



# State of Affairs Meeting

The SAM took place during the Summer Seminar 2011 in Bucharest on July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

## **ISHA sections present:**

1. Belgrade (Serbia)
2. Berlin (Germany)
3. Bucharest (Romania)
4. Galway (Ireland)
5. Helsinki (Finland)
6. Jena (Germany)
7. Ljubljana (Slovenia)
8. Leuven (Belgium)
9. Nijmegen (The Netherlands)
10. Osijek (Croatia)
11. Rome (Italy)
12. Sofia (Bulgaria)
13. Trieste-Koper (Italy/Slovenia)
14. Utrecht (The Netherlands)
15. Zagreb (Croatia)
16. Pisa (Italy)

## **Observer sections present:**

1. Thessaloniki (Greece)
2. Iași (Romania)
3. Tblisi (Georgia)
4. Bremen (Germany)

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

Sven Mörsdorf (Vice-president)

### *Present members of the Council:*

Marko Bagic, Lia Hamminga

## Agenda

- 1) Opening
- 2) Election of speaker
- 3) Appointment of minute-taker
- 4) Taking down of attendance
- 5) Reading of the agenda
- 6) Review of the minutes of the General Assembly in Pula
- 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 and observers
- 10) Approval of the Pula minutes
- 11) Questions
- 12) Closing

1) **Opening** at 15.42.

2) **Appointment of speaker:** Sven is appointed.

3) **Appointment of minute-taker:** Lia is appointed.

4) **Taking down of attendance:** A list is passed around.

5) **Reading of the agenda:** The agenda is read and no alterations are requested.

6) **Review of the minutes of the General Assembly in Pula:** The minutes are being reviewed, but will only be passed at the next GA in Turku.

7) **Upcoming events:**

a) *Autumn Seminar* in Turku: "Shared Past – Conflicting Histories", 26.09.-2.10.2011: Sanna Supponen from Helsinki gives an update on the preparations. The application period will start this month.

b) *New Year's Seminar* in Belgrade: "Marginal Groups Through History", 26.12.2011-02.01.2012: The fee will be around 70-80 euros.

c) *Annual Conference 2012* in Jena: “Identities in Transition”, 01.04.-08.04.2012: In the past weeks, ISHA Jena has been working on the thematic and academic outline and on the programme. They have decided about the title and the date of the conference (see above). The broad topic “Identities” will be approached out of various, interdisciplinary perspectives, and with fresh ideas for activities and the academic programme. Jena is now applying for funding and hopes to be able to accommodate 130 participants.

d) *Summer Seminar 2012*: ISHA Rome is currently trying to get enough support to be able to organise the next Summer Seminar. They cannot really say if it is going to work yet, the main reason for this is the funding, which they are working on at this point. A form is passed around for every section to subscribe, making it clear for the grant application that this is an international event.

e) *European Association for Urban History conference* (29.08.-01.09.2012), Prague: Sven is coordinating the organising of a student session at this big (500 participants) academic conference. The session will be comparable to ISHA's contribution to the ICHS Amsterdam last year, and aims at bringing students and more advanced academics with an interest in urban history into contact. With the help of ISHA Prague, this might also evolve into a small informal ISHA event.

f) *Autumn Seminar 2012*: ISHA Zagreb is still willing to organise this event. But before that they are busy preparing a regional seminar for Balkan participants, titled “Culture and Power”, which is going to take place with 30 participants this October.

g) *New Year's Seminar 2012/13*: No news yet from Ljubljana.

h) *Other events*: Bucharest plans a local seminar in the Autumn and will send information soon. Galway will host a conference in the first week of March 2012 and will send the information to be included in one of the next newsletters so that ISHA members will know about this and can join.

## **8) Cooperation with other organizations:**

a) ISHA's joint project with Euroclio and The Europaeum, 'Connecting Europe Through History: Experiences and Perceptions of Migrations' has come to its end, and the follow-up has not been accepted by the EU yet. Also, CLIOHWORLD will cease to operate soon, and ISHA was present at their final Conference in Lisbon on June 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> (during which Sven met some enthusiastic students from Lisbon who want to found a section there). It has not been decided yet if there will be a follow-up. The cooperation with Euroclio helped ISHA with becoming academically more visible and credible, while the cooperation with the European History Networks was very good for promotion and networking, including the creation of many sections.

b) With IFISO and ESU, relations continue in the usual, good way. Bodil represented ISHA at the ESU Board Meeting and Seminar in Tallinn in the beginning of May.

c) We started working together with Study Portals, a website which wants to provide a database of European study programmes. ISHA will help them gather data, e.g. through questionnaires about our home universities and study programmes, and be promoted in turn.

## 9) State of Affairs

### a) *The International Board*

1. The membership fee can also be paid here in Bucharest, even though the treasurer is not present (*info*: Zagreb, Sofia, Berlin and St. Petersburg [via Helsinki] chose to do so).
2. Sarah wanted to go to London to promote ISHA there but the meeting has been rescheduled to the upcoming months.
3. During the CLIOHWORLD conference in Lisbon, Sven was invited to promote ISHA by some professors. He already has a fixed date for Trabzon (Turkey) at the end of October, and will travel around more in the coming months. He was also presenting ISHA to students in Bamberg, and encourages everyone to organise such presentations themselves or invite an IB member.
4. The term of the 2010-11 IB is coming to an end. To facilitate transition, a handover weekend with the next IB will take place in Brussels at the beginning of August.

### b) *The Council*

**Anita** and **Jernej** (not present) had been working on a workshop manual and finished a draft already for the Annual Conference. The IB will ask them to complete it until the Autumn Seminar in Turku.

**Marko's** task is assisting with the foundation of a Board of Patrons for ISHA with personalities with backgrounds in history, international cooperation, etc. The patrons could help to promote ISHA and its activities. All sections are asked to think about candidates, be it professors from their universities or countries, or other personalities. For example, during this Summer Seminar, the IB approached Prof. Mihai Răzvan Ungureanu, ISHA founding member and now history professor and holder of high-ranking public offices.

**Lia** submitted a draft sponsorship brochure during the Annual Conference and is still inviting everyone to send feedback. She will work more of it in the following weeks.

**Fabian** (not present), in his role as webmaster, is a Council Member this year, but will leave the Council and become an Official with the new title – wait for it – “Webmaster” during the next term. He's been very busy developing the website from a more technical point of view, and Sven asks if anyone would like to help developing the layout and content too (Aureliana from Bucharest volunteers).

c) The *Treasury Committee* is not present, there are no news.

### d) *Carnival*

It looks like the journal will be finished rather soon and Stephanie, the editor (not present), said that everything is going well. Konstantin from Sofia remarks that it would be good to print it in Eastern Europe again in order to save costs and Marko informs that they will ask the Osijek printer for prices (Sofia will also ask a printer to compare).

e) *Sections:*

**Jena** has started to prepare the next Annual Conference. To get the section started and people interested, they already had some local activities: a lecture series on cultural history in which mainly doctoral students presented their work-in-progress and a weekend visit by ISHA **Marburg** (who are not present but are doing well, Sven tells).

**Njmegen:** Lia is the only active member at the moment. There are contacts with the local history department (GSV Excalibur). Lia hopes there will be more promotion of ISHA and its activities to attract new members in the following months.

**Bucharest** was (and is) busy with the Summer Seminar. They are planning a new event, a regional seminar in October and are doing well for now.

**Trieste-Koper** is an active section with 27 members at the moment. They organized an excursion in May and had a book presentation. In October they will start to prepare a seminar for March 2012.

In **Ljubljana**, the number of active members is low.

**Sofia** has brought a new member to Bucharest, and two other younger students are interested. This is a positive development for the Sofia section because most members are already Master or PhD students. The main goal is to keep everything going for the next generation. There are currently 9 members, 5 or 6 really active. They are planning a field trip. This autumn there is going to be an exchange to Budapest and they will try to inform people about ISHA there so that the Budapest section might be revived.

**Belgrade** is preparing the New Year's Seminar and plans to visit the Regional Seminar in Zagreb. They hope to attract new members and also support for the upcoming Seminar.

**Berlin** has 4 or 5 active members but Vincent expects the number to go up.

**Zagreb** is preparing the Regional Seminar and they are also publishing the next edition of their local journal.

**Utrecht** does not really have an update but Raoul thinks it is going rather well

**Osijek** has two new members at a total of thirty-six. The next issue of the local magazine *Essehist* will be published around the Turku Seminar and Osijek plans to participate in the Zagreb Seminar as well.

**Rome** expects that the section will grow. They are working on the Summer Seminar for next year.

**Pisa** has three members at this point and will try to attract more members.

**Tblisi** joined ISHA as observer recently and they are getting organized. They will be in contact with the IB who will help them with becoming an official section. They

already have fifteen members.

**Galway** is going strong. They hope to attract first year students and their main occupation is an Irish history student conference which is going to be held next March. More information will be included in one of ISHA's newsletters.

**Leuven** is still recovering from the Weekend Seminar and will continue to be active in the coming months.

**Helsinki** is doing well and they will have elections for a new President because Sanna is going to be in the next IB. They have local events and they attracted a couple of new members, also exchange students.

**Thessaloniki** had their first meeting on Monday and elected Charalampos for president. In October they'll have a second meeting. They are about 20 master students and 15 bachelor students. They brought some books for ISHA Bucharest as a present and for promotion.

In **Bremen**, there is no new development but they try to attract new members and get everything organized to become a full section.

**Iași** is having some financial problems and wants to attract new members. There will be a local Conference in the future.

**10) Approval of the Pula Minutes:** The minutes will not be approved here (see point 6 above), which has nothing to do with their name.

## **11) Questions and Closing**

a) Two questions concerning the **voting system** were raised.

In general, Turku hopes that there can be a new discussion about the procedure of elections and Helsinki agrees on this. The IB informs that they are already in contact with Saša from Pula who originally objected to the procedures during the Pula Conference. A discussion group will be formed and others are invited to participate.

In particular, ISHA Bucharest asked to see the votes given for the Vice-President during the Pula Conference. They say they want to check the accuracy of the decision. Bucharest states that one needs a majority to be elected and they want this to be more clear in the future rules.

b) Francesco from Pisa has a comment on the **academic content** of ISHA events.

He wants to include smaller or Weekend Seminars in which, for example, theses could be presented in order to raise the academic level of some events. Joe adds that this is exactly what the Galway conference is about and that they have had good experiences with it. The IB remarks that this is an idea which has already been taken into consideration and sections are asked to think about it in their Seminars.

**12) Closing** at 16.50.