



## EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE

Alumni Association

### **DRAFT MINUTES of the General Assembly 2009**

Friday 2 October 2009 – 13.00 h – Theatre, Badia Fiesolana

**Presence: Penelopa Gurcilova, Salomé Ciscal de Ugarte, Levente Borzsak, Andreas Frijdal, Valérie Hayaert (President), Leila Simona Talani (Vice-President), Pompeo della Posta (Treasurer), Sigfrido Ramírez (Secretary).**

**Not having the quorum to start at 13:00, the Executive Council makes a second invocation starting at 14:00, having the quorum to deliver with the present alumni.**

#### **Agenda of the 2009 Alumni Association's General Assembly:**

1. Approval of the minutes of the General Assembly of 2008.
  2. Presentation of the Annual Report (Annex 1).
  3. Presentation of the Treasurer's Report.
  4. Presentation of upcoming conference.
  5. Presentation of the Brussels' Branch of the Alumni Association.
  6. Any other points raised at the meeting by participants:
    - a-Substitution of the fifth member of the Executive Committee.
    - b-Career Days 2009.
    - c-E-voting for elections in 2010.
    - d-Modification of Statutes in general assembly 2010.
    - e-Participation.
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1. Approval of the minutes of the General Assembly of 2008. The Secretary circulates the draft minutes (that will be annexed to the report) circulated by email by the former President, Francisco Torres. Sigfrido Ramirez explains the reason by which these cannot be accepted as definitive minutes, namely, that the final minutes can only be definitively approved in the following assembly in order to give the possibility to submit modifications, which may be accepted or not but whose request of modification must be included in the final minutes. In this case he received on the 28<sup>th</sup> October 2008 the following modification of the minutes from Alumnus Carlo Spagnolo. "Carlo Spagnolo expressed appreciation for the effort in introducing e-voting to increase participation. He asked the Assembly to regard the procedure followed this year as an experiment and not as a rule. In his opinion, e-voting should be extended to all members of the Association and not only to those paying a fee. Understanding the difficulty of the EC in making sure of the identity of e-mail voters, he suggested that an electronic registration be introduced for everybody, independently of their having or not an e-mail address at the EUI." "Carlo Spagnolo and Sigfrido Ramirez regretted that the three candidates did not even submit a program or a profile and expressed embarrassment at choosing among three persons that they did not know, asking the GA, as sovereign, to submit additional candidatures to the EC, as it has always been done in the past.." The Assembly approved these modifications for the final signature and deposit in the AA archives.<sup>1</sup>
2. Presentation of the Annual Report of the EC (see in annex 1). The President introduced the report, the Vice-President presented the work done about publications, the Secretary on local branches, and the Treasurer on the financial situation. The Report is approved by the Assembly but asking the Secretary to introduce some changes in the formal presentation.
3. Presentation of the Treasurer's Report (annex 1). After the presentation of the report, Levente Borzsak asked on which basis we have selected the alumni which have received 28,000 Euros from the previous Executive Committee. Andreas Frijdal replied that the EUI grant supports researchers from countries which did not yet have their

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<sup>1</sup> *Note of the secretary: In the minutes following the end of the General Assembly, the President Valerie Hayaert, presented verbally and in written her formal resignation as member of the Executive Committee on the basis of personal reasons. In this case, the final minutes of 2007/2008 will be signed by the other members of the Executive Committee present at the General Assembly, like these draft minutes of 2008/2009).*

- own grant schemes. The EC received a note from the head of the EUI financial service on this point with the name and the amount paid (see annex 1.)
4. Presentation of upcoming conference. Leila introduces the call for paper of the next alumni conference (see annex 1) and reminds that the Alumni association will publish the proceedings of these meetings.
  5. Presentation of the Brussels' Branch of the Alumni Association. Sigfrido passed the word to Levente and Salomé Cissal de Ugarte who are also members of the Executive Committee of the Brussels's Branch to certify that the process of formal constitution of a local chapter of the AA has been done in an open, participatory and transparent manner. Moreover the Association has adopted as formal address of residence in the office of the EUI in Brussels, staffed by Ana Aguado, in order to maintain the close collaboration that they had with the EUI administration. Salomé and Levente confirm and briefly present the aims of this Local Branch and the use that all Alumni outside Belgium could derive from it.
  6. Any other point. Several points were introduced before and during the meeting.
    - a. Substitution of the fifth member of the Executive Committee. Following the formal written resignation of the appointed EC member, Teresa Moraes Leitao, the Executive Committee decided its substitution on the principle to suggest this position to the other two candidates who were not elected in the past general assembly, Nanette Neuwahl (1 vote) and Bernd Baumgartl (1 vote). The President informed us that as our fellow EUI Bernd had passed away in August, she asked Nanette whether she wished to fill the position of fifth member of the EC. Nanette accepted but by agenda problems was in no position to attend the general assembly. The EC informed the General Assembly about it and asked to confirm the principle of this choice. The General Assembly accepted it and Nanette is now formally member of the Executive Committee.
    - b. Levente suggested making a balance about the Career Days organised on this weekend in order to see what could be improved for the future. After different interventions, everybody agree that the presence of current researchers and alumni coming for the graduation ceremony was under expected. If 60 alumni confirmed their participation in not a single panel were more than 30. The general conclusion is that

this has mainly been a problem of communication related to the current unstable situation of the webpage and some other internal communication problems which could be easily solved in the future.

- c. Sigfrido would like to inform that the Executive Council is going to proceed to a modification of the Statutes related to decisions which were taken in the past by the General Assembly but never implemented with a Notary. As this change is expensive, they would like to open the question of a broad discussion and decision of other possible changes of the current statutes in order to update it or change what Alumni believe that we must change in order to improve the efficiency and attractiveness of the association. He suggests making a working group on this that he is happy to coordinate in order to receive input from alumni about this question and submit a proposal.
- d. Sigfrido introduced the question of e-voting in the next Assembly, where a new Executive Committee is going to be appointed. He believes that the experience was successful even if there are things to change but as this is not the way foreseen by the current Statutes, it is up to this General Assembly to mandate the EC to introduce again e-voting and set up a new Electoral Committee. He also considers that like in any voluntary association, those entitled to vote and be candidate are those who have voluntarily adhere to the association, and this is currently done by the payment of the fee. After discussion, the Assembly accepts both principles.
- e. A general discussion is carried out about the low levels of participation this time at the General Assembly. There is an agreement that something has to be done to increase it. A principle shared is that we should try to concentrate all activities at the same time: conference, assembly, careers and ceremony to make this an interesting weekend for Alumni. We need more brainstorming on how to tackle this issue.

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### **1.-INTRODUCTION (presented by the President Valérie Hayaert)**

**Accountability:** In line with its past practice, this Executive Committee (EC) kept pursuing the objective of transparency and accountability both to this General Assembly and, financially, to the EUI.

**Financial accountability:** All payments received, being them alumni annual contributions related to the use of an AA card, EUI e-mail and other services or any other specific contribution (sponsoring) for the organisation of conferences, go to specific EUI accounts. Finally, Since the EC has decided that the annual transfer of the EUI to the AA should be retained by the EUI (2008), which then pays directly any previously budgeted expenditures. This year (2009) the total amount was again retained by the EUI to pay for the various activities.

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Thanks to an increasing number of alumni participating in the life of the Association and to the excellent collaboration with the EUI, the EC has been able to organise many events, to provide new services, institutionalising regular academic events and the Alumni Prize for the best Ph.D. thesis at the Institute.

On balance, we are happy to announce that our financial situation is healthy and our savings in conjunction with the Institute's annual contribution seem sufficient to finance our current activities.

That is why, following the appeal by President Yves Mény for contributions to the setting-up of a special fund to provide grants for EUI researchers without a scholarship, this Executive Committee has decided to continue to devote all the revenues from the membership fees to creating an Alumni Research Grant administered directly by the EUI.

Membership fee income has been rising very significantly over the past three years and we hope that the number will increase even more with the decision to allocate these funds to an

Alumni Research Grant. Apart from putting the money to excellent use, we believe that it is an important expression of solidarity and, like the Alumni Prize, a link between generations of EUI researchers. Our membership fee had been fixed at €30,00 so as not to discourage young alumni, but alumni can donate more in view of the services provided and above all given the use of these funds for young researchers.

## BUDGET AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS SERVICES

Florence 20th April 2009

Subject : Utilization of Alumni funds

In reply to the enquiry indicating the utilization of funds deposited by the Alumni, after having discussed the matter with the Academic Service, I declare that these same funds have been destined to the programme: "Excellence/not National grants"

In this framework, the EUI has received the total sum of 28,215 EURO, used to finance 2 of these same grants, for Ms Hos and Ms Tomkova.

The previous name indicated of the Rumanian researcher, Ms Nedelea, has been substituted, since her grant has subsequently been paid directly by Rumania.

I am of course available for any further information and assistance you may require.

Your sincerely,

Roberto Nocentini

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## **2. COLLABORATION WITH THE EUI**

The interface of the EUI with the Alumni Association is, since 4 October 2004, managed from within the Academic Service. The secretariat of the alumni is organized in the Academic Service. Its task is to directly liaise with the Alumni Association for the normal, day-to-day activities of the Institute. **Judith Przyrowski**, in the Academic Service, is the Alumni Officer and we thank her for her efficient cooperation.

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## **3. EUI ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WEEKEND, 2-4 OCTOBER 2009, PROGRAMME**

**Alumni Career Event organized by the Academic Service and Alumni Association**

The event is an opportunity for researchers to obtain first-hand information on non-academic career opportunities and to sharpen their personal career goals.

**1 - 2 October 2009**

## **PROGRAMME**

### **Thursday, 1 October**

Refettorio, Badia Fiesolana

#### **10.00 to 12.00 European institutions**

David Bearsfield, European Personnel Selection Office (EPSO)

Paul McAleavey, European Commission / European Environment Agency

Levente Borzsak, European Parliament

Alan Hick, European Economic and Social Committee

#### **15.00 to 17.00 International organisations**

Elisa Morgera, UN Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), Rome

James Heenan, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Geneva

Bernard Knoll, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Warsaw

Fanny Demassieux, UN Environmental Programme (UNEP), Paris

### **Friday, 2 October**

Sala del Capitolo, Badia Fiesolana

#### **9.30 to 10.30 Private companies**

Salomé Cignal de Ugarte, Whirlpool Europe, Belgium

#### **11.00 to 13.00 Law firms**

Ioana Knoll-Tudor, Gide Loyrette Nouel, Warsaw

Jeffrey Greenbaum, Lovells, Rome

Jorge Piernas for James Modrall, Cleary Gottlieb, Brussels

Alf-Henrik Bischke, Hengeler-Müller, Brussels

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This year's **Conferring Ceremony** will be held on **Friday 2nd October 2009**

The **Chianti Walk and the art history tour** are organised by Valérie Hayaert. on Saturday, 3rd and Sunday 4th October. See details in Appendix 4.

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## **4. EUI ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS (presented by the Vice-President Leila Simona Talani)**

### **Globalization, development, and integration: a European perspective**

Edited by Pompeo Della Posta, Milica Uvalic, and Amy Verdun

Basingstoke; New York : Palgrave Macmillan, 2009: 978-0-23055401-6

Back to Maastricht: obstacles to reform within the EU Treaty (1991-2007)

Edited by Stefania Baroncelli, Carlo Spagnolo, Leila Simona Talani (HEC/SPS/ECON)

Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2008, ISBN: 978-1-84718521-1

Innovative Governance in the European Union: the Politics of Multilevel Policymaking

Edited by Ingeborg Tömmel and Amy Verdun (SPS)

Boulder, Col.: Lynne Rienner, 2008 ISBN: 978-1-58826-639-2

Mens emblematica et humanisme juridique: le cas du Pegma cum narrationibus philosophicis de Pierre Coustau, 1555

Valérie Hayaert (HEC) Geneve : Droz, 2008 ISBN: 978-2-600-01121-1

EC Private Antitrust Enforcement: Decentralised Application of EC Competition Law by National Courts

Assimakis Komninos (LAW) Oxford: Hart Publishing, 2008 ISBN: 978-1-841-13744-5

EU Digital Copyright Law and the End-User

Giuseppe Mazziotti (LAW) New York: Springer, 2008 ISBN: 978-3-540-75984-3

European Unions: labor's quest for a transnational democracy

Roland Erne (SPS) Cornell: Cornell U.P., 2008 ISBN: 978-0-8014-4648-1

L' Europa Sicura : Le Politiche di Sicurezza dell' Unione Europea

Serena Giusti (SPS) and Andrea Locatelli Milano, EGEA, 2008 ISBN: 9788823820975

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## **5. BRANCHES (by Secretary Sigfrido Ramírez Pérez)**

As stated in the article 23 of the Statutes of the Alumni Association, local branches may establish, organise and develop activities freely by the agreement of its members. In 2009 a new Branch of the EUI Alumni Association has been formally created in Brussels. Its Statutes have been freely agreed by its members in several meetings coordinated by the Secretary of the Alumni Association, Sigfrido Ramírez. Aside from particularities related with the Belgium legislation on non lucrative associations, "Association sans but lucratif" ASBL and local particularities, "the Brussels' chapter of the Alumni Association of the European University Institute" has adopted its own Statutes on the basis of those of this Alumni Association.\

The Executive Committee has been punctually informed by its activities and developments as stated in the minutes of the Executive Committee. It welcomes the creation of local branches which are one of the ways by which the local activities of the Alumni Association could be strengthened. More particularly the creation of a branch in Brussels may be useful for all alumni regardless of whether they live in Belgium or not.

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## **6. TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2008 (by AA Treasurer Pompeo Della Posta).**

The following report deals with the credit and debit entries of the Alumni Association of the European University Institute for the calendar year 2009.

### **Revenues:**

EUI contribution: 10.000 €



Alumni fees 2009: total as of 29/9/2009 5.891,74 €

Of which:

1/1-31/08/2009 3.601,74 €

1/1-29/9/2009 on line (not registered yet) 1.870,00 €

bank transfers 420 €

(Reminder: 2007 + 2008 Alumni fees: 2007 and 2008: 28.215 €)

Used to finance the grants of Nikolett Hoes and  
Jordanka Tomkova (see the note of Roberto Nocentini).

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Total Revenues  
15.891,74 €

**Expenditures:**

Activities:

EC meetings: 4.750,16 €

Publications-related expenditure: 611,95 €  
(549,99 BP): Index preparation for the "Globalization,  
Development and Integration" Book

Donation to the Alumni Research Grant Fund: 5.891,74 €

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Total Expenditures:  
11.253,85 €

**Left over:** Total Revenues - Total Expenditures =  
(15.891,74 € – 11.253,85 €)  
4.637,89 €

**Patrimonial situation:**

Permanent account 41-331010 9.897,23 Euro (what's left from  
the amount transferred from the account with  
CRF and former years ?????).

4-331010 262,90 € (what's left from 2008).

1-331010 4.637,89 € (left from 2009)

TOTAL permanent account: 10.160,13 € (previous years) + 4.637, 89 € = 14.798,02

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## 7. UPCOMING AA CONFERENCES

### CALL FOR PAPER PROPOSALS

#### EUI ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

#### “EUROPE IN CRISIS”

15<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2010

The Executive Committee of the EUI Alumni Association is pleased to invite you to participate in the next Alumni Association annual conference which will take place on January 15<sup>th</sup> at the Institute.

The title of the conference is “Europe in crisis”. The theme is related to the recent but also to past crises in Europe.

Contributions from all the disciplines of the Institute as well as interdisciplinary ones are welcome.

**Please send you proposals for or abstracts of papers to the EUI Alumni Association (e-mail: [alumni@eui.eu](mailto:alumni@eui.eu)) by 20 December 2009.**

It will be a great opportunity for alumni and researchers to contribute to the Institute’s lively intellectual debate.

Papers will also be collected for publication.

We hope to see many of you on this occasion.

The EC of the EUI Alumni Association

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**8. The 4th EUI Alumni Association Prize** (instituted in 2003, and attributed in 2004 2006 and 2008 on a bi-annual basis) for the best interdisciplinary Ph.D. thesis on relevant European issues (Alumni Prize) will be awarded in 2010, during the degree-conferring ceremony. The Prize

comprises a medal designed by Florentine artist Onofrio Pepe on the Myth of Europe and an award of 3.000 Euro.

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**9, Historical Archive of the EUI Alumni Association.** The Executive Committee set up an historical archive and a current one. An archivist, supported by the Alumni Association, reordered

the old papers of the Association and made a selection of the relevant documents for the history and workings of the Association. The contents of the archive, along with other documents found at the *Badia Fiesolana*, are now being classified and described at the Historical Archives of the European Union, which has offered to host the Alumni Association's archives at the Villa Poggiolo, where the EUI archives are also based.

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## **APPENDIX 1 - Alumni Association Membership and Research Grant:**

### **HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER**

Yearly membership costs 30 Euros (valid from 1 October to 30 September). Additionally, it is

also possible to make a donation above that amount. All proceeds will go to the **Alumni Research Grant**, which will be used to provide grants to researchers without a scholarship.

**There are two ways to pay:**

**Online:** credit card payment through the [EUI Online Shop](#)

1. Select **Alumni Affairs**
2. Select EUI Alumni Association Membership
3. Register on the web page (if you haven't already done so) and/or login
4. Request the item
5. Repeat steps 2-4 for the voluntary donation to the Researcher Fund

After you have requested the Alumni Association membership, you will receive an e-mail confirming your selection. A second message, containing your authorisation code, will follow soon afterwards to enable you to complete your payment. **Note:** your registration with the AA will not be valid until this final step has been carried out.

**Offline:** bank transfer, direct deposit, credit card (should the online option not be possible) Please go to the [Fees Payment Form](#) and follow the instructions.

### **Membership services and conditions:**

- An Alumni e-mail account (click here for information on creating a [new account](#), or transforming an [already existing account](#) before it expires)

- Alumni EUI card

- Use of the EUI Library:

- Registration at the Library is necessary, whether the alumnus/a is member of the Alumni Association or not: see the [Library rules](#) for specifics, and the [access policy for EUI-associated members](#) **Please note: it is not possible to have remote access to e-resources**

**since this access is not included in our licence agreements. Alumni can, however, use all our e-resources on site, i.e., when they are physically in the EUI Library).**

- The Library fines policy will be fully implemented as of **1 February 2006** after a trial period of 4 months : please read the entire [Fines Policy document](#) carefully

- Use of EUI mensa (but without student discount)

## **Who is eligible?**

Remember, the Alumni status is valid only for the categories listed in [Article 5](#) of the Statutes of the Alumni Association.

Not eligible are Jean Monnet Fellows who have been at the EUI for less than an entire academic year, Visiting Fellows, Visiting Scholars, Visiting Students, Erasmus and other exchange students. They are encouraged to become members of the [EUI Online Community](#) as a way of keeping in touch with other EUI members.

The Academic Service got a very good feedback from the researchers and the event had to move the panels to the *Refettorio* as the *Sala del Capitolo* would be too small.

## **APPENDIX 2 – EUI Alumni Association Weekend 2009**

### **Chianti Walk – Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> 2009**

#### **Discovering Carmignano and the hills of Montalbano**

Meeting point: Florence Railwaystation Santa Maria Novella

Departure of the train for Prato at 8.08, the next train leaves at 8.29

From Prato Railway station there will be a bus to Carmignano

Participants can also go directly to Carmignano by car and meet the group at 9.00 in the centre of the village

The excursion will be over at about 17.00 in Carmignano, the train to Florence arrives at 18.52.

Difficulty level of the excursion: medium.

There will be a lunch break in a restaurant. Please take at least one bottle of water with you during the walk.

Train and bus ticket as well as restaurant costs are born by the participants.

#### **Description of the walk:**

It is a ring walk, departure from and return to Carmignano. The group will be guided by Marco Pacenti, a passionate trekker who organizes excursions all around Florence, and Valerie Hayaert, President of the Alumni Association and a researcher in medieval art history.

The area we will visit is on the slopes of the Montalbano and is full of history and testimonials of the past.

First we will visit a church in Carmignano, Chiesa di S. Michele with a famous painting of Jacopo Carucci, called “Il Pontormo” (1494-1556): the “Visitazione” (it shows the visit of the pregnant holy Mary to her cousin Elisabeth). Valerie will give information about the painter and his work and will also talk about the artist Bill Viola and his interpretation of this visit which he had had performed in a video in 1995. You can find further information on Bill Viola’s work at the following link: <http://www.mediaartnet.org/works/the-greeting/>

The tourist association Proloco of Carmignano shows and informs about Il Pontormo's painting on its website (in Italian): <http://www.carmignanodivino.prato.it/itinerari/htm/visita.htm> .

Around Carmignano there are various testimonials of antic Etruscan settlements who settled there because of the climate which was ideal for the cultivation of grapes and to have the control over an important communication, the Arno, which at that time was almost completely navigable.

During the Middle Ages Carmignano was contested by Florence and Pistoia. In 1300 all the area fell under the rule of the Florentine Republic. All which is left from the old fortifications is the tower, called "Il Campano" on a high ground overlooking the village.

The excursion will be an immersion into the typical Florentine countryside characterized by grapevines, olive trees and small medieval villages

### **Art history tour in Florence – on the traces of "Il Pontormo" Sunday, 4 October**

Meeting point: 10.00 am, at the Baptistery (in front of the Duomo)  
The tour will approximately last one hour.

Valerie Hayaert, President of the Alumni Association and a researcher in medieval history and art history will visit two churches where works from the tuscan artist Jacopo Carucci, called "Il Pontormo" (1494-1556) are shown:

- In the Church of San Michele Visdomini at the corner of via Bufalini, piazza Visdomini, a very interesting and puzzling *Sacred Conversation*, the Pala Pucci
- The *Deposition from the Cross* in the Capponi Chapel of Santa Felicita

The explanations will be given in French; handouts in English/or French will also be distributed.

### **APPENDIX 3 – Statutes of the EUI Alumni Association**

Title I: Nomination - Seat - Limitation in time

Title II: Objectives

Title III: Members

Title IV: Structure and organisation

Title V: Finance and assets

Title VI: Final Provisions

Title I Nomination - Seat - Limitation in time

#### **Article 1 Nomination**

By this Statute there is established an Association of Alumni of the European University Institute, Florence. The Association shall be called The European University Institute Alumni Association (or in Italian Associazione degli Alumni dell'Istituto Universitario Europeo) and

is referred to hereinafter as the Association.

### **Article 2 Seat**

The association shall have domicile at the Badia Fiesolana, Via dei Roccettini 9, San Domenico di Fiesole, Italy.

### **Article 3 Limitation in time**

The Association is not limited in time.

### **Title II Objectives**

#### **Article 4 Objectives**

1§ The objectives of the Association are:

- a. To promote and reinforce contacts, mutual assistance and information exchange between its Members in the spirit of the Convention setting up the European University Institute;
- b. To maintain close links to the European University Institute in the furtherance of the above objectives and to participate, when appropriate, in the activities of this Institute.

2§ The Association does not aim at gaining economic profit.

3§ In furtherance of the aims mentioned above, the Association may cooperate with institutions and associations which have the same objectives.

### **Title III Members**

#### **Article 5 Membership**

1§ Full membership of the Association shall be open to all research students who have been enrolled at the European University Institute for at least one academic year.

2§ Associate membership of the Association shall be open to persons who for at least one academic year

- a. belonged to the teaching and research staff of the European University Institute;
- b. belonged to the library and administration staff of the European University Institute;
- c. have been attached to the European University Institute as Jean Monnet Fellows.

3§ Honorary membership of the Association may be extended to such persons as the General Assembly may from time to time decide on proposal of the Executive Committee.

4§ Membership is ended

- a. by decease of
- b. by withdrawal of the Member. This has to be notified in writing.

#### **Article 6 Rights of Members**

1§ Full Members have the right to participate in the General Assembly and to vote in  
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decisions. They have the rights to stand for election to the Executive Committee and to all other committees and functions within the Association.

2§ Associate Members and Honorary Members may participate in and shall be kept informed of all activities of the Association. They have no right to vote in the General Assembly nor to serve on the Executive Committee nor to chair any sub-committee.

#### **Article 7 Duties of Members**

Membership of the Association is independent and voluntary, but the Members are bound to respect the Statute, the decisions taken by the executive bodies following the competencies given by this Statute, and the Italian law.

### **Title IV Structure and organization**

#### **Article 8 Structure**

The Association shall conduct its affairs through:

- a. the General Assembly (art. 9 - 11);
- b. the Executive Committee (art. 12);
- c. the President, in his/her absence the Vice-president (art. 13);
- d. sub-committees for specific tasks (art. 16 - 17).

### **Article 9 Composition of the General Assembly**

The General Assembly is composed of all Full Members of the Association as defined in art. 5 of this Statute.

### **Article 10 Tasks of the General Assembly**

The General Assembly has the right and the duty to:

- a. Elect the Executive Committee by simple majority following the procedure given in art. 17 of this Statute.
- b. approve the Treasurer's report (art. 22).
- c. approve the administration of the Executive Committee;
- d. decide on the dissolution of the Association (art. 24).
- e. decide on amendments to or modifications of the Statute with a majority of two thirds of the votes cast, following the procedure given in art. 25 of this Statute.

### **Article 11 Meetings of the General Assembly**

1§ The Executive Committee shall call a meeting of the General Assembly at least once a year.

2§ The Executive Committee shall give all Members of the Association notice of such a regular meeting at least three months before the actual date; the invitation shall enclose the agenda to be discussed.

3§ An extraordinary meeting of the General Assembly may be convened by the Executive Committee either on its own motion or as a result of a request for such a meeting signed by one tenth of the Full Members of the Association.

4§ More than half of the Full Members of the Association shall form a quorum for the General Assembly,

5§ If there is no quorum at the time of the first invocation, a second invocation is held for the same day and place one hour later. At this second occasion, the Full Members present do form a quorum.

6§ The General Assembly takes a decision with simple majority of the votes cast except when a qualified majority is required by this Statute. Postal votes are held valid.

7§ The members of the Executive Committee shall not vote on the decision regarding their administration. The President, in his/her absence the Vice-president, shall not vote in the General Assembly, except in the event of a tied vote.

### **Article 12 The Executive Committee**

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1§ The Association shall be administered by an Executive Committee consisting of the five Full Members who are elected by the General Assembly for a period of two years in accordance with the procedure given in art. 17.

2§ The members of the Executive Committee are re-eligible.

3§ The Executive Committee is accountable to the General Assembly.

4§ The Executive Committee shall name from among them the President, the Vice-president, the Treasurer, and the Secretary.

5§ The Executive Committee shall meet at least once a year on request of the President, in his absence of the Vice-president. Three members shall form a quorum; decisions shall be taken by simple majority of the votes cast.

### **Article 13 The President**

1§ The President, in his absence the Vice-president, represents the Association towards Third Parties as well as towards State Administration and the Courts.

2§ The President, in his absence the Vice-president, chairs the meetings both of the General Assembly and the Executive Committee.

### **Article 14 The Treasurer**

1§ The Treasurer is responsible for the accounts of the Association.

2§ At the end of an accounting period, the treasurer submits the Treasurer's Report in accordance with the procedure of art. 22.

#### **Article 15 The Secretary**

The Secretary documents the proceedings of the meetings both of the General Assembly and the Executive Committee in written minutes which have to be signed by himself and by the President, in his absence the Vice-president.

#### **Article 16 Sub-Committees**

1§ The Executive Committee may establish sub-committees for specific tasks. The size of each sub-committee shall correspond to the tasks concerned.

2§ Each sub-committee shall include at least one member of the Executive Committee except in the instance of art. 17-3.

#### **Article 17 Electoral Sub-Committee**

1§ Prior to each election of the Executive Committee, an Electoral Sub-Committee consisting of three members shall be established.

2§ The Electoral Sub-Committee shall be responsible for the conduct and scrutiny of the elections of the Executive Committee.

3§ The members of the Electoral Sub-Committee may not themselves stand for office at the election with which they are concerned. Given that all members of the Executive Committee in power are standing for re-election, the provision of art. 16, sub 2§ shall be waived.

Title V Finance and assets

#### **Article 18 Assets**

The assets of the Association consist of:

- a. the movable and immovable property belonging to the Association;
- b. reserve funds carried over from the last balance;
- c. donations and inheritance.

#### **Article 19 Revenue**

1§ The revenue of the Association may include:

- a. subscriptions by its Members;
- b. subsidies and grants;
- c. interest from the assets and other income.

2§ The use of the revenue is dedicated to the objectives of the Association.

#### **Article 20 Surplus**

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Any surplus of funds at the end of an accounting period may be carried over to the next period.

#### **Article 21 Debts**

The Association may not engage in loans to finance its activities.

#### **Article 22 Treasurer's Report; Scrutiny**

1§ Once a year before the General Assembly, the Treasurer shall submit detailed accounts of the Association's financial transactions during the previous year to the Head of Administration and Personnel of the European University Institute for scrutiny.

2§ The results of this scrutiny together with the Treasurer's Report shall be presented to the General Assembly for approval.

Title VI Final Provisions

#### **Article 23 Branches**

The establishment, organization and activities of Branches shall be freely determined by its Members in accordance with local requirements in so far as they are consistent with this Statute.



#### **Article 24 Dissolution**

The dissolution of the Association shall be decided by at least half of all Full Members. In such a case the General Assembly shall name liquidators and decide on the devolution of the assets in accordance with art. 21 of the Italian Civil Code.

#### **Article 25 Amendments**

1§ Amendments to or modifications of this Statute may only be adopted by a majority of two thirds of the votes cast in a General Assembly, whether given in person or by post.

2§ Proposals for such amendments or modifications may be made by the Executive Committee or by at least one tenth of the Full Members of the Association. Such proposals shall be notified in writing to all Members of the Association by the Executive Committee at least one month before the respective meeting of the General Assembly. Where the Executive Committee unanimously agrees, and where two thirds of the Members at the General Assembly agree, amendments or modifications to this Statute may be the subject of proposals tabled orally in the General Assembly.

#### **Article 26 Reference**

For all questions not dealt with by the present Statute, reference is made to the legal norms and the general principles of the law of the Italian Republic.

### **APPENDIX 4 – Statute amendment approved in 2005 by the General Assembly**

Given the large increase in the numbers of post-doctoral fellows (almost doubling), some of them staying on for two academic years and the strategic orientation of the EUI towards combining doctoral with post-doctoral studies, the Executive Committee submitted for approval by the 2005 General Assembly a statute revision endorsing full-membership status for the post-doctoral fellows Post-doctoral fellows' full membership. This would increase the profile of the AA and help the EUI to maintain a cohesive and productive community. Following his written report and previous addresses to all alumni, the President explained the EC's proposal to amend the statutes of the AA as to allow post-doctoral fellows to become regular members. The President asked Dr. A. Frijdal, Head of the EUI's Academic Service, to explain the strategy of the EUI in regard to post-doctoral fellows and research. After general discussion about the implications of the change for the profile of the Alumni Association and about the type of post-doctoral fellows to be entitled to join the AA, the Assembly approved by unanimity the proposed change.

Approved amendments to Article 5 Membership of the statutes:

#### **Article 5 Membership**

1§ Full membership of the Association shall be open to all research students and to postdoctoral

fellows who have been enrolled at the European University Institute for at least one academic year through the normal Institute selection procedure.

2§ Associate membership of the Association shall be open to persons who for at least one academic year

- a. belonged to the teaching and research staff of the European University Institute;
- b. belonged to the library and administration staff of the European University Institute.

3§ Honorary membership of the Association may be extended to such persons as the General Assembly may from time to time decide on proposal of the Executive Committee.

4§ Membership is ended

- a. by decease of
- b. by withdrawal of the Member. This has to be notified in writing.