



MINUTES OF THE REGIONAL EXECUTIVE OF EMMAÜS EUROPE

17-18 SEPTEMBER 2021 – MONTREUIL, FRANCE

emmaüs

EUROPE

PRESENT

Carina Aaltonen (president), Aurore Querel (secretary), Jean-Philippe Légaut (treasurer), Leila Thouret, Eduardo Sanchez, and Sabina Arnaut-Jahic.

EUROPE REGIONAL SECRETARIAT

Eve Poulteau (chief executive), Marie Tixier (events coordinator), Théo Robin (solidarity coordinator), and Véronica Acevedo Caro (admin-finance assistant).

APOLOGIES RECEIVED

Rosa Gil Elorduy and Maryse Faure

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Carina intro: Delighted to see this meeting taking place in-person, as it has been 18 months since we have been able to meet in the same room. Fortunately, we were able to keep meeting remotely, and thank you for taking part, but online meetings are just not the same.

Roundtable session:

Eve: The 2020 review was sent out yesterday. It looks back over this bewildering period. She felt that we adapted well and did well. But we did slightly erase the fact that it was tough, and this needs to be taken into account.

Eduardo: Remote meetings are not the same. We have survived, and now it's time to make up for lost time and resume work.

JP: Although we took advantage of the circumstances to develop online meetings, even if they are not so bad when they are the only option. Relief at the start that less travelling was involved/but now need to resume, notably the collectives, although it won't be plain sailing, as the Satu Mare region is going back into lockdown.

Leïla: Remote meetings enabled us to spend a lot more time in the group/but from a personal standpoint, a long time without being able to see friends and family, and potential loss of motivation at the end.

Aurore: This period enabled us to refocus on the community, a truly different experience of community life. Happy to be back. Nevertheless, we have learned other working methods, and we must retain something from this time.

Marie: We successfully managed to use this period to make progress on things that would have been difficult to put in place without this time. We need to see how to combine remote/in-person meetings.

Carina: The Emmaus groups are quite resilient and managed to adapt. In a way, this period enabled us to do new things, for example, meet a lot more people during the "European tour" of the national organisations. It has not been a financial disaster either.

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION / DEBATE	CONCLUSIONS DECISIONS
1. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS	Agenda approved.	The June meeting minutes were approved.
2. 2022-2023 ACTION PLAN	<p>The meeting went back over what has been done to date. We should not forget that the action plan is a transposition of the policy report: it is worthwhile referring back to it regularly to check that we have not forgotten anything.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Showcase and bolster our resilience to climate change 	The action plan will be updated with the exec's proposals for 2022 (see opposite) and submitted to the RCEE for approval.

Exchange of practices: done, but not necessarily subsequently followed up, and no practical information sheet.

Advocacy: we have worked extensively with RREUSE, but this has mainly been done by Eve, as the communication is in English, and Eduardo cannot take part > Spike is going to provide backup. EAPN: A lot of work done on the issue last year, but less this year, because the focus has been on the impact of COVID-19. Data collection about the groups' work: underway via the general survey work. Supporting groups as they transpose EU directives: not much has been done, we need to see how we can improve in this area.

Awareness-raising: a few attempts to take action hampered by COVID-19. Starting a survey of the national organisations to see what could be done > consider running a campaign in the charity shops in 2022.

Adapt our practices: to do.

Post-it notes on these different topics to collect ideas. New ideas:

Exchanges of practice

Draw inspiration from the format of the Verona meeting in 2013. Two aspects to exchanges of practices: training & a discussion on everyday initiatives. We should not necessarily target 100-200 people, as this may not be realistic, but instead target more than a collective of 20 people. Maybe around 50 participants, for instance? If necessary, widen the topic in order to achieve this objective. Given the situation, in-person meetings of this kind could be a realistic prospect in a few months' time.

Use the "study circle" format with one or two leaders, but no teacher/expert. Currently being tried out in Finland/Sweden > one person sends out the topic in advance/ short intro/ around 25 mins in sub-groups of four to five people to discuss the topic/ plenary session to pool ideas / 10-minute evaluation > it would be possible to use this format for the various languages, making for greater flexibility. More flexible format: can be easily set in motion by one or two people, does not need any major involvement by the SEE. How can it be implemented? Use the RCEE members as the starting point, and provide them with support if needed?

Language-based groups would make the initiative more dynamic.

Topic ideas: cf. Post-its.

Sometimes invite outside speakers: experts or other activist networks.

Discuss sectors other than textiles: furniture, WEEE, toys, gardening, sports equipment, etc.
Ask the RCEE if they have any other ideas for exchanges of practices.
EF has roughly 90 best practice information sheets on the circular economy > Emmaus San Sebastian has translated some of them > try to share them. They could be quickly uploaded to our members' area. + Talk about the new sheets in the newsletter to ensure that they are used. + NDs (national delegates) should also circulate this information. Important to organise them properly so that they are practical and usable.
A fresh exchange of practices on the textiles sector to follow on from the first one is needed. It is important to talk about solutions for small groups and small volumes, as the big groups often already have ideas, and this subject was given plenty of airtime during the first exchange.

For the groups

Identify the groups' and the countries' needs so that we can find out how to support them (make use of the NDs).

Draw up the EE best practice charter in the near future.

Competition for the Emmaus groups in Europe. The groups submit their best practices, which could inspire others, and a "prize" is awarded.

Advocacy work:

Ask the NDs to indicate their needs so that they can do advocacy in their countries and involve the groups.

Charity shop campaign: invite politicians/elected representatives/influencers to publicize this campaign.

2. Rejection of others/lasting peace/migration

Exchange of practices: to be done

Awareness-raising initiatives: significantly hampered by coronavirus.

Organisation for World Citizenship: in contact with EI, they firstly need time in the collective to see if a shared informational initiative aimed at the European groups could be envisaged in 2022, so that these groups set up local partnerships to advocate for a different form of migration governance.

Awareness-raising: the NDs are currently being surveyed about whether a campaign is feasible. In France, this needs to be linked with the

presidential elections campaign, as it will be an important issue in that campaign.
EU political dimension: monitoring of the migration-asylum pact with Migreurop. See what can be done over the coming months, maybe arrange meetings with politicians.
Afghanistan: idea of mobilising some large national organisations and EE to raise funds to support the ISF's work. Idea: use what has happened with Syria over the past few years and Europe's failure to take in Syrians in order not to repeat the same mistakes with Afghanistan.
Proposal: Possibility of using the regional emergency funds / get the RCEE to approve one-off support as was done for Mediterranean/possibility of using the EI food aid fund/article in the next newsletter to highlight the situation & appeal for direct support for the ISF.
Use the Afghanistan situation to talk again about all the refugee situations which have been concealed by COVID-19.

3. Life of the movement

Youth: foster the resumption of work camps & in-person exchanges.
Possibility of linking up with youth networks, such as the Scouts: once contact has been made, we are on their lists, and contact becomes easy.
Need to involve them in grassroots initiatives > gateway. EE regularly receives requests from the Scouts, and refers them to the local groups.
Volunteering: really requires time, but is also a good tool for young people, who spend time in the movement and might want to come back in one facet or another. The example of Emmaus Italy, which recruited an employee for this. How can we offer this opportunity to non-French young people and non-French groups?
Difficult to set up a Europe-wide initiative on this topic, as it is primarily a question for the groups and countries, and we need to reach out to young people at the local and national levels.
Keep discussing the issue of volunteering and the place that EE can take to encourage and develop it.

Communications

Our 2022/2023 presentation brochure still needs to be created.
Other proposed resources for the next two years:

The executive decided to allocate €5K of emergency funding to the ISF to support the Afghan refugees arriving at the border (set up a kitchen to provide hot meals) and to ask for support for this support initiative in a newsletter article.
A letter will also be sent to the European Commission to highlight the situation at the borders, and the importance of proper provision.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion about passing on national organisation and group newsletters. - Discussion about communications and the development of new social media. Approach Tomislav? Be mindful about the associated strategy and human resources. <p>Role of companions National companions' meeting on 24-5 November > suggest that French-speaking European companions take part, agreed to pay travel expenses if a group is experiencing difficulties. Ask EF if a dozen French-speaking companions can be accommodated. Murcia and Pamplona are bound to want to take part. Any other ideas to progress this topic? A European meeting of companions could be worthwhile. Sabina raised a recurrent question posed by companions about receiving direct feedback about their solidarity work.</p> <p>Containers Specific needs, or is the handbook adequate? Needs by and large addressed, few loads this year. > Continue collating and conveying needs.</p>	
<p>3. HR UPDATE</p>	<p>Véronica's maternity leave starts tonight, and she is set to return in February. She will be replaced by Sandrine (former EI accountant) working one day a fortnight, and more for the end-of-year accounts.</p>	
<p>4. EMMAUS INTERNATIONAL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WORLD ASSEMBLY - PUBLICATION OF THE GLOBAL REPORT 	<p>Nathalie and Adrien presented the preparations for the assembly and the global report It is important that everyone remembers to register! They set out what has been sent out by email. Stance taken on the scheduled discussion topics. The virtual WA is the chance to look back over all the work done by EI, even the initiatives undertaken in the past (mutual health fund, Nokoué project). A review will be presented so that we can reflect on the next steps. EE is going to discuss the matter in all the collectives, and on the RCEE, and the employees are available to call the groups, if necessary, in order to achieve a quorum.</p>	

	<p>El is going to contact the NDs. The situation is still difficult in Uruguay. The borders are reopening in early November. However, we hope to hold the WA in May 2022. The March 2022 board will decide whether or not the meeting is cancelled.</p> <p>El's budget surplus from this year will be used to fund the travel costs of all the groups without the resources to travel, enabling them to send at least one participant.</p> <p>Global report Appeal published and signed on 17 October. Six-week campaign on social media, usable by the groups (audio/posters & comic strip on each topic). Important to publicize the posts. 6-7 October, training course on how to effectively share information on social media.</p> <p>It would be a good idea to run a session on advocacy from January 2022. In the different regions. Uruguay is where Mercosur (South American trade bloc) is headquartered, so this would provide a good opportunity for an initiative during the WA. What kind of initiative should we run at the European level? Side event at the Parliament during a meeting? It is hard to imagine how to action this idea at the present time, as the EE Secretariat and the non-CEI elected representatives are yet to see the content of the report and the campaign resources. The resources will be sent to the groups a few days before 17 October and the report will be sent to the executive in the coming days.</p>	
<p>5. FINANCIAL UPDATE ON 31 AUGUST 2021 AND REMOTE WORKING DECISIONS</p>	<p>Expenditure is still lower than forecast, as travel is only just getting back underway.</p> <p>Membership dues are coming in well, and some groups have even paid their dues for 2022. We still need to see about a reminder.</p>	<p>The executive gave its agreement to Dennemont paying half of its dues for 2021 and 2022.</p> <p>The executive rubberstamped the remote working agreement, which will come into force in November.</p>

	<p>The Dennemont group has asked to pay half of its dues over the next two years: OK.</p> <p>We are undoubtedly going to go over the group monitoring budget, as we have also planned to travel to Latvia, Lithuania, and Germany.</p> <p>Implementation of remote working: presentation of the suggested agreement to the executive, which approved the principles.</p> <p>Remote working allowance for six months of €15/month granted retrospectively for the four employees, given the pandemic, they were asked to work remotely by the employer during the lockdowns: OK</p> <p>Carina and Jean-Philippe approved Théo's request to terminate his employment contract in late June because he wanted to join his partner in Madagascar. A recruitment process has been started and interviews with six applicants are scheduled for 20 September. Théo will finish work during November.</p>	<p>The executive decided to grant a remote working allowance for six months of €15, granted retrospectively for the four employees, as due to the pandemic, the employer asked them to work remotely during the lockdowns.</p> <p>Contractual termination severance pay will be paid to Théo, in accordance with French law.</p>
<p>6. SOLIDARITY</p>	<p>Update on solidarity in 2021 13 amounts were granted to nine groups in seven countries in 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food aid (EI) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Emmaus-ISF: €6,360 ○ Emmaus Geo: €1,975 ○ Emmaus Oselya: €1,665 • Food aid (FAP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Emmaus-ISF: €6,000 ○ Emmaus Geo: €2,000 ○ Emmaus Oselya: €1,800 • The European solidarity programme. An advance has been paid to the applicant groups, but the projects are yet to be funded by the donations made by the European groups. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ CNZD: €5,000 ○ TOMS: €5,000 ○ Emmaus Brat Albert: €15,000 	

- FAP programme
 - Emmaus Nasha Khata: €5,000
- Special solidarity mechanism (EI)
 - Emmaus-ISF: €15,000
 - Emmaus Palermo: €9,500
 - Emmaus Satu Mare: €20,000

The last two are still awaiting final approval.

European solidarity programme

The European solidarity programme (ESP) operates on an annual basis, so it struggles to provide a rapid response to the Emmaus groups' needs. One of the reasons for this is that the programme is approved by the RCEE on an annual basis. A proposal has been made to do without this phase. Application examination sessions could therefore take place several times a year.

The executive agreed that the European solidarity programme is too slow. But if several sessions were arranged, how would the budget be shared out between them? How could we carry on supporting projects needing large amounts of funding if the limit per session was lowered?

There would not necessarily be a need to set a limit in the first instance, we would need to see in practice if the new system caused imbalances.

Maybe EE is not really able to support very big projects, so we will need to keep coordinating our regional programme with the EI and FAP programmes, and with the EEF, for major funding amounts. In that case, applications to the ESP could be limited to €20-30K.

The initiatives could remain in the ESP while the necessary funds are being raised. This would mean that the ESP would be constantly evolving, and would be partially renewed at each session. However, it would still be a good idea to have specific times for promoting the programme over the course of the year.

Emergency support and solidarity criteria

A significant amount of emergency funding has been granted to the Emmaus groups to help them cope with the pandemic over the past two years. Not all of this funding met all of the criteria approved by the RCEE

ESP: It was suggested that a working group should be set up to put forward new operational methods and a new schedule for the ESP at an upcoming executive or RCEE meeting.

The executive approved the principle of not taking into account the emergency funding when evaluating the 2019 solidarity criteria (specifically, emergency funding does not prevent groups from applying for solidarity over the following two years).

	<p>in 2019, and it would be a good idea to agree on how we are going to operate in this respect. It was reiterated that we do adhere to our criteria on the standard solidarity programmes (EE ESP, EI ASP, FAP).</p> <p>New ideas for solidarity The executive members discussed news ideas on how to structure, bolster and develop our solidarity over the coming years. Several ideas were put forward at this point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support with buying a vehicle: maybe set up a special fund? This should remain an exceptional occurrence, as the groups should have the capacity to cover this type of expense. • Support with purchasing property: undoubtedly exceeds the capacity of a structure like EE. • Help with launching new groups. <p>The first two ideas were not deemed to be apposite; it would be better to link up with existing mechanisms (specifically the EEF). The third idea is part of the issue of the movement's development strategy and policy, and is worth discussing in greater depth. Other ideas could be examined or put forward by the aforementioned working group.</p>	
<p>7. FULL AND TRIAL MEMBERSHIP</p>	<p>Leila and Théo went on a monitoring visit to Georgia. Geo has been a trial member since 2019 but has been taking part in the collective since 2017. They recently opened a second-hand store in a second town. They are actively involved in the movement's solidarity and were involved in the Indian appeal. A good team of volunteers. Following 2.5 years of trial membership, there is no urgent need to become a full member, and this new shop in another town will also change their work.</p> <p>Carina, Maryse, Théo and Eve undertook trial member monitoring visits to the groups in the Balkans, along with Sabina, in her role as ND: the groups focus mainly on social, health, educational and child protection work. In addition to this work, TOMS has opened a restaurant enabling people with disabilities to work, and they hope to diversify their sources of income in the coming years.</p>	<p>The Croatian groups (TOMS & CNZD) will be put forward to the RCEE for full membership.</p>

At the present time, 90% of their income comes from public funding and services, and 10% comes from their annual wines sale, with the wines being donated by Croatian winegrowers.

According to the visiting group, TOMS is ready to join the movement as a full member.

Nova Generacija (NG) in Republika Srpska:

Following the relatively disastrous departure of their founder, they felt slightly embarrassed with regard to Emmaus. Following that, they endeavoured to keep open a shop which cost them more than it was bringing in because of regulations in the country. They kept the shop open because they believed that they had to have this sort of initiative in order to join Emmaus. They are now going to reflect upon what they can do to offer services based on their know-how.

€15K remains in allocated funds. This funding was donated by the European groups for the group's development and has not been used following the founder's departure. We are awaiting the submission of a project by the group in order for them to use these funds.

The group does not yet feel ready to join the movement, as they want to stabilise their budget in the first instance.

CNZD: The monitoring group felt that CNZD was a highly dynamic group and has a real impact on the life of vulnerable children and victims of family violence. They have a good partnership with the local councils to develop policy and with the associations of parents of Roma children who are covered by their projects. They have had to close down their shop because of the competition and COVID-19, but are selling their communication and investigation expertise to stop paedophile offences.

Emerging groups in Romania

Bucharest: Elena, a Romanian employee of the Bucharest emergency outreach service, has fully grasped the unique nature of Emmaus, as she has been in contact with Iasi for many years, and this is why she wants to join the movement by setting up a group in Bucharest. She has been working for close to 20 years for the rights of the homeless (with MSF and other organisations) and has forged strong links with the other players. She has a very clear vision of her project and is just waiting for council

approval (provision of premises by the council) to launch the group on a voluntary basis. She has formed a team of psychologists and social workers who are willing to get involved. She has also set up partnerships with companies to fund the work.

She knows that she can make use of the €5K collected by the Emmaus groups in Europe for the first building development plans.

Cluj Paul, a former Montpellier companion, who lived at Satu Mare for three or four years, wants to set up a new group in this city to enable socially-excluded people to restore meaning to their lives.

Cluj is a dynamic city with many multinationals and foreign students.

The plan is to run an employment access scheme with two friends: one for sales and the other as a designer, with the intention being to quickly recruit three employment access scheme employees. They want to set up a community in the long term.

At the last RCEE we stated that we want to get more involved in supporting new groups.

A Cluj monitoring group has therefore been set up with François Mollard, who wanted to help the group, JP and Gelu.

One of the issues is how to get started and with what funding. The group has partners who would be willing to follow, Lyons Club, council, but they are requesting evidence that the project is actually underway.

€16K budgeted for the first three months.

€5,000 for the first rent payment for a warehouse and a deposit.

Needs identified with the monitoring group: pay particular attention to the social project, to the fact that there is really a team with Paul, and some volunteers. Bolster links with partner social organisations.

Target groups: homeless people housed by the council; Paul is in contact with social services.

Nowadays, all the groups joining the movement are helped by other groups, apart from those that already operated with a different model. How do we envisage Emmaus' development?

Should we ponder the broader issue of supporting new groups financially? Nowadays, the container fund can help and the solidarity programme can provide funding, with the threshold amount being €5K.

	<p>Groups to visit in 2022: Vlora and Nasha Khata & all the other trial members, so that we see them once a year!</p>	
<p>8. STATUTES FEEDBACK FROM THE WORKING GROUP</p>	<p>A report of the working group's first proposals was delivered to the meeting. (Please see the report).</p>	<p>To facilitate the work of the NDs in countries which do not speak one of our three official languages, suggest to the RCEE that it sets priorities in terms of documents to be translated into the other languages of countries in which Emmaus has a foothold.</p> <p>Carina proposed getting EI's key documents translated into other languages too, check the situation with EI and suggest to the RCEE.</p>
<p>9. FEEDBACK FROM THE MEETING WITH EI</p>	<p>EE suggested to EI that Carina could meet with the EI executive, with the two executives taking place close together. In the end, a meeting with Patrick, Juan and Nathalie, and Carina and Eve, was arranged.</p> <p>EI had not had the time to put together an agenda, but whereas we wanted to talk about the future, they wanted to go back over some misunderstandings from the past few months, and asked us what EE's vision of decentralisation was.</p> <p>Two misunderstandings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding appeal: We reiterated that some European elected representatives had been shocked by the fact that the letter about this matter was sent out by the EI executive committee without consulting the board. And also that the letter was sent to all the world's groups and only referred to France, whereas countries other than France had set up funding appeals, in some cases on a regular basis, such as the UK and Bosnia. Discussion about the misunderstanding following Carina's message. Patrick thought that it had been widely circulated, whereas the intention was just to explain the French context to the members of the RCEE who had received EI's letter without knowing about the context or the 	<p>Start working on the EE/EI contract so that it can be discussed at a future executive. Not necessarily with the idea of amending it but as a discussion aid with EI to improve the coordination of our work.</p> <p>Carina will contact Patrick and Juan to see how we can take part in the EI EC before the election of the new EC in order to build relationships.</p>

internal tensions that had concerned Carina and Simon at the time.

- EE preparatory meetings for the EI board meeting: incomprehension about the existence of these meetings. Explanation of why it is worthwhile for us to better coordinate between the EI/EE executives/boards. The idea is also for the elected representatives to immerse themselves more in the issues in a collective fashion in order to be able to give their opinion. Perhaps there is a fear that the European CEIs are organising themselves into a unanimous bloc.

Reminder about the unique circumstances created by COVID-19 which prevented meetings and maybe some fluidity of communication between the governing bodies.

Maryse sits on the EC and is a guest participant in the regional executive, but the links between the EC/regional executive need to be stronger. Carina suggested to Patrick that she is co-opted onto the EI EC and the EI executive had already considered this idea. However, Nathalie thought that this would not be possible before June 2022, with the new EC in an in-person meeting. Carina thought it would be more worthwhile now as afterwards we should have a minimum of one member of the EE executive on the EC to ensure a direct connection. She will write to Patrick and Juan about this matter.

A worthwhile meeting, as it removed some sticking points, even if we would have liked to talk more about the future.

Idea of trying to arrange executives around the EI ECs to facilitate these meetings.

Work between the regions and links between them. Carina suggested developing these exchanges. E.g., on textiles with Asia for production, with the Americas on waste management, and with Africa on the impact of

	<p>textiles waste there/education with the Americas... The horizontal level is also important > Continue discussions and moving towards this organisational structure in order to delve more deeply into the struggles. Juan was rather keen on this idea.</p> <p>Decentralisation: It might be worthwhile finding out the EI EC's vision of this process, as the question put to Carina was surprising. One method could be to revise the EE/EI contract in order to discuss the negatives/positives, a better distribution of the work, what works/does not work. This needs time and work. Also the issue of the national organisations and their place in the movement.</p> <p>Conduct a review/assess the current situation with regard to what does not work // other regions? This could enable the debate/discussion to be started with EI using concrete examples.</p> <p>Eduardo stressed the need to be careful about amending the contract because the contract has been signed with the other regions. He would prefer to discuss how to apply the contract and how to organise things in practice between EE/EI.</p> <p>Carina stressed the fact that the contract needs to be clearer, the distribution of tasks, in order to offer the groups greater clarity, among other issues.</p>	
<p>10. TRAINING AND RESOURCES FOR THE GROUPS</p>	<p>Historically, our only training course has been organised with EI: <i>Emmaus in all of its facets</i>, focusing on the movement's history and values, with a European focus, taking place in Cologne.</p> <p>This training course does not meet everyone's expectations. Some would like more practical training courses such as shop layout, the "Emmaus economic models". These could be delivered online for core topics such as the history, for instance, and we could develop more practical European courses.</p>	<p>Find out if people are interested in taking part in a study circle on the key texts, specifying that EE would organise the forum and would set up the group of participants, but the participants would then lead their own discussions. Identify facilitators from among those interested in each session. Via the newsletter.</p> <p>Retain an in-person training course to foster links between the groups in autumn 2022 and hold it in a community. If EI has not developed modules in the</p>

Marie and Eve have discussed the matter with the EI colleagues. As a rule, they focus on putting together training courses for the board members, but potentially also for the movement's leaders. As for the movement's history, it is not clear whether they want to further develop this area themselves, or if we are taking it up again in Europe. To be continued, in order to coordinate with them. In the meantime, it would be a good idea for us to develop other training content for which we can move forward without waiting for EI, notably learning about the Emmaus groups in Europe or study circles on the key texts, as has been done in Sweden, which is also a way of mobilising and bringing together the groups.

Also develop the sharing of tools/practical modules such as how to set out shops, how to do local advocacy, how to find, welcome and retain volunteers.

How to nevertheless help new groups to learn about the movement's history? Suggest an online meeting with Carina, SEE and other elected representatives to answer all the new groups' questions.

Carina: Suggest that the groups discuss the key texts and their resonance today, as is done in Sweden. Option of organising these meetings simply. Online.

Aurore: Thought that anything relating to the values and key texts should be arranged by EI and be in-person. At the European level, we should keep to practical topics and refer back to EI for universal movement subjects in order to avoid tensions and serve the groups.

Eduardo: if the groups do not express a need, there is no need for training. With regard to the key texts, it is more for EI to deliver this training, but a discussion could be a different matter. Even practical training has an advocacy aspect, and we must focus on this.

JPL: It is important to hold in-person meetings for the new groups in particular, important to maintain discussions on what we want to convey. With regard to study circles, each group is free to do this and to familiarise themselves with the fundamentals.

meantime, redo *Emmaus in all of its facets*, or another type of complementary training course.

Continue the exchanges of practices, develop practical modules, some virtual, and others in-person. For instance, an in-person discussion on farming.

Welcoming new groups, meeting with Carina and the team to learn about EE and offer them the chance to take part in an in-person course.

No virtual module on the movement's international history > waiting to hear from EI.

	<p>Publicize the study circles in the newsletter to find out if some groups want to apply this method and provide contacts. Organise study groups for spring 2022 prior to the WA. This sort of method is undoubtedly more commonplace in the Nordic countries but we can give it a go.</p>	
<p>11. SWEDEN UPDATE</p>	<p>Four meetings with the Swedish groups in spring/summer 2021.</p> <p>There are seven member groups of the Sweden national organisation, all using the Emmaus name, without being members of EI.</p> <p>Some groups have left the movement, notably Björka, and Stockholm was on the verge of leaving, plus problems using the name.</p> <p>Need to end the trial membership of two groups and prevent them from subsequently using the Emmaus name.</p> <p>Nevertheless, things have calmed down in Sweden by talking to each other and notably thanks to the initiative to reread the key texts arranged by Carina and Birgitta, more groups now want to join the international movement, and change within the current national organisation may now be possible.</p>	<p>Review the situation with EI again.</p>
<p>12. NEXT RCEE</p>	<p>Next RCEE: 26 October, three-hour virtual meeting.</p> <p>Items for the agenda:</p> <p>Present the result of the proposals for the 2022-2023 action plan in order to work on the budget at the December executive. One hour.</p> <p>New groups.</p> <p>EI WA.</p>	<p>Eve will send out a proposed agenda in order to work out how to fit all of these topics into the three-hour meeting.</p>

	Feedback session on the letter sent to the NDs: the issue of changing activities and quick feedback on migration issues.	
13. CONCLUSION & SCHEDULE	Virtual and in-person executives/RCEE	<p>Executive December: In-person meeting on a weekend, Sat-Sun. February: Virtual June: In-person September: Virtual</p> <p>RCEE October: Virtual March: In-person</p> <p>Eve: Send out a questionnaire to find out preferred dates and check the dates with regard to EI.</p>

As there were no further items on the agenda, the president closed the meeting.

Carina Aaltonen
President of Emmaus Europe

Aurore Querel
Secretary of Emmaus Europe