

Protocol General Assembly

Location:

Economics and Business University of
Vienna, Welthandelsplatz 1, Building
LC, 1020 Wien

Date, time:

May 17, 2022, 4 pm

Members hold a moment of silence for Honorary President, Dr. Erhard Busek, who passed away in 2022, and former Vice President, Dr. Caspar Einem, who passed away in 2021.

1. Welcome, determination of the quorum

Andreas Treichl welcomes the members of the association, ascertains the quorum and announces the voting transfers.

2. Approval of the agenda

The agenda is unanimously approved.

3. Approval of the minutes of the General Assembly 2021

The minutes of the General Assembly 2021 are unanimously approved.

4. Report of the President and the Secretary General

4.1. Review EFA 2021

Last year's Secretary General and current co-opted board member of the association, Werner Wutscher, reports to the General Assembly about the past year (see annex 1, report to the general assembly).

- A total of 4,100 participants from 90 countries attended the Forum (online, on-site and hybrid participation).
- Due to COVID prevention measures, the attendance limit was 1,000 participants per day.
- There were 240 hybrid sessions with 3 main topics (tracks):
 - Securing our Future
 - The Climate Opportunity
 - The Financing of Europe's Future
- 246 scholarship holders had the opportunity to participate in the Forum on site. Thereof 75 were present for the entire Forum.
- With the Alpbach Challenges, the European Forum Alpbach Foundation has designed and coordinated a new digital learning initiative to engage members of the Forum Alpbach network as well as members of selected partner networks in the Forum's programme design and to provide them with a platform to work together on solutions to some of the most critical challenges of our time. There were 50 ideas submitted from 49 countries and 8 of them were shortlisted by the jury.
- COVID-19: An extensive and comprehensive prevention concept was developed and implemented with appropriate measures.



4.2. Report on the organisation

Since January 1, 2022, Feri Thierry is the new Secretary General of the Association as well as the Managing Director of the Foundation. As a result, the Association and the Foundation are managed more jointly, and synergies are used more efficiently.

At the beginning of the year, a new organizational structure was also introduced with an increase in the number of staff (see annex 2, organisational chart).

4.3. Outlook EFA 2022

The changes in the programme structure ensure more interdisciplinarity. The goal is to make the Forum more open, inclusive, diverse and sustainable, and thus to make the Forum a 365-day experience.

This year, EFA 2022 will once again be held exclusively in analogue format. The conference language is English. During the Conference Week, German is permitted in partner sessions.

Members of the association receive a 15% discount for the 5 ticket modules:

- Tirol Day, 21.08. (free of charge, registration required)
- Conference Week, part 1, 22 - 25.08. (€ 1.000,-)
- Conference Week, part 2 - TEC, 25 - 27.08. (€ 1.000,-)
- Lab Week 1, 27 - 30.08. (€ 1.000,-)
- Lab Week 2, Aug. 30 - Sept. 2 (€ 1.000,-)

5. Report of the financial officer for the fiscal year 2021

Feri Thierry reads the report of the financial officer, Andreas Bierwirth, as a substitute, since he is excused for the General Assembly (see Annex 3, Report of the Financial Officer).

6. Report of the auditor and the auditors on the financial statements and financial management

The EFA has commissioned the auditors ECOVIS Austria for the audit of the financial year 2021. The regularity of the association's management can be confirmed. All audits were carried out within the framework of the risk and control-oriented audit approach. The funds were used in accordance with the statutes. An unlimited auditor's certificate was issued. The auditor, Gerald Pessl, therefore, recommends the discharge of the association's bodies and management.

7. Approval of the financial statement and discharge of the Board

Max Kothbauer and Günter Schrems prepared a report as auditors of the EFA (see annex 4. Auditors' report). The organization of the Forum was particularly challenging due to the pandemic, nevertheless the team had managed the task successfully.

Kothbauer proposes the discharge of the board under the leadership of Andreas Treichl. The proposal is approved unanimously.

8. Approval of the budget 2022

Feri Thierry presents the association's budget for 2022 (see annex 5) with the following remarks:

Salaries:

- Management level was expanded (full time SG, one Head more, Head salaries raised which includes All-In).
- Salaries raised on staff level (professionalization)
- plus 4 headcounts
- Contracts from 2021 with ongoing payment of remuneration in 2022 (approx. TEUR 75)

Other cost areas:

- Hospitality: price increases for accommodations
- Event production: no longer hybrid
- External service providers: reduced or in-sourced
- Actors: different cost distribution compared to previous year
- Marketing & communication: new website & app, new materials due to new CI, more investment in digital advertising
- Office: relocation of office planned
- Admin: 50k as reserve

9. Report on the Foundation

- In 2021, the Foundation was able to finance the participation of 246 scholarship holders; in 2022, 450 first-time scholarship holders are to be invited to Alpbach again.
- The clubs in the Western Balkans and Croatia were very active in 2015 and 2016. Due to the increased emigration of students, the activities of these clubs decreased. The Foundation has set a target to revive the clubs in the Western Balkans and in Croatia. To this end, meetings are to be held at regular intervals in the region and the program of the Forum 2022 shall focus on topics from this region.

10. Report on the Foundation

The Forum Alpbach Network (FAN) currently consists of 29 active associations/institutions that organize a large number of events individually or in cooperation:

- FAN Conference in Alpbach at EFA 2021
- FAN Autumn Conference 2021 and FAN GA 2021 in Graz
- FAN Spring Conference 2022 in Skopje

Activities during the year:

- Digital scholarship information event in February, attended by more than 15 clubs and more than 60 students.
- There were significantly fewer scholarship applications this year than in previous years.
- In March, a joint meeting of EFA and FAN representatives from the Western Balkans took place in Zagreb to discuss the strategic importance of this region for the further development of the network.
- Club Alpbach North Macedonia is hosting this year's FAN Spring Conference, which will be held in Skopje from May 19-22.



Baseline Agreement:

- New written framework for cooperation between FAN and EFA to align long-term development strategies and work more efficiently.
- High organizational workload on the part of both EFA and FAN.
- Mutually binding agreement on topics such as number of grants, tasks, rights and obligations. The Baseline Agreement is still in progress and is expected to be finalized at EFA 2022 in August.

Co-programming of the forum:

- Programme committees which are formed to develop a general framework for the four tracks includes at least one representative from the network.
- EFA invited FAN to propose speakers for panel discussions and other events, which was received with great enthusiasm.

Forum Alpbach Network Committee (FANC):

- The FANC is the main organising body of the Forum Alpbach Network during the Forum.
- In 2022, the FANC is composed of EFA alumni from 6 different countries, from Taiwan to Portugal.
- The FANC offers a wide-ranging social programme to all scholarship holders and, above all, a broad support to international guests.
- The concept of the programme is based on the premise of bringing scholarship holders from all over the world into contact with each other and creating an inclusive and fun environment in which they can socialise.

11. Elections

11.1. Election of the Scientific Advisory Board

The term of the Scientific Advisory Board expires this year. However, as the current Scientific Advisory Board could hardly programme due to the pandemic, Treichl proposes to elect the existing Scientific Advisory Board for another year - and to conduct the election openly and in cumulo (see annex 6 Election Proposal Scientific Advisory Board). Both proposals are accepted unanimously.

12. Miscellaneous

The Board has co-opted 3 new members: Irene Giner-Reichl and Thomas Wieser (since September 2021) and Werner Wutscher (since January 2022). Shalini Randeria has resigned from the Board (September 2021).

For the accuracy of the protocol: Elnara Zülfüqarova