

## LRPCE MEETING MINUTES - ZOOM

February 7, 2023

6PM to 7:39 PM CET

The meeting has been recorded.

### LRPCE Members and areas represented.

(Voting members in green)

<b>PIP Gudrun Yngvadóttir – Chairperson LRPCE -</b>	In attendance
<b>ID Barbara GREWE – Designated ID EF Klagenfurt: –</b>	in attendance
<b>ID Mats Granath - (also designated ID Zagreb) -</b>	Apologies
<b>Area1</b> IPID Bent Jespersen -	In attendance
<b>Area2</b> PID Dr Walter Zemrosser – (EF Klagenfurt President) –	in attendance
<b>Area3</b> IPID Daniel Isenrich (EF Accountant) -	in attendance
<b>Area4</b> IPID Nicole Belaud -	in attendance from 6:30 PM
<b>Area5</b> ID Teresa Dineen -	In attendance from 6:30 PM
<b>Area6</b> ID Dr. Elena Appiani -	In attendance
<b>Area7</b> PID George Th. Papas –	Apologies
<b>Area8</b> PID Kalle Elster -	In attendance
Prof. Dr. Giuseppe ‘Pino’ Grimaldi – I	
<b>nternational President 1994 -1995 -</b>	In attendance from 6:45 PM
Eberhard J Wirfs – <b>International President 2009 – 2010 -</b>	Apologies

### Programme Directors

Markus TSCHISCHEJ (EF Klagenfurt) –	???????
DG Vanessa HORROD (EF Bordeaux)-	Apologies

### Permanent Guests:

PID Sandro Castellana - Chair of LRPCE Communication Guidelines Working Group –	in attendance
PID Geoff Leeder - (Chair LTFE) Lions Task Force Europe -	in attendance from 7:15 PM

### Guests:

PID Svein BERNSTEN –	in attendance
PID Miklos HORVATH – <b>EF Archivist &amp; Advisor -</b>	In attendance

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### 1. Welcome – Chairperson PIP Gudrun

Let me greet all of you, we are not too numerous, the agenda is not too heavy, mainly taken about the progress reports of the ROP revision orchestrated by Sandro and some other items.

We have some additional issues also, under point.10, hopefully PID Nicole will be here, as we have to share some thoughts about the Rotation Scheme which should be revised again.

And finally point.11: where we speak about the LDUN Geneva

Before we start, please think of Turkey, the tragic earthquake and the victims.

LCIF immediately gave a major catastrophe grant of 200.000 USD, please urge your countries to make donations to LCIF.

## **2. Introductions – All (only name, title and country)**

### **3. Apologies - A&A PID Miklos**

Apologies from ID Mats GRANATH, minor surgery, PID Nicole might be late, PID George Pappas cannot participate for last minutes issues, Vanessa in Nairobi.

## **4. General update on the progress of the ROP Revision Working Group's workings: PID Sandro**

**Gudrun:** At present we will not have to decide on anything, it is only an exchange of information on the progress of the ROP and answers to the questions that the Working Group might have. Without further ado, I give the floor to Sandro.

### **Sandro:**

The "ROP Revision Working Group" has been appointed by this committee at the December 13 meeting with the following scope:

- maintaining the original scope of the "Communication Guidelines" WG and include communication and information letters/leaflets (with all the deadlines),
- the submission of proposals for the revision of EF Rules of Procedure and Standing Orders to make them more simple, reader friendly, eliminate duplicities and repetitions and use a proper Lions Language that even grassroot Lions may understand,
- the scrutiny of the operational structure of the Europa Forum, proposal of changes where appropriate to the structure of EF to include and focus more on leadership development and training related sessions, achieve that the workshops are of the highest possible professional standard.

The WG that I was asked to chair, is composed by:

PIP Gudrun YNGVADOTTIR LRPCE Chair

PID Miklos HORVATH EF Archivist & Advisor

PID Daniel ISENRIK EF Accountant

They are acting as advisors without voting rights; the EF Areas are represented as follows:

Area 1: 101, 104, 106, 107, 109 PID Svein BERNTSEN

Area 2: 102, 110, 114 PID Ton SOETERS

Area 3: 111 PCC Fabian RÜSCH

Area 4: 103, 112, 113 DG Vanessa HORROD

Area 5: 105, 133 PCC Stewart SHERMAN-KAHN

Area 6: 108 PID Sandro CASTELLANA

Area 7: 115, 116, 117, 118, 128 PDG Cléon PAPADOPOULOS

Area 8: 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 126, 129, 130, 131, 132, (134)

+ un-districted areas. PDG Niels SCHNECKER

The Working Group held an organizing meeting on January 12; after assessing the scope of the team and clarifying all the questions of each member, it was agreed to set up 3 subgroups, to make the work easier and faster:

**ROP AND STANDING ORDERS:** to make them simpler, reader friendly, eliminate duplicities and repetitions and use a proper Lions Language that even grassroots Lions may understand (PID Svein, PCC Fabian, PCC Stewart)

**FINANCE:** to harmonize all finance related topics of the Europa Forum (PID Daniel, DG Vanessa, PDG Kleon)

**CONTENTS:** to include and focus more on leadership development and training related sessions, ensure that the workshops are of the highest possible professional standard. (PID Ton, PDG Niels).

The proposed composition of subgroups has the sole purpose of having greater flexibility in the organization of the meetings; cross communication is encouraged to collect everyone's ideas and suggestions; monthly meetings of the entire Working Group will ensure that we are all on the same page and allow for an extensive exchange of information and open communication on all topics. Next monthly meeting will be held on Monday, February 27.

The subgroups have had working meetings on various dates and the work is progressing well. I now call the representatives of the subgroups to briefly report their approach and initial findings:

**5. Update: Progress report on the ROP/SO sub-group of the ROP Revision Working Group: PID Sandro and Sub-Group Representative PID Svein**

PID Sandro asked PID Svein to give the report.

**Svein:**

The sub- group was established Tuesday, January 12,2023.

Members:

PCC Stewart SHERMAN-KAHN, from MD 105, PCC Fabian RÜSCH from MD 111 and PID Svein Berntsen from MD 104. PID Miklos HORVATH, EF Archivist & Advisor, has participated in all meetings and email dialogs in the group, which has eased the work of the group.

The group has worked quite effectively through emails and has so far had two zoom meetings on January 17 and 25.

Next meeting will be on February 15, after which we will send out some information for the joint meeting with the other subgroups on February 27.

The subgroup's assignment is: "ROP AND STANDING ORDERS: to make them simpler, reader friendly, eliminate duplicities and repetitions and use a proper Lions Language that even grassroots Lions may understand".

We started to look at duplicities, repetitions, unclear and illogical wordings, and we erased and moved sentences and paragraphs. PCC Fabian has done a great job in this and has been the one "holding" in the document.

The group very soon saw that we need to discuss the structure and the hierarchy of the governing documents, and we landed on the structure: Constitution – Bylaws – Standing Orders.

Our structure reflects that the constitution of an organization contains the fundamental operating principles that govern its operation.

The bylaws establish specific rules by which the group is to function.

The constitution is the essence of the overall purpose of the organization and is not changed, unless the purpose changes. Bylaws detail the procedures a group must follow to conduct business in an orderly manner. They provide further definitions to the articles of the constitution and can be changed more easily as the needs of the organization change.

By-Laws must not contradict provisions in the constitution.

We strongly believe that this structure will make the governing documents easier to understand and be much more user friendly.

We are working on this now and will have our next meeting as said on February 15. After that we will be able to present more in detail, but we already see that the Constitution probably will be reduced to 3-4 pages.

The constitution and the bylaws will have overlapping tables of content as the bylaws will specify the principles stated in the constitution.

To give an idea of how a table of content of Lions Europa Forum Constitution, By-Laws and Standing Orders may look like:

## I. Constitution (3-4 pages)

1. Mission Statement
2. Membership
3. Meeting and Venues
4. Forum Organs
  - 4.1. The European council
  - 4.2. Committees and Working Groups
    - 4.2.1. Host Committee
    - 4.2.2. Supervisory Committee
    - 4.2.3. Long Range Planning Committee Europe
5. Forum officers
  - 5.1. Forum President and Vice-President
  - 5.2. Advisor and Archivist (A&A)
  - 5.3.. Accountant
  - 5.4. Designated International Director
  - 5.5. Programme Director
6. Workshops
7. Web Portal
8. Language
9. Financial aspects
10. Miscellaneous

## II. By-laws (6-7 pages)

III. Standing orders for European Council (1-2 pages).

**This is the structure we defined, the other sub-groups should fill in the respective parts where they are specialists (finances and contents)-**

**Miklos:** I complete what Svein said, they did not change anything, they have just reorganized the material and have just transformed it into a more digestible format. We did drop certain flagrant duplicities, bad wordings. This is the guiding principle, they did an outstanding job.

**Sandro:** I would like to reinforce that the sub-group's guiding principle was to reorganize, clear out and they are ready to receive additions of the other sub-groups.

#### **6. Update: Progress report on the Finance sub-group of the ROP Revision Working Group: PID Sandro and Sub-Group Representative PID Daniel**

Sandro invited PID Daniels to give the report.

**Daniel:**

Our Finance Sub-Group met on January 19, 20 and 23, with Vanessa and Kleon we spent 7 hours discussing the ROP, we went through it with different lenses on, everywhere finance is concerned, but we also looked at terminology, how it is understandable for somebody especially who will organize a Forum (Vanessa), what is missing for her in definitions, clarifications, etc.

There are a couple of proposals we would like to formulate, like extending the Supervisory Committee, and as finance is important, it would make sense to include the Forum Treasurer and the Forum Accountant. The role of the EF Accountant, comprised in the Job Description has to be completed with the role of advisor(to the Forum Treasurer) not only the fact control, as it is now. The two topics we discussed at great length were the two (sponsorships) voluntary contributions (for emerging countries on the one hand and lastly for completing the registration fees to keep it at 300 EUR max.). We have combined it into one big "sponsorship".

This is work in progress.

We discussed much Resolution 12 of Zagreb, where it was not specified what we do with the leftover money. If Austria needs 40.000.- EURs, but the receipts are let us say 50.000.- EURs, 10.000.- remain on the account, what do we do with it?

We will present all this on Feb. 27, and the Working Group will decide.

On another note, I talked with Fabian and promised him to share my general comments so that he can comprise already in the text.

#### **7. Update: Progress report on the Contents sub-group of the ROP Revision Working Group: PID Sandro**

**Sandro:** The subgroup had no chance to meet so far for different reasons and their meeting will be on February 13, but their findings and proposals will be integrated.

One of their goals should be to look at other Area Fora and use the experiences in their work, so that we may have engaging, interactive, interesting sessions.

Overall, the ROP Revision Working Group will hold monthly meetings and the goal is to prepare in a timely manner what will be the resolution and recommendations on the forthcoming European Council.

#### **8. Status Report on the preparation of the Klagenfurt Europa Forum: ID Barbara and PID Walter Forum President**

1<sup>st</sup> meeting of Supervisory Committee happened in Zagreb, The SC had had meetings online, first meeting finances, website and registrations status, after internal meeting (finance), little bit of program, next meeting on the program on Feb. 13, then meeting in person in Klagenfurt for the site visit.

Some things are always popping up, the regulation of SC is not correct, something is missing or too much, it is by doing that you understand what is not working.

HC is on time with Home Page from December 1<sup>st</sup> onwards: at [www.lionseuropaforum2023.at](http://www.lionseuropaforum2023.at)

As all MDs and Ds have meetings at the end of February, beg. March, the HC hopes for their positive decision. The HC will see at a later date how much contribution they would need and hopefully some funds will remain for the next Forum in Bordeaux. The Host Committee is much looking forward to the site visit of the Supervisory Committee on the first weekend of March.

The HC hopes to have 800 participants, the budget had been made for 800 PAX.

This year is the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lionism in Europe, and the EF in Klagenfurt must give a special impetus to this effect, to plan something spectacular out of respect for the 75 years.

Lions of Sweden have already planned some celebrations in May, and Lions of Switzerland in April. It would be wonderful that the EF will also remind us on this milestone.

#### **9. Young Lions Taskforce Europe – a proposal to approve it as a Working Group of LRPCE: A&A PID Miklos**

**Gudrun:** This is a new item, but I would say, not so new. We have already seen several times, we have a new report, very successful seminars at the Zagreb Forum, I will give the floor to you Miklos to develop this idea.

**Miklos:** You all have received the report of the Young Lions Taskforce Europe, very comprehensive, describes well what happened in Zagreb. Last time we had a passing discussion, there were certain comments and requirements expressed. Based on the December discussion, we have discussed with the YLTE and reformulated their approach, strategies, etc. based on the LRPCE's comments and requirements formulated in December. The YLT is aspiring to become a Working Group of the LRPCE. As a Working Group they have certain conditions to meet and I am happy to report that in the present organization – Taskforce is just a name, it is not a real Taskforce as we understand it – the members represent all areas of Europe, all the 8 areas of LRPCE. They will endeavour to cover all the official Lions languages of Europe, we have to give them time to achieve that. The members will be one third Leos or Leo-Lions, two thirds less than 50 years of age and one third more than 50 years of age. At present there is no formal leadership structure, they have no Chair or leadership of the Taskforce, they have Liaisons, one to the GAT ( Stewart) and one to the LRPCE ( Andreja STOJKOVSKI, Northern Macedonia).

With that introduction, I respectfully propose that this respectable committee approves the YLTE as a Working Group of the LRPCE.

A detailed discussion followed where members of the Committee voiced their reservations for the YLTFE, its representativeness (whether the members are delegated by their MDs), the age group of the participants, whether the LRPCE would have the right to appoint a Task Force, whether it should not be under the Lions Task Force Europe (PID Geoff had serious reservations for several reasons), whether the YLTFE has any end, they do not seem to have any visible goal that the LRPCE may approve or disapprove, whether their activity and their representatives would not be in opposition to the GMA to be deployed in Europe, etc.

Earlier the YLTE worked closely with the GAT which is great, as they aim thus directly membership and leadership development and also service.

As no viable solution could be formulated, this discussion will be tabled for the time being. Miklos and Geoff should look at it closer how it could be realized. The timing is good, as we are revising our rules, we really need to have a clear picture. The YLTE invented themselves, they are like-minded Lions who have the commitment to make European Lions younger. Europe is one of the oldest Constitutional areas.

## **10. Status Report of the Rotation Plan in the light of announced 3<sup>rd</sup> IVP candidates: Chairperson PIP**

**LRPCE** is revising the Rotation Scheme because of 3<sup>rd</sup> IVP candidates from Europe. First it was Italy, and it took quite a time to find a country which can replace Italy, finally we got one, Slovenia.

We had already candidates whose MD does not have an ID slot; Svein BERNSTEIN from Norway, Phil Nathan from UK and we have Elisabeth HADERER from the Netherlands. When we had a candidate from Germany, Daniel ISENRIK, we had to find a replacement for the ID slot. We could not do it officially, as Daniel does not have yet the MD endorsement until May. Austria is ready, if and when Daniel is endorsed.

And now we have a new case, as we learned from social media, Nicole MIQUEL-BELAUD is running as a candidate. Their MD convention is not until May, so the time is very short.

We cannot solve this during this meeting, we have to set up a small committee to see which countries are the potential candidates, at present what we see is Romania, Croatia and Estonia who are full districts and not have slots in the foreseeable future.

PIP Gudrun, PID Miklos and PID Daniel could prepare it and look closely on what opportunities and options exist. The proposals will be circulated to the members of LRPCE.

## **11. AOB – All**

Two topics:

1. LDUN to Geneva is on Tuesday April 18, it is on the LCI web page. The program starts at 11:00 and continues until 4:30 PM, it is not decided yet who the presenters are. What is not at the LCI web page, that PID Robert shared with me is that there will be a reception offered by MD102 at 6:30 PM, that will cost 95 USD, but VIPs are invited. It seems that LRPCE is invited. They do not have any registrations yet, but hoping to have 300 people. Please share this in your areas. Please consider attending and promoting this important event, Robert RETTBY is hoping to see you all.
2. 75 years festivities MD 101, MD 102, MD103. We know that Sweden and Switzerland prepare celebrations, but what about France? PID Nicole will ask around and inform the LRPCE accordingly.

## **12. Next meeting – Chairperson and A&A**

April 4, 2023, 6:00 PM is set.

The meeting was closed at 19:39.

**Prepared by: PID Miklos HORVATH A & A**