



Minutes of the General Assembly (GA)

of the International Students of History Association, held at the ISHA New Years' Eve Seminar 2013/14 on Thursday, January 2nd, 2014, in Helsinki, Finland.

ISHA sections present:

Berlin (Germany): Nina Kraus, Vincent Regente
Budapest (Hungary): Árpád Bayer, Katalin Öhler
Graz (Austria): Lisbeth Matzer
Helsinki (Finland): Joonas Nivala, Tiia Niemelä
Jena (Germany): Anne Greule
Kent (United Kingdom): Pip Gregory, Vicky Buck
Leuven (Belgium): Elke Close
Osijek (Croatia): Toni Šafer
Sofia (Bulgaria): Mario Filipov
Vilnius (Lithuania): Andrius Balčiūnas
Zagreb (Croatia): Mišo Petrović

Observing sections:

Copenhagen (Denmark): Mads Fritzboeger
Marburg (Germany): Jan Brack, Marleen Beisheim
Olomouc (Czech Republic): Tereza Lyčková, Anna Vrtálková

Present members of the International Board:

Mišo Petrović (Zagreb), president

Present members of the Council:

Vincent Regente (Berlin)

Agenda

- 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**

- 6. Upcoming Events**
- 7. Debates**
 - a) Application Management**
 - b) Dates of ISHA Events**
 - c) Budapest and Alumni**
- 8. Proposal to Change the Statutes (vote)**
- 9. Granting the Status of Associate Partner (vote)**
 - a) Euroclio**
 - b) EGEA**
 - c) Studenten Geschiedenis Nederland (Students of History Association Netherlands)**
- 10. Board of Patrons**
- 11. Questions and Closing**

1) **Opening, taking down of attendance** – opening at 14:10

2) **Appointment of the speaker and the minute-taker; checking the quorum**

As speaker Mišo Petrović is appointed, and as minute-taker Anne Greule. Quorum has been achieved; out of 20 member sections, 11 are present, with addition of 3 observer sections.

3) **Passing around the minutes of previous meetings, amendments and approvals**

Berlin Summer Seminar and Vilnius Autumn Seminar minutes are passed around and approved.

4) **Reading and discussion of the agenda** - No objections are made

5) **State of Affairs**

a. International Board

IB was preparing for GA Helsinki. Treasurer Max Boguslaw reports that financial situation is good. Currently, there are 20 member sections that paid. There is enough money to support Budapest Annual Conference, and also to fund *Carnival* and merchandise.

b. Council

Vincent: has been working on the contact information list, received answers from 13 sections, waiting for seven more and of the observer sections. Is helping Pieter Baeten with the ISHA archive organisation; sections are invited to send their archive material to Pieter. In February and March there will be a call for material with detailed information and proposals. Vincent will try to establish ISHA Dresden in spring.

Mišo is summarizing the rest:

Björn is in charge of the social network work and newsletter; he is working on the forum in order to revive it. He is saving the comments of the old one and a new forum will be set up with webmaster Fabian Würtz. Barbora is in contact with EGEA and working with Nina and Daria from ISHA Berlin on the website. Pieter is working on the statutes in order to make them legally safe and supervising the centralization of the ISHA archive in Leuven. Furthermore he is in charge of establishing an Alumni network and he is also contacting former ISHA members. Balint is organizing the Annual conference.

c. Treasury Committee

Nothing to report

d. Carnival

An ISHA Kent member who is a native English speaker will help with proofreading of *Carnival 14* (editor Dubravko). Simona, editor for *Carnival 15*, had problems with her email account and was only able to see the abstracts. She will make a new call for articles and topics of the previous seminars can be dealt with in the articles.

e. Sections and Observers

Vilnius: ISHA Vilnius organized the autumn seminar and is now active again; 30-40 members but not all active. Trying to promote it, which is also a good promotion for their own history organisation.

Olomouc: Seven members, young section, would like to start cooperation with ISHA Prague (local conference). Local events like exam preparation and helping Erasmus students.

Sofia: 10 members, trying to involve more students, organizing a seminar in the last week of May (weekend; 26/27.5.; Conflict situations and their consequences, 50 €, field trips in Bulgaria), want to attract young B.A. students; working on their own website.

Copenhagen: presented ISHA in the student council, no reactions, but Mads will continue promoting ISHA.

Leuven: is part of Historia student union, so the activities can be organized jointly; but ISHA is not visible enough. Elke is promoting ISHA in Edinburgh

Budapest: section is working on the conference, 10 members.

Berlin: meetings every two weeks, new officials since December, trying to get more contact with Erasmus students, also to spread ISHA that way; museum crawls every second Sunday, successful, attracts people from outside.

Osijek: 4-5 active members, Essehist magazine was published in May, organized a trip to Hungary, student-professor-debate, planning new trips and the next edition of Essehist.

Marburg: 6-10 active members, attracted new members, working on advertisement, planning historical cooking evenings.

Kent: 10-12 active members, 2 alumni supporting them (Leuven, Rome), trying to advertise more, developing new forms of activities, things have to get started, contacts with museums and archives of the area and would be prepared for hosting a seminar with an interesting programme.

Graz: 6 Board members, 15-20 participants in events, good resonance, professors like it, but no funding, not too strongly associated with student unions as they are politically oriented; workshops, trips and city tours planned.

Helsinki: 7 board members, generation change is taking place, recruiting freshmen with pub crawls and on subject organisations' evenings. Financial problems with the seminar, this is the reason for not having a week-long seminar.

Jena: around 10 members, good relationship to subject organisation, partly funded by them; preparing a game evening for exam preparation of freshmen and second year students in the end of January, planning a lecture series in the summer semester; helping with assisting international students.

Zagreb: new board, 25 official members, magazine should be coming out soon, their journal on the Zagreb seminar will appear soon.

6) Upcoming events

Full list of upcoming events can be viewed on the [website](#).

7) Debates

a) Application Management

ISHA Berlin is proposing a debate about application procedures for ISHA events (conferences and seminars). Two Berlin members had the problem that they applied lately which was no longer possible, so ISHA Berlin is voting for keeping the application dates as they were announced. Sections should make their choice more transparent (criteria). Joonas replies that they closed it because the seminar was full. With fixing everything they wanted to enable people to buy their tickets early. Graz proposes general rules for the selection of participants. Mišo explains that the existing procedure for accepting applicants is based on: how many previous events has the person participated in, and how well he/she explained why he/she wants to participate in a particular workshop. Nothing else is in the statutes. There is a general agreement

on making the period and criteria transparent. Mišo will make a proposal for an application guideline, to be presented in Budapest.

b) Dates of ISHA Events

Problem: Seminar dates do not fit to the university schedules of many countries. Helsinki addresses the problem with New Years Seminar holidays (buildings, shops etc. closed), so a later date would be more favourable and save money. A date which satisfies all members cannot be found, but a questionnaire will be made with the sections filling in dates they are unable to attend seminars so that those can be avoided. IB will do it and in Budapest we will review the effectiveness of this decision.

c) Budapest and Alumni

Sven is proposing to increase support from ISHA International for Annual Conference Jubilee celebration from 500 to 750 euros (dinner). Treasurer is in favor of this, and says that this will not affect ISHA treasury. **GA approves rising the support on 750€.**

Discussion about what to do with Alumni people that will come to Budapest. Proposal: to set up a call for them after Helsinki, inviting them to Budapest, asking them if they want to present something during the Annual Conference. E.g. stuff regarding management, fund raising (EGEA expert in fund raising will host a workshop), PR, organisation they work for, interesting projects, and so on. Alumni: can participate in workshops. Round table for ISHA experiences will be held on Wednesday. Should the sections present something? Small exhibition with documents, leaflets, journals could be planned for the celebration evening. Miso sends a reminder to the sections to bring material to Budapest.

8) Proposal to Change the Statutes (vote)

All amendments have been approved.

Sections were invited to give their reply through email to the IB, and this point was fully developed and discussed before GA in Helsinki.

Materials:

Explanations for the proposed changes to the Statutes and Standing Orders:

In order to enable ISHA to enter partnerships with other international and national organisations whose spirit, way of thinking and objectives are in line with those of ISHA and to address the current situation already existing inside ISHA and its members the Council and IB like to propose changes to the existing statutes to adapt them in such a way that they are more in line with what has become a common practice within ISHA and the likely path that ISHA will pursue in its immediate future.

We like to express that we want to open ISHA to all students who are interested in the study of history in an international context. The current formulation that students of related sciences can join is considered to be too vague as history has of course a set of sciences that are often auxiliary sciences, but specific histories require sometimes the help of sciences who are often not associated with history. Rather than limiting the background profile of those who can come to ISHA activities, the IB and Council would like to welcome all students of every scientific background to join ISHA if they want to contribute to a scientific understanding of history. In a number of sections this is already the case and IB and Council would like to encourage this diversification, out of the box thinking and open approach towards other sciences. We do not believe that this measure will lead to an influx of large numbers of non-historians or threaten the academic quality of ISHA seminars and conferences, but will rather enhance it by showing different approaches and scientific views in understanding the past. Due to our desire to cooperate with other likeminded organisations this also enables us to invite our - future partners which we hope to gain here through to ISHA activities. The proposed changes also

make the creation of a body of ISHA alumni possible since it allows former members to take part in ISHA activities.

We will also try to establish more contacts with other international students associations. In an international context it is of extreme importance to make our voice heard. By establishing contacts with other organisation we can make new contacts, and exchange information, and expertise. All of this will be to the benefit of ISHA, will make it more visible and will enable its members to broaden their horizons.

An article will be added to empower the GA to move the seat of ISHA if the GA finds this necessary. While the debate on moving the seat of ISHA was solved and neither the IB nor the Council would wish to revive it, the current statutes do not provide a legal basis to move the seat if this is desired by the members. The proposed change addresses this issue by giving the GA the power to do so. A change of seat should be endorsed by 2/3 of the GA.

Below is the list of changes:

Article 1: Name

The Organisation is an international, independent, academic, non-profit Organisation . The name of the Organisation is "International Students of History Association". Its official abbreviation is "ISHA". "ISHA International" may be used to distinguish the Organisation from its members.

Article 2: Seat

The seat of the Organisation is in Zürich, Switzerland. It is an association as specified by Articles 60-79 of the Swiss Zivilgesetzbuch (ZGB). The GA is entitled to move the seat of the organisation if it desires to do so and announces this in the minutes and statutes of the organisation. A 2/3 majority is required to carry out this action.

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 those students from other academic disciplines who share an academic interest in historical science or wish to contribute to it via expertise in their own field on an international level
- 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 and to establish links with other students' organisations in order to strengthen international student representation and the achievement of common goals and entities.

Article 7: Member Sections

(1) Membership of ISHA is open to:

- a) Any student body
 - i) which represents students of historical science, related academic disciplines and those students who wish to contribute to the advancement of historical science via expertise in their own field of study,
 - 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, related academic disciplines, and those students who wish to contribute to the advancement of historical science via expertise in their own field of study,

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

Article 27: Dissolution

(1) The Organisation was created in Budapest on the 9th of May 1990 for an undefined period of time and may be disbanded by the GA. The Organisation can be dissolved by a majority of three fourths within the GA.

(2) Upon dissolving the Organisation, the GA shall appoint a Liquidator. This Liquidator must make an account of all assets, property, creditors and debtors of the Organisation in order to claim outstanding debts and pay debts due. The Liquidator must thereafter divide the net assets and property equally between the Member Sections of the Organisation unless the GA decides otherwise.

9) Granting the status of Associate Partner (vote)

Status of Associative Partner has been given to Euroclio, EGEA, and Studenten Geschiedenis Nederland.

A) Euroclio

According to article 9 of the Statutes, "(3) The status of Associate Partner can be granted by the International Board, subject to approval of the General Assembly." We granted the status to Euroclio, but it needs to be formally approved by the GA in Vilnius.

9.2. EGEA

The European Geography Association is a well-established network of geography students and young geographers. It has nearly 80 entities (sections) in 28 different countries which are divided into four Regions with their own representatives and activities. EGEA is organizing an Annual Congress, several Regional Congresses per year and several Exchanges every year. Exchanges (two entities visit each other) are organized quite often. EGEA is also publishing a Newsletter and a periodical called *European Geographer*. Cooperation with EGEA could be very useful for us as they are a group of active, enthusiastic young people from which we can learn and benefit a lot. They spend a lot of time with soft skills trainings, discussions with EGEA Alumni members and to ISHA they are offering help with fundraising, PR, etc.

9.3. Studenten Geschiedenis Nederland (Students of History Association Netherlands)

This association consists of seven member associations. Only three have ever been members of ISHA: Nijmegen, Utrecht and Groningen and currently only Utrecht is a member of ISHA. The new board of the Association wants to promote ISHA in the Netherlands. ISHA would get access and promotion to seven new members, who would all be included into Studenten Geschiedenis Nederland. Association would not pay membership fee, which is not required by our Statute from our Associative Partners.

10) Board of Patrons (vote)

This was discussed during the GA in Leuven. These were the 5 proposals: 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 during GA in Leuven. However, a discussion related to the fifth candidate evolved over concerns about his role as a high-level politician. The first four were voted while the vote for the last one was postponed for Vilnius.

Oana gave a report on Prof. Ungureanu.

Debate:

Argument pro: good for promoting ISHA; GAs in future can again easily assess his value.

Argument contra: political development cannot be foreseen; ISHA is apolitical; he is politician in first line, historian in the second.

Result of the vote:

pro: 0

contra: 5

abstention: 6

→ refused

11) Questions and Closing - no questions, closed at 16:10

Annex 1

Proposal to Change Statutes

Submitted by Pieter Baeten (ISHA Leuven), Member of the Council 2013-14

Explanations for the proposed changes to the Statutes and Standing Orders:

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We will try to establish more contacts with other international students associations. In an international context it is of extreme importance to make our voice being heard. By establishing contacts with other organisations we can exchange contacts, information, and expertise. This will be to the benefit of ISHA, will make it more visible and enables its members to broaden their horizons.

An article will be added to empower GA to move the seat of ISHA if the GA finds this necessary. While the debate on moving the seat of ISHA was solved and neither IB nor Council would wish to start it again, the statutes did not provide a legal basis to move the seat if this is desired by the members. This change addresses this issue by giving the power to do so to the GA. Change of location should be endorsed by 2/3 of the GA.

Suggestions for ISHA statutes

Explanations:

First text original, second text proposed change

In black – original text

In cursive – proposed changes

In brackets [] – additional explanation for the changes

Article 1: Name

The name of the Organisation is "International Students of History Association". Its official abbreviation is "ISHA". "ISHA International" may be used to distinguish the Organisation from its members.

[Change]

Article 1: Name

[Make the preamble an official article in the statutes.]

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- 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,
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[Change]

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[Change]

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Annex 2

Report on accepting Mihai-Răzvan Ungureanu into Board of Patrons

Submitted by Oana Letizia (ISHA Bucharest), Secretary 2013-14

Mihai-Răzvan Ungureanu was born September 22, 1968. He is a Romanian historian, politician and former Prime Minister of Romania. He was the foreign minister of Romania from December 28, 2004 to March 12, 2007, and he was appointed as Director of the Foreign Intelligence Service later in 2007. Following the resignation of the Emil Boc government he was appointed Prime Minister serving through April 2012 when his cabinet was dismissed following a parliamentary vote of no-confidence.

Ungureanu studied Maths and Physics at the Costache Negruzzi high-school in Iași, where he graduated valedictorian in 1987. Ungureanu later studied History and Philosophy at the University of Iași where he graduated in 1992. From 1985 to 1989, Ungureanu was an alternate member of the Union of Communist Youth Central Committee, while between 1990 and 1992 he was a member of the university senate as a student representative. In 1993, Ungureanu obtained a master's degree at the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies, an affiliated programme of St Cross College at the University of Oxford. In March 2004 he received a Ph.D. degree from the University of Iași after submitting a thesis on the "Conversion and integration in the Romanian society in the early-modern era".

He started teaching at the University of Iasi as a university preparatory in 1992 going through all the stages of the academic career. In January 2007 he became a university professor at the History Faculty of the University of Bucharest. He held a series of classes at different universities. He was visiting scholar at Albert- Ludwig University in Freiburg, Germany (1993-1997), associate professor at the University of London in Great Britain (1996-1998), Senior Reader at the NATO school in Oberammergau, Germany (2001-2004), associate professor at the National School of Political Science and Administrative Studies in Bucharest (2003-2005) and lecturer at National Defense University in Bucharest.

He is a member of the Romanian Heraldry, Sigillography and Genealogy Society of the Romanian Academy in Iasi from 1993, member of the Institute of Genealogy and Heraldry Council "Sever Zotta" in Iasi from 1998, board member of the Security Politics Center in Szeged, Hungary (2003-2007), Director the Hebrew Studies Center at History Faculty at the Al. I. Cuza University in Iasi from 2004.

He is Editor of the "Genealogy Archive" edited by the Romanian Academy in Bucharest, 1993, Editor of "Revue des Etudes Roumaines" edited by the Royal Foundation Carol the second and the Romanian Academy in Paris 1996. From 1998 he is coordinator of the "Historia" collection. He published over 80 scientific articles. He is the author of: "Statistic Documents about Iasi (1755-1828) 2 volumes from 1997, in collaboration with university professor Ioan Caprosu "The conversion and integration in the Romanian society at the beginning of the modern era" in 2004, "Rumanien" in collaboration with Thede Kahl and Michael Metzeltin published in Vienna in 2006.

He has earned lots of awards including the “Felix Posen” Award of the Hebrew University from Jerusalem (1996/1997 and 1997/1998), the “Dimitrie Onciul” Award from the Cultural Foundation “Historical Magazine” for his paper “Soviet-Romanian relations, Documents 1917-1934” in 2000, the “Mihail Kogalniceanu” Award from the Romanian Academy for his book “The conversion and integration in the Romanian society at the beginning of the modern era” in 2004.

He subsequently served as State Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1998–2000), and was a Vienna-based representative of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe (2000–2004). A member of the National Liberal Party, part of the Justice and Truth Alliance, Ungureanu became foreign minister after the candidate supported by the alliance, Traian Băsescu, won the presidential election. On February 2, 2007, Prime Minister Călin Popescu-Tăriceanu requested Ungureanu's resignation because Ungureanu had failed to inform the government about the detention of two Romanian workers by coalition forces in Iraq. On February 4, Ungureanu confirmed his resignation; Popescu-Tăriceanu said that Ungureanu would continue to act as foreign minister until the swearing in of a successor. On March 12th, President Traian Băsescu signed a decree removing Ungureanu from his position. On November 27, 2007, Băsescu nominated Ungureanu to head the Foreign Intelligence Service (SIE), the directorship of which had been vacant since Claudiu Săftoiu's March 19 resignation, related to the same scandal in Iraq. A joint session of Parliament confirmed Ungureanu in his new position on December 5, with 295 of 318 MPs present voting in favour. On February 6, 2012, Ungureanu was given a mandate by President Traian Băsescu to form a new government, which the Romanian parliament approved on February 9, 2012. Ungureanu vowed to continue reforms and promote Romania's economic and political stability amid the country's political crisis. As Prime Minister, Ungureanu had become the Democratic Liberal Party's probable candidate for the presidency when Băsescu's term expires in 2014, senior party members said, a move echoing Russia's President Boris Yeltsin's choice and promotion of Vladimir Putin. After two and a half months, Ungureanu's cabinet failed to pass a no-confidence vote introduced by the Social Liberal Union. Opposition leader Victor Ponta replaced him as prime minister on 7 May 2012.

The political activity of Ungureanu after the premiership was intensive. In July 2012, he founded the non-governmental organisation of Center-Right Civic Initiative (ICCD), together with PDL leaders Cristian Preda and Monica Macovei. In August 2012 the alliance was founded which includes the Democratic Liberal Party, National Peasant Christian-Democratic Party, New Republic Party and Center-Right Civic Initiative. On 31 August, Ungureanu joined Civic Force Party.