



State of Affairs Meeting

This meeting was held during the seminar in Vilnius, on the 30th of December 2009. The State of Affairs Meeting took place in the building of the Vilniaus Pedagoginis Universitetas (Vilnius Pedagogical University), Second Campus, Faculty of History, room A5.

ISHA Sections present:

- Heidelberg (Germany)
- Marburg (Germany)
- Berlin (Germany)
- Nijmegen (the Netherlands)
- Utrecht (the Netherlands)
- Zagreb (Croatia)
- Zürich (Switzerland)
- Helsinki (Finland)
- Ljubljana (Slovenia)
- Vilnius (Lithuania)
- Kaunas (Lithuania)
- Sofia (Bulgaria)

Observing section:

- Bremen (Germany)

Present members of the International Board:

Frerik Kampman (President), Elsa Mäki-Reinikka (Secretary), Marko Smokvina (Treasurer)

Present Council Members:

Sven Mörsdorf (Marburg), Katharina Rein (Berlin), Timo Vuorikivi (Helsinki), Fabian Würtz (Zürich)

Agenda:

- 1) Opening
- 2) Appointment of speaker
- 3) Appointment of minute-taker
- 4) Taking down of attendance
- 5) Reading of the agenda
- 6) Passing around the minutes from SAM Utrecht and GA Pisa
- 7) Upcoming events
- 8) Cooperation with other organizations
- 9) State of affairs
 - a. International Board
 - b. The Council
 - c. Treasury Committee
 - d. Carnival
 - e. Sections
- 10) Approval of minutes
- 11) Questions
- 12) Closing

1. Opening occurred at 18.46.
2. Appointment of Speaker: Frerik Kampman was appointed as speaker.
3. Appointment of Minute-taker: Elsa Mäki-Reinikka was appointed as minute-taker.
4. Taking down of attendance: A list was passed around.
5. Reading of the agenda.
6. Passing around the minutes from SAM Utrecht and GA Pisa. Comments will be written on the files.
7. Upcoming Events:
 - a. **Marburg**, 28-31 January 2010. Organized by ISHA Marburg, with Sven Mörsdorf as the central contact person. 'Being a Historian' is the theme, information is on line as we speak, people who are interested can still apply. 30 people have applied so far. There will be workshops and lectures, but no personal presentations. There is a 80% chance that there is no need for a participation fee, but in case this is necessary, it will not be more than 30 euro. It depends on funding.
 - b. **Helsinki**, 5-10 April 2010. There will be 80 places available. Conference theme will be 'Integration throughout History'. New sections are very welcome to join in this event, which is the biggest in an ISHA year. A lot of work is still in progress. The participation will probably need to be about 100 euro. Hopefully the organization will not be forced to raise the fee even higher. They try their best to keep it as affordable as possible, by searching for sponsors and such.
 - c. **Galway**, 25-28 May 2010. There is not yet much information about this event. Galway is organizing the Aistir Conference, which will also be accessible for ISHA members. It is not a regular ISHA seminar, but we encourage these initiatives.
 - d. **Cyprus**, 7-12 June 2010. The seminar in Cyprus will be the official ISHA Summer Seminar. A bit early, but in July and August the climate in Cyprus gets unbearable to have historical discussions. Applications will be as early as possible, hopefully in February, to make lower travel fees possible. About the participation fee, the organization is aiming for 60 to 70 euro. This information was communicated to the International Board.
 - e. **Amsterdam** International Conference, 22-28 August 2010. In Amsterdam there will be organized the International Congress of Historical Science. This is a worldwide event of historical scientists. ISHA is welcome to join and hopes to promote the association among a international audience. If students register before the 1st of May, the participation fee is only 120 euro.
 - f. **Sofia**, September/October 2010. The ISHA Autumn Seminar. The organization has talks with sponsors already, and they are working hard on it. The participation fee will be between 50-75 euro. Additional lectures will be a legitimation for aid, meaning there will be a thorough academic program. Also, one demand is that there need to be at least five PhD students. The topic of the seminar will be 'Unions in History', and has place for about 30 to 40 people.
 - g. **Future Events**. The representatives in the State of Affairs Meeting are asked to take this question back to their sections and discuss a possible event in their local university. The first possibility is the New Year Seminar 2010/11, but also other initiatives are welcomed.
8. Cooperation with other organizations
 - a. ESU, the **European Students' Union**. This is a general student union, in fact the most powerful one in Europe, with official status within the European Union. ISHA became an associate member during the ESU Board Meeting 57, that was held in Kraków, Poland. Frerik was there to present ISHA and was questioned. The Board Meeting of ESU granted the associate membership, by which ISHA gets closer involved in European student issues.
 - b. **Euroclio/Europaeum**. These are ISHA's partners in a joint project, with the title 'Connecting Europe through History'. Project of cooperation, together with teachers association Euroclio, and the association of leading universities Europaeum. The project is carried out in small sessions during events organized by the partners. For example, in Berlin there will be a Euroclio-event at the end of January. People from ISHA Berlin are contacted to join this event. The project is funded by the European Commission Lifelong

Learning Program. A List of future events was read out loud, interested people are asked to contact the board.

- c. **ICHS**, the bigger organization that is organizing the conference in Amsterdam. We were in touch with Jean-Claude Robert, the secretary-general of this worldwide organization. He is very positive, but a regular membership of the International Committee of Historical Science will be too expensive.

9. State of Affairs

a. International Board

- i. Financial situation. Marko Smokvina relates that there is currently 2100 euro on the bank account, which will rise to about 2500 euro when participation fees are paid. The current international board will spend a large sum on merchandise (600 euro), which we hope to earn back in selling the merchandise. Also, Carnival will cost about 600 euro. Membership fees for the current year can still be paid, that will be 75 euro. The membership fee for the year 2010-2011 are also welcome, they are still 50 euro (until 1st of August 2010).
- ii. The issue of the seat of the organization. Currently we are based in Zürich, Switzerland, which prevents us of being subsidized by the European Union (if this is at all possible). Brussels and Amsterdam are two alternatives.
- iii. Merchandise. Pens, Markers and Buttons will be presented in Marburg seminar.
- iv. Leaflets are available during this seminar. There are a lot and not one of them will travel back home with the IB.
- v. New Year Questionnaire. A Questionnaire is made to make a small analysis of ISHA. It asks information about the sections, student numbers, equality within ISHA, and general thoughts about the organization. Every section is asked to fill them in before Marburg seminar.

b. The Council

- i. Timo Vuorikivi. His main task is collecting a list of possible ISHA Patrons and make a plan to propose them to become a patron. Also, thoughts about what a patronship should and should not include. Timo has some ideas, but is asking the State of Affairs Meeting to fill in suggestions on a sheet that will be passed around.
- ii. Fabian Würtz. The home pages works, but it could be made more fancy. Fabian made the holiday calendar ready again, in which section can fill in the holidays in their local university, making it easier to plan events. Also, Fabian announces that it is better to create a Facebook Page, instead of the current Facebook Group. A Page offers more possibilities. It is now possible for sections to have their own blog hosted on the ISHA Webpage, making it more coherent.
- iii. Katharina Rein. She remarks on what just has been said by Fabian that there should be a more consistent approach with the logo of ISHA. There are many of them circulating. [Note: The International Board 2009-2010 promotes the use of the one in the header of these minutes]. Katharina asks whether or not a map of Europe should be featured in the logo. State of Affairs Meeting answers 'no'. Then about her council task. She has been contacting many German universities, fifteen in all, to promote ISHA among their history students. Until now, hardly any response. Also, she helps Sven with the Carnival.
- iv. Sven Mörsdorf will focus on the Carnival after the seminar in Marburg is over. The IB was together with Sven and Francesco Malfatti (Pisa) in a Clioh-world meeting, in which we discussed many matters about ISHA. Through these contacts with Clioh-world teachers, Sven is making contacts to other universities.
- v. Sarah Stroobants is not present in the Vilnius seminar, but IB tells about her efforts in successfully storing the ISHA archives in the Leuven based 'Archive of Student Life'.

c. Treasury Committee. Note: Both Bojana Pavlovic and Florian Frasch were not present.

d. Carnival

- i. Carnival 2008-2009. Lia Hamminga, editor of this edition, tells that the Carnival will be more than 100 pages and that it will be presented in Marburg.
 - ii. Carnival 2009-2010. Sven Mörsdorf, editor of this edition, tells that the carnival will contain articles from all seminars. Also, book reviews etcetera are more than welcome. Together with Lia and Volker Prott they will work on a standardized layout. The Carnival 2009-2010 will be presented during the Autumn Seminar in Sofia.
- e. Sections (clockwise from the speaker)
- i. Heidelberg – Janosch Kästel is trying to find new members. He is in contact with Saarbrücken, near the French border. Contact with a students club there and will try to promote ISHA. Also, Janosch has a journal of the 1999 Heidelberg seminar, which is interesting enough to scan it and put it on line. Frerik is interested in doing this.
 - ii. Marburg – Sven is busy organizing the seminar with at least four other members. He is handing out the ISHA leaflet in order to get more people interested in ISHA.
 - iii. Nijmegen – Lia tells that ISHA Nijmegen is very small at the moment, only two active members. They are trying to make a stronger connection with the history department, and also with the local history student association 'GSV Excalibur'.
 - iv. Zagreb – Marko Fuček tells that Zagreb is a large section, with about 15 members and 6 to 7 extremely active ones. There are some graduates leaving, so there is a need to recruit new people. Activities are for example issuing an own publication annually. They are meeting up with other history students.
 - v. Zürich – Fabian Würtz expresses his fears that the section might die out if nothing happens soon. They made contact with Bern though, which might result in a new section there.
 - vi. Utrecht – First time visitor from Utrecht Vera Manders tells about how she heard about ISHA. There was an official information event at the beginning of the year, in which ISHA was also presented by Frerik. Many first year students were interested, but somehow only Vera really went. Still, there are a lot of interested people.
 - vii. Helsinki – Timo Vuorikivi tells that they are mainly busy with the conference. They have a new member from the political history department. Lots of active new members, and they hope to attract more because of the conference.
 - viii. Ljubljana – Dragan Nikčević says they are alive and kicking. With about 10 people and 6 new members, they are very active with excursions and publications. Also, they have movie nights and social gatherings to attract new members. They are actively e-mailing students constantly and this works.
 - ix. Vilnius – Jurgis Atroskevičius about the seminar: it is a good seminar with small problems. They are doing very well and experiencing positive effects of the seminar. They are collaborating with the pedagogical university.
 - x. Bremen – Merle Boppert is now studying in Bremen, and will be an observer until she finds more members to found a section.
 - xi. Berlin – Katharina Rein is spreading information and attempts to integrate with the local students organization. They have 4 active members, but currently not yet in touch with the Freie Universität. This is one of the aims though. They hope to organize a seminar in the future.
 - xii. Kaunas – Ieva Sulskute does everything to make Kaunas an official member [Note: as Kaunas paid the membership fee during the Vilnius seminar, they are officially acknowledged as such]. They have lectures of young historians who present their work.
 - xiii. Sofia – Dimitar Valtchev relates that they have about 20 to 30 members. They have debates, movies and such activities every month. They have only five though that are willing to engage in the international seminars and this is a problem, mainly due to the level of English, of which they are not too sure. Also, it is

expensive to travel far. The seminar in the autumn will a break through, bringing ISHA to Sofia!

10. Approval of Minutes: The Minutes of the SAM in Utrecht and the GA in Pisa are approved.
11. Questions: No Questions were raised.
12. Closing: The State of Affairs Meeting was closed at 20:08, but not before the representatives of the sections are reminded to take leaflets, fill in the New Year Questionnaire, as well as to take promotional material of Euroclio, The Europaeum and ClioH-world.