chosen for the Congress.

2. Formalities

Miosh Ristovski (Secretary-General):

- Explained how proxies will be handled.
- Everyone has the right to request a secret ballot for any vote.

Sonja Afanasjeva (Presidium):

- For the outgoing FC, we will be voting mostly on formalities, so we do the paper vote only.
- Explained the Gender Watch.

2.1. Declaration of votes present (roll call)

Miosh Ristovski (Secretary-General): 41 votes present (quorum reached).

2.2. Election of two tellers

Sonja Afanasjeva (Presidium): We need 2 volunteers to be tellers for the outgoing FC, which must be people without voting rights. Candidates:

- **Kati Systä**.
- **Chiara Grigolo.**

Vote: Election of tellers		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
All candidates elected		

2.3. Adoption of the agenda and timetable

Vote: Adoption of agenda		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

2.4. Adoption of the minutes of the last FC Meeting

Vote: Minutes from FC Spring 2021		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

2.5. Appointment of the Credentials Committee

Sonja Afanasjeva (Presidium): The task of the Credentials Committee is to verify the number of votes during the Congress. Candidates:

- **Gerhard Soyka** (FC Presidium).
- **Abdul Kerim Aydemir** (Arbitration Board).
- **Patrick Løvenskjold von Wildenradt** (Auditors Committee).

Vote: Election of Credential Committee		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
All candidates elected		

2.6. Overview of membership fees paid

Chris Powers (Treasurer): The overview document was circulated. In sum, COVID has affected us badly; big sections have grown, small have shrunk.

Sebastiano Putoto (Vice-President): How has using the database facilitated the membership fees administration?
Chris Powers: Very much, especially having JEF Belgium use the database helped.

2.7. Proposal on five Congress Presidium Members

Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General):

- After lunch, we will have a new Presidium to chair the Congress. Candidates:
  - **Christopher Glück** (former JEF President).
  - **Pauline Gessant** (former JEF President).
  - **Celine Geissmann** (former JEF EB Member, current Deputy Mayor of Strasbourg).
  - **Miriam Postiglione** (Arbitration Board).
  - **Johannes Börmann** (former FC Member).
- Returning Officer: person who worked for JEF, knows both politics and administration, to support elections, overview of the voting process and support implementation of the whole Congress. Candidate: **Simon Devos Chernova**.

Vote: Election of the Congress Presidium		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
All candidates elected		

2.8. Proposal of up to five members of Resolutions Committee for Congress

Candidates:

- **Leonie Martin** (President).
- **Simon Devos-Chernova** (Returning Officer).
- **Kalojan Hoffmeister** (PC1 Co-Chair).
- **Olav Bjerke Soldal** (PC2 Co-Chair).
- **Riccardo Moschetti** (PC3 Co-Chair).

Vote: Election of members of Resolutions Committee for the Congress		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
All candidates elected		

3. EB updates

Leonie Martin (President):

- Presenting only small bites, more details during the Congress. Covering 6 months since June 2021.
- We worked hard to use the political momentum, organising meetings, campaigns, advocacy, and doing representation.
- EB meetings:
  - 4 full weekend meetings: March, May, August, October.
  - Every 2 weeks - online EB meetings.

- Minutes published on the Member Area.

Diletta Alese (EB Member) - advocacy as part of the Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE):

- JEF CoFoE website - raising awareness of the process.
- JEF proposals published on day 1 of the Digital Platform, some of them are among the most popular on the platform - we need to keep pushing for our ideas to keep them strong.
- Following Citizens panels, plenaries.
- Civil Society Convention - Milosh Ristovski is Co-Chair, has a seat in the CoFoE Plenary.
- Project: Next Chapter Europe.
- Guidelines in the Federalist Chapter - additional guidelines for political federalist advocacy.

Moritz Schleicher (EB Member) - climate advocacy towards COP26:

- World Parliament Week - Panel with Christelle Savall.
- COP26 side event - collaboration with regional decision-makers and scientists.

Christelle Savall (EB Member) - another event is to be organised during World Parliament week. PC3 Co-Chair Riccardo Moschetti moderated an event and we signed an open letter about a World Parliament.

Sebastiano Putoto (Vice-President):

- Press work:
  - 14 press releases since Autumn FC.
  - Internal document developed: Press framework.
- Other initiatives:
  - Belarus - ongoing actions.
  - Migration Working Group led by Diletta Alese.

Leonie Martin:

- Representation:
  - COVID restricted physical meetings.
  - In total, 71 EB representations since the last FC.
- Sections and network support:
  - Support for the candidate section JEF Romania.
  - Different interest groups are willing to become candidate sections.

Diletta Alese - Federalist Academy:

- Handed over to the new Board.
- Opportunity to share the history of our movement but also create new ideas.

Sebastiano Putoto - equality and inclusion survey:

- Result of the survey - the feeling of not being included in JEF is not only related to discrimination, but also in political terms and how newcomers feel included.
- Looks like there is an improvement but we are not feeling well - we have to continue our work in the next mandate.

Christelle Savall (EB Member) - communication:

- 2 newsletters per month.

- Activity report.
- Breaking outreach reports on social media every quarter.

Chris Powers (Treasurer) - database development: It helps with membership management as well as policy and advocacy.

Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General) - partnership with the European Youth Forum:
- Following work with Emma Farrugia. We Haven't succeeded in having a physical meeting with them. The Council of Members is happening right now.
- Contributing to the new Political Document, Leonie Martin added some federalist bits there.
- They are involved in CoFoE, their President is a member of the Plenary and they are members of the Civil Society Convention for CoFoE (CSOCoFoE).

Leonie Martin - Advisory Council on Youth: I have been involved in negotiations on behalf of the FC on draft recommendations on shrinking civic space.

Milosh Ristovski - Civil Society Europe:
- Coordination of CSO advocacy, especially towards CoFoE as part of CSOCoFoE. EB Members involved in the CSOCoFoE thematic clusters:
    - Diletta Alese: Our European Life.
    - Leonie Martin: Democracy and Fundamental Values.
- Currently, we are doing member consultations as part of CSOCoFoE. We suggested some proposals as experts.

Leonie Martin - EB Members representing JEF at other networks:
- Moritz Schleicher: Generation Climate Europe.
- Sebastiano Putoto: European Movement International, Union of European Federalists, World Federalist Movement.

Leonie Martin - full-time president report:
- I indicated open hours during which I was available to all JEFers to approach me.
- I've been having section visits online and physically.
- In the Secretariat, I'm part of the policy-communication team. Especially with our Policy Officer Michal Rybacki we've had weekly meetings to make sure we coordinate our work well.
- With Lorene Weber, our Admin and Membership Officer, we've had meetings every two weeks to discuss section updates.
- There is ongoing political work: at the moment mainly the Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE). I've joined numerous events dedicated to it as a speaker. I spoke at around 20 external events about the Conference.
- I've had at least 50 meetings with political stakeholders, in addition to advocacy emails and calls.
- I've recorded 3 podcasts and been interviewed by journalists.

4. Finances

4.1. Financial report by the Treasurer

Chris Powers (Treasurer): Encouraging people to run for Treasurer position. The spreadsheet may look scary but Milosh does most of the work. It's more about talking to sections once a year to collect membership fees.

Simon Devos-Chernova (former Treasurer, Returning Officer): It's a nice position, money is crucial for the organisation. The Secretariat is competent so no worries. Please run, be a Treasurer.

Chris Powers: We were waiting until the middle of this week to know the financial situation. We've got the grant called CERV, securing our financial future for the next 4 years
Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General): Before we go to numbers, I wanted to explain. Last time, we were all online - we had an office corner called CERV room with people writing. They managed to get the highest rated application in the call (evaluated 96/100, acceptance threshold 70). The budget is going to be 10% bigger than the previous €225,000.

Chris Powers presenting the spreadsheet "JEF Europe Provisional Budgets 2022" available in the Member Area:

- The SG can continue to be paid for their job and we can pay the next year.
- We can pay 3.5 admin staff in the office plus an intern.
- We continue applying for projects to employ more people.

4.2. Q&A on the EB and financial reports and vote on budget 2022

No questions asked.

Gerhard Soyka (Presidium): The current FC is working on a recommendation on the budget for the incoming FC.
Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General): We suggest this practice in the future, so the new FC has budgetary recommendations from someone who has worked on the budget until now.

Gerhard Soyka: Vote on giving the incoming FC a recommendation to adopt the 2022 budget.

Vote: Recommendation to the Incoming FC to adopt the 2022 budget		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	1
Adopted		

4.3. Allocation of Congress delegates

Chris Powers (Treasurer): We have a formula in the Rules of Procedure which specifies the allocation of candidates [presenting a spreadsheet with the delegate allocation].
Gerhard Soyka (Credential Committee): We confirm that the allocation of delegates has been done according to the RoP.

Vote: Allocation of Congress delegates as presented		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	1
Adopted		

5. Cessation of membership

5.1. Recommendation on membership status and vote on resolutions

Christelle Savall (EB Member: Currently there are two monitoring committees, two separate procedures:

- The first one started long enough ago that we will be able to decide at this Congress what to do.
- The second one is to be decided potentially by the next Congress.
- The same people are in both Monitoring Committees: Chris Powers, Aleksandra Aleksejeva, Tosia Stępniak.
- The first Monitoring Committee (Armenia, Serbia, Lithuania) started in Spring 2020. The second one (Moldova, Montenegro, Hungary) started in Autumn 2020. What we do now is give an overview of both procedures and recommendations to the Congress: the recommendation is to expel JEF Armenia, JEF Lithuania, and JEF Serbia, and I will explain why afterwards. For Moldova, Montenegro and Hungary, we advise to keep on the monitoring procedure until the next Congress.
- Armenia - not paid membership fees in years and the Statutes say "two consecutive years", we are way beyond that. We tried to revive the section but sadly, despite the efforts of Chris Powers, we haven't been able to find people on the ground. There is no activity, no membership fees, no membership statements, so the recommendation is to expel the section because it's dead on all accounts.
- Lithuania - similarly, Chris tried, we have been in contact with some people in Lithuania but it didn't work out. No membership fees, no membership statements, no activities. Sadly, the recommendation of the Monitoring Committee is to expel the section at the next Congress.
- Serbia - it's the most heartbreaking one. Chris found an association called Forum Mladih that was initially willing to become JEF in Serbia, but after their change of Board they realised it was too much work for them and they would prefer to wait and get to know JEF better, come to activities and do it slowly. Sadly, we can't transfer the registration now. We have not received membership fees for years, we don't have a membership statement, there is no activity. I hope Forum Mladih will become the next JEF Serbia but this will take time. Again, the recommendation is to expel JEF Serbia at the Congress.
- Hungary - I suggest Leonie speaks about it.

Leonie Martin (President):

- There is a JEF Hungary technically as a member organisation of JEF Europe. Since the change of the constitution in Hungary in 2012, they have been inactive for political reasons, they didn't feel comfortable with the very clear democratic stance JEF Europe is taking. However, you may be familiar with a new group that we have permitted to use the name of JEF Hungary - they are very critical of the government, they stick to the rule of law, they go to Pride marches; they will present themselves during the Congress as a candidate section.
- Here, it's a bit tricky: there is a legal registration of the old JEF Hungary, we have contacted them several times. Sometimes they repy, but they refuse to transfer the legal organisation to the new organisation. They also refuse for this organisation to deregister from the court. We fear that we need to go to court with them and this is why the procedure must be done correctly in legal terms. We have adopted this monitoring process near the FC, however, there needs to be a notice letter sent to a section 6 months in advance. I think we had a month's delay. And as we are aware, the chances are high we need to go to court to deregister them from the court system, we need to do the procedure correctly. So while we would like the decision to be made

by this Congress, we cannot do this now. At the same time, the new group deserves our political support and this is also why, later this weekend, we ask you for a little bit of flexibility when it comes to applying the Statutes, to make sure the new group at least becomes a candidate section.
- I'm asking for flexibility: the Statute allows one national section per country but we must give political support to the newly organised JEF Hungary while the issues with transferring them the status are being resolved.
- We hope that the next Congress will approve the new group as a full member section.

Christelle Savall continues:
- Moldova - not paying fees, not sending papers. Several EB Members have tried contacting them with no success. Sadly the procedure continues and we will decide on the potential expulsion at the next Congress, unless we make wonders.
- Montenegro - the same story, we unsuccessfully tried to find anyone to revive the section. They haven't paid membership fees, they haven't been sending statements, so we continue the procedure. Enlargement countries are really important for JEF Europe so Montenegro might be a focus for the next Board. The procedure continues, to potentially culminate with an expulsion at the next Congress.
- Now, we are going to vote on the recommendation to the Congress. We need a favourable opinion of the Arbitration Board to expel a section by the Congress.

Juuso Järviniemi (FC): Question about JEF Serbia - if the old JEF Serbia gets expelled, can we then immediately give the status to Forum Mladih?
Christelle Savall: The old JEF Serbia is willing to hand in the registration. If Forum Mladih gets the legal status from them, they would immediately become a JEF section, but Forum Mladih is not ready. So the current holders of the registration want to get out of it - they want to either transfer it or close the thing. If we vote to expel JEF Serbia, they will close it and then, when Forum Mladih is ready, then the new JEF Serbia should be approved. Whether or not they want to officially register as JEF Serbia is up to them. They are members of the European Movement Serbia, so they have legal representation through it.

[Question from the audience about JEF Hungary to explain the situation with JEF Hungary again]
Leonie Martin: The interest group of JEF Hungary will be at the Congress to present themselves as candidates. Then, they can be voted as a full member at the next Congress. The Statutes say that you need to be a candidate for at least a year to become a full member.

Julius Lajtha (JEF UK): Expulsion can be harsh as a term, I'm not sure if it's the best term to use. Another thing - would it be possible to redirect the country[at]jef.eu emails of struggling sections to the Secretariat to make sure someone is able to read it?
Leonie Martin: Yes, this is happening, we have a Membership Officer and EB members responsible for weak sections, so we receive these emails. The term expulsion is in the statutes. The procedure is necessary to clean up to make space for new members.

Anna van de Moosdijk (JEF Netherlands): What can be done for individuals who want to become directly JEF members?
Christelle Savall: If there is any member contacting us from those countries, we would be very happy to get in touch. If you know any people, share the contact with us.
Chris Powers (Treasurer): We have zero direct JEF members - because whenever someone appears in those countries, we immediately try to make them create a section.
Christelle Savall: People can be direct JEF Europe members while waiting for their section to be set up.

Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General): The activities we organise are not for members only. This is how we get to know new people who can be active. Some 40-50% non-JEF people usually attend our events and some of them become our members. We share the calls for participants with members but also potential members

Olav Soldal (FC): Are there any other candidates? Have you had discussions with any other countries?
Christelle Savall: Tomorrow, we will have a discussion about candidatures during the Congress. Romania wants to be a full section, Luxembourg, Ireland and Hungary want to become candidate sections. We also have interest groups in Albania, Estonia and Ukraine. We have a connection in Russia. We are working with them and trying to make them candidate sections once they feel confident. We will talk about it at length tomorrow.

Leonie Martin: A Monitoring Procedure on JEF Poland is to be started. This should be discussed by the current FC.

- We wanted to propose a new monitoring procedure - it's not a decision we took lightly.
- They became a full member in Zurich with a legal document that was half-ready.
- We saw some good moments, but the entire mandate we had troubles around this section. We received complaints about their behaviour from other sections, there were people being pushed out from the section.
- They are not registered, there are no statutes and no general assemblies.
- This is not meant to exclude JEF Poland, but we want to raise awareness and share responsibility within the FC.
- Seeing the example of JEF Hungary, we can see it's possible to have a JEF section in a place where EU values are being violated.
- We need 3 people for the Monitoring Committee - the positions are vacant for now because we have elections tomorrow.

Kalojan Hoffmeister (FC): Do we have people on the ground in Poland who are active?
Leonie Martin: There are 3 people on the ground. They are directly in the Board. There have been more.
Christelle Savall: There are 11 members, 12 people are registered but only a few are active.
Severin Schweizer (JEF Switzerland): Is JEF Poland present at the Congress?
Christelle Savall: JEF Poland President wanted to come but he couldn't due to work issues not due to this resolution. I hold a proxy from him.
Leonie Martin: Christelle duly and timely informed JEF Poland of this resolution.
Christelle Savall: They had the right to submit a written answer, they chose not to. They are aware of what is happening. They will fully cooperate should we accept the resolution.
Juuso Järviniemi: Are there any further details on how the monitoring procedure will look? It's a different case than with the inactive sections.
Leonie Martin: It's up to the Monitoring Committee to decide on the procedure. There was one procedure like this on Albania about their board member behaviour. Here we need to identify objectives and deadlines to reach them, including supporting recruitment, getting non-male members.
Olav Soldal: Are there any statutory criteria for such cases?
Christelle Savall: A functioning section is key.
Simon Devos-Chernova (Returning Officer): A clear breach of our values is a basis for starting the monitoring committee.

Vote: Establishing a Monitoring Committee for JEF Poland		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	1	0
Adopted		

Gerhard Soyka (Presidium) Now we go back to the earlier point - the Arbitration Board giving their opinion on the validity of the expulsion procedure of JEF Armenia, JEF Lithuania, and JEF Serbia.
Miriam Postiglione (Arbitration Board): We reviewed the documents and can confirm that the expulsion procedure is in line with the Statutes. We are in favour of the expulsion of JEF Armenia, JEF Lithuania, and JEF Serbia.

Vote: Recommendation to the Congress to expel JEF Armenia, JEF Lithuania, and JEF Serbia		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

6. Reports from Political Commissions and Task Forces

6.1. Final reports by the Political Commissions

PC1: Institutions and governance
Kalojan Hoffmeister (PC1 Co-Chair): We have worked on amending the resolutions on the rule of law and the fiscal union.
Giorgia Sorrentino (PC1 Co-Chair): There was good participation in our Skype calls. The fiscal union resolution now mentions what comes after the Next Generation EU - we need a structural reform, not just a temporary measure. This means dIfferent kinds of taxes to have a truly European treasury and own resources.
Kalojan Hoffmeister: We had events about CoFoE and institutional reforms.
Giorgia Sorrentino: We also prepared a resolution on organised crime and another one on the systematisation of the EU electoral law.
Sebastiano Putoto (Vice-President): These are good resolutions. Also, you innovated the work of PC chairs, engaging JEFers in policy work. I invite the next generation of PC chairs to follow this example - it's not only about resolutions but what they mean for JEF politically.

PC2: Internal European affairs
Flavia Sandu (PC2 Co-Chair):

- For this Congress, we've prepared 4 resolutions, one of them is a total new resolution on inclusion (done with Task Force Empowerment & Diversity), then we have 2 lapsing resolutions which we opened for comments (on youth labour mobility and circular economy). We also have an internal resolution prepared with the Task Force Green Transition. We also have a lapsing resolution on a digital Europe - we recommend to re-adopt it. [Secretariat note: The resolution on Digital Europe was not voted upon due to this vote not being requested on time from the Presidium].

- COVID-19 affected our work, which we had to move mainly online.
- Please share emails about PC meetings with your members so we can have more people.

Olav Soldal (PC2 Co-Chair): Thanks to those who were active.

PC3: External affairs and global governance

Riccardo Moschetti (PC3 Co-Chair): We are presenting 2 resolutions: first on world federation, and second, updating the resolution on Russia. In the last 2 years we got 9 resolutions adopted, including 3 completely new - on Africa, China, and international trade.

Christelle Savall (EB Member): You explored topics that were not in our resolutions before.

Simon Devos-Chernova (Presidium): We look forward to discussing your resolutions during the Congress.

6.2. Final reports by the Task Forces

TF Civic Education

Annemarie Hertner (TF Co-Chair): Last year was challenging for us and civic education in general. In the first year, we had several calls with Europe@School sections. It worked well at the beginning but it was hard to keep people involved. We tried to share the material that we had. JEF Germany is actively using the shared folder, also there are other active sections. We had a survey trying to understand the needs and support sections to be active. Handover materials have been prepared for the next chairs.

Moritz Schleicher (EB Member): Thank you Annemarie for your work. We now have Europe@Home to adapt tools for online use. You are invited to check them out, the Europe@Home manual has been finalised just this week

TF Capacity Building

Juuso Järviniemi (TF Co-Chair): We've had several activities, twinning programmes and trainings. We used a shared drive folder available to all the members. We have a new toolkit on doing activities during COVID. We also reorganised some resources. There have been several online trainings for the network with support of EB and Secretariat - e.g. at the start of CoFoE, we did an event explaining the Conference.

Katharina Burren (TF Co-Chair): We organised the twinning programme involving Christelle Savall. Later today, we will share some successful examples. It was an opportunity to exchange good practices and bring sections together.

Juuso Järviniemi: It's a great TF, I'm looking forward to how the new mandate continues this. It's not only about us working for sections but also all sections working with each other.

Christelle Savall (EB Member): Get yourself a twinning, use the resources online!

TF Y-FED

Ben Cassar (TF Co-Chair) absent.

Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General): Ben was sadly not available, but Clément Maury (TF Co-Chair) from JEF Strasbourg was involved in preparing the simulation. It was JEF's biggest event organised this year. We will update you later with a Y-Fed presentation on other project results.

TF Resilient JEF

Leonie Martin (TF Co-Chair): We aimed for this half a year to have a session with natural sciences students - sometimes, technical university students are interested in our topics. We couldn't organise it due to date availability. We have created a handover document for the new mandates - we need to increase our diversity and target specific groups.

TF Green Transition

Aleksandra Aleksejeva (TF Co-Chair): The TF has had its ups and downs. We developed a survey analysing the sustainability situation in JEF sections. Even more importantly: we prepared an internal resolution on how to become a more sustainable and environmentally friendly organisation.

TF Empowerment & Diversity

Ophélie Omnes (TF Co-Chair):

- I'm proud of our work - it's been a long road since Malta 2017 when it was established. We need to be stronger internally before we can advocate for anything externally.
- We've had workshops with sections, involving the entire FC in October 2020. The new Code of Conduct covers more areas and how to be more inclusive. Big thanks to Christelle Savall and Kati Systä. Diversity is becoming higher and higher on the European agenda.
- Finally, we can have a policy resolution on diversity and inclusion. The topic is difficult but we have to do it because it's healthy for the organisation - we can't be a generation ahead without it.
- JEF Germany created an incredible TF in their section. JEF Italy - took the topic very seriously, organising 3 workshops on diversity and inclusion. Regardless of the political situation in your country, there are JEFers willing to work on it. It's a difficult topic - it's easy to forget there are people who are not ready to hear your radicality the way you present it. We must find balance between radical discourse we need but also taking into account where do people come from. People from Southern Europe may not feel as comfortable as the Nordics with these topics.

Sebastiano Putoto (Vice-President): Thanks to Ophélie Omnes and Iida Laurila for co-charing this TF. The resolution is good and the new Code of Conduct is not just necessary but it's a quality work - Christelle Savall has done an amazing job on it. Thanks for your work, keep us a generation ahead!

7. Other reports

No more reports presented.

8. Any other business

Leonie Martin (President): I want to thank the FC Presidium for their hard work. You managed to chair things smoothly despite challenges.

Gerhard Soyka (Presidium) - Gender Watch speaking time results: 41.06% Men, 58.94% Women

Sonja Afanasjeva (Presidium): Thank you, it's my last meeting on any elected JEF position after 5 years of work. It's been an interesting journey and a nice closure with this FC chairing. But this is not the end, I can't get out of the federalist family considering my life choices.

FC session closed at 12:39 by **Sonja Afanasjeva** (Presidium).

European Congress - Friday, 19 November

1. Official opening of the Congress

Brief opening speeches by:

- Christine Defraigne, Première Échevine of Liège, former President of the Belgian Senate
- Leonie Martin, President of JEF Europe
- Nicolas Hubert, President of JEF Belgium
- Mathieu Bavay, President of JEF Liège

2. Formalities

2.1.Code of Conduct

Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General):

- Document adopted by the previous FC. We use it at each statutory meeting and activities of JEF Europe. It's a set of rules and values regarding behaviour and treatment of others. It's based on mutual respect, human dignity and safety.
- Contact persons for the Code of Conduct: Milosh Ristovski, Diletta Alese (EB Member).

2.2. Report of the Credentials Committee

Elected Credentials Committee:

- Gerhard Soyka (FC Presidium).
- Abdul Kerim Aydemir (Arbitration Board).
- Patrick Løvenskjold von Wildenradt (Auditors Committee).

Gerhard Soyka: The Credentials Committee's role is to verify the allocation of seats to delegates. It met on 1 September and the Treasurer presented calculations. We checked it and verified it and we concluded that the calculations as presented by the Treasurer were conducted in line with the Statutes and Rules of Procedure of JEF Europe.

2.3. Roll-call (declaration of the votes present and represented)

Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General): Reminded about the COVID restrictions. Voting during the Congress will be done electronically via NemoVote.

80 delegates present (quorum reached).

2.4. Appointment of the Congress Presidium

Leonie Martin (President) - presenting Presidium candidates:

- **Pauline Gessant** (former JEF President),
- **Christopher Glück** (former JEF President),
- **Miriam Postiglione** (former JEF EB Member),
- **Celine Geissmann** (former JEF EB Member),
- **Johannes Börmann** (former JEF FC and Arbitration Board Member),
- **Simon Devos-Chernova** (former Treasurer, Returning Officer).

Vote: Election of the Congress Presidium		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
All candidates elected		

Pauline Gessant is taking the Chair and presenting the technical rules of participation in the Congress.

2.5. Appointment of the Returning Officer

Pauline Gessant: The Returning Officers verifies the conduct of elections. **Simon Devos-Chernova** is the candidate.

Vote: Election of the Returning Officer		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Candidate elected		

2.6. Appointment of four tellers

Pauline Gessant: Tellers can be chosen from among those who don't have a vote. Candidates:

- Sonja Afanasjeva,
- Olav Soldal,
- Robert O'Donnell,
- Laura Serrano Folguera.

Vote: Election of tellers		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
All candidates elected		

2.7. Appointment of the Resolutions Committee

Pauline Gessant (Presidium) - candidates:

- Kalojan Hoffmeister.
- Olav Soldal.
- Riccardo Moschetti.
- Simon Devos-Chernova.

- Pauline Gessant.

Vote: Election of the Resolutions Committee		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
All candidates elected		

2.8. Adoption of the agenda

Vote: Adoption of the agenda		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

2.9. Explanation of the voting procedure on resolutions

Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General): Presented the electronic voting system NemoVote. Everyone has got their credentials by email. There will be no traditional roll-call - quorum to be calculated automatically on the platform.

2.10. Adoption of the minutes of the 25th European Congress (Paris)

Vote: Adoption of the Paris Congress 2019 minutes		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

3. Finances

3.1. Financial report 2019-2021 and membership overview

Chris Powers (Treasurer):

- Over the last 2 years, we have shifted - we are fully in line with Belgian law. By the end of June each year, you have to close account according to the Belgian vote. Accordingly, we already had the vote to close our accounts during an FC. This means that the current report is very short. But, as a formality according to the Statutes, the Congress has to close the accounts of the two previous full financial years.
- Internal and external auditors have agreed these accounts for those 2 previous financial years are good.
- Our financial future as JEF is secured for the next 4 years.

- We have diversified our funding a bit. The Global Challenges foundations provided 10 percent of operational funding.
- We have also strengthened the GDPR protection.
- We have boosted insurance benefits and salaries of the Secretariat.

3.2. Audit Report 2017-2019 (Auditors Committee) and Q&A

Patrick Løvenskjold von Wildenradt (Auditors Committee): We conducted audits of 2 years now and we wanted to tell you about our main findings:

- JEF has very good and solid solvency. We have just got the grant so the financial future is secure and looks really promising.
- Good diversification of sources of funding - many grants, including both project grants and operational grants.
- Weakness: Many sections don't pay their membership fees in due time.
- As auditors, we find it hard to differentiate between operational and project funding - this could be improved.

Marc Sinner (Auditors Committee):

- The last point is really important for us.
- We were successful in getting additional funding. We found it hard as auditors to find out how much money was earned as part of each project. It's important to systematise reporting. We should have more transparent and systematic accounting. The tool we have is a good basis but should be improved.
- At the end of 2019, the equity was going down, in 2020 it went up again a bit due to less expenses. With bigger staff and office rent, we should be able to ensure a solid reserve if something goes wrong in terms of income.

No questions.

3.3. Adoption of the annual accounts for 2020 and 2021

Vote: Adoption of the annual accounts for 2020 and 2021		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

4. Past activities

4.1. Organisational activity report 2019-2021

Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General):

- In the last 2 years we have managed to grow. We wrote and implemented many projects as well as developed good relations with donors, including the European Commission, Council of Europe, European Parliament, Global Challenges Foundation.
- The New Federalist - new editors have elected.
- Statutory meetings: FC Spring 2020, FC FinFun August 2020, FC Autumn/Home 2020, FC Spring 2021.
- Y-FED the project helped us to start our work on the COnference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE).

- CoFoE - Leonie Martin is going to talk more. Many local consultations have been organised and we have some of the most voted ideas on the CoFoE Platform. The Next Chapter Europe project is coordinated by Alexandra Huber.
- European Youth Event - many JEFers present, a federal Europe became top 3rd idea, Kalojan Hoffmeister had a chance to present our ideas.
- Europe@School - I'm happy this can be more than a project but a programme. With several grants, we have ensured that it has its website, many participants. Now the final stage is Europe@Home (Théo Lecarpentier is the coordinator).
- New project areas: internet governance (Lorène Weber and Théo Lecarpentier are working on it).
- The Mindset project: entry point when it comes to discrimination, also advocacy towards institutions. Linked with the new CoFoE project with Euractiv.
- Campaigns: Democracy under Pressure, Global Solutions for Global Problems, Federalist Summer, Be a federalist ally - to be discussed in more detail during the political activity report.

4.2. Political activity report 2019-2021

Leonie Martin (President) presentation:

- It was a historical mandate due to COVID. We wrote our Action Plan 2020, assuming that life would go on, but we had to readjust it. "Federal Europe will not be put on pause" was our motto amid the pandemic.
- We have a long-term strategy as an organisation. Every year, we have an action plan based on it. Our long term strategy 2021-2024 was developed following focus groups and adopted during Spring FC.
- We pioneered - we had one of the first youth NGOs online events, and then one of the first to organise a hybrid one.
- There was a change in the Board composition - Hanna Kivimäki resigned and Christelle Savall was co-opted in her place.
- We changed offices. We updated the work regulations and our GDPR policy.
- I was elected in 2019 but started full-time in January 2020.
- We have organised Democracy under pressure in 2020 as a first test on how to survive amid COVID19. DuP 2021 was a 15 years anniversary, we made it big style: 3 weeks of online events, partnership with the Council of European Municipalities and Regions, contacted Political Party Youth Organisations (PPYOs), tried to light up the European Parliament, organised a petition on Belarus, sent to open letters to Borrell and Várhelyi, we advocated for expanding the scope of sanctions. We sent letters to political prisoners, giving visibility to JEF. We are doing it for people in Belarus, Rada, and people in prison. We have got so much visibility that a staff member of the Tsikhanouskaya office got in touch with us and she follows us on Twitter.
- We organised Europe Days with you together.
- The Next Chapter Europe project helped us to engage young Europeans in the COnference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE).
- The campaign "Be a Federalist Ally" supported the Black Lives Matter movement
- We made sure works for all - we had regular calls with sections and re-prioritised budgets - we hired Lorene Weber as our Membership Officer. We implemented "Pimp my JEF 2".
- We have plenty of interest groups we are calling regularly. Get in touch and support them.
- Inclusion - there has been a rework of the Code of Conduct, which is also to be included in the Federalist Academy.

- Influential JEF - our involvement in CoFoE. Ensuring that this nerdy topic is not only ours but others are interested in it. We allied with the UEFand Civil Society Europe, Milosh elected as co-chair of the Civil Society CoFoE Convention and as such has a seat in the CoFoE Plenary.
- Advocacy on more youth participation in the Conference. High impact on the youth quota in the Conference.
- Mini advocacy campaigns. Making sure that CoFoE is transparent and democratic. We uploaded 13 proposals - the European Federation is the most popular proposal. We are quoted in newspapers in different languages. Recognised as relevant actors, invited to speak at different events. 18% of our meetings relate to CoFoE.
- We are working on advocacy related to transnational lists.
- We are active in different networks: Union of European Federalists, European Movement International, World Federalist Movement, Young World Federalists, European Youth Forum, Civil Society Europe, Generation Climate Europe.
- We adopted a Press strategy and revised our Communications strategy. We toned down the number of PRs, prioritised Twitter.

4.3. Q&A

Chris Powers (Treasurer): What do we need to make CoFoE successful?
Leonie Martin (President): Go to the CoFoE page: jef.eu/cofoe/

Julius Lajtha (JEF UK): Is corporate funding something that could be explored to boost the diversity of funds for JEF? Also, could funding from foundations be expanded?
Milosh Ristovski (Secretary General): Thanks to the Global Challenges Foundation our non-EU funding increased by 10%. Private funding - we tried to approach private foundations and FlixBus but we wouldn't feel comfortable to have partnerships with private companies (e.g. Ryanair) that would violate our policie. Companies want their logo to be seen. Whenever there is a new foundation, we always have a discussion of who this is.

5. Future activities

5.1. 50 years of JEF Europe in 2022

Leonie Martin (President): We are turning 50 in 2022 (technically we are a bit older). All planning was dependent on knowing if we have funding or not. We only learnt about funding on Wednesday. What will happen for sure - a big demonstration around CoFoE Plenary in March 2022. The Spring FC in Luxembourg will be an opportunity for all JEFers to get together and look into the future.

5.2. Conference on the Future of Europe

Leonie Martin (President): This was covered in detail under the activity report point. Among our main CoFoE advocacy venues are the Next Chapter Europe project, the Federalist Chapter, and the promotion of our proposals on the Digital Platform. We engage critically in CoFoE. It's not only the European level doing things but also you - engage with decision makers and people.

5.3. State of the Federalist family

Sebastiano Putoto (Vice-President): Presentation of what we did during our mandate. How did we go about reinforcing our federalist family?

- With the notable exception of the Union of European Federalists (UEF), we strengthened and developed new partnerships.
- World Federalist Movement (WFM) - global movement, we are an associate member.

- We are also in touch with Young World Federalists (YWF), our equivalents at the global level.
- WFM and YWF - we are supporting their campaigns. At the WFM Congress, Riccardo Moschetti was elected member of their Executive Committee for 4 years with the highest number of votes.
- European Movement International (EMI) - we are long standing members. JEFers Valentin Dupouey and Antonio Argenziano are members of the EMI Board.
- UEF - we are members, automatically represented in their Board (by our President Leonie Martin, and then since 2021 by me). Pauline Gessant and Chris Glück were Vice-Presidents of UEF.
- Do these political movements serve our goals as JEF? Some do, some less so. It changes over time.
- UEF - rough, diverging priorities. When Pauline Gessant and Chris Glück were elected VPs, we were at an all time high in relationships. The UEF SG Paolo Vacca was very close to JEF. The leadership has changed in the meantime and brought several disagreements. Still, we should all be making an effort to stay in the federalist family.
- Why is it important to fight for world federalism? We managed to vaccinate ourselves but people all over the world don't have access to it. We cannot keep peace in Europe while keeping war outside. Europe must change - it must unite or perish.
- COP26 is an example of an intergovernmental conference. We are far from a global democratic government to solve the climate crisis.
- The conflict in Ukraine is ongoing just at the EU's border.
- Fighting for world federalism is easier said than done, but if it was easy, we wouldn't have to do it.

Marc Sinner (JEF Switzerland): I have a question for Sebastiano. To me it sounds as if we wanted to do everything at the same time. Maybe it sounds noble but maybe it's a bit too big. Transforming the world via a world federalist movement - I miss the imagination to transform countries like Russia and China towards this goal. Shouldn't we focus on our core goal which is European federalism?
Sebastiano Putoto: In terms of resources, we do focus on our core business of the European Federation. I disagree with you: the Statutes say that world federation is our core business and so is peace. Why do we want to achieve world federation? To make war impossible. Nationalism cannot move from the nation state towards the European level. Otherwise, the European Federation won't be a tool for world peace. There are good reasons to do it both with authoritarian regimes and without. If a European Federation is not serving world peace, then it's not in line with our mission.

Chris Glück (Presidium): We took a difficult decision with Pauline to step down as UEF VPs - we still consider UEF an important tool for federalism.

6. Full-time President

6.1. Presentation of the resolution on full-time President

Emma Farrugia (Vice-President):

- We are presenting the internal resolution on continuation of a full-time JEF president position. This position was established by the FC Autumn 2018 in Turku, with Chris Glück holding a trial period in the light of European Elections. It was reconfirmed with Leonie Martin's mandate. The Paris Congress in 2019 set the following conditions for full-time presidency: 1) EB monitors the benefits and risks of the full-time position, 2) EB submits a reasoned recommendation in Spring 2021 and submits an internal resolution for this Congress.

- Leonie presented several reports from her work.
- Presentation of the internal resolution - recommendations:
    - We recommend the president to be full time again, in accordance with Belgian law.
    - We recommend that it's monitored and EB and President submit reports on its state in the next 2 years.
    - During the Spring FC 2023, a reasoned recommendation should be presented and an internal resolution adopted at the next Congress.
    - The salary is to be paid from the operational budget.
    - The President is to be political and SG operational.
    - The position should support the flow of information between the EB and Secretariat.
    - It should support the link between JEF Europe and its sections. Leonie had open hours to talk with sections.
    - It is to be used for political advocacy and representation. Probably Leonie wouldn't have been able to do so much if she had a job outside of JEF. Also, it could be a conflict of interest.
- Challenges and disadvantages:
    - The distinction between the SG and President. Complementary but they must be separate. The SG is responsible for operational work and office, while the President is political. This has been happening.
    - Risk that the President becomes part of the Secretariat as opposed to the EB. But we believe there are enough safeguards against it.
    - Costs: JEF is going to be in a financially stable position in the next 2 years, but this potential challenge should be always kept in mind.
    - We must not necessarily see the role as a job: you are still a volunteer. The remuneration is to give a salary without conflict of interest and survive. This should never be seen as a lucrative position.

Sebastiano Putoto (Vice-President): Having been on 2 Boards with a full-time president, can you tell us how it can change JEF's capacity?
Emma Farrugia: I want to draw a distinction between ability to carry it out unhindered, and someone constricted with other issues. Before full-time presidency, this could have taken a toll on their mental health. It also multiplies the message of JEF tenfold.

6.2. Debate

Nikolaj Kornerup (JEF Denmark): Of course having a full president means doing more. But also there is a question of legibility - having a full president limits the number of people who can run for this position. Maybe many would like to do such a job but don't have time or the possibility to quit their jobs.
Emma Farrugia (Vice-President): We are not changing Statutes here. This is only going to be binding for next 2 years. The resolution can be voted down if people are against the full time presidency.
Julius Lajtha (JEF UK): I have a counter-argument. All the other posts in the Board are not paid - so they are occupied by people who have their jobs and studies. How JEF works, based on reports, is that every single person in EB has their own baby. I didn't have the impression that a full-time president would forbid an EB to pursue a certain project. So the pool of candidates is not limited because they can apply for VPs and EB members as volunteers instead.
Dvir Aviam Ezra (JEF Belgium): Estimation of the cost of full-time president as percent of the budget?

Joaquim Candel Fabregat (JEF Spain): You mentioned, as required by Belgian law? Is it required by Belgian law that a full-time president is in place?
Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General): 10% of the operational funding goes to full-time president. We would not be able to pay a volunteer outside of staff, full time president gets a fixed term contract.

Maija Maunu (JEF Finland) - presenting Amendment 30: Just to clarify, we are in favour of the core of this resolution but we want to change the process. We think the discussion we are having now should have taken place during the Spring FC, instead of now, during the same weekend when we are actually electing the President. This Congress may empower the Spring FC 2023 to take this decision and finish the process 6 months earlier than suggested now. We think it would be beneficial for the organisation and all potential president candidates. We lack space for genuine discussion ahead of time - even though we could now vote down this resolution, it would not be fair or realistic. Secondly, it's not reasonable for the candidates to rely on a non-binding recommendation while preparing for the elections and not knowing whether they will be taking a new job or a very demanding volunteering position.
Emma Farrugia: I want to speak against AM30, on my own behalf, not as a Board Member. I understand the need to have certainty ahead. The problem is that you are deciding 6 months in advance what kind of system we are going to have, which means that you are limiting the pool of candidates in the end. Some people may not be able to do it full time, and some may not be able to do it voluntarily. Should we continue doing this at the Congress, that leaves flexibility and leaves the Congress as the highest decision-making body to be able to choose how this will take place. Apart from that, from the financial point of view, 6 months in advance makes a difference because a lot of operational funding we get is granted towards the end of the year. So at that point in time, taking a decision on whether we should have a full time president would be premature in the light of the fact that I may not know the state of financial affairs ahead of time.
Håvard Rørtveit (JEF Norway) - in favour of AM30: We need predictability. We need a system where people know what kind of role they do ahead of time. We should have decided on this earlier. This would give people time so they know what they are running for.
Chris Powers (Treasurer): I don't have a strong opinion on the amendment. We are not saying ever that we will guarantee that someone will be paid the entire time. Our only candidate Antonio couldn't have known, until this week, if his job would be paid for those 2 years or not. He may have hoped it would be but he applied for a position where it could not be the case. If you want this recommendation to be at the right time, you should do it as close as possible to the time of the election which is now. If it's more of a political recommendation on whether a full time president fits our needs, you can do that 6 months before but will still need to come to this question of how we are going to pay for it.

6.3. Vote

Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General): 84 votes present.

Vote: Full-time President resolution AM030		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
50	27	3
Adopted		

Vote: Full-time President resolution as amended		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
72	1	5
Adopted		

7. Speech of MEP Daniel Freund

Daniel Freund (MEP, Spinelli Group President):

- You picked a good spot for the Congress - close to borders. I'm from Aachen, I met my wife on Erasmus in Paris. I'm a fully convinced federalist.
- The last decade hasn't always been easy. All the problems we see today, they have been there. And we federalists saw the solutions. But we couldn't be so much further with the Constitution etc. We always hear it's not the time because we have to solve some crisis. So there it's never the time to talk about fundamental reform.
- People don't realise the reason for crisis after crisis is the lack of structural reform in such areas as an economy or migration policy.
- If no full integration is the right way to go, maybe we should go to our small city states, or we should keep going?
- We should be going step by step but not as slowly as now. Russia, China and the US are not waiting for us to integrate. Digitalisation, climate change, are not waiting. Violations of our values at home and abroad are not waiting.
- With CoFoE, we have managed to open a tiny door. Although it's slow, nobody knows about it, member states are making it irrelevant. The fear of Member States gives me hope - it means that they are afraid something may come out of it.
- We really need to take advantage of this opportunity. Otherwise, we may lose another decade and it's becoming increasingly difficult to even start the debate.
- The area where there is a real opportunity to change is European Electoral Law. Transnational lists (TNLs) - we need to talk about this. Telling people to get an additional EU-level vote to choose whom they vote for.
- The most important part of it is that people are on the ballot. This forces all political parties to show their allegiance. Important that all national parties show their allegiance to European parties. TNLs can strengthen this connection.
- The people to convince are on the conservative part of the spectrum. There is a chance it goes through the EP but there will be resistance from Member States.

Miriam Postiglione (Presidium): We propose a change of the agenda as we are running late - moving the points on statutory reform and award ceremony to tomorrow morning.
Vote: Change of the agenda as presented: clear majority, adopted

8. Honorary Membership of JEF

Leonie Martin (President): The EB would like to nominate Pauline Gessant, our former President as Honorary Member for her long term involvement in JEF. She has been active in JEF, UEF, UEF France, Friends of JEF, and provided mental support to Chris and me. She introduced so many people to JEF.

Vote: Honorary Membership for Pauline Gessant		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
acclamation	0	0
Adopted		

Pauline Gessant: It's visible that JEF is more alive than ever. Once a JEFer, always a JEFer - I still consider myself as one. You should join the alumni network of JEF. We still keep trying to change the UEF. Special thanks to Leonie.

9. Discharges

9.1. Discharge of the FC

Miriam Postiglione (Presidium): We propose to vote on the discharges by acclamation.

Vote: Discharge of the FC		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
acclamation	0	0
Adopted		

9.2 Discharge of the EB

Vote: Discharge of the EB		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
acclamation	0	0
Adopted		

10. Farewell speech by President

A round of testimonies:

- **Milosh Ristovski** (Secretary-General): There are so many things I wanted to say to announce Leonie's farewell speech. There are so many pictures and moments we can share. In the last two years, there was so much Zoom that maybe it would be the best picture if we announce her farewell speech here in person together. So I would like to ask a couple of people about what Leonie has done for them and the network.
- **Anna van de Moosdijk** (JEF Netherlands): You are very hard working and sensitive. You are a star guiding us in the Netherlands because you founded us and we want to continue it.
- **Julius Lajtha** (JEF UK): It was a cold day in March, I felt things in JEF UK were not going in the right direction. We walked together for a coffee in Parc Leopold. You

motivated me to keep my work up. Things don't work perfectly but we can be satisfied.

- **Laura Gaißmaier** (JEF Germany): I learnt from you to do the extra mile. But even if you go the extra mile, it's always good to tell a good joke to keep in good spirits.
- **Chris Powers** (former Treasurer): I've known Leonie for 10 years. There have been many good things and some fights but always with positive outcomes. You have a hard working ethic. You are promoting inclusion and diversity, always speaking of a 'little man'. But if you are in a position of power, you are not afraid of standing up and telling you what she thinks.
- **Ophelie Omnes (FC)**: I learnt from Leonie that she values work and sacrifices for JEF. She's been a great ally in many fights. She may not even understand how it is to be in your shoes, but she is able to acknowledge that and still gives you the support you may need in that specific moment and say the right words.
- **Sebastiano Putoto** (former Vice-President): We have slightly different styles and interests. We can disagree on methods or content and yet it's still a team that works.
- **Emma Farrugia** (former Vice-President): We first met at the Bologna FC. This meeting foreshadowed a lot of what you mean to me and the organisation. You've always been the federalist leading our battle. A JEFer aiming to make everyone part of the JEF family and empowering other women. You are a leader to be remembered and one who has tangibly made a difference to us at JEF and Europe.

Leonie Martin (former President):

- Just earlier we talked about Next Chapter Europe and here I am, closing a chapter in front of your eyes. It might not be significant to you, that's okay but to me it is.
- I have been a JEFer for 11 years now, I have been active on the European level for eight years, as Co-Chair of PC2, twice as a Senior VP and now as President.
- I have grown up with JEF, made friends, and learnt a lot.
- It is time for fresh wind in JEF Europe, it is time for other organisations to see that there are many great and many skilled people in JEF and likewise, it is time for me to find out what for instance weekends and a healthier balance in life are.
- President - and even more so, full-time President, was the best thing I have ever done or get to do, so far, and also the hardest, most challenging thing. Of course the Congress in 2019 could not know that there is a pandemic coming up; but I would not know how to have taken care of my job, of myself whilst my heart sought to care for JEF and JEFers.
- Thank you so much for your foresight.
- As President I experienced multiple times that people put me on some pedestal. And of course, to a degree this is part of the position. But sometimes the pedestal ignores the own internal struggles and fears a person might have had. I have been reflecting quite a lot on how JEF has grown in the past years, how it changed or developed how I have grown and developed- As I have been given speaking time, allow me to share some anecdotes because I feel it can be of your benefit that we break some myths and I will mix in some of my thank yous.
    - **One:**
        - I joined as a pro-European. I heard about it in 2009, my first year of studying. It was the financial crisis and there was this proposal of a "pro-European youth organisation, well technically we are federalists".
        - I did not know what a federal Europe was and honestly, it scared me a bit. But what I knew was that I was pro-European and I had an inner gut feeling, a strong conviction that I need to be there, this sounds

amazing, I need to be part of a JEF Netherlands. Hallelujah for the gut feeling!
        - As the financial crisis in the early 2010s was developing, the political analysis of JEF Europe also became much sharper: the institutional framework is not well set-up. Intergovernmental aspects are at work. This is what we can do.
    - Cool I'm in. Policies have to be run efficiently and democratically, so this makes sense. I was a federalist, for the system's sake.
    - Lesson: Be open to pro-Europeans. Engage and ask what their thinking politically about Europe. Who knows, they might be federalists after all? They might run for President!
- **Two:**
    - I liked going to the working groups, the early task forces, they felt practical and they felt like something that I like doing and am good at. I went to PCs because they were part of it, I never considered myself a PC person, discussing small words.
    - Through seeing especially other young people passionately taking the floor - and I want to underline the role of young women here - it sparked an interest. This is cool. Let me try. I became a Co-chair of a PC. I learnt how to use a PC, and I learnt that I liked it a lot.
    - Lesson: Encourage other people to discover new parts in JEF. Find out what a person likes doing, and see how we can use that for our political strategy
- **Three:**
    - Mid 2010s, the discussion around women in politics changed: there was Hillary Clinton, AOC. The Metoo movement.
    - We had discussions ourselves, and for me this was a breaking moment. A veil lifted, like some sort of 100 year sleep: Oh wait, I needed someone to ask me if I considered running for a position. Wait what you too, you kick ass woman did not think of running for a position yourself?
    - We realised it's more a structural issue than it is a personal one.
    - We had uncomfortable discussions, around privilege for instance: the people who were the first ones to study in their families, the people who do not go to university, people of colour in JEF. We have a code of conduct now, with the aim of creating safe spaces. Wew have a TF Empowerment and Diversity. When Black Lives Matters happened, we organised how to be a federalist ally. We now regularly express our support with our LGBTI+ members.
    - Lesson: Always keep JEF open. In the end, the federalist battle is a long-term one. We need to convince a big majority. If not everyone sits around the table, how do we make the deal? When you're in a leadership position, always always always look around you and cultivate the next generation. Encourage people to consider leadership positions, as they might not have done that.
    - Understand that people can grow, people can change.
- **Four:**
    - In these six years, in which I have been a board member, JEF has grown a lot.
    - Now look at this, eight people. Much bigger office space too. 6 years ago, JEF had one SG and perhaps an intern. How did we get there?
    - Lessons directly: The network worked together. We wrote down what we wanted to achieve. We managed to hire good people that can write good applications. It was and is and it will remain a team effort to reach our goals and go beyond whatever we imagined to do.

    - Thank you to people that I had the chance to meet and become friends with along the way in JEF in past 11 years, specifically members of the past boards i have been on, my fellow VPs Ophelie and Jacopo, as well as Chris G, Miriam, Céline, Simon, and my co-chair in PC2 Angelika.
    - “Older JEFers” such as Pauline, a league of kick-ass ladies in the FC who challenged and inspired me. Laura Gies for telling me years ago that I should run for ideas, not for duty.
- **Five:**
    - There are people that join JEF through friends, those that join through coincidence, career, but there’s always a share of people that join for ideological reasons: the JEF philosophers.
    - They have read Kant, they have read Spinelli, they know how to quote the important texts. Super impressive.
    - To those like me who: Listen, learn, do not ever think you do not have a right to speak in JEF because you haven’t gotten there to read the documents yet.
    - You’ll have time. You may know how to organise events, be a nerd in a specific policy, or just be a fun person to be around. You have your value in JEF.
    - When I had the chance, and this was already when I was active on the European level, I was fascinated by the thought expressed in the Ventotene Manifesto.
    - Remember, I was a federalist for structural reasons. That the absence of war does not guarantee peace. That democratic structures alone guarantee peace as they facilitate a discussion. That is why we need to set up federal structures before the states, these imagined communities, have conflicts about resources that they choose to solve. Not using dialogue.Not using compromise or voting.But choose to use violence.
    - When I started in JEF, the thought of Europe as a peace-keeper felt out-dated.
    - Has the Second World War grown too much of a distinct memory? Had the EU not “just been there” when a WAR was happening on our own continent, in the Balkans in the 90s?
    - But we are in 2021 now. We are living in the midst of a climate crisis. Federalism for peace is coming back, stronger than a 90s trend.
    - Resources are getting scarcer - you have seen what missing toilet paper can do to people, imagine what happens if they don’t know how to feed themselves. If they lose their homes. If they lose their loved ones.
- Standing here in Liège, honestly, it feels very symbolic to me. For me, growing up in the Netherlands, the “South” was always safe of water. There are hills here. And yet, the water came here.
- The Climate crisis is the most urgent need for a federalization of Europe, the most urgent need for the acceleration of democratising global governance.
- We need a federal Europe to live in peace. When Fridays for Future speaks up that the time is now, we need to join. The time is now for a federal Europe.
- And it seems like more people seem to realise it too, we are on the break of getting momentum. The Conference on the Future of EUrope might unleash a dynamic with the participating citizens. With the participating MPs and MEPs.
- More people now realise that the European Union is one political system.That most of the ideas mentioned in the Conference have already been raised but never implemented. Because they might have been stalled in the Council, where national interests come out to play.
- In the past six years I have given speeches that all started with “it’s becoming urgent for Europe to act… it’s becoming more urgent… it is SUPER urgent”.

- The reason for that repetitiveness is not us though. We have done - are doing enough. We are showing again and again our history and our presence that - we were here, everywhere we've been, we have been leaving traces.
- The repetitiveness is because the people in power are not moving. Instead some are finding short-term solutions that might be better sold to national voters.
- So what do we do?
    - Hold them accountable: EUropean Parliament, national parliaments, national governments. For what they are doing. For what they are not doing.
    - Go to the March in March for a Conference on the Future of Europe that is worth its name, that can actually create a change in Europe - towards a more democratic Union.
    - Create and force European public space. If people do not talk about Europe, then you be the people and talk about Europe. Be the annoying citizen in row 1, asking what your mayor is doing, what their vision for your city in Europe is. Ask your MP what they are doing to shape the government's policy to sit in the Council. Ask your MEP what they are doing for Transnational Lists.
    - Hold them accountable. Hold them accountable for the Migration "crisis" being handled. We still have people dying in the Mediterranean Sea, we have people living in inhumane conditions in the refugee camps. shamefully, whilst we are the richest continent of the world. Hold them accountable for the development of the Rule of Law crisis. This has become a crucial problem not just for Hungarian or Polish citizens but for all of us - the legal system that we share in the EU is questioned.
    - Hold them accountable for the Western Balkans - we need to start negotiating enlargement with the countries, as their rightful home is in Europe.
    - Last, a bit of positivity. What I have come to realise is that we actually sometimes have more power than the politicians: our secret power is that we are active, we are active on a local level. We are well connected across party lines and across the continent. And that is something that can be hard to beat.
    - Our non-partisan character challenges us to dialogue, to listen to other arguments, to find compromise and to see the power in that.
    - Our network allows us to be European activists in a European network. What sense does it make to only be isolated in your town when you can zoom in on someone from a different corner of our continent? We humanise Europe.
    - Our post-nationalist character ensures that JEF - the E for European is not a noun but just an adjective. We are not creating a new nationalism, we are not celebrating "Europeans", we are calling for a political structure.
    - Use that power. Channel your frustration. Hold them accountable. It is needed.
- Thank you to this EB: our mandate was a rollercoaster, due to the nature of time. I am happy we found ways to talk with each other, even happier we had chances to meet up physically. You have shown what dedication in a google meets is. Together, we have organised XX political campaigns, we have standardised and documented a lot of knowledge that is now ready to use for future boards.
- Thank you to the Secretariat: Alexandra, Lorène, Elitsa, Mirjam, Théo, Sean. I have seen you grow in the past year and I am just amazed at how well you managed to get to know the organisation when it was only online. Policy officer Michal, working with you has been a pure blast. I will miss our brainstorms and nerdy jokes.
- SG Milosh: I think Chris told me that SG is going to be the person in my life in these two years. How right that was. I am sometimes just amazed with how you are able to wipe off any negative energy from you. I wouldn't have been able to do this mandate without you. This truly has been a testing time but I knew that I was able to lean on

you when I needed support and likewise I did my best to offer you support when you needed it. You have given me a better understanding of non-formal education, the Avengers (together with Chris) and Eurovision. Thank you for your work, thank you for guiding the Secretariat and growing it! In these times. Happy to count you as one of my friends.

- Last but not least, Thank you to people who are not in the room: my pillars of support who are not JEF but always had a foot in the door: my parents who in the beginning saw quickly that i enjoy this and borrowed me €50 to pay for the FC when I couldn't. who have offered me support and advice esp in the past two years.
- My friends who heard too often that I cannot join a board game evening and who accepted JEF as part of my life, offering advice or calling on me to not think about a federal Europe for once.
- The success that you are celebrating is not mine, it's the success of this board, of this secretariat, the success of the people around us supporting us. I couldn't have pulled through six years without your support. Words cannot express my gratitude. A next chapter awaits you too.
- I am excited about Antonio's candidacy, as he has been a passionate activist, thoughtful in strategy and supportive as a human and friend. I cannot wait to see what JEF Europe is going to do under his Presidency, in the 2020s, what JEF is going to do with the Conference, with the European elections.
- I wish you good luck, lots of JEFspirit and importantly COURAGE! JEF is needed more than ever!
- It's been an honour serving you as President these past two years.
- Thank you for your trust and cooperation. Long live a federal Europe!

10.1. Other speeches

Chris Glück (Presidium):

- A few words on the club you are entering, the club of people who have the best behind them.
- The first thing is time and resilience and what it means for JEF.
- Let's think what 6 years of JEF leadership means. 6 years ago, when you entered the EB as Vice-President, Juncker just started his mandate as Commission President. Obama was the President of the US. So much has happened since this time and constantly since that time we needed to react to it politically, organisationally, in terms of our interactions.
- It's not only politics - it's 6 years that are long for any human. Some of these years were the most defining in our lives. We left universities and wanted to find out who we wanted to be and what jobs to find, and it was more challenging for us than for the previous generations.
- Throughout all of this time, you manage to consistently put JEF as a priority. You also managed to pull other people with you and provide support when they needed it.
- There are many people contributing to JEF but I think JEF lives off those people who manage to have this resilience over so many years to pull that organisation together.
- I want to know how many friendships exist in the world because you manage to put people together.
- The good thing is there is a life afterwards: and that life afterwards will also allow you to be the force of good in the world. It's not as easy to find these spaces anymore, but they exist and with your commitment you will find those.
- The bad news is JEF is a unique place and we are extremely privileged to experience it, but at some point we need to move on.

- Welcome to the club of people who still live off the past. But we don't give up: we won't stop until we achieve a European Federation.

Pauline Gessant (Presidium): Don't worry, Leonie has already committed to stay in the Board of Friends of JEF. We have plenty of projects for you. My advice is to bring into everything in your life what you learnt with JEF. Always use your JEF life in your future life.

11. Statutory reform update

Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General):

- There are two sets of statutory changes we are going to vote on. I will go fast through this point because we already had a dedicated webinar about it.
- Only the Congress can change the Statutes. During the FC in Spring 2021, we outlined the list of statutory changes.
- Two months before the Congress, all sections received an email with the list of these changes. Each section was invited to raise questions or propose amendments.
- There are 2 blocks of changes:
    - The first block is the one we already voted for during the Paris Congress 2019. But we needed a notary to be present during the vote to make this change, so this is why we have to approve them again here in Liege tomorrow. These changes will be announced to Monitor Belge.
    - The second block of changes are changes linked with the new law in Belgium. This new association law was announced 2 years ago, changes to how association statutes should look, and we have to adapt to it.
- We worked on these changes with Lorene Weber and lawyers. Also, the outgoing EB consulted with sections about the changes.
- Most of these changes are technical. The document with the statutory changes has been shared with you, and I'm going to share them on the screen. I will provide a brief overview of the main changes required by the new law (second block). The Paris changes (first block), I'm not going to discuss because these were voted on during the previous Congress.
- The changes include new terminology according to the changed Belgian law from 2019.
- We have changed the language: we replaced 'he/she' with 'they' to have a gender neutral language. We have clarified the words 'sections', 'member sections' and 'members', because before, we used different words for different things.
- The biggest change is giving the power to the Congress to meet every year. This doesn't mean we will have a physical Congress every year and the Congress is not going to lose its power, but by the new law, the financial reports and budget must be approved by the highest decision-making body (General Assembly). So now, every year the 100 Congress delegates will have to approve these. In practice, the Congress will be announced at the same time as an FC, but this part is going to be done online. The FC will have its meeting in Spring every year as before, and then there will be an additional agenda item, which will be the FC vote on the financial parts and a recommendation to the Congress to approve or reject the financial report and budget. This recommendation then is going to be sent to the Congress, and the Congress will vote on the budget and financial report online.
- The Congress delegates meeting annually will have the opportunity to add other agenda points if they wish.
- This also means that membership statements will have to be done on time annually to update the number of delegates every year.
- This change doesn't mean that any JEF body loses its power. The FC is still going to check everything but their decision will be a recommendation to the Congress. We will have to approve the financial report and budget before the end of June every year.
- We also had to move some parts of our Rules of Procedure inside the Statutes by the new law.

- The vote on these changes will take place tomorrow morning.

No questions asked.

12. PCs and political work

PC chairs presenting resolutions:
Kalojan Hoffmeister (PC1 Co-Chair): We want to amend two resolutions:

- Regarding the rule of law - this needs to be updated especially to respond to the decision of the POlish Constitutional Tribunal to undermine the EU law primacy.
- Fiscal union - it's very important, financing recovery and generating own resources.

Flavia Sandu (PC2 Co-Chair): We have 4 resolutions plus another lapsing one (Digital Europe - unchanged):

- Internal resolution: More sustainable.
- For a more inclusive Europe - how people in society should be involved in decision making.
- Promoting youth labour mobility - opened for changes.
- Circular economy - opened for changes.

Riccardo Moschetti (PC3 Co-Chair): We have 2 resolutions to update (on Russia and on Ukraine). There is also a new resolution on world federalism and democratic global governance.

12.1. Parallel PC sessions - PC 1: Institutions and Governance

PC sessions are not minuted.

12.2. Parallel PC sessions - PC 2: Internal European affairs

PC sessions are not minuted.

12.3. Parallel PC sessions - PC 3: External Affairs and Global Governance

PC sessions are not minuted.

12.4 Report by the PC chairs

Kalojan Hoffmeister (PC1 Co-Chair):

- We discussed two resolutions, one the rule of law and second on the fiscal union.
- We had discussions on the rule of law violations that happened in the last years and different types of EU's own resources as part of a fiscal union.
- We added some amendments, some were rejected.
- We have decided to lapse the resolution on Brexit lapse. In the future, we can work on a new resolution establishing a new framework for EU-UK relations.

Flavia Sandu (PC2 Co-Chair):

- Most of the discussed amendments passed.
- We had an easy way of coming into agreement and some valuable discussions.
- I encourage you to adopt the PC2 resolutions.

Riccardo Moschetti (PC3 Co-Chair):

- The resolution on Russia - we discussed the role of civil society, sanctions, the issues with the rule of law. We condemned Russian military actions in Ukraine and other countries.

- We also discussed the new resolution on world federalism, including global governance and the establishment of global democratic institutions.

13. Speech of Antoaneta Asenova, President of LYMEC

Antoaneta Asenova (President of LYMEC):

- I wanted to talk about the Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE).
- Once the CoFoE Digital Platform was launched, we submitted our proposals following grassroots consultations.
- Together with Leonie Martin, we have attended several events dedicated to the COnference, insisting on the importance of this process. It hasn't got proper tracking in the media.
- Each of us has the duty to bring more attention to this process.
- Members of LYMEC signed a joint manifesto on CoFoE for the EU institutions.
- The whole process has been moving slowly and made it difficult to understand to people.
- Opinion polls show that a noticeable fraction of Europeans see that the EUropean project is not delivering - rise of youth unemployment, the lurking energy crisis. It's easy for national governments to blame the EU for this.
- Even we, EU supporters, can see that the Union works sometimes too slow, too late or too ad-hoc.
- It's time for a great leap forward in terms of European cooperation. We can make this happen together as youth organisations.
- We don't want unanimity voting in the Council, we want a strong European Parliament, and a clear and transparent election of the Commission President.
- We don't know what will be the next time we have a consultation on the future of Europe like CoFoE.
- We can't take another century and a half to take the next brave new leap. Our generation deserves it, let's fight for a EUrope of the future, let's bring this Europe we imagine together!

Leonie Martin (former President): We have done so much together with LYMEC. You are a youth organisation we can rely on - not only about the Conference but also Belarus.

14. Sections and membership

Christelle Savall (former EB Member): We presented the section report yesterday at the FC. The FC recommended expelling JEF Lithuania, JEF Serbia, and JEF Armenia, which have been inactive and not paid membership fees for years.
Chris Powers (former Treasurer): I tried to bring the sections back. There were some signs of hope sometimes but overall it was not successful.
Christelle Savall: As said yesterday, there is hope for a new JEF Serbia but it will take time. Forum Mladih is a young wing of the European Movement, they are interested in JEF and engaged with us. However, it's still early for them so we are giving them time to decide if they want to join our family. But sadly, in the meantime we have to expel the 3 sections.
Celine Geissmann (Presidium): All cessation and membership presentations and then new candidates will be presented and then we will do a Q&A altogether.

Diletta Alese (former EB Member) - presentation of the candidate section JEF Romania:

- JEF Romania is finally ready to become a full section. They were also in touch with the previous EB.
- Their team is able to bring new people on board, also people with experience in JEF.

- We had group calls about what we can do together. They were active during the pandemic and revived the "The New Federalist" (TNF) in Romania. There is a new group to move on with registration to proceed in the next months.
- I want to welcome them and support them in their bid to become a full JEF member.

Madalin Blidaru (JEF Romania candidate section):
- I want to present JEF Romania activities in the last 2 years
- We are around 30 young people.
- We have been strengthening cooperation with JEF Europe and sections
- We communicate federalism with decision makers and engage with MEPs. We organise debates and advocacy actions. We joined JEF Europe's action on our own resources.
- We are looking to reunite with the federalist family.

Balázs Brandt (JEF Hungary interest group):
- Joining JEF Europe is our chance to reconnect us with you and Hungary with Europe.
- European values are violated daily in Hungary. We want to stop it.
- The Hungarian foreign policy also goes against the EU values.
- Last year, through the network with JEF we organised joint events, international seminars and interviews.
- We partook in Europe@School, DuP events, and advocacy related to migration and free media.
- During the pandemic, we created a footprint online via an EU vlog, website, and EU Fridays with young Hungarians.
- We have extensive partnership with the EPLO and EC in Hungary.
- Regardless of what some politicians might say, we belong to Europe. It’s not only our home but our shared past, present and future. And we will do everything we can to ensure that the Hungarian public remains invested and interested in the European project.
- Count on us and we will not fail to deliver.

Leonie Martin (former President):
- I’ve been the EB contact for JEF Hungary. I did my Erasmus in the country, it's important for me.
- We do officially have JEF Hungary but in the last 10 years they have never paid membership fees, they refuse to transfer their membership status. The only way to proceed is to kick them out.
- There is a chance we will have to go to court to follow the procedure correctly. Only at the next Congress can we expel the old JEF Hungary for the procedure to be perfectly in line with the law.
- I would like to ask you to vote tomorrow to give this interest group a candidate status, remembering that we will have to expel the old JEF Hungary at the next Congress.

Liam Haughey (JEF Ireland interest group):
- We feel this time we have good momentum to become a candidate section.
- We have 12 members now. We organised two events. We have a member evening every week.
- We are all men but want to change it. We did an event to have a feminist and transgender perspective.
- In February, some universities want to organise fairs and we want to be present there. We want to do a JEF tour to travel across the country.

- We want to work closely with JEF UK, Northern Ireland.

Christelle Savall: JEF Ireland is the first interest group I followed. They are full of energy. I fully recommend granting them the candidate status. There are gender issues but they are very aware of it.

Emma Farrugia (former Vice-President) presenting the JEF Luxembourg interest group: The EB would like to recommend them as candidates. The representatives of the group will explain why.

Christelle Savall (JEF Luxembourg interest group): Ireland gave me the energy to start this group. Maja has been with me since the beginning,we got involved in the Democracy under Pressure (DuP) campaign). We wanted to be political from the start, this is how it started.

Maja Bratovic (JEF Luxembourg interest group):
- In March 2021, Christelle introduced JEF to us and to me.
- We organised a European picnic in Luxembourg.
- We did advocacy on enlargement, Spitzenkandidaten, the Banking Union.
- We had a great region twinning in June and got an award for that.
- We also organised a speed language dating.

Christelle Savall (JEF Luxembourg interest group):
- We attended the European Youth Event with 3 JEF Luxembourg members.
- We organised workshops at the Great Region Youth Dialogue on 16/10 with JEF Lorraine.
- We did advocacy and a local consultation for CoFoE.
- We have planned an action for the celebration of the Capital of Culture in Esch sur Alzette.
- Next year's FC will take place in Luxembourg.
- Maja is working on getting us funding.
- The new JEFers are super enthusiastic and super active.
- Questions? luxembourg@jef.eu

Emma Farrugia (former Vice-President): They have done amazing activities, have 18 members in a temporary board, with a General Assembly pending. Please vote in favour of this candidate section.

14.1. Q&A session

Simon Devos-Chernova (Returning Officer) - questions to JEF Romania:
- Looking at the list of members - who is the censor?
- How about the money? Do you have any money and where from? Do you have membership fees, grants, money from other sections?

Marco-Antonio Berti: How about the sustainability of the organisation, including in terms of members? Also, are you planning to harmonise the logo with JEF Europe?

Madalin Blidaru:
- The censor is a legal obligation in Romania to perform arbitration and auditory functions.
- We have some people developing budgets and preparing grant applications. We are considering Erasmus and other opportunities.

- Right now, we already have 2 years with a relatively stable team and incoming members. There is capacity to ensure transition between generations. Romania is a large country and the issue is to support local sections to develop . We are working on multiple fronts to ensure the section is alive and sustainable.
- Visual identity - it can be changed, but at the beginning we didn't want to use the JEF logo because we are not a JEF section. At the right time, we can change without problems.

Annika Sinner (JEF Germany): What is the situation with JEF Serbia?
Chris Powers (former Treasurer): There are two lines of inquiry: finding the active people and clarifying the legal status. There is a JEF Serbia there and they want to either transfer the legal status to a new group or terminate it. We found Forum Mladih whose previous board wanted to join us but the new one said they need more time to get to know us. So we should expel the old JEF Serbia to clean the situation and then hopefully approve a new JEF Serbia in the future.

14.2. Votes

Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General): The roll-call will be done automatically, the tellers are invited to monitor the number of votes on NemoVote.

Vote: Expulsion of JEF Serbia		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
93	1	1
Adopted		

Vote: Expulsion of JEF Armenia		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
92	0	1
Adopted		

Vote: Expulsion of JEF Lithuania		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
90	2	2
Adopted		

Vote: Granting the full section status to the candidate section JEF Romania		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
89	1	4
Adopted		

15. Elections 1/2

15.1 President - presentation and Q&A

Antonio Argenziano (Candidate for President):

- I am here because at a certain point in my life, I made a choice. The choice to the federalist cause. I have always had the feeling of being a privileged person. I had the opportunity to study, to travel, to see what the world looks like outside of my small hometown, in the South of Italy. I've always felt the need to give back something to the community, to the people around me, to use the time I have trying to do something good.
- When I moved to Rome to go to the university, my plan was studying history, maybe becoming a teacher. But you know, life sometimes is what happens when you are planning to do something else.
- And so when I ran by chance into a few JEFers, in Rome, back in 2012, I had no clue of what federalism was about, who was Spinelli and what was the Ventotene Manifesto. I have been curious enough though about these guys.
- They asked me to join, I said yes and my whole life changed.
- I am among the ones who went through the books, studied the federalist thinking and found something different, it twisted the way to see things and the world, opened up my mind. Nothing would have happened though without the help, the friendship of the amazing JEF community.
- After attending the Ventotene Seminar I had this feeling that my heart was with them, with those crazy people who were talking about politics, nerdy stuff, who were talking about revolution.
- Not empty words though, federalists have never been dreamers, we are not here spending energy and time for a dream.
- That's what makes the difference today. We are not an organisation focused on the past, we are not federalist because someone told that was the right idea some decades ago. We are the Young European Federalists because we can't help saying that Europe is more than we are witnessing these days.
- We are often called the Erasmus generation. I prefer to say we are the crisis generation. From the economic crisis, to the migration crisis, from the climate crisis to the international ones. We are the generations who witnessed Brexit, witnessed the rise of nationalism, the violation of human rights and civil rights also within the European Union.
- We are the generation of contradictions. We can't say anymore that Europe is the land of democracy, without someone pointing at the political situation in Hungary and Poland, or at the deaths in the Mediterranean sea, to the violence at the border with Turkey, with Serbia, with Belarus.

- This is not the free and united Europe that Spinelli and Rossi imagined 80 years ago, in Ventotene, while prisoners on a small island. This is not our idea of Europe. But we are not prisoners, we can speak, we can shout what we stand for, we have to.
- The pandemic obliged us to stay at home, on zoom. We managed to carry on, to get here in a great position as a healthy organisation. Now it's the moment to do, once again, something revolutionary given the period. Let's shut the laptops down and let's come back to meet people, in the streets and the squares of Europe. Let's come back to talk and, more importantly, to listen to what people have to say about Europe, about integration.
- Most people actually, not so much. Very often people tend to think in separate clusters. Tend to consider that a national problem is just national, that fighting the environmental crisis is just about lowering carbon, and that digital transition is just about AI.
- What's our role with that? Connecting the dots. If an economic crisis in the US created unemployment in European countries, we have to be there to say to everyone, not only decision makers, but to citizens, that looking for a solution on the national level is pure madness, that we need institutions able to invest in citizens. We are experiencing how important a program like Next Gen EU can be. I can't be one shot.
- The environmental crisis is already global, the movements for an ecological transition are demonstrating all over the world. We have to join them in pointing out that we cannot hope anymore in the lost cause of intergovernmental institutions. We witnessed how the Cop26 and the G20 are not really able to decide. We need institutions able to make decisions and to pursue them. A we all have to control them, democratically, at the European level, but also when it comes to the whole world.
- I know I don't have time, but I could go on, talking about Foreign affairs and the role of Europe in the world, or about migrations.
- If we go through our resolutions, we see proposals for concrete solutions to most of the main issues we are facing in these years.
- Talking about a reform of the EU, about a new more democratic, more efficient, more fair Europe, is what gives us the edge on all the people we talk to. We are able to criticise Europe with a constructive approach. We are not the false friend, always smiling and saying that everything is fine. We are the kind of friend that's able to take you, look into your eyes and say: "you need to change"
- We JEFers need to find the strength to come out of a present full of contradictions, and raise our gaze to the future. Imagining the best of the possible future. You might see rhetoric in my words: that is not the case. Rhetorical is who defends the status quo, who talks about high values, making though empty promises, and turning the back to who is in need, to who suffers because of the betrayal of everything Europe should stand for.
- I was talking to you about how lucky I've been to meet these jefer guys, who loved to talk about revolutions, treaty change and a lot of other nerdy stuff, who loved to talk about a better Europe, a better world, and also about how to get to it.
- Those guys, these guys in front of me today, were and still are a generation ahead.
- We JEFers are the one who organised demonstrations to crash barriers at the borders in the 50s, who had the idea to coin the first euro in the 60s, who were campaigning for a directly elected parliament in the 70s and for the Spinelli treaty, with the crocodile club, in the 80s.
- We are always a generation ahead, but again, to be ahead doesn't mean to have a hoodie or a t-shirt. We need to act, to campaign, to use all the occasions we possibly can to do it, from to the CoFe up to the Elections 2024. We need to give an answer to

our sons and daughters, to the next generation. They will ask what you campaign for? What did you achieve? What was the role of your generation?
- I am here to say to you all: let's accept this challenge.
- We can make the difference if we stay united, if we make our diversities not a weakness, but our strength.
- When Leonie asked me to step up and run for president, I came back to the need to give back something to the community. I felt that I have passion, enthusiasm and strength to keep on going, that I wanted to reconfirm my choice of service for the community.
- So I am now here in front of you with humility to serve this organisation, to serve the federalist Europe for two more years!

Mark Sinner (Auditors Committee): It's the first time that a presidential candidate has not worked in Brussels. Do you think this could have an impact on our advocacy?
Antonio Argenziano: I will move to Brussels to embrace it full-time. It doesn't mean I will always be in Brussels, I want to travel across Europe. I don't want to be a "Brussels bubble" guy.

Marco-Antonio Berti: Moving from idealism to practical solutions - what are the three issues and projects you would like to prioritise during your presidency?
Antonio Argenziano: I will have 3 main priorities: 1. the rule of law crisis, 2. own resources and the Next Generation EU, 3. EU in the world, defence, foreign affairs, migration.In terms of projects, we should keep up the pressure on CoFoE and work on DuP.

Andrew Scott (JEF UK): What ideas do you have for JEF in the area of education?
Qais Hatefi (JEF Germany): We as JEFers are mostly dominated by intellectuals. As the future president, if you win, how are you gonna take up this challenge to take JEF to more grassroots diverse communities across Europe?
Antonio Argenziano: As JEFers, we have to educate people during seminars, transnational seminars. There shouldn't be a hierarchy between local and national sections. We should adapt to the diversity in Europe.

Milla Ristikangas (JEF Finland): How can JEF include people from different backgrounds?
Antonio Argenziano: This is a challenge for not only European but national and local sections. We should be able to speak in different ways to reach people to understand who we are talking to, getting outside of our comfort zone. We all have to make this effort. We are all privileged people and we need to step out of this role. We should go outside of Zoom and talk about European affairs when they haven't heard about Europe. We should give people hope. JEF is not just JEFers but the number of people we can reach.

12.2 Vice-Presidents - presentation and Q&A

Christelle Savall (candidate for Vice-President):
- When I discovered the organisation, JEF stole my heart - it was love from the first sight. JEF Belgium has the saying about staying for friends and I can relate but I stay for the organisation as a whole. JEF is my home. I belong here, it makes me self accomplished.
- Democracy under Pressure (DuP) is my favourite campaign where you can see the true soul of the organisation - it warms my heart to see the whole network awaken.
- Working on policy resolutions has been an amazing experience. Putting words into action is something. I was amazed by the depth of policy resolutions from all PCs.

- There are many interesting things in the near future for us: transnational lists advocacy, the French Presidency, CoFoE, the 20th anniversary of the euro. The European Elections 2024.
- This is the future and I want to be there with you and I want to be there for you!

Juuso Järviniemi (candidate for Vice-President):

- I attended my first JEF event 7 years ago as a high school student. My life has been mobile, different countries and life situations - but JEF has always been there.
- In the next 2 years, I want to give back and contribute to developing the organisation. After the pandemic, it's important to maintain JEF as a network of people willing to do action across Europe. CoFoE is crucial, change is needed.
- We should bring federalist ideas to the climate emergency and defend European democracy and the rule of law. These topics will be now or never in the next few years.
- I also want the Task Forces to interact with sections to continue bringing genuine added value to them.
- The TNF is a valuable platform for disseminating our ideas to the public, it needs support from JEF Europe and sections.
- I want to hear what you want to propose to change this network - I want to help deliver on those expectations. Thank you, long live Europe and long live JEF!

Questions and answers:

Emilia Chehtova (Auditors Committee) It would be interesting if you could tell us how you can complement each other's roles and work together.

Juuso Järviniemi: Christelle has been my JEF colleague for a long time, she supported our TF Capacity Building. We get along very well, so I send her memes. We understand each other and our visions for JEF.

Christelle Savall: We like and complement each other, including in terms of policy interests.

Emma Farrugia (former VIce-President): Juuso, apart from the organisational priorities, do you have any political ones?

Juuso Järviniemi: I agree with Christelle and Antonio that these should include CoFoE, the year of youth, 50 years of JEF, climate, the rule of law, migration.

Sebastiano Putoto (former Vice-President): A question to both of you. I found it incredibly difficult to be a Vice-President and work for the EU institutions. You are both in a similar situation. I had to focus on things I didn't work on given this conflict of interest. How are you planning to handle that?

Juuso Järviniemi: I thought a lot about it. I'm a trainee and if things go well, I will be working for the European Commission. I won't be able to criticise the EC freely and I will have to accommodate to this. I will perhaps focus on internal developments a bit more. I will avoid policy topics that I work on.

Christelle Savall: There is no issue for me - there is very little overlap between JEF and the European Investment Bank. Where it does overlap, our proposals are actually aligned.

Maija Maunu (JEF Finland): How would you improve our advocacy and impact, especially in coordination with sections? What should be JEF's priorities for the upcoming EP elections?

Juuso Järviniemi: We must make sure we coordinate with sections. JEF Europe must align with the sections' calendar to maximise the impact.

Christelle Savall: This is what we are trying to do as contact persons. The DuP showed us how to do it properly.

[**Audience - not identified**]: What is your perspective on global federalism? What role should JEF play in this area?
Juuso Järviniemi: It's a yes from me, what do we want the federal Europe for? Our model should work on the global level.
Christelle Savall: For me it's important and it's in the Statutes. We need a federation in Europe to have world peace.

Julius Lajtha (JEF UK): You have a track record of working both on the local and European level. We are professional at the European level but we should have a cohesion policy as JEF. We should develop the ability to support operationally and financially the development with local sections beyond the current capacity building.
Juuso Järviniemi: I will be happy to explore the possibility of giving a portion of operational funding to sections.
Christelle Savall: Supporting sections is my favourite topic, it was my priority in the past mandate. We can re-launch "Pimp my JEF" and develop ideas for grants with sections.

12.3 Treasurer - presentation and Q&A

Robin Mudry (candidate for Treasurer):

- It's my humbling pleasure to stand here today and speak. Thank you all for supporting and encouraging me.
- In terms of political work, I'm interested in the critical approach and I believe European federalism is the only true way to address our challenges.
- I've been for 4 years in the Central European region in Prague, I was also involved with JEF Germany. I've been trying to connect these sections. One of my main priorities would be to support those sections in the future. I would be glad to be a voice for the Central European region and its sections.
- There is the Czech presidency coming after the French, it's important to have constant monitoring and support throughout this period.
- I want to ensure that all Treasurer work is smooth and continues the work of the predecessor, focusing on ensuring financial stability.
- I want to be a reliable contact person for all sections in terms of finance.
- It's an honour, duty and joy to serve our federalist cause.

Questions and answers:
Simon Devos-Chernova (former Treasurer): Could you elaborate what you know about the JEF budget and whether you would be interested in taking some training on this? Have you already taken steps in this direction?
Robin Mudry: I have some experience in managing finance. As President of JEF Bavaria I had to deal with quite a complicated situation at the time and I had to figure out the situation with several treasurers following the situation. I'm also working on a big international publication where I'm responsible for funding. Still, it will be helpful to get advice from you.

Patrick L. von Wildenradt (Auditors Committee): There have been some issues raised by the auditors - would you like to consider any points highlighted there?
Marc Sinner (Auditors Committee): You detailed your political priorities. What would be your priorities in terms of finance? The Treasures position is unlike other EB Members, it's very technical. And there are some improvements to be made in this respect.
Emilia Chehtova (Auditors Committee): How would you proceed to engage with auditors? We recommended that the treasurer works in a more enhanced manner with auditors.

Robin Mudry: I would like to ensure long term funding and sustainability. I will try to implement the AB's suggestions to make the balance sheets clearer and work closer with the auditors.

Chris Powers (former Treasurer): I was in mild panic when nobody ran for this position. I'm reassured after talking to you. I wanted to ask about the softer side of the role: Central and Eastern Europe - what experience do you have and what would you like to focus on?
Robin Mudry: My interest has been quite long-standing. In the last years, I have been studying and working in Prague at different institutions where I understood the frustrations of people in the region. There are complex, intransparent undemocratic structures that are still managing and controlling these institutions. I could gain insight into the darker aspects, but that got me more motivated. I have technical and academic knowledge about the region.

12.4 Four EB members - presentation and Q&A

Flavia Sandu (EB candidate):

- There is a little story I have. I studied European studies because there is nothing else to do in Maastricht anyway. We had those group discussions, I was fresh from Ventotene, and the European federation was being discussed. A question was asked if there were any federalists left today. I replied I knew of around 10k.
- I don’t see how federalism can scare people off. I think we should keep that in mind no matter what level we work - federalism shouldn’t be considered as an impediment of work as a concept.
- I started in 2019 as an FC memberI can't predict the challenges of this mandate but what is JEF if not resilient - I want to help JEF through these challenges. I can see how we grew since I joined. I believe we still have a lot to do, until everyone knows for sure that federalists are still here and fighting for a better Europe!

Gergana Blazheva (EB candidate):

- I'm President of JEF Bulgaria.
- I joined JEF in 2017. Thanks to this network I became more involved in fighting for a more united Europe.
- We should ensure that we work internally too. We should have more diversity in the EB, including people from Eastern Europe. JEF can only benefit from the inclusion of eastern European youth. We need to find channels and resources to achieve that.
- I want to facilitate an open communication between sections to strengthen the network.
- CoFoE must be inclusive and followed-up on.

Helena Robert i Campos (EB candidate):

- Most of my JEF experience has been throughout the pandemic.
- JEF is all of us here, and it’s also all those who cannot come because they are working from home.
- I had the privilege to be part of two strong sections: JEF Sciences Po, I felt truly welcome, and then in London - YEM UK.
- I want to work to revive the London local section.
- I like challenges, I am motivated and enthusiastic. I can feel the welcoming space that we have. Many opportunities have been given to me to grow.
- I want to take this passion to another level and join the EB - open a new chapter in my private life and my JEF journey.

- We cannot assume that Europe is something that is given. We have to keep members motivated. I realise many members have felt unmotivated but I'm here to get this motivation back.
- I'm still learning and I don't pretend that I know everything and I hope you can help me in this process.

Idriss Tchana Tchamba Rostand (EB candidate) - recorded video:
- As you know, JEF came through many changes lately and there is still a lot to do to have an impact in the next few years.
- Together, we can do more, especially in terms of online communication.
- I would like to help with the recruitment of new members. This can help us build a better Europe.
- I know it's a late candidature. I hope you enjoy the Congress.

Knut Sande (EB candidate):
- Almost 9 years ago I joined JEF. It's been a real pleasure.
- I'm happy to be here today and discuss together what we want to do.
- I have met many but not all of you. All my younger siblings are members of JEF.
- I sometimes run, swim and swim with the EU flag and they call me 'the Europe guy'.
- What drives me is the more idealistic idea that behind every land border, there are people just like us.
- Soon, there will be nobody who lived through the wars. We are lucky - we have a peaceful Europe with some exceptions.
- The EU is about lasting peace, freedom and democracy. We should build a better continent for this and future generations.
- You can see my main priorities in the candidacy letter. I want to contribute and give back because JEF has given me so much already.
- Strengthening national regional local sections will be my priority. I want to reduce the gap between the EB and the rest of JEF. I want to be there for all of you.
- I want to bring the outside-EU perspective to the EB.
- I will make sure that Christelle will have this one day off.
- I can be a potato which can be different things

Moritz Schleicher (former EB member): What is your unpopular opinion?
- **Knut Sande**: In Norway, being pro-EU is unpopular. I also don't mind pineapples on a pizza.
- **Helena Robert i Campos**: Menstruation - within JEF we all have our needs, and talking about people being not suitable during the period.
- **Gergana Blazheva**: Sparkling water is overrated.
- **Flavia Sandu**: The 2050 climate goals cannot be achieved without the Global North countries achieving degrowth strategies economically. Also, pistachio ice cream sucks.

Simon Devos-Chernova (Returning Officer): What are your positions in JEF sections, do you plan to keep these or give up to fully concentrate on your work?
- **Knut Sande**: I finished my mandate at JEF Norway, I'm just part of the Election Committee.
- **Helena Robert i Campos**: Within the YEM UK Board, I hold the position of Civic Education and Policy Officer. We are having discussions about it in the Board. This position is temporary and I'm trying to form a group of people who, among them, could

find someone to replace me, and I will support it, but I won't hold the Board position anymore if I get elected.
- **Gergana Blazheva**: I'm still President of JEF Bulgaria but the elections are next month, so someone will take over and I will just support them.
- **Flavia Sandu**: I've been discharged as an FC member.

Sebastiano Putoto (former VIce-President): The statutes have provisions regarding Simon's question.

12.5 Roll call

87 votes present - quorum reached.

12.5 Voting

Simon Devos-Chernova (Returning Officer): All votes will be done using the voting platform except for the Vice-President one, where you have to specify the Senior and Junior VP. Put number 1 next to your Senior pick and number 2 next to Junior. We need to elect at least 40% of the mandate holders from the least represented gender. 40% out of 8 people is 3.2 people - so we need at least 4 people identified as Man and 4 identified as Woman.

Marc Sinner (Auditors Committee): This system takes away any flexibility. 3.2 rounding down is 3.
Simon Devos-Chernova: The rule says at least, so we need at least 4. Currently we are bound by the Statutes. The Statutes can be changed but at this moment we have to follow the rules. Presidium confirms the rule.

13. Coffee break

14. Formalities

14.1 Vote result announcement for President, VPs, EB & Treasurer

Vote: Election of President
Valid votes in favour
97
Antonio Argenziano elected

Vote: Election of Vice-Presidents Number of votes indicating the candidate as number 1 - Senior	
Christelle Savall	Juuso Järviniemi
82	18
Christelle Savall elected Senior Vice-President **Juuso Jarviniemi elected Junior Vice-President**	

Vote: Election of Treasurer
Valid votes in favour
85
Robin Mudry elected

Vote for four EB members:

- **Knut Sande** 84 votes - **elected.**
- **Flavia Sandu** 66 votes - **elected.**
- **Gergana Blazheva** 49 votes - **elected.**
- **Helena Robert i Campos** 42 votes - **elected.**
- **Idriss Tchana Tchamba Rostand** 3 votes - **not elected.**

15. Elections 2/2

15.1. Election of the directly-elected FC members (16 positions)

Candidates:

- Pauline Laloux.
- Kati Systä.
- Laura Gaißmaier.
- Peter Kolby.
- Xesc Mainzer Cardell.
- Riccardo Moschetti.
- Håvard Rørtveit.
- Annemarie Hertner.
- Guillaume Kayser.
- Kalojan Hoffmeister.
- Marie Pouliquen.
- Emma Farrugia.
- Moritz Schleicher.
- Filippo Pasquali.
- Camilla Brizzi.
- Aleksandra Aleksejeva.
- Victor Lépine.
- Max Nordin.

15.2. Voting Arbitration Board (5 positions)

Simon Devos-Chernova (Returning Officer): There is no gender quota for this position.

Candidates:

- Jesús Cordero González.
- Maija Maunu.
- Gerhard Soyka.
- Leonie Martin.
- Sebastiano Putoto.
- Ophélie Omnes.

15.3. Voting Auditors Committee (2-3 positions)

Simon Devos-Chernova (Returning Officer): There is no gender quota for this position.

Candidates:

- Marc Sinner.
- Germain Jacquinot.
- Emilia Chehtova.
- Patrick L. von Wildenradt.

16. Speech of a YWF representative

Andreas Hemmetter (Board Member of Young World Federalists):

- I'm in charge of communication at the YWJ Board. We are a youth movement advocating for world federalism.
- Federalism allows us to tackle global problems (such as the climate crisis) in a more effective and democratic way.
- If governments negotiate and adopt non-binding decisions, we end up with no solutions at all. Global problems require global solutions.
- Sadly, nobody knows about world federalism. It's not something that appears in public discourse. People should be aware that federal tools exist to make the world more sustainable, just and peaceful.
- European integration and the work of JEF is an inspiration and example to us.
- The European community is only a stage on the way to organise the world of tomorrow.
- I'm looking forward to getting to know you better.

Antonio Argenziano: Thank you Andreas. We currently are discussing how the global dimension of challenges we are facing is important.

18. Results announcement for the FC, Arbitration Board, Auditors Committee

Vote result: Directly-elected FC members:

- **Annemarie Hertner** 77 votes - **elected**.
- **Emma Farrugia** 71 votes - **elected**.
- **Laura Gaißmaier** 70 votes - **elected**.
- **Xesc Mainzer Cardell** 69 votes - **elected**.
- **Kati Systä** 68 votes - **elected**.
- **Moritz Schleicher** 66 votes - **elected**.
- **Kalojan Hoffmeister** 62 votes - **elected**.
- **Guillaume Kayser** 61 votes - **elected**.
- **Pauline Laloux** 60 votes - **elected**.
- **Riccardo Moschetti** 58 votes - **elected**.
- **Camilla Brizzi** 55 votes - **elected**.
- **Marie Pouliquen** 55 votes - **elected**.
- **Håvard Rørtveit** 53 votes - **elected**.
- **Victor Lépine** 49 votes - **elected**.
- **Filippo Pasquali** 45 votes - **elected**.
- **Max Nordin** 44 votes - **elected.**
- **Peter Kolby** - **not elected.**
- **Aleksandra Aleksejeva** - **not elected.**

Vote result: Arbitration Board:

- **Leonie Martin** 68 votes - **elected.**
- **Ophélie Omnes** 56 votes - **elected.**
- **Sebastiano Putoto** 52 votes - **elected.**
- **Gerhard Soyka** 47 votes - **elected.**
- **Maija Maunu** 44 votes - **elected.**
- **Jesús Cordero González** 31 votes - **not elected.**

Vote result: Auditors Committee:

- **Patrick L. von Wildenradt** 85 votes - **elected**.
- **Emilia Chehtova** 69 votes - **elected**.
- **Germain Jacquinot** 43 votes - **elected.**
- **Marc Sinner** - **not elected.**

19. Closing of the day

European Congress - Sunday, 21 November

20. Welcome address by the newly elected president

Antonio Argenziano (President):

- We have discussed with the new Board the political priorities for the coming months:
  - Advocacy for transnational lists.
  - Democracy under Pressure.
  - The Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE).
- It's necessary to act as one. We would like to promote an inclusive approach at JEF because our network should welcome everyone. Diversity in our network is a strength.
- Coming back to your sections and friends, think about what could be the 'grain of sand' we can all bring to European history and federalism.

Video recordings:

- **Sandro Gozi** (MEP, President of the UEF):
  - Congratulations on your upcoming 50 year anniversary.
  - I want to thank you for the commitment to the federalist cause, including during CoFoE. We should promote our federalist proposals together.
  - It's important to oppose unanimity in the Council, promote transnational lists, and promote effective response to the climate crisis.
  - It's crucial to promote CoFoE.
- **Eva Maydell** (MEP, President of the EMI):
  - You are probably the most convinced pro-European crowd I can imagine. You are in a unique position to talk about the future of Europe.
  - Facilitating topical debates about the future of Europe is crucial for the success of CoFoE.
  - The EMI and JEF have been at the forefront of raising awareness of CoFoE. You are very active and outspoken on the Digital Platform.
  - I would like to thank you for the cooperation throughout the years.
- **Alícia Homs Ginel** (MEP, President of YES):
  - I wish you strength in the years to come.
  - We will push for European integration together.
  - The only way to deal with global challenges is at the EU level. \
  - The CoFoE gives us the opportunity to institutionalise the changes of economic governance introduced with the recovery fund.
  - Federal Europe is not an idealistic dream, it's a necessity. So let's make it a reality.

21. Voting

Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General): We need a 2/3 majority to change the statutes, which means we need 88 votes in favour. I would like to invite the notary to explain the procedure. For the Rules of Procedure, we need an absolute majority.

Notary (in French, interpreted by Pauline): We have asked the notary to verify the change in the statutes. Those changes have been sent to everyone in French and English and you had the chance to see the changes on the statutes. The legal act will be signed by the Board members. Do you have any questions?

No questions asked.

21.1 Checking the quorum

Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General): I invite the tellers to monitor the NemoVote platform to verify the quorum.

21.2 Statutes and Rules of Procedure

Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General):

- There are two blocks of changes: block 1 adopted by the Paris Congress, and block 2 to reflect the Belgian law changes.
- We are going to count votes of the Congress delegates through the electronic system NemoVote. When we finish with the electronic system, we are going to go on with counting the votes of the national delegates present inside the room (who raise hands).
- All documents are available for you to check in English and French.

Vote: Amendments to Statutes - block 1: Paris Congress XXV		
European Congress Delegates		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
89	0	0
National Delegates		
20	0	0
Total		
109	0	0
Adopted		

Vote: Amendments to Statutes - block 2: new Belgian law changes		
European Congress Delegates		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
84	0	0
National Delegates		
20	0	0
Total		
104	0	0
Adopted		

Vote: Statutes as amended - Liège Congress XXVI		
European Congress Delegates		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
88	0	0
National Delegates		
20	0	0
Total		
108	0	0
Adopted		

Pauline Gessant (Presidium): For changing the Rules of Procedure, we need an absolute majority, which means more than a half of the votes cast, abstentions counted.

Vote: Amendments to Rules of Procedure - block 1: Paris Congress XXV		
European Congress Delegates		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
85	0	0
National Delegates		
20	0	0
Total		
105	0	0
Adopted		

Vote: Amendments to Rules of Procedure - block 2: new Belgian law changes		
European Congress Delegates		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
78	0	0
National Delegates		
20	0	0
Total		
98	0	0
Adopted		

Vote: Rules of Procedure as amended - Liège Congress XXVI		
European Congress Delegates		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
79	0	0
National Delegates		
20	0	0
Total		
99	0	0
Adopted		

21.3 Resolutions

PC1 Resolution: Regarding the protection of the rule of law

Kalojan Hoffmeister: The resolution says how important the rule of law is. During the session yesterday we had a very good discussion about the supremacy of EU law. I'm going to show you amendments on the screen. The amendments are available in the Amendments Plugin.

Chris Glück (Presidium): All amendments adopted by PC yesterday will be voted in block. If this fails, we will vote one by one. We will do electronic vote on the final resolutions and by paper on individual amendments to speed up the procedure.
Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General): You can request a secret vote if you wish.

Vote: Amendments adopted by PC		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

Vote: Resolution as amended		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

PC1 Resolution: On the creation of a Fiscal Union in the Eurozone

Kalojan Hoffmeister: It discusses the EU's fiscal and budgetary capacity from its own resources, the Next Generation EU. It calls for a Eurozone finance minister, a European system of central banks and links it with the rule of law.

Vote: Amendments adopted by PC		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

Vote: Resolution as amended		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
64	6	3
Adopted		

PC2 Internal resolution: Sustainable JEF

Flavia Sandu: It's an internal resolution on a sustainable JEF, it's based on the results of the survey done by TF Green Transition. It aims to help JEF become more sustainable. We had a couple of amendments and lots of discussions.

Vote: Amendments adopted by PC		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

Vote: Resolution as amended		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

PC2 Resolution: For a more inclusive Europe

Flavia Sandu:We worked on it together with TF Empowerment & Diversity. It's very comprehensive and it's about how all members of society should be involved in policy making.

Vote: Amendments adopted by PC		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

Vote: Resolution as amended		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

PC2 Resolution: Promoting Youth Labour Mobility and Tackling Youth Unemployment in Europe

Flavia Sandu: We opened it because it needed a few updates.

Vote: Amendments adopted by PC		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

Vote: Resolution as amended		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

PC2 Resolution: An Accelerated Transition to the Circular Economy

Flavia Sandu: We opened it because it needed some changes, especially in the light of recent global events.

Vote: Amendments adopted by PC		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

Vote: Resolution as amended		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

PC3 Resolution: The EU standing strong in unity: the future relationship with Russia

RIccardo Moschetti: It was lapsing and we wanted to update it. Many things have changed and we needed to reflect that. There is an amendment re-submitted after the PC discussion, so we will have to vote on it separately.

Vote: Amendments adopted by PC (except AM A6-165-2)		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

Discussion on re-submitted **AM A6-165-2:**

- **Risto Rajala** (JEF Finland): Russia is a dangerous place for political activists, JEF doesn't have the capacity to take responsibility for the serious risk of JEFers recruited there. These activists will be registered as foreign agents. We have to be realistic. There is not much we can do to protect them from authorities. This AM emphasises the bottom-up approach, how JEF could protect against Russian authorities.
- **Juuso Järviniemi** (Vice-President): JEF has been working with the group Vesna in Russia. There was a meeting in London with them and a DuP call with them. They told us about their European dream. We did a PR on expelling Russian students, we have helped them to raise money to replace belongings taken by the police. Due to the pandemic they couldn't come here.
- **Simon Paetzold** (JEF Germany): Thank you for the overview. This amendment is a good compromise. The interim EB can engage strategically with young activists in Russia.
- **Sonja Afanasjeva**: I'm probably the only Russian person here. There is a lot of oppression, whatever support we can give, we should. The original text allows us to give us decent support. I encourage you to vote against this amendment.

- **Marc Sinner**: I'm in favour. Of course we should offer support and this amendment doesn't deny it. But worse than support is creating wrong expectations. We should be sure we can offer this support. Stay realistic, offer the support we can.

Vote: Amendment A6-165-2		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
51	21	9
Adopted		

Vote: Resolution as amended		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

PC3 Resolution: Building a World Federation and Democratic International Institutions

RIccardo Moschetti: This resolution talks about what we can do to work towards a world federation and how we can democratically reform the global institutions.

Vote: Amendments adopted by PC		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	5
Adopted		

Vote: Resolution as amended		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	12	8
Adopted		

Internal resolution: Solidarity travel fund

Sebastiano Putoto: It's important for accountability. The ultimate objective is that in the long term JEF can provide travel reimbursement support for volunteers.

Vote: Re-adoption of the resolution		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

Internal resolution: Pool of trainers

Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General): We didn't submit it on time and we are sorry. PoT has been very useful, it allows us to work with people on their capacity building and broaden our expertise. It has been extremely useful for civic education and Europe@Home. The resolution hasn't changed since London. I want to ask to add this point to the agenda. Then, during the next FC we will ask to check the resolution with TF Capacity Building.

Vote: Adding an agenda item to vote on the PoT resolution		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

Vote: Re-adoption of the resolution		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

22. Any other business

22.1. EB and SG announcements

Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General):

- We are going to have another full year of activities and please spread the information sent out by the EB Members and the Secretariat, please spread out with your members and partners.
- Invited everyone to apply for the upcoming JEF events.

Michal Rybacki (Secretariat): We have published 13 federalist proposals on the CoFoE Digital Platform and you are all invited to endorse them. The more popular the proposals, the more chances they have for being included in the final CoFoE recommendations.

23.2. Updates from sections

Foivos Voulgaris (JEF Greece): We are happy to be back. We have members in Athens. We want to rejuvenate the cooperation with the network and we are looking forward to everything you planned.

Alexiane Terrochaire-Barbancon (JEF UK): YEM UK is alive and well. We have launched the 'Brexit reality portraits' and we have reached 8 thousand views on cumulated social media and Youtube. But this doesn't stop here. On 8 December, you are all invited to an event where we will compare the views of 'leavers' and 'remainers'.

Antoine Chabal (JEF France): There is an event we are planning in JEF France - we want to organise a Civil Society Summit in Strasbourg in March 2022 linked with the conclusion of CoFoE. It will be a big moment, with the French presidential and parliamentary elections.

Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General): This congress has been an incredible experience thanks to you. Thank you for all your support. Without you we wouldn't be able to organise it.

23. Closing of the Congress

23.1 . Closing words of the new President

Antonio Argenziano (President): Thanks to the Secretariat, organisers, Presidium, and all JEFers who joined this fIrst statutory event amid pandemic.

Congress closed at 12:52.

Incoming FC - Sunday, 21 November

1. Opening of the Incoming FC

FC meeting opened at 12:44 by **Antonio Argenziano** (President) .

2. Formalities

2.1. Declaration of votes present (roll call)

Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General): 40 votes present (quorum reached).

2.2. Election of tellers

Candidates:

- Chris Powers.
- Qais Hatefi.

Vote: Election of tellers		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
All candidates elected		

2.3 Adoption of the agenda and timetable

Christelle Savall (Vice-President): I would like to add an agenda point on adding a co-opted member of the FC.

Vote: Agenda as modified		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

3. Election of the FC Presidium

Presentation of candidates:

- **Emma Farrugia**: I would like to be in the Presidium because, as we could see, it was really difficult for JEF to be united in the last 2 years and spread the JEF spirit. I would like to ensure that statutory meetings are a unique place for making this happen.
- **Laura Gaißmaier**: I want us as FC to go together, keep the JEF spirit up and have smooth statutory meetings.
- **Håvard Rørtveit** - absent.

Vote: Election of the FC Presidium		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
All candidates elected		

4. Election the Code of Conduct Contact Persons

Presentation of the candidates:

- **Kati Systä (FC)**: I am running to be a permanent Code of Conduct Point of Contact. I work in the TF Empowerment & Diversity, so I am aware of the discussions behind. I have experience in acting as point of contact in different organisations. I know how to act in difficult situations such as unequal treatment.
- **Ophélie Omnes:** I used to be the co-chair of TF Empowerment & Diversity. I would like to become a permanent Code of Conduct Contact Person because I was very involved in the work of the Task Force. I saw how the previous Code of Conduct was lacking and got involved in the elaboration of the new one.
- **Julius Lajtha:** I was quite shocked to hear experiences like those discussed during online FCs, it's important to avoid them. I was involved in drafting a Code of Conduct for a student council. I am used to working with sections, I make people talk and have an open ear.

Vote: Election of Code of Conduct Contact Persons		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
All candidates elected		

5. Establishment of the PCs and Task Forces

Antonio Argenziano (President): We decided to keep the PCs as they are and we propose to set up the following Task Forces:

- TF Civic Education
- TF Empowerment and Diversity
- TF Capacity Building (with 3 co-chairs instead of 2)
- TF Sustainability and Ecological Transition (merging TF Green Transition and TF Resilient JEF).

Chris Powers: The fourth Task Force means merging two different TFs with different objectives. How do you see this merged TF work in practice and its priorities?
Antonio Argenziano: It won't be just a TF to help PC2 on environmental issues, but also one that helps the organisation to be more clean and enable ecological transition, so both of these things. It will also work with PC2 and TF Capacity Building.

Xesc Mainzer Cardell (FC): Have you thought of a TF dedicated to the European Elections 2024?

Antonio Argenziano: We had to set initial TFs, and then an EB-FC meeting can work on establishing new ones. We also thought about CoFoE and the Strasbourg Summit.
Sebastiano Putoto (Arbitration Board): According to the new Statutes that are not yet in force, but they will be in a few weeks, if there is a need for a new TF (or the need for the existing one ceases), these can be set up during the mandate.
Marco-Antonio Berti: There was a TF Resilient JEF - what is happening with it, is it stopping?
Antonio Argenziano: The reasoning was to strengthen TF Capacity Building and to move ecological transition to also organisational affairs.
Moritz Schleicher (FC): Resilient JEF will be part of TF Capacity Building. The Sustainability and Ecological Transition is a long name and in my opinion we should keep the old name.

Vote: Establishment of Political Commissions and Task Forces as presented		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

6. Co-optation of FC members

Christelle Savall (Vice-President): We have a proposal to co-opt Aleksandra Aleksejeva because she brings a point of view of a smaller section in the eastern part of Europe.
Aleksandra Aleksejeva confirms.

Vote: Co-option of Aleksandra Aleksejeva to the FC		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

7. Election of PC and TF chairs

PC1 Institutions and Governance
Presentation of candidates:

- **Filippo Pasquali** (FC): I live and work in Brussels, recently joined the FC. I want to contribute to the political development of our JEF community.
- **Kalojan Hoffmeister** (FC): I was a PC1 co-chair in the previous mandate. I want to continue my contribution to the PC1 work, strengthen communications, relations with sections, and continue working on resolutions.

Juuso Järviniemi (Vice-President): Kalojan, what have you learnt from your experience chairing PC1?
Kalojan Hoffmeister: I've learnt how to listen to people and acknowledge different points of view.

Vote: Election of two PC1 co-chairs		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
All candidates elected		

PC2 Internal European Affairs
Presentation of candidates:

- **Camilla Brizzi** (FC, absent) - represented by **Gianluca Bonato**: Camilla has been active in JEF Italy for 10 years at different levels. Now, she wants to contribute to PC2.
- **Guillaume Kayser** (FC, absent) - represented by **Annemarie Hertner**: Guillaume is engaged in PC2, he is competent and very interested in being a PC2 coordinator.

Vote: Election of two PC2 co-chairs		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
All candidates elected		

PC3 External Affairs and Global Governance
Presentation of candidates:

- **RIccardo Moschetti** (FC): I'm a former PC3 Co-Chair, I wanted to continue working with PC3, which is very important for me. There are issues and topics we didn't raise. I want to improve the coordination between PCs and communication between internal bodies of JEF. People are interested in what we do and we have to reach them out.
- **Aleksandra Aleksejeva** (FC - co-opted): I would like to bring this another perspective as Christelle Savall mentioned - I want to represent the post-Soviet region. This is what I want to bring here.

Vote: Election of two PC3 co-chairs		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
All candidates elected		

TF Capacity Building
Presentation of candidates:

- **Max Nordin** (FC) represented by **Kalojan Hoffmeister**: Max wants to help smaller sections to grow using the experience he gained at JEF Sweden. He wants to help them with new tools and educate them how to recruit people.
- **Victor Lépine** (FC): I was active in JEF Catalonia and JEF Pyrenees–Mediterranean. I dynamised bilateral twinning programmes. I want to work with TF Civic Education on how to preserve mental health in all sections.

Vote: Election of two TF Capacity Building co-chairs		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
All candidates elected		

TF Empowerment and Diversity

Presentation of candidates:

- **Xesc Mainzer Cardell** (FC).
- **Kati Systa** (FC, absent) represented by **Xesc Mainzer Cardell**: We want to cooperate with Kati as TF Co-Chairs. We want to make JEF more linguistically diverse, also making our language more accessible to members.

Vote: Election of two TF Empowerment and Diversity co-chairs		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
All candidates elected		

TF Sustainability and Ecological Transition

Presentation of candidates:

- **Marie Pouliquen** (FC): I have experience in energy policy and have been involved in climate activism. I would be very happy to co-chair this TF. It's important to bring in an external perspective to this TF.
- **Moritz Schleicher** (FC): I was also interested in TF Capacity Building but I decided to go for this one. I was on the JEF Board, focusing mainly on green policy. It's important to bring political perspective to green policies and green perspective to civic activism.

Vote: Election of two TF Sustainability and Ecological Transition co-chairs		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
All candidates elected		

TF Civic Education

Presentation of candidates:

- **Pauline Laloux** (FC): I come from a local and national section that uses civic education tools and I can see the impact. Unfortunately, too few sections get access to it. I had a chance to meet Annemarie and would be happy to work with her.
- **Annemarie Hertner** (FC): I also chaired this TF in the last mandate. It's not an easy time during the pandemic. I figured there are possibilities to work on things together with Pauline, as well as work with PC2, TF Capacity Building and TF Sustainability. I'm looking forward to using new materials like the Europe@Home manual and website.

Vote: Election of two TF Civic Education co-chairs		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
All candidates elected		

8. Membership

8.1. Candidate sections

Laura Gaißmaier (Presidium): We have 3 candidate sections (Luxembourg, Ireland and Hungary) that have already presented themselves.

Vote: Granting candidate section status to the presented interest groups from Hungary, Ireland and Luxembourg		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

9. Finances - budget 2022

Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General): I will support Robin Mudry who has just been elected Treasurer. The budget was already presented to the outgoing FC, and they adopted unanimous recommendations to the new FC to approve the budget. The operational budget is available in the Member Area, and this will be updated during the Spring FC with project money once we get the final confirmation of all grants. So during the Spring FC, you will be voting on the final Budget for 2022. We have received operational funding for the next 4 years, but it's important to diversify funding and secure project grants now.

Dvir Aviam Ezra (JEF Belgium): It will be impossible to have a discussion on different clauses of the budget. Could you brief us on the process of preparing the budget?
Chris Powers (former Treasurer): This year's budget was made by taking the last one and modifying it to different circumstances. We have different categories with different scenarios depending on what grants we get.

Vote: Adoption of budget 2022		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

10. Upcoming FC Meetings

10.1. Announcement of dates of FC Spring 2022 in Luxembourg

Milosh Ristovski (Secretary-General): The next FC will take place in Luxembourg between 8-10 April 2022, it will be the opportunity to celebrate 50 years of JEF. We are going to have

an internal audit in March. During that FC, a new SG will be elected and the 2021 budget will be approved.

10.2. Presentation and vote on location of FC Autumn 2022

Tomáš Starý (JEF Czechia) presenting the application of Prague:

- We organise a Czech-German conference every year with Bavaria with 30 people, and we can scale it up to 80 people.
- Our Vice-President Adam Trunečka was at the European Youth Event. We have almost 40 members, including 20 active ones. We have enough people to do this event.
- There will be the Czech Presidency in Autumn 2022, so we expect many actions and events in Prague and we can invite external guests.
- We also want to show you that Eastern Europe is prepared to integrate with the Western Europe because we developed a lot in the last 20 years and we want to show you the progress we have made. We have a lot of cooperation with MPs and MEPs. The new elections brought in a new pro-EU government.
- Transportation: Prague is at the heart of Europe, easily accessible by trains and buses from most of central Europe. There are night trains to Vienna and trains to Prague, as well as night trains from Brussels.
- Accommodation - Prague is very touristic, there are hundreds of hostels where we can accommodate the guests and there are also hostels in different price ranges so we can choose where we want to stay.
- Venues: thanks to our numerous friends in the Senate and the Parliament, we can do the FC in the Chamber of the Senate, the European House or the Charles University. Otherwise, we found some conference halls that we can use and we can ask some of these people to be sponsors.
- There are lots of restaurants with good prices.
- [Slide] This is our team, you can see the board of our section. They have taken part in several FCs and Congresses.
- Provisional budget: We counted the price for accommodation and food. We present dIfferent budget options for the Senate or a rented venue.

Christelle Savall (Vice-President): As the EB, we recommend Prague as the venue for FC Autumn 2022.

Vote: Organisation of FC Autumn 2022 in Prague		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

8. Monitoring Committee on JEF Poland

Laura Gaißmaier (Presidium): We approved a resolution during the outgoing FC. We still need 3 members of the Committee.

Candidates presented by **Christelle Savall** (Vice-President):

- **Antonio Argenziano** (President) - Antonio on this position shows the commitment of the Board to this Monitoring Committee.
- **Laura Gaißmaier** (FC) - because she is in the Presidium and has experience in a big section.

- **Anna van de Moosdijk** (JEF Netherlands) - she comes from a small section which struggled with low membership.

Vote: Election of members of Monitoring Committee on JEF Poland		
In favour	Against	Abstentions
clear majority	0	0
Adopted		

9. Any other business

Sonja Afanasjeva (former Presidium): A handover document is being prepared for the FC Presidium.

Julius Lajtha (JEF UK):

- It's a problem that people have already left. Elther we add a night or say that departure is not possible during the next statutory meetings.
- Another thing I noticed this weekend: there was no deadline for candidacies, and for us as voters it's difficult to screen the applications. The fact that there is no deadline makes it difficult to have a fair process. It's a standard practice. We should be aware of who is running and who is not.

Ophélie Omnes: The rule of not having a deadline for candidacy is in our Statutes. We discussed it a lot, it was decided not to be done. Unless you want to go through the whole process of amending the Statutes again, we should stick to this rule.
Moritz Schleicher (FC): It's common in NGOs that you have an opportunity to go and run. The problem is that sometimes we don't have enough candidates ahead of time.
Christelle Savall (Vice-President): As for people leaving earlier - it will always be the case that people have to leave because they live away. We can't do too much. But we take note of the comment and will try to come up with some solutions.

Tobias Marney (JEF Denmark): I was very happy with the Congress. However, in PC3, there was a bit of a bias towards the resolution, there was no sufficient space for discussion, Danish delegates were quite unhappy.
Riccardo Moschetti (PC3 Co-Chair): I did nothing wrong yesterday. A specific person talked a lot - I tried to prioritise. The discussion was very peaceful and very good. I don't have any reason to be for or against something. I'm sorry if I gave you a feeling that I wasn't impartial. This will be further discussed during the EB/FC meeting in January.

FC session closed at 14:15 **Laura Gaißmaier** (Presidium).