

# EFPSA

# General Assembly

Session II | Minutes

Congress XXXIV, 2020

Virtual Congress

## General Assembly II | 10 April 2020

**Members present:** Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium (Leuven), Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia (Belgrade), Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom

**Observers present:** Belgium (Ghent), France, Italy

**Others present:** Board of Management 2019-2020, Working Community 2019-2020

**Minutes by:** Elvira Aghalarova

### Topics/agenda:

#### General Assembly II

- 1. Welcome & Intro
- 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
1. Welcome & Intro	- YWC: Welcome to the second livestream General Assembly. Yesterday we had our first GA1, today we will elect new BM candidates. This is the first ever online election of the BM. We are checking if the quorum is reached, we need 22 to reach it. We have 28 now and we can continue. As of yesterday the Vice president will not be here today therefore we will broadcast the video she has recorded. 1 applicant Mateusz took back his application. You have received email about this.	
2. Election of President	of - Vita Bogdanic: My name is Vita I come from Croatia and I am currently doing my master in Germany. We were expecting to be in Ireland right now and we did not expect it to be online. For the person like me who likes everything organised this situation stressed me out, but I know that none of	In favour: 61 Against: 0 Abstaining: 0



us will go far and EFPSA will not grow if we keep being afraid. This is opportunity to grow and develop. The person I know from a year ago wouldn't do this. I was Academic Affairs Officer in EFPSA, and it taught me that everything is possible if you are motivated. I have so many ideas running through my head but I want to keep everything realistic. I want to work in our internal communication. It is time when we need to stick together more than ever. I want to be here for the new BM as in was in BM before. I want to make them feel safe. I want us to be creative, still continue flourishing. I want to keep good practices that we have but also be critical and review the strategy. I want to work with Immediate Past President on Alumni Board, this is the board that keeps us together after we are not students anymore. I want to be here for all of you and be as a president to see the bigger picture and focus on the bigger plans. My motivation and willingness is the most important thing.

- Hugo, Spain. I ask you the same question that I ask all the candidates: Could you briefly explain how specifically you want to achieve the goals you set?
- Vita: One of the things right now I want to focus on is the internal communication; I should start from the BM because it is the baseline, since now we are not able to see each other. I want to organise live session as soon as possible, have social meetings, and workshops. Apart from it I want to work on the Alumni Board. I want to bring a new practice when every member of EFPSA becomes alumni immediately. Reach more people and start attending external events and use skills on networking and negotiating with the new people. Support AAO on broadening the database. With the Member Representatives, I want to meet with the presidents of MO and discuss both parties involvement in new projects.
- Veronika, Czech Republic: In your application, you mentioned that you would like to achieve closer connections with our Member Organizations. Have you thought about some concrete ideas how you would like to do so or not yet?
- Vita: Have the meeting with the presidents of the Member Organisation. When we meet in person we have more clear information that we can provide

about EFPSA.

<p>3. Election of Vice President</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Deianara: At the congress last year it was my first experience in EFPSA. I started as an MR of Belgium. I learned to work in the online environment. After a lot of thinking I came to the conclusion that I want to apply for the VP. I want to work closely with BM and Services. I want to become really close with President, and help with Presidential Office tasks. Most importantly I want to help President to help in taking care of the mental health of the rest of the BM. I have been a part of the Board of Management in my MO in Belgium, I know how hard it is to work as BM, I know how agenda can affect to someone therefore I want to help new BM with their hardships. Regarding the services, I was in contact with them while being an MR. My knowledge about the services are not broad but I am a fast learner. I want to find a good way of the communication from the beginning of the mandate. I want to have a good communication with the Coordinator and help them with the tasks. Apart from it EFPSA has space to grow. One of the important things is to concentrate on the work of MR and with MR and the second would be looking after teams. I am very excited to share my experience with EFPSA.</li> <li>- Rosario, Portugal: In order to understand a bit more about your goal we want to ask what are your plans are for the Study and Travel Abroad, Social Impact Initiative and Training Office.</li> <li>- Deinara: My knowledge of three services are not broad yet, I want to give them an authority to have the action plan, I will give 1 answer per service. Last year we had exchange but it was not organised by STA I would love to strengthen it and we can see how can we make it more organised. SII: we have LC and they were told in the beginning to contact TO for trainings and we can definitely strengthen the communication between LO, MR and TO, for SII to promote merchandise. Last year LC received some of the merch and we can even take a step further and ask if they could sell it even broader. This would be an ideal way to remind psychology students that this campaigns exist.</li> </ul>	<p>In favour: 54 Against: 3 Abstaining: 4</p>
<p>4. Election of Secretary General</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Katja: I got to know EFPSA as the volunteer in MtM, I was LC in MtM and BT. In the previous year I was a team member in SII. I met plenty of</li> </ul>	<p>In favour: 52 Against: 4</p>



amazing people. Because I want to contribute to EFPSA I applied to SG. I have leadership and organisation skills. I was VP and SG in our student association. I want to improve the work from the previous mandate. Make more attractive our EFPSA Magazine. The next step, I would like to look at the work of HRR and try to improve it. I really wish to make an online merch, It will help us to reach more psychology students. My last idea was to make changes in the webpage.

Abstaining: 5

- Amber, MR of Belgium: In your application, you indicate that you want to grow in things such as mails, writing, but to what extent do you already have these skills? And do you have a concrete plan to learn these necessary skills?
- Katja: I really like to learn new things and I was as SG, so I was in charge of the emails and was contacting externals. I am excited to learn.
- Hugo Spain: Could you briefly explain how specifically you want to achieve the goals you set?
- Katja: I would like to work of EFPSA Magazine, to ask them why they applied for the position. it will give a chance for others to see why they need to join EFPSA.
- Rosário, MR of Portugal: Since the development of an app you mention on your application is quite a costly process, what are your specific ideas or plans for actually making it come to life? How do you believe not only it's creation but also management can occur?
- Katja: The app is the big process to make. All BM will need to work on this. Hopefully I will learn how to make an app. I know people who know about webpage and they can teach me new skills.
- Rosário, MR of Portugal: In answer to the question "In relation to the position you have applied for, what ways would you like to see EFPSA develop?" you talk about reaching more psychology students by getting in touch with universities and psychology departments. We believe this is what the MR and Vice-MRs do in their respective MO, especially on the national ones, so what do you think should be changed in this matter and how can you contribute towards it within your position?



Thank you!

- Katja: They should spread more locally, go into universities. So make universities to share the calls. In my university we have page for the psychology department.

<p>5. Election of Finance Officer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hector: I was in the Finance Office, and beforehand we already put some ideas on paper. In the Finance office we have a lot of work and deadlines. I thought of working on the Google Forms. I know that in grants team we have really strict work. We refer to the Knowledge Transfer but it is also not enough. We are thinking of having an online lecture for the new mandate. The most important thing is to work on motivation, communication. I would like to have social meetings, online trainings. We need to be united, and keep working and get the job done.</li> <li>- Rosário, Portugal - You kind of already tackled this aspect on your speech but we'd still like to know a bit more if that's alright! Taking into account the current COVID-19 influenced state of affairs, we fear that it might be quite hard to get financing for some of EFPSA's annual projects. In case this happens, what solutions would you consider to lighten or compensate this financial burden?</li> <li>- Hector: we live in time of uncertainty, the only thing I can stick to is we stick to what we know from before. We have project that were successful. what I am trying to do is to break down activity. I will make sure we fully aware.</li> <li>- Vera, Turkey: I have been wondering if you collaborate teams on writing grants and guide them in this process; like exchange responsible, events office or TO. If so how do you follow with that?</li> <li>- Hector: Yes, we do collaborate. We are always in contact with every team. The most important is to have strong baseline with the BM and with that we can pass it to our teams. Also I want to make sure that Finance team not only aware of their responsibilities but also of the things that happen in other teams.</li> <li>- Demos, Cyprus: I had the chance to work with Org Coms and so far what was happening was the finance office was working with the events office to</li> </ul>	<p>In favour: 51 Against: 0 Abstaining: 10</p>
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	<p>establish a communication with the Org Coms. Are you going to establish a more direct communication with the Org Coms? (f.e a team member being in the meetings or something similar)? Because so far the main struggles with Org Com is the finances and the finance office could really help with this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hector: Definitely yes, I do think it is better to keep the most direct communication with BM. I do not know how this will work now.</li> <li>- Johann, Austria: As an EFPSA trainer I was wondering; how do you as finance office can support training events, so that trainers and participants from every MO can attend them (especially with TtT in Azerbaijan getting no grant)</li> <li>- Hector: We did not get specific grant for the workplan of 2020, and it will be a challenge. I do not yet know how I will tackle to this. But I will do everything I can to help. We have sponsors that may help us. We can try to allocate money.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>6.</b> Election of Marketing Officer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Katarina: Last year when I talked about one of my friends, she told me that EFPSA will change my life. EFPSA really changes lives. What I like about EFPSA is that everyone enjoys the work they do. Marketing is really something I am interested about; I can be creative and see the result of my work. Everything I know about Marketing I can use in EFPSA. I know how to use WordPress, I designed my mom's webpage for her work. I am familiar with the Adobe; however I prefer to use Canva. Regarding the team is to make them feel welcomed and happy. Marketing is place where you can be creative and have this whole process as the fun experience.</li> <li>- Amber, Belgium: Regarding your BM application we have the feeling that you underestimate the workload. So, our question is how much time do you think the function will require and how will you keep yourself and your team motivated?</li> <li>- Katarina: As any other position I know that BM position takes 13-15h per week. Marketing is place where you should work more, because creating something takes time. I know it is time consuming and sometimes you work from 7pm to 3am. When you love creating something and you have</li> </ul>	<p>In favour: 45 Against: 12 Abstaining: 4</p>



motivation it is not that much, just an incredible experience.

7. Election of Member Representatives Officer

- Martie: Current MRO Marija has motivated me to apply for this position. I want to be a good leader as well. EFPSA is big and it is growing and this is the experience I would recommend to everyone. My team work skills and leadership skills are very important aspects of me. MRs are such an incredible and diverse group of students that I have grown up to love, I think my past experience will help me to bring something to the table. I aim on keeping up the quality of the service. I would like to put more connection between MRs and the rest of the Federation.

In favour: 46

Against: 6

Abstaining: 9

- Veronika, Czech Republic: Thank you for your great speech. Martie, what do you think that should be the biggest change in comparison to this year in order to involve ViceMRs more?

- Martie: My biggest aim is to keep the quality of MRs higher. Improving contacting the Presidents of MO more often. By doing this we would know how is the situation is for the Member Observers.

- Antonis, Greece. How are you planning on embracing, integrating and supporting the new organisations that have just joined the federation, and don't really have that much insight on what we do?

- Martie: Regarding the new MO is welcome and thank you for joining EFPSA. I would live to make an introduction to all the MRs and new Members that joined us. They will have Knowledge transfer. I hope to integrate both the experienced MRs as well as the new ones to have a meeting.

- Hugo, Spain. I ask you the same question that I ask all the candidates: Could you briefly explain how specifically you want to achieve the goals you set?

- Martie: The biggest concern and the mistake for me is to connect MRs as the team. It is the network of not only work related thing but also the support. Plan the trainings and be involved in it as well personally as well.

- Alexandra, MR of Romania. Why did you state in your application that you lead the Org Com



between Malta in Romania, as this is not true? What previous experience certifies your leadership skills?

- Martie: Some proof of my leadership other than exchange I was in the Board of Management of my MO for two years. I was the educational officer and international officer. I had two Vices that I had to work with them. I teach English, therefore I manage quite a lot of classes.
- Luanne Grima I completely disagree with you Alexandra. As President of MO Malta, and working with Martie, I can assure everyone reading your comment that everyone is really grateful for Nicole helping Martie and myself out with the exchange, however, we cannot put the blame on Martie for not feeling well and for Nicole taking over which was her role, given that she decided to help us. You cannot use this against her.
- Vice-MR of Malta: I would like to point out that Martie was very ill when the Romanian participants came to Malta and this is why she could not make it. Additionally as vice-MR who has worked directly with Martie during this mandate I can say that Martie has always shown a lot of enthusiasm towards EFPSA and has dedicated a lot of time and work towards the organization. Thank you!
- Čaġlar Akyiġ: Hi Alexandra, as the exchanges responsible of EFPSA 2019-2020, I have to state that I also work with Martie during preparing the certificates or feedback forms. Nicole said that she is also responsible of the Maltese team kind of co-coordinator.

8. Election of Events Officer

- Bojana: I started my journey at the congress. After three years of studying psychology I found an association where I wanted to stay. I tried to take a part in every EFPSA events. I went to the EFPSA Academy as the Trainings event coordinator, then I was in the Researchers Summer School. Afterwards I became the official Working Community member by taking the position of the Training Events Coordinator. I have attended Joint EB&MR meeting. I went to the EFPSA Conference, and presented my work there. I do have an experience in EFPSA events. My motivation to apply is to use all these experiences and make something bigger from these events. I want to stay in EFPSA and

In favour: 54  
Against: 3  
Abstaining: 4



work with the Org Coms that I have started working with. I want to work on the communication practices. I would like to call up on the EFPSA mission, to bring all psychology students together and stay strong together. Where is possible, I would like to bring events to online where possible.

- Hugo, Spain: Could you briefly explain how specifically you want to achieve the goals you set?
- Bojana: Communication, especially during this time. I want to implement chill sessions. I would like to know more about the people I work with.
- Demos, Cyprus. Those questions were formed by the TO. 1) In your application you said that you helped the 2019 TtT Org Com, however you undertook the position after the event was over. Did you ment the 2020 TtT by any chance? If its the latter then how did you help? 2) Also you mentioned training facilitation skills however from your CV it seems that you did not graduate from a 1st level non formal educational training event. Can you please share how those training facilitation skills were acquired?
- Bojana: I helped TtT 2020, this is the TtT I am currently working on. In EFPSA Academy I helped Org Com. I made fun training sessions. I would also like to have a document with the games they can work on. It is a big issue for me, I did not graduate from the training school. That was not a problem when you were going through my application and agreed to have me at the EFPSA Academy as a trainer last year. Judging by the feedback from the participants I did an amazing job. I did apply for the TtT 2019, but I was overqualified judging by your email that I have received. I am looking forward to improving my skills.
- Johann from Austria, I am not sure if I misunderstood, did you say you can imagine events happening online?
- Bojana: No, you did not misunderstand; I did receive the training online as amazing as live. I do believe that with motivation anything is possible. Org Com will not suffer any lost to this. Of course I am speaking of the worst case scenario, but this is just an option.



## 9. Election of Academic Affairs Officer

- Ana: In the previous year I was an MR of Croatia, I learned about the structure of EFPSA. I want to be a part of the federation and contribute with everything I know. I am very strong willed and I believe I am a strong leader. I have always enjoyed working with the big group of people. I am in love with this position, this is new and very open to improvement. I would like to work on making our services to be visible more. We should highlight our academic aspect even more. I would like in EFPA more. As the EFPSA Representative in EFPA I know how they work and how we can be helpful.
- Hugo, Spain. Could you briefly explain how specifically you want to achieve the goals you set?
- Ana: All the candidates highlighted importance of MR, what we can do is to mobilise the energy they have. MRs can disseminate information about the research we have. I would also like to collaborate with External Officer and EFPA. We can create more infographics and share their research on our posts and their posts. I would like to work on the visibility of JEPS. We had a session of ask JEPS with MRs and I would like to encourage JEPS to have more seminars and webinars.
- Dzvezdica: I have been Research Responsible and a Coordinator. These 2 services are really important if you are interested in research. So far we were having a problem with reaching students, and we can change that. We can start from collaborating with the universities. Last year Vita and Tea were encouraging the collaboration of the Services on the same projects and we can motivate it this mandate as well. Communication. We can start a mandate from the good sharing policy. Whenever there is a project we are working on every person involved will be sharing the documents in one place.
- Alexandra, Romania: Could you briefly explain how specifically you want to achieve the goals you set?
- Dzvezdica: Collaboration with the universities, here MRs can be involved more. However this is not always enough because MRs cannot let them know all the time in this case we will contact them individually. Continue with the meeting Vita and Tea has started.

Ana: 46

Dzvezdica: 11

Abstaining: 4

