



European University Institute Alumni Association

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE NINTH MEETING

November 23, 2020

Meeting date: 23 November 2020, from 18:00 to 20:00 CET - via Zoom

Meeting agenda:

- 1. Assessment of the ongoing revision of the Statute**
- 2. AOB**

Participants

Elie Michel	President of the ExCo
Hanna Schebesta	Vice-President of the ExCo
Alessandra Chirico	Secretary of the ExCo
Filippo Vergara Caffarelli	Member of the ExCo

1. Assessment of the ongoing revision of the Statute

Elie Michel chaired the meeting as President of the Executive Committee (ExCo) of the Alumni Association and welcomed the other members of the ExCo participating to the meeting.

Elie Michel thanked Filippo Vergara Cafferelli, Alessandra Chirico and the other members of the sub-committee on the revision of the Statutes and the governance of the EUI AA (Johanna Engstroem and Marco Rizzi) for their work and commitment.

The ExCo discussed extensively about the revision of the Statute, as to finalise the work of the sub-committee on the revision of the Statute in due time, before the General Assembly to be held in late Spring 2021.

The most important points for revision of the Statutes discussed during the meeting are summarized hereinafter:



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- i. The role of a new body - the **College of Guarantors (CoG)** – to be introduced in the Statutes with a view of improving overall guarantee functions including, but not limited to, compliance with the Statutes, ethical and legal order, and financial integrity. The main rationale behind the sub-committee’s proposal for having such a new body was that of preventing and offering solutions to manage (potential) mismanagements from the ExCo. Against this proposal, Elie Michel and Hanna Schebesta showed themselves sceptical, considering the CoG as an additional committee with oversight power on every decision of the ExCo. Elie Michel and Hanna Schebesta suggested to reshape the scope and the statutory mandate of the CoG (as envisaged and proposed by the sub-committee), limiting its action to "extraordinary actions" or to “an emergency break” to be better defined (without jeopardizing its power on the oversight on the annual budget). On such a basis, Elie Michel suggested to redraft the proposed Article 16 and approve the new amendments by written procedure. Elie Michel’s suggestion was approved unanimously.

- ii. Review and, if necessary, update the **objectives of the AA**, stated in Article 4 of the Statutes. Elie Michel was sceptical about the AA giving itself the objective of promoting a specific research field, i.e. EU studies, which represent a minority of the research done by EUI graduates and Alumni. Elie Michel proposed to redraft Article 4.1-d to include all the researchers of the EUI: “to promote the development of research and support life-long learning in the fields of Social and Political Sciences, History and Civilisation, Law, and Economics.”
Another suggestion emerging during the ExCo’s discussion was that of referring in Article 4 to “Europe’s cultural and linguistic pluralism and relations with cultures outside Europe”. This aim shall be pursued through teaching and research at the highest university level. As part of the general programme of its scientific activities, the Institute shall develop interdisciplinary research programmes on the major issues confronting contemporary European society, including matters relating to the construction of Europe.”
Elie Michel’s suggestion to redraft and approve the new amendments by written procedure was approved unanimously.

- iii. Review and, if necessary, update **the tasks/roles of the members of the ExCo**. Also on this point, Elie Michel and Hanna Schebesta declared they were not entirely convinced about the creation of a second Vice-President position. As discussed by written procedure, the fifth member is a “de facto deputy secretary” position. Moreover, adding a VP could be confusing and misleading. Elie Michel proposed to give a second thought on the issue and approve the proposed amendments by written procedure. Elie Michel’s suggestion was approved unanimously.



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- iv. Review and, if necessary, update the **electoral process of the AA**, with the goal of ensuring that rules, deadlines and procedures concerning the elections are clear and safe. All ExCo members approved unanimously this proposal as well.

2. AOB

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 20:00 pm.

The ExCo agreed to meet again at the beginning of 2021.

Brussels, 27 December 2020

Read and approved,

Elie Michel

(President)

Alessandra Chirico

(Secretary)