

# **Board Meeting 11**

17:25-20:49
2021-04-22
Digital, Zoom
The Board of 20/21
Association of Foreign Affairs, Lund

Present: Agnieszka Gryz, Carl Cotton, Clara Karlsson Schedvin, Daniel Bergdal, Demi Bylon, Emma Baker, Frida Lindberg, Hedda Carlsson, Henrietta Kulleborn, Karin Mizser, Kerime van Opijnen, Lovisa Lundin Ziegler, Maguette Fall, Mara Glas, Maximilian Onkenhout, Miljaemilia Wala, Roja Moser, Soha Kadhim, Thea Sandin.

Absent: Anna Mizser, Gabriella Gut, Victoria Becker.

Maguette Fall and Thea Sandin entered the meeting late.

1. Opening of the meeting

President Soha Kadhim declares the meeting opened at 17:25.

2. Election of Chair of the meeting

Soha Kadhim is elected Chair of the meeting at 17:26.

3. Election of Secretary of the meeting

Carl Cotton is elected Secretary of the meeting at 17:26.

4. Election of Attesters and Vote Counters of the meeting

Emma Baker and Daniel Bergdal are elected Vote Counters and Attesters of the meeting at 17:27.

# 5. Co-opted Persons

There are no requests to be co-opted into this meeting.

6. Approval of the electoral roll

Chairperson Soha Kadhim proposes to set the electoral roll to 17 and asks the vote counters to confirm this.

The electoral roll is set to 17 at 17:28.

7. Approval of the Agenda

(Attachment 1)

Proposal to approve the agenda.

Passed by acclamation at 17:29.

8. Ratifying Per Capsulam Decision

There are no Per Capsulam Decisions to ratify.

9. Information Point: Nominations Senior Collegium

Chairperson Soha Kadhim informs the board that at the last board meeting of the operational year we will vote on the nominations for the Senior Collegium. She encourages the board members to nominate committee members that have shown extraordinary commitment during the past year, and who will not be a part of the board during the upcoming year.

10. Information Point: Quarterly Report nr 3 (Attachment 2)

Treasurer Lovisa Lundin Ziegler informs the board of the details of the third quarterly report. She encourages the board members to pose potential questions if they have any.

# 11. Discussion Points: UFS Annual Assembly

# 11.1. Operational Plan

(Attachment 3)

Chairperson Soha Kadhim and the UFS-representative Mara Glas speak about the Operational Plan and mention specific points where they would like input from the board members.

Several board members voice their opinions and thoughts on specifically the point 8.2 in the Operational Plan which declares that UFS is to collaborate with think tanks during the upcoming operational year.

Head of Activity Henrietta Kulleborn proposes an End of Debate.

Approved by acclamation at 17:58.

Thea Sandin joins the board meeting at 17:59.

The electoral roll is updated to 18.

Maguette Fall joins the board meeting at 18:01.

The electoral roll is updated to 19.

## 11.2. Regulatory Budget

(Attachment 4)

Chairperson Soha Kadhim briefs the board on the Regulatory Budget and opens up for questions.

Several questions arise on the specifics of the Regulatory Budget.

(Attachment 5)

UFS-representative Mara Glas informs the board on what the Solidarity Fund entails, and the arguments behind the proposal. She also encourages the board members to weigh in on the Solidarity Fund and advise her on how to vote.

Several questions and thoughts arise, which UFS-representative Mara Glas gives response to.

(The Chairperson Soha Kadhim declares the meeting adjourned for a break at 18:27)

(The Chairperson Soha Kadhim declares the meeting re-opened at 18:41)

11.4. Discussion Point from Umeå, Karlstad and Luleå (Attachment 6)

Chairperson Soha Kadhim presents the issue and how the presidium has argued in response to the questions posed by Umeå, Karlstad and Luleå. She encourages the board members to weigh in on the issue.

11.5. Candidates

(Attachment 7)

Chairperson Soha Kadhim briefs the board on the candidates. Since she has been nominated to the role of President of the UFS, she will leave the meeting whilst the discussion takes place on who to vote for. Vice President Hedda Carlsson leads the discussion in the meantime.

The board expresses positive views on all the nominations, and discusses how to vote.

12. Discussion Point: Updates on LUPEF

Vice President Hedda Carlsson briefs the board on the progress LUPEF has undergone since we last discussed the organization. She encourages the board members to weigh in on how they feel about the progress, and if the board members have any particular concerns or thoughts.

The board members weigh in on the situation, and discussions move to how the board should conduct any relationship with LUPEF.

Treasurer Lovisa Lundin Ziegler proposes an End of Debate.

Passed by acclamation at 19:37.

Chairperson Soha Kadhim proposes to change this point to a Decision Point, instead of a Discussion Point.

Passed by acclamation at 19:39.

Chairperson Soha Kadhim proposes that the association should go back to having collaborations with LUPEF.

Passed by acclamation at 19:42.

# 13. Discussion Point: Lillsjödal

Chairperson Soha Kadhim informs the board that she has reached out to Lillsjödal to check when we need to cancel our trip with reference to the restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic. If we cancel up to two weeks before going, the cancellation fee would be 300 SEK. The board is asked how they feel in regards to paying this fee but still keeping the hope alive on being able to go.

The board members weigh in on how they feel in regards to this suggestion.

(The Chairperson Soha Kadhim declares the meeting adjourned for a break at 19:50)

(The Chairperson Soha Kadhim declares the meeting re-opened at 20:01)

14. Decision Point: Charities for Mental Health

(Attachment 8)

Head of Pod&Radio Maximilian Onkenhout briefs the board on the need to approve the charities which has been suggested to the board.

The responsible parties propose that the board decides:

To 1. Accept that Aldrig Ensam receive money from The Mental Health Month -fundraiser.

To 2. Accept that Mind receive money from The Mental Health Month -fundraiser.

To 3. Accept that The Brain & Behavior Research Foundation and Mind receive money from The Mental Health Month -fundraiser.

Passed by acclamation at 20:05.

15. Decision Point: Investments

(Attachment 9)

Chairperson Soha Kadhim gives a brief background on the point, as well as on how the work has been conducted.

Questions and thoughts arise in regards to which computer should be bought.

Chairperson Soha Kadhim proposes that the board decides to approve to allocate another 1 255 SEK so that we can buy an iMac 10th generation computer for 21 255 SEK.

Passed by acclamation at 20:16.

## 16. Motions

There are no motions

## 17. Presidium reporting

## 17.1. Secretary

Secretary Carl Cotton reports that the membership numbers are rising.

## 17.2. UFS-representative

UFS-representative Mara Glas reports that there is quite a lot happening in regards to the UFS Assembly. The membership numbers are rising in the UFS as well.

## 17.3. Presidents

Vice-President Hedda Carlsson reports that a photo session will be held outside AF-borgen before the ball on Saturday. She also encourages board members to think about inclusivity when after-partying on Saturday. There will be a need for two attesters and vote counters for the Annual Election Meeting and it has to be decided during this board meeting.

Clara Karlsson Schedvin and Thea Sandin volunteers to be attesters and vote counters for the Annual Election Meeting.

## 17.4. Treasurer

Treasurer Lovisa Lundin Ziegler reports that she has had quite a lot to do during this month. She also mentions that the committee heads shouldn't actively try to spend money just to

empty their allocated budgets. The money might be better spent in other parts of the association. She also mentions the complete ban on nepotism in the association, the fact that we as an association do not give money to charity, especially in the case of grant money, and finally that the association does not compensate people through monetary compensation.

# 18. Committee reporting

## 18.1. **PR**

Head of PR Roja Moser has nothing new to report.

## 18.2. Pod&Radio

Head of Pod&Radio Clara Karlsson Schedvin reports that the work is going great, and that they have quite a few very enthusiastic committee members.

## 18.3. Lecture

Head of Lecture Demi Bylon reports that they are very busy and have several committee members that have been booking lectures on their own. She continues by reporting on several of the past and future lectures.

## 18.4. **Career**

Head of Career Emma Baker reports that the work is going great and talks about upcoming and ongoing projects and events. Unfortunately the participation numbers in the Prep-course are going down.

## 18.5. Activity

Head of Activity Henrietta Kulleborn reports that they are excited for the upcoming ball. A treasure hunt is being planned for the beginning of May.

# 18.6. Magazine

Head of Magazine Agnieszka Gryz reports that the work is going great and that the upcoming issue is currently being worked on.

## 18.7. **Travel**

Head of Travel Maguette Fall reports that the upcoming digital trip to Chile is being planned currently. The committee hangouts lately have been fun.

### 18.8. Webzine

Head of Webzine Daniel Bergdal reports that they are still releasing two articles each week. A hangout recently was very nice and they are currently working on the handover document. If the current schedule holds up they will have been publishing 60 articles during this operational year.

# 19. Other points

There are no other points.

## 20. Confirmation of next board meeting

President Soha Kadhim informs the board that the next board meeting will be held on the 20nd of May (20/5) at 17.00.

# 21. Meeting adjourned

Chairperson Soha Kadhim declares the meeting adjourned at 20:49.



- 1. Opening of the meeting
- 2. Election of Chair of the meeting
- 3. Election of Secretary of the meeting
- 4. Election of Attesters and Vote Counters of the meeting
- 5. Co-opted Persons
- 6. Approval of the Electoral Roll
- 7. Approval of the Agenda
- 8. Ratifying Per Capsulam Decision
- 9. Information Point: Nominations Senior Collegium
- 10. Information Point: Quarterly report nr 3
- 11. Discussion Points: UFS Annual Assembly
- 11.1. Operational Plan
- 11.2. Regulatory Budget
- 11.3. Solidarty fund
- 11.4. Discussion Point from Umeå, Karlstad & Luleå
- 11.5. Candidates
- 12. Discussion Point: Updates on LUPEF
- 13. Discussion Point: Lillsjödal
- 14. Decision Point: Charities for Mental Health
- 15. Decision Point: Investments
- 16. Motions
- 17. Presidium reporting
- 17.1. Secretary
- 17.2. UFS-Representative
- 17.3. Presidents
- 17.4. Treasurer
- 18. Committee reporting
- 18.1. PR
- 18.2. Pod&Radio
- 18.3. Lecture
- 18.4. Career
- 18.5. Activity
- 18.6. Magazine
- 18.7. Travel
- 18.8. Webzine
- 19. Other points

20. Confirmation of next board meeting							
21. Meeting adjourned							

	BUDGET 2020/2021		Q1	Q2	Q3 (current balance)	Remaining amount	Note	
ncomes							Generally: Does not include any cash transactions or transfer from membership and merch accounts	
Entrance Revenu	ues	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00		
Advertisement		57 970,00	33 980,00	0,00	0,00	23 990,00	Due to late payment from CMES & CFE	
Membership Rev	enues	0,00	4 102,07	0,00	221,13	3 (4 323,20)	Due to income before removal of membership fee	
UFS Grants		150 000,00	87 018,96	0,00	135 399,50	(72 418,46)	Due to more MUCF than expected	
Other Revenues		112 612,00	0,00	0,00	98 798,00	13 814,00		
Total Incomes		320 582,00	125 101,03	0,00	234 418,63	(38 937,66)		
Expenses								
Shared exp.								
Office Rent		28 742,00	0,00	14 768,00	0,00	13 974,00		
Bank expenses		2 000,00	0,00	0,00	1 592,00	2 000,00		
Fika		10 000,00	584,99	2 845,81	796,47	5 772,73		
Projekt		10 000,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	10 000,00		
Office expenses		10 840,00	4 129,00	9 019,00	8 300,90	(10 608,90)	Due to printer & mood board, difference from the ledger since the insurance is under a diff	erent booking
Board Activities		25 000,00	12 403,65	0,00	731,64	12 596,35		
Board trips		2 500,00	3 299,00	0,00	0,00	(799,00)	Due to presidents train tickets to SthIm	
Total shared e	exp.	89 082,00	20 416,64	26 632,81	11 421,01	30 611,54		
Committees				,	,			
Radio		6 500,00	0,00	3 073,50	2 467,50	959,00	2356SEK because of registration	
PR		15 000,00	(453,21)	4 079,64	1 545,65	9 827,92		
Magazine		86 500,00	0,00	13 585,35	41 460,50	31 454,15		
Webzine		4 000,00	0,00	3 020,41	882,53	97,06	2396SEK is because of the registration	
Lecture		61 500,00	2 115,60	7 586,50	4 195,68	47 602,22		
Career		16 500,00	0,00	703,20	0,00	15 796,80	Due to receiving reimbursement forms later	
Activity		8 000,00	0,00	760,01	(1 700,13	8 940,12		
Travel		12 000,00	0,00	426,46	0,00	11 573,54		
Presidium		1 000,00	0,00	212,00	0,00	788,00		
Election		300,00	0,00	134,25	0,00	165,75		
Cheif recruiters		200,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	200,00		
Total committe	ees exp.	211 500,00	1 662,39	33 581,32	48 851,73	84 095,44		
Other expens	es	20 000,00	307,80	12 745,80	12 981,00	(6 034.60)	Due to two late invoice from previous board	
Total expense	s	320 582,00	22 386,83	72 959,93	73 253,74	168 600,50		
Difference		0,00	102 714,20	(72 959,93)	161 164,89	14 509,24		
Investments					477,2	2		

# Operational Plan of the Swedish Association of International Affairs for the Operational Year of 2021 - 2022

#### Background

The operational plan is a document which each year is prepared by the national board and voted on by the election meeting. It outlines the expected work of the Swedish Association of International Affairs (SAIA). The basis of the operational plan is the Document of Operational Goals (DOG), a document approved in 2019 which guides the work of SAIA between 2019 – 2022. The three boards which mandates fall within this period are responsible to achieve the goals of the DOG through the operational plans. The coming operational year is the last one to finalise the current DOG and it has been with this in mind that the goals of this document have been formulated. Different to operational plans of the past, the national board this year proposes a less expansive operational plan with fewer but more concrete goals. This will hopefully lead to better conditions for sustainable engagement and improved opportunities for the national board to use its creativity to take on endeavours outside of the operational plan. Fewer goals will furthermore allow for more qualitative results. The writers of the operational plan are SAIA President Johan Bergman and Vice

President Christopher Andersson with the mandate of the SAIA national board.

#### Purpose

The purpose of the operational plan is to guide the work of the national board during the operational year of 2021 – 2022. It is a directive by the member associations through the election meeting and forms an expectation of what the year's operations will entail. Important to note however, is that while the national board should strive to accomplish all goals set out in this document, things does not always go according to plan. Thus, if a goal is unable to be achieved due to circumstances beyond the control of the board, this can be abandoned. In short, the operational plan is an ambition.

#### Structure

The operational plan is divided into two sections. The first section contains two overarching goals which are not part of the strategy but we believe are important to work towards achieving. The second section is structured in the same way as the headings from the SAIA Document of Operational Goals 2019 – 2022. Under each

heading are a number of goals. Finally, an annual plan is outlined which describes when the national board of 2020 – 2021 proposes the next board to undertake the various goals.

#### Section One - Overarching Goals

1. Write a new Document of Operational Goals for 2022 - 2025

#### Background

The Operational Goals (OGs) of SAIA is a three-year plan which steers SAIA in a certain direction. The OGs are there to decrease the risk of volatility between different SAIA boards, and have some sense of long term direction, instead of changing every year. Through this, continuity will exist for SAIA, which is vital for the organisation to develop and continue to exist.

The OGs stretches for a period of three years. The current OGs are stretching from 2019 – 2022. Since the current OGs are ending next year, new OGs have to be drafted during the operational year of 2021 - 2022 and accepted at the Annual Election Meeting in 2022. The goals in the OGs of 2022 – 2025 will be a number of goals within different topics, which will serve as a framework for every operational year's goals. Every operational year, the different boards will follow an operational plan with overarching goals and main goals. This operational plan shall fall within the framework of the OGs. It shall be strived for that in the end of 2025, all the goals of the OGs should be fulfilled, even though it is not necessary, through the three different operational plans. In order to fulfil the OGs, it is important to adapt the baton-mindset: That every board are reasonable when they draft new operational plans and that they try their best to fulfil their part of the OGs. When they are finished with fulfilling their part of the OGs, they pass the baton to the next board which will continue the work on OGs. It should be noted that writing a document that will steer SAIA in a direction for three years, will not be an easy task. The Board is therefore encouraged to get input from the all Member Associations and divide the work between board members in order to draft OGs that are firmly established in the Member Associations.

## Purpose

The purpose of the OGs 2022 – 2025 is to direct SAIA in a certain direction, decided by the Member Associations together with the SAIA board.

## Conclusion

This goal directs the national board of 2021 - 2022 to write the Operational Goals for 2022 - 2025 and to propose them to the Annual Election Meeting in 2022.

2. Investigate a new organisational structure for SAIA

## Background

The Swedish Association of International Affairs, SAIA, has since its founding relied on the SAIA-representative organisational structure: a national board made up of a five-person presidium elected by the member associations during an election meeting, and one SAIA-representative from each member association elected by the local association's members. In total, this board is made up of 16 people.

The system ensures equal representation for all member associations and the ability to closely control what is happening on the national level. It promotes inclusivity and transparency and should, in theory, allow for information to flow between the local and national level seamlessly.

However, what has become apparent during the past years is that the system also has some deep flaws. As SAIA-representatives are part of both the local and national board, they often have twice the workload. This is not compatible with sustainable engagement and unfortunately often leads to one board responsibility being prioritised over the other. It is not the fault of a specific representative but is inherent to the system. This not only leads to a lack of continuity in the work and development of SAIA, but also to a lack of information flowing between the two levels thus counteracting one of the core purposes of the position.

A second flaw is that the SAIA-representatives are not only part of the national board to advocate for her/his member association's positions, but should also vote in favor of the best for the whole association. Although what is good for the local and national level many times coincide, they do not always. This often leads to an awkward position where representatives are unsure how they should vote to accommodate both levels' interests.

A third flaw is that the system, although promoting inclusivity, lacks accountability as 2/3 of the members of the national board are not elected by the member associations at the election meeting. One does not therefore beforehand know who is part of the board. During the year, the composition of the board can also change significantly if a number of representatives leave their positions and new ones are appointed by the member associations. At the end of the year, it can therefore be difficult to determine who bears the responsibility for SAIA's operations as the board is responsible collectively. In addition, this factor of uncertainty also damages the continuity of SAIA's work and development.

Although there are many more positive and negative aspects with the current system, this operational plan is not meant to investigate them. Instead, the background to this goal just highlights the fact that the system is not perfect and is in need of a review. All positive and negative aspects need to be raised and alternatives to the current system discussed. Only then can SAIA proceed with its work and development,

hopefully stronger and with greater capacity to quickly react to an ever-shifting societal landscape to assist all member associations to the greatest extent.

#### Purpose

The purpose of this goal is to highlight the structural issues with the way SAIA is organised and task the national board of 2021 – 2022 with investigating it further and propose, if appropriate, a new organisational structure.

#### Conclusion

This goal directs the national board of 2021 – 2022 to write a report determining...

- ...what are the positive and negative aspects of the current system?
- ...what organisational structure could replace the current SAIA-representative system?
- ...what would be the positive and negative aspects of said system/s?
- ...how the new system could be implemented and what the timeline would be?

The report should...

- ...be presented at the election meeting of 2022.
- ...if possible and if the report deems it appropriate, put the new system into practice already during the operational year of 2021 2022.

Section Two - Main Goals

1. Committees, officials and project groups

Description from the Document of Operational Goals

Much of the important work that SAIA does is done through its committees, officials and project groups. It is important these are all well-structured with a pronounced roadmap for their work. Each new SAIA board should set up reachable and quantifiable goals for the committees and officials in the beginning of each operational year. The Presidium and board of SAIA should furthermore monitor the progress of committees and officials throughout the operational year. The UFS board, officials and employees should strive to facilitate knowledge exchange while always keeping in mind to minimize the workload on individual board members of member associations. All committees and networks within SAIA have the responsibility to spread information to the member association about their respective domain of work

#### 1.1 Organisational workshops

SAIA should strive to organise four workshops during the operational years

on topics such as organisational work, leadership, meeting management and committee work. This will help Member Organisations to institutionalise over the coming years and create continuity and professionalism.

#### 1.2 Operational work plan for the committees

In order to establish continuity and effectiveness for the committees, the Board shall create a standardised work plan for the committees. It shall show how the committees work with tasks, how often they meet, and decide early during the year at what day/time the committees should have their meetings and put these meetings in the annual plan.

## 1.3 Operational work plan for the officials

In order to establish continuity and effectiveness for the officials, the Board shall create a work plan for the officials. It shall include the establishment of a network for all officials with a SAIA presidium member, in order to include more in the overall work of SAIA and increase the sense of community in the organisation. At the beginning of the operational year, the meeting dates shall be decided. The work plan should also include when the officials report their work, how they work, and what contacts they have with MAs and SAIA.

### 2. Education

Description from the Document of Operational Goals

The main purpose and role of SAIA is to assist the member associations, and a key aspect of this role is to provide education opportunities. Creating educational material and webinars is an appreciated service that SAIA can provide the member associations, as long as the content of these answer the demand on knowledge and development from the associations. Classic examples of such education areas are finance & book-keeping, general board work, meeting formalia, external and internal communication, etc.

## 2.1 Four knowledge exchanges

Since the establishment of the Knowledge Exchange Coordinator, SAIA has been eager to start with the exchanges. For the operational year of 2021 – 2022 four knowledge exchanges should have been made. SAIA shall therefore assist the member associations in organising four knowledge exchanges in total throughout the operational year, through the Knowledge Exchange Coordinator.

## 2.2 Workshop on member recruitment

Since a number of members (as well as the rate of active members) is vital for the organisation, it is important the SAIA helps the Member Associations to recruit new members. Thus, SAIA should conduct a workshop on member recruitment at the beginning of the operational year.

#### 3. Communication

Description from the Document of Operational Goals

Each operational year, SAIA strives to improve its internal and external communication; towards the member associations, members, partner organisations and the public. In order to reduce the distance between SAIA and its member associations, SAIA needs to have a well- thought-out idea on how SAIA's internal communication channels can facilitate cooperation between the member associations. SAIA's external communication is also an important tool to use in order to represent the member associations both nationally and internationally, and SAIA shall strive for continuity and professionalism in the external communications.

3.1 Make SAIA documents more accessible to the Member Associations
Since many Member Associations do not know that there is a SAIA folder on
Google Drive, it is important that the documents are accessible on the website
instead. Thus, SAIA should copy the most important documents in the "1.
UFS" Google Drive folder and make them accessible to the SAIA website also.

### 3.2 Framework for the SAIA networks

In order to create continuity and promote long-term engagement with the networks, SAIA shall create a framework for the position-based Slack networks which all networks will follow.

#### 3.3 Career Platform

Since many SAIA members not only have an interest in international affairs, but also want to pursue a career in international affairs, SAIA should help its members with this objective as it could help SAIA in the long term. SAIA should thus create a platform for relevant job, traineeship and internship opportunities on the SAIA website.

#### 3.3 Digital Presence Framework

In order to establish continuity and clear guidelines for SAIA's presence on

digital media (e.g. social media and the website), SAIA shall create a digital presence framework which includes how often we update our website and social media, as well as what type of content that should be regularly shared.

#### 4. Transparency

Description from the Document of Operational Goals
In order to meet the strategic goal of providing member associations with
sufficient insight about how SAIA works and what work is currently ongoing
in the association, decisions and reports shall be easily accessible and
sufficiently informative.

4.1 Increasing the transparency through the SAIA website
Since many Member Associations do not know that there is a UFS folder on
Google Drive, it is important that the documents are accessible on the
website instead, in order to increase the transparency of SAIA. Thus, SAIA
should copy the most important documents in the "1. UFS" Google Drive
folder and make them accessible to the SAIA website also.

#### 5. Finances

Description from the Document of Operational Goals

One of SAIA's main missions is to apply for the association's funding through grant applications and thereafter distribute the grant to the member associations. In order to ensure stable and long-term sources of income, it is important for SAIA to continuously work to improve the economic routines within the organisation. Moreover, it is also important to set up long-term goals on how the organisation's resources can increase and how SAIA can minimize costs for active members to attend the association's events.

5.1 Find new sources of income to decrease the dependence on the MUCF grant The vast majority of SAIA's and its member associations' funding come from the organisational grant from Myndigheten för Ungdoms- och Civilsamhälles-frågor (MUCF). This reliance is risky if our application would be denied or if the government's priorities shift away from the civil society. Finding new sources of income is continuously important to build a more resilient organisation.

5.2 Ensure that the 2021 MUCF grant is spent during 2021

Through increased membership numbers in 2019 and additional funding from MUCF, SAIA and all member associations are financially well off. However, if the money is not spent during 2021, it will have to be sent back to the government agency and we risk receiving less money in the future. It is therefore important that SAIA encourages and helps member associations to spend money in a wise manner to minimise the sum sent back.

5.3 Organise two workshops organisational finance and bookkeeping/ accounting. An important factor which determines if SAIA and its member associations receive financing is whether or not they live up to good organisational finance standards. To ensure that all member associations are equipped with the relevant knowledge, SAIA should conduct two workshops aimed towards increasing the competence of local treasurers and presidents.

#### 6. International

Description from the Document of Operational Goals SAIA has recently made much progress in its international work and SAIA should in the coming years continue working for long term collaboration with similar organisations internationally. In the coming three years, the recently started Nordic collaborations should be institutionalised, while new partnerships are explored in a broader base. Member associations should be included in the international collaborations, where especially member associations close to the borders could likely benefit greatly.

6.1 Sustain and deepen the relationship with existing international partners
After two years of finding new international partners, we now have
established and formalised many through memorandums of understanding.
What is now required is to ensure that these are adhered to and continuously
expanded to increase the capacity of SAIA and its member associations.

6.2 Facilitate two collaborations between international partners and member associations

One concrete way of utilising our international partners is to organise events together with them and thus gain access to their contacts. As SAIA does not organise events, it should facilitate collaborations between the international partners and SAIA member associations.

## 7. Sustainability

Description from the Document of Operational Goals

The association should keep working for a sustainable working environment and sustainable engagement in the whole organisation. The association should also contribute to sustainable consumption and global climate by adhering to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the 17 goals set by the United Nations General Assembly. It is the SAIA's aim to incorporate the relevant goals in its operations, documents and publications, in order to assure our members that we are part of the solution, not the problem.

- 7.1 Organise a sustainable engagement workshop for all member associations. The core of civil society engagement is to ensure that everyone engage sustainably, without negative stress. Through a workshop, SAIA can highlight why it is important and how associations can work to implement sustainable work structures. The workshop should preferably be organised at the start of the operational year.
- 7.2 Assist member associations in creating their own environmental policy
  To live up to the Agenda 2030 goals as an organisation, all member
  associations need to adopt an environmental policy which guides their work
  towards a smaller ecological footprint. SAIA should encourage and ensure that
  all member associations have one.
- 7.3 Conduct a leadership workshop with the presidents of the local associations For many presidents, the position might be their first involving leadership over a larger group of people. SAIA should assist the presidents in preparing for their mandate through a workshop focusing on leading board work and delegating tasks.
- 8. Events and projects

Description from the Document of Operational Goals

All goals stated are bound by budgetary limits, and in pursuing these goals
the financial stability of the organisation is paramount. The activities, events
and projects of SAIA should aim to create maximum added value for the
Member Associations.

8.1 Recruit 75 members to the alumni networkA large alumni network is both fun and beneficial for the association as a

whole. After the network has received an improved structure during the operational year of 2020/2021, it is time to recruit people to join it.

8.2 Formalise partnerships with two think tanks with different ideologies SAIA should continue to formalise partnerships with actors active in the foreign-policy oriented civil society. Think tanks are often leading voices in the debate with great speakers and a high capacity to organise events, they have however not been approached by SAIA before. It is important that we remain a neutral voice and formalised partnerships should therefore be made with think tanks from all parts of the political spectrum.

## Income Budget

MUCF Organisationbidrag 1.579.661,00 kr

Forum Civ- Informationsprojekt 432.000,00 kr

Tickets Almedalen 26.000,00 kr

Extra MUCF Grant 287.318,00 kr

Resturn from Extra MUCF 40.000,00 kr

Other - kr

Total income 2.364.979,00 kr

Fixed costs Budget

Grant to member associations 1.464.564,00 kr

Employment 395.000,00 kr

Office 20.000,00 kr

Educational materials 5.000,00 kr

Administration

Administration 12.000,00 kr

Audit 38.000,00 kr

Member registry 45.000,00 kr

Forum Civ Grant Impact Evaluation 40.000,00 kr

PR & Webpage 5.500,00 kr

Physical meetings

UFS board meetings travel costs 25.000,00 kr

Annual Assembly 15.000,00 kr

Electoral meeting 15.000,00 kr

Handover 20.000,00 kr

Forum Weekend Fall 40.000,00 kr

Forum Weekend Spring 40.000,00 kr

Workshops-Forum Weekends 15.000,00 kr

Almedalen 64.000,00 kr

Other fixed cost

Membership fee - LSU 5.500,00 kr

Membership fee - FoF 2.000,00 kr

Election Committee 1.000,00 kr

Total fixed costs 2.267.564,00 kr

Variable costs Budget

Other travel costs & representation 5.000,00 kr

Accesibility fund 60.000,00 kr

Knowledge exchange fund 20.000,00 kr
Contingencies 10.000,00 kr
Total variable costs 95.000,00 kr
Total costs 2.362.564,00 kr
Result 2.415,00 kr

Financing and Implementation of Solidarity Travel Fund

### Background

During the Annual Assembly, the national board was tasked with improving the accessibility of national events for geographically distant MA's. A taskforce was formed to tackle these challenges. The main concerns hereby lie in how to create a sustainable and feasible long-term solution that if needed, would be flexible and could be adjusted and implemented in a just, consistent, and administratively uncomplicated way.

#### Purpose

The purpose of this proposal is to introduce an easy, transparent, and fair system of sharing incurred travel costs for future national events amongst all the member associations. Emphasis hereby lies on the efficient implementation and interpretability which serve as guiding principles for the scheme introduced below. The document can thus be seen as a complement to the proposed "Framework for SAIA's National Events".

#### Structure of the Document

The framework starts with introducing different financial tools enabling the fund. These are consequently applied in exemplary cases in order to make the framework's implementation more graspable. Finally, the document reviews various mechanisms for when the usual conditions are not met as well as providing clarifications to the kinds of possible deviations.

#### Writers

The Geographical Accessibility Task Force through
Artem Angelchev Shiryaev, UFS Representative – UpF Umeå
Mara Glas, UFS Representative – UPF Lund
Rafael Rodrigo Escalera, UFS Treasurer
23 February 2021
Proposed Financing and Implementation

1. Financing

The funding will work three ways:

Primarily, the fund shall be financed by the MA's contributions which are taken from the socalled "variable grant". It being part of the general MUCF grant, an annually set percentage should then ideally be discussed, voted upon and accepted at the beginning of each operational year. Adapting the framework to the MA's budgetary situation by revising the

percentage dedicated to the fund, will therefore allow for flexibility and adaptability particularly throughout times of economic uncertainty as well as enabling the increasing or decreasing of available funds.

Secondly, a minor participation fee paid by all attendees ahead of the Forum Weekends will contribute to the total fund available. As this fee will be of symbolic character it will not hinder anyone's ability to participate.

Lastly, UFS will be financing at least 30 percent of the total Solidarity Fund as part of their annual budget. Their share will consequently depend on the percentage set out for by the MA's, therefore adding to the total budget available.

**Practical Examples** 

1. The total variable grant for the current operational year amounted to 832 934 SEK. If the percentage would be set at 5% table 1 reflects the approximate distribution difference between the current and proposed variable grant distribution. All associations eligible for the variable grant would contribute proportionally towards the fund. Naturally, if another percentage would be introduced the funds would alter. The following equation is intended to be used.

variable grant \* percentage eligible members =

832 934 \* 0.95

2399 ≈ 330 SEK/member

2. If two forum weekends are to be hosted each year, and we expect to host 40 participants each time, where the MA's would decide on setting the symbolic fee. If the fee were to be set at 100 SEK, this would generate an addition of 8000 SEK each year to finance the Solidarity Travel Fund. In addition, it can be expected that the participants fee would most certainly solve the case of no show's which can be seen a bonus. The setting of the symbolic fee should be done at a board meeting before the event.

#### 2. Practical Redistribution

The key factors considered when applying the redistribution scheme will be time and money. Assuming four events will be held each semester, the total sum of the fund will be divided into four equal sizes to be used during national events. To keep the framework as simple as possible, the following concept is built upon the "Framework for National Events".

Thus, dividing Sweden into four regions:

1. Region Arctic: UF Luleå, UpF Umeå,

2. Region North: UF Uppsala, UF Stockholm

- 3. Region Central: UF Linköping, UF Örebro, UPF Karlstad, UF Göteborg
- 4. Region South: UF Växjö, UPF Lund, UF Malmö

Each time a MA will be hosting a national event in their "home" region, the MAs in the remaining three regions will be eligible to apply for reimbursements. In consequence, each will be assigned one third of the grant whereby their MAs will then be eligible to apply for an equal share of the assigned grant distribution to their region. Each share is earmarked to the corresponding association. If unutilized, the concerned share remains within the fund and will be divided according to the scheme ahead of the next national event.

## Practical Example:

Assuming 60 000 SEK within the fund is divided into 4 national events, each will imply reimbursement 15 000 SEK. If UpF Umeå is hosting a national event, further MAs located in "Region Artic" would not be eligible to apply for reimbursement. Instead, the remaining regions would be allocated up to 5000 SEK each of a total of 15000 SEK per event. This implies that "Region South" including UPF Lund, UF Malmö and UF Växjö, would then be able to receive reimbursement up to 5000 SEK, whereby each association can apply for around 1667 SEK. However, if one of the associations does not apply for reimbursement, the share is forgone, and the 1667 SEK remains within the total fund. For the next national event, the total funding will thus be, (45 000 + 1667)

3 = 15 555 SEK split between the three "external" regions attending.

#### Rough Visualization of divided Regions

The idea is that this tool makes planning and foresight easier for each MA, meaning that each association knows their respective share before applying. When writing a motion to the national board, an upper threshold would then have already been considered in their internal budgeting, hence making the mechanism as fair and transparent as possible.

The procedure would go as follows:

- 1. UpF Umeå writes a motion for their share of the grant to a board meeting prior to the national event.
- 2. During a UFS board meeting, the board approves of the motion.
- 3. After the national event, contingent on UpF Umeå showing up, UFS transfers the share to UpF Umeå.
- 4. UpF Umeå collects receipts and reimburses local participants.
- 3. UFS' responsibility

At the start of the operational year, a presidium member, preferably the treasurer raises the question as to what kind of percentage should be set for the coming operational year.

He/she submits a draft proposal with the anticipated distribution scheme which all UFS representatives take back to their local boards to discuss. At the following national board

meeting, a final percentage should be decided upon by means of a majority vote. If large deviations are made from the approved budget by the preceding annual meeting, the treasurer should put forward a new budget proposal and adjust the previous percentage accordingly.

- 4. Rules and conditions in cases of exception (examples)
- 1. If a physical event is cancelled and/or held online, the initially allocated funds are withheld accordingly. Hence, instead of 60000
- 4 = 15000 SEK the next national event would imply 60000 3= 20 000 SEK to be distributed.
- 2. If multiple physical events are cancelled throughout the operational year and the withheld funding accumulates according to the first condition above. A spending cap is set at maximum 50% of the total fund for one single physical event. For instance, if three out of four physical national events throughout the year have been cancelled, implying 100% of the funds remains within the budget post, at maximum 50% can be used for the fourth physical national event. The remaining 50% shall be transferred to the next operational year or redistributed back to the MA's and/or UFS. This would require a board decision.

Hence, if the entire fund of 60 000 SEK were to remain unused due to the Covid-19 and/or other reasons inhibiting the hosting of the first three physical events, the fourth one will underlie a maximum cap of 30 000 SEK.

- 3. If a MA is granted travel reimbursement to a national event and, without a valid excuse does not show up, UFS will not grant any reimbursements to the concerned association. To limit administration efforts, a guiding rule should be that if at least one of the registered participants show up, the share should be paid out in whole. For instance, if UpF Umeå sends 3 out of 4 registered participants, incurred travel costs should be reimbursed. If however, none of the registered participants show up, UpF Umeå shall not receive any of the granted funds. Instead, these funds will be transferred to the next national event.
- 4. In case of a force majeure case, the national board will decide whether reimbursement should be paid out to local MA's or not.

#### Presidium Meeting Report - UFS Rep

At the UFS BM last Thursday, UF Umeå, Karlstad and Luleå submitted a discussion point in connection to the membership statistics with a request for consultation regarding ways in which to achieve greater membership traction in their respective associations.

"The purpose is to discuss how we can support each other, in a constructive and reasonable way. Perhaps sharing knowledge or providing structural support could be vital."

Hereby, the question on "What kind of support is needed?" caused a new discussion to emerge concerning the inadequacy with which the UFS has so far been viewing and addressing the issues faced by smaller associations not least because of the so-felt UFS internal predominance of larger associations Lund and Uppsala. As a result, other "smaller" and "younger" associations called for a new way in which UFS should better cater their needs as endogenous structural problems had inhibited the consequent application of previously made suggestions and strategies by the presidium (and Lund and Uppsala). Due to the urgency of this matter and the numerous cases in which well-meant recommendations could not be adopted successfully, the national board discussed how to put more emphasis on the differences in organizational structuralism to be taken into consideration in the upcoming operational year.

One vital point was to manifest the UFS obligation to offer support meeting the differing organizational realities in the operational plan 2022. Other more practical suggestions discussed included the creation of UFS supported mutual support networks, forums, workshops and knowledge exchanges that could provide a space for affected associations to discuss and learn from each other.

### Questions to discuss:

Do you think that there is a need for operational adjustments on the part of UFS in order to match the intricate issues smaller associations face?

How can UFS presidium members make sure they understand and not misconceive the issues faced by those associations particularly when joining the UFS from larger associations (Lund and Uppsala)?

How could successful support between larger and smaller associations look like against this background?

Should the operational plan put additional emphasis on the importance of adapting UFS operations to how MAs look size-wise and organizational-wise?

If so, would you be in favor of submitting an amendment to the operational plan to the Electoral meeting in May?

Lastly, I wanted to let you know that this topic will be taken up at the Pre-Electoral Meeting on the 20th of April.

The Presidiums replies to discussion points from Umeå, Karlstad and Luleå

## Question 1:

As we have seen this past operational year is that all local associations face various kinds of issues and that this is not something that specifically effects small association but all local associations regardless of its size. We therefore think that UFS should continue being a national association that focuses on helping all associations.

With that being said, we do believe that UFS has provided several opportunities throughout the year for associations to connect and discuss their issues, and that UFS have had enough events focused on membership recruitment.

We would furthermore like to point out that we already feel that UFS have a bigger focus on helping and supporting smaller local associations and that we, the bigger associations have been less prioritized and had less space to affect changes that would be favorable for us and in the difficulties we face on a local level. We shouldn't create more incentives where UFS becomes even more focused on specific associations instead of all.

#### Question 2:

We see this as a fundamental issue/question that goes both ways. How can UFS presidium member make sure that they understand and not misconceive the issues faced by bigger associations particularly when joining from smaller associations?

There should be some trust in the nominating committee, and their work on nominating the right candidate for the position that would help UFS and its local associations strive. But trust that the annual assembly elects best suites candidates. Which association they come from shouldn't be something that defines them. Every individual joining the UFS presidium is elected based on their experiences and merits that would be beneficial for UFS and its local associations, and rather than seeing this as a disadvantage depending on which association you come from, see it as an advantage where local associations can get unique support based on these competences.

What the UFS presidium could do is open up for more dialogue and follow ups on issues faced by local MA but this requires that local MA associations take their part in this and reach out for help, when help is needed. Presidium members have a responsibility towards all associations and not just specific ones especially when its regarding issues that is affecting everyone.

#### Question 3

Successful support should be something that benefits everyone participating regardless of the size of the association they belong to. Create forum weekends, exchanges and meetings where there is the possibility for everyone to gain help.

For many years, many board members in UPF Lund have felt like UFS events have been organized, and been more beneficial for the smaller associations. And that the bigger mainly give suggestions and solutions to problems discussed. This unfortunately creates incentives where current sitting board members gets discouraged from participating in UFS events because they feel that they spend XX hours and not gain anything. This in turn, gets handed down to successors who enters the mandate period with a specific mindset about UFS. So we believe that UFS should rather start creating various questions and topics that reflects the various associations participating so that everyone can gain something out of it.

#### Question 4:

We don't think that the operational plan should be amended with adding emphasis on MA size and organizational structure. This is because UFS works for the inclusion of 11 MA where everyone works completely different. Doing this creates an impossible task for UFS to have a concrete plan to work with throughout the operational year.

Adjusting and specifying an operational plan to reflect 11 MA would require a lot more work from the presidium that already have a lot to do, especially when you take into consideration that these positions are held by students who do this voluntarily. In order to create, or include specific points in an operational plan, which creates more workload, something else from the

operational plan would then need to be removed. This is important because we want to strive towards having sustainable work environment, and to do so we cannot add more workload without removing something in return.

Soha's own added comment: This is essentially a question about the current UFS structure and how the representation works. With a proper working structure every MA would be able to raise their voices and concerns about certain topics and issues at every board meeting and therefore, impact the national decisions to their benefit. A better solution would be to think long-term and look into improving the current structure.

## Question 5

We cannot answer this question until we see what the proposed amendment would be.

#### Dear members of SAIA

Here follows the Nomination Committee's nominations for the Swedish Association of International Affairs' operational year of 2021-2022 which will be addressed at the Annual Election Meeting on 8th - 9th May. Despite the extraordinary circumstances facing us all over the past year, the work in the organisation and its member associations have been ongoing and reoriented to a digital format rather than cancelled. The Nomination Committee is greatly impressed by the engagement and motivation shown by all applicants and is grateful for all nominations and applications received. During the application period, the Nomination Committee received a number of qualified applications resulting in a at times difficult task for the Nomination Committee. After a thorough process we believe however, that we can hereby nominate a group of candidates with valuable knowledge and experience, whom we also believe will complete each other and work well together. Nonetheless, we would like to stress that the Committee only nominates candidates. It is up to the eleven member associations to take the final decision during the Annual Election Meeting.

During the operational year of 2020-2021, the Nomination Committee consisted of four members: Miriam Steinwall, Aleksander Kranjc, Clara Thulin and Sakari Teerikoski. All members have been active and participated in Nomination Committee meetings throughout the year. The Nomination Committee had its first meeting in November 2020 and was thereafter in regular contact during the entirety of the spring. The most extensive work of the Nomination Committee took place in March when all the committee members processed all applications, conducted interviews, had thorough deliberations, as well as contacted all candidates over phone to inform about the Nomination Committee's final decisions. During the operational year 2020-2021 Miriam has been the convening member of the committee, and has thus been the one with the primary contact over email with candidates as well as with SAIA's presidium.

The final nominations for the operational year of 2021-2022 were decided during a digital meeting on April 7 after weeks of preparation, interviews, discussions and deliberations in order to ensure that the nominated candidates would be suitable Presidium members, Nomination Committee members, and auditors. Thereafter, all candidates have been informed about the Committee's choice, and the candidates who were not nominated have been given the opportunity to be listed as counter-candidates in this document. The Nomination Committee's suggestions for next year's Presidium are people with different experiences and backgrounds from various member associations. They share a great passion for SAIA and a strong will to maintain a good working environment and a sustainable engagement in its member associations. The Nomination Committee has also taken aspects such as gender balance and geographical spread into consideration when making its final decision.

#### Motivations

#### President

The President holds the utmost responsibility to lead both the work of the Presidium and the Board, as well as to ensure that the work of the association is done in accordance with regulatory documents and operational plans. Furthermore, the President is responsible for ensuring that SAIA works towards a long-term vision, and for developing its collaborations with other organisations. The President also summons to board meetings and is responsible for its preparations and process.

As the current president of UPF Lund and an active member in Global Shapers Malmö, Soha Kadhim has several years of engagement in the civil society in positions ranging from active member to board positions. This experience has formed a passion for Soha when it comes to organisational development, leadership and civil society engagements, a passion that will serve Soha well in the position as President. Furthermore, Soha has several years of professional experience in the service industry, which has ensured that she can effectively communicate and handle different kinds of people. As a leader Soha believes that her strengths of valuing effectiveness, as well as clear communication and strong drive for developing an organisation to run smoothly, will be useful within a position that will guide the SAIA board during the operational year of 2021-2022.

The Nomination Committee believes that Soha Kadhim will fit well in the position as president for the upcoming SAIA operational year, since she has developed leadership abilities as well as experience, both from civil society and work life, when it comes to interacting with different types of individuals to steer them towards a common goal. Her preparedness during the interview, along with experience of leading one of the member associations and a strong vision and eagerness to holistically strengthen SAIA's position as a facilitator for the member associations made Soha a strong candidate for the position. Moreover, it is the Nomination Committee's view that her individual traits and leadership qualities will work very well together with the other candidates for the upcoming operational year, ensuring a strong and competent board for the future.

The Nominated Candidate is: Soha Kadhim

Counter-candidate: -

The Electoral Meeting is proposed:

to elect Soha Kadhim as the President for the operational year 2021-2022.

## Vice President

The Vice President is - together with the President - responsible for leading both the work in the SAIA national board and the Association as a whole. The Vice President is also responsible for preparing and chairing the Presidium meetings. Together with the President, the Vice President is a main external representative of the Association.

Artem Angelchev Shiryaev is currently UpF Umea's representative in the national board and has

earlier been the Treasurer in UpF Umeå. Artem therefore comes with a broad knowledge about the work in SAIA and its Member Associations, in particular about the ongoing board work in the Association as well as the financial side of the operations. During his active years in the organisation on both local and national level, Artem has shown a great interest in the future positive development of SAIA, and this high level of commitment is clearly present in his visions for the organisation. Thanks to Artem's active contributions to the work in the national board during the 2020-2021 operational year, the choice of Artem as Vice President also effectively contributes to long-term continuity in the work of the organisation.

The Nomination Committee believes that all this makes Artem an excellent choice for the position as Vice President, and furthermore that the combination of him and Soha Kadhim as Vice President and President, respectively, with their respective experiences from the national level and the Member Association level that complement each other's strengths well, makes a strong pair for leading the organisation through the next operational year.

The Nominated Candidate is: Artem Angelchev Shiryaev

Counter-candidate: -

The Electoral Meeting is proposed:

to elect Artem Angelchev Shiryaev as the Vice President for the operational year 2021-2022.

#### Treasurer

The Treasurer holds the general responsibility for SAIA's economy. The Treasures should, together with the employed administrator, ensure transparent budget monitoring and a stable administration of the organisation's economy. The Treasurer leads the organisation's strategic financial work, and should ensure financial stability and development. In addition, the Treasurer should lead the work in finding and applying for new financial assets.

Stephanie Kronvall has extensive experience of working in different student associations, professional experience as a teacher and in her spare time as a figure skating coach. She is currently the Treasurer of UF Malmö and has previously been part of the Erasmus Student Networks (ESN) in both Lund and Malmö, also as a Treasurer, and been active in the Nomination Committee on the national level. That she understands the complexity of the role as a Treasurer and SAIA as an association is to say the least. Furthermore, she has great knowledge and understanding of economic administration including budget proposals, working with grants and it is our belief that she and the administrator will work well together handling economic tasks. The Nomination Committee believes that Stephanie's varied experiences both from UF and ESN and her dedication makes her an excellent candidate for the role as Treasurer for the operational year of 2021-2022. In addition, we believe that the precision Stephanie puts into her work, clear communication and positive attitude will be advantageous characteristics for both a Treasurer and a member of the Presidium.

The Nominated Candidate is: Stephanie Kronvall

Counter-candidate: -

The Electoral Meeting is proposed:

to elect Stephanie Kronvall as the Treasurer for the operational year 2021-2022.

#### Secretary

The Secretary is responsible to keep the meeting minutes during the board meetings of the association, ensuring the transparency of decisions and processes within SAIA. Moreover, the Secretary ensures that the protocols from the meetings are attested, signed and archived according to the by-laws. The accessibility, for SAIA members, of all protocols and additionally regulatory documents is well-managed by the Secretary that ensures that the documents are archived in a structured manner. Furthermore, the Secretary is tasked with keeping the regulatory documents of SAIA up-to with current changes, drafting new documents, translation if needed and that they communicate in a clear manner.

Joakim Ydebäck brings with him a couple years of experience within SAIA's member associations, particularly from positions within the Uppsala Association of Foreign Affairs, such as a Board member and Editor-in-Chief of Uttryck Magazine. Joakim works hard and likes to ensure that tasks are done properly with utmost effort, and he envisions that his contributions as Secretary will be to work proactively with the responsibilities that the position entails. Furthermore, his vision includes the retention of a strong transparency towards the member associations and to help contribute strengthening the facilitating role of SAIA. The Nomination Committee believes that Joakim brings with him significant experience, both professionally from his internship at the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as voluntary commitments, of how to clearly communicate in text and handling official documents by ensuring that they are properly constructed. His personal traits gave the committee an impression of him being a reliable individual that will contribute to the composition of the upcoming SAIA board and work well with the other candidates. The Nomination Committee is certain that Joakim will contribute to the work of SAIA in a positive way and handle many of the tasks of drafting new documents as well as keeping the regulatory documents up-to date with utmost distinction.

The Nominated Candidate is: Joakim Ydebäck

Counter-candidate: Lucy Verdonk

The Electoral Meeting is proposed:

to elect Joakim Ydebäck as the Secretary for the operational year 2021-2022.

#### Head of Communication

The Head of Communications is responsible for SAIA's communication, both internally towards the member associations as well as the external outreach towards the public and collaboration partners. Furthermore, the Head of Communications is responsible for the appearance, design and functionality of the association's website. They should also work to coordinate and develop

SAIA's communication plan and strategy, including media platforms.

Julia Kavanto is currently the Vice President of UF Malmö, a position that has given her a significant and important insight into the works of SAIA. In this position she is used to, in collaboration with the president, take care of stakeholder relationships, which is an experience that we as the Nomination Committee believe will be useful for her as the SAIAC. The role of the Vice President requires leadership skills and structure which will be helpful competences when taking on a position in the presidium as well as leading a committee. Julia has many relevant skills that make her an excellent candidate for the position as Head of Communications in SAIA. She has previously been the head - as well as the deputy head - of the PR Committee in UF Malmö, where she was responsible for the digital marketing of the association as well as updating the UF Malmö webpage. Julia has a strong interest in the use of language in digital channels and is especially interested in developing and furthering SAIA social media strategies. The Nomination Committee additionally believes that Julia will be a great addition to the board of SAIA with her dedication to the association, positive attitude and will to work closely with the rest of the presidium.

The Nominated Candidate is: Julia Kavanto

Counter-candidate: -

The Electoral Meeting is proposed:

to elect Julia Kavanto as the Head of Communications for the operational year 2021-2022.

### Nomination Committee

The Nomination Committee is responsible for delivering a suggestion for a new presidium, as well as other key functions within SAIA. The Nomination Committee should look after the interests of the members, and act to ensure that the organisation develops in connection to the member associations. The Nomination Committee should also work to make sure that their work is done impartially and transparently, and keep in mind diversity, gender balance and geographical spread.

Nick Nguyen has a background in UF Stockholm where he has been engaged and active both locally and nationally, as the UF Stockholm communicator as well as the SAIA Representative. Nick's experiences from various positions within SAIA has given him an insight into how the organisation works and what characteristics active board members typically share. He is driven to work proactively with the recruitment of new presidium members which the Nomination Committee believes to be a great asset for ensuring and strengthening the continuity of SAIA's presidium. As Nick has experience of leading the work in a group as the previous president of Stockholm Model United Nations, the Nomination Committee is confident that he will also be a great candidate for the role of convenor.

Xhesika Gjolleshi has been an active member in UF Malmö through MUNmö, where she is currently the Head of Logistics. Her tasks include reading CVs and statements of team members,

and the Nomination Committee finds her commitment to organisation and structure to be of great benefit for next year's election process. Most importantly, Xhesika understands and values the importance of working transparently and remaining impartial during the recruitment process which makes the Nomination Committee consider her a strong candidate to be a member of next year's committee.

The Nominated Candidates are: Nick Nguyen, Xhesika Gjolleshi

Counter-candidates: -

The Electoral Meeting is proposed:

to elect Nick Nguyen as a member of the Nomination Committee and its convenor for the operational year 2021-2022.

to elect Xhesika Gjolleshi as a member of the Nomination Committee for the operational year 2021-2022.

to elect two additional members of the Nomination Committee for the operational year 2021-2022.

#### Civil Accountants

The role of the accountant is to review the actions of the Board, the financial report, as well as control that the organisation has acted in accordance with by-laws and regulatory documents. The accountant's work should proceed throughout the year, and they should be available for potential questions. It is important that the accountant can remain neutral, and make their assessment objectively and on factual basis.

Aria Nakhaei was the SAIA President in 2013-2014 and has since then kept in touch and had active contact with subsequent boards of the Associations. Aria thus has a good overview of the long-term development of the Association over the past decade. He also represented SAIA in the board of Folk och Försvar during four years between 2015 and 2019. This, combined with his thorough knowledge in organisational and structural matters in general and SAIA's by-laws and organisational structure in particular, makes Aria the ideal candidate for the position of Civil Accountant.

The Nominated Candidate is: Aria Nakhaei

The Electoral Meeting is proposed:

to elect Aria Nakhaei as the Civil Accountant for the operational year 2021-2022.

to elect a Deputy Civil Accountant for the operational year 2021-2022.

Motion about "Approve charities for Mental Health Month - fundraiser"

## Background

The board decided to have this year's Project Of The Year to be a Mental Health Month. With the purpose to do our part in tackling the societal problem of mental illness. In addition to providing events where UPF members can learn more about the issue and how to personally deal with it, we in the working group also wanted to shed a light and support charitable organizations that deal with different aspects of Mental Health issues.

To include our members in this process we have asked them to send in their suggestion of charities to be included in the fundraiser. We received a total of three suggestions: Aldrig Ensam, The Brain & Behavior Research Foundation and Mind.

Where the raised money goes is a sensitive thing and needs the approval of the board. In addition to this motion there is a document with more in depth information of each charity that will be decided upon.

#### Purpose

This will give us the ability to give away the money raised in the Mental Health Month-fundraiser to charities our members want the money to go to. This will then give these charities with a bit more resources to do their very important job.

#### Proposal

We propose that the board decides

- To 1. Accept that Aldrig Ensam receive money from The Mental Health Month-fundraiser
- To 2. Accept that Mind receive money from The Mental Health Month -fundraiser
- To 3. Accept that The Brain & Behavior Research Foundation and Mind receive money from The Mental Health Month -fundraiser

The working group for the Project Of The Year/Mental Health Month:

Maximilian Onkenhout

Julia Van Veen

Linn Alfredeén

Miljaemilia Wala

Saga Smith

Info about charities

1. Aldrig Ensam / Never Alone

About: Never Alone is a non-profit organisation founded by Charlie Eriksson in 2013 to contribute to a more open dialogue on mental illness. The purpose is to spread information and knowledge to break the silence and all taboos. Everyone can suffer either you or someone close to you. Never Alone's core message is that no one should have to suffer from mental illness in secret.

Learn more at: www.aldrigensam.com

Motivation: Because they do a great job and should be highlighted and can do great use of the money.

#### 2. Mind

About: Swedish organisation for mental health, founded in 1931. They have a number of different call lines for suicide, parents, elderly, provide information and lobbying for mental health issuse. A part of the "Svenska Insamlingskontroll" - an independent organization that make sure that the money goes to the intended cause.

Learn more at: https://mind.se/

Motivation: One of the biggest organisations that deals with mental health issues in Sweden

#### 3. The Brain & Behavior Research Foundation

About: Founded in 1987 and aims to alleviate the suffering caused by mental illness by awarding grants that will lead to advances and breakthroughs in scientific research. 100% of the donation goes to grants, they are the top non-government grant funder in the U.S. and have funded 6,000+ grants for 418 million dollars.

'Learn more at: https://www.bbrfoundation.org/about

Motivation: We still have a very shallow understanding of the brain and we need to do more research.

#### Investments

Gaby and I have looked into different computer alternatives and ended up deciding that our first priority would be to get a new iMac. It's a 10th generation computer. The other iMac would be an 8th Generation for approx. 18 000 SEK.

With the following specifications:

- 27'
- Retina 5K screen
- 3.1 GHz six-core Intel Core i% turbo boost up to 4,5 GHz and with 8 GB processor. And include a mouse and keyboard.

The computer will cost 21 255 SEK which is 1 255 SEK more than what we were allowed to spend. If the board decides to not approve to expand our budget, we have two other options that we've looked into that will help us fall within the budget. But an iMac is what we think our first priority would be. Because we've only looked at desktops and only have the prices for the desktops which does not include mouse and keyboard we haven't added these suggestions to this document.

Second option would be a 27' Lenovo and third option would be a 27' HP. However, I propose that the board decides to approve to allocate another 1 255 SEK so that we can buy an iMac 10th generation computer for 21 255 SEK.

Soha Kadhim, President 20/21