



MINUTES OF THE REGIONAL EXECUTIVE OF EMMAÜS EUROPE

17 February 2023 – ZOOM MEETING

emmaüs

EUROPE

PRESENT

Carina Aaltonen (president), Aurore Querel (secretary), Leila Thouret.

EUROPE REGIONAL SECRETARIAT

Eve Poulteau (chief executive), Véronica Acevedo Caro (admin and finance assistant), Emmanuel Rabourdin (solidarity coordinator), Camille Bellanger (advocacy and awareness-raising officer).

APOLOGIES RECEIVED *Eduardo Sanchez, Jean-Philippe Légaut (treasurer), Sabina Arnaut-Jahic.*

PREAMBLE	
AGENDA ITEM	CONCLUSIONS DECISIONS
1. Word of welcome and approval of the minutes from the last meeting	The minutes of the last executive were approved.
2. 2022 end-of-year accounts and adjustments to the 2023 budget	<p>The executive signed off the 2022 accounts with a surplus of €18,361.72. The executive will suggest to the RCEE that the surplus of €18,361.72 is allocated to the organisation's funds. Remember to present a table showing the surplus at the RCEE.</p> <p>The executive approved the 2023 projected budget which had been revised following its December decisions, and noted that as close to 30% of the groups have not paid their 2022 membership dues, it should be possible to further increase the collection of membership dues.</p> <p>The auditor has stated that non-profits have been able to extend loans to their members since 2021. No law previously, so it was possible without any legal framework. Officially, they were granted the right in 2021, only for two years, and at a 0% interest rate. Impact: loans granted from now on cannot exceed the two-year term.</p>
3. Solidarity and collectives: Football cup budget, solidarity applications	The executive approved the Targu Jiu photovoltaic panel project. A more detailed project for the football cup will be presented at the RCEE.
4. Ukraine: update following the visit	<p>The delegation's visit to Ukraine went very well and the work of our Ukrainian groups is impressive. On the other hand, we have questions about the next steps for Nasha Khata's trial membership. As there had been uncertainty for many years about their independence from Caritas, we asked Caritas Europe, who told us that NK was indeed a member of Caritas. In fact, they are heavily featured on the Caritas Ukraine website, even though they told us during our visit that they were not members of Caritas. This lack of transparency undermines our trust in them. Furthermore, they need to make a big effort to make their accounts more transparent.</p> <p>The RCEE will have to take a decision on what to do about our partnership with NK. This does not call into question the quality of the work that they do. While awaiting the RCEE's decision, the Executive proposed continuing funding their work under the auspices of the Ukraine Fund, because our visit enabled us to see first-hand the importance of their work with the most deprived people and displaced people in times of war.</p>

5. Strategic plan: exec's opinion on the latest amendments	<i>The proposed amendments will be made to the version sent to the RCEE.</i>
6. RAEE: opinion on the agenda and documents	<i>OK for the key points put forward; the documents will be approved at the RCEE.</i>
7. RAEE elections: Wise Persons? Length of terms of office	<p><i>OK to suggest to the RCEE not to elect wise persons at this GA, and instead wait for what we want at the regional level to be properly redefined, as well as the remit of the international wise persons, and elect a new wise person at the same time as the other regions on the eve of the next World Assembly.</i></p> <p><i>The next period of office will only last for two years, in the interests of fairness should we offer the option of undertaking two other four-year terms of office? No, six years is long enough, and this solution would in fact create more unfairness if it was overly long. Does the same go for people who have not completed a full term of office previously, but have been elected representatives in the past? Can they stand for election for this two-year term? This is problematic, because these people were not elected by the GA but instead by the Board, or were co-opted, and each of their periods of office has been of different lengths, so it is clearer to talk in terms of periods of office. Elected representatives may serve for two back-to-back periods of office, regardless of their length: we will make this proposal to the RCEE.</i></p>
8. Agenda for the next RCEE and facilitation by exec members	<p><i>OK for the suggested programme.</i></p> <p><i>A date needs to be chosen for the September executive.</i></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