

## FOURTH EOA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

**Date:** 21<sup>st</sup> April 2022, 2:00 – 4:30 pm CET  
**Place:** online

### /// MEETING MINUTES

#### 1. Opening and Welcome

Executive Director Soenke Schadwinkel opens the virtual meeting by giving instructions on the procedure of the digital assembly. President Manfred Laemmer welcomes 24 NOA delegates and the observers from the partner organisations EOC, IOA, EFPM, ICSSPE and IOC (see Annex 1).<sup>1</sup> Schadwinkel informs the General Assembly about the repeated postponements of this meeting due to the COVID pandemic and, recently, the outbreak of war in Ukraine. There had been no objections to the Minutes of the Third EOA General Assembly within four weeks after distribution, which automatically deems them approved. Schadwinkel confirms the electoral quorum with 24 voting delegates.

#### 2. Approval of the Agenda

Schadwinkel displays a proposed agenda (Annex 2) that had been shared with the members in advance. Vice-President Lozan Mitev suggests moving the agenda items (7-13) to the beginning.

The General Assembly approves the proposed agenda (Annex 2) with 18 votes in favour, 1 vote against and 0 abstentions.

#### 3. Reports

On behalf of the Executive Board, Laemmer thanks all members for their hard work and dedication, despite troubling times with the pandemic and other world events. He notes that all activities are featured in the EOA Annual Report 2021 which has been sent to all members and partners. Furthermore, he recaps on a few selected projects done in the 2021 year. The following aims were achieved:

<sup>1</sup> Originally it was said that there were 25 NOAs. However, the Croatian Olympic Academy was apologised at short notice and did not attend the General Assembly, so only 24 members were represented.

- Ensuring the financial basis for work in the future
- Establishing a professional structure by the appointment of an Executive Director and other staff
- Improving the communication internally and externally by a renewed website, publishing an Annual Report and a quarterly Deep Dive newsletter
- Intensifying relations with important partners: EOC, IOA, EFPM, ICSSPE, IOC and regional NOA associations
- Promotion of work of the EOA commissions
- Financial and organisational support for projects and events of individual NOAs

Laemmer explains the decision by the EOA Executive Board to suspend the membership of the NOAs of Russia and Belarus due to the Ukraine-Russia war after taking a clear position by following the leadership of IOC, EOC and IOA. Vice-President Maria Bulatova thanks the regional and international sports organisations for all the support during the Ukraine-Russia war. She elaborates on the activities done from the standpoint of Ukraine during the 2021 year.

Dionyssis Gangas, EOA Good Governance Officer, addresses the EOA members and states that no violations against the Good Governance Principles were put forward during the past year.

#### 4. Finances

Treasurer Ales Solar reports on the management of finances in 2020. While the pandemic did affect many activities, the EOA was still able to use a part of its budget for projects (see Annex 3).

Solar refers to the EOA audit report of 22 February 2022. Ulrich Schulze Forsthövel (DAGS) and Detlef Dumon (ICSSPE)<sup>2</sup> checked the EOA finances from 2020 for accuracy and recommended the discharge of the Executive Board. This report and the Declaration of Completeness from the tax advisor Klaus+Partner have been submitted to the members in advance.

The General Assembly approves the discharge of the Executive Board with 14 votes in favour, 4 vote against and 1 abstention.

<sup>2</sup> According to the EOA Statutes, three auditors should be elected by the General Assembly. As this has not yet been the case, Ulrich Schulze Forsthövel and Detlef Dumon volunteered to carry out the audit for 2020. New EOA auditors will be elected in a later agenda item.

Solar continues by displaying and explaining the EOA Budget for 2021 and 2022 (see Annex 4). The income is mainly based on grants from the EOC and public funds from the German Federal State of Hesse. The remaining surplus of 2021 will be transferred to the 2022 budget.

The General Assembly approves the EOA budget for 2021 and 2022 (see Annex 4) with 23 votes in favour, 0 vote against and 0 abstentions.

Lastly in this item, the election of the EOA Auditors is explained by Schadwinkel. As stated before, the auditors are voluntary and should check the EOA finances for accuracy. The audit report shall be presented at the General Assembly. Bernard Hilgers (NOC\*NSF) offers himself for the position, and Christian Hinterberger (former EFPM President) and Ulrich Schulze Forsthövel (DAGS) are also suggested. The three candidates shall be voted on in a single ballot.

The General Assembly approves Bernard Hilgers, Christian Hinterberger and Ulrich Schulze Forsthövel as EOA auditors with 22 votes in favour, 0 vote against and 0 abstentions.

## 5. Lecture 1

Uri Schaefer, President of the International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education (ICSSPE), gives a keynote lecture entitled "European Olympic Academies: Challenges in a dynamically changing time - an outside perspective".

## 6. Lecture 2

Next up is Prof. Thierry Zintz, member of the IOC Olympic Education Commission, with a keynote lecture entitled "The Importance of Cooperation between National Olympic Academies, Universities and Other Institutions of Higher Learning".

## 7. Admission of new Members: Kosovo Olympic Academy

Laemmer welcomes the delegates of the Kosovo Olympic Academy who have applied for membership. The academy was established in 2021 and cooperates with the International Olympic Academy to promote the Olympic idea and values in Kosovo. Diellza Kelmendi and Fitim Arifi present an overview of the NOA's structure, work and goals to familiarise the EOA Members with their NOA.

The General Assembly approves the EOA membership of the Kosovo Olympic Academy with 19 votes in favour, 0 vote against and 2 abstentions.

Laemmer welcomes the Kosovo Olympic Academy to the EOA family and expresses its best wishes for fruitful cooperation.

## 8. Commission reports

General Secretary Marion Guigon-Lacroix presents the work of the EOA Communication Commission. She provides an overview of the main activities in the past year, including several commission meetings, new communication channels, a new logo and corporate design and consistent internal and external communication. Secondly, Jana Janotova presents the work of the EOA Development and Cooperation Commission, whose priority has been the creation of a strategic plan. Ahead of this, a detailed questionnaire and a workshop should yield sufficient data for the strategic plan. Thirdly, members are referred to the EOA Annual Report 2021 regarding the work of the EOA Olympic Education Commission. Lastly, Zdenek Skoda presents the work of the EOA Olympic Heritage Commission. The main activities of this commission focused on the "Golden Memories" project. Comprehensive reports on the work of the Commissions were published in the EOA Annual Report.

## 9. EOA strategic plan

Moving forward, Janotova presents the EOA strategic plan. The plan includes several activities, but the focus is on the preparation phase and the workshop. The preparation phase includes a questionnaire set out to discover further details of individual NOAs, their needs, wants and expectations. Secondly, the workshop intends to discuss the main priorities of the following areas: questions related to NOAs, EOA and others.

## 10. EOA honours and awards

Schadwinkel presents the planning of the EOA honours and awards. The working group consists of Guigon-Lacroix, Solar and Schadwinkel. There were two main proposals for types of awards, a "medal of merit", given to individuals/institutions for outstanding contributions to the Olympic movement, and the "Olympic flame awards", which would be given to EOA members, individuals, or other organisations based on defined categories.

### 11. EOA seminars

Furthermore, the "EOA seminar" project is presented by Schadwinkel. The purpose of the EOA seminars is to maintain collaboration between the NOAs of Europe by providing the opportunity to conduct regional conferences on current Olympic issues. Ideally, this would occur as a series over the next year. Schadwinkel asks members to contact him if they are interested in hosting an EOA seminar.

### 12. Next General Assembly and Conference

Laemmer reminds everyone of the uncertainty of when and where the next General Assembly will take place due to the pandemic and the war in Ukraine. He urges for an in-person meeting, although this cannot be promised.

### 13. Miscellaneous

There are no further topics raised. As the Fourth EOA General Assembly comes to an end, Laemmer thanks everyone for their participation and contribution to the EOA and closes the Fourth General Assembly. Special thanks go to Soenke Schadwinkel for hosting, Jelena Boskovic for the minutes and to Judith Krechting for the technical management of the event.



Prof. Dr. Manfred Laemmer  
EOA President



Jelena Boskovic  
EOA Minute Keeper

### Annotations on the organisation of the General Assembly

The Fourth EOA General Assembly was conducted digitally via the video communication platform Zoom. The documents for the meeting were made available in advance via a Google Drive folder. The elections were conducted with the certified voting software POLYAS, which conducts legally secure and confidential elections.

## /// ANNEXES

### Annex 1: List of Participants

#### EOA Members

Albanian Olympic Academy	Enkelejda Caushi
National Olympic Academy of Armenia	David Khitaryan
Austrian Olympic Academy	Sonja Spindelhofer
Azerbaijan National Olympic Academy	Aghajan Abiyev Sakina Valiyeva Samira Aghayeva
Belgian Olympic Academy	Matthias van Baelen Thierry Zintz
National Olympic Academy of Bulgaria	Lozan Mitev Vania Yordanova
National Olympic Academy of Cyprus	Clea Papaellina Georgios Korellis
Czech Olympic Academy	Zdenek Skoda Jana Janotova
Estonian Olympic Academy	Reele Remmelkoor
National Olympic Academy of France	Marion Guigon-Lacroix Julien Buhajezuk
German Olympic Academy	Manfred Laemmer
Hellenic Olympic Academy	Ilias Dalainas Denise Panagopoulou
Hungarian Olympic Academy	Zsuzsanna Bukta Lilla Szijj
Olympic Committee of Israel	Yarden Har Lev
National Olympic Academy of Italy	Mirella Pirritano
Kosovo Olympic Academy	Fitim Arifi Diellza Kelmendi
Latvian Olympic Academy	Ivans Klementjevs Antra Gulbe Aiga Paikena
Lithuanian Olympic Academy	Asta Sarkauskiene
National Olympic Academy of Netherlands	Bernard Hilgers
National Olympic Academy of Portugal	Tiago Viegas
Romanian Olympic Academy	Simona Amanar Tabara Alexandra Nica
Slovak Olympic Academy	Elena Malikova
Slovenian Olympic Academy	Miroslav Cerar Ales Solar

Royal Spanish Olympic Academy

Raul Chapado  
Alfredo Gomez

Olympic Academy of Ukraine

Maria Bulatova

### Observers

European Olympic Committees

Tone Jagodic  
Clea Papaellina

International Olympic Academy

Alexandra Karaiskou  
Dionyssis Gangas

European Fair Play Movement

Philippe Housiaux

International Council of Sport Science and  
Physical Education

Uri Schaefer

International Olympic Committee

Maria Bogner

### EOA Staff

Soenke Schadwinkel

Jelena Boskovic

Judith Krechting

### Apologised

Croatian Olympic Academy

Olympic Academy of Serbia

### Not invited

Belarusian Olympic Academy

Central Olympic Academy of Russia

## Annex 2: Agenda of the Fourth EOA General Assembly

1. Opening and Welcome
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Reports
  - a. Report by the Executive Board
  - b. Report by the Good Governance Officer
4. Finances
  - a. Report by the Treasurer
  - b. Report by the EOA Auditors
  - c. Discharge of the Executive Board
  - d. EOA Budget 2021 & 2022
  - e. Election of EOA Auditors
5. Lecture 1:  
*European Olympic Academies: Challenges in a dynamically changing time – An outside perspective* by Dr. Uri Schaefer (President of ICSSPE)
6. Lecture 2:  
*The Importance of Cooperation between National Olympic Academies, Universities and Other Institutions of Higher Learning* by Prof. Theiry Zintz (Member of the IOC Olympic Education Commission)
7. Admission of new Members: Kosovo Olympic Academy
8. Commission reports
9. EOA strategic plan
10. EOA honours and awards
11. EOA seminars
12. Next General Assembly and Conference
13. Miscellaneous

### Annex 3: EOA Annual Accounts 2020

<b>Income</b>	<b>2020</b>
Membership fees	7.200,00 €
Grants Hesse	25.000,00 €
Grants EOC	10.000,00 €
Surplus from previous year	3.343,56 €
<b>Total income</b>	<b>45.543,56 €</b>
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<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>2020</b>
Rent and operating costs	- €
Personnel costs	4.748,00 €
Administrative expenses	9.665,89 €
Project costs	2.000,00 €
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>16.413,89 €</b>
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<b>Total: Income – Expenditure</b>	<b>29.129,67 €</b>
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<b>Surplus into next year</b>	<b>29.129,67 €</b>
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#### Annex 4: EOA Budget for 2021 and 2022

<b>Income</b>	<b>2021 (planned)</b>	<b>2022 (planned)</b>
Membership fees	8.400,00 €	8.700,00 €
Grants Hesse	- €	30.000,00 €
Grants EOC	10.000,00 €	10.000,00 €
Other income (Erasmus+ etc)	7.150,00 €	36.323,00 €
Surplus from previous year	29.129,67 €	14.977,00 €
<b>Total income</b>	<b>54.679,67 €</b>	<b>100.000,00 €</b>

<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>2021 (planned)</b>	<b>2022 (planned)</b>
Rent and operating costs	- €	7.000,00 €
Personnel costs	24.200,00 €	33.000,00 €
Administrative expenses	14.000,00 €	25.000,00 €
Project costs	- €	35.000,00 €
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>38.200,00 €</b>	<b>100.000,00 €</b>