



# EFPSA

## General Assembly

Session I | Minutes

Congress XXXV, 2021

Virtual Congress – The Netherlands

## General Assembly I | 21/04/2021

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

Minutes by: Katja Zemljič

1. Approval of the annual financial report
2. Approval of the new fiscal year
3. Approval of amendments to the Statutes & Internal Regulations
4. Approval of the Procedure for Requests of Tier Scale Transfer
5. Approval of first - stage membership of Ukraine
6. Approval of second - stage membership of Italy
7. Approval of second - stage membership of Belgium
8. Approval of resignation of the Marketing Officer
9. Memorandum of Understanding with JEE
10. Memorandum of Understanding with ELSA
11. Memorandum of Understanding with PsySSA
12. Memorandum of Understanding with IFMSA
13. Memorandum of Understanding with PSA (Trinidad & Tobago)

Topic	Discussion	Decision
<b>Introduction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Vita Bogdanić (VB): Welcome everyone to our first General Assembly at our first ever virtual Congress! 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).</li> </ul>	

	<p>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. (explaining the rest of voting rules).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- VB: We need a quorum of 2/3. At the moment we have 33 MR's, and 11 EB delegates.</li> <li>- Martina Marie Aquilina: We have 37 delegates.</li> <li>- VB: The quorum is reached.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>1. Approval of the annual financial report</b></p>	<p>TL: You received the proposal and supporting documents. One document was the expenditure report, because we were waiting for all the expenditures from the MeetUp. I will share my screen, so to understand the expenditures better. (Explaining the sheet). Are there any question?</p> <p>Eleftheria Foka (EF): Eleftheria, TO, Greece. I have three questions. First, I don't understand – there are some brackets that says »Not confirmed yet« or »small amount missing«. Can you explain what that is? Second question – what is with the Congress platform? There is a huge amount, and seems there is a dispute, so if you could explain it to us. And also, why for Zoom 2020 it was a big amount, like 3000, and for Zoom 2021 it is like 300 – there is a big difference, so what happened there?</p> <p>TL: Okay, let's start with the first. The brackets are mainly in the meetup, because it happened recently, we did not confirm everything yet. For example for reimbursements, we will have to go through all the</p>	<p>In favour: 60 Against: 1 Abstaining: 6 Proposal passes</p>

receipts to confirm the costs, to see if they are overstated or if there is a receipt missing, but this is the current amount. So this is the amount it will probably be, maybe a bit lower if some receipts don't match. The other bracket – one of the Board members did not submit their costs for travel back, so maybe 100€ is missing.

Second one, the Congress platform. The OrgCom decided to go for a platform first, Activo. As sometimes happens – sales people promise a lot of things that account managers cannot provide. In the end, the platform could not meet our requirements. It ended it us trying to cancel the contract, they still wanted to go through with it, we stated our reasons, they rejected our reasons, so now we will have to go through our lawyer. But I am confident we will receive most of the money back.

EF: Is this money already spent?

TL: Yes., we paid the invoice

EF: Thank you – the last question, regarding the zoom accounts.

TL: In 2020 we paid an annual amount, so this is Zoom until September or October this year. In 2021 it is for the big meetings – for webinars we book additional package with 500 participants, and we usually cancel this. We did the same for the Congress. I hope that clears is up. Any other questions?

Ying Wai Cheung: Hi, Ying, Netherlands. Question about BMMs – big difference between BMM1 and BMM2.

TL: Cost are high because of additional tests and other covid rules. I have a detailed report.

VB: Also add – for first BMM two people did not attend, we met in Croatia and two Board members came from Croatia, others from Slovenia and Serbia, so travel was cheap. We did not manage to go to Croatia again because of pandemic.

Deianara Couwet: Yes, I couldn't travel from Belgium for BMM1, but I could from BMM2 and travel is expensive from Belgium.

TL: Today I found out we got the same grant 21 000 for the next mandate.

<p><b>2. Approval of the new fiscal year</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- TL: Our fiscal year was not synced with out mandate, it makes our accounting difficult. Grant money is always given on a yearly basic – from January to December. That is why we propose to change this, also every external has their fiscal year from jan-dec. Any questions?</li> <li>- YWC: Congrats on the grants! I know how hard it is to work with a fiscal year that is not aligned with the year. I want to ask about the overlap of Finance Officer and fiscal year – how will the FO be accountable for those months, when they have already left the mandate, and the fiscal year still being there?</li> <li>- TL: So, let's start with budgeting – budgets will be created in the end of December, starting from January. The budget will constantly be updated with the expenses, until the next Finance Officer will take place.</li> <li>- YWC: So, for example, if this proposal is approved for this year, then the new fiscal year will be January 2021, until December 2021? At the next Congress in Cyprus, there will be a new Finance Officer, but the year after, that Finance Officer will be accountable for the months in between January and April. If there is any question about expenditures in those months, how would that be explained?</li> <li>- TL: This is the weakness with our mandate. We added Accounting &amp; Budgeting Responsible, so there is more info available when the transition will take place. We also have an accountant because of legal registration, it was mandatory for us to have them. Accountant confirms the account for New Year, then we see it fits with our Grants. I think it will be solvable with these positions and keeping detailed archived.</li> <li>- DC: We also have IAC, that checks if all the transactions are in accordance to EFPSA, they will still work with Finance Officer. The first accounting was done in October, for the previous Finance Officer. From now on, the first audit will be around July, so they will work together with both Finance</li> </ul>	<p>In favour: 63 Against: 0  Abstaining: 4 Proposal passes</p>
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	Officers. This is how we will neutralise this weakness.	
<b>3. Approval of amendments to the Statutes &amp; Internal Regulations</b>	- DC: The next proposal is the approval of amendments to the Statutes & Internal Regulations. We check them every six months, for grammar mistakes, spelling mistakes, if they are updated, etc. We highlighted the sentences according to the change. If you don't approve, we will leave it same. It is dependent also on how you will vote for the other changes. Are there any question?	In favour: 59 Against: 2 Abstaining: 4 Proposal passes
<b>4. Approval of the Procedure for Requests of Tier Scale Transfer</b>	- Martina Marie Aquilina (MMA): This proposal means, that we allow MO's to properly represent their scale of representations. Some MO's might expand. Go from Local to National, or vice-versa. Before we did not have this accurately, with this transfer we give MO's chance to shift from Local or National or vice versa. Are there any questions?	In favour: 59 Against: 0 Abstaining: 6 Proposal passes
<b>5. Approval of first - stage membership of Ukraine</b>	- MMA: I will give the word to Anastasia, to represent Ukraine and her organisation.  - Anastasia: I am representative of Student's division. It is a division of psychology in Ukraine, we were established in 2020. We have 4 departments, each department has their own coordinator. We have public lectures for mental health We want to join EFPSA to exchange experience, become the first representative of EFPSA in Ukraine, and participate in global world processes. We are ready to work together, we have a-lot of motivated members.	In favour: 61 Against: 0 Abstaining: 6 Proposal passes
<b>6. Approval of second - stage membership of Italy</b>	- Elettra : Hi. This year we moved from original organisation to the new one. Because our organisation has involved a lot, we created different teams that work on different aspects, not on fields of studies anymore. We improved international area, working on new topics and fields – organising new possibilities for associates. We are creating more material . We want to improve our relationship with EFPSA, we are organising language workshop, the international aspect really matters in multicultural world and development.	In favour: 63 Against: 0 Abstaining: 4 Proposal passes
<b>7. Approval of second - stage membership of Belgium</b>	- Alexander Spriet: Leuven is Local Organisation as official member, and Ghent is Observer. We made a national organisation – BFPS. We started in September 2020, we have been growing pretty quick. Leuven, Ghent and two others are already members, out of 7. We are in touch with two others. We want	In favour: 63 Against: 0 Abstaining: 4 Proposal passes

to represent all of our students. As you can see, our goals align with EFPSA goals. We want to unite and connect all students with professionals. We want to empower volunteers. We organise events, mainly online because of covid. We have a mind the mind division. We want to be an active part of EFPSA. We already have an EFPSA Office, and the EFPSA Coordinator who will be an MR and in our Board. We want to strengthen our bonds. We want to get local initiatives to EFPSA, so we have bilateral flow of opportunities.

<b>8. Approval of resignation of the Marketing Officer</b>	- VB: This proposal is more of a formality. Recently our Marketing Officer decided to resign and according to the Belgium law we have to officially approve this resignation. If there are any questions, feel free to ask.	In favour: 63 Against: 0 Abstaining: 4 Proposal passes
<b>9. Memorandum of Understanding with JEE</b>	- VB: This is a memorandum of understanding with Junior Enterprises Europe. You can find the supporting documents, we are trying to come to a collaboration – a webinar for our working community on how to start your own business.	In favour: 63 Against: 0 Abstaining: 2 Proposal passes
<b>10. Memorandum of Understanding with ELSA</b>	- VB: This is a memorandum of understating with European Law students. Our main collaboration is with trainers, our trainers will be a part of their Train the Trainers.	In favour: 63 Against: 0 Abstaining: 2 Proposal passes
<b>11. Memorandum of Understanding with PsySSA</b>	<p>- VB: This is a collaboration with South Africa; we are planning an event about education in South Africa and Europe.</p> <p>- YWC: Very exciting for this collaboration. Are there any plans for EFPSA to visit their association, or that they visit our events?</p> <p>- VB: Thank you Ying. We have two representatives of their association at our Congress; we also had our representatives at their Congress. When situation gets better, we are hoping to visit each other in person.</p>	In favour: 63 Against: 0 Abstaining: 2 Proposal passes
<b>12. Memorandum of Understanding with IFMSA</b>	- VB: We have worked together in the past, we renewed the collaboration. We had a project on Mental Health Awareness week. We plan to continue with this and also include other collaborations.	In favour: 63 Against: 0 Abstaining: 2 Proposal passes
<b>13. Memorandum of Understanding with</b>	- VB: This is an association of West Indies and Trinidad and Tobago. We started working with	In favour: 63 Against: 0

**PSA (Trinidad & Tobago)**

them this year; we also have a representative from them with us.

Abstaining:  
Proposal passes

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**Closing**

- VB: Thank you for being here, thank you for asking questions. Tomorrow we have second General Assembly where we will be choosing the new Board for mandate 2021-2022. Rest and hope to see you tomorrow!

Vita Bogdanić

President 2020- 2021



Katja Zemljič

Secretary General 2020-2021

