



## General Assembly

This meeting was held during the seminar in Pisa, on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September 2009. The General Assembly took place in the building of the Faculty of History of the Università di Pisa.

### ISHA sections present:

- Pisa (*Italy*)
- Pula (*Croatia*)
- Nijmegen (*The Netherlands*)
- Heidelberg (*Germany*)
- Marburg (*Germany*)
- Belgrade (*Serbia*)
- Ljubljana (*Slovenia*)
- Helsinki (*Finland*)
- Berlin (*Germany*)
- Utrecht (*The Netherlands*)

### Observing sections:

- Budapest (*Hungary*)
- Nicosia (*Cyprus*)

### *Present members of the International Board:*

Frerik Kampman (President), Elsa Mäki-Reinikka (Secretary)

### *Present Council Members:*

Sven Mörsdorf (Marburg), Timo Vuorikivi (Helsinki)

### Agenda:

- 1) Opening
- 2) Election of speaker
- 3) Appointment of minute-taker
- 4) Taking down of attendance
- 5) Reading of the agenda
- 6) Approval of minutes from the last General Assembly
- 7) Upcoming events
- 8) State of affairs
  - a) The IB
  - b) The Council
  - c) The TC
  - d) Carnival
  - e) Sections
- 9) Questions & Closing

1. Opening occurred at 16.49
2. Election of speaker: Frerik is appointed as the speaker.
3. Appointment of minute taker: Elsa is appointed as minute taker.
4. Taking down of attendance.
5. Reading of agenda
6. Approval of minutes of last GA (Zagreb) and SA (Utrecht)  
CORRECTION: Heidelberg is missing on the list of attendance.
7. Upcoming events
  - New Year's seminar in **Vilnius** with the theme of religion(?)

*Later note: Topic is Manipulation in History.*

- Conference in **Helsinki** in April with trip and accommodation already established. The topic is "Integration throughout History". Chronological work-shops will be held. No details have yet been established. The work is in progress.
  - **Marburg** in January (last 3 days of the month) – some of the money for the event has been acquired (1/3). The seminar starts on Thursday, Friday will include work-shops, and Saturday will be a career day of the faculty. There will be no participation fee, so the event is free of charge. No topic has been established yet. The participation of 20 people approx. will be allowed.
  - Summer seminar. Hopefully there will be one.
8. Cooperation with other organisations
    - **CLIOH** – in Utrecht, there were talks about cooperation with CLIOH. The organisation re-invents itself every 4 years. Gathering of professors all around Europe helps to establish healthy co-operation. Professors gain knowledge, as well as spread the word of ISHA. This will help in creating new ISHA sections.
    - **EUROCLIOH**- totally different organisation to CLIOH. Deals with history and high school history teaching. ISHA is going to Krakow (in October). This is a new project of ISHA. It was started by previous IB (Marko). The EUROCLIOH project of migration throughout Europe was mentioned. The organisation co-operates with twelve universities, and has twelve events/year. They hope to have ISHA representatives involved, to achieve students perspectives on matters related to history. In this manner, ISHA gains visibility. Top researchers will also get the chance to be in the spot light. There will be promotional information on the ISHA webpage. It is easy to apply to their events, and some sponsorship is also offered. Frerik and Marko are continuing with cooperation. There is hope that in Krakow ISHA will connect with students, and let them rejoin ISHA.
    - **ESU** – European Student Union. Marko presented ISHA in Paris, at a UNESCO event. Different organisations and professors are involved in ESU from different countries. Students are working together on a higher level. The Union is very interactive. Events include discussions and plans on student statements, eg. What are the problems for students? ISHA did not sign the statement, and Marko will have to get back about that. The statement will be sent to ISHA later. ESU is the most influential student union, and they have certain statutes (was passed around during GA). Members of ESU have shown interest in ISHA and have asked if ISHA would be interested in becoming an associate member of ESU. The rules are that official members get the vote, associates do not. Possible cooperation was discussed. There would be no obligations of attendance during ESU events for associate members.

The General Assembly was asked for their opinion on becoming an associative member of ESU. This idea was supported unanimously.

9. State of affairs

**A) International Board** – Policy paper being passed around.

1. Changing of the seat from Switzerland to Belgium. Why? Because there is a section there, easier to perhaps get funding from EU. Belgium changed their law; ISHA does not need a “legal” Belgian in the IB to have the organisation in the country.
2. Enhance ISHA's financial situation will be an aim of the new IB. Perhaps even the gaining sponsors will be attempted.
3. Aim to attract a new board of Patrons.
4. The IB will be working together with CLIOH, EUROCLIOH, and ESU and other organizations.
5. There will be an increase in the opportunities to write articles in the *Carnival*. This will help to spread the idea of ISHA.
6. There will be an increasing attempt to keep in contact with ISHA Alumni.
7. History of ISHA.
  - The ISHA archives are in Leuven. Indexing the files will be a priority. Reconstruction of how ISHA has worked in the past.
  - Talks about a permanent office, but would not be convenient, since a new IB is elected each year.
  - Promotion - Leaflet by Volker has been posted on the webpage, to help promotion. A “promotion package” that was supposed to be done by Leonie, was not finished. Bojana has collected information of student organisations around the Balkans, and will send it to the IB as soon as possible.
  - There will be a checking of old council members to confirm what they have finished in relation to the tasks given to them.
8. The financial report of 2008-2009 was passed around and unanimously approved. The General Assembly discharged Zrinka Kolaric (the previous treasurer) and appointed Marko Smokvina as the new treasurer for the term 2009-2010, transferring all the financial responsibility of ISHA to the new board, and the new treasurer in particular.

**B) Council** – No tasks have been decided yet. Bojana will send the e-mail addresses she has attained. Bojana mentioned about talks with Russian counterparts about ISHA, and that they might be interested. A Canadian might as well be interested, as may a Slovakian person. Sven has thought about a task. Organisers' manual was made for Delft conference should be updated. Someone should form a small committee (Sven), about doing this. Might be useful for financing etc.

**C) Treasury Committee** – Bojana was present at the GA. She will work together with Lucija Staut in fulfilling the tasks of the Treasury Committee.

**D) Carnival**

- Volker: The major problem is that Lia was not able to work so much on it. Neither did Volker. The amount of material gained so far is approx. 10-15 articles. They include reports from past seminars and conferences. Each article needs to be proof read. This has proved extremely time-consuming.
- Another problem is that there is no fixed layout. Sven mentioned that ISHA should get someone professional to do this. GA came to the conclusion that this might not be necessary, but that it could be useful to check with the contacts of Sven or Robert (Hungary) for more professional lay-out plans.
- Sven will try to contact Minna from Turku (former Carnival editor)

- Sven doesn't have time before December to do much on the Carnival, but after that he will have a lot of time. Sven wants to make a manual with fixed layout to facilitate the making of the Carnival. His aim is to include articles from the ISHA year, not only about the conferences.

#### E) Sections

- **Berlin:** ISHA is active in Berlin, with stands and advertisements. Katarina is very much behind ISHA. Problem of graduating actives and the generation change. Berlin has 3-4 actives at the moment, and is managing with the difficulty of expansion. Had no interest in arranging autumn seminar.
- **Budapest:** Observer. Robert will contact the girl who was in Zagreb (Erika Horváth). Attempts will be made to set up a section.
- **Pisa:** First Italian ISHA event was a success. Pisa was proud of this, but experienced problems, with the main one being that there are not many actives (5 actives). They noticed that it was difficult to organise the seminar. Positive aspects included contact with professor Isaacs of Euroclioh.
- **Pula:** Currently have two active members. Have plans to use forceful campaigning to get new members. Not possible to organise anything in Pula within a year.
- **Utrecht:** The seminar was a success. Financially Utrecht got back-up from the local organisation UHSK, and contacts were used. No profits were attained. New members coming to Lithuania, and Helsinki. The seminar was backed up by a big organisation in Utrecht. Spreading the word of ISHA in York was also discussed, as Utrecht member Judith Huisman will be doing an Erasmus year in York.
- **Heidelberg:** Has two members. One is Martina from Pisa. The section is ready for everything, and at a turning point. Many are interested in ISHA, but are making excuses about not coming abroad to seminars. Heidelberg is going to help in Marburg seminar.
- **Marburg:** Currently has three members. Failed in getting new actives. There are hopes expressed that the short weekend seminar will attract new people. Talks about possible topics for work-shops. There were ideas expressed of having scientists give presentations. There would be some sending of materials, and a one day discussion period. The Seminar will be based on one time frame. The topic will be "Early modernity". There is interest in connecting it to the career day in Marburg. Presentations would be on the 2nd day. Historians throughout time as a possible topic. Propaganda throughout History as a topic for a seminar in the future.
- **Belgrade:** Going through change in generations, Bojana is doing her Masters in Belgrade. Promotion of ISHA to younger students will be her aim. A visa problem still exists, but there are promises of abolishing the Visa system.
- **Ljubljana:** Active in arranging social things, excursions (even for non-Ljubljanians), and also events for newer members.

#### Observers

- **Cyprus and Greece:** Are very interested in starting a section in Cyprus. [*Later note: as they did*]

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#### 8. Questions and remarks.

- Minutes of the SAM in Utrecht are not formal enough and therefore not approved. They will be rewritten by Frerik Kampman. They will be approved at the General Assembly in Helsinki, as this is the first occasion where there is a meeting with legislative power.

- Suggestions that there should be a preliminary payment that would constitute half of the total fee of an event, which would facilitate planning of the event.
- Thoughts about that there was not enough structure to the event in Pisa.
- Idea of reading articles was a good idea.
- Higher academic level was expected.
- Agreement that broad subjects are still valid.
- Evaluation forms have shown in general that people in general are disappointed in the academic level of the workshops.
- Ideas that abstracts should be more academic and at least one page of length.
- Better guidelines should be made about how a new section is created.

9. Closing at 18.30.