



EFPSA

General Assembly

Session I | Minutes

Joint EB&MR, 2020

General Assembly 1 | 31 October 2020

Members present: Austria, Belgium (Leuven), Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Kosovo, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey

Observers present: Belgium (Ghent), Italy, France

Others present:, Working Community 2020-2021

Minutes by: Katja Zemljič

Topics/agenda:

General Assembly I

1. Approval of change of name EFPSA Research Programme participants
2. Approval of amendments to the EFPSA Statutes and Domestic Regulations
3. Approval of Organising Committees as members of EFPSA's Supporting Community
4. Approval of EFPSA Research Programme teams as members of EFPSA's Supporting Community
5. Approval of Mentoring system
6. Approval of the EFPSA & IFMSA Terms Of Reference
7. Approval of changes in General Assembly members
8. Approval of resignation of the Finance Officer
9. Election of Finance Officer
10. Approval of a new Board of Management member in the Ethics Committee

| Topic | Discussion | Decision |
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| 1. Introduction | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vita Bogdanić (VB): Welcome everyone to our first General Assembly. And welcome to our first ever online Joint EB&MR. With me today are Deianara, the Vice President, Katja - Secretary General, Martie - Member Representatives Officer, Bojana - Events Officer, and Ana - Academic Affairs Officer. Unfortunately Katarina, our Marketing Officer, is sick and could not join us. Now, let's start with the General Assembly. (explaining the General Assembly and the voting rules). We will be using voting platform Nemo votes (explaining the platform). - Martina Marie Aquilina (MMA): The quorum has been reached by 23 members present. | |
| 1. Approval of change of name EFPSA Research Programme participants | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ana Kraljević (AK): As most of you know the research programme has had many changes in the past year. This year we have come to realise that the participants of the RSS are very different than the participants of any other EFPSA events. This is why we would like to change their name to student researchers because we believe this entails their active engagement throughout the year in a more appropriate way than participants. If there are any questions, I would be happy to answer you. | <p>In favour: 55 Against: 2 Abstaining: 2</p> <p>Proposal passes</p> |



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| <p>2. Approval of amendments to the EFPSA Statutes and Domestic Regulations</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deianara Couwet (DC): So the second proposal is about amendments to the EFPSA Statutes and Domestic Regulations. You could all see the changes we made in the colour coded attachments that we have sent you. These changes are because of new Belgium law and because EFPSA is a non-profit organisation from Belgium, we also need to uphold the Belgium law. So these changes are not optional. If you have any questions, you can ask them now, but we need to approve these changes because we need to uphold the Belgium law. One of the most important changes is that we need to pass ASWL to the name of EFPSA. So on our official documents it will now be EFPSA - AWSL or if you also approve Dutch as an official language of EFPSA, it will be EFPSA - ASWL or EFPSA - VZW. Also another thing that needs to be changed is that our domestic regulations will be called internal regulations, the Board of Management will be called the Board. We can still use these things internally, but officially after this GA, they will be changed. We also proposed to add Dutch as an official language, because for every legal thing that we need to do, it is very important this is done in one of the official languages of Belgium - so either French, Dutch or German. But most of the legal documents need to be filled out either in Dutch or French. French is not always a common language in the Board of Management, neither is Dutch, but if we have both as official languages, we can choose in which language we want to send our legal document in. There are also parts that we change according to the proposals at General Assembly and General Assembly two, so if the proposals pass, they will be changed. Any questions? - Rosarinho Ferreira (RF): Hi, I am Rosairo, MR of Portugal. I did not really understand why the Board of Management had to be named just Board? - DC: There is no specific reason, than that the Belgium law decided to name it like that, to have it unified among all the organisations. | <p>In favour: 51 Against: 0 Abstaining: 4</p> <p>Proposal passes</p> |
| <p>3. Approval of Organising Committees as members of EFPSA's</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bojana Vujović (BV): This mandate we are proposing to approve all Org Com members as Supporting Community of EFPSA. Up until now, the Org Com members have not had any role in EFPSA, besides the Coordinators being included in the Executive Board, despite the fact that the Org Com members work with EFPSA teams. Right now | <p>In favour: 51 Against: 0 Abstaining: 6</p> |



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| Supporting Community | we are proposing them as a Supporting Community, but in the future we might add them as a Working Community. Any questions? | Proposal passes |
| 4. Approval of EFPSA Research Programme teams as members of EFPSA's Supporting Community | - AK: Following the first proposal that I explained, the second proposal builds on the idea that RSS participants have a very active role for EFPSA. They conduct cross-national research for twelve months and have a lot of external contact with different institutions, such as universities and professional institutions. But they do not have an EFPSA position. We believe that including them in the Supporting Community would change this and include them more in EFPSA. Any questions? | In favour: 49 Against: 4 Abstaining: 2 Proposal passes |
| 5. Approval of Mentoring system | - DC: We propose to add mentors to EFPSA, to give EB chance to learn more through their experience. This means that members of the EB would have a mentor, which would support them. This mentor would support EB members in various ways. The mentor is a person that a member can go to, talk about time management, efficient planning, also personal things. Actually, everything that the mentor and the mentee decide on that they want to work on. We would be in collaboration with the Alumni Board for the practical organisation. And we also propose that mentors would be mandatory for the Board of Management positions, but that each Executive Board member can have a mentor if they want to. Each mentor and mentee decide how many times they would like to meet. Any questions? | In favour: 53 Against: 2 Abstaining: 2 Proposal passes |
| 6. Approval of the EFPSA & IFMSA Terms Of Reference | - VB: So IFMSA is an international association of medical students. We have had a memorandum of understanding. Memorandum has to be approved at GA which is duable from our side, but IFMSA will have it in March, when our mandate ends. This is why we are proposing this agreement to show that we do collaborate. | In favour: 51 Against: 0 Abstaining: 4 Proposal passes |
| 7. Approval changes in General Assembly members | - VB: I hope you all read the proposal. I will shortly explain why we proposed this change. As you know the General Assembly is an essential part of any non profit organisation and it exists to approve the legal matters of the organisation. It is very important that the members who uphold the voting rights discuss and critically evaluate the proposals that are put forward. Currently the Member Representatives have the right to vote, however there are no executive board members who hold the voting right. This was discussed in previous mandates several | In favour: 37 Against: 10 Abstaining: 6 Proposal passes |



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times as an issue, and the current Board believes we need to change the system. We have 4 members who were MR's so they know how the voting system works. The issue we have now is that the Member Representatives are very new when they vote, and because the mandate in EFPSA is only one year, often the Member Representatives do not have the knowledge about all the proposals that are being put forward or the practices of EFPSA. On the other hand, the Executive Board is the one working directly on the proposals that are put forward. Many of the proposals we vote for at the General Assembly, directly affect the work of Executive Board members. This is why the Board of Management discussed this proposal and what we could change and we have also asked you as our Working Community for your opinion. We have reviewed your responses from the survey. The majority of you believe that the Executive Board should also have the rights to vote. There were also votes to give the voting rights to the Board of Management, however we decided not to implement this because the Board of Management is the one who puts the proposals forward. It is the one who writes the proposals and has a lot of power. We propose that people who are directly involved in the work and are affected by the voting, have voting rights. What we propose is that we add the Executive Board as the part of the General Assembly members. The way we would implement this is not that each member of the EB has a vote, but one team would have one vote. We are also proposing a voting key: Member representatives - who represent our associations, would still have the majority of the votes - we propose 60% of the votes; while the executive board would have 40% of the votes. Another reason for this is that for most of the important decisions we have to make, it is required to have $\frac{2}{3}$ of the vote for a proposal to be approved. So if the MR's would have more votes, that would mean they could outvote the executive board members. And in that case it would not make sense to have voting rights for the executive board. This is why we propose the 60-40 voting key. Do you have any questions?

- DC: I would like to give clarification. It is not one delegate per team, but one delegate per office. For example, the finance office has two teams, but they would have one vote as the finance office.

- Hanna Jager (HJ) : Hi, I am Hanna, MR of Luxembrough. How many people are going to get voting rights from the offices?
- VB: Each Office of Service would have one vote together. So the idea would be they have one delegate, who would officially vote, however they would vote to represent their team. This means that the proposals have to be discussed together.
- HJ: How many offices do we have?
- VB: We have 6 Offices, and 5 Services.
- DC: And each of them would get one vote, and National organisations would have 2 votes, and Local Organisations have 1 vote. All of the MR's would be distributed to the 60% of the vote, and Executive Board votes would be distributed to the 40% of the votes.
- HJ: So, If I calculated right, 6 people would get the voting rights for 40% and 64 people would get the voting rights of 60%?
- DC: Not 64 people, but votes.

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| <p>8. Approval of resignation of the Finance Officer</p> | <p>- DC: The reason why we have this proposal is because of Belgium law, where the GA needs to approve the resignation or dismissal of the board members. As you probably all already know, Hector decided to resign as Finance Officer. So, this is just officially approving his resignation.</p> | <p>In favour: 51 Against:0 Abstaining: 6</p> <p>Proposal passes</p> |
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| <p>9. Election of Finance Officer</p> | <p>- VB: With resignation of previous Finance Officer, we would like to approve a new Finance Officer. He will have a speech. The applicant is Tobias Laesner, you could find his application in the supporting documents. The applicant had an interview with President, Vice President and Immediate Past President. So, I give word to Tobias.</p> | <p>In favour: 51 Against: 0 Abstaining: 2</p> <p>Proposal passes</p> |
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- Tobias Laesner (TL): Hi everyone. I am Tobi, I am from Germany, 25 years old, currently studying psychology in Austria. I will give you some background. I started studying law, dropped out, then chose to study International Business and Economics and finished it. Took a gap year and got more into psychology, so I decided to study it. I am



looking for a place to prove myself, find meaning, impact in my work. I have always worked for profit and start-ups. I could apply my knowledge I got. I graduated from business and economics, majored in accounting, my background in law, my knowledge about grant applications. I have been working in business development and investment relations, I have prepared financial data. I would like to focus on a reliable accounting system - this would help the teams to get more insights into finances. They could see the past of what was spent on what. Second point would be getting designated donors and more funding opportunities. Feel free to ask me anything you want to know.

- Ying Wai Cheung (YWC): Jumping into Board position is a big jump - how would you get acclimated to BM work and compensate for lack of experience in EFPSA?
- TL: I have not held a position in EFPSA yet. I know few members, in the BM, that is how I got the idea to apply. I hope through my motivation and qualification, I can make up for lack of experience, I am motivated to contribute to the community.
- RF: My question was the same as Ying. How do you feel about coming into BM half a year, how are you feeling about it? But you did answer it already.
- TL: I can elaborate more. I did not have KT yet, but I did join the EFPSA office team meeting randomly, And Bojanas, so I do have some insights. I do think it is a perfect fit - staying is psychology and using knowledge I gained so far.
- YWC: Would you be interested in another position in EFPSA after this mandate, what would it be?
- TL: I would be, probably it would depend on the way my half way mandate would go. I am also interested in external relations, so I might apply for that.

10. Approval of a new Board of Management member in the Ethics Committee

- VB: This proposal follows two previous ones. Previous FO was in EC, with his resignation, we need new member in EC. We always have IPP, one BM member, one member of EB, and one MR. We propose Bojana Vujović for the BM member.

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| In favour: | 51 |
| Against: | 0 |
| Abstaining: | 2 |
| Proposal passes | |

Vita Bogdanić ,

President



Katja Zemljič ,

Secretary General

