



Signatories for the operational year 20/21

Background

According to 6.1 the Board manages the Association's funds and assets. This means that the Board has the authority to enter into all legal acts such as, for example, agreements. However, in 6.2 in the By-laws, the President and the Treasurer are individually signatories for the Association. Nonetheless, according to the Association's praxis, these do not receive their authorization until after the Statutory board meeting, which is usually held in late August, or early September and add a couple of weeks for it to be finalized and attested.

This method, in our opinion, is very ineffective since the new Board's mandate starts on the 1st of July. This current system puts restraints on the new President and Treasurer since they cannot access the bank accounts, or handle other issues connected to the mandate until they have been delegated this by the Board. Furthermore, they become depended on their predecessors to handle these issues, even though the predecessors no longer have the mandate for doing this, since they step off their positions on the 30th of June.

Purpose

The purpose of this motion is to, hopefully, make the transition for the President and Treasurer easier and create a better system for handling this hand-over more smoothly. As well as make sure that the people with the right mandate have access to what they need in order for them (the President and the Treasurer) to fulfill their legal and financial commitments as soon as their mandate period begins.

The Board should therefore appoint these signatories earlier than when the Statutory board meeting is supposed to be held.

We therefore suggest that for the operational year 2020-2021 (200701 to 210630), the following should be elected signatories for Utrikespolitiska Föreningen Lund (845003-0096):

Soha Kadhim ()
Lovisa Lundin Ziegler ()

And that the former President and Treasurer's signatory rights should be withdrawn by the board as of 200701.

Proposal

We move that the Board decides,

To designate Soha Kadhim () and Lovisa Lundin Ziegler () as individual signatories for the period 200701 to 210630 and,

To withdraw signatory rights from Jesper Olsson () and Benjamin Johansson () from 200701

Soha Kadhim
UPF Secretary 19/20, UPF President 20/21

Lovisa Lundin Ziegler
Treasurer 20/21



Motion about Economic Policy

Background

Financial stability is essential for the long-term survival of UPF. To ensure such stability, consistency in economic routines is necessary. Such consistency has a democratic function, in ensuring that funds are spent according to certain formal procedures. Besides, a clear framework for spending can help maintain the general objective that resources are always spent with the best interest of the organization in mind.

The awareness of economic guidelines has been limited in recent years. A clear policy can solve that problem, while serving as a reference whenever there are misunderstandings or disagreements.

Purpose

The purpose of these guidelines is to provide a clear framework to support all decision making related to spending within the Association of Foreign Affairs.

The policy is centered around three general principles, which should characterise the financial philosophy of UPF. Firstly, assets should be spent with the long-term survival of the organization in mind. Secondly, the economic management of the organization should aim for consistency in terms of routines and procedures. Thirdly, expenses should be made with value for money as well as the best interest of the organization in mind.

The policy is intended to support the board in managing the finances of UPF. With clear guidelines, the economic independence of committees and other decision-makers can be maintained.

Proposal

I propose that the annual meeting decides:

To adopt the suggested economic policy

*Benjamin Johansson
Treasurer and Board Member 2019/2020*

*Mara Glas
Interim Treasurer and Board Member 2020*



ASSOCIATION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

LUND EST. 1935

Economic Policy

The Association of Foreign Affairs in Lund (UPF) recognizes that economic awareness is essential for the long-term survival of the organization. It is also convinced of the need for consistency in economic routines. Such consistency has a democratic function, in ensuring that funds are spent according to certain formal procedures. Besides, a clear framework for spending can help maintain the general objective that resources are always spent with the best interest of the organization in mind.

This policy establishes general procedures for the economic management of the Association of Foreign Affairs in Lund (UPF).

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These procedures and principles apply to all expenses of the organization that are not explicitly exempted by the decision of the board.

1. Regulation

- 1.1. Any expense exceeding the amount of 3000 SEK must be proposed as a motion and approved by the board at a board meeting. Exempt from this requirement are operational expenses. Expenses which are regular in character, covered by a specific partial budget, and also naturally connected to the core function of that partial budget are considered operational
- 1.2. All spending of UPF assets should be made with the following principles in mind:
 - The long-term survival of the organization
 - Consistency in economic procedures
 - The best interest of the organization and its members. An expense should not be made if that interest is better served by spending the money elsewhere
- 1.3. Committees independently manage their partial budgets. In doing so, the committees are responsible for abiding to the economic policy
- 1.4. By decision of the board, project groups or committees can be granted the mandate to spend a certain allocation of money without following the procedure in point 1.1. Instead, the spending should be tied to a specific aim or purpose stated as the mandate is given
- 1.5. Reimbursement is not guaranteed if an expense has not been made in accordance with the economic policy
- 1.6. When the cash boxes are used for events, the heads of the organizing committee are responsible for them. A committee member or board member must be guarding them at all times

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Regulation

1. All spending of UPF assets should be made with the following principles in mind:

- The long-term survival of the organization
- Consistency in economic procedures
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1.1. Committees independently manage their partial budgets. In doing so, the committees are responsible for abiding by the Economic Policy.

1.2 The Presidents and the Treasurer manage the shared expenses. In doing so, the Presidents and the Treasurer are responsible for abiding to the Economic Policy.

2. Any expense exceeding the amount of 3000 SEK must be proposed as a motion and approved by the board at a board meeting.

2.1. Expenses which are covered by a committee budget, regular in character, and naturally connected to the core function of that committee are considered exempt.

2.2. Shared expenses which are regular in character are considered exempt.

3. By decision of the board, project groups or committees can be granted the mandate to spend a certain allocation of money without following the procedures in point 2. Instead, the spending should be tied to a specific aim or purpose stated as the mandate is given.

4. When the cash boxes are used for events, the heads of the organizing committee are responsible for them. A committee member or board member must be guarding them at all times.

5. Reimbursement is not guaranteed if an expense has not been made in accordance with the economic policy.



Assigning budget post to the Election Committee

Background

During the operational year of 2019/2020 the Board has on numeral occasions discussed the potential and the possibilities of developing the work of the Election Committee in the association. In these discussions we have also mentioned a possible collaboration with other associations similar to UPF. In an effort to investigate what investments can be made, the current board has reached out to LUPEF who has responded positively to the idea of a collaboration.

We are confident that we can find appropriate and cost-efficient ways to benefit this motions purpose and more purposefully carry out the Elections Committees duties of finding the right person on the right position of UPF.

Further the Election Committee has previously asked for funding of fika for the interviews during the nomination process. This would ensure a nice environment for the interviewees, while not consuming the weekly fika belonging to the committees for their meetings.

Finally, the election committee is kindly asking for limited funds for hangouts to build the chemistry of- and give back to- the committee members themselves.

Purpose

The Election Committee has a central task in putting together suggestions for new board members and trustees within UPF. This vetting procedure is central for the association's work to run smoothly throughout the year. Accordingly, we feel the necessity to give the Election Committee the resources to develop their procedure and competence on the matter of interviews and nominations. The economic calculation for these activities would include an amount similar to a visiting lecturer, plus money for fika and hangout.

Proposal

To strongly urge the new board to assign a budget post to the election committee.

To assign 4000kr from this year's budget to the election committee to carry out its activities.

Background information to the discussion points

9. Membership recruitment during the pandemic

Due to Corona we have cancelled all public events, one impact of this has been that there is no physical platform to meet, and sign up to UPF. The effect has been rapidly declining membership numbers, something that will only get worse if the situation remains the same during the early parts of the fall semester. What we need to discuss is how the new board can find ways to keep people involved and give them incentive to sign up despite the the circumstances. This is important both for keeping an active membership base, but also to ensure our funding, which partially depends on how many members we have.

10. Inclusivity & Diversity

After our last sittning at Lunds Nation a member approached the presidents about how he/she overheard a slur about him/her. What was said was a derogatory term for LGBTQ-people aimed at him/her in a vicious tone. Like most can understand this member was both angered and sad, and left the afterparty. In this particular situation it is obviously unacceptable to destroy someone else's night because you are an obnoxious asshole who says dumb shit, but to us it raises questions from a wider perspective too. How can we work on becoming more inclusive over the coming years? Below you find some questions that has been raised lately, would love to hear your thoughts on how we can reach tangible improvement on these 'soft' issues going forward. Overall we might be doing better than most associations on these issues, but the discussion is meant as a stepping-stone for improvement.

Some questions that has been brought up to us at various points during the last two years

How do we ensure a welcoming environment for everyone?

Normally the top positions are held by people who have studied more than two years in Sweden (mainly Swedish citizens), how can we include the perspectives of international students more in the management of UPF?

Gender norms impact many aspects of everyday life, including work in UPF, how can do we create an environment were everyone is heard?

Heterosexual norms are pretty dominant in UPF if you start thinking about it, does this affect us more than we realize?

UPF has a reputation for having a high threshold for entry, and is sometimes perceived as 'elitist', can we do something about this?

What mandate should the presidents, sexual harassment contact persons etc have to suspend someone that acts out of line with our values?

Related to this point, do we need to define our values more in-depth than just the current emphasis on "human rights"? Or is 'none mentioned, none forgotten' a good approach?