

**Minutes Executive Committee EASSW  
Nicosia, Cyprus, 11- 12 November 2019  
Chaired by Teresa Bertotti  
Venue: *University of Nicosia***

**Participants:** Ines Amaro (IA); Teresa Bertotti, (TB), Florin Lazar (FL); Raymond Kloppenburg (RK), Christos Panagiotopoulos (CP); Mariusz Granosik (MG); Katarina Hjortgren (KH); Zuzana Poklembova (ZP); Aila-Leena Mathies (AL);

Sandra Mendes (SM); (administrative secretary)

**Absences:** Femke Dewulf (via skype, November 12); Andres Astria, Marika Lotiko, Marion Laging, Nino Zganec (ex-president)

**Notes taken by:** KH, MG and SM edited by CP

***MONDAY, November 11th***

***9.30 - 10 30 - welcome and introduction***

- *Welcome speech and Greetings from the Vice Rector for Faculty and Research, Prof. C. Phellas, University of Nicosia.*
- *Organizational information (Christos Panagiotopoulos)*

**1. Introduction to the meeting (President)**

President introduce the two main topics of the meeting: the next EASSW conference and the updating of the 2016-2020 Strategic Plan

**2. Minutes from the Madrid meeting: approval or matters arising**

Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June were approved by unanimity, with a change of the sentence regarding discount for group members. The sentence is changed as following: *“No discount for group members (the same fee as individual)”*.

**3. Approval of the Agenda for Nicosia meeting: priorities and time schedule**

The agenda was approved by all present members.

**4. Update on main relevant activities since last EC meeting:**

**4.1. reports from the President, the Vice president, the Treasurer, the Secretary, and EC members**

TB reported her activities after Madrid Congress. The evaluation of the conference was generally positive. TB reported on her efforts for next EASSW conference, resulting on the submission of two applications from Estonia and Turkey.

In September a closing meeting took place in Madrid regarding the EASSW 2019 conference. IA presented the evaluation data regarding the Conference in Madrid with future recommendations. TB added that a contact with Rudi Roos editor-in-chief of the European Journal of Social Work was established.

RK presented EA’s financial report. There has been a decrease in memberships the past year. The final financial conference report is still pending but results are generally very positive, with an income for both EASSW and UCM.

EC members presented an overview of socio-political situation and the impact on social work education in their regions. MG, CP, KH, RK, ZP, ALM presented the situation as it is currently in their countries. TB proposed that for next board meeting short information about each EC member country could be circulated before the meeting, and briefly discussed. any presence of EC members in conference is a good way to improve visibility of EASSW (banners, posters, official partnership/sponsorship).

#### **4.2. Proposal from the Small Projects Working group (ALM)**

ALM presents 2 small projects submitted in last call and both accepted for the requested funding. All projects reports are published on EASSW website. A stronger work needs to be done to disseminate information and results. The evaluation process is discussed, and it was decided that Small Project Group sent to EC member, before the meeting, the result of their evaluation with proposals of acceptance. If there is not a scheduled EC meeting in the short time, the task group makes its decision with the president.

#### **5. Updating the 2016-20 Strategic Plan (SP) and Road Map (RM) -**

The decision to update the Strategic Plan and the Road Map approved in 2016, instead of drawing a new plan, was made in Madrid.

After the President's presentation of the rationale, the methods used and main contents of the 2016-20 strategic plan, with EASSW mission, vision and objectives, road map and task groups established, the works for revision and updating the SP were divided in three sessions:

- i) presentation of activities done, and overview of the current activities
- ii) evaluation of the extent of realization of objectives and the value for the association
- iii) decisions for future goals.

**5.1 The discussion developed through three stages** during the two days of the meeting. FD followed and contributed to the discussion via skype on the second day of the meeting. The details of this discussion will be published in a separate document and made available to members after their completion.

#### **5.2 establishment of new working groups**

Following the discussion, there has been an agreement on a new structure of working groups. Two different kind of groups will be created:

- The thematic groups: these groups deal with broad themes, fundamental for the life and the management of the association. Two thematic groups were created:
  1. one regarding **membership**, which includes strategies for recruitment, regional Coord and the advisory Council, coordinated by Zuzana Poklembova
  2. one regarding **communication**, which includes website, newsletter and social media, coordinated by Florin Lazar
- The task groups are smaller group with few specific and focused tasks. 4 task groups were planned:
  - A. Small projects group, (same task as the current one), coordinated by Aila-Leena Matthies
  - B. Special interest group, (with the task of establishing and launching sigs groups) - coordinated by Christos Panagiotopoulos
  - C. Regional conferences and award, (sponsor and support of regional conference and launching the social work education award), coordinated by femke Dewulf
  - D. EASSW publications (with the task of promoting and enhancing EASSW publications ) coordinated by Mariusz Granosik

Each EC member should participate at least to one thematic group and to one task group.

Coordinators of group should not be the officers.

The attached list (see Annex 1) is the first draft of members' choices. Absent members will be required to adhere to the groups, accordingly to the established regulation. Groups will gather before next EC meeting and will finalise their specific objectives. Next board meeting will finalise and approve the supplement of the strategic plan and Road map with the updates of goals and activities. SM will send all materials to the groups.

Working groups need to consider the bylaws relevant to their activities (among them, the Bylaw. 10, about communication; bylaws n.13, about Special interest groups; Bylaw n. 14, about Advisory Council; Bylaw n15, about sponsorship of regional events).

**6. EASSW contribution to the Observatory of the Social Work Global Agenda.** During a skype conference with David N. Jones, coordinator of the report of the Observatory, it was agreed that EASSW will bring its contribution. ALM will take care of this process.

#### **7. Evaluation and lessons learned from the 2019 Madrid Conference**

IA presented the evaluation and the lessons learned from the 2019 EASSW Conference (see report attached). Following discussion, the decision to hold a conference that will be more selective on the base of the quality of presentation is made, considering that previous conferences have demonstrate the attractive capacity of EASSW and partner's organizations. This approach will have an impact on the criteria of evaluation of papers and on the organization of the panels.

**8. Discussion and evaluation of the Expression of interest for hosting the 2021 EASSW conference - on line connection with candidates**

During the EC, the teams of the two universities who express their interest in hosting the 2021 conference presented their proposals and answered to question posed by EC members. Connection were made with the University of Celal Bayar with prof. *Fatih Sahin and his colleagues* and with the University of Tallinn (Estonia) with prof. Marju Medar and her colleagues

After discussion and through the use of an evaluation tool, the proposal made by Tallin's University was approved by unanimity.

**9. Discussion on the new network European Social Work Coalition and a draft Memorandum of Understanding.**

RK presented details on the Memorandum of Understanding and it was agreed to participate.

**10. New bylaws to be approved (about elections and membership)**

CP will send by emails the new Bylaw regarding elections membership which could be accepted or changed by all.

**11. AOB**

The theme of next Social Work Day is human relationships, as the fourth pillar of the global agenda. IASSW and IFSW have launched a bid for a unified poster. The group dealing with Communication should coordinate this process.

**12. Next ExCo meeting:**

Next board meeting will take place the **23/24 March** in Tallinn, as the new venue of the conference

04/01/2020

*Christos Panagiotopoulos (Secretary)*

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**Annex 1**

| THEMATIC GROUPS   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>1) MEMBERSHIP</b><br>Retainment<br>Recruitment<br>Regional Coord.<br>Adv Council | <b>2) COMMUNICATION</b><br>Website<br>Newsletter<br>Social Media<br>Access of Member |
| <b>COORD. ZUZANA</b>  | <b>COORD. FLORIN</b>   |
| MARIUSZ   | CHRISTOS   |

|          |            |
|----------|------------|
| ZUZANA   | AILA-LEENA |
| KATARINA | RAYMOND    |
| FEMKE    | FLORIN     |
| INES     | ANDRES     |
| TERESA   |            |
| MARIKA   |            |
|          |            |
|          |            |
|          |            |

| <b>TASK GROUPS</b>                      |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| <b>A) SMALL PROJECTS</b>                | <b>B) SIG</b>          |
| <b>COORD. AILA-LEENA</b>                | <b>COORD. CHRISTOS</b> |
| AILA-LEENA                              | CHRISTOS               |
| RAYMOND                                 | ZUZANA                 |
| KATARINA                                | KATARINA               |
| MARIKA                                  | FEMKE                  |
|   |                        |
|   |                        |
| <b>C) REGIONAL CONFERENCES + AWARDS</b> | <b>D) PUBLICATIONS</b> |
| <b>COORD. FEMKE</b>                     | <b>COORD. MARIUSZ</b>  |
| MARIUSZ                                 | MARIUSZ+               |
| FEMKE                                   | INES                   |
| FLORIN                                  | TERESA                 |
| ZUZANA                                  | ANDRES                 |
| (MARIKA if needed)                      |                        |
|   |                        |