



## **General Assembly (GA) and State of Affairs Meeting (SAM)**

of the International Students of History Association, that was held at the ISHA Autumn Seminar 2016 on Friday, the 23rd of September 2016 in Berlin, Germany.

### **Agenda:**

- 1) Opening
- 2) Appointment of Speaker
- 3) Appointment of Minute-Taker
- 4) Taking down of Attendance, checking the Quorum
- 5) Reading the agenda
- 6) Review and approval of minutes of the GA in Canterbury
- 7) Review and approval of minutes of the SAM in Osijek
- 8) Policy Paper
- 9) Upcoming events
  - a) Autumn Seminar 2016 in Berlin, Germany  
 “Historians at Work”  
 September 19, 2016 – September 25, 2016
  - b) Regional Seminar in Split, Croatia  
 “Adriatic Encounters”  
 September 27, 2016 – September 30, 2016
  - c) New Year’s Seminar 2017 in Budapest, Hungary  
 “Xenophobia and Solidarity”  
 January 9, 2017 – January 15, 2017
  - d) Annual Conference 2017 in Strasbourg, France  
 “Beyond borders: Interconnections in the World”  
 April 3, 2017 – April 8, 2017
  - e) Summer Seminar 2017 in Helsinki, Finland  
 to be announced
  - f) Applications
- 10) State of Affairs
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- 11) Sections and Observers
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- 14) Project Management Committee VOTE
- 15) Membership Fees
- 16) Questions and Closing

## 1) Opening

The General Assembly of ISHA International during the Autumn Seminar in Berlin was opened at 14:35.

## 2) Appointment of Speaker

Ben Harding

## 3) Appointment of Minute-Taker

Miriam Eisleb

## 4) Taking down of Attendance, checking the Quorum

### International Board:

President: Ben Harding (Kent)

Vice-presidents: Lilla Zámbo (Budapest)

Giles Connoly (London)

Secretary: Miriam Eisleb (Berlin)

Treasurer: Hannes Tabatt (Berlin)

### Council Members:

Klara Schwalbe (Berlin)

Iris Živičnjak (Zagreb)

Domen Kodrič (Maribor)

Vincent Regente (Berlin)

### Other Officials:

Webmaster: Elke Close (Edinburgh)

Treasury Supervisor: Lottie Brouwer (Kent/Berlin)

### Member sections:

Kent: George Gray, Ben Harding

Budapest: Daniel Molnár

Zadar: Marion Marasović

Osijek: Tomislav Vila

Ljubljana: Tanita Seifert

Marburg: Jan Brack

Graz: Bianca Saad, Michaela Mayrhofer, Marlene Fössl, Petra Proske

Skopje: Stefan Shterjov

Vienna: Flora Fuchs, Clara Peterlik, Pia Nägl

Warsaw: Magda Próchniak

Sofia: Ivana Nikolova

Maribor: Domen Kodrič

Berlin: Eric Jeswein, Tamara Pataki, Angana Moitra

### Observer Sections:

Bucharest: Iulia Ianculescu

Mannheim: Simone Daumel  
 Zagreb: Lucija Balikić  
 Heidelberg: Lena van den Driesch  
 Lugano: Alyssa Wilson  
 Eger: Diana Sellyei  
 Thessaloniki: Maria Adamopoulou  
 Roma: Luca Balardini

There are 13 sections and one additional proxy vote (Berlin votes for Jena) which means that there are 14 voting and we have a quorum.

## 5) Reading the agenda

## 6) Review and approval of minutes of the GA and SAM in Canterbury

The formal approval of minutes from Canterbury will happen at the end of the GA, for now we ask that you read through it and add any comments.

## 7) Review and approval of minutes of the SAM in Osijek

They are not done yet and will be approved in Budapest.

## 8) Policy Paper

Ben already sent the policy paper around per email and encourages everyone to have a look.

## 9) Upcoming events

### a. Autumn Seminar 2016 in Berlin, Germany

“Historians at Work”, September 19, 2016 – September 25, 2016

Klara thanks everyone warmly.

### b. Regional Seminar in Split, Croatia

“Adriatic Encounters”, September 27, 2016 – September 30, 2016

Iris will attend the seminar as a workshop leader. Everything is organized but not many participants have signed up unfortunately. Iris will give us a report afterwards.

### c. New Year’s Seminar 2017 in Budapest, Hungary

“Xenophobia and Solidarity”, January 9, 2017 – January 15, 2017

Budapest has planned the workshops and the program; only the daytrip is not organized yet. The fee will be 90€ because they couldn’t get hold of student dormitories. With more funds they try to reduce the fee. The application period will be from the 25<sup>th</sup> of October till the 1<sup>st</sup> of November.

### d. Annual Conference 2017 in Strasbourg, France

“Beyond borders: Interconnections in the World”, April 3, 2017 – April 8, 2017 → Changed date: April 10, 2017 – April 15, 2017

Lilla gives a presentation on the status of organization that was prepared by Anthony Grally (Saint-Etienne). The participation fee will be 100€; for now, it is planned to accept 120 participants but maybe the number will be reduced. The application period will be from January 16 to January 22, 2017. The seminar will be the first Annual Conference in France since 1993. Therefore, they work together with European institutions and several sections. These are the organizers of the event: Anthony Grally, Saint-Etienne (Head Organizer), Alexandre Faure, Paris (Fundraising Team Leader), Alexandra Leonzini, Berlin/Paris (Head of Academic Committee), Lucas Riojo, Strasbourg (Logistic Team Leader). Lilla presents the provisional budget: everything will be very expensive in that touristic city, but it also offers a lot of potential for our interests.

**e. Summer Seminar 2017 in Helsinki, Finland**

to be announced

We will talk about the summer seminar in detail in Budapest because no one of the organizers is here.

**f. Applications**

**Sofia** applies for the Autumn Seminar 2017; the draft topic is “money and history”. They have set up a fundraising committee.

Vote: Yes 14, No 0, abstention 0. The next Autumn Seminar will take place in Sofia.

**Zagreb** also applied for the Autumn Seminar 2017, but because Sofia has already started planning, they are willing to do the New Year’s seminar as well.

Vote: Yes 14, No 0, abstention 0. The next New Year’s Seminar will take place in Zagreb.

Extra- and regional seminars:

**Budapest** is thinking about organizing a regional seminar in the first half of August since planning one seminar is not challenging enough.

**Ljubljana** is planning an extra- or weekend seminar, but it is not fully discussed. Probably it will take place in summer or autumn 2017.

**Eger** wants to organize a weekend or extra seminar with the topic “church and religion in history”, because of the Reformation jubilee next year. Unfortunately, they have problems with the organization because the university doesn’t want to give them the beds in the student dormitory. A solution might be asking the church for dorms. The seminar will take place after the autumn seminar for about 30-40 participants and it will cost around 50€ for four days and three nights.

**Maribor** thinks about planning a weekend seminar in the second week of November in 2017.

Ben reminds everyone that we have to fill the four main seminars before we can accept applications for extra seminars.

**10) State of Affairs**

**a. International Board**

**Ben** is liaising with the Board of Patrons and the new sections. Soon he will send out a New Term Pack with everything the board needs from the sections. Also in short time

there will be an Equality Survey released in cooperation with Iris for individual members to fill out. Ben is working on the Membership Fees Reform proposal as we will talk about later. For anything: [president@isha-international.org](mailto:president@isha-international.org).

**Giles/Lilla** work together this is why they also present together. Their goal is to improve the support for students through altering the 'How to ISHA'-workshop, setting up a database for funding (on the website), cultivate the relationship with partners and looking for new partners. Giles is working on the newsletter; there is a current call for articles for the newsletter which will be submitted at the end of the month, please send anything to Giles ([VP@isha-international.org](mailto:VP@isha-international.org)) one week earlier. The VPs in cooperation with ISHA Budapest set up a manual for preparation workshops before the seminar which will be published next month.

**Treasurer** Hannes got the bank account details from the former treasurer and could gain an overview of our financial situation (circa 5000€). It is planned to release new leaflets and T-Shirts; please contact Hannes on [treasurer@isha-international.org](mailto:treasurer@isha-international.org) for any orders. The domain names of our new email-addresses are payed until 2019. He is looking for new ideas for merchandise in general. If you have updates concerning your contact details, please do contact Hannes.

**Secretary** Miriam is busy taking the minutes and preparing the certificates for the Autumn seminar. ([secretary@isha-international.org](mailto:secretary@isha-international.org))

## **b. Council**

**Vincent** is responsible for the PhD-Committee with Lilla, Alexandre and Alexandra, more information will be shared in Budapest.

**Klara** wants to improve the Alumni network by founding an Alumni Network Committee (probably in Budapest) for which she gladly accepts volunteers: as always, many people are needed, that concerns founding members and general help. The tasks are to get in touch with alumni and gather their contact details. Lucija from Zagreb volunteers and would also be a founding member. Klara wants to emphasize that Pia has done a very good job already.

**Iris** is setting up a bibliography on the website to help students with their research (at the moment for Osijek). She is also taking part in the equality survey which will be in welcome pack.

**Domen** will be a neutral contact point and representative to make all issues heard. If people don't feel like talking to the IB or feel like the IB is not listening, Domen is the right person to contact (check contact details on website or in the welcome pack). Domen will also remind people nicely to answer their emails.

## **c. Carnival Editor**

Giles reports for **Alexandra** who can't be with us: Giles asks for more interest in carnival, because it is a useful way for access and publishing experience. The last edition is out; there is an ongoing call for papers, editors (different languages) and translators, the official call is in October. The deadline for abstracts is the 30<sup>th</sup> of September (500 words) and the deadline for articles the 30<sup>th</sup> of November. Carnival also accepts other languages from now on and asks for more MA and PhD submissions (connecting to PhD-Committee). To reach Alex please write to [editor@isha-international.org](mailto:editor@isha-international.org).

## **d. Webmaster**

**Elke** is getting ISHA more visible on Facebook and other media. From now on there will be a Section Saturday that presents local activities and raises awareness about section's ideas. So let Elke know about your activities, follow our Twitter account (ISHA International) and email Elke with everything for the website.

Jan (Marburg) asks if there will be new email-addresses for sections as well. Ben says that is too expensive: 18€ per address/year. If you still want addresses, raise the issue in the next GA.

## 11) Sections and Observers

**Edinburgh** is all the same, trying to get more attention. Elke is in contact with Leuven. There is hope for more activities coming up.

**Kent** has a new committee for activities for freshers, Ashley and Lizzie are responsible. Kent is thinking about trips to Edinburgh to help them get activated; they are planning social events for fundraising.

**Mannheim** is still an observer section and things are going on pretty slowly. They are doing discussion rounds. The problem is that they are only three to four people. Simone is trying to make it more active. Maybe a trip with Heidelberg and Marburg would help.

**Zagreb** has new officials. They organize trips, social events and roundtables and are happy to organize the New Year's Seminar. They are also in contact with other, potential new sections.

**Budapest** has new officials as well. The section is visiting lectures and handing out cookies. They are looking forward to the New Year's seminar!

**Zadar** has problems finding members. They have new officials, released a student magazine and thinking about organizing a national event.

**Bucharest** has money issues, but organizes parties, debates and workshops.

**Osijek** organizes platforms and released a student magazine.

In **Ljubljana**, everything is fine. They do promotion for new students and thinking about organizing an extra seminar.

**Lugano** is still a small group but has found some newbies. They organize pub-crawls, an 'Have you heard about ISHA-event', museum trips and meeting with other sections.

**Marburg** is, like always, small but working. They got some new people through last seminar and are planning events like a meeting with Mannheim in Heidelberg, museums-crawls and merchandise. They thank ISHA and EGEA Milan for inviting them!

**Heidelberg** goes well, doing pub-crawls, having less people attending museums-crawls. They are looking for new members and having problems with advertising.

**Graz** is doing great. They have elected new officials as well. So far, their program for this year includes a city tour, an archive tour and "ISHA talks", which they called workshops before. As well as they will have their exchange with ISHA and EGEA Olomouc soon. Their P is always busy keeping their Facebook page and homepage up to date. If you haven't seen it so far, you should better like their page to be informed about what's going on in their section. Furthermore, ISHA Graz will soon have a surprise for you, which will be shared on Facebook.

**Skopje** is doing great, despite their lack of people. Some new people are found. An extra seminar with Sofia together is planned. Soon they have new elections and workshops with professors.

**Vienna** is also doing great. They are still in contact with EGEA Vienna, planning fresher events and elections in October.

**Eger** is planning an extra seminar; it is still a small section, but they are doing promotion and getting in touch with PhD students.

**Warsaw** has no recruiting problems, but not so many volunteers for officials. Students from Brussels are visiting for a conference, they organized a conference in Moscow, soon they come to Warsaw for the return visit. ISHA Warsaw is looking forward to have Vincent studying in Warsaw.

**Sofia** has new members (two are here). They are planning the Autumn Seminar and have elections soon.

**Thessaloniki** has few members and problems because they are not accepted by the university as association.

**Rome** held an extra seminar in May that was successful. Now they are looking for new recruits and will send a report of activities later.

In **Maribor** everything's okay.

**Berlin** is busy organizing this seminar. After they will organize museums-crawls, pub event for new people and maybe elections. Pia (Vienna) likes the EqualitISHA and asks for results. Hannes says it was very successful: more money was given than wanted, there is hope that other sections continue it.

**London** doesn't exist anymore and the official is not answering. Giles wants to take over or start new. Talk to him when you visit London for cheap museum tickets.

Vincent adds to EqualitISHA: Berlin got too much money. Vincent wants to put the money on a bank account and use it for other seminars in the future or membership fees reduction. The discussion will be continued later.

The AC made a break at 16:00 for 15 minutes. At 16:23 the AC continued.

## 12) **Language/Proofreading Statutes**

We want to improve language and style in the minutes without changing the content; Eric (Berlin) is willing to do it. An updated version with highlighted changes will be sent out accordingly.

## 13) **Fundraising Committee VOTE**

Elke proposes to establish a fundraising committee. Elke and Giles will be the founders, Lisbeth will help. Alexandre is going to be asked as well. On the long run we want big grants, f. e. from the EU. Volunteers are needed as always, especially when you have experience with fundraising.

Marburg: Is it only for ISHA international or also for advising local sections?

Elke: At first only for big grants, but that doesn't exclude local things. If someone has local knowledge for a special region, let Elke know.

Marburg: ISHA Budapest did a 'How to Fundraise'-Workshop that was really helpful. Is there still contact to the person who organized it?

Lilla will take care of it.

Klara: There is a 'How to Fundraise'-Manual on the website.

Vote: Yes 14, No 0, abstention 0. We have a Fundraising Committee.

#### **14) Project Management Committee VOTE**

Ben sent around a description but he will explain it again. The idea is that experienced people, who were already engaged in organizing a seminar, should support other sections in organizing seminars. The help should include providing a structure, a framework and experience for new sections, also to improve the academic standard. The organizing manuals should function as help; of course, they can be read by the organizing sections themselves, but in the past that didn't always happen.

Tereza (Olomouc) is one of the founding members. Ben reads a statement from her that shows her motivation. Bence (Budapest) wants to be a founding member as well. Luca (Rome) will contact Rome organizers to help. Problems like Kent had it at the AC should never happen again.

Vienna: Lisbeth wrote a manual that is on the website.

Ben: It is only an addition; not everyone might need it.

Eric: The manual and the PMC are a good idea to keep the knowledge because we have the problem of succession.

Graz agrees. It could help provide more continuity. It is also an official help point, so organizers need not always ask alumni or very busy people for help.

Berlin: Bennie wants to be a third member.

Marburg: Is it also responsible for checking on sections' process?

Ben: Absolutely. Find out where they're at is one responsibility.

Vienna: They should gather info and experience, archive them.

Ben: PMC should also update the manual.

Giles: It can help with finding workshop leaders if needed. There should be a handbook to find adequate workshop leaders. Alumni should function as speakers.

Ben: Markus wants to be there as adviser.

Marburg: Is it only for big or any seminars?

Ben: Big seminars are priority, but in the long run all should be able to access support.

Lugano: Do they only help when asked?

Ben: Cooperation is needed of course, but poking might be necessary sometimes.

Vote: Yes 14, No 0, abstention 0. We have a Project Management Committee.

#### **15) Membership Fees**

Ben: This is only a reform proposal, we are not having a vote today!

This issue was raised when sections need money to provide for membership fees. 50€ is the membership fee when sections pay before the new term of the officials, 75€ after. It is the same amount for every section but it doesn't buy you the same things in every section. The Purchasing-Power-Index shows the differences. Ben presents a table with the numbers (he will send it around). For example, Graz would have to pay 63,62€, but Lviv only 12,42€. We don't want to make the fees higher, so Graz would still have to pay 50€.

Talk about that proposal in your sections. Maybe we don't want to change the fees or in a different way – let us know in Budapest.

The income would drop for about 20 % if we cap it (worst case). This idea was inspired by EqualitISHA and it could be extended in the future. It is no perfect solution but it is a start to make ISHA fairer.

Problems: Some cities don't provide info about the index (national average?). Some sections get the fee paid. It will be in the email where the data came from. Lugano stressed that they are a special case because the students have working visas and it's very expensive to live in Switzerland. Marburg, Sofia, Kent and Berlin get money from university for the fee.

Here is a list where every section gets their money from for providing the fees:

- Leuven: history society, students
- Mannheim: students
- Zagreb: students
- Budapest: 3€ from every member
- Zadar: students
- Bucharest: doesn't know
- Osijek: budget (magazine), this year money from seminar
- Ljubljana: general local membership fee
- Marburg: sponsored by student union, cake sales
- Heidelberg: student council?
- Graz: students or student union
- Skopje: students
- Vienna: last year leftovers from archive workshop, this year membership fee
- Eger: problems to raise money, they can't afford it
- Warsaw: activities
- Sofia: founded by university
- Thessaloniki: potentially students
- Rome: students
- Maribor: membership fee
- Berlin: student's society
- London: money from history society

Lottie: The affordability also depends on student fees in the country, how are they included in the PPI?

Ben: It is not perfect, but gets closer to a fair system.

**Vincent's proposal:** Another solution could be to copy the system of EquitISHA: wealthier countries can give more, sections in need can ask for help. Can someone imagine to pay more?

Ben: It is already possible to apply for a 50 % discount. The question is who should be preferred when not all section could get supported?

Warsaw and Sofia could eventually give more.

Graz/Marburg: Vincent's proposal is unsecure/unstable. It always differs from year to year.

Vienna: There should be a minimum fee, so not everyone founds a section and doesn't care about getting the money. EGEA doesn't have membership fees at all but good fundraising (EU).

Ben: So you are proposing not to change the membership fee but the discount system?

Ben presents a table with fees in comparison to the PPIIndex of Lviv to show how expensive the fee is for them. He will send figures via email. Contact Ben with questions and suggestions.

Warsaw: The payment will get only lower and not higher?

Ben: Yes. We would have less money, but maybe more sections would pay the fee because they can afford it now. That's the goal.

Graz: Aren't you afraid of exploitation?

Ben: Not with the PPIIndex because it follows economic rules. It is a debate about a short run reform, of course it should be improved in the long run. We talk again in Budapest. It can only be implemented next year anyway.

## 16) Questions and Closing

a. Officials' reports:

Marburg: Are the reports of last year's officials done yet?

Elke: Shortly. Ask Daria for details.

b. AC in Strasbourg:

Ben: We are aware that there are some concerns about the AC in Strasbourg. We want to let you know that Strasbourg has the full support of the IB. For the sake of transparency, we should let you know that there were some communication issues that are hopefully now resolved.

Vienna: What do we know? About the hostel?

Lilla: We know only what we presented.

c. Online presence:

Ben: Don't put inappropriate pictures online but share them privately. No party/alcohol pictures should be connected with ISHA; to share them private is fine, of course. The after seminar's facebook page is fine; it's private.

Skopje: The fair yesterday was awesome – everyone should do it.

Elke: Send me pictures from the seminar.

Rome: Are we doing a group picture?

Berlin: Yes, tomorrow.

d. Minutes (GA and SAM) Canterbury:

Approved by the GA.

The time of closing is 17:45.