

Date: Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th March, 2020

Time: 10:00-17:30

Location: Microsoft Teams on line meeting

Invitees: all board members + Sandra Mendes

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 Matthies (AL); Femke Dewulf (FD) ; Andres Astria; Marika Lotiko,

Other Participants: Karmen Toros: Chair of the Local Organising Committee for the Tallinn conference that will be held in June 2021.

Sandra Mendes (SM); (administrative secretary)

Absences: Marion Laging,

Notes taken by: CP, FD, edited by CP

Meeting Title: Virtual Board Meeting (ex ‘Tallin meeting’ - 23rd and 24thMarch, 2020)

Due to COVID-19, the meeting will be developed through the points of the agenda sent via Email

The president introduced the aim and the goals of the meeting that was held online instead of face to face due to COVID19.

The agenda of this online meeting had two goals:

I. Internal matters of the Association

- a. Finalizing the Supplement of the strategic plan,
- b. defining action plans and organization of working groups

II. Preparation of the 2021 EASSW Conference (ECSWE European Conference on Social Work Education)

- a. Discussion and decision about the theme and the title and scientific program and keynotes
- b. Organisational issues

9-10: *Welcome Note /Approval of Virtual meeting agenda/ Review and approval of Nicosia Meeting minutes*

TB greeted all EC members for managing the connection. Special thanks given to FD and SM for their support (IT and administrative).

Minutes from Cyprus meeting in Nicosia are approved

The Tallinn meeting agenda was approved and it was decided the following issues to be added:

1. Small project funding
2. Update on Global Observatory and on European Social Work Coalition

TB reported on the main relevant activities since last EC meeting. Reports were given by each officer. **TB** represented EASSW on a network of care leavers that took place in Brussels (European Parliament). Additionally, a message of Solidarity for social work schools for the pandemic was posted as well as for the Social Work Day.

RK and **IA** represented EA during IASSW board meeting in Kuala Lumpur. **TB** mentioned that GDPR is not updated with policy on data collection. She will discuss it with **CP** and as to update the policy.

RK presented the budget of the EA and reminded the decision taken in the GA in Madrid as far as group member fees. **FL** commented that a deadline on the payment of fees should be included on the invoice sent by the organisation. **CP** reported on the school members registered so far. Numbers have increased in comparison with last year (n=53, 2019). Approximately we have about the same numbers with 2018.

It is suggested that before next board meeting a short report from each country member school should be prepared. Working group on membership will provide instructions.

10:15-11:15

Update from Working Groups (2)***Thematic Groups Membership.***

This group concentrated in two main topics: a) membership and b) regional coordinators responsibilities. **FD** asked why do group membership had stopped and **TB and IA** explained main reasons (it wasn't used too much, was only beneficial for richer countries, which need less financial support and countries which already had supporting structure of regional/national organizations of SW school). **IA** mentioned that countries with national org. are often the richest, so we need to avoid unfairness as we need more countries. **IA** mentioned the possibility for discount for members which are paying fees for both associations IFSSW and EASSW. The issue of group membership and possible inequalities was discussed and will be taken in consideration by the TG.

FD suggested closer collaboration with national organisations, and **MG** supported the idea together with building advisory council responsibility. Members agreed that budget assigned to this group be divided between:

- ✓ communication group, (Membership group will contribute to content
- ✓ website to make communication for members easier. The two group coordinators will set a common plan
- ✓ Regional conferences and Awards Task Group

Thematic Group 'Communication'.

FL presented aims and main activities of this group. In particular these activities consist of:

- Involving a professional on communication issues
- Improving website

-Increasing use of different social media

-Changes in Newsletter? To be decided

The group proposed to hold the amount of 4000€ budget. The group decided to relate its aim to Regional Events to print materials or give the digital formats to promote the association. the idea to involve communication specialist is discussed. The bylaw regulating use of social media by school members should be implemented and advertised.

Update from the four Task groups**Task Group A (Small Projects)**

AL presented three applications and evaluation of applications. All had clear ideas and concrete suggestions to realize. The group proposes the acceptance of two applications and still reserve funding for one more project in the call in September 2020, although there exists a plan to finance two projects annually. **AL** suggested that the third application (Slovakia) could to re-applicate in September and has got feedback. Finally, it was suggested to accept two projects now and reserve one project funding for September. **RK** suggested that one more project annually could be funded, but we should overlook finances and expenses if we can afford this every year .

AL also presented the work of the regional European collaboration for the Observatory of the Global Agenda (powerpoint presentation delivered to be added to the notes). The fourth pillar of The Agenda focused on *strengthening recognition of the importance of human relationships*. The joint report by ICSW- Europe/Bodil Erikson, IFSW_Europe/Hakan Acar, Wendy Coxshall, Madalina Manea, Ana Radulescu, and EASSW /AL is based on a questionnaire in each organization. The EASSSW questioned achieved 23 examples on how to apply the fourth pillar in SW Education in Europe. (The report is now published and available at <https://www.ifsw.org/global-agenda-4th-report-published/>)

Task Group B (SIGs)

CP has shared amongst group members all the actions taken since November 2019 and the plans ahead. He informed that there is already a pending application since Madrid conference (Eco Social Work) and Robert

Bergoungan has shown interest for another SIG. It has been decided that there is a need for a format of SIGs (aims, objectives, administrative structure, e.t.c). Webmaster will provide the technical structure for SIG forum. CP has also proposed that another member (KH) from this group should take over after the establishment of the first SIG as he cannot continue running as coordinator due to increased duties. A budget of 1500 euros is assigned to support eventual SIG regional event.

Task Group C (**Regional Conferences + award**) FD

Activities:

FD suggested that the Call for awards to happen before Tallinn together with the call for abstracts as to achieve as much promotion as possible. Group discussed priorities for coming months, priorities for support, and call for supporting regional events via many communication canals. **RK** confirmed that award will be granted every two year and regional events will be sponsored twice a year. Through regional events EA expects to increase activities and members, collaboration and visibility. **TB** suggested to think about different ways of sponsorship. It was decided that we will wait what members will ask and after that we will evaluate what is needed.

Task Group D (**Publication** MG)

Group was informed about the book series with Springer and the eight titles under contract. 'Faces of Social Work in Europe' will be the third series because of delays. TB as president is in contact with NZ and ML as the book series editors. As a result of Madrid conference, a book will be published (Quaderno Trabajo Social, foreseen for September with contribution of keynote speakers).

The budget for this group was adapted by **RK** and proposed during meeting

14:00-17:30

Conference preparation/Scientific part

TB presented the conference working groups and the Structure of the conference- prepare the concept note. Discussion was divided in two parts. Conference concept note and keynote speakers (main themes, keynotes speakers (who should the keynote speakers be), concept note, theme, and the topic of the conference, scientific team, workshop solution). The technical aspect of the conference (24.03.2020) (software support etc) discussed on Tuesday 24.4.2020.

After an in-depth discussion based on CP' draft concept not and conference themes it was preliminary decided that the conference title should be like: "Innovation & preparedness: Re-inventing/re-framing social work education for uncertain times. "?

As far as conference themes and concept note it was decided that **CP and IA** would have a more detailed discussion on a revised draft on Tuesday morning. (24.04.2020)

Next board meeting of the Ex Co