

EFPSA

General Assembly

Session II | Minutes

Congress XXXV, 2021

Virtual Congress – The Netherlands

General Assembly I | 22/04/2021

Present: The Board 2020-2021, Working Community of EFPSA 2020-2021

Minutes by: Katja Zemljič

1. Approval of the official resignation of the Board 2020-2021
2. Election of President
3. Election of Vice President
4. Election of Secretary General
5. Election of Finance Officer
6. Election of Marketing Officer
7. Election of Member Representatives Officer
8. Election of Events Officer
9. Election of Academic Affairs Officer

Topic	Discussion	Decision
Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vita Bogdanić (VB): Welcome everyone to our second General Assembly at our first ever virtual Congress! Today we are electing the Board for the new mandate! There are some candidates who applied, but are currently missing at General Assembly – Arzuhan Bilgin, Sarah Ceylin Alan, Melis Erdugan. When you apply for The Board, it is important, and it is not appreciated that this people did not reply to our emails, we would appreciated if you would state this to us and officially withdraw your application. The General Assembly consists of delegates of each Member Organisation (MO) of the Federation and delegates of the Executive Board. A Member Organisation can be either National/Regional or Local. Each MO is 	

represented by only one delegate, typically their Member Representative (MR). Each Service and Office of the Executive Board is represented by only one delegate. The current EFPSA voting procedures require a quorum of two thirds of all Member Representatives and Executive Board delegates. A proposition is considered approved, if chosen by the majority of the votes. Every National/Regional Member Organisation is entitled to two votes per proposal, while every Local Organisation is entitled to one vote per proposal. Every Office and Service is also entitled to one vote per proposal. Voting options are in favour, against and abstaining. Abstaining votes will be dealt with according to Robert's Rules of Order and they will not be part of the votes taken into consideration.

General Assembly II will be devoted to the 5-minute online speeches of the candidates and time will be allocated for questions. The following order of speeches will be held: President, Vice President, Secretary General, Finance Officer, Marketing Officer, Member Representatives Officer, Events Officer and Academic Affairs Officer. If elected for a position, one's candidacy for the subsequent position will not be taken into further consideration. If you have any questions for the candidates, a Q&A session after each speech is scheduled.

There are some candidates who applied, but are currently missing at General Assembly – Arzuhan Bilgin, Sarah Ceylin Alan, Melis Erdugan. When you apply for The Board, it is important, and it is not appreciated that this people did not reply to our emails, we would appreciate if you would state this to us and officially withdraw your application.

- VB: We need a quorum of 2/3. At the moment we have 33 MR's, and 11 EB delegates.
- Martina Marie Aquilina: We have 33 people online and more.
- VB: The quorum is reached. A few practical things – we will go by positions, if there are more candidates, we will follow the alphabetical order.

1. Approval of the official resignation of the Board 2020-2021

VB: This is the first proposal. The current Board needs to be resigned so the new Board can be elected.

In favour:	37.4
Against:	0
Abstaining:	1.3
Proposal passes	

2. Election of President

- Deianara Couwet (DC): As you know, I have been a Vice President, but I feel I can offer much more to EFPSA. I worked closely together with President, so I feel confident for the position of president. My goals are to create a safe environment – especially this mandate I realised how important it is to take care of our physical as well as mental health. We need to dream big, and stay practical. If something should be changed or can be improved, we should change it. I want to develop new positions properly. We need to have good communication, respect for each other, be transparent. This is the environment that I want to create in the Board. I want to be involved in the development of Public Relations Coordinator and get a bigger reach of our policy paper – through social media. For External Relations, we can include our external organisation in the Supporting Community.

- Elvira Aghalarova: Hi, Elvira, Azerbaijan. I want to ask about your goals. How do you plan on communicating the goals of Strategic Plan with WC and MO's?

- DC: We should continue with working practices from previous mandate. We have a draft of Strategic Plan. It is responsibility of the Board to finalise it, but our Working Community and MO's should give their input. At the beginning of the mandate we need to check the draft, have goals on how to get input. For example, brain storm sessions. So we have an open communication.

- Ying Wai Cheung: Ying, the Netherlands. You will represent all psychology students around Europe. How would you describe your leadership style?

- DC: Open communication and transparency. I have a lot of goals, but I want to talk about them together with everyone involved. I have a lot of years of being a student representative in Belgium, I am also the vice president of another organisation, I have learned a lot. We need to work together with MR's more, making sure they are able to ask anything. Also

In favour:	37.4
Against:	0
Abstaining:	1.2
Deianara Couwet is the President.	

	<p>include presidents of Member Organisations. This is the moment to get the opinion of students of those countries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - YWC: Ask about the current situation, because of the pandemic. You said you want to change things in EFPSA. How will you maintain traditions of EFPSA? - DC: EFPSA has a lot of wonderful traditions, like La La dance and mushi mushi. This should be kept, but we can still improve things. We can have hybrid events – make our statutory meetings hybrid. This way, we will be more inclusive, if people cannot travel, but still be involved in EFPSA. - YWC: Thank you. What is your favourite EFPSA tradition? - DC: Mushi-,mushi. 	
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3. Election of Vice President

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Johann Borner: Good morning! Thank you for organising this congress! I am studying in Vienna. I believe in the potential EFPSA has. I am a trainer and was a part of Working Community. I want to lead and serve. I want to constantly be aware of needs of Working Community. My goal is to establish good working relationship. I want to be transparent as possible, include the community more into discussions. I want to change the work of Ethic committee – give voting rights. I want to be here for SII and TO when they need me. I was co-coordinating Band-Aid project, we need to put mental health first. We need to finalise the Strategic Planning document, once the draft is finished, we need a long discussion about it to hear every voice. EFPSA spirit is filled with kindness and openness to everyone. - Ying Wai Cheung: Hi, Ying, Netherlands. You mentioned you want to serve. I agree with that. What do you think the biggest challenge would be for you? - JB: Changing to the new team and team members and working with them. Also coming to realisation that I am representing EFPSA on a very big level, compared to as an EFPSA trainer. - Rosario Ferreira: Rosario, MR of Portugal. The services that you are supervising. You speak about 	<p>Johann In favour: 33.6 Against: 1.4 Abstaining: 2.4</p> <p>Vera In favour: 20.6 Against: 10 Abstaining: 26.8</p> <p>Johann Borner is the Vice President</p>
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the collaboration between SII and TO. Do you have specific goals for each service?

- JB: Regarding SII, we should try to get our campaigns in more countries and more cities. Regarding Training Office, it would be important to motivate community to represent EFPSC and establishing new generation at TtT in Azerbaijan.
- Vladimir Maksimovijk (VM): Hi, I am Vlad. North Macedonia. You want to work on Ethics? Can you elaborate on this? Also, I noticed some our supervisor struggle with ethics, can that be incorporated?
- JB: At the moment. EC is advisory board. We come to a conclusion and advise to the Board. In my opinion this should be changed, the EC know everything about the complaints. I have not thought about visibility of ethics committee to other organisations, but I wrote it down. The last question – this is also something we discussed, but because the current way that EC members are selected, they are not knowledgeable enough to give this. It would have to be separate or reinvent the ethics committee.Ivana Nera Markulin: Hi, Nera, Netherlands. You wrote you want to increase the transparency. Do you have any concrete plans?
- JB: Yes. I want to always upload agenda's to the shared drive. So people can know what we are doing, and in general more transparency. There were discussions at e-votings, like moving STA under AAO, which I was really surprised. With more transparency, everyone is aware of all changes.
- Asli Bursagliou: Asli, Turkey. You talk about financial incentive, who would get it? Can you elaborate?
- JB: We need to talk about this, it was also in the freezer. The Board should get the financial incentive for the amount of work they put into it. We should financially support Board members, if this is established, then we can check also for Executive Board and MR's.

- Vera Levent: Hi everyone. I am a candidate for Vice President. I am working in HR in Istanbul. I was a

Vice Mr, then the MR, now I am training events responsible. I worked in a lot of Org Coms. I know what EFPSA does, the mission and vision. I have a VP of externals, which relates to what I am applying for now. I am aware of the teams, the Board and collaborations. I would like to explore the position, read every document, find new ideas. I would like to work on visibility of organisation, adding new Member Organisations, make our Federation more global. I want to support the president, services, the Board. My priority is very good communication, to be present. I want to have one-on-one meetings with my services, and them having a support system with each other, foster their collaboration with other teams. SII – help them evaluate their work, how we can improve it. For TO – have a training office in pandemic, also evaluate our working system. I have experience, resilience, and passion – this is what I offer to EFPSA.

- Anja Javorič: Hi, Anja, SII, Slovenia. Do you have more concrete plans for the services?
- VL: For SII, the biggest challenge is reach. I worked with them on campaigns, we need to look at the project and campaigns and see how it is in each country. Have a meeting with Local coordinators, re-evaluate the work, how it differs from country to country. Also developing a training system in SII, the SII and TO need to collaborate on this. For Training Office, my priority would be to talk about the TTT, Azerbaijan, how to proceed. Our training system is very high quality, we can collaborate with professionals, get profit for our trainers. TO can also collaborate with other teams, also through online events like the EFPSA Academy, E-TRAM, then pass this knowledge to the next mandate. My priority is to support them, so I would be interested in getting to know their ideas.
- AJ: Thank you. It is stated in your application, you have a lot of passion. Can that all be combined with your full time job now?
- VL: I have thought about this a lot. I talked with the Board, my therapist, my coordinators. This mandate I had 4 positions in EFPSA, I do have a job, I am aware how I have to prioritise my tasks. I talked to the Board members about prioritising, how can it

work. It will be challenging, but I can do it. If I could not do it, I would not apply.

- YWC: An anecdote from Congress – Turkish membership fee. It showed your passion for EFPSA and represent Turkish students. What would you achieved at this mandate to be satisfied with your work as Vice President?
- VL: I remember the anecdote. My first priority would be safe communication and support. I want to be able to say that during this mandate, I made sure that my teams were in a safe environment, were able to voice their opinion, they were supported. I am looking forward to examining the effects of the mandate we had now, to see what was good, what was not, what practices to continue. Also to experience a lot of external collaborations.

4. Election of Secretary General

- Robert Meyka: Hi everyone. I am from Germany, in my masters in Austria. I have been involved since 2018, and a part of the Working Community since last year. EFPSA had an impact on my personal and professional life. Here are some concrete ideas: I have a vision for Human Resources department, combining training responsible and band-aid project. I want to create a stable structure, as a continuous support for EFPSAnauts. I want to ensure a stable platform to spread EFPSA vibes. Establish a supportive environment for EFPSA Office. For content review, I would keep an eye on the workload. Aim the Magazine for more outside of EFPSA, also include Supporting Community more. Maintain the website, develop better user-experience. I want to grow together with EFPSA. I want to foster my leadership skills, guide my team. I want us to grow more sustainable – like a task force for more environmental actions in EFPSA. I also want to break some gender roles, as first male Secretary General.
- YWC: Nice speech. Happy to see you are applying. Is there one goal that is most important to you as of this moment?
- RM: To see how the Human Resources positions are developing, also establishing the Band-Aid project, include it in the Statutes and Regulations.

In favour:	33.4
Against:	0
Abstaining:	5.2
Robert Meyka is the Secretary General	

- INM: Plan for professional Human Resources management. Is there anything you would like to change or add?
- RM: I want to see how things can be stabilised, see how the structures can fit, maybe also add a task force for other possibilities of HRR, maybe also add another position in the future.
- YWC: What are you most looking forward to?
- RM: My optimistic self, seeing the whole process of me growing, and my team growing – the Board and EFPSA Office. Also to pandemic to end. And see how we all are learning and growing, how the end of the mandate will look like.
- Julie Van Oostveldt: Julie, from Belgium. Who would you involve in the Band-Aid project? Who are the most important people?
- RM: Previously it was HRR, Training Coordinator, and people from Working Community. Band-Aid project is something for Working Community, so I want it to be from Working Community. Include Internal Training Responsible, and everyone who would be interested.
- Marie Claire Enright: Hi everyone. I withdrew my application for Marketing Officer because it is in EFPSA's better interested that I am better selected as Finance Officer or take a position in Executive Board. I am Irish, live in Spain, I am 40. I was recently selected as Head of Finance of EFPSA Academy. I know I lack my time in EFPSA. I will tell you why I am suitable, I am planning on continuing in EFPSA. Board role is the best way to get to know the Federation best. I am in my member organisation, I work as count interpreter, I held financial positions. I applied for this position because I think I am very suited, because of objectivity, thinking outside of box, very respectful, knows how to deal with crisis situation. My plans for future – researching funding opportunities, also collaboration with Law students. Our trainers could provide services. Help of marketing with funds.
- VB: I need to stop you, your time is up. Everyone gets the same chanche.

5. Election of Finance Officer

In favour:	25.6
Against:	5.4
Abstaining:	7.6
Marie Claire is not the Finance Officer	

- YWC: Hi. What are your ideas for undesignated funds? How would you cover that?
- MCE: I know the topic from my MO, I would like to develop it in the Federation. In Spain we have more European possibilities for students and practical experience. Gaining more visibility and funding, also promote us more in faculties. Their funding can help us with more services. Also with European Law association, with training law students in ways of mediation. Also have some ideas for designated funds.
- YWC: Thank you. A follow up question. I was a previous finance officer, did not have any experience. How will you adjust to get to know EFPSA more in depth, as well as positions under Finance Officer? Mainly the two new positions.
- MCE: I am very responsible. When someone applies for Board, they have to be courageous. I have been reading the role descriptions, the Statutes and Internal Regulations. The two new positions will be very useful, as well as external. The three teams are more independent, I will listen strongly with coordination, make suggestions, work as a team.
- AJ: On average the work takes 15-20h per week, could you do that? Could you also travel?
- MCE: The time commitment is not a trouble, this year academically I have less pressure. It is very time consuming. Before I was in an office job. This year I have another source of income, so I can afford to work less. In regard to travel, it is 4 times per year, I do count on family health, but it should not be a trouble. I don't think it will be any problem.

6. Election of Marketing Officer

- Burcu Kaplan: Hi everyone. I am Burcu, I live in Turkey. I was an editor, a Board member at psychologist club in my University, I was also a Local Coordinator for Mind the Mind. I have experience with design, I have my own website. I have delegation skills. I want to work more in marketing than psychology. I reviewed all the documents. EFPSA needs to be more visible on social media, for all people. I want to reach 10 000 followers on Instagram, so we can have swipe option. I want to complete marketing strategy project. Also collaborate with engineers about basic training of programming. Other goal is language clubs –

In favour:	17.2
Against:	12.6
Abstaining:	8.8
Burcu Kaplan is not the Marketing Officer	

EFPSA could help students with speaking clubs, it could be an additional promotional apps. I want to make EFPSA app real, include quizzes, games, people who would reach top score would get a discount for EFPSA events.

- Emilia Grigorean: Emilia, Romania. Two questions – how do you plan on managing your team and your time management?
- BK: I don't have a full job, I am looking for internship, so I have time. I want to have an open communication with the team.
- EG: How do you plan on effectively manage the tasks?
- BK: Collaborate with professional marketers, external support, also support from the team itself. I want to create a safe space. Provide my team with trainings and regular meetings.
- EG: Thank you. What is your vision for identity of the mandate?
- BK: Some of my friends said EFPSA is a big organisation, but everyone can get involved. I want to make it a safe environment for all psychology students. So everyone can feel the EFPSA spirit.
- Kerem Egilmez: Kerem, from Turkey. As you maybe know, services have their own social media account and their visual image. How would you contribute to this? How would you support them? Also, how would you reach 10 000 followers?
- BK: I have some plans for Org Coms and services. I want to make guidelines for each service and Org Com, that would help them. If they ask for help, I can make some meetings with them and my team and team members to support them. I have a plan to reach the followers – I want to share more fun posts about psychology, some memes, also following ethic policy and CVI. I want to share this ideas, have digital marketing, social media, professional knowledge about digital marketing.
- AJ: Goal of 10 000 followers is great. Since marketing officer is responsible for LinkedIn,

7. Election of Member Representatives Officer

Instagram, Facebook. How much experience do you have?

- BK: I have my own accounts, but no professional background with marketing. I want to learn the process. Most important account is Instagram, I want to keep all accounts updated.
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- Veronika Kocmanova: Hi. I am very happy to see so many of you here. I am from Czech Republic, finishing my master thesis. In 2015 I started studying at University. I was amazed by experience everyone talked about. I applied and graduated from national TTT, I worked with many diverse teams. I want to bring all this dedication to EFPSA. I was a member of three previous MR generations. I would like to focus on team dynamic, keep motivation up. I tried to connect MR's and Vice MR's, I want to continue this. I would like to establish clear communication, good task delegation – they can organise other events not just exchanges. I think in this way we can connect EFPSA and Member Organisations more. I would love to see EFPSA delivering topics on finance, marketing, to our Supporting Community. This way we can help MO's with their own struggles. I want to keep working with Observer Organisations.
- KE: Ask about MO relationships. MO's need some guidelines and support from EFPSA. What would you do about that? How would you increase the engagement of MO's?
- VK: Encourage MR's to collaborate with MO board, become Board members and collaborate closely. Have meetings with MO presidents. Encourage open communication, focus on positive atmosphere.
- Eduard: Eduard, UK. I had positive experience with you so far. How would you make EFPSA more aware, to the wider members?
- VK: I want to collaborate with other Board members. Transparency is very important. We can share outcomes of the meetings and general assemblies, encourage MR's and Vice MR's to do so.

In favour: 36.2
 Against: 0
 Abstaining: 2.4
 Veronika Kocmanova is the Member Representative Officer

- INM: You hosted the coordinator to present to MR's. Do you plan on continuing this?
- VK: Very good point, I want to continue this next mandate. I want to implement visits to the MR meetings, from Working and Supporting Community. This can help MR's to keep an eye on this activities.
- RF: How to approach inactive and unresponsive MO's?
- VK: We discussed this a lot. I would ask other Working Community members, ask people on Erasmus. They can meet each other there. Reach to anyone from that country; see how the situation looks like there.

8. Election of Events Officer

- Veronika Pastrnakova: Hi. I am happy to see all the people here. Everyone is so smart, has a vision. Think of something you are grateful for, stay with this feeling. I am from Slovakia, currently a PhD student. I am interested in EFPSA events, I was happy to find EFPSA. I was head of student parliament. From organising venue, speakers, social programme, the response we got was very nice. I also think I have the personal qualities needed – I like team work, I am cooperative, this is important when you deal with a team. I have delegating skills. I have skills with action plans design. I am able to think outside of the box. When I see place for improvement, I want to step in. I have experience with social media.
- VB: I need to stop you now, time is up.
- KE: We managed to come together in a covid free atmosphere – a ttt and a meetup of Working Community. What are you thinking about offline events during pandemic?
- VP: We moved all events online. I have experience with online events. It is good if we operate with hybrid. If we manage to meet, it is better. If it is too much people, it is more time efficient to meet online.
- AJ: What are most important specifics of EFPSA events that cannot be missing?
- VP: Can you elaborate?

Veronika Pastrnakova

In favour:	14.8
Against:	13.4
Abstaining:	10.4

Ibrahim	Ulsu
In favour:	4.8
Against:	19.4
Abstaining:	13.2

In favour:	32.6
Against:	1.2
Abstaining:	3.6

Luka Uršič is the Events Officer.

- AJ: Atmosphere, specific things..
- VP: It is important to have a good structure; you need to know your audience, so you are tailoring the event to what they like and how the event should look like. Good atmosphere is important too, and collaboration between participants and speakers.
- EG: Very specific question – you stated you want to create regular event, for sharing feelings and discussions. Would that be for Working Community? How do you see this implemented, since we already have the Band-Aid Project that has the same goal?
- VP: Since it has the same goal, it could be what I was thinking. It is important how people are feeling. It could be an internal event, and if all people agree, it could be bigger.
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- Ibrahim Ulus: Hello and thank you for this opportunity. I am studying in Bosnia and Herzegovina. I was a team member, then became a representative of working group. I organised international event for psychology students. We organised big event with 13 countries. I want to be remembered by the good people, that is why I organised so many events. I met a lot of good people, have a lot of international friends. I want to organise bigger events with EFPSA. Crisis management and team management are important. I always believe that if we do the best for our institution, we do best for ourselves. I can promise you two things – I will do mistakes because I am human. I will always do my best.
- AJ: Same questions as for Veronika.
- IU: We are psychologist, we asked a person about war experience. We can do events like this, with addiction problems. We can talk and observe.
- YWC: Your experiences with events. You mentioned seminars. What was the best events you organised?
- IU: My event with 13 countries, for international psychology students events. I talked with a

professor, he joined our event. I was listening to some artist and then they responded to my email about coming to the event.

- YWC: What you think is the biggest challenge of organising big event for psychology students?
- IU: People did not join the events, because of money. We have to find solutions of participants, have to get more countries involved. Other organisations have to trust us.
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- Luka Uršič: Hello. Lets start differently – quickly react if you have attended live EFPSA event. I like organising EFPSA events. Events are important for our Working Community. Taking this role would be interesting position for me. After joint EB&MR you become more motivated. I like working in international team and seeing the product at the end. I have been at many EFPSA events. I want to spread EFPSA spirit further. I was Events Coordinator, so I worked with Organising Committees, I was coordinator of EB&MR – you can remember sleeping in small rooms. I was external relations coordinator, we organised many events and collaborations, social evenings. I have a lot of projects, I want to maintain events, create events specific manuals, focus on online events, also organise more online events. Create good working atmosphere.
- AJ: Hi again. I hear you have many experience. The same question as before – specific of EFPSA event and what cannot be missing?
- LU: EFPSA spirit. Sugarcubes, mushi mushi, La La dance. This EFPSA spirit makes our events different from others. I see a big difference between EFPSA events and other events. These events mean a lot to me.
- KE: Pandemic situation and events – how to contribute here?
- LU: EFPSA should organise more online event. Offline events – we should organise them when the situation is safe. MeetUp showed us it is possible.

- INM: Manuals for events – not enough time. Do you have any specific times? How to get OrgComs involved in the community?
- LU: In events office I am not alone. I have a team, we should talk about the manuals, I want to discuss it with the team on how to proceed. We need to agree on how many manuals we want to do. With additional team member we can do a lot. Org Coms are always bigger problems. They organise an event for us, they should be more involve in our community. I would include them in meetings, communication is crucial.
- YWC: Next Congress in Cyprus, how will you bring back EFPSA spirit?
- LU: We did not forget about EFPSA spirit. There is a lot of people involved in EFPSA. If our Community knows about the EFPSA spirit. You don't need a lot of people to continue the spirit, because people will always join in the traditions, even if they don't know them.
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9. Election of Academic Affairs Officer

- Ana Lubej: Hi, I am Ana, from University of Maribor. I was actively involved in all three services. I can see how they can be improved and expanded. I see future for EFPSA. I was inspired by the current AAO. My goal is to continue the work. I can help the services reach their goals. STA under AAO, I plan to expand opportunities for studying abroad, create more partnerships with academic institutions. Great opportunity with collaboration between all the three services. We can reach better speakers, get interest for RSS supervisors or apply for associate editors of JEPS. Also focus on mental wellbeing. We need to expand webinars; they can offer great learning experience and networking opportunity. I will work with passion and motivation. I want teams to know they can always reach out to me, I have worked on many projects. I am creative, I can bring many good ideas. I will be able to communicate openly and transparently.
- YWC: Simple question – what goal are you most excited for?
- AL: Very excited to work with three teams, and also to establish collaborations. EFPSA is very strong on

In favour:	33.4
Against:	0
Abstaining:	4.8

Ana Lubej is the Academic Affairs Officer

its own, but we need stronger collaborations. I worked in STA with SII. With these collaborations we can assess needs of all students and incorporate new programs and to benefit psychology students.

- KE: STA will be under AAO. What do you think about this change? How would you like to contribute to STA?
- AL: Very excited for this change. I have experience with STA. I know some of the needs that STA could benefit, an example could be connecting with professionals and universities, to get more opportunities and internships abroad.

Closing

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Vita Bogdanić

President 2020- 2021



Katja Zemljič

Secretary General 2020-2021

