

## **Board Meeting V**

2025-11-20, 16:00

UPF Office

Board of 25/26

Association of Foreign Affairs Lund

Present: *Emelie Andersson, Gaia Zubrickaite, Klara Sjöström, Lina Ingstrand, Maya Bukhory, Max Ulander, Micol Zubrickaite, Sam Löfström,*

Online: *Filippo Fioretti Boccato, Nomena Andrianjafy, Michael Alexander Müller, Erika Clesi*

1. Opening of the Meeting

*Vice President Micol Zubrickaite opens the meeting at 16.07.*

2. Election of Chair of the Meeting

*Micol Zubrickaite is elected the Chair of the Meeting at 16.07.*

3. Election of Secretary of the Meeting

*Emelie Andersson is elected the Secretary of the Meeting at 16.07.*

4. Election of Attestors and Vote Counters of the Meeting

*Lina Ingstrand and Klara Sjöström are elected the Attestors and Vote Counters of the Meeting at 16.08.*

5. Approval of the Electoral Roll

*The electoral roll is at 10 at 16.08.*

6. Approval of the Agenda

*Micol proposes to add a motion to point 7; Decision Point: Proposal for Project of the Year 2025/2026.*

*Filippo Fioretti Boccato proposes to add point 11; Discussion Point: Attendance and Participation in Committee Meetings.*

*The Board approves the revised agenda at 16.10.*

7. Decision Point: Proposal for Project of the Year 2025/2026: (1) submitted by Micol Zubrickaite; (2) submitted by Sabina Rameke

*Micol presents her motion for the Project of the Year, proposing an exhibition exploring the role and impact of war correspondents in shaping our understanding of global events. The project highlights how journalists shape our understanding of global events, often by risking their lives to document the realities of conflict. It will profile key correspondents, trace how the field has evolved, and prompt reflection on the power of narratives in world affairs. The exhibition also offers a chance to combine research with creative presentation. It will launch during a dedicated weekend featuring speakers, networking, and a film screening, free for members and ticketed for external guests.*

*Max presents Sabina's motion for the Project of the Year, proposing an exhibition and series of activities themed around the seas, structured along three major axes: Sustainability, Security, and Trade. Each axis reflects a key priority in global geopolitics, providing a unifying visual and thematic identity while allowing contributions from multiple committees and coverage of diverse regions. The project offers opportunities for collaboration across committees, including lectures, interviews, and site visits. Potential highlights include visits to companies such as Alfa Laval and Maersk, engagement with maritime schools and research groups in Copenhagen and Malmö, and knowledge exchange with Estonia on Baltic Sea security. Travel could organize study trips, and committees such as Career and Perspective could host events or interviews with experts. The project is planned to run from January to May and is designed to combine research, networking, and creative presentation.*

*Klara asks both Max and Micol where they would allocate the money, and what they would use it for.*

*Max answers that it would mainly be for us for travel costs and then perhaps also for speakers.*

*Micol notes that the money would be used primarily for banners, the venue, and, if necessary, speaker costs. Her idea is to form collaborations to secure more funding.*

*Klara asks Micol about the event's time frame.*

*Micol states that the event will take place next Spring. She estimates it would require about three months to plan and would most likely start in February.*

*Maya Bukhory joins the meeting at 16.20*

*Lina believes that both ideas are great and interesting. She observes that Micol's concept is more of a single large event, while Max's idea represents a broader theme spread out over the semester. Lina is primarily debating which concept would be more successful, as both are intriguing to her.*

*Klara inquires with Gaia Zubrickaite about the effectiveness of the Activity Committee's events, specifically seeking insights into participant interest and attendance. She aims to assess how many individuals might be inclined to join these upcoming events.*

*Gaia says it might be challenging to compare these projects to their usual activities. However, she believes there shouldn't be any issues and assumes it would be similar to the participation in Lecture events.*

*Micol discloses, for transparency, that she will be doing her thesis next semester and is unsure of the level of stress and work this would entail.*

*Sam inquires of both Max and Micol about their pragmatic expectations regarding what they can offer UPF members for their events. He also wants to know what they hope to gain from this experience.*

*Max responds that Sabina's project would not only enhance knowledge and foster valuable networking opportunities but also provide cost savings for UPF members due to the secured funding.*

*Micol responds that this presents an excellent opportunity to develop a larger project. It's a wonderful chance for people to come together and collaborate. This initiative can significantly benefit UPF by expanding its reach, while also potentially generating revenue.*

*Michael Alexander Müller states that he finds both proposals quite intriguing. He points out that the travel committee's proposal leans heavily towards travel experiences, while Micol's focuses more on delivering a strong, immediate impact. He highlights that there are numerous pros and cons to consider. Additionally, he expresses concern that Travel's Project, stretching from January to May, may result in a loss of momentum and that people might lose interest over such an extended period.*

*Lina asks Micol about the research working group and her thoughts on who would be included.*

*Micol answers that she would want them to be open to all UPF members.*

*Lina is in agreement with Michael regarding the extended timeline for the Travel project. She believes that spreading this out over the course of a month could lead to more effective results. In her view, this approach may significantly enhance the chances of success.*

*Gaia says to Micol that she is a bit confused about the research groups and how they will be organised with the various journalists and their respective stories.*

*Micol explains that she intentionally broadened the concept to remain open to contributions from the working groups. Her vision is to spotlight one or two individuals in the exhibition, and if they are still living, she would love to extend them an invitation.*

*Nomena Andrianjafy inquires about the photographs that will be showcased in the exhibition. She asks Micol if she has specific individuals in mind to be featured. Additionally, Nomena wonders whether Micol is considering only professional*

*journalists or if she is also open to including others who may not have that title but possess meaningful experiences that could contribute to the exhibition.*

*Micol expresses her primary goal of inviting individuals who have made a significant impact, and therefore, she's also open to welcoming newer faces in the field.*

*Klara asks about the application process and if anyone can join.*

*Micol says that she wants it to be open to everyone in UPF, but will consider holding interviews.*

*Sam inquires about how Micol's event would like it to look and whether it will have a more formal tone.*

*Micol expresses her desire for a more formal approach to the event. She envisions collaborating with the University to elevate the occasion and make it more prominent. She also notes that while the exhibition will still take place over one weekend, the banners will remain in place for an extended period, contributing to the overall visibility of the exhibition.*

*Lina asks Micol where she would like the exhibition to be held.*

*Micol mentions that she hasn't reached out to anyone at this point. However, the idea of Skissernas seems like a promising venue.*

*Klara inquires further about the funding, expressing concern that the 5000 kr wouldn't be sufficient to cover the rental of a space for an extended period, as Micol has envisioned.*

*Micol answers that the collaborators would hopefully be willing to assist with this if it proves to be feasible.*

*Lina says that she gets a better picture of the Travel's project as it seems more tangible, while there are a lot of question marks about Micol's proposal for her event. Lina also says that regardless of which project gets chosen, both would be fun to see come to life and to see something happen with.*

*Emelie expresses her agreement with Lina regarding the importance of tangibility. She suggests that since Micol's Project will require additional funding, the Project of*

*the Year funds will not be adequate to execute the idea. Therefore, the event could still take place, but it might be more appropriate to consider it outside of the Project of the Year framework.*

*Sam points out that continuing to align UPF's image in Lund with a more formal appearance, akin to Studentafton, is important. He believes that Micol's event will further reinforce this and align more closely with the Association.*

*Maya argues that, in contrast, Travel's project better aligns with UPF's role through emphasizing a strong focus on collaboration.*

*Sam also adds that he believes that Micol's project would bring in a lot of good networking opportunities.*

*Klara requests a secret ballot vote.*

*The electoral roll is set to 11 at 16.46*

*The board performs a secret ballot vote.*

*The board approves Sabina's motion to decide on the seas as a theme for the Project of the Year for the 2025/2026 operational year at 16.50.*

#### 8. Decision Point: Motion to Open Investment Account

*Klara explains that during the last Operational Year, the board successfully implemented a strategy for long-term, sustainable financial management by allocating a portion of its savings into low-risk financial assets. She emphasized that this motion aims to put into action the board's prior decision to open an investment account, transfer existing funds from the current savings account, and allocate investments into two carefully selected low-to-medium-risk, diversified funds. This approach was designed to safeguard the association's assets against inflation while optimizing the use of its capital, all without jeopardizing its financial stability.*

*Klara details that she had the option to invest the funds independently, but she chose to now involve the board in the decision-making process because she felt it was important to gain insights from the board members.*

*Klara informs the board about her discussions with the bank, which recommended two specific funds for investment: Swedbank Robur Bas 50, which carries a slightly higher risk due to its stock focus, and Swedbank Robur Bas 25, which is lower risk and emphasizes bonds. The proposed investment entails allocating a total of 320,000.00 SEK to Swedbank Robur Bas 50 and 80,000.00 SEK to Swedbank Robur Bas 25.*

*Lina asks if we have money in another account that we can use for normal operations and such.*

*Klara answers that we do, so this would not affect our liquidity.*

*Sam mentions that this topic was thoroughly discussed last year, with careful consideration given to all aspects.*

*Klara expresses her reluctance to proceed with the last treasurer's initial plan, as it was quite a high-risk financial asset, which contradicts our policy. She believes these options are riskier than the alternatives suggested by the banker.*

*Michael questions whether Klara's recommendation for these lower-risk options is influenced solely by the bank's desire to secure these funds, especially since this bank isn't the same one that was approached last year.*

*Klara acknowledges that this is a valid point, but believes the banker would want to do her job well and provide her with accurate information.*

*Lina asks Klara whether she has consulted with other banks.*

*Klara says that she has not.*

*Micol asks Klara where the funds would be going, as different funds have different agendas regarding whether they fit with our sustainability policies or not.*

*Klara answers that she explained to the bank about our strict environmental policy. She assured the board that the funds will be invested in options with the highest sustainability rankings available, focusing on the most ethical investments. Klara acknowledged the valuable points raised by the board and emphasized the importance of gathering diverse opinions. She expressed that she doesn't want to rush anyone into*

*approving this motion and is open to scheduling additional meetings with the bank if necessary.*

*Lina says that it would be a good idea to perhaps discuss with other banks in order to be able to make the most informed decision.*

*Nomena expresses that she's not concerned about the need to explore other banks. She believes that if Klara feels confident in this choice, she should proceed with it. She also states that, considering our long history with Swedbank, we should be able to trust that they are reliable.*

*Klara agrees with Nomena that since we have had them for such a long time, they should be trustworthy, but she recognizes other people's concerns.*

*Lina emphasizes that given the magnitude of this investment, it's worth taking the necessary time to ensure we make the best possible decision. She clarifies that this isn't a matter of trust; it's about securing the most advantageous deal. Taking additional time could be beneficial, as even a small percentage difference can lead to significant financial outcomes in the long run, particularly since this money will be set aside for an extended period.*

*Max agrees with Lina.*

*Klara acknowledges that her understanding of funds and investments is not very extensive. She invites anyone on the board who has more expertise in this area to step forward and offer their assistance, as she would greatly appreciate it.*

*The Board decides to reject the motion 17.12.*

9. Decision Point: Motion Addition of a Budget Post

*Klara presents the motion. She details that the purpose of the motion is to add a new budget post under revenues titled 'Career revenues' in order to account for the separate earnings the Career committee will generate.*

*The Board approves the motion at 17.13.*

10. Information Point: Orbi

*Klara wants to give an update on Orbi, stating that we are going to start using it very soon, but there are some minor tweaks to address first, which are mostly about making the page look good.*

*Erika Clesi joins the meeting at 17.13*

*Gaia leaves the meeting at 17.15*

11. Discussion Point: Attendance and Participation in Committee Meetings

*Filippo would like to inquire with the board about how heads perceive attendance at committee meetings. He notes that while the magazine consistently has a sufficient number of writers, it appears that participation has dwindled compared to last year.*

*Michael says that for Debate, there are around 10-12 people each week which is more than last year.*

*Max says that at the last Travel meeting, there were 12 people in total, which is a record for them. They usually have at least 6 attendees.*

*Maya details that Webzine has similar numbers to last year.*

*Sam is not sure how many people came last year. He says that it varies a lot, but that Career usually has around 7-8 attendees at their meetings.*

*Lina says that Lecture has less participation than last year, with around 4-10 people each meeting*

*Filippos says he has some difficulties retaining the members who come and wanted to ask the board about this out of curiosity.*

12. Discussion Point: Trip to Estonia

*Emelie outlines that the Presidium has deliberated on the selection process for the 20 participants who will travel to Estonia in the spring. She explains that they think it is best that the travel committee should oversee the selection, as they do for all trips. Additionally, she further suggests that once the participants are chosen, the travel committee should present the list to the board. This would allow for a reconvening to*

*discuss the rationale behind the selections, thereby ensuring transparency in the decision-making process.*

*Max believes this is a solid idea and inquires whether more active members should receive greater consideration.*

*Emelie says that the Presidium has discussed this and their take on it is that both more active members and those who were involved with the RSR planning should perhaps be taken into consideration.*

*Sam agrees with the logic that people who have been more involved in the RSR planning should get more precedence.*

*Sam leaves the meeting at 17.29*

*Micol highlights that the Magazine Committee writing articles about the trip is a key aspect of ongoing collaboration with RSR. She asks how many people Filippo envisions will attend the trip to Estonia.*

*Filippo expresses some uncertainty, indicating that at least two people are needed since there are two articles to be written. He mentions that, in general, this hasn't been a topic of extensive discussion within the committee.*

*Lina emphasizes the importance of establishing a clear framework for who is chosen to participate and what prerequisites must be met, particularly regarding transparency.*

*Maya agrees and says she was going to say the same thing.*

*Filippo agrees with Lina as well.*

*Emelie concurs, emphasizing that when it comes to selecting participants for the trip, priority should be given to one's involvement in RSR planning rather than the specific role they hold within UPF.*

*Micol acknowledges the agreement but emphasizes the importance of transparency regarding the priority given to those who have been more actively involved. She points out that we've promoted this free trip to many new members and should therefore ensure the transparency of the selection made.*

*Lina raises the point that there could be an issue with the lack of prior communication regarding how increased involvement correlates with a higher likelihood of participation. However, despite this concern, she fundamentally agrees with the reasoning presented.*

*Lina suggests that when it comes to advertising and applications, we might consider implementing quotas, such as five people to be chosen for their involvement in RSR planning, and so forth. Additionally, we could explore various criteria to guide the decisions.*

*Max agrees.*

*The board's consensus on the matter is that the Presidium and the Travel committee will discuss the selection process framework and then reconvene with the board on Slack.*

13. Discussion Point: The Board of UPF Lund

*Lina references her previous board experience, highlighting how her last role taught her the importance of balancing individual committee interests with overarching board responsibilities. She illustrates this concept by discussing the idea of “wearing different hats.” She elaborates that in our discussions, we should be aware when we’re more focused on our committee roles than on our responsibilities as board members, and be prepared to address that distinction in different context.*

*Lina emphasizes the necessity of entering board meetings with a mindset centered on our roles as board members, rather than concentrating solely on the committees we lead. She admits that she personally struggles to balance these roles, especially given her deep involvement in her own committee. Yet, she acknowledges that discussions around significant projects, such as the Project of the Year, has been a really good example of the board thinking about the association as a whole rather than specific committee interests.*

*Filippo stresses that he senses a notable difference in the board this year compared to last. He feels that members are less confrontational, creating an environment that*

*fosters equality in decision-making. There's a noticeable absence of power dynamics, which he appreciates. He also encourages everyone not to take decisions made against their respective committees personally.*

*Michael expresses his agreement with Filippo regarding power dynamics. He emphasizes the importance of mutual respect among everyone, highlighting that we are all on an equal playing field.*

*Lina suggests that we should strive to set aside committee distinctions and view each other simply as fellow board members in our Board Meetings. Ultimately, we all share the same goal and purpose here.*

14. Discussion Point: UPF Lund Charity Project 2025

*Micol mentioned that she and Ella recently attended a meeting with the other UPF and UF presidents and vice presidents. They gathered some insightful ideas from UF Malmo, particularly about a charity project they're working on. Inspired by this, Micol would like to brainstorm some potential charity initiatives we could implement before the year ends.*

*Klara points out that it could be nice to tie this to Christmas.*

*Micol continues and explains that there are many different ways we could go about this, at different levels; we could do something at the local level or at an international level.*

*Lina asks whether it would be good to connect it to foreign affairs to align it with our mission.*

*Emelie believes that choosing to approach it locally might be more beneficial, as otherwise, people may feel a bit detached if they wish to donate.*

*Max also says that this is a good idea and is more in favor of keeping it local, as well as giving away more practical items rather than money.*

*Lina suggests that hosting an event on a specific date would be nice. She says we can make it cozy and festive, connecting it to the holidays. Additionally, she thinks it might*

*be beneficial to have a shorter time frame for collecting donations, which could encourage more participation.*

*Klara says that, due to time constraints, it might be better to do a small event now and do something bigger in the spring.*

*Lina says that we could hold a smaller event in the office. In addition, Lina says that this could be a good opportunity for the board to do something together. So we are more of a collective.*

*The rest of the board agrees that this is a good idea.*

## 15. Presidium reporting

### 15.1. Presidents

- Completed all check-ins with heads/presidium (with the exception of one)
- Attended and helped plan the Anna Lindh lecture
- Hosted RSR
- Overseen, together with the presidium, the planning of RSR's visit
- Attended meetings with external partners, such as UFS and Lund university
- Submitted the UPF hosted events for Orientation Weeks 2026!
- Written letters of recommendation.
- Attended weekly presidium meetings
  
- Helped organising the RSR/UPF Knowledge Exchange
- Welcomed RSR and participated to the events
- Joined weekly presidium meetings
- Hosted the Alumni Network meetings
- Has some check-ins with the heads
- Participated to the Anna Lindh Lecture
- Been in contact for the possibility to interview Commissionaire Hadja Lahbib

### 15.2. Secretary

- Finalised the BM4 protocol
- Published 3 newsletters
- Participated in RSR Meetings

- Participated in presidium meetings
- Attended check-in meeting with the President
- Helped plan and arrange the events and activities for the RSR visit to lund
- Helped plan the 2026 Orientation Week events

### 15.3. Treasurer

- Done the bookkeeping for October
- Updated the financial report
- Started working with Orbi as a platform for UPF to use
- Attended presidium meetings
- Been involved in the planning och RSRs visit
- Participated in events with RSR
- Had contact with our advisor at the bank
- Had a meeting to do with potentially getting new merch!

### 15.4. UFS Representative

- Attended Presidium meetings
- Attended a UFS BM (Motion passed for the NCIA to be co-hosted by Malmö and Lund)
- Discussions surrounding the integration of Jönköping as a new MA of the UFS/SAIA
- Attended a Committee Event meeting
- Attended a first meeting for the NCIA with the sister organizations (Estonia, Finland and Norway)

## 16. Committee reporting

### 16.1. Activity

- Had weekly meetings
- Opened the ball coordinators applications
- Had interviews for the ball coordinators
- Selected the next two ball coordinators
- Had a ball coordinator handover
- Attended events with RSR
- Planned the Winter Wonderland sittning

- Opened the sign ups for winter wonderland
- Created a form for a gingerbread mingle in Café Athens
- Started communication with the vice president for the magazine launch

#### 16.2. Career

- Done marketing and prepared for the Career fair (today)
- Recruited HR students for the mentorship program selection process
- Done check-in
- Hosted weekly meetings
- Worked on Alumni recruitment for the mentorship programme
- Worked on a collaboration with the social science union for career talk next semester.

#### 16.3. Debate

- Held weekly Debates
- Held a Debate Workshop
- Held a Council meeting of Active Debaters
- Built a tournament cadre for competition
- Nominated a Head of Debate
- Structured a Debate event with RSR
- Booked a venue for the Debate art gallery event
- Deepened relations with McGill
- Held bi-weekly movie nights

#### 16.4. Lecture

- Held weekly meetings where we have continued planning lectures for both fall and spring semester
- Had a kickoff with trustees and committee members
- Implemented a new collaboration structure between heads and trustees
- Co-hosted the annual Anna Lindh-lecture
- Developed the 4 working groups with committee members, working on bigger lecture projects (lecture with EU minister, 90 years of UPF/alumni lecture, Swedish party debate leading up to national elections, lecture with the Chinese embassy)
- Participated in the RSR visit by co-planning the debate and attending the welcome dinner

- Participated in UF Sverige's workshop for the national elections
- Had a check-in-meeting with the President
- Did initial planning for the pub quiz for Welcome Weeks 2026

#### 16.5. Magazine

- Participated in the RSR/UPF Knowledge Exchange hosting a workshop together with Webzine;
- Hosted Regular Committee Meetings;
- Hosted Heads-Trustees-Editorial Team Meetings;
- Discussed within the Committee Editorial Board the criticality found during the day-to-day Operations and regarding the Editorial Process;
- Successfully Published the first Issue of the Operational Year "Leading the Future" - Shipped to RSR in Estonia, to UPF Members Group A in Sweden and to the UPF Office in Lund;
- Participated in the President-Heads "Check-in Meetings".

#### 16.6. Pod&Radio

- Held weekly meetings, large trustee and member participation
- Drafted a Project of the Year proposal with the Travel Committee
- Attended RSR Dinner
- Hosted RSR at the office for a Documentary Night with the Travel Committee
- Prepared and recorded a podcast episode on security and defense
- Prepared to interview EU Commissioner Hadja Labib
- Coordinated with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute (RWI) for a second interview of EU Commissioner Hadja Labib, brought in VP [@Micol Zubrickaite](#) and Lecture Head [@Lina Ingstrand](#), while these efforts did not result in an interview, the Pod&Radio Committee fostered stronger intergroup relations with VP Micol and Lecture Head Lina
- Attended Hadja Labib lecture, discussed a potential future interview of Hadja Labib with RWI
- Created a stronger partnership with RWI
- Future collaboration with the Career Committee for hosting/interviewing journalist Jonathan Power in December

## 16.7. PR

- Made content during RSRs visit
- Made content during the Anna Lindh lecture
- Made a decision together with the debate committee to reopen their Instagram
- Planned event for orientation week 2026
- Held weekly meetings
- Uploaded content on our Instagram and LinkedIn regularly
- Had a meeting regarding new merch

## 16.8. Travel

- Traveled to Canada
- Had enlightening meetings with Saab Canada, the Swedish Embassy in Ottawa, the Institute for Research on Public Policy (Montreal), and the International Relations Students Association McGill (IRSAM)
- Visited the Canadian parliament, attending question period and taking a tour of the West Block.
- Indulged in Canadian culture; everything from attending an NHL hockey game, to trying poutine, to visiting the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.
- Since returning to Sweden, the travel committee has been busy planning a trip to Copenhagen, which will take place on the 12th of December. It will, amongst other things, include a visit to the Danish parliament
- The Travel committee (Sabina) has also drafted a proposal for project of the year, which will be presented today.

## 16.9. Webzine

- Planned and organized the Layout workshop for RSR together with Magazine committee
- Held weekly committee meetings
- Hosted a trustee kick-off
- Posted 7 articles
- Met with Hannah and discussed updates for the Perspective Website
- Participated in the President's check-in meeting

## 17. Other Points

17.1. *Lina brings up the point that it is always fun to see each other at each other's events, and it is good that we can promote our events at the board meetings.*

18. Confirmation of the next Board Meeting

*Next Board meeting is on Monday 24/11 at 17.00.*

19. Meeting adjourned

*Meeting adjourned at 18.50*

Micol Zubrickaite

Micol Zubrickaite

Chair of the Meeting

Emelie Andersson

Emelie Andersson

Secretary of the Meeting

Lina Ingstrand

Lina Ingstrand

Attestor and Vote Counter

Klara Sjöström

Klara Sjöström

Attestor and Vote Counter