EFPSA General Assembly

Session I | Minutes

Congress XXXVI, 2022

Agros, Cyprus





General Assembly III | 15/05/2021

Present: The Board 2021-2022, Working Community of EFPSA 2021-2022

Minutes by: Robert Meyka

Agenda:

Section 1: Board

1. Approval of the Official Resignation of the Board 2021-2022

Section 2: Finances

- 2. Approval of the Annual Financial Report 2021
- 3. Approval of the Revised Financial Discharge 2021
- 4. Approval of the Updated Membership Fees and GDP Groups
- 5. Approval of the Internal Audit Committee Report

Section 3: Official Documents

- 6. Approval of the Amendments to the Statutes and Internal Regulations
- 7. Approval of the Strategic Planning 2023-2027

Section 4: Membership

- 8. Approval of the Individual Membership
- 9. Approval of the Penalty and Dismissal Procedure of Member Organisations
- 10. Approval the First-Stage Membership of the Association of Applied Psychology Students' Axon (Montenegro)
- 11. Approval of the Request of Tier Scale Transfer of Associazione Psicologi Europe in Formazione (Italy)
- 12. Approval of the Transfer of Membership of Psihomnia (Croatia)





- 13. Approval of the Dissolution of Voice of Albanian Psychology Students' (Albania)
- 14. Approval of the Dissolution of Association of Psychology Students SINAPSA (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- 15. Approval of the Dismissal of Young Psychologists Public Union (Azerbaijan)
- 16. Approval of the Dismissal of PSI Student Affairs Group (Ireland)

Section 5: Memorandum of Understanding

- 17. Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with Global Student Psychology Committee (GSPC)
- 18. Approval of the Call to Action Students Building Community Psychology

Торіс	Discussion	Decision
Introduction	- Deianara Couwet (DC): During the 36 th Congress in Cyprus we will now have our first General Assembly. The General Assembly consists of Delegates from each Member Organisation of the Federation and Delegates of the Executive Board. Typically, the Member Representative (MR) is the delegate who holds the voting rights on behalf of their Member Organisation from their country or region, and the Executive Board (EB) Delegate holds the voting rights on behalf of their Office or Service. The General Assembly is the most important decision-making body within EFPSA. How do the voting rules work? Every National Organisation has two votes, every Local Organisation has one vote, and every Executive Board Delegates has one vote. The Member Organisation votes will be counted for 60 percent,	Proposal to accept the agenda: 30? in favour, 0 abstaining, 0 against. The agenda was approved.



Executive Board votes will be counted for 40 Member For Representatives as Executive Board Delegates will be allowed and have the right to vote. The voting options are 'In favour', 'Against', 'Abstaining', and we have Robert's Rule of Order in accordance with our voting. This means that abstaining votes support the decision of the majority, but they will not be counted. So abstaining votes will only help to ensure Quorum, but they will not be counted with the majority. This also means that if you are abstaining for a proposal, know that it will only support the Quorum, but it will not be counted so for most proposals you will know if you will be in favour or against. So, the proposals need two-thirds Delegates, the chairs which are me as President, the Uroš Nović (UN) or Delegates may motion to several procedures. The first option for motion for pragmatic amendments to be made to the sessions' agenda, for example the order of voting or splitting parts of a proposal into sub-proposals. The second counter proposal to be voted upon at a later session or through E-Voting. A third option is motion for a vote to be deferred for a voting at a subsequent session of the General Assembly scheduled for later of the meeting, or E-Voting, to allow for further platform. All voting members have been about the NGOs. The weighted votes are supported, and the



The Member Representatives Officer, Kocmanová (VK), can see how many have voted already, but the identity of the voters is hidden, so we can not know whether you have voted in favour, against, or abstaining, we can only see whether you voted or not. If all voting members are online on NemoVote, I would like to establish a Quorum. In order for the General Assembly to make decisions it is required that a Quorum of at least two-thirds reached. This time, we need to establish both a Quorum for MRs as they will only be allowed to Quorum in total, so both MRs and Executive Board Delegates. We currently have 34 Member Organisations with voting rights, which means we need at least 23 Delegates who are online, and in total we currently have 47 Voting Members which means we need 31 Voting Delegates online. So I will now wait for VK to let me know whether we have reached Quorum or not.

- DC: Okay, we have reached Quorum, VK, could you also write to me how many are present, if possible?
- DC: We have 30? Delegates in total present, that means Quorum is reached in total. I will now wait for if we have reached Quorum for Member Representatives.
- DC: We have ? voters online, so we have also reached Quorum for the group Member Representatives. This means we can now continue with the General Assembly.
- DC: I would like to announce a few practical things: Should there be any concerns regarding our Statutes and Internal Regulations, you can of course





	 always raise your concerns. When asking questions, please state your name and country first, then ask your question. You can ask questions verbally or via chat. DC: We will first start with the approval of our agenda, the votes are now open, please vote whether you approve the agenda of the first General Assembly. We have 30? votes in favour, 0 against and 0 abstaining, so the agenda is approved. 	
Official Resignation of	 DC: As you could read in the proposal this is something that we have to do according to the official Belgian Law. So after the mandate is over we as the current Board will need your approval to resign. Of course, until the time that a new Board will be elected we will still support the working practices and security of the Federation and will stay on to support the new Board. Nevertheless, we need to officially resign and get your approval on that. DC: As I see no questions, we will proceed with the next proposal. 	Proposal 1: 33.46 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstaining. The Proposal passes.
2. Approval of the Annual Financial Report 2021	 DM: The annual financial report is the document stating the incomes and expenses of the federation. As we changed the fiscal year we have created this for the year of 2021. We also checked these with an external accountant. DC: As I see no questions, we will proceed with the next proposal. 	Proposal 2: 33.6 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstaining. The Proposal passes.
3. Approval of the Revised	- DC: This is again a proposal we need to do according to the Belgian Law and it only passes after the Proposal of the Resignation of the Board has passed. Sadly, as we did not have enough	Proposal 3: 33.6 in favour, 0 against, 0





Financial Discharge 2021

information on the acceptance or rejection of our grant application, we still had some expenses from the time of January to April 2022. I will now share the document of the Actuals, and go through it one by one. The first rows describe the sum of the Membership payments and you can see that we have reached 2028€ in total from membership fees, including Member Organisations who have paid their debts from previous years. Also with partnership agreements we have gathered 66.43€ and for donations we have gathered 43.70€.

Regarding the grant application, we unfortunately still do not have the information about whether we will receive the grant or not. For this year, we submitted our grant application for 2022 according to their deadline in the middle of December 2021. It was communicated with us that we were supposed to hear about the results between February and March 2022. After we did not receive any information we proceeded to ask whether we would receive this information soon, while we also noticed that their deadline until we receive the results is postponed until the end of June 2022, and so far we were not able to further communicate with them. This is not just the situation with EFPSA, but other students' associations are also experiencing this problem and it now turns into a waiting game. Sadly, this means that many of our expenses and reimbursements are put on hold until we receive further information and can know about our future financial stability. We do have a lot of savings so we are prepared for emergencies, however as we do not know about the future we are trying to manage them conservatively. We try to be as transparent as possible about this.

- DC: All in all, this means that we have a total income of 2.510,63€.

abstaining.
The Proposal passes.





Regarding expenses, there are some automatic expenses we have to pay, such as for Legal requirements, work from our external accountant, automatic payments for our bank account, etc.

There were also reimbursements regarding shipment for merchandise and trainer materials, but also for one scholarship for the chosen applicant that was already reimbursed. We did deem this necessary as we still believe in supporting psychology students in any way possible and the winner of the scholarship already was announced before we knew about the new grant situation.

There were also some finances about the events regarding several outcomes and incomes, however some events that are planned for the future were not able to receive more income yet as they are still looking for sponsors. We did negotiate with the Organising Committees to lower our support from 5,0000 to 2,0000 according to the grant situation.

Regarding our current actuals, compared to our formerly approved budget we are currently facing a deficit of around 4,000€, however practically this only comes from the scholarship and the other deficits are regarding the support of events with the premise that those events are also trying to generate income during their events. We will additionally try to gain fundraising events etc. to have some more actuals.

Any questions?

- Jesse Rijsdijk, MR of NEtherlands: I have a question about where you can find whether your country belongs to which payment group?
- DC: You can find this in the Statutes and also in one of the following proposals. Furthermore, the budget also shows this.





4. Approval of the Updated
Membership
Fees and GDP
Groups

- DM: Every three years we update the Membership Fees. When we create a list of Member Organisations we calculate them according to the list of European Council GDP income and 33% with the highest GDP go into Group A, middle 33% go into Group B and lower 33% go into Group C. This year, we were supposed to raise the Membership Fee. However, we decided against it due to several financial issues in Member ORganisations, so the Fees stay the same as 3 years ago.

Malta will move from A to B, UK will move A to B, Greece from B to C. The membership fees all stay the same.

Also regarding the situation with the war in Ukraine we are considering

- Jana Pavlovic, MR of Serbia: I have a question regarding the UK. I was surprised about the movement so I would ask you to clarify it a little bit.
- DM: Basically after Russia has been removed from the European Council, all countries have been moved in their GDP order and that is why the UK has also been moved to Category B.
- Jana: Thank you for clarifying.
- DC: Yes, it is all according to official websites and valid data, also former Finance Officers have been helping Dora out with this.
- 5. Approval of the Internal Audit Committee Report
- DC: Every six months we send the actuals to the Internal Audit Committee to check our transactions. Last time this happened at EB&MR 2021, this time it was for the time of July December 2021 so for the last half of the year.

 Also, we have an external accountant who

Also, we have an external accountant who double-checked this, however our internal audit is

32.2 in favour, 1.4 against, 0 abstaining. The Proposal passes.

32.4 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstaining.
The Proposal passes.





as important to check if everything is according to our Mission, Vision and Values.

 DC: As I see no questions, we will proceed with the next proposal.

- 6. Approval of the Amendments to the Statutes and Internal Regulations
- DC: Every year, the Board reviews the Statutes and Internal Regulations and we make sure that all of the approved proposals are implemented, if things are generally up to date and whether no mistakes occur. This year the same thing happened, we also highlighted in our Supporting Documents. The changes of the yet to be approved proposals are also already implemented, however should those proposals not pass they would be changed to the former standard.
- Marta Barros, Portugal, Social Impact Initiative: In Proposal 6, for Internal Regulations, it was added that the Alive campaign was there without adding the description of the campaign, we would just like to comment that later on the description will be added for the future mandate.
- Robert Meyka, Secretary General: Noted in the minutes.
- 7. Approval of the Strategic Planning 2023-2027
- DC: We already sent this document at the beginning of March to you after feedback was implemented at our BMM2, we then once again received feedback from the WOrking Community and a few comments were added as well. AFterwards, we updated the history of EFPSA which took a longer time and now we have the finished document.

against, 0 abstaining. The Proposal passes.

32.6 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstaining.

The Proposal passes.





8. Approval of the Individual Membership

- VK: The reason for this proposal is that a lot of students would like to make an impact in EFPSA but they are not part of a member organisation or no member organisation exists in their country. This proposal will allow them to take part in efpsa events and campaigns as well as the Supporting Community. They will not be able to be part of the Working Community, however they can also join our Annual
- Chloé Möller, Sweden, Events Coordinator: Is the condition to join as an individual member to come from a country that does not have a representative MO?
- VK: It means that students who don't have an MO in their country can join, or students who have a local MO in their country but no national MO and they are not part of that local region, they will also be able to join.
- DC: So this means that this gives the opportunity for students who cannot join at the current moment. Of course, we wish for more countries to have MOs that join us, however until that moment we want to be inclusive for the students of those countries who do not have an MO. On the same side, we also want to respect our already existing MO and give them more rights such as being able to join the WOrking Community and give them Voting rights.
- VK: One more thing, the individual membership will also include a fee which is again according to the GDP, and it will be around 5% of the fee compared to other MOs. This is for every year and every mandate

31.2 in favour, 2.4 against, 0 abstaining.
The Proposal passes.





33.6

favour,

against, 0 abstaining.

The Proposal passes.

-	Jana Pavlovic, MR of	Serbia:	When is	s the 1	time '	when
	those people can apply	y for in	dividual	mem	bersh	nip?

- VK: Right now we will see if this proposal will pass, and after that students can basically apply. Right now we believe that students will be able to apply at any point of the year, however we will also develop this in the future and we will use the upcoming mandate as a first trial to learn from the experience.

9. Approval of the Penalty and Dismissal Procedure of Member

- VK: The reason for this proposal is that many Member Organisations suffer from financial issues and what we changed in this procedure is to prolong the deadline for Membership fee payment from April to June, also the penalty for not paying will be lowered to 5% more of the fee compared to formerly 20% more of the fee. The MOs who do not pay will still have another year to pay and we will individually communicate with MOs. For MOs who will stay responsive with us and cooperate, after 1 year of not being able to pay, they will become Observer Organisations compared to being dismissed as it is currently regulated. Should they not be responsive and we lose contact, we would instead proceed with proposing their dismissal.
- DC: To also comment on that, we did have previous experiences of some MOs just disappearing and we could not be able to ask them at all what was going on and whether we could help them or not.

10. Approval the
First-Stage
Membership of the
Association of Applied
Psychology
Students' Axon
(Montenegro)

- VK: This is a very exciting proposal. The MRs of Axon will now speak.
- Representatives of Axon: We will now start our presentation. Dear colleagues and representatives of EFPSA, we send greetings from Montenegro! I would like to thank you for your continuous support and for the fruitful communication we had with all

32.4 in favour, 1.2 against, 0 abstaining. The Proposal passes. Axon is an Observer Organisation of EFPSA.





of you.

This presentation will mainly be focused about the activities of our very short existence. Our organisation was formed in May 2021 at the University of Donja Gorica in Podgorica, Montenegro. Since then we put many efforts to share and promote mental health. The first one was a training in psychological first aid designed according to evidence based models based on around 100 students and university staff being trained, this was our very first beginnings. Also we had a growing number of followers on social media where we shared tips for mental hygiene and tips on the telephone line for Free Psychology Aid, organised during the COVID-19 crisis, by the Psychiatric Clinic of Clinical Centre of Montenegro, which we are very proud of.

Also in September for new students we designed a Positive Psychology Workshop based on the works of Martin Seligman and provide exercises to keep new students mentally fit and well for the upcoming academic years. We also had a project called psychotherapy in Montenegro where we shared options about what students can do after their graduations and what options there are in psychotherapy in Montenegro.

One of our biggest events was the Mental Health Day 2021. We spoke to psychiatrist departments about what we can do, e.g. to donate for them, we also organised the World's Children Day to explain psychological concepts to children.

Our main motivation for this association was to provide opportunities for students to receive practical experience, such as in medical institutions, educational institutions, the business and the IT





sector. This semester we started with a very interesting topic which is about the Era of Artificial Intelligence. We also trained psychology students in Trauma Focused Behavioural Therapy.

One of our first steps was also to contact efpsa. We want to put Montenegro and our students on the European map. As we did not have many international collaborations we really want to connect our students with international opportunities and to let them gain new experiences in the world that they may bring back to our countries. So networking was one of our main goals from the start of our organisation and ever since we wanted to connect with EFPSA. We hope that we can give a huge contribution to you and ofea course would be glad to receive an immeasurable contribution from you.

- DC: Thank you so much, are there any questions?
- Jesse Rijsdijk, MR of Netherlands: Sounds like a very good organisation!
- 11. Approval of the Request of Tier Scale Transfer of Associazione Psicologi Europe in Formazione (Italy)
- VK: I would like to welcome Electra from Italy, who will represent her MO. Her MO is currently a local organisation but they would like to expand to a national organisation.
- Elettra Bernardi, MR of Italy: Art improving our statutes from the local to national level, we feel ready to represent our students from all over the country.
- Katja Zemljič, Slovenia, EFPSA Office: How are you planning on motivating the full country of Italy to join EFPSA and the Working COmmunity, do you have any plans?

32.4 in favour, 0 against, 1.2 abstaining. The Proposal passes. Associazione Psicologi Europe in Formazione is a National Member Organisation.





- Elettra: Yes, we are very active on Instagram and LinkedIn and the word of mouth is also working pretty well. So far, we have created a card for our associates where students can scan it and see which options they have to join EFPSA.
- Mehmet Çağlar Akyiğit, Italy: I am very happy to hear about this proposal, as we currently in the city in Italy where I live we have 150 psychology students who cannot join EFPSA and now we do have this opportunity.

12. Approval of the Transfer of Membership of Psihomnia (Croatia)

- Korina Žagar, MR of Croatia: Psihomnia was formerly a part of our psychologists associations, however we faced some problems with the associations as they could not reply to our needs. We decided to separate from this association and form our own organisation, we also tried really hard to make this happen and to still have our statutes regulated so that we can stay to be a part of EFPSA. We still have a lot of projects on a national level, such as the Croatian Research Summer School, a database that holds all psychological professionals in Croatia, movie nights, and promotion of mental health. Our structure is similar to efpsa regarding teams. Considering Psihomnia and EFPSA we made some changes, we now created an EFPSA team which will be led by the current MR and which also includes Vice MR and the immediate past MR, where we aim to create social media accounts to promote EFPSA and to also connect more with out Mtm and BT campaigns as we currently struggle to keep up the contact.
- DC: As I see no questions, we will proceed with the next proposal.

New membership of

Croatia





13. Approval of the Dissolution of Voice of Albanian PsychologyStudents' (Albania)

VK: This organisation joined EFPSA 3 years ago and was our MO, however last year the MO had to be dissolved due to financial issues and basically this organisation sadly does not exist anymore and therefore cannot be part of our Federation anymore.

33.6 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstaining. The Proposal passes.

14. Approval of the Dissolution of the Association of Psychology Students SINAPSA (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

VK: This proposal is a similar case to Albania. SINAPSA joined a few years ago however they also faced financial issues and even though we tried a lot to help them and find solutions we were told that the problems are too big to be solved. However, they are already working on founding a new organisation and we encouraged them in rejoinign us as soon as they can.

32.4 in favour, 0 against, 1.2 abstaining. The Proposal passes.

Karin Epner, MR of Estonia: I just read from our Board that we just received an email that they founded a new organisation.

VK: Thank you for sharing the great news, also we agreed with them on having a situation like this.

Korina Žagar, MR of Croatia: So as they formed a new organisation they cannot transfer?

DC: No, but it means basically the same, they will apply for first stage membership.

15. Approval of theDismissal of YoungPsychologists PublicUnion (Azerbaijan)

VK: There is the case that this organisation has a big debt to EFPSA of 300€ and could not pay it for several mandates. We also tried to connect to the MO but we could not get in touch with them or any student from Azerbaijan at all in the last half of the year. This means that now we will have to discuss the dismissal of this MO.

29.6 in favour, 4 against, 0 abstaining.
The Proposal passes.

Mehmet Çağlar Akyiğit, Italy, Italy: I was just in contact with students in Azerbaijan and found out





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	that the organisation had issues with the MR of Azerbaijan but that they are willing to pay of the debt and join EFPSA again.	
16. Approval of the Dismissal of PSI Student Affairs Group (Ireland)	VK: This is a quite new proposal becathat shared that they would like to retreat their membership and that they had some issues with EFPSA. We tried several times to ask them what these issues were, however there was no response from them until we received an email from the student group that shared. So this proposal came not from us but from them wishing to withdraw their membership. DC: As I see no questions, we will proceed with the next proposal.	33.6 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstaining. The Proposal passes.
17. Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with Global Student Psychology Committee (GSPC)	DC: This is a new organisation that was just created last year, which was founded from the American students section of APA, where we might also connect with them in the near future. They already established many events and included us a lot in their projects and as we find this a very exciting opportunity to connect with psychology students from all over the world, we decided to agree on a Memorandum of Understanding with this organisation.	33.6 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstaining. The Proposal passes.
18. Approval of the Call to Action - Students Building Community Psychology	DC: This was created after the start of the Conference with the topic of Community Psychology, where the ADvocacy team came together to work on his document. Several speakers and professionals also worked on these documents and shared their insights. You can find the Call to Action as well as the stakeholders we had in mind to share this with and we would like you to approve this so that we can disseminate this Call to Action right away. We would like you to approve if you agree with the statements and what has been written in there, as	33.6 in favour, 0 against, 0 abstaining. The Proposal passes.





well as the way it was written.It will also be presented at the ECP in Ljubljana.

Deianara Couwet

Robert Meyka

R. Men

President 2021 - 2022 -2022 Secretary General 2021

