



Extra Board Meeting,

2022-03-01, 20:00-21:00

Online, Zoom

AF-Borgen

The Board 21/22

Association of Foreign Affairs, Lund

Attending: Henrietta Kulleborn, Christopher Fletcher-Sandersjöo, Sofia Gierow, Ondrej Gomola, Christoffer Nielsen, Jan Trudrung, Ismar Didic, Miljaemilia Wala, Rebecca Majewski, Johan Schneider, Nicolas Jendi, Chunchu Song, Camilla Castelanelli, Bahadir Sirin, Emma Rohman, Helene Witte

1. Opening of the Meeting

Henrietta Kulleborn opens the meeting at 20:10

2. Election of Chair of the Meeting

The board elects, by acclamation, Henrietta Kulleborn as chair of the meeting at 20:11

3. Election of Secretary of the Meeting

The board elects, by acclamation, Christopher Fletcher-Sandersjöo as secretary of the meeting at 20:11

4. Election of Attesters and Vote Counters of the Meeting

The board elects Miljaemilia Wala and Emma Rohman as attesters and vote counters of the meeting at 20:12

5. Consideration of Quorum

Henrietta Kulleborn explains that in order for us to vote

and proceed with this meeting then at least half of the board needs to be here.

Henrietta Kulleborn states that 16 board members with voting rights are attending the board meeting and this means that quorum is reached.

6. Approval of the Electoral Roll

The electoral roll is set at 16 at 20:14

7. Approval of the Agenda

Henrietta Kulleborn wants to change protocol as she received a late motion from Ondrej Gomola and wants to put it on the agenda as 10.2 (9.2 with the added changes).

Henrietta Kulleborn asks if we can move point 9: Fundraiser for Ukraine to point 10 and adjust the motion accordingly?

The agenda with the added changes is approved by the board, by acclamation, at 20:18

8. Decision Point: Ratification of PC Decision

No PC-decisions has been made

9. Motions

9.1. Motion about UPF making a statement condemning the Russian invasion of Ukraine

Johan Schneider states that this is eurocentric and we need to be careful where to draw the line and justify why we now make a statement.

Johan Schneider says that he is for making a statement but we should then look into making other statements as well

Ondrej Gomola says that there are predominantly European people in the association. Perhaps making this statement could be seen as a first of many. There are issues that transcend borders of being apolitical

Helene Witte says that she shares similar concerns as Johan Schneider. This Ukraine conflict has been going on for a long time but only now we care. Do we have enough historical background knowledge of the issue to make a

statement? We have to differentiate ourselves from the state representatives and make our statement clear that we are not anti-russian but rather anti Putin's regime. The statement is too much anti russian and pro european than it should be

Rebecca Majewski says that we can speak up when human rights and our values are violated even though we are an apolitical association. Maybe this should be a wake up call for us to start making statements about the violation of our values in the future. Even though the Eurocentric aspect of the topic is relevant, we are still much more closely affected by it and therefore, we really should say something about it. Being silent in these moments is wrong. We should say that we stand in solidarity with Ukraine.

Nicolas Jendi says that we are politically non-affiliated, not apolitical completely. Us being apolitical is not true in traditional nor in practical terms as we disseminate information about political matters constantly. When it comes to eurocentrism, it may be true but this situation happens to be located in Europe and disseminating information about this is about our purpose and we really should do that. While there are tragedies all over the world, this event is an enormous event in world history. It is comparable to events such as 911 and Berlin wall fall. We should therefore really take a stance here and by doing so, it does not mean that we could not take a stance in the future about similar issues.

Henrietta Kulleborn says that Christopher Fletcher-Sandersjöo can no longer act as secretary as he is suffering from technical issues.

Henrietta Kulleborn asks the board if they can elect Miljaemilia Wala as secretary of the meeting while making Christopher Fletcher-Sandersjöo an attster and vote counter?

The board agrees to elect Miljaemilia Wala as secretary of the meeting and making Christopher Fletcher-Sandersjöo a vote counter and attester at 20.37

Henrietta Kulleborn mentions that she understands the feelings around the issue and about the strong will to make a statement about this issue as this is truly a war in our continent and we are close to it. However, there are issues we should take into consideration. What are the purposes of the association?

- *Highlights that the purpose of the association is to disseminate information and implement human rights. Our statutes do not say anything directly about making statements against violations of human*

rights in her interpretation.

Henrietta Kulleborn gives information about UFS stance on the issue. UFS is not going to make a statement as certain associations are against it, mainly UF Malmö and UF Uppsala due to their own reasons regarding their own associations functions.

Henrietta Kulleborn says that it should be clearer in the statements that we are not taking any discriminatory stance against Russian people but rather the regime in Russia right now.

Camilla Castelanelli Comments regarding the UFS stance. Very surprising that they are not making a statement because of their worries of not being able to invite a certain lecture etc.

Camilla Castelanelli would like to highlight what is said on our website about world war 2. UPF Lund has taken a proud stance against the war along with other student organizations in Lund. Camilla Castelanelli agrees with what has been said before that we have been silent about wars since WW2, but we should start somewhere. Would like to highlight that our predecessors did something and went against the neutrality of Sweden by taking a stance. Also, our statutes should be amended so that they are better suited for crisis communication. We cannot wait five days to make statements about important and pressing matters such as this. Would like to highlight that PR heads are very uncomfortable right now about posting about other things when we have not yet posted anything regarding this matter. She emphasizes wanting to have a decision about this so they can post as soon as possible. Again mentioning that this is not a political stance but a stance against violation of human rights

Christoffer Nielsen agrees with Johan Schneider and Helene Witte what has been said earlier. However, in his reading about the statutes are not about not being able to make statements. We cannot also be in charge of the decisions of why no statements have not been made in the past. If we make a decision to take a stance, we provide guidance for our successors on how to act in situations like this so that we can make statements when the gravity and severity of the situation is this big.

Emma Rohman is for making a statement. We should write the statement in a manner that everyone can stand behind the statement. We are very closely affected by the situation, and shouldn't pretend otherwise.

Sofia Gierow does not see eurocentrism as a problem. We are after all Europeans and located in Europe even if we try to be international. Supports making a statement and has a proposition for a change for the statement when it comes to formalia and some other aspects in the statement.

Bahadir Sirin says that we should not get too stuck in the past. We are eurocentric in many ways, even our values are in fact Eurocentric. We cannot really claim that we are not Eurocentric while we are making a good job with trying to include a variety of perspectives. The actions that are going on are condemnable. The most important thing to remember is that there is a war going on. A human tragedy. Therefore, we should not be discussing this so much. We should draw a line between political affiliation and our values that we support in our association. There have been questions in committee why we have yet not posted about the situation as we are so closely associated with foreign policy and international politics. We have to compare so much about tragedies. They are all tragedies and we should support those who need support in this situation.

Ismar Didic

- *To show solidarity in this situation is a good direction of how we should be molding the organization for the future. Certain events shape how we act and this event is and could be one of them.*
- *Being silent is much louder than saying something. Thus, essentially we should say something, anything but ultimately to show solidarity when things like this happen. We should shape the organization to a direction where things like this are condemnable even if they have not yet been condemned in the past.*

Johan Schneider

- *Would like to highlight that we should make a statement but we should really just consider how this affects our work in the future about making statements on other similar condemnable matters.*
- *Emphasis that if we make this statement, we need to then really start making statements in the future about similar condemnable matters. If we do not do this, he is not comfortable making a statement about this then.*

Nicolas Jendi

- *Is very much for amending the statement.*
- *Would like to highlight that we are able to take other actions than our sister*

associations under the same umbrella.

- *Committee has been concerned that we have not yet made a statement and have been asking how they can contribute. If members do not agree with what has been said, they can vote us out. That is why there are elections in our organization*
- *About eurocentrism: We are Europeans. It is also therefore much more concerning for us. Right now it is definitely not the time to be concerned about eurocentrism. Last week we were not concerned about the issue and it should not be an argument why we do not make a statement because of eurocentrism.*
- *Would also like to highlight that many of our members have joined UPF precisely because we support action against matters like this.*

Henrietta Kulleborn:

- *Would like to highlight that we are really having this meeting and not having a PC decision.*
- *We are a democratic organization and we should make decisions based on meetings where people can raise their voice and discuss the matter and then vote in an informative manner.*
- *According to our statutes, we have acted as soon as possible. IF wished, this should be brought up to our members who question why action has been so slow.*
- *About the proposed changes made by Sofia Gierow, she would like to add that we called an extra board meeting as soon as the invasion by Russia happened and this should be added to the proposal.*

Camilla Castelanelli

- *Thanking everyone about the comments made.*
- *Would like to say that by us making a statement, maybe this is then a wakeup call to start acting for many other Lund's student organizations.*
- *In lundagård there has been an article today that is bringing up this issue.*

Rebecca Majewski

- *Understands why we have been slow in our response, however, this has awakened many feelings and emotions regarding the issue.*
- *Brings up the same points about eurocentrism that has been said before. It should not stop us from acting*

Helene Witte

- *Is not against the statement but about the phrasing in the statement.*

- *Important to put something out there.*
- *This could be a start for standing more actively against human right violations in conflict zones.*

Henrietta calls an end to the debate. Asks if the board is ready to go to the end of debate.

Nicolas Jendi asks if the end of debate means voting about motion and which motion we then vote on.

Henrietta Kulleborn clarifies that discussing which motion we vote for comes after the end of debate.

Chunchu Song asks if reservation made when voting means that this reservation will be seen on the statement.

We would not have to have a reservation by those who vote but by the board.

Henrietta Kulleborn asks if we can go to the end of the debate.

The board agreed, by acclamation, to end the debate.

There are three different proposals. Henrietta's proposal highlights the date when we started the discussion and clearly mentions that it is the Russians that we condemn but the current Russian government. Sofia's proposal is aligned with the original one while there is an addition that the extra board meeting was called. Then there is the original proposal.

Jan Trudrung:

- *Does not support the names being under the statement. If we vote through having a statement, we should be united behind it and not have particular names behind the statement.*

Bahadir Sirin:

- *Urges everyone to read sofia's statement and everyone to read it through*

Nicolas Jendi agrees that Sofia's statement is what he encourages people to support

Henrietta Kulleborn wants to add to Sofia's proposal that we have started this process immediately when the invasion happened and not only when this extra board meeting was held.

Henrietta Kulleborn withdraws her proposal. Therefore we have two proposals: Sofia Gierow's version and the original.

Henrietta Kulleborn asks the writers of the original motion whether they are willing to merge the two suggested proposals.

The board is voting on Sofia Gierow's proposal.

The results from the voting:

14 in favor and 2 abstain votes 21.33.

Chunchu Song abstains from voting

9.2. Ondrej motion article

The article lists out possible resources where one could donate money etc. to concretely help out Ukrainians.

Baha is leaving the meeting and Henrietta asks if the electoral roll can be changed from 16 to 15.

Ondrej highlights that UPF has done this sort of thing before.

Helene asks to take swish away because it may feel pressuring for some people to make a donation.

Ondrej says that he thinks it is not a big deal to have the swish there

Henrietta lets the board know that Jette has entered the room and therefore asks the board if the electoral roll can be updated to 16 again. The board agrees.

Henrietta briefs jette about the current discussion.

Rebecca says she is fine of not including the Polish NGO she is working for.

Camilla asks how to treat the article in case it is published. Whether or not infographics can be posted.

Henrietta asks if the board is ready to go to the end of debate.

Results from the vote have made the motion passed.

10. Discussion Point: Fundraiser for Ukraine

Question here is whether we should participate or not?

Henrietta Kulleborn mentions that this may be an issue when it comes to our grants but giving and supporting with manpower is not an issue.

Sofia says that we may be doing a little bit too much at the same time if we do all of the three different things that were discussed in this meeting at the same time.

Miljaemilia Wala says that it is better to do more than too little.

11. Other Points

No other points

12. Confirmation of Next Board

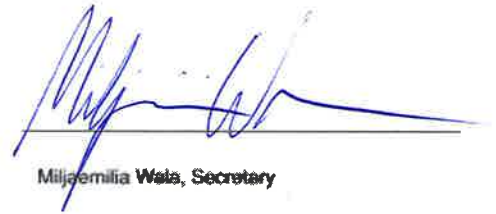
Next meeting is on the 10th of March.

13. Meeting Adjourned

Henrietta Kulleborn adjourned the meeting



Henrietta Kulleborn, President



Miljaemilia Wala, Secretary



Christopher Fletcher-Sandersjö, Attester



Emma Rohman, Attester