

23rd EFPSA Congress



**(Burg Altleiningen - Germany, 26th April - 3rd May, 2009)
GA Minutes**

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1. Monday 27th April 2009, GA #1

- **Agenda**

- General Information
- Short overview of the mandate, to be continued at GA #2
- Statutes – legal registration
- Kosovo – membership application
- Presentation of the candidates for the new Board of Management
- Official hand over to elected Board of Management

- **General information**

Information concerning the National Representatives and the Executive Board was reminded (for example meetings during the congress, Knowledge transfer sessions, calls for the Joint EBNR meeting and Congress 2011 organisers).

- **Statutes – legal registration**

History of the statutes and legal registration: There were several attempts to register EFPSA as an official organisation and during the mandate 2006/07 the registration became true for a few months. But at the moment the revision of the statutes was needed, there was some information that wasn't up to date.

Current situation: BM presented the updated statutes at the Joint EBNR Meeting in Switzerland and used feedback to complete the revision. Afterwards we looked at the Belgian law (as the registration will be done in Brussels) and some additional changes were done. Statutes (and domestic regulations) should be the result of cooperation between the EB and NRs and also this is why the work on statutes isn't definitely over yet.

Why it is important to be registered: It is needed when EFPSA is applying for the EU grants. The liability wouldn't lie on the people (BM) any more.

Plan of action: EFPSA will be registered for the duration of one mandate with the revised version statutes and domestic regulation during this year a task force will be created (representing NRs, EB, perhaps Alumni). They will get information and feedback from all parts of EFPSA and make a version where everybody has been involved and feels connected.

Proposal 1.1

To accept the Statutes to be registered for the duration of one mandate.

22 NRs made a quorum

Voting results: approved by 22 votes in favour, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Proposal 1.2

To start a Task Force to work on the Statutes for the duration of one mandate. TF includes representatives of the NRs, EB members and BM.

Voting results: approved by 22 votes in favour, 0 against, 0 abstaining

- **Kosovo – membership application**

Official status of Kosovo: Kosovo is recognized by more than two third of the governments of the EFPSA member countries. Kosovo is NOT recognized by the Council of Europe.

EFPSA – Statutes and vision: Our statutes do not say anything specific about what is a European Country. We are NOT a political organisation, we welcome all psychology students and want to represent as many as we can and as diversity unites, we feel that additional members make the organisation more complete. We recognise the difficulty of the status of the country and can also welcome different views on this topic.

According to the EFPSA statutes Kosovo's NO is ok, they represent more than half of the students of their country (altogether ca 900 students).

There was a big discussion raised to this point. => see the comments and questions listed below:

There was a voice against the proposal as Kosovo isn't recognized by the Council of Europe and other European organisations follow the rule that only a country recognised by CE is a country, so EFPSA should follow these rules as well.

=> EFPSA is a student organisation, we should have our own independent rules.

Might be good idea to firstly clarify this (what is a European country, which country can become member) in statutes of EFPSA and let Kosovo stay as observing country till then...

Would there be any disadvantage of accepting them?

=> No, as Kosovo is accepted for the EU grants.

Is Kosovo member of EFPA?

=> No, EFPA hasn't decided on this issue yet.

There was an idea of creating another category of membership in EFPSA, something like "associated member".

What is the aim of membership? To have a country or to exchange information and experience with other organisations. If we just postpone the decision for the next year, it will be postponed again and again.

Kosovo participants presented their National organisation – KOAPS and their wish to become EFPSA members, as they would like to do more for the students from their university.

No matter what the country definition is, the mission of EFPSA is to share KT as much as possible.

Next time we have an issue like this, we should firstly clarify this within EFPSA, and not talk in front of the applicants, from the psychological view.

=> From the discussion three main proposals were created and the General Assembly voted on which proposal they want to vote further on:

Proposal 2.1

To accept the Kosovo as a member of EFPSA. => got 6 votes

Proposal 2.2

To have Kosovo remain an observer country. => got 0 votes

Proposal 2.3

To postpone the voting to the GA #2. => got 11 votes, which means that GA is going to vote on this proposal. There was a request for secret vote.

Voting results: 12 in favour, 8 against, 2 abstaining.

⇒ ***The GA will vote upon this proposal on the second session on Saturday.***

- **Presentation of the BM candidacies and voting**

Priit Tinitis applied for the president position and Dorota Wisniewska applied for the vice-president position.

Kosta Bovan applied for the position of The Head of Finances.

Rebecca Coenning applied for the position of Secretary General.

Dominika Szymanska applied for the position of Communication Officer.

Mariliin Saar applied for the position of National Representative Coordinator.

Lisa Wagner applied for the position of Activities Officer.

Each candidate prepared in advance a motivation letter, action plan and added also a CV. These were uploaded to the sharepoint and also copies of the presentation were given to every NR present. Priit and Dorota made a presentation about their vision for the next mandate, also other candidates were asked to introduce themselves and say a few words about their motivation and plans.

Proposal 3.1

To elect Priit Tinitis as President of EFPSA for the mandate 2009-2010.

Voting results: approved by 22 votes in favour, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Proposal 3.2

To elect mentioned applicants as BM of EFPSA for the mandate 2009-2010.

Voting results: approved by 22 votes in favour, 0 against, 0 abstaining

After voting the 2nd GA on Saturday afternoon was announced.

Call for vacant EB positions was announced and these position will be printed out soon.

- **Official handover to newly elected Board of management**

2. Saturday 2nd May 2009, GA #2

- **Agenda**

- What is a General Assembly
- Evaluation of the mandate 2008/09
- Approval of the financial report 2008/09
- Approval of the minutes 2008/09
- Presentation of the goals for the mandate 2009/10
- Approval of the budget 2009/10
- Presentation of the new Executive Board and voting
- JEPS
- KOAPS and Proposals
- Miscellaneous

The quorum was created by 20 NRs present.

- **Evaluation of the mandate 2008-2009**

Firstly the goals and achievements of the mandate 2008-09 and their evaluation were presented by Aart as a slide show (for more details see Annual Report 2008/09).

- **Approval of the financial report 2008/09** (Appendix 1)

Priit presented last year's financial report, all the expenses, incomes and the total balance. The financial report has been seen and accepted by the Head of Finance and the auditors Anja Bregar, former president, and Tiina Kalda, former Head of Finance.

Proposal 4.1

To approve the financial report 2008/09

Voting results: approved by 20 votes in favour, 0 against, 0 abstaining

- **Approval of the minutes 2008/09**

Proposal 4.2

To approve the minutes 2008/09

Voting results: approved by 20 votes in favour, 0 against, 0 abstaining

There was a request from NRs to be informed more in advance that they should go through the minutes.

- **Presentation of the goals for the mandate 2009/10**

Main goals of the mandate are:

- Holding the Congress
- Publishing JEPS
- Holding European Summer School
- Holding the EB NR meeting
- Improvement of internal communication and thus – motivation
- Sharepoint
- BM info wrap up email every two months to let Executive Board and National Representatives
- NR Newsletter every two months
- Promotion
- Preparing official promotional documents, updates of the website, large web team
- Amending the statute before EB NR Meeting
- More focus on European grants and sponsorship
- Creating European Summer School Manual

- **Approval of the budget 2009/10 (Appendix 2)**

Kosta presented the new estimated budget for the mandate 2009/10, which has been made by him - the Head of Finance and seen and accepted by the presidential team.

Proposal 4.3

To accept the budget 2009/10

Voting results: approved by 20 votes in favour, 0 against, 0 abstaining

- **Presentation of the new Executive Board for the mandate 2009/10**

New EB was presented:

- BM was elected at GA #2
- Travel Network – Lea (S), Ivana (J), Adrian (J)
- Study Abroad – Bianca (S), Alenka (J)
- Sponsorship – Laurent (S), Julianna (J), Yiorgos (J), Justin (Web)
- Grants – Beren (S), Zagorka (J)
- Secretary – Simone
- Promotion Officer – Baran
- Webmaster – Igor (S), Aniko (J)
- Country Coach – Doro
- Activities Officer – Vedran (J)
- JEPS – Resit (S), Bojan (J), Maris (J)
- ESS – Nathalie (S), Dalya (J), mandate changes at ESS

Proposal 5.1

To approve the EB for 2009/10

Voting results: approved by 20 votes in favour, 0 against, 0 abstaining

- **4 Croats and 4 Turkish in EB**

According to the statutes there should not be more than three EB Members of one nationality. If there are more than three members, then it has to be approved by the GA to disregard this part of the statutes for the time of one mandate.

Croatia and Turkey have more than three EB members.

Proposal 5.2

To accept Kosta, Vedran, Ivana, Zagorka as Executive Board members for 2009/2010

Voting results: approved by 20 votes in favour, 0 against, 0 abstaining

Proposal 5.3

To accept Beren, Baran, Resit, Dalya as Executive Board members for 2009/2010

Voting results: approved by 20 votes in favour, 0 against, 0 abstaining

- **JEPS presentation**

Introduction of the layout of the journal was done by Resit. The very first issue is about to be published.

Quorum has been raised to 21.

- **KOAPS and proposals**

A view of the board of management:

BM would like to make decisions according to EFPSA **aims** and **mission**. **Would be happy for quick solution** to save EFPSA work time at the next congress.

There was a task force created on this issue (consisting of Alexandra, Jolien and Jakob) and they came with the information and ideas that were afterwards discussed with NRs and together with NR thoughts these are resulting into following proposals:

Proposal 6.1 (prepared by task force)

Add to the statutes, chapter 4:

“In cases of ambiguity of the definition of a ‘country’ and therefore a significant amount of psychology students are not represented in EFPSA, it should be allowed for an independent psychology students organisation representing the psychology students mentioned above, to become a member of EFPSA as equal to a national organisation.”

Request for anonymous voting.

Voting results: not approved by 11 votes in favour, 9 against, 1 abstaining

Proposal 6.2 (raised by one of the NRs)

Add to the statutes, chapter 4:

“Countries will be recognized by EFPSA if they are recognized by the Council of Europe. In cases of ambiguity of the definition of a ‘country’ /---/ it should be allowed for an independent psychology students organisation representing the psychology students mentioned above, to become an observer ORGANISATION.”

Request for anonymous voting.

Voting results: not approved by 12 votes in favour, 8 against, 1 abstaining

After not approving of any of given proposals GA voted about the membership proposal.

Proposal 6.3

To accept KOAPS as a member of EFPSA.

Request for anonymous voting.

Voting results: not approved by 9 votes in favour, 12 against, 0 abstaining

There were different reactions, opinions after the voting.

One opinion was that it might have been a fault of the BM who didn't inform NRs in advance to give them enough time and a chance to prepare better for the decision-making.

- **Miscellaneous**

- Call for the 2011 congress organisers
- Call for the Joint EBNR meeting organisers 2009/10
- Presentation of the possible candidates for the Joint EBNR meeting 2009/10 organisers – Serbia

- **Thank you**

P-team expressed their thanks to the BM, all the EBs and NRs for their work during this week as well as to the old BM.

Appendix 1 – Financial report 2008/09

Profit and loss account EFPSA mandate 2008/09 (Period April 2008 – March 27th 2009)

	Budget 2008	Account 2008	Budget 2008	Account 2008
Services	875,00	0,00		
Projects	0,00	0,00		
Contributions to meetings and congresses	600,00	800,00		
Application Committee - support	3 575,00	1 231,03		
P-Team travel support	800,00	445,05		
ESS expenses	0,00	3 818,72		
EFPSA general promotion	1 500,00	0,00		
Administrative expenses	1 406,16	101,85		
Obligations	629,60	0,00		
Other expenses	0,00	6,26		
TOTAL EXPENSE	9 385,76	6 402,91		
Membership fees 2008/09			2 820,00	3 605,00
Unpaid membership fees			654,00	31,00
Membership fees 2009/10				312,00
EFPA support			1 240,00	1 240,00
ESS sponsors			0,00	2 963,22
Sponsors			3 500,00	500,00
Funds			0,00	0,00
Other income			1 187,00	444,36
TOTAL INCOME			9 401,00	9 095,58

Difference	2692,667187
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Balance 08.04.2008

	Assets	Liabilities
Bank	5 107,11	
Debtors	937,00	
Total Assets	6 044,11	
Creditors		1 113,55
Equity		4 930,56
Total Liabilities		6 044,11

Appendix 2 - EFPSA budget plan for 2009/2010

REVENUES	Comments			€uro
Balance from Budget 2008/2009				2 692,00
Membership fees 2009/2010	Amount in €	Nr. of Countries	Subtotal 1	
High Category	156,00	10	1 560,00	
Middle Category	108,00	11	1 188,00	
Low Category	72,00	4	288,00	
		Subtotal 1	3 036,00	3 036,00
Unpaid Membership fee				
High Category	156,00		0,00	
Middle Category	108,00		0,00	
Low Category	72,00		0,00	
Other			0,00	
		Subtotal 2	0,00	0,00
EFPA support				1 240,00
Sponsors				3 500,00
Funds				0,00
Other income				1 598,00
TOTAL REVENUES				12 066,00

EXPENDITURES	Comments		€uro
Services			
Activities Office	25,00		
JEPS	300,00		
Travel Network	25,00		
ESS	60,00		
Grants	25,00		
Sponsorship	50,00		
Study Abroad	25,00		
Subtotal	510,00		510,00
Contributions to meetings and congresses			
EFPSA Annual Congress	200,00		
EB/NR Meeting	400,00		
Subtotal	600,00		600,00
Support			
EB travel support	1 000,00		
BM travel support	1 000,00		
NR travel support	1 575,00		
Group Activities (exchanges, etc.)	0,00		
Subtotal	3 575,00		3 575,00
p-team travel support			800,00

EFPSA general promotion			1 500,00
Administrative Expenses			
Website Maintenance	0,00		
EB material	200,00		
Certificates	20,00		
Bank Account	40,00		
Archive	10,00		
Copy/print	500,00		
Phone costs	50,00		
Mail costs	400,00		
Legal Registration	101,16		
Subtotal	1 321,16		1 321,16
Obligations			
		Please enter an unforeseen maximum:	500,00
Other expenses / Unforeseen			
TOTAL REVENUES			12 066,00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES			8 306,16



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