



European University Institute Alumni Association

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY June 20, 2020

Meeting date: 20 June 2020, from 14:00 to 16:00 CET - via Zoom

Meeting agenda:

1. Welcome and opening remarks
2. Presentation of the Annual Report and vote on the Annual Report: assessment the association's activity
3. Report and achievements of the Board + plenary discussion
4. Presentation of Treasurer's Report and vote on the Treasurer's Report + plenary discussion
5. Discussion on the financial future
6. Discussion on local chapters
7. AOB

Participants

Elie Michel	President of the ExCo
Hanna Schebesta	Vice-President of the ExCo
Diego Garzia	Treasurer of the ExCo
Alessandra Chirico	Secretary of the ExCo
Filippo Vergara Caffarelli	Member of the ExCo
Mel Marquis	Member of the EUI AA
Ricardo Garcia	Member of the EUI AA
Wim Muller	Member of the EUI AA



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Carla Rodriguez	Member of the EUI AA
Monika Sus	Member of the EUI AA
Alexander von Wietzleben	Member of the EUI AA
Alan Hick	Member of the EUI AA
Lucila De Almeida	Member of the EUI AA
Francois Delerue	Member of the EUI AA

1. Welcome and opening remarks

Elie Michel chaired the meeting as the President of the Executive Committee (ExCo) of the Alumni Association and welcomed all the participants to the General Assembly.

2. Presentation of the Annual Report and vote on the Annual Report: assessment the association's activity

Elie Michel presented the Annual Report of the EUI AA, highlighting items related to the administrative transition (with the regard to the website, the bank account, the relations with the EUI, the meetings held with the EUI's senior management).

The Annual Report has been approved unanimously with an online vote on the association's website.

3. Report and achievements of the Board + plenary discussion

Elie Michel pointed at the achievements of the Board in their engagement vis-à-vis the EUI AA's statutory mission. Among those he recalled the ExCo's work on:

- Local Chapters, which are at the core of the EUI AA itself, to be boosted with a less hierarchical, more bottom-up approach; conceived as truly member driven and mirroring local realities. Against this background, Elie Michel clarified that the EUI AA can recognize a financial support to local chapter on a *case by case basis* (i.e. for specific events), with the aim of incentivize new members to join the association.
- The increase of the membership of the association.
- The ongoing work on the revision of the Statutes, thanks to the set-up of an *ad hoc* sub-committee, chaired by Filippo Vergara Caffarelli. The revision of the Statutes will be submitted to a vote of the members before the General Assembly 2021.
- The commitment to improve transparency and inclusiveness, also thanks to the use of social media and other channels of communication (mainly managed by Hanna Schebesta).



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A wide debate took place in the plenary discussion, with many participants sharing their views and suggestions on how to progress:

- Alan Hick intervened to declare his will to support local activities in Brussels, liaising with Alessandra Chirico and the Brussels's Alumni community.
- Lucila De Almeida and Alan Hick declared that they very much welcome the ExCo's proposal to finance a grant (eventually for UK researchers affected by Brexit or for other categories of potential beneficiaries, still to be identified).
- Francois Delerue expressed his doubts about the possibility of financing a grant, showing himself more in favor of supporting the organization of a big conference (ideally with Max Weber Fellow Program Association) on a topic like "Which future for the Academia in a post-Covid scenario in five years?"
- Wim Muller showed himself fully in favor of supporting existing and new local chapters, as they have the potential to generate money for the whole association, can create some momentum and can be active in the organization of a variety of different meetings in multiple locations.
- All participants agreed that local chapters can support and help the association to get even more new members. They can be powerful tools to strengthen the overall outreach strategy of the EUI AA.
- Alessandra Chirico suggested that the EUI AA should join forces with other Alumni Associations (like Bocconi, LSE, SciencesPo, College of Europe Alumni Association) to finance a grant for researchers in social sciences. All the "technical details", related to the amount of the grant, the definition of beneficiaries, the criteria to appoint the Selection Board are still open and need to be further discussed.
- Monika Sus welcomed this suggestion and proposed to look into [CIVICA](#) (a University Alliance composed of seven top universities from France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Romania and Sweden and including the European University Institute).

The Assembly approved this proposal and asked Alessandra Chirico and Monika Sus to further investigate the issue to find a space of possible cooperation with the Alumni Associations linked to the above institutions.

4. Presentation of Treasurer's Report and Vote on the Treasurer's Report + plenary's discussion

Diego Garzia presented the Treasurer Report, going through the economic figures highlighted in the Financial Report circulated among the members for approval.

The balance is positive, amounting to more than 68k euros.



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Diego Garzia further opened a discussion among all members participating to the GA on the ways in which part of the budget of the AA can be allocated.

The discussion in the assembly concerned the objectives the AA aims at achieving with its financial means.

The main options were the following three:

- Financing local chapters' activities;
- Financing a research grant.
- Contributing to the organization of a big conference.

Ricardo Garcia proposed to allocate a lump sum for local chapters and to complement grants for researchers with few resources.

The Treasurer's Report has been approved unanimously with an online vote on the association's website.

5. AOB

Both Reports having been approved unanimously and there being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 16:00 pm.

The ExCo agreed to meet again after the Summer break.

Brussels, 22 June 2020

Read and approved,

Elie Michel

Alessandra Chirico

(President)

(Secretary)