General Assembly (GA) of the International Students of History Association, held at the ISHA Annual Conference 2013 on Friday, April 12th, 2013, at KU Leuven, Belgium.

1) Opening, taking down of attendance
2) Appointment of the speaker and the minute-taker; checking the quorum
3) Passing around the minutes of previous meetings, amendments and approvals
4) Reading and discussion of the agenda
5) State of Affairs
   a. International Board
   b. Council
   c. Treasury Committee
   d. Carnival
   e. Sections and Observers

– Break –

6) Upcoming events
7) Debate: Proposal to Change the Statutes (no vote)
8) Debate:
   a. Financial Compensation for Officials
   b. Participation Fees (no vote – added during point 4)
9) Cooperation with other organizations
   a. International Committee of Historical Sciences (ICHS)
   b. Network of Concerned Historians (NCH)
   c. Right to Research Coalition (R2RC)

– Break –

10) Board of Patrons
11) Elections
12) Questions and closing
Present members of the International Board (IB)
Sven Mörsdorf (Vienna), president
Marko Morović (Zagreb), secretary
Anne Greule (Jena), treasurer

Present members of the Council
Tihana Sedlar (Osijek), Pieter Baeten (Leuven), Dario Prati (Berlin), Cédric Suttels (Leuven)

Other officials present
Max Boguslaw (Berlin) and Björn Reynir Halldórson (Reykjavík), Treasury Committee for 2011-12;
Andraž Kamenik (Maribor), Assistant Webmaster

Sections present (18)
1. Berlin (Germany)
2. Bucharest (Romania)
3. Budapest (Hungary)
4. Helsinki (Finland)
5. Jena (Germany)
6. Kent (United Kingdom)
7. Leuven (Belgium)
8. Ljubljana (Slovenia)
9. Marburg (Germany)
10. Maribor (Slovenia)
11. Osijek (Croatia)
12. Prague (Czech Republic)
13. Reykjavík (Iceland)
14. Rome (Italy)
15. Sofia (Bulgaria)
16. Trieste-Koper (Italy-Slovenia)
17. Vilnius (Lithuania)
18. Zagreb (Croatia)

Observers present (5)
1. Belgrade (Serbia)
2. Pula (Croatia)
3. Skopje (Macedonia)
4. Thessaloniki (Greece)
5. Vienna (Austria)
1) Opening, taking down of attendance: The president opened the session at 14:30. The attendance list was passed around.

2) Appointment of the speaker and the minute-taker; checking the quorum: Sven was appointed as speaker and Marko M. and Anne as minute-takers. With 18 out of the total number of 22 Sections present at this GA, a quorum of more than two-thirds was constituted.

3) Passing around the minutes of previous meetings, amendments and approvals: The minutes of the SAM in Marburg were passed around and approved without amendments.

4) Reading and discussion of the agenda: The agenda was discussed. Cédric proposed to add a discussion point about participation fees, which was accepted unanimously. It was added to the agenda as 8.b Participation Fees, and 8. Financial Compensation for Officials became point 8.a. The speaker later moved the first break from after point 6 to after point 5 of the agenda.

5) State of Affairs

a. International Board
The IB explained its work until the present day. Eight months of the term have passed already, four more are left, making this GA an opportunity to present the results until now and give an outlook for the rest of the term. The IB's original policy plan includes six aims/main areas of work:

Aim 1: Better communication

A lot of work was already done to update the contact list, which is still being updated when necessary. The Newsletter has been improved and a call to section members to subscribe to get all the latest news was once again issued. The participants of the GA agreed that its quality was good.

The Website is still being updated, “beautified”, and its features expanded, on which the Webmaster, IB and Council members are actively working. Some of the results are improvements of the texts and functions, a prettier design, and solving problems with bugs. It was emphasized that there is a possibility for every section to make a section website under www.isha-international.org. In order to do this, creating a user account is required. If there is interest among sections which are going to organize future conferences and seminars, webmaster Fabian offers to create an electronic application form, a simple feature that would save time both for applicants and organizers. The Berlin, Vilnius, and Helsinki sections will contact him and discuss the possibilities. As Alessio (Trieste-Koper) suggested, the IB will check out the possibility to create a special page on Academia.edu as a more academic equivalent of a Facebook site.

The Facebook page is in use when necessary, especially to promote future ISHA conferences and seminars. Tihana and Cédric suggested that more activity and information should be posted there, e.g. info about application periods. The Twitter account was not in use because it turned out not to be that useful as the newsletter and Facebook page, but might still be revived in the future of course.

Everyone was reminded that the official e-mail address isha.inter(at)gmail(dot)com is always available for contacting the IB.
**Aim 2:** retain old and recruit new members

At the beginning of the term, it very much looked as if ISHA was slowly falling apart because of communication problems with the sections. There was not enough information passed on by the IB, and at the same time many addresses and contact persons had changed. In order to get the sections and its members back in touch with ISHA International, the aim was to make communication easier, especially by giving more info about what is happening in ISHA, and to update the list of contact addresses. The idea was also to involve section members more actively in the GAs and SAMs. The participants gave feedback that they feel well-informed now.

Anne informed about new sections. There are 22 Members, of which 5 are new. There was an increase in the number of Observers and with 19 they constitute almost half of the ISHA network. A detailed list of Members and Observers is attached as Annex 1.

Another measure, that is to develop an ISHA Alumni organization, needs more time because it requires a lot of work. This was lively discussed. For better communication Sanna S. (Helsinki) and Anne suggested to create of ISHA Alumni Facebook group, while Sven also suggested a mailing list and inviting former members to Budapest in 2014 for the jubilee (25th Annual Conference). Anne suggested potential alumni members should be contacted and asked about their opinion. It was concluded that further discussion is necessary.

**Aim 3:** improve ISHA’s academic credibility and outreach

The various measures, e.g. concerning the Board of Patrons, partnerships, updating the event organization manual, etc., were discussed under the respective later points of the agenda.

**Aim 4:** discuss ISHA’s aims and role with the members

An initial discussion about the balance between academic and social aspects during ISHA events was held at the GA in Zagreb. Due to lack of time it was decided its continuation will be postponed until the next GA in Vilnius. In this context it was decided that the IB will ask the Vilnius section to arrange for a longer GA. A question about whether to create special workgroups in the sections, which would be responsible for informing their members about GAs and SAMs, was also postponed until Vilnius.

**Aim 5:** improve ISHA’s financial basis

As announced in Zagreb, ISHA did not apply for EU Commission funding this year because of the complicated procedure and lack of experienced persons who could help with the application. As EUROCLIO offered their help, the next IB should try to apply again. In general, it is very difficult to find suitable programs which could support ISHA, options for donations and foundations are very limited, as well as those to sell Carnival and merchandise.

**Aim 6:** continue working on open questions

ISHA can remain a Swiss organization because associations from Switzerland are now eligible to apply for EU funding (even when they are not officially registered, because Swiss law allows this), which was the only reason why it was originally thought about to move. As for the other points, info about ISHA’s history and archival material and the manuals was presented later.

In conclusion, the IB expressed its opinion that the term was successful so far, which was supported by several voices among the participants of the GA.
After this, the treasurer’s report followed:

During the first months, Anne was busy to get in touch with many sections whom ISHA had lost contact with. When she started her term, there were only eight sections which had paid the membership fee for the year 2012-2013. Some paid at the Autumn Conference, so that there were 16 members then. For an organization like ISHA she considered this a bit disappointing and was sad to see that we obviously had lost contact with many former sections. Therefore the main part of her initial work was to contact former sections and encourage them to stay involved and support ISHA International, also financially by paying the fee. She informed the GA that ISHA had now come back to 22 full members (and almost an equal number of observers).

Besides that she helped Sven and Marko with the usual everyday-business, and furthermore worked out a draft with suggestions for the reimbursement of travel costs which was discussed under a later point. She was also involved in the preparations of the Marburg Seminar, where she moderated a workshop.

At present she is gathering information about changing ISHA’s bank account. The disadvantage of the current one is that bank statements are only available at the beginning of every month, which is inconvenient when sections need payment confirmations or when the IB needs to know on a specific date (e.g. a GA) who paid and has voting rights. Moreover, ISHA is waiting for a considerable amount of leftover money from ISHA Zurich (now inactive) who want to entrust their savings to ISHA’s account for administrative purposes until a new section might be formed there in the future. The IB wanted to open a sub-account for this money, which was unfortunately not possible. The account costs € 29,80 per year, which is a good price, but still there might be even more favourable terms at a different bank. Anne asked the GA to approve changing the bank if this was advantageous for ISHA. She also proposed to look for an account at a so-called ethical bank, one that operates on a more social and sustainable basis, even though that could be more expensive. After discussing this, it was concluded that a bank which works on ethical principles would be preferred as long as the costs would not be too high. Anne will prepare a summary listing different Swiss banks and their terms and conditions which will be presented at the GA in Vilnius.

On the account were approximately € 2078 at the time of the GA. As the printing of Carnival will cost around € 700, the financial basis can be considered good at the moment. A loan was given to Sven so that he was able to travel to the Marburg New Year’s Seminar (€ 88,50) and to the Leuven Annual Conference (€ 180) which he will pay back before the end of the term.

It was also discussed whether new ISHA merchandise should be created. The conclusion was that new merchandise is more than welcome. A draft will be prepared for the next GA, and the following factors have to be taken into consideration: a larger choice of new merchandise articles (hoodie, t-shirt, sweater, USB, mugs,...); a poll to evaluate which merchandise articles would generate high interest and therefore be advantageous to produce and sell; merchandise should be a small source of income for ISHA; ethical merchandise production; redesign of the logo in a design contest, after which the GA will decide about the winner or winners; merchandise to be sold also directly by the member sections; online merchandise shop on the website.

**Handover:** The current IB will meet with the new Board in summer to pass on all information and ensure a smooth transition.
b. Council

The council members present gave info about the progress of their most important tasks.

Cédric Suttels: update of the event organization manual

Next to preparing the Leuven Annual Conference, Cédric’s task is to update the organization manual. It is almost finished and will be available in a few months’ time. Meanwhile, the old version of 2010 can be found on the website in the “useful materials” section.

Pieter Baeten: ISHA archives

Pieter’s main task is developing the ISHA central archive. In order to gather new material, he contacted every section and some of them are willing to send their own archives in order to make a backup in Leuven. Pieter stressed the importance of concentrating the archive in one place. It could be digitized in future by the library staff.

In the discussion about the archive it was concluded that basically every part of ISHA or its sections’ history can be considered as archive material, for example materials from international events and local activities. Pieter assured he will make a detailed guideline on the principles of archiving. For the digitization of documents a digital archivist should be contacted first.

On a different note, he also tried to establish connections with other student organizations, but even though the European law student organization (ELSA) was interested in cooperation, they stopped writing back at one point. Pieter was also working on a translation of an ISHA information text into French in order to get over the language barrier with potential new sections and members from France and the francophone world.

Dario Prati: evaluation of organizations

Dario’s task was to evaluate various organizations with which ISHA might cooperate. He prepared a summary on the Network of Concerned Historians and the Right to Research Coalition which he presented at a later point on the agenda. Valerio (Rome) offered help with contacting, among others, an association from Spain.

Tihana Sedlar: contact list update

As her main task, Tihana keeps and continuously updates all contacts, i.e. the sections’ and observers’ contact info.

c. Treasury Committee

The TC report for the 2010-2011 term has been completed. The delay was due to a number of irregularities that had to be investigated. The current treasurer Anne explained the situation as the reporting TC members Lia Hamminga and Tina Stele could not be present at the GA. The full report is attached to these minutes as Annex 5.

To sum it up, there was a difference between the 2010-2011 treasurer’s financial report and the bank statements. Some income and expenses lacked sufficient documentation in form of receipts and bank statements, and sufficient proof could not be provided afterwards. Since it can be assumed that the confusion is the result of bookkeeping mistakes and not intentional, and that ISHA has been financially harmed in no way, the TC for 2010-2011 recommends to the GA to approve the 2010-2011 IB’s financial report.
Björn stated that every TC basically reports a similar situation, but Anne assured that the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 IBs have learned from the previous Board’s mistakes and will present completely transparent finances. This is mainly due to greater care taken with keeping receipts and preferring bank over cash transactions. After the discussion, the TC report was approved unanimously.

Max suggested the Swiss legal situation should be checked, in order to investigate possible consequences if for some reason any law violation occurs. Sven and Pieter will look into this, but every volunteer is more than welcome to join them. This suggestion will also be considered for later discussion.

d. Carnival

Carnival 2012, edited by Dubravko Aladić (Osijek), was planned to be ready for the Leuven Conference, but was unfortunately further delayed because the proofreading process took much longer than anticipated. The editor and the IB agreed that quality has priority. It is almost certain that the online version will be released soon, and that the printed version can be handed out in Berlin and Vilnius.

Meanwhile, the next editor, Simona Barbu (Bucharest), has started to prepare the 2013 edition. Since it will probably be released in a year from now, and because there were no applications for the office of Editor in Chief, it is not necessary to elect another editor this year. A few remaining copies of previous Carnival editions were presented and distributed at the GA.

Anne once again repeated the open call to all section members to participate in the making of Carnival as article writers or to take up other editorial tasks. The editor can be contacted via carnival (at) isha-international (dot) org, which is the newly-created central address for all journal-related matters.

e. Sections and Observers

Sections

Berlin (Germany): The section is very active with the preparations of the Summer Seminar. Vincent said they are still trying to find even more people to get additional help with organizational tasks.

Bucharest (Romania): Adrian reported that the section has new members, especially young ones. They are very active in student cultural exchange.

Budapest (Hungary): Even though Budapest is a comparatively new section, they already managed to organize a local conference and the plan is to organize even more similar events. Some members are eager to participate in the Berlin seminar as well as other events, and the whole section is looking forward to organizing the next ISHA Annual Conference. There are around 7 active members but Adrienn assured they will try to find more interested students.

Helsinki (Finland): The section is working on the promotion of the New Years’ Seminar. Sanna S. informed that a new board has been elected with some new members.

Jena (Germany): The section is a good combination of older and younger members. At the moment, five members are present at the EUROCLIO Conference in nearby Erfurt, helping out with organizational tasks, and Anne said they were also planning smaller projects in the future.
Kent (United Kingdom): Jan Vandeburie sent a proposal to establish a section in Canterbury, and a lot of people got interested. As a new section, Silke said, they are first trying to generate more publicity.

Leuven (Belgium): The section members are busy with organizing the present conference. Cédric informed that elections for their board will be held in a few weeks’ time.

Ljubljana (Slovenia): Maja reported that the section is active. They are in the process of publishing a new issue of their journal. The section is also interested in organizing the Summer Seminar 2014.

Marburg (Germany): Ulrike informed that the section has been very busy in 2012. Amongst other things they successfully organised seminars and excursions. The New Years’ Seminar 2012-13 was successful and more activities are planned. They will soon present themselves to new students.

Maribor (Slovenia): The section has a new board, there are more members than before and they are actively working on several projects, but they are still trying to attract even more new members. Andraž said they are very enthusiastic and also interested in organising an ISHA seminar in the future.

Osijek (Croatia): Tihana reported that Osijek had elections for a new board and that they are working actively on preparing the new issue of their magazine. An open call for participation was issued.

Prague (Czech Republic): Everything is going well. Maroš said that the section has organized various events and excursions for students. With help of Tihana, who is at the moment studying in Brno, and Pieter, who did an Erasmus in Olomouc, the section will promote ISHA in their country.

Reykjavík (Iceland): A new board has been elected and Björn hopes it will include more persons who will be active in future ISHA activities.

Rome (Italy): Valerio informed that Rome has more active members and they hope the section will be able to organize an event in the future. The department of history cooperates with them, and they are also in contact with a history student association from Spain.

Sofia (Bulgaria): The section becomes more active and new members have joined. They are already having many activities for students and Sabrina reported that they are thinking about organising a weekend seminar. The options for an exact date are still open and they will inform us about news.

Trieste-Koper (Italy-Slovenia): Alessio reported that a new board was elected. Last year they successfully organised Adriatic Meetings. Because of the small sizes of their faculties they do not have many members but are thinking to organise a seminar about Macedonian history.

Vilnius (Lithuania): The section is actively working on the Autumn Seminar preparations. Simonas reported that they are trying to get more funding, especially from the EU.

Zagreb (Croatia): Mišo said there are no news since the Marburg seminar, except that elections for a new board will be held later this April.
Observers

Belgrade (Serbia): Jelena informed that they elected a new board around a month before the start of the Leuven conference. Their financial problems should be fixed soon, and at this time their biggest project is their journal Historican. An open call to participate in the journal was issued.

Pula (Croatia): Around half a year before the start of the conference the Pula section was revived. Lana assured they will try to get more new members.

Skopje (Macedonia): Borče is actively trying to establish a section in Skopje. The IB offered assistance as he needs any help he could get while trying to arrange the foundation with the dean of the faculty.

Thessaloniki (Greece): There are only a few members but they are trying to expand and find funding opportunities. Progress is slow and even though they have difficulties, Pavlos hopes they will eventually become more active.

Vienna (Austria): Despite a promising start, (re-)founding ISHA Vienna had to be postponed. During two presentations only one person showed interest, and the student council first decided for, but then decided against supporting ISHA due to concerns over ISHA’s alleged incompatibility with their policy, which Sven calls unfounded. He will still try to promote ISHA but is not very optimistic.

6) Upcoming events

1. EUROCLIO Annual Conference 2013: “Reflecting Remembrance”, April 7th-13th, Erfurt (Germany)
The event is happening right now, once more during the same week as ISHA’s Annual Conference, so that no ISHA officials can be present. However, ISHA Jena has sent five of its members there in response to a call for assistance. This is a good opportunity for them to meet history teachers from all over Europe, and also take part in the programme with workshops, didactics training and so forth, in exchange for helping out with the preparations and logistics. Depending on the location of the next EUROCLIO Annual Conferences, this way of cooperation might be repeated in the future.

2. ISHA Summer Seminar 2013: “Historical Places and Space in History – Turning Public Historical Sites into Participant-activated Workshops”, July 15th-21st, Berlin (Germany)
ISHA Berlin invites everyone to their event, which will feature a new approach to the academic part of an ISHA event. Public places of history education such as museums, memorial, and historical sites will be visited and, by applying the concept of the cityscape, historical developments in urban space will be explored. As another novelty, every application needs to have a letter of motivation included. The participation fee will be 100 €.

3. ISHA Autumn Seminar 2013: “History in Practice”, September 23rd-29th, Vilnius (Lithuania)
There will be five workshops. The participation fee will be between 70 and 80 €. So far, they can offer only 30 places due to the lack of hostel space and high prices. The IB will try to find a solution to make it possible for more people to participate, also with the fact in mind that a GA will take place there and more representatives should be able to join. Further information will be provided on the ISHA Vilnius homepage, the address of which will be spread via newsletter.
4. **Weekend Seminar: “Urban History in Central Europe”, November 14th-17th, Vienna (Austria)**

Sven aimed to organize a specific seminar on Urban History. The preparations went well and were basically finished, support by the City of Vienna and many individuals was secured, but as the promising relationship with the Vienna history student council suddenly deteriorated, the project had to be postponed until a later date.


ISHA Helsinki expects to be able to host 40 or 50 participants and they are currently trying to find support among students.

6. **ISHA Annual Conference 2014: Budapest**

Bálint Bak is the main organizer and can be contacted for questions; they also have a website and a Facebook page. The topic might consider the outbreak of World War I and II and other turning points in history. On occasion of the jubilee, the IB proposed to organize and finance a celebration event during the conference, e.g. an evening talk and reception with ISHA alumni. It was suggested that approximately 500 € will be made available to ISHA alumni for the celebration of the 25th conference and ISHA's founding in 1990. The GA agreed on this, and a concrete proposal will be presented and discussed during the next GA.

7. **ISHA Summer Seminar 2014: Ljubljana**

Ljubljana would like to organize the Summer Seminar as their current ISHA generation will be graduating after it, and the hostel situation in summer is better.

8. **ISHA Autumn Seminar 2014: Pula**

Pula wants to organize the Autumn Seminar.

9. **ISHA New Year’s Seminar 2014-15: Maribor**

Maribor plans to host the New Year's Seminar.

Dario encouraged the sections to organize *weekend seminars*. ISHA Sofia is thinking about organizing a spring weekend seminar in 2014 for 40 participants.

10. **Other events**

**EU Budget Negotiation Moot, Hungary**

In February, the IB was approached by a representative of a Hungarian student association which organizes so-called EU Negotiation Moots, funded through the Europe for Citizens Programme of the European Commission. ISHA was asked to register as an official partner organization by providing contact details, which they would add to their funding application. To quote their message: “The simulation in question will be the modelling of the EU Multiannual Financial Framework negotiations. Your participants will take part in the event, representing a member state. The players will have to emulate the national identity and political style of nations and political parties. The event is preceded by an online training just to get the basic facts in order to play the game. The necessary information will be covered as well as the game rules. We've organized 7 national games so far and numerous international events too. Expect that due to limited number of participants we can welcome 5-10 of your members, but this is only a preliminary guess. Please see some details on our website: [http://www.negomoot.eu/].”

Since there are no obligations for ISHA, some of the members could be interested in participating, and because ISHA should support student activities wherever possible, even if not directly connected to history, the IB decided to register as a partner organization, and will announce if the proposal was successful and how ISHA members can participate.
7) Debate: Proposal to change the Statutes (no vote)

Pieter's draft was distributed and explained by him. It is attached as Annex 3.

For Art. 4.2 he suggested: The formulation "students of historical science and related academic disciplines" should be replaced by a phrase saying: "everybody who takes an interest in history" in order to show to a greater extent that ISHA is open for everybody.

In the discussion, the argument was raised that discussing history is something that should be pursued by students trained in historical science and that changing this could mean a loss of quality. It was pointed to the fact that ISHA's name says that the organization consists of history students. Other speakers thought that history can be researched by many people and stressed that motivation is the most important point, as many things are included in the study of history. Moreover it was stated that history students are not perfect historians either and could give bad presentations just the same. Furthermore, not too many students from other fields were expected to join, and non-historians could always ask for help. The Bucharest Seminar 2012 was mentioned as an example for a successful conference with mostly non-historians by Sven, to which Adrian replied that they decided over participation based on the applicants’ motivation. It was suggested to limit participation of non-historians in ISHA activities to a specific group of participants. Karen (Berlin) stressed that everything was getting more interdisciplinary and proposed a formulation like "students of historical science and everybody who takes an academic interest in history". The next steps in this question will be discussed in Vilnius.

According to Pieter, Art. 1, 10, 19 should be considered as well. He will propose changes and send them around before the next GA. People interested in this issue are welcome to approach him.

8.a) Debate: Financial Compensation for Officials

The IB and Council have discussed the possibility of financially supporting ISHA officials if they cannot pay the costs connected to their tasks on their own (e.g. participating in conferences). This is a highly delicate matter for several reasons, starting with the fact that ISHA's annual income, though varying, is still quite low. At least in the last several years, ISHA officials had to pay almost all of their expenses by themselves and needed to bear this in mind already when applying for a position. One of the points that were raised against reimbursement was therefore that people might apply for an office expecting partial or even full reimbursement, which under the present budgetary constraints would not be possible, neither for all officials nor just one of them. Even if it was possible, it would then raise the issue how to fairly distribute reimbursement, who would be in need, and so forth. One important point in favour of reimbursement was that for many years, almost all officials in the International Board (who have to travel the most) have come from comparatively rich countries (Germany, the Netherlands, Finland,..), with almost nobody from south-eastern Europe despite many sections being situated there. It could be argued that financial reasons play a role in this and that the introduction of reimbursement might provide fairer chances for participation. The IB and Council presented a draft for guidelines for reimbursement as a base for discussion during the GA, which is attached to these minutes as Annex 4.

In the discussion, the participants questioned if ISHA’s income could finance reimbursement. Membership fees still constitute the only source of income for ISHA. Many sections took a critical stance on the matter as long as ISHA has no steady source of income. It was also pointed to the large differences between the costs of traveling depending on the country one lives in.
Especially points 5, 6 and 7 of the proposal were considered too vague since the financial need of a person cannot be sufficiently determined and checked. Moreover, it was asked what to do in case of an internal disagreement among the officials. Anne, who had written the draft, responded that all IB matters are a matter of trust and that this must be applied here in the same way. She also stressed that the points have to be "vague" so that they allow for room for discussion and consideration. Summing up the general opinion, Sven concluded that the paper must be postponed until ISHA’s financial problems will have been solved.

However, Sven asked for the possibilities of borrowing money in case of need, which he had to do twice this year. Borrowing has happened during previous terms, too, but was never discussed and expressly allowed by the GA. A set of rules for borrowing money was suggested and supported by some participants. Furthermore it was asked if there were ever occasions where officials could not afford going to a necessary event, to which Sven replied that he did not know about many cases, since the officials were financially able to do so most the time. Barbora (Prague) asked for the consequences when only one official is at an event and wanted to know why the GA was not informed about the loan to Sven beforehand. According to her it had always worked that officials came to seminars. The IB answered that they see the point that information about the loan could have been given beforehand but that there was no possibility to have a vote on this before. It was an unforeseen case and considering that the previous IBs had given even higher loans to persons, the current IB considered it acceptable to give a loan to Sven as his presence in Marburg and Leuven was absolutely necessary. Pieter mentioned that in earlier cases the members had been informed about loans. Max replied that it was in the responsibility of the treasurer and that he or she should submit a paper with information on loans and on the bank account for every GA, not only read it out. Sven concluded that the idea of reimbursement was frozen while the loan system was going to be developed and voted on in Vilnius.

8.b) Participation Fees

Cédric explained ISHA Leuven’s difficulties to raise money and suggested to allow higher participation fees, in order that countries with high living costs would not be excluded from organizing seminars. The amount of money paid in advance was not enough to prevent cancellations. Karen told the GA that there was the same situation in Berlin and expressed her regrets that they had to ask for 100€. Pieter also pointed to the problem of inflation which has not been taken into account so far. Sven spoke against higher fees so that the seminars do not become an elitist occasion and remain affordable for students from all backgrounds. He mentioned examples of money-saving in previous years with lower standards (cooking food oneself, accommodation in gym halls, etc.). Due to the lack of time he suggested to postpone this issue to the next GA. A longer GA in Vilnius and afterwards also in Budapest is planned.

9) Cooperation with other organizations

a. International Committee of Historical Sciences (ICHS)

The ICHS is the worldwide history umbrella organization, which provides a good opportunity for promoting ISHA and networking. They hold a large conference every five years, and the next one will take place in Jinan, China, in 2015. There will be 4 major themes, 30 specialized themes, 19 joint sessions, 21 round tables, 1 special session and 2 evening sessions. Before the conference, a scientific meeting surrounding global history around the First World War will take place in Sarajevo in 2014.
ISHA might once again contribute a student session, like during the previous conference in Amsterdam in 2010. But, as the deadline for proposals for the Jinan Conference was March 2012 and for the Sarajevo meeting December 2012, the question was whether ISHA should approach the ICHS and try to propose a student session for one or both events just the same. The GA decided to wait for the next year when the events are closer and people know what they will be doing in this time so that they can maybe join despite a late application.

b. Network of Concerned Historians (NCH)

Dario gave an overview on the NCH. The Network of Concerned Historians is an association of scholars of historical studies and related subjects which concentrates on support for persecuted and censored historians all over the world. Its main focus is enhancing awareness about the cases of history scholars and students who are persecuted or otherwise endangered because of their work.

According to Dario’s evaluation, “there are no doubts about the organization’s seriousness and reliability within the very broad and varied amount of fields it deals with. It also provides a large quantity of source material about the cases it has been following and the legislation in many countries. Historians, just like other writers, need to be supported when they are being persecuted or censored on many occasions and in many countries in the world. The NCH is embedded in a network of numerous other human right associations and NGOs and benefits from a wide support amongst other groups of the international community. Furthermore, it can boast a huge number of well-known and renowned historians among its patrons, such as Marc Boone, Jürgen Kocka, Jörn Rüsen, Joyce Appleby and Hayden White. It also has its own code of ethics, which is basically very similar to that of other human rights and press freedom associations such as Amnesty. As can been seen in their annual reports, the network reports on every country in the world, which is, in my view, another convincing instance of their constant and reliable work.” Dario, together with the IB, therefore favoured cooperation between ISHA and the NCH.

The GA voted 17 for and 0 against with 1 abstention. An official partnership will be taken up.

c. Right to Research Coalition (R2RC)

A representative of the R2RC already attended the previous GA, and an overview over the organization can be found in the respective minutes. In Zagreb it was agreed to gather more information for the next GA. Dario reported about his findings, stressing that “the Right to Research Coalition is trustworthy, non-commercial and student- and researcher-oriented, which corresponds to ISHA’s aims and activities. While the R2RC can genuinely be considered as a serious and well-organized body, its support in mainstream academic circles and student networks seems to be not very strong yet. This is in my view particularly due to their rather small dimension. While this could likewise be a reason to join or not to join, a partnership with the R2RC is in general advisable and could constitute a means of strengthening ISHA’s incorporation into student/academic networks.”

In the discussion, Sven pointed to the advantages of the networking effect. Furthermore he said that open access is a relevant issue for students in general and that is good to support such causes.

The GA unanimously voted in favour of cooperation.
10) Board of Patrons

The IB gave a short review on the Board of Patrons, the framework of which already existed, and passed a list of candidates for its foundation. One candidate after another was introduced and discussed in the GA:

- Dr. Antoon De Baets (Groningen, The Netherlands)
- Prof. Ann Katherine Isaacs (Pisa, Italy)
- Prof. dr. Tvrtko Jakovina (Zagreb, Croatia)
- Joke van der Leeuw-Roord (Den Haag, The Netherlands)
- Prof. Mihai Răzvan Ungureanu (Bucharest, Romania)

All candidates were welcomed and seen as fit for joining the Board of Patrons. However, a discussion related to the fifth candidate evolved over concerns about his role as a high-level politician. Some argued that ISHA, being apolitical, should not link itself to a well-known politician, who due to his position might potentially become involved in any kind of political scandal. Others held against it that the candidate would be invited only in his role as renowned historian, university teacher and former ISHA member, just like the other candidates, who moreover are involved in political matters too. It was decided that more information about the candidate’s scientific work and political standpoints was desirable before voting. At the same time, it was decided to found the Board of Patrons with the other four candidates as to not postpone its foundation for another half-year.

The GA voted 12 for and 3 against with 3 abstentions for this procedure. After this, it voted unanimously for establishing the Board of Patrons with the first four candidates.

11) Elections

The election committee was formed with the following members: Sven Arndt (Berlin), Lara Kren (Ljubljana) and Ivana Nikolova (Sofia). The election procedure was explained by the speaker and the candidates for each position were asked to present themselves to the GA, with the possibility to answer questions. The exception was the position for Carnival Editor since 2013 edition will probably be released in a year from now, and because there were also no applications for the office of Editor-in-Chief. After this the candidates had to leave the room and their applications were discussed. Thereafter, the election committee collected and counted the voting ballots and announced the results. The full report is attached to these minutes as Annex 5.

The candidates and voting results were:

**International Board (IB)**

President – Mišo Petrović (Zagreb). Elected with 17 votes for and 1 abstention.

Vice-President – Dario Prati (Berlin). Elected with 18 votes for and 0 abstentions.

Secretary – Oana Peiu (Bucharest). Elected with 15 votes for and 3 abstentions.

Treasurer – Max Boguslaw (Berlin). Elected with 18 votes for and 0 abstentions.
Council

Council Member 1 – Pieter Baeten (Leuven). Elected with 17 votes for and 1 abstention.

Council Member 2 – Bálint Bak (Budapest). Elected with 18 votes for and 0 abstentions.

Council Member 3 – Barbora Hrubá (Prague). Elected with 17 votes for and 1 abstention.

Council Member 4 – Vincent Regente (Berlin). Elected with 18 votes for and 0 abstentions.

Council Member 5 – Björn Reynir Halldórson (Reykjavik). Elected with 17 votes for and 1 abstention.

Treasury Committee

Treasury Committee 1 – Valerio Venturi (Rome). Elected with 18 votes for and 0 abstentions.

Treasury Committee 2 – Marjolein Vos (Groningen). Elected with 17 votes for and 1 abstention.

Webmaster

Fabian Würtz (Zurich). Elected with 17 votes for and 1 abstention.

12) Questions and closing

No questions. Closing at 20:30.
Annex 1
ISHA Members and Observers

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>2011-2012</th>
<th>2012-2013 (on April 12th, 2013)</th>
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<td><strong>Members</strong></td>
<td><strong>Observers</strong></td>
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<td>1. Nijmegen</td>
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<td>2. Rome</td>
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<td>3. Osijek</td>
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<td>4. Trieste-Koper</td>
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<td>16. Turku</td>
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<td>21. Thessaloniki (Greece)</td>
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Annex 2
Discussion Proposal to Change the Standing Orders
Submitted by Pieter Baeten (ISHA Leuven), Member of the Council 2012-13

CURRENT VERSION: Article 4: Aims and Activities

(1) The principal aims of the Organisation are:
   a) to promote international co-operation and understanding,
   b) to encourage the exchange of ideas across geographical and intellectual borders,
   c) to improve and complement the ways and means of historical educations.

(2) Its activities are:
   a) to uphold and expand a network of current and former students of historical science and related academic disciplines,
   b) to encourage its members to organise activities which further the Organisation’s aims as stated above, and to assist them throughout the whole organisational process,
   c) to develop and perform such activities as specified above on its own,
   d) to issue an international, periodically appearing Journal and other publications in which students can have their academic contributions published,
   e) to establish and maintain contact and co-operation with other organisations and entities.

PROPOSAL: Article 4: Aims and Activities

(1) [unchanged]
(2) Its activities are:
   a) to uphold and expand a network of current and former students who have an interest in history and related academic disciplines
   b) – e) [unchanged]

CURRENT VERSION: Article 7: Member Sections

(1) Membership of ISHA is open to:
   a) any student body
      i) which represents students of historical science and related academic disciplines,
      ii) which is run on a democratic basis and according to the customs and laws of its country of origin,
      iii) whose statutes or parts thereof are not incompatible with those of ISHA;
   b) any informal group of people
      i) which consists of students of historical science and related academic disciplines,
      ii) which is organised in a democratic way and strives to an official status,
      iii) which strives to enlarge their reach among fellow students and to secure continuity.

(2) A student body or informal group of students that has become a member of ISHA is called a "Member Section". Member Sections are allowed to vote in the General Assembly and are obliged to pay an annual membership fee. Full rights and obligations are specified in the Standing Orders.

(3) ISHA allows only one section per city. In the case of more institutes of higher education within one city, the students are encouraged to work together to form one Member Section.

(4) In the exceptional case that students from two institutes of higher education that are within close proximity of each other cannot support a Section on their own, they can be allowed by the General Assembly to collaborate in a so-called “Twin Member Section”, but will have the rights and obligations as a single Member Section

PROPOSAL: Article 7: Member Sections

(1) Membership of ISHA is open to:
   a) any student body
i) which represents students who share an interest in history and related academic disciplines,
ii) which is run on a democratic basis and according to the customs and laws of its country of origin,
iii) whose statutes or parts thereof are not incompatible with those of ISHA;

b) any informal group of people
   i) which consists of students who share an interest in history and related academic disciplines,
   ii) which is organised in a democratic way and strives to an official status,
   iii) which strives to enlarge their reach among fellow students and to secure continuity.

(2) – (4) [unchanged]
Annex 3
Proposal: Compensation for Travel Costs / Participation Fees for ISHA Officials

To ensure an equal opportunity for all ISHA members to stand for office independently of their personal financial situation, ISHA's officials, i.e. primarily the Board and Council Members, and in exceptional cases also the Editor-in-Chief of Carnival and other officials, may receive a contribution to or full reimbursement of travel costs and/or participation fees related to events that concern the fulfillment of their tasks and the overall benefit of ISHA.

Details and Limitations:

6. Relevant events are ISHA’s own seminars and conferences as well as events which help to promote ISHA’s development. These can be events which are connected to funding, gathering necessary information for ISHA’s internal organization, networking, and similar activities. The positive effect for ISHA through participation in such an event must be considerable.

7. The compensation of travel costs shall ensure that at least one ISHA official is enabled to participate in an event relevant for ISHA in the above described sense. In cases where the presence of more officials is absolutely necessary, the compensation can be extended correspondingly.

8. Priority in compensation is first to be given to the members of the International Board, second to the Council, and third to the Editor-in-Chief or other officials or individuals appointed by either the International Board and Council or the GA for a specific task.

9. Compensation is bound to ISHA’s financial capacity and may not exceed a corresponding limit which needs to be approved by the first GA of each financial year on the basis of the expected revenue and available savings.

10. Compensation can be granted only to officials who can satisfactorily prove that their personal financial situation requires financial support by ISHA.

11. Officials to whom compensation is granted are obliged to travel in the most economical way as far as this is reasonable in terms of the length of the trip.

12. To apply for financial compensation, the respective official has to explain the necessity of participating in the event and the expected travel costs through applying in written form to the International Board and the Council. The members of both bodies decide over the application together by simple majority vote. In case of equal division, the International Board decides alone, but unanimously. The members of the International Board and the Council are obliged to act according to the limitations stated here and with utmost responsibility with regard to ISHA’s budget. All officials are responsive to the General Assembly and can be requested to justify their decisions.

13. These regulations may be altered by the GA as soon as ISHA's income should stabilize on a sufficiently high level, so that entitlement to compensation may be extended to all officials and to a greater number of events.
Annex 4
Election Committee Report

I
The International Students of History Association (ISHA) International Board (IB), Council, and other Officials’ elections for the term 2013-2014 were held on April 12th, 2013, at the General Assembly in Leuven, Belgium, during the 24th ISHA Annual Conference.

II
In the 2013-14 term, the ISHA International Board (IB) shall consist of one (1) President, one (1) Vice-president, one (1) Secretary and one (1) Treasurer.
The ISHA Council shall consist of five (5) positions.
The ISHA Treasury Committee (TC) shall consist of two (2) positions.
An Editor-in-Chief shall not be elected as the Editor-in-Chief elected during the GA in Jena, 2012.
The office of ISHA Webmaster shall consist of one (1) position.

III
The Election Committee’s task was to follow and monitor the election procedure during the General Assembly.

IV
The Election Committee was appointed by the speaker of the GA and approved by the GA.

V
The Election Committee consisted of three members: Sven Arndt, ISHA Berlin (Germany); Lara Kren, ISHA Ljubljana (Slovenia); and Ivana Nikolova, ISHA Sofia (Bulgaria).

1. Announcing the candidates
1.1. International Board (IB) candidates 2013-2014
• one (1) candidate was nominated for the IB President position: Mišo Petrović, ISHA Zagreb (Croatia)
• one (1) candidate was nominated for the IB Vice-president position: Dario Prati, ISHA Berlin (Germany)
• one (1) candidate was nominated for the IB Secretary position: Oana Peiu, ISHA Bucharest (Romania)
• one (1) candidate was nominated for the IB Treasurer position: Max Boguslaw, ISHA Berlin (Germany)

1.2. Council candidates 2013-2014
• five (5) candidates were nominated for Council positions: Pieter Baeten, ISHA Leuven (Belgium)
Balint Bak, ISHA Budapest (Hungary)
Barbora Hrubá, ISHA Prague (Czech Republic)
Vincent Regente, ISHA Berlin (Germany)
Björn Reynir Halldórson, ISHA Reykjavik (Iceland)

1.3. Treasury Committee candidates 2013-2014
• two (2) candidates were nominated for TC positions: Valerio Venturi, ISHA Rome (Italy)
Marjolein Vos, ISHA Groningen (The Netherlands)

1.4. Candidate for the Editor-in-Chief of Carnival 2014
• No (0) candidates were nominated this position.
1.5. Webmaster candidates 2013/2014
  • One (1) candidate was nominated for this position:
    Fabian Würtz, ISHA Zurich (Switzerland)

2. Presentation of the candidates
  2.1. Presentation of the candidates for the IB 2013-2014
    Mišo Petrović, ISHA Zagreb (Croatia) – President
    o held a candidacy speech in ordinary fashion with a program for the next term.
    Dario Prati, ISHA Berlin (Germany) – Vice-President
    o held a candidacy speech in ordinary fashion.
    Oana Peiu, ISHA Bucharest (Romania) – Secretary
    o held a candidacy speech in ordinary fashion.
    Max Boguslaw, ISHA Berlin (Germany) – Treasurer
    o held a candidacy speech in ordinary fashion.

  2.2. Presentation of the candidates for the Council 2013-2014
    Pieter Baeten, ISHA Leuven (Belgium)
    o held a candidacy speech in ordinary fashion with a program for the next term.
    Bálint Bak, ISHA Budapest (Hungary)
    o absent, submitted a letter of motivation which was read out by the speaker.
    Barbora Hrubá, ISHA Prague (Czech Republic)
    o held a candidacy speech in ordinary fashion.
    Vincent Regente, ISHA Berlin (Germany)
    o held a candidacy speech in ordinary fashion.
    Björn Reynir Halldórson, ISHA Reykjavík (Iceland)
    o held a candidacy speech in ordinary fashion.

  2.3. Presentation of the candidates for the Treasury Committee 2013-2014
    Valerio Venturi, ISHA Rome (Italy)
    o held a candidacy speech in ordinary fashion.
    Marjolein Vos, ISHA Groningen (The Netherlands)
    o presented in absence by the speaker.

  2.4. Presentation of the candidate for the Webmaster 2013-2014
    Fabian Würtz, ISHA Zurich (Switzerland)
    o presented in absence by the speaker.

3. Questions for candidates
  • No questions were directed towards any of the candidates.

4. Debate
  • The candidates were asked to leave the room to give the GA time for discussion.
  • The debate proceeded in ordinary fashion.
  • The candidates were called back after the discussion.

5. Elections
  5.1. The Election Committee read the list of **twenty two (22) sections which have the right to vote** because they paid the membership fee for the term 2012-2013: Berlin, Bucharest, Budapest, Galway, Helsinki, Jena, Kent, Leuven, Ljubljana, Marburg, Maribor, Nijmegen, Osijek, Prague, Reykjavík, Rome, Sofia, Trieste-Koper, Turku, Utrecht, Vilnius, Zagreb.
Eighteen (18) sections were present and able to vote: Berlin, Bucharest, Budapest, Helsinki, Jena, Kent, Leuven, Ljubljana, Marburg, Maribor, Osijek, Prague, Reykjavík, Rome, Sofia, Trieste-Koper, Vilnius, Zagreb.

5.2. The Election Committee explained the election procedure

- an EC representative presents the official election ballot
- only one person per section is able to vote and can use only one official ballot
- ballots will be distributed faced down so all the sections can turn their ballots and vote at exactly the same time
- ballots will be folded by the voters and collected by an EC representative with a ballot box
- the EC will take the ballot box to a different room and count the votes without non-members of the EC present during the procedure, after which they will return to the GA
- the results for all positions will be announced publicly in front of the GA, whereupon those candidates who were elected will be asked if they accept the election

5.3. Elections

- The ballots were distributed
- The voting passed without any violation of the procedure
  - election results for International Bord (IB) 2013-2014 candidates:
    - Mišo Petrović, IB President: seventeen (17) votes, one (1) abstention
    - Dario Prati, IB Vice-President: eighteen (18) votes
    - Oana Peiu, IB Secretary: fifteen (15) votes, three (3) abstentions
    - Max Boguslaw, IB Treasurer: eighteen (18) votes
  - election results for the Council 2013-2014 candidates:
    - Pieter Baeten: seventeen (17) votes, one (1) abstention
    - Bálint Bak: eighteen (18) votes
    - Barbora Hrubá: seventeen (17) votes, one (1) abstention
    - Vincent Regente: eighteen (18) votes
    - Björn Reynir Halldórson: seventeen (17) votes, one (1) abstention
  - election results for Treasury Committee 2013-2014 candidates:
    - Valerio Venturi: eighteen (18) votes
    - Marjolein Vos: seventeen (17) votes, one (1) abstention
  - election results for Webmaster 2013-2014 candidates:
    - Fabian Würtz: seventeen (17) votes, one (1) abstention

All candidates accepted their election.

6. Comments

The Election Committee unanimously agrees that the election procedure during the elections for the term 2013-2014 passed without any violations and in ordinary fashion. This document can be used as proof and confirmation of the election results.

Leuven, Belgium, 12th April, 2013

The Election Committee
Sven Arndt
Lara Kren
Ivana Nikolova
Annex 5
ISHA International
Account Statement Check 2010-2011

Looking at the official starting date of the term of the International Board 2010-2011, i.e. 01.08.2010, the Treasury Committee encountered an account balance of 745,71 euro on the following bank account: 91-265176-0 of the International Students of History Association. This amount of money corresponds to the starting amount stated by Treasurer Bodil Lindberg in the official Financial Report 2010-2011. For the official ending date of the term, the TC found a final account balance for the board year 2010-2011 of 858,17 euro. Below you can find a summary of the transactions that have been made between 01.08.2010-31.07.2011:

Summary

Carnival:

– on 09.08.10 an amount of 192,79 was paid by F. Kampman for the printing costs of Carnival 2010.
– on 25.03.11 an amount of 596,00 euro was paid for Carnival 2010. This payment has initially been done with another bank account. A copy of this transaction has to be included in the administration.
– on 16.08.10 an amount of 250,00 was received for Carnival advertisement (Herder Institut e.V. Marburg).
– on 27.08.10 an amount of 135,00 euro was received for a NUIG advert (NUI Galway).
– on 20.10.10 an amount of 200,00 euro was received for Carnival 2010 advertisement (Universiteit Utrecht).
– on 18.11.10 an amount of 135,00 euro was received for NUIG S ELLIS ADV (NUI Galway).
– on 25.11.10 an amount of 150,00 euro was received for Carnival advertisement (Philipps-Universitaet Marburg).

Costs: 788,79.
Income: 870,00.

Membership Fees:

2010-2011:
– on 03.09.10 Banska Bystrica paid the membership fee of 50,00 euro.
– on 30.09.10 Reykjavik paid the membership fee of 50,00 euro.

Income: 100,00 euro.

Merchandise:

– on 25.03.11 an amount of 900,00 euro was paid for ISHA Merchandise/ T Shirts.

Costs: 900,00.

Interest statement:

– for the period 01.01.10-31.12.10 an amount of 4,89 was received.

Income: 4,89.

IMISO Money:

– on 28.07.11 an amount of 855,07 was received as ISHA's share in the IMISO's split-up money.

Income: 855,07

Other Payments:

– on 31.01.11 an amount of 28,71 was paid for bank account service costs.
– on 25.03.11 an amount of 500,00 euro was paid for Carnival 2010. With an alternative bank account:
Costs: 528.71

**Cash:**
- Start of the term: 682.19.
- End of the term: 1302.29.
- Gain of: 620.10 euro.

This includes income by selling ISHA merchandise (a total of 780.10 euro as stated in the Financial Report), payments of membership fees (590 euro as stated in the Financial Report) and the like.

Due to a lack of receipts and/or documentation the Treasury Committee sees no way how to check this part of the financial administration. Therefore the TC can only follow the numbers mentioned in the Financial Report itself and estimate and judge that this amount of money seems to be credible enough to be accepted, no further specifications can be made.

The detailed balance included in the Financial Report differs from the actual bank account statement. Payments that do not belong in the stated term of 01.08.2010-31.07.2011 are included. Therefore the TC cannot agree with this part of the Financial Report. The TC suggests to replace the calculations with the following one. According to our calculations the balance should be:

- **Total costs:** 788.79 + 900.00 + 528.71 = 2217.50
- **Total income:** 870.00 + 100.00 + 4.89 + 855.07 + 620.10 = 2450.06
- **Balance:** 2450.06 - 2217.50 = 232.56.

The TC concludes that a positive balance of 232.56 euro has been found for the 2010-2011 term. Under the mentioned circumstances we accept this amount without further specification.

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1. Note that according to the account statement most membership fees were only paid for after 31.07.2011 and are therefore not included in the report. Presumably this is a part of the cash flow for the 2010-2011 membership fee payments.

2. Note that all payments for merchandise income have been made in cash.

3. The costs of Carnival printing of 500 euro are only mentioned in the Financial Report and not to be found in the account statements.

4. No accurate administration available.

5. The initial costs for ISHA merchandise was 900.00 euro as stated in the account. It is credible that a total amount of 780.10 euro has been sold during the 2010-2011 term (1 euro for pens, 1.50 for markers and 20 euro for a t-shirt).